

## **MINUTES OF MEETING of ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CODE REVIEW PANEL**

**Date:** 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2015

**Venue:** Conference Hall, UPERC,  
Lucknow

**Time:** 11:30 Hrs.

**Purpose of Meeting: Electricity Supply Code Review Panel for Review of Cost Data Book**

### **Review Panel Members Attended:**

1. Mr. Desh Deepak Verma, Hon'ble Chairman, UPERC
2. Mrs. Meenakshi Singh, Hon'ble Member, UPERC
3. Mr. I. B. Pandey, Hon'ble Member, UPERC
4. Mr. A.K Srivastava , Secretary, UPERC
5. Mr. Vikas Chandra Agarwal, Director, UPERC
6. Mr. R.S. Pandey, Ombudsman, UPERC (Special Invitee)
7. Mr. K.M. Mittal, Director (Distribution), UPPCL
8. Mr. G.K. Singh, Director (Electrical Safety), U.P. Govt.
9. Mr. P.K. Johari, Chief Engineer, RESPO
10. Mr. A.K. Arora, Resident Manager, NPCL
11. Mr. Avadhesh Kumar Verma, Chairman, U.P. Rajya Vidyut Upbhokta Parisad
12. Mr. Durga Prasad, Retd. Chief Engineer, UPPCL
13. Mr. Vijay Pratap, Retd. Chief Engineer, UPPCL
14. Mr. Harish Chandra, Retd. Chief Engineer, UPSEB
15. Mr. P.K. Maskara, Industrial Consumer Representative (Special Invitee)

### **Officers of the Utilities Attended:**

1. Mr. B.B. Jindal, Consultant, Western Chamber of Meerut
2. Mr. Madhududan Raizada, Consultant, UPERC
3. Mr. R.K. Jain, Staff Officer, Chairman UPPCL
4. Mr. Ajay Kumar Sonkar, SFAO, UPERC
5. Mr. Abhishek Srivastava, Joint Director, UPERC
6. Mr. L.B. Sharma, SE (Commercial), PuVVNL, Varanasi
7. Mr. R.D. Pal, Ex. Ombudsman, UPERC
8. Mr. S. K. Madhukar, EE(Commercial), KESCO
9. Mr. Vivek Dixit, EE, UPPCL

### **Agenda Item #1: System Loading Charges**

As per the Consumer Representative, Mr. Avadhesh Kumar Verma no State in India imposes system loading charges on consumers and it is also against Electricity Act, 2003 so it should not be charged from the consumers. The Commission emphasized that if this charge is abolished then it will result in increase in ARR and indirectly get passed on to the consumers of lower category. The Commission also wanted to know the impact on the ARR if the system loading charge is abolished and the status of rest of the States in India pertaining to system loading charges. On its reply to Commission Licensee submitted that same will be submitted within 15 days and however, it indirectly helps the consumer and will have no problem if it is abolished.

In this regard Mr. Avadhesh Kumar Verma also submitted that double counting is being done by the Licensee. The Commission directed the Licensee to check for the same and benefits to the consumers will be passed on if same is found true.

### **Agenda Item #2: Issue of Meter Purchase**

As per Mr. Avadhesh Kumar Verma the rate of meter published in CSPC Order is lower than the rate charged by Licensee. The Licensee submitted that additional 15% on CSPC rate has been charged from the consumer which is a genuine expense as it has spent the same for the handling and other miscellaneous expense associated with meters. The Commission directed the Licensee to introduce a formula for determination of price of meter taking six month's average rate of meter as published by CSPC with additional 14% for handling charge. If the formula concludes a rate which is more than 20% of the rate earlier charged for the meter then the same should be brought to the Commission notice for approval otherwise the formula will hold good. For the Pre-Paid meter the cost of which is around Rs. 6000/- per meter, Commission also recommended to charge Rs. 250.00/- per month towards recovery of the cost of meter which was also accepted by UPPCL and other members. Mr. Avadhesh Kumar Verma submitted to recover the extra amount of around Rs. 300 Crores which has been charged from the consumers in terms of extra amount towards purchase of meters as the Distribution Licensees had purchased the meters at a very low rate as compared to the rate approved in the Cost Data Book. It was decided that this matter may be looked upon later after getting relevant information from licensee etc.

### **Agenda Item #3: Issue of 100% metering**

The Commission wanted to know about the status of 100% metering to which Licensee submitted that steps are being taken and report regarding the same will be submitted soon. The Commission directed the Licensee to give an

advertisement in the local newspaper for the consumers to get their connections metered and the consumers who have already paid for the meters to receive the same from the outlet of Licensee with a notice period of one month and warning of strict action in case of failure.

**Agenda Item #4: Issue of Cost Data Book**

The Commission also stressed that in its Order dated 08.08.2014 it had already directed UPPCL to submit the revised proposal for rates of new connections, submitted in Cost Data Book for the FY 2014-15 as it had proposed to increase the rates of new connections. In reply to this issue UPPCL submitted a revised proposal with increased rates for new connections. The Chairman expressed its displeasure in this matter as UPPCL submitted the revised proposal with increased rates for new connections which may deter the consumers from taking new connections or may be taken rightly or wrongly by the consumers as a breach of trust. Mr. Avadhesh Kumar Verma also objected to this unprecedented hike in rate for new connection as it was against the Order issued by UPERC dated 08/08/2014. The Chairman, UPERC directed that the rates relating to security charges will not be increased in domestic category and for PTW category, Director (Distribution), UPPCL submitted that the Commission may take its call on the proposal filed by UPPCL.

**Agenda Item #5: Issue of Underground Cable**

NPCL submitted that new connections will be given supply through underground cables so that the chances of theft can be reduced. The Commission directed all the members present to submit their views regarding the same.

(Arun Kumar Srivastava)  
Secretary