**PUNJAB STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION**

 **SCO NO. 220-221, SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH**

 **Petition No. 6 of 2012
 Date of Order: 28.06.2012**

In the matter of : Petition for proposal regarding conditions to be amended in ‘Conditions of Supply’

 AND

In the matter of: Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

Present: Smt.Romila Dubey, Chairperson

 Shri Virinder Singh, Member

 Shri Gurinderjit Singh, Member

 **ORDER**

 Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL) filed this petition submitting proposal for amending a few of conditions of ‘Conditions of Supply’, 2010 of PSPCL approved by the Commission. The proposal has been submitted for amending following conditions:-

1. Condition No. 4.1 (a) - Low Tension (LT) Supply (Alternating Current 50 cycles)
2. Condition No.7.9 – NOC from Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB)
3. Condition No.9.1 – Connected Load (DS/NRS)
4. Condition No.11 – Acceptance of Application and Agreement Form

for insertion of two sub-clauses namely 11.3 and 11.4

2. The petition was admitted by the Commission vide its Order dated 05.03.2012 and PSPCL was directed to intimate if any other amendment in the ‘Conditions of Supply’ was needed or not and to submit the revised proposal in an annotated form. It was further decided by the Commission in its said Order that proposal shall thereafter be put on Public Notice for inviting objections / comments of various stake-holders. In compliance with the Order of the Commission, the proposal was submitted by EIC/Commercial PSPCL in an annotated form vide memo No.238/DD/SR-4/63 dated 19.3.2012 read with memo No.376/DD/SR-4/63 dated 9.4.2012 after including the proposal for amendment to Condition 41.3 regarding ‘Change of Title or Transfer of Agreement’. Background paper alongwith petition of PSPCL and proposed amendments to the ‘Conditions of Supply’ were put on Public Notice for inviting comments / objections of all stakeholders. A copy of Public Notice alongwith copies of Background Paper and a statement indicating the existing provisions, amendments proposed by PSPCL and the amendments intended to be made by the Commission were also sent to the Government of Punjab, Department of Power and the PSPCL. Public Notice inviting objections from general public and organizations in respect of the proposed amendments was published in leading news-papers dated 5/6.5.2012. The general public and organizations were requested to send the objections / comments on or before 31st May, 2012. In response to the Public Notice, only one objection / comment was received from PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry through its Regional Director vide No.ST-2-P-557 dated 31st May 2012.

3. The issues raised in the objections are discussed in the succeeding paras.

1. A suggestion has been made that in case of DS consumers ½ instead of 1/3rd of the installed ACs be considered for assessing the connected load and the revised calculation should not be applicable to the existing DS consumers. The Commission decides to accept the suggestion regarding computing the connected load of ACs. However objector’s concern regarding applicability for the existing consumer has been addressed in para No.7 of the Order.
2. It was also suggested that the validity period should not be indicated in the Demand Notice. However, if the compliance of demand notice is not made by the applicant within one year from the date of issue of demand notice, then it should be automatically treated as cancelled. The Commission is unable to accept the suggestion, as the same is not practicable, since, until the validity period is indicated in the Demand Notice, the same can not be cancelled.

4. The Commission had also in its Order dated 8.7.2011 in Petition No. 33/2011 accorded ex-post-facto approval to the instructions circulated vide PSPCL’s commercial circular No. 10/2011, dated 17.2.2011 causing amendments to clause 41.3 of COS.

5. The proposal submitted by PSPCL for approval of amendments / additions in Condition Nos.4.1 (a), 4.1 (b), 7.9, 9.1, 11 (11.3 & 11.4) and 41 ( 2nd sub para of 41.3) alongwith the objections received were discussed in the meeting of the Commission on 19.06.2012.

6. The Commission accordingly decides to approve the amendments/ additions in the Conditions of Supply of PSPCL w.e.f. 1st August, 2012 and the amended clauses shall read:

**4.1 Low Tension (LT) Supply (Alternating Current 50 cycles)**

1. Single phase (230 volts between phase and neutral) connections will be released for general load not exceeding 7 kW and motive load not exceeding 2 BHP.

(b)Three phase (400 volts between phases) connections will be released for motive load exceeding 2 BHP and general load exceeding 7 kW but not exceeding 100 kW including general load of an industrial unit.

(c)Agricultural power connections and Street Lighting Supply will be released on LT supply voltage.

 **7.9 NOC from Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB)**

 An applicant seeking release of load/additional load/demand for Shopping Malls/ Building Complexes / Commercial Complexes/ Approved Residential Colonies or under Industrial Category will submit a No Objection Certificate (NOC), wherever applicable, from the Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) before release of connection/ additional load /demand. However, applicants having small scale industries exempted by PPCB shall be required to submit an affidavit as specified by PPCB.

 **9.1** For the purpose of computing total connected load, the actual continuous rating of an apparatus/appliance connected to the wiring will be taken into account. However, the following standard wattage ratings for a consumer of DS/NRS and general loads of other categories of consumers will be adopted for assessing the connected load, if actual rating is not specified by the consumer.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Category | Light point | Fan point | Wall socket | Power socket(Singlephase) | Air Conditioner |
| DS/ BS (DS purpose) | 40 Watts (½ to be counted) | 60 watt (⅓rd to be counted) | 60 Watts(¼th to be counted) | 1000 watts(¼th to be counted) | 2500 watts(1/2 to becounted) |
| NRS/ Industrial/BS (NRS purposes) | 40 Watts (all to be counted) | 60 watts (all to be counted) | 60 watts(⅓rd to be counted) | 1000 watts(½ to be counted) | As per name plate(all to be counted) |

 Notes:

a) 3 phase power sockets for NRS/Industrial purposes will be taken as 6 kW each and half of the no. of sockets will be counted.

b) Any fraction of lamp/socket/AC will be counted as one.

c) In case a single switch is used for controlling more than one lamp/ appliance, the sum of the total capacity of all the lamps/appliances will be taken into account for computing connected load.

 d) The load of air conditioners/ AC packages/centralized AC systems bearing ISI mark will be taken as per their nameplate. For non-standard air conditioners, the load of each will be taken as 2.5 KW.

 **11 ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION AND AGREEMENT FORM**

 **11.3** (New)In case, Contract Demand (CD) exceeds 500 KVA, work for providing the connection may be taken in hand in anticipation of the submission of Test Report, on receipt of a specific request from the applicant. The applicant will also intimate his proposed commissioning schedule and deposit the various charges such as Service Connection Charges, balance Initial Security (if any) etc. as per Schedule of General Charges.

 In addition to the specified charges, the applicant shall also have to submit the Test Report within the time period specified in the Demand Notice or seek extension as provided in Condition No.11.4.

 After the applicant submits Electrical Contractor’s Test Report of the installation, PSPCL will release the connection as per seniority from the date of submission of his test report within the stipulated period as per the Reg. 6.3 of the Supply Code.

 In case the applicant is unable to submit Test Report but the work for providing supply of electricity is completed by the PSPCL as per the commissioning schedule given by the applicant, any damage or theft of line/equipment shall be to the account of the concerned applicant after expiry of 15 days from the date of intimation given by the PSPCL to the applicant regarding completion of work.

 **11.4** (New)The Demand Notice will be valid for a period of Six months for EHT / HT- Industrial/NRS/DS, Agriculture, AP-hightech., Railway Traction, Street lighting and Bulk Supply categories and Three months for other categories namely SP, MS, LT-DS/NRS etc. from the date of issue.

 In case, the applicant does not comply within the validity period of Demand Notice his application shall be liable to be cancelled without serving any further notice in this regard. However, if the request for extension in the validity period of Demand Notice is received within the validity period along with extension fee as specified in Schedule of General Charges, validity period will be further extended up to maximum period of one year from date of issue of demand notice in all cases in blocks of three months by the PSPCL.

**41.3**  In the event of death of a consumer, the heirs may apply for the connection to be transferred in the name of one of the heirs. The application will be accompanied by the following documents:

 (a) Death certificate

 (b) Succession certificate

(c) No objection from other heirs to the connection being transferred in the name of one of the heirs.

 In the absence of documents at (a) and (b) above, all the heirs may submit an affidavit duly attested by a Magistrate confirming the death of the consumer, identification of the legal heirs and their consent to the connection being transferred in the name of a particular heir.

 Alternatively for Tubewell Consumers, Sajjra Nasad certified by the revenue officers will also be acceptable in place of succession certificate in the absence of the documents at (a) & (b) above, AE/AEE/Xen/DS, PSPCL concerned will issue notice to arrange gathering of the villagers for seeking/ hearing objections from all the claimants/ legal heirs of the deceased consumers as appearing in the Sajjra Nasad and in the same gathering, the connection will be immediately transferred by AE/AEE/Xen/DS, PSPCL in the name of the legal heir(s) in the presence of Gram Panchayat and Nambardar after getting certification on a plain paper regarding death of the deceased consumer from his / her legal heirs/ claimants duly authenticated by the Gram Panchayat/ Nambardar. When this certification will be done in the full gathering of the villagers, there will be no need of any affidavit.

 The PSPCL will on the submission of above documents, transfer the connection subject to the condition that charges payable as indicated in the Schedule of General Charges approved by the Commission and the actual cost of providing service where such charges have not been specified, have been deposited by the transferee. The transferee shall also be eligible to get the connection shifted after depositing the specified charges and completion of other formalities.

 In case the transfer of the connection is not obtained within 6 months of the death of a consumer, the PSPCL will issue notice requiring that any of the heirs should submit an application for transfer of the connection within 15 days of the service of notice. The connection is liable to be disconnected in case no application is submitted to the PSPCL within the period indicated in the notice.

7. The amended ‘Conditions of Supply’ (COS) shall come into effect w.e.f. 1st August, 2012. PSPCL shall upload the amended COS on its website besides circulating to its field offices and various consumer associations. However a Domestic Consumer having load upto 10 KW as per existing provisions shall have the option to have single phase or three phase supply. PSPCL will issue a Public Notice within 15 days of issue of this Order especially regarding amendments in clause 9.1 and the existing consumers shall be allowed a period of 3 months to get their load regularized without levying any load surcharge. The consumers shall however be liable to deposit Service Connection Charges and Initial Security for the additional load.

 The petition is disposed of accordingly.

 Sd/- Sd/- Sd/-

**(Gurinderjit Singh) (Virinder Singh) (Romila Dubey)**

**Member Member Chairperson**

 **Chandigarh**

 **Dated: 28.06.2012**