

**PUNJAB STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
SCO NO. 220-221, SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH**

**Petition No.57 of 2017
Date of Order: 10.11.2017**

In the matter of: Petition under Regulation 47 of PSERC (Electricity Supply Code & Related Matters) Regulations, 2014 and Clause 68 & 69 of PSERC (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2005 regarding Voluntary Disclosure Scheme (VDS) for Agriculture Tubewell (A.P.) Consumers.

AND

In the matter of: Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, The Mall, Patiala
.....Petitioner

Present: Ms. Kusumjit Sidhu, Chairperson
Sh. S.S.Sarna, Member
Ms. Anjuli Chandra, Member

ORDER

The Petition has been filed by PSPCL for introduction of Voluntary Disclosure Scheme (VDS) for regularization of unauthorized load of AP consumers. It has been brought out in the petition that due to lowering of ground water level, the farmers have installed higher rating of submersible motors for irrigation and their load checking is a troublesome affairs as lot of resistance is being faced by the checking agencies. PSPCL also referred to a meeting of Kissan Sangharsh Committee, with management of PSPCL and the Commission at Chandigarh on 01.09.2017 wherein the Committee demanded introduction of VDS and simplification of the process for regularization of AP load.

PSPCL proposed to introduce VDS for AP consumers, initially for a period of four months, which may be extended further for two months, keeping in

view the response of the consumers. PSPCL prayed that Regulation 6 of the Supply Code may be relaxed and instead of submission of A&A form, self declaration by the consumer for extension in load may be accepted. PSPCL also prayed that in relaxation to Regulation 12 of the Supply Code, 2014, penalty/load surcharge on unauthorized load may not be charged.

After considering all the aspects of the issue, the Commission allows PSPCL to introduce the Voluntary Disclosure Scheme (VDS) for AP consumers as under:

- i) The VDS for AP tubewell connections shall remain operative initially for a period of 4 months and may be extended further for two months, keeping in view the response of the consumers.
- ii) During the period VDS remains operative, the field officers/enforcement agencies may visit the premises of AP consumers to verify the connected load and to assist the consumers in correct assessment of unauthorized load, if any, which needs to be regularized. However, no penalty/load surcharge on the un-authorized load so detected by checking agencies or self-declared by the consumer shall be levied during the period the VDS scheme remains operative. However, the consumer shall be required to either remove the un-authorized load under intimation to PSPCL or get it regularized under VDS.
- iii) The AP consumer shall be required to pay Service Connection charges for the extended load as per regulation 9 of the supply Code, 2014 and at rates approved by the Commission in the cost data. The Security (consumption) shall be recovered for the extended load as per Schedule of General Charges.
- iv) Augmentation of service line/cable/transformer and the power system shall be carried out by PSPCL at its own cost.

- v) While regularizing the load under VDS, field officers shall ensure that the connection is not being misused by the consumer for any other purpose.
- vi) The un-authorized load of AP consumers shall be deemed to have been regularized on self-declaration by the consumer along with deposit of requisite charges.
- vii) In case of AP unmetered consumers, the total load including un-authorized load should not increase 20 BHP. Any regularization of load above 20 BHP shall be subject to consumer's consent to get metered supply.
- viii) The documents including Self-declaration received from the AP consumers during this VDS shall be kept in respective consumer files with suitable entries in other relevant record of PSPCL.
- ix) After closure of the scheme, PSPCL shall submit the information regarding number of AP consumers who have availed VDS and the total load declared under the scheme.

The petition is disposed of accordingly.

Sd/-

(Anjuli Chandra)
Member

Sd/-

(S.S.Sarna)
Member

Sd/-

(Kusumjit Sidhu)
Chairperson.

Chandigarh

Dated: 10.11.2017