

# PUNJAB STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

## Draft Notification

The -----, 2024

**No. PSERC/Secy/Regu.** -In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 181 read with Sections 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 50, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 126, 127, 135, 152, 154 & 163 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (Central Act 36 of 2003) read with Electricity (Amendment) Act, 2007 (No. 26 of 2007) and all other powers enabling it in this behalf, the Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission hereby makes following regulations to further amend the Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Electricity Supply Code and Related Matters) Regulations, 2014 including the first to thirteenth amendments thereof (hereinafter referred to as “the Principal Regulations”):

### 1. SHORT TITLE, COMMENCEMENT AND INTERPRETATION

- 1.1 These Regulations may be called the Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Electricity Supply Code and Related Matters) (14<sup>th</sup> Amendment) Regulations, 2024.
- 1.2 These Regulations shall be applicable to all licensees (including entities exempted under Section 13 of the Act) in their respective licensed/supply areas and all consumers/persons in the State of Punjab.
- 1.3 These Regulations shall come into force from the date of their publication in the official gazette of the State.

### 2. Amendment of Regulation 6.3 of the Principal Regulations

(i) The Regulation 6.3.2 of the Principal Regulations shall be substituted as under;

“Feasibility clearance shall be granted to an applicant/consumer by the distribution licensee within 45 days of the receipt of such a request. Where such clearance is likely to take more than 45 days, the distribution licensee shall, within 30 days of the receipt of an application, seek the approval of the Commission for extending the period in which the feasibility clearance would be granted.

Provided that in case the distribution licensee fails to grant feasibility clearance within 45 days or as may be extended by the Commission, the distribution licensee shall pay interest at bank rate to the applicant on the amount of EMD from the date of deposit till the feasibility clearance.”

(ii) The Regulation 6.3.3 of the Principal Regulations shall be substituted as under;

*On receipt of the feasibility clearance, the applicant/ consumer shall submit the application on the A & A form along with requisite documents, processing fee, Security (consumption) after adjusting earnest money, Security (meter) as specified in Schedule of General Charges in the notified office of distribution licensee within 30 days of the receipt of intimation regarding feasibility clearance. On the request of the consumer, this period shall be further extended up to 45 days (including 30 days allowed in the first instance) by the distribution licensee but no further extension shall be permissible. The distribution licensee shall clearly mention in the feasibility clearance letter that if the consumer/applicant fails to register A&A form within the stipulated period i.e. by the date specified in the intimation letter, EMD shall be forfeited in full and the requisition for new or additional demand shall be deemed to have been cancelled.*

*Provided, in case the applicant submits requisition for reduction/ additional demand during the period of submission of A&A form, the same shall be allowed after accepting the additional EMD, if any, (after adjusting original EMD deposited) but it shall be considered as new requisition. The applicant may avail this opportunity only once.*

3. **Amendment of Regulation 6.8.2 of the Principal Regulations: Determination of Seniority for Release of Connection:**

The Clause (a) to Regulation 6.8.2 of the Principal Regulations shall be substituted as under;

“(a) Seniority in respect of applications for each category (except AP) will be maintained in separate queues as under:-

**Queue No. 1:** Where a LT supply connection(s)/load(s) can be released without augmentation, erection and extension of distribution main or erection/augmentation of distribution transformer;

**Queue No.2:** LT supply connections where augmentation/ extension of a distribution main or erection/augmentation of distribution transformer is required;

**Queue No. 3:** H.T. supply connections at 11000 volts where connection/load/demand can be released without augmentation, erection and extension of distribution system or commissioning of new sub-station or power transformer;

**Queue No. 4:** H.T. supply connections at 11000 volts where augmentation, erection and extension of distribution system or commissioning of new sub-station or power transformer is required;

**Queue No. 5:** H.T. supply connections at 33000 volts or E.H.T supply connections where connection/load/demand can be released without augmentation, erection and extension of distribution system/transmission line or commissioning of new sub-station or power transformer;

**Queue No. 6:** H.T. supply connections at 33000 volts or EHT supply connection where augmentation, erection and extension of distribution system/transmission line or commissioning of new sub-station or power transformer is required;

**Queue No.7:** All cases where supply of electricity requires erection and commissioning of a new sub-station or power transformer including HT/EHT line (if any) as per Reg. 8.1(c) of the Supply Code.

#### **4. Amendment of Regulation 6.8.5 of the Principal Regulations**

Following proviso(s) to Regulation 6.8.5 of the Principal Regulations shall be inserted as under;

“Provided that in case an applicant/consumer fails to deposit applicable charges (except Test Report and/or other requisite documents) within the above mentioned validity period of the demand notice then the case of his junior applicant(s), who has complied with the demand notice shall be processed and released.”

It shall be applicable for the Demand Notice issued after notification of these Regulations and should be explicitly mentioned in the Demand Notice.

**5. Amendment of Regulation 11.6.4 of the Principal Regulations**

**Clause (d) of Regulation 11.6.4 of the Principal Regulations shall be substituted as under;**

In the case of land having an AP/AP-High-tech connection being jointly owned by more than one person and a part of the land along with the AP/AP-High-tech connection thereon being sold, the connection may be transferred in the name of the purchaser after execution of an indemnity bond in favour of the distribution licensee by the purchaser.

**6. Amendment of Regulation 12 of the Principal Regulations**

The Regulation 12 of the Principal Regulations shall be substituted as under;

**“Regulation 12: Revision of Sanctioned load of DS & NRS consumers not covered under contract demand system.**

**12.1** In case of DS/NRS consumers not covered under Contract demand system, if the maximum demand (in kW) exceeds the sanctioned load/contracted load in a billing cycle, the bill for that billing cycle shall be prepared on the basis of actual recorded maximum demand and consumer shall be intimated through SMS or any other approved means.

Provided that in case the maximum demand (in kW) exceeds the sanctioned load/contracted load in three or more billing cycles (in case of monthly billing) and two or more billing cycles (in case of bi-monthly billing) in a financial year, then the lowest of the maximum demand so recorded in such billing cycles shall be deemed to be the revised sanctioned load of the consumer from next financial year for levy of all charges including Service Connection Charges for the enhanced load as per the Cost data approved by the Commission.

**12.2** In case the consumer meter is not capable of recording the maximum demand (in kW) and during inspection, the connected load of the consumer is found to be more than the sanctioned load then a 30 days

notice shall be issued to such consumer to get the load regularized by submitting his consent to the distribution licensee. Such inspection shall be carried out only after the prior approval of the officer in-charge not below the rank of concerned AE/AEE (DS). In case a consumer files objections within the notice period, the same shall be considered by the officer in-charge and disposed of within 15 days of its receipt through a written order. After the lapse of notice period or issue of written order as above, the sanctioned load shall be deemed to have been revised to the load detected during inspection or as assessed after disposing of the objections, as the case may be, from the next billing cycle for the purpose of preparation of energy bill and levy of all charges including service connection charges for the enhanced load which shall be recovered through subsequent energy bill.

Provided that the temporary additional load availed by the consumer as per Regulation 8.3.5 of these regulations shall not be considered for computing the connected load for the purpose of regularisation under this regulation.

Provided further that the distribution licensee shall replace such meters with smart meters within the period prescribed by Ministry of Power, Govt. of India.

**Secretary to the Commission**

**Note:** The **Principal Regulations** were issued vide Notification No. PSERC/Secy./Regu.97 dated 05.11.2014 published in Punjab Govt. Gaz.(Extra) dated 5<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2014 and further amended vide:

**The 1<sup>st</sup> amendment** to the Principal Regulations issued vide Notification No/. PSERC/Secy./Regu.114 dated 22.06.2016 published in Punjab Govt. Gaz.(Extra) dated 23.06.2016.

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment** to the Principal Regulations issued vide Notification **No/**. PSERC/Secy./Regu.116 dated 05.10.2016 published in Punjab Govt. Gaz.(Extra) dated 05.10.2016.

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> amendment** to the Principal Regulations issued vide Notification **No/** PSERC/Secy./Regu.119 dated 21.03.2017 published in Punjab Govt. Gaz.(Extra) dated 22.03.2017.

**The 4<sup>th</sup> amendment** to the Principal Regulations issued vide Notification **No/** PSERC/Secy./Regu.125 dated 17.05.2018 published in Punjab Govt. Gaz.(Extra) dated 17.05.2018 read with corrigendum issued vide notification no. PSERC/Secy./Regu.126 dated 06.06.2018 published in Punjab Govt. Gaz.(Extra) dated 06.06.2018.

**The 5<sup>th</sup> amendment to** the Principal Regulations issued vide Notification **No/** PSERC/Secy./Regu.137 dated 28.01.2019 published in Punjab Govt. Gaz.(Extra) dated 28.01.2019

**The 6<sup>th</sup> amendment** to the Principal Regulations issued vide Notification **No/** PSERC/Secy./Regu.146 dated 09.01.2020 published in Punjab Govt. Gaz.(Extra) dated 10.01.2020

**The 7<sup>th</sup> amendment** to the Principal Regulations issued vide Notification **No/** PSERC/Secy./Regu.151 dated 18.09.2020 published in Punjab Govt. Gaz.(Extra) dated 18.09.2020

**The 8<sup>th</sup> amendment** to the Principal Regulations was issued vide notification no. PSERC/Secy./Regu.155 dated 10.03.2021 published in Punjab Govt. Gaz.(Extra) dated 10.03.2021

**The 9<sup>th</sup> amendment** to the Principal Regulations was issued vide notification no. PSERC/Secy./Regu.157 dated 20.07.2021 published in Punjab Govt. Gaz.(Extra) dated 20.07.2021

**The 10<sup>th</sup> amendment** to the Principal Regulations was issued vide notification no. PSERC/Secy./Regu.162 dated 02.02.2022 published in Punjab Govt. Gaz.(Extra) dated 17.03.2022.

**The 11<sup>th</sup> amendment** to the Principal Regulations was issued vide notification no. PSERC/Secy./Regu.164 dated 08.09.2022 published in Punjab Govt. Gaz.(Extra) dated 08.09.2022.

**The 12<sup>th</sup> amendment** to the Principal Regulations was issued vide notification no. PSERC/Secy./Regu.173 dated 29.03.2023 published in Punjab Govt. Gaz.(Extra) dated 31.03.2023.

**The 13<sup>th</sup> amendment** to the Principal Regulations was issued vide notification no. PSERC/Secy./Regu.179 dated 12.10.2023 published in Punjab Govt. Gaz.(Extra) dated 12.10.2023.