



# Punjab Government Gazette

## EXTRAORDINARY

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PUNJAB STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

### NOTIFICATION

The 9th January, 2020

**No. PSERC/Secy/Regu-146.**-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 and after previous publication, the Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission hereby makes following regulations to amend Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Electricity Supply Code and Related Matters) Regulations, 2014 including the first to fifth 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) (6th Amendment) Regulations, 2020.
- 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) Amendments in Regulation 6.8.7 of the Principal Regulations-

The second proviso to sub-regulation 6.8.7 (b) of the Principal Regulations shall be substituted as under;

Provided further that if the applicant seeks revival of cancelled application after two years from the date of issue of Demand Notice, the request for revival of such application shall be allowed by the Licensee only once for a maximum period of 3 months provided the applicant deposits the revival fee equivalent to double the Demand Notice extension fee in addition to normal demand notice extension fee per quarter as applicable along with Security (consumption) and Service Connection Charges as in vogue at the time of revival of application/extension in demand notice. The revival of cancelled application and extension in the period of

Demand Notice shall not be allowed beyond ten years from the date of expiry of original demand notice period.

**3) Amendments in Regulation 9.4 of the Principal Regulations**

The regulation 9.4 of the Principal Regulations shall be substituted as under;

**9.4 Execution of Works by the Consumer at his Own Cost:**

In case the applicant opts to carry out the works at his own cost, he shall get the same carried out through A class Licensed Electrical Contractor as per layout plan approved by the distribution licensee and subject to payment of supervision charges to the distribution licensee @ 15% of labour charges only. The consumer shall use the material as per the specifications approved by the distribution licensee and procure the same from the approved vendors of the distribution licensee. The consumer shall be responsible to get the clearances of statutory authorities/C.E.I, Punjab, if required. In such cases, Service Connection Charges or actual expenditure of the works applicable for the release of such connection shall not be recoverable from the applicant. In case Service Connection Charges or Security (works) has already been deposited by the applicant, the same shall be refunded in full without any interest within 30 days of request failing which the distribution licensee shall pay interest at SBI's base rate prevalent on first of April of the relevant year plus 2% for the period of delay. The consumer shall get the work completed within the time frame or get the period extended as per Regulation 8 of the Supply Code failing which the connection to the next applicant shall be released.

**4) Amendments in Regulation 11.6 of the Principal Regulations-**

The sub-regulation 11.6.3 of the Principal Regulations shall be substituted as under;

11.6.3 (a) In the event of death of a consumer (except AP supply), the heirs may apply for the connection to be transferred in the name of one of the heirs. The application (A&A form) shall be accompanied by the following documents:

- (i) Death certificate
- (ii) Succession certificate.
- (iii) No objection from other heirs for transferring the connection in the name of one of the heirs.
- (iv) In the absence of documents at (i) and (ii) 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
- (v) The distribution licensee shall 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

(b) In the event of death of an AP supply consumer, the heir(s) may apply for the connection to be transferred in the name of one or more of the heirs. The application (A&A form) shall be accompanied by the following documents:

- (i) Death certificate
- (ii) Succession certificate. Alternatively Sajjra Nasad certified by the revenue officers

shall also be acceptable in place of succession certificate. The officer of the distribution licensee shall issue a notice to arrange for a gathering of the villagers of the concerned village for seeking objections from all claimants/legal heirs of the deceased consumer as appearing in Sajjra Nasad. The certification on plain paper regarding the death of the consumer by his/her legal heirs/claimants duly authenticated by Gram Panchayat/Nambadar will be prepared in front of villagers and there will be no need of an affidavit. The distribution licensee shall on the basis of certification, transfer the connection in the name of the legal heir(s) subject to payment of charges as per Schedule of General Charges.

- (iii) No objection from other the heirs for transferring the connection in the name of one or more of the heirs.
  - (iv) Authorization from all the heirs to appoint one of the heirs as 'principal heir' to represent all of them for signing A & A form, payment of charges/dues and other matters relating to the electricity supply to the tubewell connection.
  - (v) In the absence of documents at (i) and (ii) 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 heir(s).
  - (v) The distribution licensee shall on the submission of above documents, transfer the AP supply 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(s). The transferee(s) shall also be eligible to get the connection shifted after depositing the specified charges and completion of other formalities. Provided that in case of shifting of jointly owned AP supply connection, the 'principal heir' shall not be allowed to get the connection shifted unless NoC from all the legal heir(s) is obtained.
- (c) In case the transfer of the connection is not obtained within 6 months of the death of a consumer and later on the same is detected by distribution licensee, a notice shall be issued by the distribution licensee requiring that any of the heirs should submit an application for transfer of the connection within 30 days of the service of notice. The connection is liable to be disconnected in case no application is submitted to the distribution licensee within the period indicated in the notice.

## 5. Amendment in Regulation 16 of the Principal Regulations

- (i) The sub-regulation 16.1 of the Principal Regulations shall be substituted as under;

After release of connection, all consumers shall maintain as Security (consumption) with the distribution licensee an amount equivalent to consumption charges (i.e. fixed and variable charges as applicable to the relevant category) for two and a half months where bi-monthly billing is applicable and one and a half month in case of monthly billing, during the period of agreement for supply of electricity. The variable charges for calculating additional security (consumption) shall include Voltage Rebate, Voltage Surcharge, Single Point Rebate, but shall exclude FCA and ToD

tariff. The electricity duty and other State Government levies shall not be considered while calculating additional security (consumption).

- (ii) The sub-regulation 16.4 of the Principal Regulations shall be substituted as under;

The adequacy of the amount of Security (consumption) in accordance with regulation 16.1 of these Regulations shall be reviewed by the distribution licensee after every three years (preferably after revision of tariff for the relevant year) based on the average monthly consumption for the twelve months period from April to March of the previous year except for HT/EHT consumers in whose case review of Security (consumption) shall be carried out annually.

In case of new connection or extension in load/demand of an existing connection which is less than one year old, the first review shall be carried out only after 12 months consumption from April to March is available with the distribution licensee.

Provided that in case of reduction in load/demand by the consumer during the period from April to March of the previous year, the Security (consumption) shall be reviewed for the current year based on the consumption of the previous year extrapolated on the basis of the reduced load/demand.

**6) Amendment in Regulation 17.1 of the Principal Regulations**

The regulation 17.1 of the Principal Regulations shall be substituted as under;

The distribution licensee shall pay interest on Security (consumption) and Security (meter) at the Bank Rate (as on 1st April of the year for which interest is payable) as notified by RBI

**7) Amendment in Regulation 21.6 of the Principal Regulations**

The regulation 21.6 of the Principal Regulations shall be substituted as under;

**21.6 Recovery/Refund of Charges**

If a consumer is liable to pay an additional amount or entitled to refund in consequence of an overhaul of his account in accordance with Regulations 21.5 above, the distribution licensee shall effect recovery or adjust the excess amount in the electricity bills of the immediately succeeding months.

Provided that in case the refundable amount is more than average bill of the consumer for more than 3 billing cycles, the amount in excess of average bill for 3 billing cycles shall be refunded through cheque within 30 days failing which interest at SBI base rate plus 2% shall be payable by distribution licensee to the consumer for the period of delay.

**8) Amendment in Regulation 30.9 of the Principal Regulations**

The regulation 30.9 of the Principal Regulations shall be substituted as under;

The bills shall be sent to the consumers either under certificate of posting or by hand delivery/courier service or through registered e-mail. The fact of dispatch of bills to consumers of a particular area shall be displayed on the notice board at the notified office of the distribution licensee and shall also be publicized in such other manner as the Commission may direct. The distribution licensee shall also upload bills on its website for information and payment by the consumers. In case of hand delivery, record of delivery of the bill shall be maintained at the designated office of the distribution licensee. The delivery of bill through e-mail shall be followed by SMS on the registered mobile.

**9) Amendment in Regulation 35.1 of the Principal Regulations-Electricity Bills**

The sub-regulation 35.1.3 of the Principal Regulations shall be substituted as under;

If on examination of a complaint, the distribution licensee finds a bill to be erroneous, a revised bill shall be issued to the consumer indicating a revised due date of payment, which shall not be earlier than seven days from the date of delivery of the revised bill to the consumer. If the amount paid by the consumer under Regulation 35.1.1 is in excess of the revised bill, such excess amount shall be refunded through adjustment first against any outstanding amount due to the distribution licensee and then against the amount becoming due to the distribution licensee immediately thereafter.

Provided that in case a consumer pays excess amount erroneously due to typographical error in figures while making payment of his electricity bill(s) by digital means, such excess amount paid by consumer shall be refunded after verifying the genuineness of the case,

Provided further that in case the refundable amount is more than average bill of the consumer for more than 3 billing cycles, the amount in excess of average bill for 3 billing cycles shall be refunded through cheque.

The distribution licensee shall pay to the consumer interest on the excess amount at SBI's Base Rate prevalent on first of April of the relevant year plus 2% from the date of payment till such time the excess amount is adjusted.

**10) Amendment in Annexure 9 of the Principal Regulations****2) Officers of the State Transmission Utility designated as Appellate Authority under section 127 of the Act vide Government of Punjab Notification No. 1/13/04-EB (PR)/ 660 dated 09.07.2019**

Category of consumers	Appellate Authority	
	Authority	DS Zone of PSPCL
For appeals by all HT consumers above 1 MW load	Director/Technical, PSTCL	All Zones
for appeals by all HT consumers upto 1 MW load	CE/TS, PSTCL	South
	CE/P&M, PSTCL	Central
	CE/HR, IT and S&D, PSTCL	Border & North
	CE/SLDC, PSTCL	West
For appeals by all LT Industrial consumers	SE/P&M, PSTCL, Patiala	South
	SE/P&M, PSTCL, Ludhiana	Central
	SE/P&M, PSTCL, Jalandhar	North
	SE/P&M, PSTCL, Amritsar	Border
For appeals by all other LT consumers	SE/P&M, PSTCL, Bathinda	West
	Sr. XEN/P&M, PSTCL, Patiala	South
	Sr. XEN/P&M, PSTCL, Lalton Kalan	Central
	Sr. XEN/P&M, PSTCL, Jamsher	North

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Sr. XEN/P&M, PSTCL, Bathinda	West
Sr. XEN/P&M, PSTCL, Civil Line Amritsar	Border

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Sd/-

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 5th Nov. 2014 and further amended vide:

**The 1st 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 2nd 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 3rd 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 4th 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 5th 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