COURT OF THE LOK PAL (OMBUDSMAN), ELECTRICITY, PUNJAB, PLOT NO. A-2, INDUSTRIAL AREA, PHASE-1, S.A.S. NAGAR (MOHALI).

(Constituted under Sub Section (6) of Section 42 of Electricity Act, 2003)

APPEAL No. 23/2024 PROCEEDINGS DATED 25.11.2024

In the Matter of:

M/s. Bee Dee Cycle Ltd., D-105, Phase-V, Focal Point, Ludhiana.

Contract Account Number: 3002810065 (LS)

...Appellant

Versus

Addl. Superintending Engineer, DS Focal Point (Spl.) Division, PSPCL, Ludhiana.

..Respondent

Present For:

Appellant: Sh. K.D. Parti,

Appellant's Representative.

Respondent: Er. Manik Bhanot,

AEE, DS Focal Point (Spl.) Division,

PSPCL, Ludhiana.

At the start of hearing, the issue of condoning of delay in filing the Appeal beyond the stipulated period was taken up. The Appellant submitted that the decision of the Corporate Forum was received on 26.09.2024 vide Memo No. 1388/T-158/24 dated 16.09.2024. There was a delay in filing the present Appeal due to the reason that the

OEP A-23 of 2024

Appellant waited for the implementation of decision, which was received on 26.10.2024 vide Memo No. 3525 dated 24.10.2024. The Appellant's Representative requested for the condonation of delay in filing the Appeal & prayed that Appeal be heard on merits in the interest of justice. I find that the Respondent did not object to the condoning of the delay in filing the Appeal in this Court either in its written reply or during hearing in this Court.

In this connection, I have gone through Regulation 3.18 of PSERC (Forum and Ombudsman) Regulations, 2016 which reads as under: -

"No representation to the Ombudsman shall lie unless:

(ii) The representation is made within 30 days from the date of receipt of the order of the Forum.

Provided that the Ombudsman may entertain a representation beyond 30 days on sufficient cause being shown by the complainant that he/she had reasons for not filing the representation within the aforesaid period of 30 days."

It was observed that refusal to condone the delay in filing the Appeal would deprive the Appellant of the opportunity required to be afforded to defend the case on merits. Therefore, with a view to meet the ends of ultimate justice, the delay in filing the Appeal in this Court

OEP A-23 of 2024

beyond the stipulated period was condoned and the Appellant's Representative was allowed to present the case.

The submissions of the Appellant's Representative were heard. The Respondent submitted the Reply to the Appeal vide Memo No. 4803 dated 22.11.2024, which was taken on record. A copy of the same was provided to the Appellant's Representative. The Appellant's Representative was directed to submit the Rejoinder to the Reply of the Respondent before the next date of hearing.

The next date of hearing is fixed for 02.12.2024 at 10.30 AM. Both the parties are directed to be present on the next date of hearing.

November 25, 2024 S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali).

CARICI

(ANJULI CHANDRA)
Lokpal (Ombudsman)
Electricity, Punjab.

OEP A-23 of 2024