



PUNJAB STATE TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall Patiala-147001, Punjab, India.
Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033814 (www.pstcl.org)
(Office of Chief Accounts Officer/Finance & Audit, ARR Section)
3rd Floor, Opp.Kali Mata Mandir, Shakti Sadan, Patiala.
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To

✓
The Secretary,
Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission,
Site no.3, sector 18A, Chandigarh-160018

Memo No. 14/ /CAO(F&A)/MYT-II/APR-II
Date. 24/02/22

Sub:- Petition no 67 of 2021 of PSTCL- Objection no 1.

Ref: Your Office E mail dated 18.02.2022

Vide email under reference your office has forwarded the objection raised by Focal Point Industries Association on Petition no. 67/2021. Point Wise reply to the objections raised is enclosed herewith for further necessary action please.

Sudhij

Chief Accounts Officer (F&A)
PSTCL, Patiala

CC: Sh. Kamal Dalmia, Chairman, Focal Point Industry Association, 35 Focal Point, Mehta Road, Amritsar – 143006.

Objection No 1 in Petition No 67 of 2021

Focal Point Industries Association

Point wise reply is as under:-

1. That charges demanded as a result of checking / arrears due to under assessment are included in regular supply bill by the Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL). If these charges / arrears are not paid, penalty is levied and recovered from the consumer. As per supply code clause 30.1.2, the bill cum notice for arrears shall be initially tendered separately and shall not be clubbed with current electricity bill. If arrears are not cleared by the consumer, such arrears shall be indicated regularly in the subsequent electricity bills. In case arrear bill is included in the current energy bill at the first instance, the distribution licensee shall not be entitled to take any punitive action against the consumer for non-payment of such arrears amount along with the current energy bill.
It is suggested that this clause should be strictly implemented and action hold be taken against erring officer.

Reply:- No comments as this point relates to PSPCL.

2. That PSTCL & PSPCL every year file petition before the commission to increase electricity tariff. Increasing tariff is not a permanent solution to the problem. Electricity Tariff in Punjab is already very much higher as compared to the adjoining states i.e. HP, Jammu & Kashmir etc. etc. it is suggested that PSTCL & PSPCL should reduce its Transmission losses, Breakdown expenses, improve working by blocking loop holes etc. etc. To take care of these, Corporation should appoint Advisors & auditors of international / national repute without any delay. Where there is will, there is always a way.

Reply No comments.

3. That earlier interest payable to consumer on ACD was SBI rate of interest plus 2% whereas it has been revised to RBI rate of interest. Minimum Interest rate applicable to Industry on banks borrowings is 8%. Accordingly, Rate of interest on ACD should be made at par with the lending rate of interest charged by the commercial banks.

Reply:- No comments as this point relates to PSPCL.

4. That earlier it was the auditors who used to direct the local PSPCL officials to issue notices for collecting the difference in ACD from consumers which becomes payable due to increase in their consumption bill every year. Auditor / MMTS direct the local officials to collect the difference in ACD amount within 10 to 15 days from the date of Notice whereas ACD demanded with Bar Code Demand Notice have payment time of 3 months. It is suggested that only Assessing officer should deal with the ACD related matters and no other authority, whether Audit or MMTS should interfere in the same. Rate of ACD should also be reduced and it should be made equal to one month average consumption bill instead of one and a half times of the average monthly bill of previous year. It is also desired that a uniform formula for assessing ACD should be made public so that consumer can check the same easily before making payment.

Sudhik

Further, there is also a provision for refund of ACD, in case, it is excess, but local officials don't refund the same to consumer. The said provision should also be made effective. Dealings should be made very Crystal clear & fair.

Reply:- No comments as this point relates to PSPCL.

5. That Presently, Hotels / Malls etc. are charge consumption rate considering them as commercial entity. It is suggested that these establishments held be covered under Tourism Industry and Tariff applicable to that Industry should be charged. Amritsar is developing very fast as a Tourist hub. Tourists from all over the world are coming to Amritsar to visit the Golden Temple, Durgiana Temple, Jallian Walla Bagh, Retreat Ceremony at Indo — Pak Border and other newly developed heritage sites around the city. With this change, the New Hotels & Malls will come up to meet the demand of the visiting Foreign/Indian Tourists.

Reply:- No comments as this point relates to PSPCL.

6. That Ministry of Small Scale Industries has changed the criteria for classification of MSME with effect from 1st July, 2020 as detailed below:

Previous MSME Classification			
Criteria: Investment in Plant & Machinery or Equipment			
Classification	Micro	Small	Medium
Mfg. Enterprises	Investment <Rs.25 lac	Investment <Rs.5 Cr.	Investment <Rs.10 Cr.
Service Enterprises	Investment <Rs.10 lac	Investment <Rs.2 Cr.	Investment <Rs.5 Cr.

Revised Previous MSME Classification from 01.07.2020			
Composite Criteria: Investment and Annual Turnover			
Classification	Micro	Small	Medium
Manufacturing and Services Enterprises	Investment <Rs.1 Cr. And Turnover <Rs.5 Cr.	Investment <Rs.10 Cr. And Turnover <Rs.50 Cr.	Investment <Rs.20 Cr. And Turnover <Rs.100 Cr.

In spite of this change by the Ministry, the Power Sector has not amended the criteria of classification of MSME enterprises till date. The Limits for MS connection 20 KW to 100 KW has not changed for the last 30 years. It is suggested that the limit of the same be increased to 500 KW.

Reply:- No comments as this point relates to PSPCL.

7. That Presently PSPCL is having monopoly for distribution & transmission of electricity. To make it competitive and efficient, at least one more distribution /transmission Company should be allowed to operate in power sector.

Reply:- No comments as this point relates to PSPCL.

8. That PSPCL & PEDDA are promoting use of Solar Power by installing Solar System. The two way Meters are neither available with PSPCL nor in the open market. Due to this there is huge delay in installing the Solar System. It is suggested that Two Way Meters should be made available in open market as well as with PSPCL to avoid any delay in installing Solar System.

Reply:- No comments as this point relates to PSPCL.

9. That PSPCL is still charging KVH Tariff? Peak Load Surcharge from its consumers for use of electricity from 6 PM to 10 PM during the months of June to September

Sudhik.

inspite of Punjab being a power surplus state. Hence, it is requested that this surcharge should be withdrawn immediately.

Reply:- No comments as this point relates to PSPCL.

10. That inspite of manifold increase in demand of Power in the Old Focal Point, Amritsar, there is still no sub-station in the area and Power Supply is being made from the Mall Mandi sub-station. It is requested that 132 KVA substation be installed at the Old Focal Point for which one plot has been kept reserved for the last 30 years by PSIEC.

Reply:- No comments as this point relates to PSPCL.

11. That, sometimes unscheduled power cuts are imposed by the PSPCL which disturb the working of the industrial units. It is suggested that the concerned official(s) responsible for imposing unscheduled power cut be made answerable / accountable for the same.

Reply:- No comments as this point relates to PSPCL.

12. That whenever any new connection above 500KVA / KW is applied, feasibility clearance is mandatory '3' months before the commencement / registration of application. But in some cases, it is noticed that feasibility clearance is given only after approval from Chief Electricity Inspector and / or after installation of Energy Meter etc. which is not possible before the completion of the project. It is suggested that feasibility clearance should be given before the start of the project.

Reply:- No comments as this point relates to PSPCL.

13. That the Working of the Dispute Settlement Committee (DSC) should be made more disciplined and time bound. The Cases are lying pending with the DSC even for almost last 3 years It is suggested that the Consumer Redressal Forum (CRF) should monitor the working of DSC more effectively and it should be asked to submit monthly report of cases settled / pending for settlement to the Consumer Redressal Forum.


Reply:- No comments as this point relates to PSPCL.

14. That the PSPCL should be directed to come up with an "One time settlement Scheme so that consumers can regularize their Power Connections to avoid litigations.

Reply:- No comments as this point relates to PSPCL.

15. That purchase of power in Punjab from National Grid is very costly as compared to the other state because of huge charges levied by PSPCL. It is suggested that PSPCL should reduce these charges & allow all LS Units above 500 KW load to purchase power from the National Grid (if desired) so that industry of Punjab can compete with the industry of adjoining states.

Reply:- No comments as this point relates to PSPCL.


CAO(F&A)
PSTCL, Patiala

Objection No. 01



FOCAL POINT INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION (REGD.50)

(SERVING SINCE 1985)

35, FOCAL POINT, MEHTA ROAD, AMRITSAR-143 006

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FPIA/896

Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission,
Chandigarh

Kind Attn.: Hon'ble Shri Viswajeet Khanna , Chairperson
Sub: Suggestions for Improvement in Working of PSTCL & PSPCL

Respected Sir,

We are giving hereunder the suggestions for the improvement in the working of PSTCL & PSPCL for your consideration:

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It is suggested that this clause should be strictly implemented and action should be taken against erring officer.

28th January, 2022

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Hoping for your suitable needful action on the issues stated above.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

For FOCAL POINT INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION (REGD.)

(KAMAL DALMIA)
Chairman
M: 9876999666

(D. S GORAYA)
President
M: 9814055351

CC:

1. Hon'ble Shri Baldev Singh Sran,
Chairman cum Managing Director,
Punjab State Power Corporation Limited,
Patiala
2. Hon'ble Shri Tejveer Singh IAS,
Principal Secretary,
Industry & Commerce, Punjab,
Chandigarh

3. **Hon'ble Shri Anirudh Tiwari I.A.S.**
Chief Secretary Punjab,
Chandigarh
4. **Hon'ble Shri Navjot Singh Sidhu,**
MLA – Amritsar East & President Congress, Punjab,
Amritsar
5. **Hon'ble Shri Gurkirat Singh Kotli,**
Industries & Commerce Minister Punjab,
Chandigarh
6. **Hon'ble Shri O.P. Soni,**
Deputy Chief Minister Punjab
Chandigarh
7. **Hon'ble Shri Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa,**
Deputy Chief Minister,
Chandigarh
8. **Hon'ble Shri Charanjit Singh Channi,**
Chief Minister Punjab,
Chandigarh

(For kind information & with a request to please look into the issues discussed above for the welfare of Trade & Industry of Punjab).