



PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

O/o CHIEF ENGINEER/ARR&TR, Regd.office: PSEB Head Office,The Mall Patiala-147001.

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Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813 Website:www.pspcl.in

To

Registrar,

Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission,
Chandigarh.

Memo. No. 01/Spl/ TR-5 /961

Dated 17.04.2020

Subject: Petition No. 12 of 2020 (Suo- Motu) : Due to unprecedented conditions in view of the force majeure situation arising due to severe restrictions on movement of public in the State due to the spread of COVID-19 and continue supply of electricity being an essential service in larger public interest, Govt. of Punjab, Department of Power has issued directions vide letter No. letter No. 01/04/2020-EB(PR)/185-186 dated 07.04.2020 to the Commission under Section 108 of the Electricity Act, to exempt the fixed charges for medium supply (MS) and large supply (LS) industrial consumers for the next 2 months from 23.03.2020 and to fix energy charges to commensurate with reduction in fixed charges (single rate) and further directing to reduce the Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) for year 2019-20 and 2020-21 by 1.50% and 2.00% respectively.

Enclosed please find herewith the reply of PSPCL in the subject cited petition along with requisite affidavit for kind consideration of the Hon'ble commission.

DA/ As above

B. Sharma
17/4/2020

**Chief Engineer/ARR&TR,
PSPCL, Patiala.**

BEFORE PUNJAB STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

CHANDIGARH.

IN THE MATTER OF

PETITION NO. 12 OF 2020

Due to unprecedented conditions in view of the force majeure situation arising due to severe restrictions on movement of public in the State due to the spread of COVID-19 and continue supply of electricity being an essential service in larger public interest, Govt. of Punjab, Department of Power has issued directions vide letter No. letter No. 01/04/2020-EB(PR)/185-186 dated 07.04.2020 to the Commission under Section 108 of the Electricity Act, to exempt the fixed charges for medium supply (MS) and large supply (LS) industrial consumers for the next 2 months from 23.03.2020 and to fix energy charges to commensurate with reduction in fixed charges (single rate) and further directing to reduce the Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) for year 2019-20 and 2020-21 by 1.50% and 2.00% respectively.

AND

IN THE MATTER OF

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED,
THE MALL, PATIALA.

Affidavit verifying facts contained in above noted petition.

I, Er. Bhupinder Sharma S/o Late Sh. Jagan Nath Sharma aged 57 years is working as CE/ARR&TR in PSPCL having office at F4, Shakti Vihar, Patiala do solemnly affirm and state as follows:-

1. That I am as Chief Engineer/ARR & TR of Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd., the petitioner in the above matter, is duly authorized by the PSPCL to make affidavit in this behalf.
2. That the statement and facts incorporated in above noted petition are based on the information collected from concerned offices of the PSPCL and I believe them to be true.
3. That the contents of above noted petition are true to the best of my knowledge and I believe that no part of it is false and nothing has been concealed therein.
4. There is no other case that is pending before any other Forum or any other Court on the subject matter filed by PSPCL in the present petition.

Place: Patiala.

Dated: 17.04.2020

B. Sharma
17/4/2020

Deponent

Verification:

I, solemnly affirm at Patiala on 17th day of April 2020 that the contents of the above affidavit are true to my knowledge, no part of it is false and nothing has been concealed therein.

Place: Patiala.

Dated: 17.04.2020

B. Sharma
17/4/2020

Deponent

Comments of PSPCL on Petition No.12 of 2020(Suo-Moto):

In the Matter of: Due to unprecedented conditions in view of the force majeure situation arising due to severe restrictions on movement of public in the State due to the spread of COVID-19 and continue supply of electricity being an essential service in larger public interest, Govt. of Punjab, Department of Power has issued directions vide letter No. letter No. 01/04/2020-EB(PR)/185-186 dated 07.04.2020 to the Commission under Section 108 of the Electricity Act, to exempt the fixed charges for medium supply (MS) and large supply (LS) industrial consumers for the next 2 months from 23.03.2020 and to fix energy charges to commensurate with reduction in fixed charges (single rate) and further directing to reduce the Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) for year 2019-20 and 2020-21 by 1.50% and 2.00% respectively.

Hon'ble PSERC vide its Order dated 09.04.2020 in petition No.12 of 2020 has asked PSPCL to submit the Financial impact and comments of the letter No. 01/04/2020-EB(PR)/185-186 dated 07.04.2020 received from the Govt. of Punjab, Deptt. of Power, whereby certain directions have been issued to the Hon'ble PSERC under Section 108 of the Electricity Act, 2003. Further, PSPCL has received another letter from Principal Secretary, Power vide Memo no.01/04/2020-EB(PR)/187 in which different relief measures have been provided by the GoP than that mentioned in Petition No.12 of 2020. The Letter is attached as **Annexure A**.

➤ Comments of PSPCL:

- 1. As per the direction of GoP that Fixed Charges for Medium Supply (MS) and Large Supply (LS) Industrial Consumers be exempted for next 2 months from the date of lockdown period i.e.23.3.2020 and energy charges be revised to commensurate with reduction in fixed charges (single rate). Revised energy charges will be paid by consumers and are not to be considered for subsidy.**

In this regard it is submitted that MS and LS consumers are billed on the basis of AMR/ actual reading. Further in case of MS and LS consumers the fixed charges will be levied only for the days the industry was running on pro-rata basis i.e. from the date of last reading up to curfew in the state i.e. 23.3.20. Fixed charges of MS and LS will be exempted for two months from 23.3.2020 as per above letter of GOP. Further these charges are to be recovered from these consumers and are not to be considered for subsidy being provided by GOP for these consumers. In this regard, it is submitted as under:

To enhance energy charges:

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It is brought out that the following Fixed Charges and Energy Charges rates as per the current Tariff is as under:

Category	Slabs	Fixed Charges (Rs/kVA/month)	Energy Charges (Rs/kVAh)
Medium Supply	Above 20 kVA & upto 100 kVA	120	5.80
Large Supply			
General Industry	Above 100 kVA & upto 1000 kVA	165	5.89
	Above 1000 KVA & upto 2500 kVA	225	5.93
	Above 2500 KVA	260	5.98
PIU / ARC Furnace	Above 100 kVA & upto 1000 kVA	170	5.93
	Above 1000 KVA & upto 2500 kVA	260	6.18
	Above 2500 kVA	295	6.19

Further on the basis of energy consumption, kVA Demand, revenue from existing Energy Charges and Fixed Charges, the energy charges have been calculated for consumption of two months' period and then percentage increase in energy charges have been calculated after adding two months exempted fixed charges as shown below:

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
Energy Consumption (Million kVAh)	Contract Demand (kVA)	Revenue from Variable Charges (Rs. in Crore)	Revenue from Fixed Charges in 12 months (Rs in crores)	Projected Fixed Charges for two months (to be exempted) S no. 5x(2/12) (Rs. in crore)	Projected energy charges corresponding to consumption of 2 months [s.no.4x(2/12)] (Rs in crores)	Total EC recoverable (in two months' period) including exempted Fixed Charges = (sno.6 + sno. 7) (Rs in crores)	%age increase in rate of per unit energy charges (for two months) on account of exempted FC of two months(8/7)	
LS	16,184.35	55,10,156.94	9748.57	1201.36	200.22	1624.76	1824.98	12.32%
MS	2448.05	17,33,795.00	1419.87	283.01	47.16	236.64	283.80	19.93%

On the basis of projected consumption and revenue from energy charges for two months period for LS and MS category Industrial consumers, the enhancement in per unit energy rate (Rs per kVAh) on account of exemption of Fixed Charges may be done as shown above i.e. exempted Fixed charges of LS and MS categories for two months (Rs 247.38 Cr. approx.) may be recovered by enhancing the per unit Energy Charges for these two months for LS and MS categories by 12.32% and 19.93% respectively.

In the above calculations it has been assumed that consumption of LS and MS consumers shall be normal but due to lockdown w.e.f. 23.03.2020, actual consumption of these consumers is almost nil and it would not be possible to

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recover exempted fixed charges for two months from the energy charges of these two months.

Keeping above in view, it is proposed that Fixed Charges for MS and LS consumers may be deferred for 2 months and arrears may be recovered in a span of ten months in the form of fixed charges. In this case, arrears corresponding to each consumer will be paid by that particular consumer. However, Hon'ble commission may increase the period of recovery of exempted fixed charges depending upon the covid-19 pandemic conditions.

Further as it is a forced majeure condition GOI may give some relief package/grant to compensate the fixed charges.

It is further proposed that fixed charges of those connections covered under industrial category tariff whose operation has not been effected to the large extent by lockdown such as Sewerage treatment plants, water supply connections, Milk plants, Milk chilling plants, cold storage, water bottling plants, distilleries, pharmaceutical industry, Food industry, Medical equipment industry etc. be not exempted .

Financial implication on account of exemption of fixed charges for MS and LS consumers for two months shall be around 247 Cr .

2. Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) for the year 2019-20 and 2020-21 may be reduced by 1.50% and 2.00% respectively:

The RPO approved by Hon'ble PSERC are as under:

Year	Non-Solar	Solar	Total
2019-20	5.5%	4.0%	9.5%
2020-21	6.5%	5.0%	11.5%

Availability of RE power from various PPAs signed by PSPCL and Solar Rooftop scheme has delayed and shall delay further due to Covid-19 pandemic effect. Details of some of the delayed projects is as under:

- a. Solar Rooftop (Subsidy cases) for residential sector (appox.30 MW/Yr) could not be commissioned in the F.Y 2019-20 as this scheme was handed over to PSPCL in the month of August and tendering along with project commissioning took 6-8 months .Further, due to the prevailing covid-19 situation commissioning of these projects will further get delayed.
- b. PSPCL Signed PPAs of 300 MW Solar Power and 200 MW Wind Power (Non-Solar) with NTPC in March, 2019. As the gestation period for these of projects varies will delay due to Covid-19 . Therefore, power from these projects will be available in FY 2021-22.
- c. Commissioning of 26 MW out of 150 MW wind power project (PSA signed with SECI) has still not completed and may further get delayed due to Covid-19.

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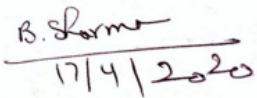
- d. Commissioning of Co-generation projects (40 MW) also got delayed and power from these projects will be available in FY 2021-22. These projects may further get delayed due to covid-19 affect.
- e. Various Solar projects with total capacity of 110 MW are under litigation and due to current situation arise on account of Pandemic Covid-19, court cases are getting delayed which may further delay the execution of these projects.

Due to reasons mentioned above, there shall be RPO shortfall of Solar and Non Solar by 140.71 MUs and 495.67 MUs approximately for FY 2019-20 and amount of Rs 100 crore shall be required for the purchase of RECs corresponding to shortfall.

Further as per approved RPO targets for FY 2020-21, there shall be tentative shortfall of 899.26 MUs (which is approximately equal to 2%) and an amount of Rs. 220 crore shall be required for the purchase of RECs corresponding to shortfall.

The reduction of RPO targets is required otherwise it will put additional financial burden on consumers of PSPCL who are already suffering due to the Covid-19 pandemic. So, keeping in view the financial position of PSPCL and in the interest of the public of Punjab, it is requested to reduce the Solar and Non-Solar Target for the FY 2019-20 and 2020-21 by 1.50%(i.e. 1.0 % for Non-Solar & 0.5 % for Solar Power for FY 2019-20) and 2.0 % (i.e. 0.5 % for Non-Solar & 1.5 % for Solar Power for FY 2020-21) respectively.

Financial implication for reducing Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) for the year 2019-20 and 2020-21 by 1.50% and 2.00% respectively shall be Rs. 320 Cr.


17/4/2020
**Chief Engineer/ARR&TR,
PSPCL, Patiala.**

**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB
DEPARTMENT OF POWER
(Power Reforms Wing)**

To

The Chairman-cum-Managing Director,
Punjab State Power Corporation Limited,
Patiala.

Memo No. 1/4/2020-ER(PR)/187
Date, Chandigarh the 7th April, 2020

Subject: To give relief to the electricity consumers in the State of Punjab for mitigating the impact of COVID-19.

You may be aware that the restrictions have been imposed by the State Government on movement of public and opening of offices and establishments etc. to control the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this time of crisis, due to the unprecedented situation which is likely to continue for some time the consumers are unable to pay their dues to Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL).

Keeping in view the hardship being faced by the people of Punjab and to mitigate the impact of COVID-19, Hon'ble Chief Minister Punjab has decided to give following reliefs to the electricity consumers:

- 1) Due date of electricity bills of all the Domestic & Commercial consumers having current monthly/bimonthly bills up to Rs.10000/- payable on or after 20th March, 2020 has been extended up to 20th April, 2020 without levy of late payment surcharge and 1% rebate will be given to the consumers on the current bill (exclusive of any previous arrears) who will pay electricity bills online through digital modes by original due date.
- 2) Due date of electricity bills payable on or after 20th March, 2020 of all the Industrial consumers i.e. SP, MS and LS has been extended up to 20th April, 2020 without levy of late payment surcharge and 1% rebate will be given to the consumers (exclusive of any previous arrears) who will pay electricity bills online through digital modes by original due date.



- 3) Fixed Charges for Medium Supply (MS) and Large Supply (LS) Industrial Consumers be exempted for next 2 months from 23.3.2020 and Energy Charges may be fixed to commensurate with reduction in Fixed Charges (single rate). Revised Energy Charges will be paid by consumers and not to be considered for subsidy.
- 4) PSPCL shall ensure continuity of supply. Complaints related to safety and restoration of supply shall continue to be attended.
- 5) PSPCL shall discontinue other non-essential services which require visiting consumer premises like i.e. meter reading, billing, release of new connections etc. during the lockdown period.
- 6) In absence of meter reading, the consumers shall be intimated about their bill through PSPCL website, SMS, Email, Mobile App etc. and bill shall be issued on average basis.
- 7) Wherever Automated Meter Reading (AMR) is in place, same shall be used.
- 8) No new disconnection shall be carried out against non-payment till restrictions are withdrawn by the Authority.

All the above measures may be brought in the knowledge of public through electronic media and print media for wider publicity.


Principal Secretary, Power