

**BEFORE THE TAMIL NADU ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
CHENNAI**

**Order No T.O.1 - 97dated 03/11/2006**

**Present :**      **Hon'ble Thiru S. Thangarathnam, Member**  
                      **Hon'ble Thiru B. Jeyaraman, Member**

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**In the matter of : Master Metering Plan – Metering of Agricultural and hut services – deferment orders issued.**

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The Commission in the Order No. T.O.1-62 dated 29.08.2005 approved the proposal of TNEB to defer the metering of new Agricultural (other than SFS) and Hut Services and submission of Master Metering Plan up to 30.06.2006.

(2) In letters dated 3.07.2006 & 13.09.2006, the TNEB had addressed the Government to request TNERC to grant extension of time limit up to 31.03.2009 for fixing meters in unmetred agricultural and hut services on the following grounds that :

- ♦ Huge expenditure is involved to the tune of Rs.760 Crs. in metering the
  - (i) 9,13,199 Nos. of hut services
  - (ii) 14,37,189 Nos. of free Agricultural services
  - (iii) 1,70,974 Nos. of SFS Agricultural services.
- ♦ Considering the large quantity of meters to be fixed and huge expenditure that is involved, a time of three years is required for completing the above task.

(3) The Government while forwarding the TNEB's letter have informed the following in their letter No. 5287/C3/2006-1 dt. 28.9.2006:

**"The Government after examining the request of the Chairman / TNEB have decided to move the Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission to extend time up to 31.03.2009 for installation of meters to unmetred Agricultural and Hut consumers by TNEB."**

(4) In the above letter, the Government have also requested to place the Government's decision before the Commission for its consent and to issue directives to TNEB.

(5) As per section 55 (i) of the Electricity Act 2003, no licensee shall supply electricity after expiry of two years from appointed date except through installation of correct meters. Under second proviso to the same section it has been provided that the State Commission, may, by notification extend the said period of two years for a class or a classes of persons or for such area as may be specified in the notification.

(6) The spirit of the Act is not to supply electricity except through a correct meter beyond the period of 2 years and the proviso clause is for extension of time with a

view to take concrete and concerted action in states like Tamil Nadu, where very large number of service connections remain unmetered. Now 1 year 4 months are over beyond the period of 2 years provided in the Act ie. from 10.06.2005. The proviso clause of extension beyond the period of 2 years could not have been meant to be even more than the main intention of the period of 2 years provided in the Act itself. At this juncture the decision of the Government of Tamil Nadu to move the TNERC to extend the time up to 31.03.2009 for installation of meters based on the request of TNEB, for the consent to issue direction to the TNEB has been received.

(7) The Commission, however, taking into consideration the reasons furnished by TNEB, **accepts the request of the Government and notify, under the power conferred under second proviso to section 55 (1) of the Act that the period specified in sub-section (1) of Section 55 for installation of meters in Agricultural (other than SFS) and Hut services be extended up to 31.03.2009** subject to the following:

- (i) Metering of Distribution Transformers (DTs) for assessing line losses, etc., shall be done as per the directives of the Commission and the programme shall be communicated to the Commission by TNEB. A detailed time schedule to provide 100% metering of Distribution transformer may be furnished within a month time.
- (ii) Quarterly report on the actual line loss in the areas wherein meters are provided on DTs shall be furnished to the Commission. Loss details (for 11KV and 22KV separately) up to HT feeders level may be furnished wherever the HT feeders are feeding to Agricultural or/and hut services. In other areas loss details up to LT end may be furnished.
- (iii) Critical sample studies with the help of experts may be conducted in different areas (taking in to account the ground water level, type of well, additional pump set with changeover switch, etc.) to arrive at more accurate consumption of Agricultural pump sets. Similar studies may be conducted to arrive at the consumption of the hut services. The action taken in this direction may be reported to the Commission within three months.
- (iv) TNEB shall take advance action and furnish a metering plan with concrete milestone before 31-12-2007 so as to facilitate procurement of required number of meters in time and to commence installing meters from 01.04.2009.

**/By order of the Commission/**

**Secretary  
Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission**

To

The Chairman, Tamil Nadu Electricity Board, Chennai 2.