



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

Order No T.O. 1-118 dated 22.05.2009

Present : Hon'ble Thiru S. Kabilan, Chairman
Hon'ble Thiru B. Jeyaraman, Member
Hon'ble Thiru R. Rajupandi, Member

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

The Commission in the Order No. T.O.1-97 dated 03-11-2006 approved the proposal of TNEB to defer the metering of Agricultural (other than SFS) and Hut Services up to 31.03.2009.

(2) In the letter dated 21-08-2008, the TNEB had addressed the Government to request Commission to grant extension of time limit for fixing meters in Agricultural (other than SFS) and hut services as long as free supply is continued, on the following grounds:

- Huge expenditure is involved to the tune of Rs.760 crores in metering the agriculture and hut services and it will serve only the purpose of measuring the quantum of energy consumed by these categories of consumers.
- There will be stiff resistance from the consumers while fixing the meters and additional staff are required for meter reading and it will result in additional financial burden to TNEB.
- In order to measure the quantum of energy consumed by these categories and assessing T&D losses, TNEB is adopting various methods such as sample meter reading based on Raheja study and DT metering.

(3) The Government while forwarding the TNEB's letter have stated the following in their letter No. 8676/C3/2008-2 dt. 26-03-2009:

"The Government after examining the request of the Principal Secretary and Chairman / TNEB have decided to move the Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission to extend time up to 30.09.2009 for installation of meters in Hut and Agricultural services including SFS category by TNEB."

(4) In the above letter, the Government has 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 specified 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 clause 5.4.9 of the National Electricity Policy specifies that the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions may obtain from the Distribution Licensee their metering Plans, approve these and monitor the same.

(7) The spirit of the Act and the National Electricity Policy is not to supply electricity except through a correct meter beyond the period of two years. Now almost four years are over beyond the period of two years provided in the Act ie. from 10.06.2005. At this juncture, the decision of the Government of Tamil Nadu to move the Commission to extend the time up to 30.09.2009 for installation of meters based on the request of TNEB has been received.

(8) 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 30.09.2009** subject to the following:

- (i) Metering of Distribution Transformers (DTs) with remote metering facilities shall be done on priority basis. A detailed time schedule to provide 100% metering of Distribution transformer may be furnished to the Commission within a month time.
- (ii) Critical sample studies with the help of experts may be conducted in different areas 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.

- (iii) Quarterly report on actual line loss may be furnished upto the LT end wherever 100% metering is completed upto consumer level. In case of feeders feeding agricultural and hut services, loss details may be furnished based on the sample study conducted above.
- (iv) TNEB **shall furnish the roadmap** for installation of meters in Hut and Agricultural services including SFS category by 30-06-2009 so as to facilitate procurement of required number of meters in time and to commence installing meters from 01.10.2009.

(By order of the Commission)

**Secretary,
Tamil Nadu Electricity Regulatory Commission.**

**To
The Chairman, Tamil Nadu Electricity Board, Chennai 2.**

Copy to the Secretary, Energy Department, Secretariat, Chennai – 9.

