CONSUMER GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL FORUM KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LTD- SOUTHERN REGION VYDYUTHI BHAVANAM, KOTTARAKKARA

Present: 1. Smt.Laila.N.G,Deputy Chief Engineer, Chairperson

2. Sri. Sanjeev Koshy, Executive Engineer, Member II

3. Sri.C.K.Harikumar,Advocate,Member III

Wednesday 14th February ,2024

OP No.71/2023

Between

Petitioner: Sri. Mohammed Rafi, Melevilayil House, Amabalathumbhagam PIN-690520

And

Respondents: (1) The Assistant Executive Engineer, Electrical Sub Division, Sasthamcottah

(2) The Assistant Engineer, Electrical Section, Sooranad

<u>ORDER</u>

1. Grievance of the petitioner

The petitioner is a consumer of Electrical Section, Sasthamcottah having consumer No.1145740022404 under 7A tariff. The electric supply had been given to the consumer as a three phase supply. On 08/09/2023, the Anti Power Theft Squad along with the officials of Sooranad Section conducted an inspection on the above said premises of petitioner. During the inspection, it was detected that the CT connection of each phases are not connected properly in the meter causing wrong phase sequence. So as to compensate revenue loss to the licensee for the unrecorded portion of energy, a provisional short assessment bill of Rs.2,82,529/- given to the petitioner. The petitioner argued that he can't be held liable after loss occurred due to improper connection in CT meter. Hence the petitioner prays the Forum to pass orders for exempting him from remitting the short assessment bill.

2. Version of the respondent

The petitioner is a consumer under Electrical Section Sooranad bearing Consumer Number 1145740022404 in VIIA tariff. The total connected load of the consumer is 31470 Watts. A joint inspection was conducted by the Antipower Theft squad Kollam along with the officials of Electrical Section, Sooranad at premises of the said consumer on 08/09/2023.During the inspection of current transformer operated metering system, it was found that the R phase of CT is wrongly connected with B phase terminal and B phase CT is wrongly connected with R phase terminal. During testing of the metering system at the time of inspection it was found that only 58.82% of actual consumption is recorded in the energy meter due to reversal of R&B phase CT from 19/05/2022 .Subsequently a short assessment bill of Rs.2,82,529/-was served to the petitioner by evoking Section 152 of Kerala Electricity Supply Code 2014 to realize the electricity charges short collection. Hence the petitioner prays the Forum to dismiss the petition.

3. Analysis and Findings

The hearing of the case was conducted on 20/12/2023.Both the petitioner and Licensee was present in the Forum and heard the matter is detail.

On examining the petition, the counter statement of Licensee, perusing the documents attached and the arguments in the hearing and considering the facts and circumstances of the case, this Forum comes to the following findings and conclusions leading to the decisions.

The issue to be decided is whether the period assessed and quantum of energy loss computed are in order and the petitioner is liable for the payment of short assessment for Rs.2,82,529/- as per Regulation 152 of supply Code, 2014 as claimed by the licensee.

The Forum observed that APTS team had conducted an inspection in the petitioner's premises and detected anomaly in the metering system. It was found that the energy meter was not recording 41.1% of actual consumption. Inaccuracy in the meter was due to reversal of R&B phase CT from 19/05/2022. Hence the sharp fall in consumption was not due to any fault in the metering equipments, but due to the anomaly in the meter connection.

The issue of wrong connection of the CT terminals are necessary to be brought under the terminology" inaccuracies **in metering under regulation 152 (1) of supply code 2014, that anomalies attributable to the licensee which are detected on inspection at the premises of the consumer, such as wrong application of multiplication factor, incorrect application of tariff by the licensee even while there no change in the purpose of use of electricity by the consumer and** inaccuracies in meter not attract provisions of section 126 of Act or of section 135 of the Act. Therefore the action of the licensee is perfectly in tune with Regulation 152 (1) of Kerala Electricity Supply Code 2014 and the petitioner is bound to honor the demand.

The Forum also found that the lower consumption in the meter than actual was not due to intervention of the petitioner but due to faulty connection done by the officials of the licensee. The anomaly found during the inspection is not detectable during the time of taking monthly readings. The Forum viewed it as a negligence on the part of the Licensee.

4. Decision

(1) The petitioner is liable to pay the short assessment bill of Rs.2,82,529/issued by the licensee.

(2).No order as to cost.

If the petitioner is not satisfied with the above order of this Forum, he is at liberty to prefer appeal before the Electricity Ombudsman within 30 days from the date of receipt of this order.

The address of the Electricity Ombudsman is furnished below.

'The State Electricity Ombudsman, D.H & Foreshore Road Junction, Near Gandhi Square, Ernakulam, Kerala – 682 016. Phone: 0484 2346488'.

Sd/-	5d/-	Sd/-
C .K.HARIKUMAR	SANJEEV KOSHY	LAILA.N.G
ADVOCATE MEMBER III	EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MEMBER II	DEPUTY CHIEF ENGINEER CHAIRPERSON

Forwarded Sd/-CHAIRPERSON (DEPUTY CHIEF ENGINEER)

<u>No: CGRF/k</u>	TR/OP No.71/2023/53	Dated :23/02/2024		
Delivered to: 1. Sri. Mohammed Rafi, Melevilayil House,				
	Amabalathumbhaga	am.		
	2. The Assistant Execut	ve Engineer, Electrical Sub		
	Division Sasthamcot	ta.		
	3. The Assistant Enginee	r, Electrical Section, Sooranad.		
Copy to:	1. The Secretary, KSERC	, KPFC Bhavanam,		
	Vellayambalam, Thiru	ananthapuram.		
,	2. The Deputy Chief Eng	gineer, Electrical Circle, Kollam		
	3. The Executive Engine	er, Electrical Division Karunagappally		
Office: CGRF(S), Vydyuthi Bhavanam, Kottarakkara, Pin – 691506				

Web site: cgrf.kseb.in E- mail: Cgrf.ktra@kseb.in, Phone: 0474 - 2451300