Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission

New Delhi

Statement of Objects and Reasons on Schedule of Charges and Procedure under Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (Supply Code and Performance Standards) Regulations, 2017

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission in exercise of its powers under Regulation 84 of Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (Supply Code and Performance Standards) Regulations, 2017 issued the Orders to prescribe the schedule of charges and the procedure in regard to implementation of the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (Supply Code and Performance Standards) Regulations, 2017 (hereinafter referred to as the 'Supply Code Regulations').
- 1.2 The Commission had put-up the draft proposal on 7.7.2017 on its website for seeking suggestions/objections/comments from stakeholders by 31.07.2017. The public notices were issued in the following daily newspapers on 14.07.2017 for the information of the stakeholders to submit their suggestions/objections/comments:
 - (i) Hindustan Times (English)
 - (ii) Mail Today (English)
 - (iii) Times of India (English)
 - (iv) Hindustan (Hindi)
 - (v) Punjab Kesari (Hindi)
 - (vi) Pratap (Urdu)
 - (vii) Educator (Punjabi)

2. Views of Stakeholders

- 2.1 The Commission has considered the comments and suggestions (written or oral) of the stakeholders including Power Department, Government of NCT of Delhi on the various provisions of the draft proposal in response to the public notices.
- 2.2 The major comments and views expressed by the stakeholders through their written and oral submissions and the Commission's views thereon have been summarized and discussed in the following paragraphs. It may be noted that all the responses given by the stakeholders have been considered, and the Commission has attempted to elaborate these comments/suggestions, and arrived at a conclusion in this "Statement of Objects and Reasons". However, in case any suggestion is not specifically elaborated, it does not mean that the same has not been considered. Further, some stakeholders have suggested changes in regard to syntax/phrase/addition of word(s)/rewording related changes, which have been suitably incorporated, wherever found necessary.

3. Classification of supply (Clause 1 (1) of draft Order)

Stakeholders Submission

3.1 The stakeholders submitted that system voltage of 240 V for single phase supply and 415 V for 3 phase 4 wire at low tension may also be incorporated as the changeover of system voltage from 240/415 V to 230/400 V is kept in abeyance for the time being by Bureau of Indian Standards vide its amendment no.4 dated November, 2011.

Commission's Views

3.2 The Commission in its Delhi Electricity Supply Code and Performance Standards Regulations, 2007 has specified voltage levels at low tension with the limits of \pm 6% as under:

Single phase: 230 V between phase and neutral

Three phase: 400 V between phases

- 3.3 The Commission has retained the same voltage levels for low tension in Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (Supply Code and Performance Standards) Regulations, 2017.
- 3.4 It is noted that Bureau of Indian Standards vide its first amendment dated December, 2000, during the transition period, has kept both the system voltage of 240/415 and 230/400 in existence till December, 2003 to align Indian Standard on nominal system voltages with IEC recommendations and accordingly, revised the values of the AC nominal system voltage from 240/415 to 230/400 with a tolerance of ± 10%. The timelines for transition period were further extended by BIS vide its second amendment upto 31st December, 2007 and vide third amendment upto 31st December, 2009. However, BIS vide its amendment no.4 dated November, 2011 has stated that the changeover of system voltage from 240/415 to 230/400 shall be kept in abeyance for the time being.
- 3.5 The Commission further noted that low tension voltage as 240/415 or 230/400 or both (230/240 for single phase and 400/415 for three phase) have been adopted by other Regulatory Commissions.
- 3.6 Accordingly, the Commission has decided the following:

 To adopt both system of voltages for low tension i.e. 230/240 for single phase and 400/415 for three phase (Clause 1 (1) of the Final Order).

4. Security deposit to be payable corresponding to sanctioned load only (Clause 3 (1) of draft Order)

Stakeholders Submission

4.1 The stakeholders submitted that the security deposit shall be payable corresponding to sanctioned load only and not corresponding to contract demand, as the consumer who have signed contract demand @ 60% of the sanctioned load always have the option to increase its usage. This will also bring the uniformity in charging the security deposit and service line cum development charges. The contract demand should be used for levying fixed charges.

4.2 The Security Deposit is taken as a security towards charges to be paid by the consumer for consumption of electricity, which should be corresponding to the intended use of electricity by the consumer. In cases, where the connection is based on the contract demand (which shall be lower than the sanctioned load of the consumer), the intended use of electricity by the consumer is up to the contract demand. Hence, the Commission is of the view that security deposit shall be levied as per contract demand wherever provided. In case the consumer increases his contract demand, the consumer shall be required to pay additional security deposit as per the provisions of the Regulations.

4.3 Accordingly, the Commission has decided the following:

To retain the provision for levying of security deposit corresponding to contract demand wherever provided (Clause 3 (1) of final Order).

5. Review of amount of security deposit (Table of clause 3 (1) of draft Order)

Stakeholders Submission

- 5.1 BYPL submitted that as per the provisions of the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (Supply Code and Performance Standards) Regulations, 2017, the consumer is entitled for consumption of electricity for minimum 65 days without disconnection (Maximum days for billing cycle-35 days + due date 15 days+ disconnection notice-15 days). Therefore, the security deposit shall be charged on the basis of 65 days receivables.
- 5.2 On the other hand, the Commission received the comments from Power Department, GoNCTD that there is substantial increase in security deposit from existing charges. Further, two slabs may be considered for domestic category of consumers i.e. 0-2 kW and above 2kW against the proposed three slabs for simplification of process.
- 5.3 Power Department, GoNCTD stated that no security deposit shall be taken for pre-paid meter and there should be a rebate on the charges paid in advance for the consumption of electricity.

- 5.4 The Security Deposit is taken as a security towards charges to be paid by the consumer for consumption of electricity. The existing security deposit rates notified by the Commission in its Delhi Electricity Supply Code and Performance Standards, Regulations, 2007 were prevalent from 16.6.2003. The Commission in its Delhi Electricity Supply Code and Performance Standards, Regulations, 2007 has not revised any security deposit. It may also be informed that in the last revision carried out by the Commission in 2003 for security deposit, the rates were kept constant or revised on lower side as compared to the rates during DVB period.
- 5.5 The billing cycle has been specified for a consecutive period of 30-35 days for raising the bills and 15 days period has also been given for due date of payment from the date of bill generation. If the payment is not made by the consumer, the Licensee is entitled to disconnect the supply of power after giving a notice of 15 days to the applicant. Therefore in all, consumer will have a minimum consecutive period of around 2 months for getting supply

without disconnection. Therefore, Commission has considered 60 days period for computation of bill amount for determination of security deposit.

5.6 The approximate bill amount of the consumer for consumption of energy as per LDHF formula for a consecutive period of 60 days based on the applicable tariff, based on certain assumptions will be as under:-

SI. No.	Category	Estimated Bill (Rs.)	Security Deposit per kW	
1	Domestic category			
	For 2 kW	1,745	873	
	For 5 kW	5,776	1,155	
	For 10 kW	13,945	1,394	
2	Average Non- Domestic			
	For 100 kW	537,084	5,371	
3	Small Industries			
	For 100 kW	633,744	6,337	
4	Medium Industries			
	For 250 kW	1,428,840	5,715	
5	Large Industries			
	For 250 kW	1,506,060	6,024	
6	6 Agriculture			
	For 5 kW	4,671	934	
7	Mushroom			
	For 5 kW	13,262	2,652	
8	Public Lighting			
	For 5 kW	17,029	3,406	
9	Railway			
	For 500 kW	1,748,304	3,497	
10	10 DMRC			
	For 500 kW	1,558,008	3116	

- 5.7 It may be noted from the above table that ideally, security deposit per kW should be as determined above. However, the Commission has provided the relief to some categories of consumers for determining the security deposit to be paid by the consumers.
- 5.8 As regards the issue of security deposit for pre-payment meters, the Commission at Regulation 20 (2) of Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (Supply Code and Performance Standards), Regulations, 2017 has already specified that where pre-payment meters are used to supply power, security deposit for supply of electricity shall not be collected. However, security for meter cost shall be taken. The Commission has already specified at Regulation 38 (11) of Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (Supply Code and Performance Standards), Regulations, 2017 that in case of pre-paid metering, the Licensee shall pay a rebate to the consumer as notified in the applicable Tariff Order.

5.9 Accordingly, the Commission has decided the following:

The security deposit for different categories of consumers shall be as under (Clause 3(1) of final Order):-

	per Tariff Order)	Connection (Rs. Per kW or per
		kVA as the case may be)
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	Domestic	
(i)	Upto 2kW	600
(ii)	Above 2kW upto 5kW	900
(iii)	Above 5kW	1200
2	Non-Domestic	4500
3	Industrial	4500
4	Agriculture	300
5	Public Lighting	3000
6	Railway, DMRC, DIAL, DJB	3000
7	Mushroom Cultivation	600
8	Advertisement and Hoardings	4500
9	Any other category not specified above	To be decided by the Commission

6. Interest on Security Deposit (Clause 4 (1) of draft Order)

Stakeholders Submission

- 6.1 The stakeholder submitted that the nature of security deposit is not of loan and hence MCLR (Marginal Cost of fund based Lending rate) may not be applicable as interest on consumer security deposit. Instead, 1 year fixed deposit rate as may be notified by State Bank of India to be considered as interest on consumer security deposit.
- 6.2 Power Department, GoNCTD submitted that DISCOMs has been allowed interest on loan and return on equity higher than MCLR rate, therefore, consumers should be paid interest on security deposit with adequate margin on MCLR in comparison with allowed to DISCOMs. Difference between DISCOMs and consumers should not be more than 2-3%.

- 6.3 As per sub-section 4 of Section 47 of the Electricity Act, 2003, the interest equivalent to bank rate or more, as may be specified by the Commission is required to be paid by the distribution licensee. The relevant section is as under:-
 - "(4) The distribution licensee shall pay interest equivalent to the bank rate or more, as may be specified by the concerned State Commission, on the security referred to in sub-section (1) and refund such security on the request of the person who gave such security".
- 6.4 The Commission in its Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (Supply Code and Performance Standards) Regulations, 2017 has defined the Bank Rate as under:-

- (13) **"Bank rate"** means the base rate or Marginal Cost of Fund based Lending Rate (MCLR) or any other benchmark rate as notified by the State Bank of India;
- 6.5 Therefore, the Commission in its draft order has prescribed the MCLR as notified by State Bank of India on 1^{st} April of financial year as Bank rate for payment of Interest on Security Deposit.
- 6.6 Rate of interest on security deposit has a bearing on consumer tariff and higher interest rate on the security deposit shall have an additional burden on the consumers.
- 6.7 Accordingly, the Commission has decided the following:To retain payment of Interest on Security Deposit at MCLR, as notified by State Bank of India on 1st April of financial year (Clause 4 (1) of final Order).

7. SLD charges are not cost reflective (Clause 5 of draft Order)

Stakeholders Submission

7.1 The normative service line cum development charges for connections at LT level are not cost reflective as the actual cost incurred to provide the connection is on higher side. The indicative cost to provide the connection is as under:-

SI. No.	Sanctioned Load	Size of cable used	Service line cost (Rs.)	Other equipment cost (Approx. Meter Cost) (Rs.)	Development Cost (Rs.)	Total Cost (Rs.)
1.	Up to 5 kW	2C 10 sq. mm	2850	3000	77500	83350
2.	6 kW to 10 kW	2C 25 sq. mm	3650	3000	155000	161650
3.	11kW to 20 kW	4C 25 sq. mm	6250	5000	310000	321250
4.	21 kW to 50 kW	4C 50 sq. mm	10000	5000	775000	790000
5.	51 kW to 120 kW	4C 150 sq. mm	25750	9000	1860000	1894750
6.	121 kW to 200 kW	4C 300 sq. mm	46800	10000	3100000	3156800

7.2 At least, service line and other equipment cost needs to be recovered in a cost reflective manner and part of development cost may also be specified by the Commission as recoverable from the consumer and balance development cost needs to be passed onto in ARR. Further, service line and development cost needs to be specified separately.

- 7.3 The supervision charges specified as 15% of Labour & Transportation cost may be allowed as 15% of material cost and Labour & Transportation cost as the Rule 82 of the Indian Electricity Rules, 1956 and Regulation 63 of CEA Safety and Electric Supply Regulations, 2010 are pertaining to cases where shifting and alteration is required in the existing system. Supervision charges at 15% of Labour & Transportation cost is not adequate to compensate for enormous activities starting from detailed engineering to final commissioning & accounting of the scheme. The practice of levying supervision charges @ 15% on both material & labour cost has already been notified by various Regulatory Commissions such as Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission and UP Electricity Regulatory Commission.
- 7.4 Power Department, GoNCTD stated that in case of EHT connection, the charges shall be payable by the developer / consumer on pro-rata basis per MVA of actual cost. Further, if the developer has provided the space for installation of new grid sub-station, the space capacity installed on that particular land shall not be used by DISCOMs to give supply to other consumers/developer.
- 7.5 Power Department, GoNCTD stated that the criteria/condition for requirement of space for installation of new grid sub-station is yet to be clarified as it may lead to harassment to the first consumer/developer, whereas, other consumer/developer may enjoy the land provided by first consumer. In case developer allow to share the supply to other consumer and provides space for installation of new grid sub-station, shall not pay any amount on the basis of capacity charges because they are providing costly space in Delhi.
- 7.6 Power Department, GoNCTD suggested that the SLD charges for unelectrified areas other than agriculture consumers shall be recovered as under:

Load	Development Charges per kW (in Rs.)	Down Payment	Monthly Installments (interest free)	Full Advance Payment
Upto 4kW	8000	50%	12	10%
4 to 10 kW	12000	50%	12	Discount
Above 10kW	20000	50%	12	

7.7 Power Department, GoNCTD stated that agriculture connections are mostly located in un-electrified areas and far away from the city so giving Rs.14000 per kW for farmers is on higher side and therefore, a separate category for agriculture consumers may be defined and SLD charges for agriculture consumer shall be as per previous practice of DERC Order dated 18.11.2005.

Commission's Views

7.8 The development charges are meant to meet out the cost of infrastructure and system development to cater to the additional load of prospective consumers. The development charges required for various categories of consumer would depend upon the type of load, location etc. The Commission in its draft order has specified different SLD charges for electrified areas and un-electrified areas.

- 7.9 The development cost in the electrified areas has already been borne by the existing consumers during the release of connection, based on the methodology and practice prevalent during that time. The new electricity connection can be released in electrified areas from the existing distribution network or if required from the augmentation of network. However, in the un-electrified areas, planned electrification will be required to release the electricity connection which includes installation of new grid sub-station, distribution transformers, laying of EHT feeders, HT feeders, LT feeders etc. The cost involved for release of connection in un-electrified area would be higher as compare to release of connection in electrified area. Accordingly, the Commission has proposed different rates for SLD charges for release of connection in electrified areas.
- 7.10 The cost incurred by the distribution licensee for creation of asset for distribution network for providing electric supply is allowed by the Commission in annual revenue requirement of the licensee. The payment received from the developer or the consumer is accounted for as the consumer contribution. Therefore, the cost incurred by the distribution licensee is either funded by the developer or is allowed in ARR to be recovered through Tariff, as per the applicable Regulations. Therefore, the Commission has not considered the increase in SLD and supervision charges, to the extent, requested by the distribution licensee.
- 7.11 While the Commission has agreed to the suggestion of Power Department, GoNCTD for levying of SLD charges and its payment in instalment in unelectrified areas, however, the Commission has not agreed to the suggestion of providing rebate @10% for upfront payment of these charges.
- 7.12 As regards the issue of having different category for levying of SLD charges for agriculture connection in un-electrified areas, the Commission has agreed to the suggestion of Power department, GoNCTD for having a separate category. As regards to levy charges, the Commission has not agreed to the suggestion that charges as stipulated in Schedule of charges Order dated June, 2003 to be levied.
- 7.13 The Commission has further reviewed the levying less charges for the consumer who has provided the space for construction of grid sub-station, based on the suggestion received from stakeholders, so that the consumers/developers may be encouraged to provide the space.

7.14 Accordingly, the Commission has decided the following:

- To retain supervision charges as 15% of labour and transportation cost only (Clause 5 of final Order).
- To reduce the cost to Rs. 75 lakh per MVA from Rs. 1 crore per MVA for the consumers/ developer who has provided space for construction of grid-substation.
- No increase in SLD charges in electrified areas and revised SLD charges in un-electrified areas are as under:

SI. No.	Type of Area	Sanctioned Load	Amount (Rs.)	Road Restoration charges	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6

(i)	Electrified	Upto 5 kW	Rs.3000	Actual RR	4+5
	Area	'		charges for	
				service line	
(ii)		More than 5 kW	(Rs. 3000 +	Actual RR	4+5
		and upto 150	Rs. 500 per	charges for	
		kW	kW or per	service line	
			kVA as the		
			case may be		
			for load		
			beyond		
			, 5kW),		
			limited to a		
			maximum of		
			Rs. 25000/-		
(iii)		More than	Rs.25000 +	Actual RR	4+5
		150kW to	Rs.400 per	charges for	
		200kW/	kW or per	service line	
		215kVA	kVA as the		
			case may be		
			for load		
			beyond		
			150kW		
(i)	Un-	Load upto 4kW,	Rs. 8000 per	Actual RR	4+5
	Electrified	other than	kW	charges for	
	Area as on	agriculture		service line	
	31.7.2017*	connection			
(ii)		Load above	Rs. 12,000	Actual RR	4+5
(,		4kW and upto	per kW	charges for	113
		10kW, other	per kw	service line	
		than agriculture		56. VIGO IIII 6	
		connection			
(iii)		Load above	Rs.20,000	Actual RR	4+5
		10kW and upto	per kW or	charges for	
		200 kW/215	per kVA as	service line	
		kVA, other than	the case		
		agriculture	may be		
(:)		connection	200/	A 1 1 55	4.5
(iv)		Agriculture	20% charges	Actual RR	4+5
		connection	per kW for	charges for	
			respective	service line	
			slab of load		
			mentioned		
			at point (i),		
			(ii) &(iii) of		
			un-		
			electrified		
			area	o of connection	

^{*} These charges shall be applicable for release of connection or load enhancement as per applicable Regulations in the areas which are declared as un-electrified by the Licensee on 31.7.2017 till further Orders of the Commission.

The applicant taking load upto 10kW in un-electrified areas shall have the option to pay the SLD charges in twelve equal monthly installments.

8. Space for installation of Grid- Substation, transformers, service line and other equipment (Clause 6 of Draft Order).

Stakeholders Submissions

- 8.1 The stakeholders submitted that the space to be provided by applicant / developer shall be free from any encroachment from height point of view and additionally minimum 8 meters wide motorable approach road shall also be provided.
- 8.2 It was further suggested that in order to bring the clarity in the existing draft clause the word 'plot /building' may be included while assessing the total demand for providing space as the proposed word 'premises' may be interpreted in wrong way.
- 8.3 A provision for providing space for increase in load on the basis of MDI may also be included. In case the consumer fails to provide the space, the connection may be disconnected till the time consumer provides for space.
- 8.4 Power Department, GoNCTD stated that the land/space required for installation of grid sub-station as mentioned appears to be on higher side. The space requirement should be as per mutual agreement. Further, land requirement should be in line with the order for ease of doing business and there should not be any contradictions between the two provisions.
- 8.5 Power Department, GoNCTD further stated that it is the primary responsibility of distribution licensee to provide uninterrupted power supply to the consumers. Accordingly, the responsibility falls on the distribution licensee for engagement of land and creation of adequate supply capacity. GoNCTD will only assist for getting statutory clearance/ taking over of land.

- 8.6 The Commission has agreed to the suggestion of Power Department, GoNCTD that the space requirement for installation of new grid sub-station should be as per mutual agreement between the distribution licensee and the developer/consumer. In order to have clarity, indicative space for installation of grid substation has been notified for both Gas insulated substation (GIS) and Air-Insulated substation (AIS).
- 8.7 The Commission has agreed to the suggestion of stakeholder that 'plot /building' may be included while assessing the total demand for providing space.
- 8.8 The Commission has agreed to the suggestion of the stakeholder that the increase in the load of the consumer based on maximum demand readings, which qualifies for providing space may also be included. In case the consumer does not enhance his load on its own and consumes more power based on maximum demand reading, the purpose of the clause for providing space will be defeated. Therefore, provision has been made that the consumer shall also be required to provide the space if the same is necessitated based on maximum demand readings as per provisions of the Regulations.

- 8.9 Power Department, GoNCTD vide its letter No. F.11/16/2003-Power/V-II/1642 dated 9.6.2011 has issued the policy on allotment of land to power utilities for construction/extension of power related infrastructure. The relevant extract of policy is as under:
 - "1. The principle followed in the above policy is also extended to allotment of Gaon Sabha Land to power utilities for construction/expansion of power related infrastructure like Electric Sub-stations, Power Plants/ Projects etc. Henceforth, Gaon Sabha Land can also be allotted to Department of Power on same terms and conditions as is followed in respect of land allotment policy of DDA to Department of Power on existing zonal variant rates. Thereafter Department of Power can license the same land to the power utilities on the 'right to use' basis as is being followed with regard to DDA allotted land.
 - 2. Power Department will send their requirement for land to DDA/L&DO/other land owning agencies through the Land & Building Department. The Land & Building Department will send the requirement of land to the DDA/L&DO/other land owning agencies as the case may be.
 - 3. The L&DO/DDA/other land owning agencies will allot the land to the Department of Power, GNCTD and issue allotment/ownership papers in the name of Department of Power, GNCTD. The Department of Power will keep the original papers relating to the ownership of the land with them and copy of the same will be sent to the L&N Department for record in the Centralized Record Cell.
 - 4. Department of Power, GNCTD may in turn allow the Power Utilities to construct/expand power related infrastructure on "right to use basis" and on such terms and conditions as Department of Power, GNCTD may enter into with Power.
 - 5. Department of Power, GNCTD would sign a license/lease agreement with the Power Utilities and would charge appropriate annual rent/license fee from the power utilities. The license deed would, inter-alia, involve allowing power utilities to use the land on "right to use basis" and on the basic condition that the land would be used only for the purpose of expansion of the power network and erection of related infrastructure and not for any other work."
- 8.10 It may be seen that Power Department, GoNCTD is allotting the land to power utilities on right to use basis. Therefore, the Commission has modified the clause that the distribution licensee shall approach Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi as per policy issued by Power Department, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi for allotment of land, vide its letter no. F.11/16/2003-Power/V-II/1642 dated 09/06/2011 or as amended from time to time.
- 8.11 The Commission has noted that South Delhi Municipal Corporation vide its circular no. South DMC/0148/SE(B)HQ/Addl.ComI/17 dated 30.03.2017 in regard to ease of doing business relating to construction permits, has notified the requirement of space for transformer/equipment to be incorporated in sanction of building plans. South Delhi Municipal Corporation in its circular has also stated that in order to have uniformity in the process of online sanction of building plan, this may be applicable in all three Municipal Corporations. It is further learnt that the space requirement for installation of transformer/equipment has been notified by South DMC based on the recommendation of distribution licensee. Accordingly, the Commission has considered to adopt the space requirement as notified by South DMC vide circular no. South DMC/0148/SE(B)HQ/Addl. ComI/17 dated 30.03.2017.

8.12 Accordingly, the Commission has decided the following (Clause 6 of final Order):

To include the provision that in case if the grid sub-station can be installed in less space, the distribution licensee may accept the lesser space as agreed mutually between the distribution licensee and the developer/applicant.

In cases where space is to be provided by the Government of NCT of Delhi, the distribution Licensee shall approach Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi as per policy issued by Power Department, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi for allotment of land, vide its letter no. F.11/16/2003-Power/V-II/1642 dated 09/06/2011 or as amended from time to time.

The developer/applicant taking supply at Low Tension level for any premises or for re-constructed premises, requiring LT Service connections whose:

- (i) total cumulative demand of all floors in the plot/ building for LT service connection exceeds 100 kW/108 kVA; or
- (ii) total cumulative built up area of the premises in the plot/building exceeds 1000 sqm; or
- (iii) plot of size above 300 sqm or above;

shall provide the space for installation of distribution transformers, as per the required load.

The minimum space required to be provided by the developer/applicant for installation of distribution transformers/ equipment shall be as per circular no. South DMC/0148/SE(B)HQ/Addl. ComI/17 dated 30.03.2017 notified by South Delhi Municipal Corporation or as amended from time to time:

The existing consumer shall also be required to provide the space as above, in the event of:

- (i) enhancement of existing load on account of additional construction in the premises and consequently the total built up area exceeds 1000 sqm of the plot/building or their total LT Service connections demand exceeds $100 \ kW/108 \ kVA$; or
- (ii) enhancement of load based on maximum demand readings for the electricity connections energized on or after 1.9.2017 and the total LT Service connections demand exceeds 100 kW/108 kVA;

9. Review of charges (Clause 7 of draft Order)

Stakeholders Submission

- 9.1 The stakeholders submitted the following:
 - (i) Non-refundable registration cum processing fee for EHT and HT connections may be increased to Rs.10000 instead of Rs.1000 as proposed in the draft order. Further, non-refundable registration cum processing fee may also be charged from LT consumers.
 - (ii) In case of shifting of meter and the service line and shifting requires new service line, the consumer shall pay the SLD charges.
 - (iii) Actual meter cost of the pre-paid meters shall be recoverable which is around Rs.5000 against Rs.3000 as proposed. Further, the words 'meter cost' may be used for the word 'security'.

- (iv) Actual cost on account of all consumables may be allowed to be recovered from consumers instead of non-refundable charges as proposed in the draft Order.
- (v) Difference, if any, of the cost between actual cost of meter testing by NABL accredited laboratory and cost given in the table shall be additionally allowed in the ARR of the DISCOMs.
- 9.2 Power Department, GoNCTD stated that the various charges payable are on higher side and may be reviewed.

Commission's Views

9.3 The Commission has reviewed the charges and wherever found justified has been revised as under:

S.No.	Description	Charges (Rs.)	Reference Regulation Number of Supply Code Regulations
(1)	Non-refundable registration cum processing fee of EHT and HT connections	1000	11 (1) (i)
(2)	Field Inspection to be scheduled on a holiday for the Licensee	500	11 (2) (ii)
(3)	Security towards the cost of pre- payment meter	3000	11 (4) (vi) & 16 (9) (ii)
(4)	One time non-refundable charges for connections	temporary	16 (9) (i)
(i)	LT Supply	250 per kW	
	,	or per kVA	
		subject to a	
		maximum	
		of Rs.	
		25,000/-	
(ii)	HT Supply	1000 per kW	-
, ,		or per kVA	
(5)	Shifting of meter and service line ¹ on the same premises		25 (3)
(i)	Single phase connection		-
(ii)	Three phase connection	1000	-
(6)	Installation Inspection Fee other than	at the time	26
	of energising new connection		
(i)	Upto 5 kW	120	-
(ii)	More than 5kW upto 10 kW	200	-
(iii)	More than 10 kW	400	-
(iv)	HT Installation	1000	-
(7)	Special Meter Reading charges		26
(i)	LT connection 50		1
(ii)	HT connection	200	-
(8)	Charges for reconnection		26
(i)	Single phase connection 200		-
(ii)	Three phase connection	500	1
(9)	Meter testing charges		32 (2) (ii)
(i)	Single phase 200		1
(ii)	Three phase	500	1
(iii)	CT meter	1000	1
(iv)	HT meter 40		1
()			
(10)	Meter Testing charges in case of	As per	32 (8) (vii) (b)

(11)	Copy of duplicate bill	20 per bill	38 (9)
(12)	Dishonoured cheque	200	47 (3)

10. Testing of tampered meter only in the presence of consumer/his representative

Stakeholders Submission

10.1 The Power Department, GoNCTD has submitted that there is no provision in the Regulations that such old suspected removed meter shall be examined/ tested in the laboratory only in the presence of consumer/ his representative.

Commission's Views

10.2 Regulation 32 (8) (iii) of Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (Supply Code and Performance Standards), Regulations, 2017 stipulates as under:

The Licensee shall schedule a date and time for the testing of meters with the accredited laboratory notified by the Commission and shall give at-least 3 (three) days prior notice to the consumer, intimating the date and time of testing so that the consumer or his authorized representative, if so desires, can be present during such testing.

- 10.3 In view of the foregoing, the Commission in its order has provided for intimating the consumer for date, time and place of meter testing giving a three days advance notice, so that the consumer or his authorized representative, if so desires, can be present during such testing. An option to seek one time rescheduling of testing date and time has also been given to the consumer.
- 10.4 An additional provision has also been made that in case the meter could not be tested on the scheduled date, the consumer shall be once again given a three days advance notice indicating the revised date, time and place for meter testing.

10.5 Accordingly, the Commission has decided the following:

- To add a new Clause No.8 as under:
 - (i) The distribution licensee shall schedule a date and time for the testing of meter in the accredited laboratory referred at Regulation 32 (8) (i) of Supply Code Regulations and shall give at-least 3 (three) days prior notice to the consumer, intimating the date & time and place of testing so that the consumer or his authorized representative, if so desires, may be present during such testing.
 - (ii) The meter shall generally be tested on the scheduled date and time as intimated to the consumer:

Provided that the consumer, if so requires, may seek one time rescheduling of date & time for testing of meter, by intimating the distribution licensee, atleast a day in advance from the original scheduled date of meter testing, and the distribution licensee shall reschedule the date with the consent of consumer:

Provided further that such rescheduled date of meter testing shall not be later than 30 days from the original scheduled date.

- (iii) In case for any reason, if the meter could not be tested on scheduled date and time, the distribution licensee shall reschedule the date and time not later than 30 (thirty) days from such last scheduled date, with the consent of consumer.
- 11. Statement of duration of each instance of no current for more than 30 minutes for 3 phase consumers may be deleted as part of bill (Clause 8 of the draft Order).

Stakeholders Submission

11.1 The stakeholders submitted that Statement of duration of each instance of no current for more than 30 minutes for 3 phase consumers may be deleted as part of bill as the meters currently being used are not designed to record duration of outage of supply. Apart from the interruption of power from the supply side for reasons like load shedding, breakdown and planned maintenance in the distribution network, actuated or false power failure can also get registered due to various technical reasons like voltage sensors and registers.

Commission's Views

11.2 The Commission has agreed to the suggestion of stakeholders that this data may not mandatorily form part of the bill. However, the Commission is of the view that distribution licensee shall provide such data for last 30 days on the request of consumer.

11.3 Accordingly, the Commission has decided the following:

On the request of consumer, the distribution licensee shall provide the statement of duration of each instance of no current for more than 30 minutes for last 30 days from the date of request of consumer, on payment of Rs. 20 per statement by the consumer, within 15 days of receipt of request:

Provided that in case if the distribution licensee is unable to furnish the statement, distribution licensee shall record the reason in writing (Clause 9(2) of the final Order).

12. To review the charges for filing of appeal u/s 127 of the Act (Clause 11 of the draft Order)

Stakeholders Submission

12.1 The Power Department, GoNCTD has submitted that as per prevailing practice there were no charges on filing of appeal against the fee proposed by the Commission in the draft Order. However, the charges for filing appeal should not be more than Rs.500 as a deterrent to avoid fictitious or baseless complaints/petitions.

Commission's Views

- 12.2 The Commission in its Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure for filing appeal before the appellate authority) Regulations, 2005 has already prescribed the fee for filing of appeal u/s 127 of the Act. The same fee has been proposed by the Commission in its draft Order.
- 12.3 As per sub-section (2) of Section 127 of the Act, the person is required to deposit half of the assessed amount before filing the appeal. Imposition of higher fee in addition to half of the assessed amount for filing of appeal may discourage the person from filing the appeal. Therefore, the Commission has considered the suggestions of the stakeholders to review the fee.

12.4 Accordingly, the Commission has decided the following (Clause 12 of the final Order):

In addition to the deposit of sum as per sub-section (2) of Section 127 of the Act, the memorandum of appeal shall be accompanied by the following fee:

Amount Assessed	Fee		
Up to Rs. 1 lakh	1% of the assessed amount subject to		
	minimum of Rs 100/		
Above Rs. 1 lakh	Rs 1000/- plus 0.5% of the assessed		
	amount above Rs. One lakh		

Sd/-(Surendra Edupghanti) Secretary