**CORPORATE CONSUMERS GRIEVANCES REDRESSAL FORUM**

**PUNJAB STATE POWER COPROPRATION LIMITED**

**220 KV S/Stn. Opp. Verka Milk Plant, Ferozepur Road, Ludhiana**

**Tel: 0161-2971912, email: secy.cgrfldh@gmail.com**

**CASE NO.: CF-112/2023**

**Date of Registration : 24.08.2023**

**Date of Closing : 19.09.2022**

**Date of Final Order : 26.09.2022**

**In the Matter of:**

**M/S Dy. Chief Elect. ER. R.C.F.,**

**Sultanpur Road, Kapurthala.**

**A/c No.: 3002812393.**

**Through:**

Sh. Yogesh Kumar  **...Petitioner**

**Versus**

**Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd**

**Through:**

ASE/DS City Division,

PSPCL, Kapurthala. **...Respondent**

1. **BRIEF HISTORY:**

Petition against case No.: CF-112/2023 has been filed directly in the Forum by Sh. Yogesh Kumar, in the matter related to account no. 3002812393, running in the name of M/S Dy. Chief Elect. ER. R.C.F. Petitioner was having LS connection with the sanctioned Load/CD of 35882.255KW/ 9000.000KVA under DS City Division, PSPCL, Kapurthala. Petitioner had a 132 KV connection since its inception and switched to power supply under ‘OPEN ACCESS’ w.e.f. 00:00 Hrs. of 24.11.2019. Petitioner intimated SDO/City Division, Kapurthala about shifting to ‘OPEN ACCESS’ on 23.11.2019 vide his office Memo no. EL-4001/PS dated 23.11.2019. Final readings of the meter were taken jointly by SDO/DS City Sub Division, Kapurthala and SSE/MRS/RCF on 24.11.2019 at 00:00 Hrs. Accordingly, petitioner was issued bill dated 17.12.2019 for the period from 19.11.2019 to 24.11.2019 i.e., for 5 days amounting to Rs. 1531269/- which was duly deposited by the him. However, connections of the energy meters (2 Nos.) were not disconnected at the time of taking readings as the checking of Sr. Xen/Enforcement/MMTS was required. Meters of the petitioner were disconnected vide job order no. 10009421842 dated 11.12.2019 effected on 16.12.2019. Petitioner was issued bill dated 06.07.2021 for the period of 22 days from 24.11.2019 to 16.12.2019 for the consumption of 854433Kvah amounting to RS. 5375537/-. Petitioner contended that he has already shifted to Open Access w.e.f 24.11.2019, as such the bill issued is wrong and requested for the refund of ACD alongwith interest. Respondent vide memo no. 2527 dated 30.11.2022 issued notice to the petitioner to deposit the outstanding amount of Rs. 5788454.94/-. Amount of Rs. 23621865/- was refunded to the petitioner in the month of April/2023 after deducting Rs. 5788455/-, on account of consumption recorded by his meters for the period from 24.11.2019 to 16.12.2019. Petitioner did not agree to the amount charged to him and filed his case in Corporate CGRF, alongwith the interest on full ACD amount of Rs. 29410320/- for the period from Dec/2019 to April/2023 and on part ACD amount of Rs. 5788455/- for the period from April/2023 to till date.

Forum heard the case in its proceedings dated 29.08.2023, 05.09.2023, 12.09.2023 and finally on 19.09.2023, when the case was closed for passing speaking orders.

1. ***PROCEEDINGS:***

***Proceedings dated: 29.08.2023***

*The petition has been placed before the Forum for admission. After considering the averments made in the petition, the petition is admitted. Notice be issued to ASE/Sr. Xen/Op. City Kapurthala (Respondent) along with copy of petition.*

*Respondent shall submit five copies of the following record/documents before the Forum*

1. *Respondent shall confirm that there is no case pending before any Court/Forum or any other authority between PSPCL and Petitioner.*
2. *Respondent shall confirm the status of up to date payments and shall ensure that no bill other than the amount in dispute, is pending.*
3. *Respondent shall confirm that the complainant/applicant/petitioner is a competent/authorised person to file/defend the case on behalf of the consumer of the above a/c no.*
4. *Respondent shall also ensure the following action: -*
	1. *He will submit point-wise/para-wise reply to the petition be submitted in form of hard copy & soft copy (in word format) through Email at* *secy.cgrfldh@gmail.com*
	2. *He will check/verify the bill dated 06.07.2021 amounting to Rs. 4314750/- for period 24.11.2019 to 16.12.2019 and further directed to submit details of notice memo no. 2527 amounting to Rs. 5788454/-.*
	3. *Respondent is directed to intimate under which instructions the petitioner has been asked vide his memo no. 2527 dated 30.11.2022 to approach Corporate CGRF to get refund of his/her security.*
	4. *He will submit details of security deposited and amount refunded along with details of interest on security amount from period 11/2019 onwards.*
	5. *Intimate Regulation number of Supply Code, 2014 or any other relevant Rules/Regulations according to which the billing was done upto 16.12.2019 instead of 24.11.2019.*
	6. *Ensure that all the documents have been checked/verified & signed by ASE/Sr. XEN and he will be responsible for the authenticity of the documents/information submitted to the Forum.*

*The case be put up on 05.09.2023*

***Proceedings dated: 05.09.2023***

*Respondent vide email dated 01.09.2023 requested another date for the submission of reply to petition and the same is admitted.*

*The case is adjourned to 12.09.2023 for submission of reply.*

***Proceedings dated: 12.09.2023***

*Respondent submitted five copies of reply along-with other documents and same has been taken on record. One copy handed over to the petitioner.*

*Respondent is directed to submit attested copy of the communication received from competent authority of PSPCL indicating date from which the petitioner was scheduled to cease to be a consumer of PSPCL. Respondent is further directed to submit and verify whether the billing after 23.11.2019 was done by PSTCL or not. If it was done, quantum of power drawn by them from other sources during the period in dispute and further Respondent shall submit details of security amount deposited by Petitioner and interest credited on it till date and interest to be allowed, in next date of hearing.*

 *The case is adjourned to 19.09.2023 for filing rejoinder/oral discussion.*

***Proceedings dated: 19.09.2023***

*Respondent submitted documents and details as directed in previous hearing. The same is taken on record.*

*Petitioner/PR stated that the petition and other documents already submitted may also be considered as part of oral discussion.*

*Respondent stated that the reply to the petition and other documents already submitted may be considered as oral discussion.*

*Both the parties have nothing more to say and submit.*

*The case is closed for passing speaking orders.*

1. **FACTS OF THE CASE AND OBSERVATIONS OF THE FORUM: -**
2. The Petitioner bearing A/c no. 3002812393, is having LS connection with sanctioned Load/CD of 35882.255 KW/9000.000 KVA, in the name of M/s Dy. Chief Elect. ER. R.C.F., under DS City Division, Kapurthala.
3. The Petitioner in his Petition prayed that: -

***Brief Description of Complaint:***

*Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala had been a 132 kV consumer of M/s. PSPCL (PSEB) since its Inception and switched over to power supply under "OPEN ACCESS w.e.f. 00.00 hrs. on 24.11.2019. The original ACD (Advance Consumption Demand) amount deposited with M/s PSPCL (PSEB) was 2,94,10,320/- (Copy of Receipt enclosed as Annexure-1). However, during April' 2023; part amount of 2,36,21,865/- has only been refunded to RCF (Copy of Cheque issued by M/s PSPCL enclosed as Annexure-2). It is understood that M/s PSPCL has deducted amount of 57,88,455/- on account of electricity bill for the period from 24.11.2019 to 16.12.2019.*

*In this connection, it is submitted that RCF has already switched over to Open Access supply arrangement w.e.f. 00:00 hrs. of 24.11.2019. Therefore, this deduction of amount of 57,88,455/- is not justified and same is required to be refunded to RCF along with interest on full ACD amount of 2,94,10,320/- for the period from Dec-2019 to April-2023 & on part ACD amount of \*57,88,455/- from April 2023 to till date against RCF Account No.3002812393. In support of our claims, the following details are submitted:*

1. *The due intimation was given to SDO/PSPCL, CITY Division No.1, Kapurthala-144602 on 23.11.2019 regarding the discontinuation of PSPCL power supply vide this office letter No. EL- 4001/PS dated 23.11.2019 (copy attached as Annexure-3) in response to an e-mail from SE/Open Access, PSTCL/SLDC, Patiala on 23.11.2019 at 11:19 hrs. regarding switching over to Open Access by Railways (print of email is attached as Annexure-4). It is necessary here to mention that the Northern Railway was granted permission for Open Access Arrangements in the State of Punjab for 11 drawl points, which also included RCF, Kapurthala (Main Receiving Sub-Station, RCF, Kapurthala). The copy of the permission is enclosed as Annexure-5.*
2. *Joint Meter Reading was recorded by SDO, JE-I/ PSPCL and SSE/MRS/RCF on 24.11.2019 at 00.00 hrs. The final bill No.1002460452, dated 17.12.2019 (for the period from 19.11.2019 to 24.11.2019) amounting to Rs.15,31,269/- was raised by PSPCL (copy of bill attached as Annexure-6). This bill was duly paid to M/s PSPCL (Copy of receipt No.138613048, dated 20.12.2019 attached as Annexure-7). The raising of bill by the PSPCL for the non standard duration of 05 days from 19.11.2019 to 24.11.2019 is suffice to prove that final meter reading was taken on 24.11.2019 at 00:00 hrs.*
3. *In spite of written requests by RCF to PSPCL and also email dated 23.11.2019 from SE/Open Access/SLDC/PSTCL to Chief Engineer/SLDC and Chief Engineer/PP&R/PSPCL, the Energy Meters (02 Nos) were not disconnected at the time of taking the final reading on 24.11.2019 at 00:00 hrs. However, RCF had started drawing Power Supply under Open Access arrangement from 24.11.2019 at 00.00 hrs. For this purpose, separate ABT Meters were installed by RCF, Kapurthala at their own cost and Open Access consumption were recorded. through ABT Meters. In this regard copies of invoices from SLDC regarding the operating and transmission charges for the period from 24.11.2019 to 30.11.2019; are attached as Annexure-8. The claiming of operating and transmission charges by SLDC from 24.11.2019 further proves that RCF has switched over to Open Access arrangement w.e.f. 00:00 hrs. on 24.11.2019.*
4. *The matter of disconnection of meters: was further pursued by RCF vide letter No. EL- 4001/PS dated 28.11.2019 (Copy attached as Annexure-9). Finally, the old meters were disconnected & removed from RCF on 16.12.2019 in the presence of XEN/PSPCL/City Kapurthala, XEN/PSPCL/ Enforcement and XEN/PSTCL protection and taken back by PSPCL authorities.*

*As is evident from the remarks given in para (1) to (4) along with documents attached; it is crystal clear that RCF had started drawing power under open access arrangement from 24.11.2019 (00:00 hrs.).*

*Also, it is, further submitted that actual disconnection of energy meter is entire look out of M/s PSPCL. These meters should have been disconnected on 24.11.2019 at 00.00 hrs. itself as energy flow through Open Access; being recorded through ABT meters. It is understood that PSPCL Authorities at site on 24.11.2019, while taking final reading, could not disconnect the meters physically due to non-availability of competent level of officer from PSPCL side. However, RCF pursued the matter of disconnection of the PSPCL Meters (Old) through verbal communication as well as through letters.*

*It is also submitted that RCF had been pursuing this case of refund of ACD amount regularly with M/s. PSPCL authorities through office visits and also through letters (copy of letters attached at Annexure-10 & 11). Finally, in April 23, PSPCL has refunded part ACD amount of ₹2,36,21,865/- after wrongfully deducting amount of ₹157,88,455/-.*

*As far as, RCF is concerned; they have given timely intimation for disconnection of meters and team of M/s PSPCL has also taken joint reading on 24.11.2019 for which sufficient proof has been submitted as above. Therefore, the bill raised from 24.11.2019 to 16.12.2019 for Rs. 57,88,455/- was not justifiable at all and, thus, deduction made from due ACD amount of Rs. 2,94,10,320/- in lieu of this bill; is also not justified.*

*Further, RCF also represented these facts to Additional Chief Engineer, Operation Circle/DS, PSPCL, Kapurthala vide Letter No. EL-4001/PS, dated 26.05.2023 (copy attached at Annexure-12) for refunding the above outstanding amounts to RCF. After that a meeting was also held on above matter between the Additional Chief Engineer, Operation Circle/DS, PSPCL, Kapurthala & RCF officers, in which PSPCL officials suggested RCF to represent the case to CGRF, PSPCL, Ludhiana.*

***Type of Relief: -***

*It is prayed that the following justified relief may be provided to RCF, Kapurthala:*

* + - 1. *Refund of part ACD of Rs. 57,88,455/- which has been wrongfully deducted by M/s PSPCL*
			2. *Interest on full ACD amount of Rs. 2,94,10,320/- for the period from Dec'19 to April 23 & on part ACD amount of 57,88,455/- from April'2023 to till date.*

***List of Attached Documents: -***

*Proof of amount deposited by Railways on account of ACD (copy placed as Annexure-1, total sheets-1).*

*Proof of refunded amount by PSPCL as ACD (Copy placed as Annexure-2, total sheets-1)*

*A final notice regarding discontinuing the use of PSPCL power supply for Railways given to SDO/ City Division No.-1, Kapurthala on dated 23.11.2019 (Copy attached as Annexure-3, total sheets-1).*

*Mail dated 23.11.2019, from SE/Open Access, SLDC, PSTCL, Ablowal, Patiala for starting the open access from 24.11.2019 at 00:00 Hrs. and to ensure timely disconnection of PSPCL's consumer connection. (Copy placed as annexure-4, total sheets-1).*

*Letter from SE/SLDC, PSTCL, Patiala regarding 11 drawl points including RCF, Kapurthala (Copy placed as Annexure-5, total sheets-6)*

*Energy Bill No. 1002460452 for the period from 19.11.2019 to 24.11.2019 (Copy placed as Annexure-6, total sheets-1)*

*Receipt of Energy Bill No. 1002460452 for the period from 19.11.2019 to 24.11.2019 (Copy placed as annexure-7, total sheets-1).*

*Letter from SLDC regarding the operating charges and transmission charges for the period from 24.11.2019 to 30.11.2019 (copies attached as Annexure-8, total sheets-4).*

*Letter regarding removal of existing energy meter installed at MRS/RCF against RCF Account No. 3002812393 given to SDO/ City Division No. 1, Kapurthala on dated 28.11.2019 (Copy placed as annexure-9, total sheets-1).*

*Copy of letter to M/s. PSPCL dated 29.06.2021 for refund of ACD amount and interest thereon. (Details given at Annexure-10, total sheets-1).*

*Copy of letter to M/s. PSPCL dated 25.04.2022 for refund of ACD amount and interest thereon. (Details given at Annexure-11, total sheets-1).*

*Letter to Additional Chief Engineer/ Operation Circle/DS, PSPCL, Kapurthala for refund of part ACD amount of Rs.57,88,455/- and interest on full ACD amount of Rs.2,94,10,320/- (interest for the period from Dec'2019 to April'2023) against RCF Account No.3002812393 (copy placed at Annexure-12, total sheets-2)*

1. The Respondent in his reply to petition stated that: -

*The Petition has been placed before the forum by the consumer in the name of M/S Deputy Chief Elect Er. RCF, Sultanpur Road bearing A/C no. 3002812393 has been Running on 132 KV. In the above case Reply is submitted as follow: -*

1. *There is no case pending before any court/ forum or any other authority between PSPCL and Petitioner.*
2. *No Amount is pending against Petitioner.*
3. *Petitioner is Government undertaking and Authority Letter has been attached with the application.*
4. *A) It is further submitted as follows.*

*1) The intimation was received on 23.11.2019 regarding disconnection of power supply as Northern Railway was granted permission of open Access.*

*2) Meter Reading was recorded on 24.11.2019 at 12.05 AM. Copy of MSR Attached herewith (A-1) and the bill for the period 19.11.2019 to 24.11.2019 for the amount 1531269/- was issued to the consumer.*

*3) Energy meter were not disconnected at the time of taking the final Reading as on 24.11.2019 as the joint checking of Xen/Op, Xen/MMTS and Xen/Enforcement was required for permanent disconnection of the meter.*

*4) Finally, the old meter was disconnected and removed from RCF on 11.12.2019 in the presence of XEN, city division and SDO city no.1 Kapurthala. Copy of MSR attached here with. (A-2)*

*5) Thus on 24.11.2019 while taking final Reading meter could not be disconnected due to non-availability of competent officer. Actually, meter was disconnected on 11.12.2019 and final reading was recorded thereon in PDCO (A-3). Same reading was entered in SAP by JE concern as on 16.12.2019 and thus bill of amount 5373537/- raised against the consumer for period 24.11.2019 to 16.12.2019. (A-4)*

*4 B) Due to above dispute and difference in reading, bill for the period 24.11.2019 to 16.12.2019 for 854433 unit was issued to the consumer for the amount 5373537/- and consumer was given interest on security for period 01.04.2019 to 24.11.2019 of amount 1060792/- Manually thus net amount of bill issued was 4314750/- However, interest on security of amount 1060792/- till 11/2019 was given to consumer through cheque dt 25.08.2021 and remaining amount outstanding was 5375537/- with interest amount 412918/- till 12/2022.*

*4 C) This office vide memo no. 2527 dt 30.11.2022 has issued final notice to consumer to deposit the above amount or if not satisfied with the demand and as this amount pertains to audit period the consumer was directed to approach CGRF in case of any dispute.*

*4 D) As per record the total amount of security was 29410320/- which was released in system in 2020 after disconnection but due to above dispute the amount of security could not refunded to consumer. However as per instructions received from higher authorities the amount of 23621865/- refunded in April 2023 after deducting disputed amount of 5788455/-.*

*4 E) Intimation was received as on 23.11.2019 regarding connection to be transferred under open access at 00:05 hrs. Due to shortage of time and procedural activities required for disconnection, it was nearly impossible to conduct joint checking of Xen/op, Xen/MMTS and Xen/Enforcement for the purpose of permanent disconnection. So final reading was taken on 24.11.2019 at 00:05 hrs. by SDO/op. But it was not his competency to disconnect the supply of the meter. Thus, supply remains intact. Further the connection was checked jointly Xen/op, Xen/MMTS and Xen/Enforcement on 11.12.2019 and supply of meter was disconnected and the reading recorded of Circuit-I was 197.9309 KVAH and of circuit-II was 76.1658 KVAH vide PDCO No. 100009421842 dt. 11.12.2019. However, the PDCO was entered in SAP System by the concerned JE on 16.12.2019 that is why bill for the period 24.11.2019 to 16.12.2019 has been generated by the system.*

1. Forum have gone through the written submissions made by the Petitioner in the petition, written reply of the Respondent, oral discussions made by Petitioner along with material brought on record. The issue that requires adjudication in the present case is to decide the legitimacy of bill dated 06.07.2021 from 24.11.2019 to 16.12.2019 for the consumption of 854433Kvah amounting to Rs. 5375537/- along-with the interest on full ACD amount of Rs. 29410320/- for the period from Dec/2019 to April/2023 and on part ACD amount of Rs. 5788455/- for the period from April/2023 to till date.

Forum observed that petitioner had a 132 KV connection since its inception and switched to power supply under ‘OPEN ACCESS’ w.e.f. 00:00 Hrs. of 24.11.2019. Petitioner intimated SDO/City Division, Kapurthala about shifting to ‘OPEN ACCESS’ on 23.11.2019 vide his office Memo no. EL-4001/PS dated 23.11.2019. Final readings of the meter were taken jointly by SDO/DS City Sub Division, Kapurthala and SSE/MRS/RCF on 24.11.2019 at 00:00 Hrs. Accordingly, petitioner was issued bill dated 17.12.2019 for the period from 19.11.2019 to 24.11.2019 i.e., for 5 days amounting to Rs. 1531269/- which was duly deposited by the him. However, connections of the energy meters (2 Nos.) were not disconnected at the time of taking readings as the checking of Sr. Xen/Enforcement/MMTS was required. Meters of the petitioner were disconnected vide job order no. 10009421842 dated 11.12.2019 effected on 16.12.2019. Petitioner was issued bill dated 06.07.2021 for the period of 22 days from 24.11.2019 to 16.12.2019 for the consumption of 854433Kvah amounting to RS. 5375537/-. Petitioner contended that he has already shifted to Open Access w.e.f 24.11.2019, as such the bill issued is wrong and requested for the refund of ACD alongwith interest. Respondent vide memo no. 2527 dated 30.11.2022 issued notice to the petitioner to deposit the outstanding amount of Rs. 5788454.94/-. Amount of Rs. 23621865/- was refunded to the petitioner in the month of April/2023 after deducting Rs. 5788455/-, on account of consumption recorded by his meters for the period from 24.11.2019 to 16.12.2019. Petitioner did not agree to the amount charged to him and filed his case in Corporate CGRF, alongwith the interest on full ACD amount of Rs. 29410320/- for the period from Dec/2019 to April/2023 and on part ACD amount of Rs. 5788455/- for the period from April/2023 to till date.

Issue 1: -

Regarding the first issue raised by the petitioner, Forum observed that connection of the petitioner was shifted to ‘OPEN ACCESS’ on 24.11.2019 at 00:00 Hrs. in the presence of SDO/DS City Division, Kapurthala and SSE/MRS/RCF and final readings of the meter were taken. However, due to absence of competent authority/officers, connections of the meter were not disconnected. Petitioner again submitted his request vide memo no. EL-4001/PS dated 28.11.2019 for disconnection of meter. After checking from the competent authority, connections of the meter were disconnected on 16.12.2019. Forum observed that connections of the meter were to be disconnected on 24.11.2019 at the time of shifting to ‘OPEN ACCESS’. Had the connections been disconnected on 24.11.2019, meter would not have recorded the consumption that it recorded even after shifting of supply to ‘OPEN ACCESS’. There is no doubt that supply of the petitioner was shifted to ‘OPEN ACCESS’ on 24.11.2019 at 00:00 Hrs. as evident from Memo no. 533 dated 02.12.2019 of AO/SLDC, PSTCL, Ablowal, Patiala as per which bill no. 233B-1219-0002/OA/2019 dated 02.12.2019 was issued to the petitioner on account of Operating Charges for the period from 24.11.2019 to 30.11.2019 pursuant to PSERC (Terms and Conditions for Intra State Open Access) Regulation 2011 (amended time to time) and bill no. 01/CAO(F&A)/ARR-OA dated 03.12.2019 was issued to petitioner on account of Transmission Charges for the period from 24.11.2019 to 30.11.2019. It is clear from both these bills that billing of the petitioner’s account was started for ‘OPEN ACCESS’ w.e.f. 24.11.2019 at 00:00 Hrs. During proceedings, Respondent was directed to submit copy of the communication received from competent authority of PSPCL indicating date from which the petitioner was scheduled to cease to be a consumer of PSPCL and to verify whether the billing after 23.11.2019 was done by PSTCL or not. If it was done, quantum of power drawn by them from other sources during the period in dispute

Respondent vide his office Memo no. 5855 dated 18.09.2023 submitted as under: -

*“ਖਪਤਕਾਰ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਮਿਤੀ 24.11.2019 ਨੂੰ 00:00 ਵਜੇ Open Access ਤੋਂ ਬਿਜਲੀ ਦੀ ਖਪਤ ਸ਼ੁਰੂ ਕਰ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਗਈ।”*

He also submitted the energy readings record of Sr. Xen/Open Access, SLDC, PSTCL, Patiala, as per which (847449+41322) 888771Kvah units has been shown as import for the period from 24.11.2019 to 11.12.2019. The above discussed facts establish that petitioner started using power through ‘OPEN ACCESS’ mode w.e.f. 24.11.2019 at 00:00 Hrs. and hence bill dated 06.07.2021 from 24.11.2019 to 16.12.2019 for the consumption of 854433 Kvah amounting to Rs. 5375537/- is not justified and is liable to set-aside.

Issue 2: -

Regarding second issue, Forum observed that petitioner is entitled to get interest on his Security Consumption deposited with Respondent as applicable under Regulation no. 17.1 of Electricity Supply Code and Related Matters Regulations-2018. Respondent has accepted this fact in his reply and submitted the calculations of interest payable to the petitioner for the period from 24.11.2019 to 19.09.2023 to which petitioner agreed.

Forum have gone through the written submissions made by the Petitioner in the petition, written reply of the Respondent, oral discussions made by Petitioner along with material brought on record. Keeping in view the above discussion, Forum is of the opinion that as verified by all the facts stated in above discussion, supply of the petitioner was shifted to ‘OPEN ACCESS’ w.e.f. 24.11.2019 at 00:00 and thus bill dated 06.07.2021 issued for the period from 24.11.2019 to 16.12.2019 for a consumption of 854433 KVAH amounting to Rs. 5375537/- is liable to be quashed. Amount of Rs. 5788455/- deducted from the petitioner’s Security (Consumption) on account of this bill is required to be refunded to him. Petitioner is entitled to the interest on the entire Security (Consumption) for the period w.e.f. 24.11.2019, till its refund as per Reg. 17.1 of Supply Code-2014.

Keeping in view the above, Forum came to unanimous conclusion that bill dated 06.07.2021 issued for the period from 24.11.2019 to 16.12.2019 for a consumption of 854433 KVAH amounting to Rs. 5375537/- be quashed. Amount of Rs. 5788455/- deducted from the petitioner’s Security (Consumption) on account of this bill be refunded. Petitioner is entitled to the interest on the entire Security (Consumption) for the period w.e.f. 24.11.2019 till its refund as per Reg. 17.1 of Supply Code-2014.

1. **DECISION:**

Keeping in view the petition, reply, oral discussion, after hearing both the parties, perusal of the record produced by them & observations of Forum,

Forum decides that: -

1. **Bill dated 06.07.2021 issued for the period from 24.11.2019 to 16.12.2019 for a consumption of 854433 KVAH amounting to Rs. 5375537/-, is quashed. Amount of Rs. 5788455/- deducted from the petitioner’s Security (Consumption) on account of this bill be refunded. Petitioner is entitled to the interest on the entire Security (Consumption) for the period w.e.f. 24.11.2019 till its refund as per Reg. 17.1 of Supply Code-2014.**
2. **As required under Regulation 2.33 of the Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Forum & Ombudsman) (2nd Amendment) Regulations, 2021 the compliance of this decision shall be made within 21 days from the date of receipt of this order.**
3. **If the Petitioner is not satisfied with the decision of Corporate CGRF, he is at liberty to file a representation before the Ombudsman appointed / designated by the Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission within 30 days from the date of receipt of the order of the Forum, as required under Regulation 2.39 read with Regulation 2.37 of the Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Forum & Ombudsman) (2nd Amendment) Regulations, 2021.**

**(CA. Baneet Kumar Singla) (Er. Himat Singh Dhillon)**

**Member (Finance) Independent Member**

**(Er. Navdeep Singh Chahal) (Er. Kuldeep Singh)**

**Permanent Invitee Chairperson**

**O/o CE/Commercial, PSPCL**

**Place: Ludhiana**

**Date: 26.09.2023**