

**PUNJAB STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
SITE NO. 3, BLOCK B, SECTOR 18-A MADHYA MARG, CHANDIGARH

**Petition No. 46 of 2024**  
**Date of Hearing: 04.12.2024**  
**Date of Order: 05.12.2024**

Petition under Regulation 19, 20 and 21 of Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Power Quality) Regulations, 2023 and Regulation 69, 70, 71 & 72 of Chapter XIII of the Conduct of Business Regulations 2005 for allowing time extension to designated consumers without penalty/ compensation for the installation of Power Quality Meters and for allowing time extension to designated consumers for exercising option for installation of PQ meters through PSPCL by paying monthly meter rental.

And

In the matter of: Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, The Mall,  
Patiala, Punjab.

...Petitioner

Versus

1. Steel Furnace Association – Punjab (Chapter), C/O Vardhman Special Steels Limited, C-58, Phase-III, Focal Point, Ludhiana, Punjab-141010.
2. Mandi Gobindgarh Induction Furnace Association, (REGD.) Grain Market, Mandi Gobindgarh, Punjab-147301
3. Apex Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Room No. 204, 2nd Floor, Savitri Complex- I, G.T. Road, Ludhiana-141003.

...Respondents

Commission: Sh. Viswajeet Khanna, Chairperson  
Sh. Paramjeet Singh, Member

PSPCL: Sh. Harjit Singh Gill, EIC  
Sh. J.S. Jammu, CE/Metering  
Ms. Harmohan Kaur, CE/ARR&TR  
Sh. Harjeet Singh, ASE/TR-5  
Sh. Vivek Garg, Addl. SE

Apex Chamber of  
Commerce and  
Industries: Sh. Sandeep Jain  
Sh. K.K. Garg

Mandi Gobindgarh  
Induction Furnace  
Association: None

Vardhman Textiles  
Limited.: None

**ORDER**

The petition was taken up for hearing. Vide Order dated 18.11.2024, PSPCL was directed to submit clear information in respect of the queries raised by the Commission. The other respondents such as the Steel Furnace Association of India (Punjab Chapter), Mandi Gobindgarh Induction Furnace Association and Apex Chamber of Commerce of Industries were also directed to file their replies. PSPCL has filed reply vide memo no. 7038 dated 03.12.2024. The Steel Furnace Association of India (Punjab Chapter) and M/s Mandi Gobindgarh Induction Furnace Association have filed their respective replies vide letters dated 02.12.2024. PSPCL is directed to furnish point-wise replies to the submissions made by the above mentioned respondents before next date of hearing with a copy to respective respondents (through hard and soft copy). The Commission observes that the reply filed by PSPCL vide memo no.7038 dated 03.12.2024 is not satisfactory and confirms the violation of Power Quality regulations besides the persistent delay, indifference and lackadaisical attitude of PSPCL towards implementation of the PQ regulations. The officers representing PSPCL failed to give satisfactory reply to the queries raised by the Commission as under:

1. The schedule of procurement and the meter testing capacity intimated by PSPCL indicates that the installation of all the PQ meters would not be possible before early 2026, i.e., much beyond the extended time sought by PSPCL.
2. The reasons for not charging penalty in case of the rental options received after 15.03.2024, have not been intimated by PSPCL.
3. The reasons for delay in filing the present petition seeking extension in the date of rental option, are vague and without any concrete logic.
4. Out of 316 new connections/extensions in demand given in case of the PIU consumers, the PQ meters have been installed only in case of 132 consumers. The reasons for not installing PQ meters in remaining 188 cases have not been explained.
5. ISC/IL calculations were earlier duly recommended by the committee constituted by PSPCL in May, 2023 and were circulated in September, 2023. PSPCL has not explained the reasons which prompted PSPCL to revisit these calculations. In case any consumer who have already

installed PQ meter is now adversely affected due to such revision of calculations, how the same would be addressed by PSPCL.

6. (a) Regulation 13.8 of PQ regulations very clearly gave the option to opt out of PIU tariff for which the A&A form to be submitted by the consumers shall be deemed to have been accepted and the consumer shall be treated as General Category Consumer from next billing cycle. Even then, the action, in respect of the 8 nos. opting-out consumers as intimated by PSPCL, to put them in general tariff category, has not been taken. PSPCL should reiterate the directions to comply with the Regulation 13.8 ibid within 7 days.

(b) Even if the designated consumers opt out of PIU tariff, PSPCL still is not in the state of readiness to make the necessary changes in the billing software in non-SAP areas. The negligence of PSPCL for such unpreparedness be explained.

PSPCL is directed to submit clear and concise reply to the above mentioned queries and to intimate the names of the officers who violated the Power Quality regulations in respect of Sr. nos.2, 4 and 6(a) above before next date of hearing. Further, PSPCL must ensure that the designated consumers opting for General Category tariff as per the first proviso to Regulation 13.8 of Power Quality regulations are immediately allowed to do so irrespective of the date of application. Further, the accounts of the designated consumers who had already opted for General Category tariff as per aforementioned regulation, be overhauled retrospectively by making due refunds along with the interest @ marginal cost of funds based lending rate (MCLR) for one year of the State Bank of India, as applicable on the 1st April of the financial year for which interest is payable.

The concerned HoDs of PSPCL present today are directed to be present on the next date of hearing. The petition shall be taken up for hearing on 18.12.2024 at 11:30 AM.

Sd/-

(Paramjeet Singh)  
Member

Sd/-

(Viswajeet Khanna)  
Chairperson

Chandigarh  
Dated: **05.12.2024**