

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

**Petition No. 46 of 2024**  
**Date of Hearing: 09.04.2025**  
**Date of Order: 17.04.2025**

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. Rajiv Kapur, Dy.CE/Regulations  
Sh. S.S. Sachin, Dy.CE/Billing  
Sh. J.S. Jammu, CE/Metering  
Sh. Harjeet Singh, ASE/TR-5  
Sh. Vivek Goel, Addl.SE  
Sh. D.K Gautam  
Ms. Amrita Sehra, ASE

**ORDER**

The petition was taken up for hearing. Vide Order dated 04.03.2025, PSPCL was given another opportunity to explain why penalty under Section 142 of the Electricity Act may not be imposed for willful violation of the Regulation 13.4 and 13.8 of the Power Quality Regulations. PSPCL submitted its reply vide memo no.5562 dated 07.04.2025. The explanation

submitted by PSPCL is similar to the one submitted in their earlier replies and is not convincing. PSPCL had earlier admitted the supply of wrong information/data to the Commission about the number of rental options received before 15.03.2024. The explanation in this regard, again submitted by PSPCL vide memo no.5562 dated 07.04.2025 throws no further light on the wide variation in data nor explains the incorrect affidavits filed earlier. Thus, it is clear that PSPCL has willfully violated the various provisions of the Regulations and the directions of the Commission which deserves action under section 142 of the Electricity Act 2003. Moreover, PSPCL has also submitted the data with respect to Power Quality meters vide Dy. CE/HMC memo no.558 dated 17.02.2025 and vide CE/ARR&TR, PSPCL memo no.5169 dated 31.03.2025. Since the conjoint reading of these memos indicated serious and wide discrepancies, PSPCL was directed vide memo no.199-200 dated 25.02.2025 to immediately reconcile the data and to intimate the correct information. The latest information supplied vide PO/Metering, PSPCL memo no.968/70 dated 18.03.2025 indicates as under:

- (i) The total number of PIU consumers is shown as 1453 at Sr. no.1 of the Table in PO/Metering, PSPCL memo dated 18.03.2025 also include 91 consumers shown with PIU load less than 100 kVA. It indicates that PIU tariff is being charged to the consumers with PIU load less than 100 kVA which is a violation of the tariff orders for FY 2023-24 onwards. The current number of 1453 PIU consumers indicated is for higher then the data submitted earlier.
- (ii) Sr. no.4 ibid shows that out of 527 Power Quality meters tested, 6 nos. of consumers have PIU load less than 100 kVA and 31 Nos. consumers have either a general load or are new consumers. It indicates that the consumers with less than 100 kVA PIU load i.e. non-PIU consumers, are also being made to install Power Quality meters. Further, there is a probability that some of these consumers might have been subjected to penalty for not installing Power Quality meters. This is a violation of the Power Quality regulations.
- (iii) The position demonstrated at Sr. No.(ii) above is confirmed in the details at Sr. No.6 of the Table in PO/Metering, PSPCL's memo dated 18.03.2025 which conveys that 1 consumer having a PIU load less than

100 kVA and 4 consumers having a General Load are being subjected to the imposition of penalty which is again a violation of the Power Quality regulations.

Accordingly, PSPCL is hereby directed as under:

- a) The PIU tariff is to be charged only from the consumers having a PIU load above the threshold limit specified in the tariff order. Excess tariff charged from such non-PIU consumers in the past should be immediately refunded to them alongwith interest.
- b) Only the consumers with a PIU load above the threshold limit specified in the Power Quality regulations be made to install Power Quality meters.
- c) The penalty imposed on the consumers (having PIU load below the threshold limit specified in the Power Quality regulations) for non-installation of power quality meters be immediately refunded to them alongwith interest. Any other coercive step taken against such consumers for non-installation of power quality meters be reversed immediately.
- d) The following details be submitted on affidavit:
  1. The month wise number of consumers with less than 100 kVA PIU load who have been charged with PIU tariff since April 2023.
  2. The number of consumers with less than 100 kVA PIU load who have been made to install Power Quality meters.
  3. The month wise number of consumers with less than 100 kVA PIU load or general industrial consumers who have been levied penalty for not installing the Power Quality meters.
  4. The remedial action PSPCL proposes to take in respect of Sr. No.(2) above i.e. for the consumers with PIU load less than 100 kVA who have been made to install Power Quality meters.
- e) PSPCL is directed to show cause as to why action under section 142 of the Electricity Act 2003 should not be taken for gross violation of the regulations, tariff orders and directions of the Commission in respect of the above.

Moreover, the prolonged delay in the procurement of Power Quality meters still continues. Vide memo dated 07.04.2025, PSPCL had indicated that the tenders for power quality meters would be opened on 11.04.2025. However, during the hearing, the officer representing PSPCL intimated that the date

stood extended to 21.04.2025. PSPCL is again directed to ensure all out efforts for expeditious procurement of power quality meters and to intimate the comprehensive timeline within 10 days regarding various processes till the final installation and commissioning of Power Quality meters in all eligible entities covered by the Power Quality Regulations.

The petition shall be taken for hearing on 14.05.2025 at 11.30 AM.

Sd/-  
(Paramjeet Singh)  
Member

Sd/-  
(Viswajeet Khanna)  
Chairperson

Chandigarh  
Dated: **17.04.2025**