

**PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD
CONSUMERS GRIEVANCES REDRESSAL FORUM
P-1, WHITE HOUSE, RAJPURA COLONY ROAD, PATIALA
PHONE: 0175-2214909 ; FAX : 0175-2215908**

Appeal No: CG 59 of 2013

Instituted On: 30.05.2013

Closed On: 20.06.2013

**M/s Sh.Naresh kumar S/o Sh. Vasdev,
Dashmesh Colony, House No.349
Sec.25-C, Mandi Gobindgarh.**

.....Appellant

Name of Op/Division: Mandi Gobindgarh

A/c No.: K-21/LC-490-480W

Through

Sh. Abhishek Kumar, PR

V/s

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTDRespondent

Through

Er. Rajinder Singh Sarao, ASE/OP. City Divn. Mandi Gobindgarh.

BRIEF HISTORY

The petitioner has filed an appeal No. 59 of 2013 against the decision dated 22.02.2013 of CDSC that the consumption charged to the consumer was due to accumulation of reading. Hence amount charged was recoverable.

The consumer is having DS category connection with sanctioned load of 14.47 KW operating under AEE/Op. Sub division, Mandi

Gobindgarh. The energy bill amounting to Rs. 54,519/- on the basis of 9230 units for two months (10/2012 to 12/2012) was issued to the consumer. Consumption being on the higher side the consumer challenged the meter by depositing meter challenge fee of Rs. 450/- vide BA-16 No. 91/91774 dated 07.12.2012. The meter was changed vide MCO No. 37/98249/- dated 07.12.2012 and sent to ME lab for testing. The meter was checked in the ME lab on 20.12.2012 its results were found within permissible limits.

Consumer appealed before the CDSC, Khanna, CDSC Khanna after scrutinizing the consumption for the last 3 years decided on 22.02.2013 that there is no fault in the meter and it is an accumulation of reading. Hence the consumption is OK and the amount is chargeable. The site of the consumer was also got checked by the AEE/Op. Sub Division Mandi Gobindgarh on 21.03.2013 and as per site report a new meter was found installed in the half portion of house. The AEE/Commercial, PSPCL, Mandi Gobindgarh issued a notice to the consumer vide no. 1209 dated 23.04.2013 that the balance amount of Rs. 54412/- deposited within 15 days.

Being not satisfied within the decision of CDSC the consumer filed an appeal before the Forum and the Forum heard the case in its proceedings held on 30.05.2013, 06.06.2013 and finally on 20.06.2013 when the case was closed for passing speaking orders.

Proceedings:-

On 30.05.2013, Representative of PSPCL submitted authority letter No. 2430 dt. 29.05.2013, in his favour duly signed by the ASE/DS Divn.Mandi Gobindgarh and the same has been taken on record.

Representative of PSPCL submitted four copies of the reply and the same has been taken on record. One copy thereof has been handed over to the PR. The consumption data supplied is not complete.

Representative of PSPCL is directed to supply the upto date consumption data on the next date of hearing.

On 06.06.2013, Representative of PR submitted authority letter duly signed by the petitioner and the same has been taken on record.

PR submitted 4 copies of the written arguments, the same were taken on record & one copy of the same was handed over to the Representative of PSPCL.

Forum directs representative of PSPCL to supply consumption data of the 2nd energy meter installed at the premises of the consumer on the next date of hearing.

On 20.06.2013, In the proceeding dated 06-06-2013 representative of PSPCL was directed to supply consumption data of the 2nd energy meter installed at the premises of the consumer which has been submitted by the respondent and the same has been taken on record.

Representative of PSPCL submitted that reply already submitted may be treated as their oral discussion. PR also submitted that his written arguments may be considered as part of oral discussion.

Both the parties have nothing more to say and submit and the case was closed for passing speaking orders.

Observations of the Forum:-

After the perusal of petition, reply, written arguments, proceedings, oral discussions and record made available to the Forum, Forum observed as under:-

Forum observed that energy bill amounting to Rs. 54,519/- for the consumption of 9230/- units was issued to the DS consumer for the period 10/.2012 to 12/2012. The consumer challenged the meter on 07.12.2012, the meter was changed vide MCO No. 37/98249 dated 07.12.2012 and disputed meter was sent to ME lab. for testing. The meter was checked in the ME lab on 20.12.2012 and its results were found within permissible limits.

Further it has been observed that consumption of the consumer for the last three years i.e. from 02/2010 to 12/2012 varies from 646 units to

1896 units except for the month of 12/2010 in which consumption of 9230 units were recorded. The premises of the consumer was also got checked by the AEE/DS sub division Gobindgarh on 21.03.2013 in the presence of the consumer and found that a new meter/connection has been installed on 18.12.2012 in the half portion of the premises and so far no energy bill for this consumption has been issued. But the ASE/Op. Divn. Mandi Gobindarh supplied the consumption data for the 2nd energy meter i.e. for the month of 04/2013, the consumption was 159 units and consumption for the month of 06/2013 was 217 units respectively. It shows that, if the consumption of both the connections/meters is added during this period, even then it comes to 400 units (241 + 159) in the month of 04/2013.

Forum further observed that though the results of ME lab were found to be OK, but the jumping of the meter at any stage can not be detected in the ME lab. It has been further observed that the total consumption recorded during the year 2011 was 7835 units and total consumption recorded during the year 2012 was 4670 units (except 9230 units for the disputed month of 12/2012). The consumption recorded during the period 06/2012 to 10/2012 is very less as compared to consumption of corresponding period of previous year. Forum observed from the consumption pattern, that the accumulation of consumption can be possible and at the same time jumping of reading of the meter is also not ruled out. Forum is of the view that 3165 units (7835-04670) i.e. difference of consumption for the year 2011 and 2012 (01/2012 to 10/2012) be charged to the consumer for the period 10/2012 to 12/2012.

Decision:-

Keeping in view the petition, reply, written arguments, oral discussions, and after hearing both the parties, verifying the record produced by them and observations of Forum, Forum decides:

- That the bill of the consumer for the month of 12/2012 be revised for 3165 units as consumption instead of 9230 units.
- That the balance amount recoverable/refundable, if any, be recovered/refunded from/to the consumer along-with interest/surcharge as per instructions of PSPCL.
- As required under Section 19(1) & 19(1A) of Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Forum & Ombudsman) Regulation-2005, the implementation of this decision may be intimated to this office within 30 days from the date of receipt of this letter.

(Rajinder Singh)
CAO/Member

(K.S. Grewal)
Member/Independent

(Er. Ashok Goyal)
EIC/Chairman