

**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-97 of 2013

Instituted On: 30.07.2013

Closed On: 10.09.2013

**Sh.Ranjit Singh
C/o Sh. Baljit Singh,
9, Phase-3A, Mohali.**

.....Appellant

Name of Op/Division: Spl. Mohali

A/c No.: 3000224055

Through

Sh. Baljit singh, PR

V/s

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTDRespondent

Through

Er. A.K. Sharma, ASE/Op. (Spl.) Divn. Mohali.

BRIEF HISTORY

Petition No. CG- 97 of 2013 was filed against decision dated 21.05.2013 of CDSC Mohali, deciding that the amount charged to the consumer is justified and recoverable.

The consumer is having DS category connection with sanctioned load of 11.920 KW, operating under Spl Division, Mohali.

The consumer was served energy bill for the period 01.07.2012 to 19.09.2012 for 7712 units, amounting to Rs. 53,460/-. The consumer did not deposit the bill and challenged the working of the meter by depositing Rs.450/- on 01.10.2012 as meter challenge fee. The energy meter was replaced on 03.10.2012 vide MCO No. 1000000105399 dated 26.09.2012. The meter was sent to ME Lab for testing, where the working of the meter was declared OK, vide report No. 75 dated 20.11.2012. The consumer was not satisfied with the ME Lab results and referred his case for review by CDSC Mohali.

CDSC heard the case and decided that the amount charged to the consumer is correct and recoverable.

Being not satisfied with the decision of CDSC, the consumer made an appeal in the Forum. The Forum heard the case in the proceedings held on 13.08.2013, 16.08.2013, 29.08.2013 & finally on 10.09.2013. Then the case was closed for passing speaking orders.

Proceedings:-

PR contended that Energy bill issued in 09/2012 for 7712 units is very much higher and the same may be revised on the basis of consumption of the previous period or the consumption after replacement of meter.

PSPCL contended that as per ME Lab report meter accuracy is OK and the consumer has been charged for the consumption as per meter reading.

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:-

The energy bill for 7712 units, issued to the consumer for the period 01.07.2012 to 19.09.2012 is on the higher side, when compared with the consumption during the previous period.

The normal bi-monthly consumption of the consumer during the period 02/2011 to 02/2012 is in the range of 400-600 units. However consumption of only 92 units and 499 units was recorded in 04/2012 and 06/2012 respectively.

Petitioner contended that he is living in one portion of the house as tenant since June, 2012. The electricity is used only for tube lights, fans and cooler etc. and no AC is installed in the house. He further contended that energy bill issued in 09/2012 for 7712 units, is very much higher and the same may be revised on the basis of consumption before or after the replacement of meter.

PSPCL contended that the consumer has been rightly charged for the consumption as per meter reading as the accuracy of the meter was declared OK in ME Lab.

The Forum observed that there is increase in consumption after the replacement of meter in 10/2012. The recorded consumption during the period 11/2012 to 06/2013 is between 500 units to 1600 units for two months. The total recorded consumption for the year 2011 is only 2846 units. However, the consumption of 92 units and 499 units recorded respectively in 04/2012 and 06/2012, is very less and may be due to bogus/incorrect reading by the meter

reader Thus consumption of 7712 units for the period 01.07.2012 to 19.09.2012 may be due to erratic behaviour of the meter and at the same time accumulation of consumption during the previous period is also not ruled out. Therefore, Forum is of the view that overhauling of account for the period 04/2012 to 10/2012, on the basis of consumption recorded after the replacement of meter on 03.10.2012, is justified.

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 account of the consumer from 04/2012 to 03.10.2012 (date of replacement of meter) be overhauled on the basis of average of consumption recorded during 11/2012 to 06/2013.
- 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