## KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

## NOTIFICATION

No. 1504/DD (T)/Supply Code/2016/KSERC

dated Thiruvananthapuram 26th October 2016

## Kerala Electricity Supply Code (Removal of Difficulties) Order, 2016

WHEREAS, the Kerala Electricity Supply Code, 2014 (hereinafter referred to as the Code) came into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2014.

AND WHEREAS the Government of Kerala has, in exercise of its powers under Section 108 of the Electricity Act, 2003, directed the Commission in public interest, to revise certain provisions in the Code, in order to simplify application formats and procedures to speed up grant of electric connection and to improve services to consumers in accordance with the policy of the Government;

AND WHEREAS it has further been reported that the Ministry of Power, Government of India, has instructed to simplify the process for availing new electricity connection, to introduce a 3-step procedure for releasing electricity connection to the applicants of commercial and industrial purposes within a time span of 15 days from the date of registration in normal situation, instead of the existing procedures in the Supply Code, 2014 which specifies time consuming manual procedures and entails multiple visits to licensee's office:

AND WHEREAS, the State Government has declared its commitment to provide power to all households in the State by March 2017, necessitating simpler procedures to extend electric connection to all households;

AND WHEREAS, the Government of Kerala has, accordingly in exercise of their powers under Section 108 of the Electricity Act, 2003, directed the Kerala State Electricity Regulatory Commission, in public interest, to re-work the Supply Code, 2014, specifically including provisions for the items as detailed below:-

- a. simplified application formats;
- online facility for filing applications, making payments upfront for the same,
   and tracking progress of the works for grant of that electricity connection;
- c. reducing the number of documents necessary for grant of electricity connection to two, i.e. proof of identity and proof of ownership / legal occupancy, in normal cases;
- d. determining per kVA/kW rates under Section 46 of the Act for grant of electricity connection in place of the existing system of a demand based on site specific estimates, in all cases where distribution mains of required voltage class is available within a reasonable distance of say, 200 meters, and an additional per meter rate for distances exceeding the said normative distance;
- e. permit grant of electricity connection to residential structures of plinth area of 100 sq meters and less without proof of ownership / legal occupancy from the Local Body subject to the proviso that electricity connection shall not be considered as proof of legality of the structure or the ownership or possession;
- f. dispensing with the requirement to produce copy of the test-cum-completion report/ energisation report /certificate of installation from a licensed electrical contractor, and approval from Electrical Inspectorate, and instead, having self-certification of the consumer that he has taken the approvals in this regard, with a web-based facility for the licensee to verify the licence number/approvals and details of the authorized wiring contractor / supervisor / wireman, and a provision for the licensee to verify the documents available with applicant, should it become necessary; and

g. introduce a system of advance registration for customers requiring power over say, 100 kVA, to facilitate coordinated development of electrical systems of the user and the licensee to facilitate timely release of electric connections.

AND WHEREAS, the Commission has considered the above directions of the State Government in detail and decided to relax certain provisions of the Kerala Electricity Supply Code, 2014, to the extent detailed below in public interest;

NOW, THEREFORE the Commission in exercise of its powers conferred by Regulation 179 of the Code, hereby make the following order in relaxation of certain provisions of regulation 75 of the Code in public interest, namely:-.

- Short title and commencement: (1) This order may be called the Kerala Electricity Supply Code (Removal of Difficulties) Order, 2016.
  - (2) It shall come into force on the date of publication of the same in the official gazette.
- 2: Relaxation of Regulation 75.- (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in Sub Regulation (1) Regulation 75 of the Kerala Electricity Supply Code, 2014, the applicant for new low tension connection based on connected load and for new EHT/HT/LT connection based on demand based tariff, shall apply for it in the revised formats as approved by the Commission and attached to this order as Annexure I and Annexure II in respect of K S E B Ltd as against the formats already approved by the Commission as per its letter dated 08-04-2016.
  - (2)The format of application for the transfer of service connection, the change of name (consequent to the sale/lease/change of ownership/occupancy not for legal heirs), the change of name (for transfer of ownership to legal heir), the conversion/shifting, the tariff change, and the reduction/ enhancement of connected load/contract demand shall be those approved by the Commission in respect of K S E B Ltd. and attached as Annexure III to VII to this order.
  - (3) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-regulation (9) of Regulation 75 of the Code, the licensee shall provide online facility for filing applications,

making payments upfront for the same and tracking progress of the works for grant of that electric connection.

- (4) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-regulation 10 of Regulation 75 of the Code,-
  - (i) the documents required to be accompanied with the application forms for new connection shall be limited to two viz., proof of identity of the applicant and proof of ownership/ legal occupancy of the applicant over the premises for which new connection is being sought for in normal cases; and
  - (ii) in the case of residential structure of plinth area of 100 sq. metres and less, electric connection may be provided without insisting for proof of ownership/legal occupancy from the Local Body, subject to the condition that electric connection shall not be considered as proof of legality of the structure or the ownership or possession.

By order of the Commission

Santhosh Kumar K B

Secretary