

**GUJARAT ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
GANDHINAGAR**

Minutes of the 27th Meeting of the State Advisory Committee

Venue: Hotel Grand Mercure, GIFT CITY, Gandhinagar

Date: 29th August 2023

Time: 11:30 AM

The meeting started with greetings to the Members of the State Advisory Committee by Hon'ble Chairman, GERC. In reference to discussions that took place during 26th Meeting of the State Advisory Committee, Managing Directors of four State Owned DISCOMs and Torrent Power Limited were invited to attend the meeting. After brief introduction of all the participants, discussion took place on agenda items.

Agenda Item No. 1: Approval of the minutes of the 26th Meeting of the State Advisory Committee held on 17th .

Minutes of the last meeting was circulated to the members of the Committee and since no comments were received from any of the members, the said minutes were confirmed by the Committee.

Agenda Item No. 2: Members were apprised about the issues deliberated during 26th Meeting of the State Advisory Committee and directives issued to the utilities on the basis of discussions. Action Taken Reports received from the concerned entities on the minutes of 26th Meeting of the State Advisory Committee were discussed briefly and also placed as Annexures for ready reference.

Item No. 2.1: Levy of property tax on electricity network by Municipal Corporation in TPL's license area

The Members were briefed about the issue in detail by Mr. Chetan Bundela, TPL where the issue arose due to levy of property tax on electricity network by Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation and thus creating discrimination amongst consumers of four State Owned Discoms and consumers of TPL. Energy and Petrochemicals Department, GoG has taken up this issue with Urban Development Department, GoG and follow up is being taken on regular intervals.

Item No. 2.2: Recovery of Service Line Charges on Per kVA basis from HT consumers

The Committee was apprised by the Managing Director, GUVNL about present practice of recovery on per kVA basis for providing supply through overhead network. Further it was mentioned that separate petition is filed for determination of per kVA charges for providing supply through underground network.

Mr. D. S. Doshi from GCCI represented that the said charges on per kVA basis are required to be revised based on the actual cost data of the Discoms at the end of every financial year.

Moreover, per kVA charges have been determined only for usage of overhead network and for underground network, GUVNL has to file another petition.

Item No. 2.3: Online payment of demand note

The Committee was apprised about inclusion of provision of online payment for demand note in the Draft GERC (Electricity Supply Code and Related Matters) (Third Amendment) based on the MoP, GoI Rights of Consumers Rules. It was also apprised that public hearing has already been conducted and objections/ suggestions received on the said Draft Regulations are under deliberations and final Regulations will be notified soon.

Mr. D. S. Doshi, GCCI informed that there are instances where the applicants asked to visit Discom's office for payment of GST, he was asked to approach concerned Discom with specific cases.

Mr. R. K. Patel, Bhartiya Kisan Sangh requested that for farmers it is required to make online payment as one of the option and facility of payment at Discom office may be continued. In this regard, he was informed that demand note payment through online payment mode is not made mandatory in the Draft Regulations.

Item No. 2.4: Review of Electrical Accidents

The Committee was apprised about measures taken by Discoms to curb electrical accidents. Discoms were asked to make a brief note of all the measures taken and their impact on curbing of electrical accidents for the information of Members of the SAC.

Mr. Arun Buch, Gandhinagar Saher Vasahat Mahamandal requested TPL to carry out awareness camps for consumers of Gandhinagar area and also establish complaint centre. Accordingly, TPL was asked to organise such safety awareness camps for consumers of Gandhinagar area and to inform Committee Member Mr. Arun Buch in this regard separately. Further the TPL will also require to inform about the measures taken to establish complaint centre in the Gandhinagar area.

Further, Chief Electrical Inspector made a detailed presentation in regard to periodic inspection of electrical installations inclusive of regulatory provisions in this regard, number of installations checked during past five years, number of electrical accidents during past five years and reasons for such electrical accidents, defects observed in transformer centres, defects observed in electrical installations, suggestive remedial measures to curb electrical accidents. Copy of the presentation is enclosed. Chief Electrical Inspector was advised to increase inspection of number of electrical installations considering safety as very critical issue.

Agenda Item No. 3: Regulatory Developments

The Committee was apprised about various regulatory developments carried out by the Commission, inclusive of Draft Regulations based on Electricity Rights of Consumers Rules of MoP, GoI, Draft Regulations on Green Energy Open Access based on GEOA Rules of MoP, GoI, Discussion Papers on (i) wind-solar hybrid tariff framework, (ii) Municipal Solid Waste to energy tariff framework and (iii) Multi-Year tariff framework for 4th Control Period.

Agenda Item No. 4: Issues of Members

1. Issue raised by GCCI:

Mr. D. S. Doshi raised issue about mandatory provision of room and AC for installation of ABT meter to which it was informed that considering heat emission, in specific cases, room and AC are sought for installation of ABT meters. However, GCCI shall be replied in detail in this regard by GUVNL.

Mr. D. S. Doshi also raised issue about mandatory provision for CT replacement even in cases of reduction of load to which it was informed that CEA norms are being followed for proper energy accounting.

2. Issues raised by Bhartiya Kisan Sangh:

Mr. R. K. Patel, Bhartiya Kisan Sangh raised issues about reduction in load factor while assessing unauthorised load from 25% to 13% for agriculture consumers.

It is further represented that it is require to revisit the timeline decided for availing benefit of load regularisation scheme. In this regard it is noted that the load regularisation scheme is implemented based on the GoG notification.

Mr. R. K. Patel further requested that the maximum capacity limit of pump size in KUSUM Yojana of GoI is also require to increased. In this regard, it was informed that the said issue is under deliberation.

3. Issues raised by Indian Energy Exchange:

Mr. Jogendra Behera, Indian Energy Exchange requested that the RPO target is required to be decided in line with the RPO target set by MoP, GoI. It is informed that the Commission is in process of issuance of Draft RPO Regulations in this regard.

4. Issues raised by Gandhinagar Saher Vasahat Mahamandal:

Mr. Arun Buch, Gandhinagar Saher Vasahat Mahamandal raised issue of timely submission of Action Taken Report on Minutes of the Meeting. Utilities are directed to submit the ATRs on concerned points in the time bound manner.

5. Issues raised by Federation of Gujarat Industries:

Mr. Pranav Doshi, Federation of Gujarat Industries suggested that Discom is require to take approval of the Commission before issuance of any circular of procedural matter. It was further requested to take appropriate actions on any consumer complaint instead of mechanically communicating the applicant.

Further, it is also represented that there is a trend that the Discoms are preferring appeal against any orders of competent authorities which are in favour of consumers. In this regard, Discoms are directed to analyse every order before deciding to go into appeal against the said

orders of competent authorities and causing undue hardship to the consumers. Proper mechanism should be put in place.

6. Issues raised by Gujarat Metro Rail Corporation:

Mr. Divyang Pandya, Gujarat Metro Rail Corporation raised issue about revision of Power Factor Penalty and Rebate to which it was advised them to make submissions at the time of Tariff Determination exercise.

Agenda Item No. 6: Reconstitution of State Advisory Committee

The Committee was informed that it is required to reconstitute the State Advisory Committee in accordance with the Electricity Act 2003 as the current Committee has been established in the year 2018. It is deliberated that new members representing the agricultural sector and representative from the legal sector are required to be added in the Committee. Dr. Samir Shah, Bhavnagar District Chamber of Commerce and Industries requested for continuance of existing State Advisory Committee considering the Committee could not meet during Covid times.

Agenda Item No. 7: Review of Standard of Performance

Brief review of Standard of Performance of Distribution Utilities was taken up. Distribution Utilities are directed to submit quarterly SoPs in time bound manner. It was further suggested to include information about number of connections released with the SoP reports.

Agenda Item No. 8: Monitoring of Maintenance Activities

The Committee was informed about maintenance activities being carried out by Discoms. It was also informed that maintenance activities are scheduled in coordination with GETCO. It was informed that the process of establishing underground distribution network is ongoing and once whole distribution network is underground, chances of occurrence of faults and interruptions will be very less.

Information on various measures taken by authorities for betterment of electricity consumers

MD, GUVNL apprised the Committee about measures taken by Utilities with support of the State Government to provide better and effective services to electricity consumers of the State such as, online system for new connections, doorstep services to prospective HT consumers, amnesty scheme for farmers, system improvement schemes, tie up of renewable energy capacity.

ED, TPL apprised the Committee about various steps being taken by TPL to provide better and effective services to electricity consumers such as mobile application to avail services, simplification in application form for name change for which proposal will be submitted. He further suggested that while deciding the Rules and Regulations for Net Metering and Green Energy Open Access, it is required to balance the interests of all the stakeholders.

Principal Secretary, EPD, apprised the Committee about various steps and studies being carried out in regard to energy transition.

In regard to suggestion of applicability of residential tariff to small barn to which it was informed that GUVNL will approach the Commission in accordance with the Regulations.

The Commission suggested to take representations of consumers positively and timely resolutions should be ensured.

Hon'ble Chairman, GERC thanked the Members of the Committee for their valuable suggestions.

The meeting concluded with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

Sd/-
(Roopwant Singh, IAS)
Secretary
Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission
Gandhinagar

List of Participants

Hon'ble Chairman & Members:

1. Shri Anil Mukim, IAS, Chairman, GERC
2. Shri Mehul M. Gandhi, Member, GERC
3. Shri S. R. Pandey, Member), GERC

Members/ Representatives of State Advisory Committee:

1. Mrs. Mamta Verma, IAS, PS, EPD
2. Shri V. V. Godhaniya, EPD
4. Ms. Bhakti Shamal, EPD
5. Shri Manoj Patel, EPD
3. Shri Narayan Madhu, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department,
Government of Gujarat
4. Shri Divyang B. Pandya, Gujarat Metro Rail Corporation Limited
5. Shri D. J. Patel, Gujarat Metro Rail Corporation Limited
6. Shri D. S. Doshi, Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry
6. Dr. Samir Shah, Bhavnagar Chamber of Commerce & Industry
7. Shri R. K. Patel, Bhartiya Kisan Sangh
8. Shri Pranav Doshi, Federation of Gujarat Industries
9. Shri Jogendra Behera, Indian Energy Exchange
10. Shri A. H. Buch, President, Gandhinagar Saher Vasahat Mahamandal

Representatives of Utilities:

1. Shri Jai Prakash Shivahare, IAS, MD, GUVNL
2. Shri Arun Mahesh, IAS, MD, UGVCL
3. Shri M. J. Dave, IAS, MD, PGVCL
4. Shri Yogesh Choudhary, IAS, MD, DGVCL
5. Shri Tejas Parmar, IAS, MD, MGVCL
6. Shri K. M. Patel, Office of the CEI
7. Shri C M Bundela, TPL
8. Shri J. J. Gandhi, GUVNL
9. Shri Sanjay Modi, GUVNL
10. Shri Hiren Shah, GUVNL
11. Shri R. J. Vala, PGVCL
12. Shri D. V. Lakhani, PGVCL
13. Shri H. R. Shah, DGVCL
14. Shri K. B. Dhebar, MGVCL
15. Shri G. H. Engineer, UGVCL
16. Shri B. K. Patel, DGVCL
17. Shri D. B. Patel, UGVCL
18. Shri S. P. Patel, DGVCL
19. Shri K. N. Chudasama, GUVNL
20. Shri K. B. Chaudhari, UGVCL
21. Shri C. B. Chaudhari, GPRD, GUVNL
22. Shri Jignesh Langalia, TPL

23. Ms. Luna Pal, TPL

Officers of the Commission:

1. Shri D. R. Parmar, Director, GERC
2. Shri S. T. Anada, Joint Director. GERC
3. Shri M. R. Jhala, Joint Director, GERC
4. Shri A. S. Makwana, Assistant Director, GERC
5. Shri Jignesh Makwana, IT Manager, GERC
6. Shri K. M. Thanki, Assistant Director, GERC

Inspection of the Electrical Installations

27th MEETING OF STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AUGUST 29, 2023

Prepared By: Office of the Chief Electrical Inspector, Gandhinagar

THE CEA (MEASURES RELATING TO SAFETY AND ELECTRIC SUPPLY) REGULATIONS, 2023

Regulation 45.

Initial inspection of the electrical installation is carried out by the Electrical Inspector for HV and EHV installations.

Regulation 32.

Periodical inspection of the electrical installation is carried out by the Electrical Inspector for HV and EHV installations.

Regulation 38.

Inspection of the electrical installation of Multi Storied Buildings are carried out by the Electrical Inspector.

Regulation 34.

Inspection of the electrical installation of CGP and Generating Unit are carried out by the Electrical Inspector.

Section 54 of the Electricity Act, 2003

Inspection of the temporary electrical installation is carried out by the Electrical Inspector.

INSPECTION CARRIED OUT BY THE ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR

CONSUMER INSTALLATIONS

- EHV electrical installation
- HV electrical installation
- Multi Storied Building installations
- CGP/ Generating Set installations
- Solar/ Wind farm installations
- Temporary electrical Installations
- Cinema Installations

INSPECTION CARRIED OUT BY THE ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR

SUPPLIER INSTALLATIONS

- Transformer Centers
- EHV Sub Stations
- Transmission overhead lines

INSPECTION CARRIED OUT IN LAST FIVE YEARS

No.	Details of Work	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Nos of Inspections
1	Inspection of HV/EHV Installations	106507	100724	101810	123940	129727	562708
2	Investigation of Fatal & Non-Fatal Electrical Accidents	1164	1358	1245	1182	1231	6180
3	Inspection of the Multi Storied Buildings	1860	1935	1132	2710	2790	10427
4	Inspection of Electrical Installations of CGP / Generating Set/ Solar/ Wind	3633	3787	4411	5837	6256	23924
5	Inspection of the Temporary Installations	810	950	210	1350	1410	4730

ELECTRICAL ACCIDENTS IN LAST FIVE YEARS

No.	Type of Accidents	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
1	Human Fatal Accidents	585	640	634	558	582
2	Human Non Fatal Accidents	231	226	215	196	207
3	Animal Fatal Accidents	348	492	396	428	442
Total		1164	1358	1245	1182	1231

REASONS OF ELECTRICAL ACCIDENTS IN LAST FIVE YEARS

No.	Type of Accidents	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
1	SNAPPING OF CONDUCTORS	196	136	197	152	156
2	ACCIDENTS CONTACT WITH LIVE ELECTRIC WIRE/EQUIPMENT	213	271	282	227	229
3	VIOLATION/NEGLECT OF SAFETY MEASURES/LACK OF SUPERVISION	190	192	210	189	164
4	DEFECTIVE APPLIANCES/ APPARATUS/TOOLS	137	121	151	177	174
5	INADEQATE/LACK OF MAINTENANCE	231	188	268	262	235
6	UNAUTHORISED WORK	158	144	138	137	91
7	ANY OTHER REASON	142	112	112	101	133

GENERAL DEFECT OBSERVED IN TRANSFORMER CENTRES

Appropriate switchgear of adequate capacity is not provided on primary and secondary side of the transformer as per the provision of the regulation. (Reg 37)

Bare HT jumpers of transformer is not covered with insulating material of proper HV grade. (Reg 46)

The body and neutral of transformer is not connected with two separate and distinct earth connections. (Reg 50)

Fencing of not less than 1.8 m in height is not be provided to outdoor substation. (Reg 51)

Stay wire shall be constructed as per relevant standards (Reg 74)

Anti-climbing devices is not provided. (Reg 75)

General Observations in HT installations (Consumers)

All electric supply lines & apparatus shall be of sufficient rating for power, insulating & estimated fault current. (Reg 14)

Temporary open wiring shall be removed. (Reg 14)

Danger notices in Hindi or English and local language with sign of skull and bones shall be affixed. (Reg 20)

All non-current carrying metal parts of switchgears and control panels shall be properly earthed and insulating floors or rubber mats of appropriate voltage level shall be provided in the front of the panels. (Reg 21(5))

Every authorized electrical person shall be provided with tools and safety devices such as hand gloves, rubber shoes , safety belts , line testers etc. (Reg 21)

Shock treatment chart shall be affixed in a conspicuous place in the substation/supply points. (Reg 30)

ELCB/RCCB of adequate capacity shall be provided. (Reg 44)

Remedial suggestions

Efficient earthing of body and neutral of transformer centers.

Adequate protection for Transformer Centers on HT/LT side.

Proper horizontal/vertical clearances in overhead lines.

Proper and appropriate guarding at road crossing and line crossing.

Suitably positioned stay insulators in guy supports.

Safely covered jumpers.

Safe crossing of electric lines.

Safety of the installation in public place is ensured.

Adequate capacity of MCB/ELCB/RCCB shall be provided.

Thank You!
