

MADHYA PRADESH ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION, BHOPAL

Sub: - In the matter of date of application of Distribution and Retail Supply Tariff Order.

ORDER

Date of order 25.07.2012

On receipt of references from some of the consumers stating that the Distribution Companies have not implemented the Distribution and Retail Supply tariff Order for FY 2012-13 from 10th April, 2012 onwards as required and have raised the bills for April, 2012 on the basis of new tariff rates for entire consumption during the month, the Commission referred the matter to the Distribution Companies for their response.

2. The Distribution Companies have stated that the readings of the consumers are taken round the month. The billing based on new tariff is being done in accordance with the Commission's Order in the matter of Petition No. 48/02 dated 15.04.2002 and subsequent clarification issued by the Commission vide letter No. MPERC/2004/133 dated 14.01.2005. The Distribution Companies further stated that billing based on bifurcated pro-rata consumption for the period before and after the date of applicability of a new tariff order is very difficult, complicated and tedious exercise for such a large number of consumers. The billing software cannot be modified to suit the requirement of such billing. The Central Discom, in addition, has stated that there are no further Orders issued by the Commission which would otherwise supercede the above mentioned Order/ clarifications and hence the billing based on new tariff is being done accordingly.

3. The Commission observed that the Distribution Companies are continuing with the old system of billing as per Commission's earlier Order and the clarifications. The Commission further observed that readings of LT consumers are scattered throughout the month. There may have been difficulties in implementing the tariff order from a fixed date in the available software. The Commission, on the request of the Distribution Companies, provided a system of billing for implementation of tariff Order which would fairly take care of Commission's directions considering the difficulties due to limitation of billing software.

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4. The Commission is of the opinion that in the last 7 years the situation has undergone substantial change and that now it should not be difficult to get required software to ensure billing in accordance with the provisions of the Distribution and Retail Supply Tariff Order. The Commission directs that the Distribution Companies should get the billing software appropriately modified to ensure billing strictly in accordance with the stipulations of the Tariff Order. The billing of consumption prior to the applicable date of tariff Order should be on existing tariff and subsequent consumption on new tariff. The Distribution Companies should ensure that requisite billing software is in place before 31st March, 2013.

5. Ordered accordingly.

sd/-

(C.S. Sharma)
Member

sd/-

(Rakesh Sahni)
Chairman