Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Co. Ltd.'s Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum Nagpur Zone, Nagpur

Case No. CGRF(NZ)/73/2017	
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Applicant	:	Shri Dinesh Haraiyya Singwar, House No. 779, Tailors Line, Chhaoni, Nagpur - 13
Non-applicant	:	Nodal Officer, The Superintending Engineer (D/F), NUC, MSEDCL, Nagpur.
Applicant:		Shri Dinesh Haraiyya Singwar
Non Applicant: -		1) Shri Dahasahastra, SNDL Nagpur.
		2) Smt Manchalwar, LDC, Nodal Office, SNDL, Nagpur
Quorum Present :		1) Mrs. V.N.Parihar, Member, Secretary & I/C.Chairman.
		2) Shri N.V.Bansod,

Member

ORDER PASSED ON 21.08.2017.

1. The applicant filed present grievance application before this Forum on 13.07.2017 under Regulation 6.4 of the Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (Consumer Grievance Redresses Forum & Electricity Ombudsman) Regulations, 2006 (hereinafter referred to as said Regulations).

2. Non applicant, denied applicant's case by filing reply dated 07.08.2017.

3. Forum heard arguments of both the sides 08.08.2017and perused record.

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4. The brief history of the case is, an applicant with consumer no.410022286483 has been released new electric connection for the purpose of construction of house on 08/02/2017 .He has received the bill for the month of Mar-2017 for 535 units with commercial tariff. But the applicant does not agree with this applicable tariff in the bill and filed his grievance with the non-applicant.

5. Non-applicant submitted their written reply. In the reply, they contended that new connection bearing no.410022286483 has been released in the name of Shri Dinesh Hirayya Singarwar for construction purpose .Hence applicable tariff is commercial one. As regard to their demand for residential tariff, as per MERC tariff order of 03/11/2016 & subsequent MSEDCL's Commercial Circular INo.275 dt. 18/11/2016,if construction is done on vacant premises then charges will be applicable as per commercial tariff, however after completion of construction work residential tariff shall be applicable on consumer's request. In the instant case construction activity is still going on, hence it is not possible to charge them as per residential tariff.

6. Further they contended that, due to reading not Taken, the applicant's first bill of Feb-2017 is generated on the average basis for 43 units. But in the month of March-17, as per meter reading energy bill is issued for 535 units .The amount of Rs.330.96 has been deducted which was charged as per average units in the month of Feb-2017and net Energy Bill of Rs.5966.36 is charged to the applicant. Hence slab benefit was not given, As Energy Bills are issued correctly, their demand for revision cannot be considered and hence prayed to the forum to dismiss the application.

7. Failing to get relief from non-applicant, applicant filed grievance with IGRC

and sought the following relief:-

- Slab benefit to be given, considering the billing period of Mar-2017 from 08/02/2017 to 25/03/2017.
- As per MERC order, up to 500 units, applicable Tariff is residential and therefore bills issued with commercial tariff should be revised.
- Since the complaint is not resolved timely, compensation as per MERC's S.O.P. Regulations for harassment up to Rs.5000/-.

8. The IGRC rejected the grievance application, passed their order dt.09.06.2017, giving justification as follows:-

a) Considering the CPL of applicant, the first bill of Feb-2017 is generated on average basis for 43 units and for 0.43 month. The bill of Mar-2017for 535 units as per meter reading is generated by the MSEDCL's IT & MSEDCL billing software and not the Company's billing software. And, hence there is no reason to question or to doubt on MSEDCL's IT. And, hence slab benefit is not applicable.

b) As regard to their demand for residential tariff, as per MERC tariff order of 03/11/2016 & subsequent Commercial Circulars such as 275 dt.18.11.2016, 284 dt.11/04/2017,, it is clearly mentioned that a residential LT consumer with consumption upto 500 units per month (current month of supply) who undertakes construction or renovation activity in his existing premises, such consumer shall not require a separate temporary connection and would be billed at this residential tariff.

c) In the instant case, the applicant does not have existing LT connection with residential tariff. On the contrary, he has taken supply for construction of house purpose and hence as per MERC order (referred above) the tariff applicable made applicable is quite justified. And as per MERC order only, there is no need to change Page 3 of 4 Case No 73/2017

the tariff or revision of the bills.

9. In view of above justification, the demands cannot be condered.and is rejected along with the demand of compensation towards harassment & MERC's S.O.P. Regulation.

10. Aggrieved by IGRC's order applicant filed grievance with the forum.

11. During hearing both applicant reiterated the same argument as per his written Statement.

12. During the course of argument, SNDL agreed to change the applicant's tariff to residential Tariff

13. Hence, during the course of argument, Applicant filed the pursis on record .In this pursis applicant specifically mentioned that, since SNDL agreed to Charge the category of tariff to residential tariff, he is withdrawing the case. This pursis is duly signed by applicant as well as Non-applicant before the forum. Considering the pursis of the applicant, we hold that he has no complaint against non-applicant and therefore the grievance of the applicant is fully redressed and liable to be disposed off.

13. Hence we proceed to pass the following order.

ORDER

- 1. Grievance of the applicant is redressed therefore disposed off.
- 2. SNDL shall change the tariff of applicant to residential tariff with necessary revision of energy Bills.

Sd/-

Sd/-

(Shri. **N.V.Bansod)** MEMBER

(Mrs.V.N.Parihar), MEMBER/SECRETARY & I/C. CHAIRMAN