Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Co. Ltd. Bhandup Urban Zone, Bhandup

Ref. No. Member Secretary/MSEDCL/CGRF/BNDUZ/ Date :

Case No.503

Hearing Dt. 11/07/2013, 26/07/2013. & . 31/07/2013.07/08/2013.

In the matter of excess recovery for under billing

Mr. Sudhir Mukadam.

Applicant

Vs.

M.S.E.D.C.Ltd., Vashi

Respondent

Present on behalf

- A] On behalf of CGRF, Bhandup
- 1) Shri. S.K. Choudhary, Chairman, CGRF, Bhandup
- 2) Shri. R.M Chavan, Member Secretary, CGRF, Bhandup.
- 3) Dr. Smt. Sabnis, Member, CGRF, Bhandup.
- B] On behalf of Applicant
- 1) Mr.Suraj Chakrabarty. –Consumer Representative
- C] On behalf of Respondent
- 1) Shri. Tekale, Dy. Ex. Engr., CBD, Belapur Vashi.

<u>ORDER</u>

Shri. Sudhir Mukadam is a single phase residential consumer having Service No. 000318701423 at Flat No.41 Plot No.104 4th floor Phansaspada Sector 19/20 CBD Belapur 400614.

As per consumer Representative Shri. Suraj Chakrabarty, bill issued by Respondent for an amount of Rs. 116700/- for a period of 41 months is illegal and base less. He prayed that this bill should be squashed. He further stated that he had cleared all the dues regularly. He refused the claim of utility that consumer was under billed and there by raised the demand is authentic.

On the behalf of Respondent Shri. S.R. Tekade the Dy. Ex. Engineer of Belapur Subdivision was present. As per his statement the premise of

consumer was inspected on of 19.03.2013 by the concerned Section incharge, the meter of consumer was found on sight bearing No. 5202115805 was showing reading as 195456 units. Whereas consumer was billed for the period of Nov. 2010 to April 2013 for merely 4531 units. Hence consumer was under billed for around 14925 units which is divided over 41 months and awarded even a slab benefits.

The Respondent also pointed out that when the new meter was provided to the consumer in the month of March 2013 it had read for 749 units in one month.

The respondent also insisted on the maximum Demand recorded on the meter for 7 KVA and the connected load found during the inspection for 8.9 KW.

Respondent reiterated that the consumer was billed during the 41 month is hardly for 123 to 250 units per month though the Consumer was using such a heavy load and is unbelievable.

He prayed to the Forum to allow for recovery of supplementary bill which is raised for the energy utilized by the opponent.

The Respondent admitted that supply was disconnected for non-payment of arrears with the due intimation to the consumer.

By filing this complaint, the consumer has prayed for Reconnection of the supply and withdrawl of the wrong supplementary bill of Rs. 11,6700/-

The Opponant appeared before us through Mr.Sudhir Mukadam and filed written say along with other relevant documents.

Now the questions before us are:

A] whether the complaint can be allowed

B] if so, what relief

We have heard both the parties and have gone through the documents placed on record by them.

It clear and admitted position that the Respondent has raised the bill for past 41 months against this consumer.

The Electricity Act -2003 there in Section 56 (2) does not allow recovery of such bills for more than 24 months.

Thus, we order the Respondent to calculate the consumption of units for 24 months (by using the formula number of units i.e. 14925 divided by 41 months and multiply by 24 months) and charge the consumer as per these units.

The Respondent should consider the request of consumer for granting installment as per their own circular. for the payment of this bill.

We order the Respondent to re-instate the supply of this consumer with immediate effect on receipt of part payment of Rs. 30,000/- by the consumer.

The Respondent shall file compliance report before us within 0ne month from the date of this order.

ORDER

- 1. Complaint no. 503 is allowed.
- 2. Consumer shall pay Rs. 30,000/- as part payment and on receipt of this payment, the Respondent shall reconnect the supply of the consumer.
- 3. Utility shall calculate the arrears as mentioned above and consider for awarding the installments to the consumer.
- 4. No order as to cost.
- 5. Respondent to file Compliance report in one month before the Forum.

No order as to the cost.

Both the parties be informed accordingly.

The order is issued under the seal of consumer Grievance Redressal Forum M.S.E.D.C. Ltd., Bhandup Urban Zone, Bhandup on 07th of August 2013.

Note: 1) If Consumer is not satisfied with the decision, he may go in appeal within 60 days from date of receipt of this order to the Electricity Ombudsman in attached "Form B".

Address of the Ombudsman

The Electricity Ombudsman,
Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission,
606, Keshav Building,
Bandra - Kurla Complex, Bandra (E),
Mumbai - 400 051.

2) If utility is not satisfied with order, it may proceed before the Hon. High Court within 60 days from receipt of the order.

DR. ARCHANA SABNIS MEMBER CGRF, BHANDUP S. K. CHOUDHARY CHAIRMAN CGRF, BHANDUP

R.M. CHAVAN MEMBER SECRETARY CGRF, BHANDUP