

Before the Ombudsman, K.E.R.C. Bangalore

Present: Shaik Ahmed,
Ombudsman
Case No.OMB/H/G-42/2008/4738
Dated 14.08.2008

Complainant :

Shri Ganapathi Ramachandra Bidre,
Bidremane,
Idugundi-581337
Yellapura Taluk,
Uttara Kannada District.

1. The Asst.Executive Engineer(Ele)
O & M Sub-Division
Yellapur,
Uttara Kannada District
2. The Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum,
HESCOM Corporate Office,
P.B.Road, Navanagar,
HUBLI-25

This is a complaint made by Shri Ganapathi Ramachandra Bidre against the order dated 31.10.2007 passed by the CGRF, HESCOM in file No.CGRF/CYS/55. The case of the Complainant is that the power supply provided to his premises in RR No.ILP-62 has been disconnected on 5.11.2001 by the 1st Respondent without any notice. He also alleges that the power line which was existing near his house has been shifted to some other place. Aggrieved by the action of the 1st Respondent, the Complainant had filed a petition before the CGRF HESCOM (2nd Respondent) seeking a direction to the 1st Respondent to

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restore the power connection. But then the CGRF has rejected the petition on the ground that the case does not come within its purview as per clause 2(g) of KERC (Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum and Ombudsman) Regulations 2004 as it related to theft of electricity. The Complainant has therefore filed this appeal to set aside the Order of the CGRF and to grant the relief sought by him.

The 1st Respondent has furnished replies to the contentions made by the Complainant. He has stated that the installation in question was serviced on 24.10.1986 and the same was disconnected on 17.3.2004 for non-payment of arrears of Rs.1,168.00 after following the due procedure. He has submitted copies of the notice of disconnection/ termination of the agreement served on the consumer before actually disconnecting the installation. He has further stated that the Complainant is accused of theft of electricity and a complaint has been registered against him. He has submitted a copy of the FIR filed against the Complainant by the Vigilance Police Station Karwar.

I have gone through the records. The contention of the Complainant that the disconnection has been carried out without a proper notice is not correct. The 1st Respondent has disconnected the power supply for non-payment of power charges after following the due procedure. This apart, a case of theft of electricity is also registered against the Complainant on 1.10.2007 by the Vigilance Police Station, Karwar in Cr.No.124/07. The CGRF is right in taking a view that this case did not come within its purview as per Clause 2(g) of the aforesaid Regulations as it related to theft of electricity. Other contention of the Complainant that the power line is shifted away from his house is not

relevant. He can take a fresh connection in accordance with the Conditions of Power Supply if he so desired as informed to him in writing by the 1st Respondent on 20.2.2008.

For the above reasons, I do not see any reason to interfere with the Order dated 31.10.2007 passed by the CGRF, HESCOM in file No.CGRF/CYS/55 or with the action of the 1st Respondent

Hence, the Complaint is rejected.

(Shaik Ahmed)
Ombudsman

1. Shri Ganapathi Ramachandra Bidre, Bidremane, Idugundi-581337, Yellapur Taluk, Uttara Kannada District.
2. The Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum, HESCOM Corporate Office, P.B.Road, Navanagar, Hubli-25
- 3.The Asst.Executive Engineer(Ele), O & M Sub Division, HESCOM, Yellapur, Uttara Kannada District.
4. The Managing Director, HESCOM, Corporate Office, P.B.Road, Navanagar, Hubli-25
5. PS to Hon.Chairman 6. OCA 7. Director(Tariff)
8. Chairpersons of all Consumer Fora for information.