

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE 17<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE COMMISSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD**  
**ON 19<sup>th</sup> December 2006**

List of Members present, Members absent (with Notice/leave of absence) and Members absent (without notice) are as given in the Annex.

The Chairman welcomed the Members to the meeting.

**17.1 Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting:** The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2006 was confirmed.

**17.2 Any other subject:**

**i.) Providing meters to consumer installations as per CEA Regulations:**

Sri. S.Govindappa, Member stated that CEA regulation mandates providing electronic meters to all consumer installations. He further added that as the electronic meters are costlier than the electromagnetic meters presently being used by the distribution licensees, the utilities will have to make huge investments which will ultimately be passed on to the consumers.

MD, CESC and MD, MESCOM stated that they have made written representations to CEA to allow usage of Electromagnetic meters instead of static meters as the past experience in respect of Static meters was not satisfactory and no manufacturer of electronic meters provides ten years' warranty as is being provided by the manufacturers of electro magnetic meters.

The Chairman was of the opinion that since CEA has already issued the Regulation as per the EA 2003, the utilities have no choice other than following the CEA Regulations.

**ii) Energy auditing of DTCs:**

Sri. S.Govindappa, Member wanted to know the benefits accrued by fixing meters to DTCs.

MD,HESCOM stated that the meters fixed to DTCs are read in tandem with the installations connected to the DTC and the results thereof are being reviewed on a regular basis and energy auditing is being carried out. MD,BESCOM stated that about 23,000 DTCs have already been metered. These DTCs are categorised based on the percentage loss levels: <5%, 5-10%, 10-15%, >15%. In case of DTCs having more than 10% loss, squads are sent to calibrate all the meters and vigilance squads are deputed to identify theft if any. He further stated that BESCOM had achieved good benefits in terms of loss reduction and consequential increase in revenue collection.

MD,KPTCL also endorsed the views expressed by the MDs of distribution licensees.

### **iii) Universal Metering:**

The Chairman brought to the notice of the Committee that as per the section 55 of the Electricity Act 2003, *'No licensee shall supply electricity , after the expiry of two years from the appointed date, except through the installation of the correct meter.....'* *'..... The state Commission may by notification extend the said period of two years.....'*.

The Chairman reiterated that the Commission has not extended the deadline stipulated under the EA 2003 and observed that inspite of repeated directions to the distribution licensees, the progress made to meter all un-metered installations has been very tardy.

Sri. K.N.Venkatagiri Rao, Member reiterated that unless the utilities approach people's representatives at the grass root level and gain their confidence,the utilities would not be able to achieve 100% metering. He also stated that a time bound action plan to achieve 100% metering covering all categories of un-metered installations needs to be chalked out and implemented in all seriousness by all the distribution licensees.

M.G. Prabhakar, Member, pointed out that in case the licensees default in complying with the provisions of the EA 2003, the Commission is empowered to take appropriate action on the licensees/concerned officers.

MD, KPTCL and MDs of all ESCOMs agreed with the above viewpoints and decided to achieve 100% metering programme within the following time frame.

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Agreed time frame for completion of 100% Metering</b>
1	Street Light Installations	By the end of June 2007
2	Bhagya Jyothi/Kutir Jyothi Installations	By the end of December 2007
3	IP Set installations	By December 2008

The Chairman stated that, the distribution licensees cannot prolong the issue and stressed that as per the EA 2003 and Commission's directions all installations should be metered at the earliest.

### **17.3 Load shedding by ESCOMs:**

Sri. A.S. Kulkarni, Member brought to the notice of the Committee that, HESCOM is affecting load shedding by intimating consumers through newspaper notifications which is illegal as per the Electricity Act 2003.

The Chairman stated that all load shedding done by the licensee shall be effected as per the provisions of the Grid Code except in cases of regulation of supply which requires the approval of the Commission Under Section 23 of the Electricity Act 2003.

### **17.4 Independent operation of ESCOMs:**

Sri. B. Satyanarayana Udupa, Member brought to the notice of the Committee that, ESCOMs should operate independently. At present MD of KPTCL is also Chairman of all ESCOMs which hampers the independent decision making of ESCOMs.

MD, KPTCL stated that such scenario is not unique to Karnataka only. Even in neighbouring states like Andhra Pradesh also a similar arrangement exists. He also reiterated that such arrangement has not hampered the independent decision making of ESCOMs. On the contrary this arrangement has enabled better co-ordination between the ESCOMs and Transmission Utility in the state.

The Chairman opined that this is not the right forum to discuss this issue and that the same has to be taken up with the Govt/ appropriate forum.

#### **17.5 Security Deposits:**

Sri. B. Satyanarayana Udupa, Member, pointed out that there have been frequent changes in the figures furnished by ESCOMs in respect of the security deposits of consumers.

The Chairman opined that these issues would be dealt with in the ERC proceedings.

#### **17.6 Compliance with the Directives of the Commission:**

Sri. B. Satyanarayana Udupa, Member and M.G.Prabhakar, Member stated that the utilities are not complying with the directives of the Commission. M.G.Prabhakar, Member cited a case of replacing faulty tri-vector meters which has not been replaced for the last six years inspite of the orders from the Commission.

The Chairman directed all ESCOMs to comply with the directives issued by the Commission with all seriousness and ensure that such instances are not repeated.

The Chairman thanked all the Members and officers and concluded the meeting.

Sd/-  
**Chairman**

No: J/02/1/

Date: 2-1-2007

**Copy to:** PS to Chairman/Member-1/Member-Technical  
Director (Tech.)/Director (Tariff)/Consultant C.A./TA to Chairman  
SFA/Consultant (Tech.-1)/Consultant (Tech.-3)/  
Dy.Director (DF), (Distribution), (Legal)/AO/KTO/

**Secretary**

**Members present**

1.	Mr. K.P. Pandey	Chairman
2.	Mr.H.S. Subramanya,	Member-I
3.	Mr.S.D. Ukkali,	Member -Technical
4.	Managing Director, KPTCL.	Committee Member
5.	Shri J. Ravi, Executive Engineer (Civil), (on behalf of MD, KPCL).	Committee Member
6.	President, KEB Engineers Association,	Committee Member
7.	Mr. M.G. Prabhakar	Committee Member
8.	Mr. K.N. Venkatagiri Rao	Committee Member
9.	Shri Raghavendra Raju,	Committee Member
10.	Additional Secretary, Department of Food & Civil Supplies (On behalf of Secretary).	Committee Member
11.	Managing Director, BESCO.	Committee Member
12.	Managing Director, GESCOM.	Committee Member
13.	Shri A.S. Kulkarni.	Committee Member
14.	Shri S. Govindappa	Committee Member
15.	Shri Sathyanarayana Udupa	Committee Member

1.	Shri Shaik Ahmed	Secretary, KERC.
----	------------------	------------------

**Members Absent (Without Notice)**

1.	Managing Director, Bhoruka Power Cor. Ltd.,	Committee Member
2.	Shri Amarnath patil	Committee Member
3.	Shri Prakash Kashinath Rao Patil.	Committee Member
4.	President, KPTCL Employees union.	Committee Member

**Vacant → 2**