

## CHAPTER – 3

### PUBLIC CONSULTATION - SUGGESTIONS/OBJECTIONS & REPLIES

**3.1** As per the provisions of the section 64 of the Electricity Act, 2003, the Commission has undertaken the process of public consultation, to invite suggestions/views/objections from the interested stake-holders and general public, on the application filed by the CESC for Annual Performance Review for FY18, Approval of Annual Revenue Requirement for FY20-22 and Revision of Retail Supply Tariff for FY20-22. In the written submissions filed as well as during the public hearing held on 5th February, 2019, the Stake-holders and the public have raised several objections / made suggestions, on the CESC's Tariff Application. The names of the persons who have filed written objections and made oral submissions are given below:

#### List of persons who have filed written objections:

Sl. No.	Application No.	Name & Address of Objectors
1	AE-01	Sri Shruti Bhatia, Indian Energy Exchange.
2	AE-02	Greenko Energies Pvt. Ltd.
3	CA-01	Ravikiran Kulkarni, General Secretary, KASSIA
4	CA-02	Mohammad Agro Farms, Pallya Dindighatta Gram, Pallya Hobli, Alur Taluk, Hassan
5	CA-03	Vidya Vikas Educational Trust, Mysuru.
6	CA-04	Sri Venkatesh S. Arbatti, BWSSB
7	CA-05	Sri Anil Savur D, Secretary Karnataka Planters' Association
8	CA-06	Sri. H.M. Maahadevappa, Secretary, J.S.S. Mahavidyapeetha, Mysuru
9	CA-07	Sri. Vasu, President Mysore Industries' Association, Mysuru
10	CA-08	Sri. Suresh Kumar Jain, Secretary, Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises Parishath, Mysuru.
11	CA-09	Principal, Coorg Institute of Technology.

- 3.2** The gist of the objections, replies by CESC and the Commission's views is appended to this order as **Appendix-1**.

**List of the persons, who made oral submissions during the Public Hearing, held on 05.02.2019.**

Sl.No	Name & Address of Objectors
1	Mr. Vasu, President, Mysore Industries' Association
2	Mr. Suresh Kumar Jain, General Secretary, MSME Council
3	Mr. C.R. Aswathanarayana, Consultant – Electrical
4	Mr. Hussain & Manjunath Panelist, KASSIA
5	Mr. K.B. Lingaraju, KIADB Manufacturers' Association
6	Mr Sundar Raj, Kollegal
7	Mr N. Ravindranath, Madhuvanahalli
8	Savitha Ranganath, CGRF, CESC
9	J.N. Shivaprakash, Kollegal, RTI Activist
10	Shafaquath Ali, Hassan, Mushroom Cultivators
11	Yunus Indikar, Mushroom Cultivator
12	M. Ravi, N.R. Mohalla, Mysuru
13	M.P. Nagaraju & H.M.Mahadevappa, JSS MVP Mysuru
14	K.R. Lakshmikantha, M.I.A
15	N.C. Ponnappa, Coffee Growers, Kodagu
16	D.B. Changappa, Coffee Growers, Kodagu
17	P.M. Biju, Coffee Growers, Kodagu
18	Satish & Poornima, Hassan
19	B.L. Venkatesh, Mysuru District Electricity GrahakaraVedike
20	Arif Khan, Advocate for BWSSB
21	Puttaraju, Karnataka Raitha Sangha, T. Narasipura
22	S. Ravichandra, Hassan
23	K.B. Ramegowda, Government Licensed Electrical Contractor, Ramakrishna Enterprises
24	M.G. Ramesh & Keshav Prasad, Mysuru
25	Ramanna, Administrator Vidya Vikas Educational Trust

**3.3 The summary of the points raised during the Public Hearing, is as follows:**

1. Small scale industries are facing stiff competition and to encourage them tariff should be reduced to enable them to compete with China.
2. Cross subsidy to be reduced / road map has to be issued for making it zero.
3. Subsidized category (IP, BJ, KJ): Government should pay subsidy in advance. Industries should not be burdened with the cross subsidy.

4. Fixed Charges for HT-industries – should be zero as assets are created by them and handed over to CESC, maintenance charges are also paid at 5%.
5. KERC has to safeguard consumers' interest and uninterrupted power supply has to be given, so that use of Diesel Generation sets could be reduced.
6. GST service providers, online service providers have to be exempted from cross subsidy and brought under LT – 5 or separate category.
7. Dhobi shop, tailors are categorized under LT-5, but not billed accordingly.
8. Consumer awareness not done properly by CESC.
9. Tariff publication is not done in local papers and there is no awareness created by CESC about tariff petitions to general public.
10. Subsidy has to be given to the beneficiaries directly by GoK, instead of giving the same to CESC.
11. 100% metering not done for IP sets. Hence, IP set consumptions data is not correct.
12. No efforts are made by CESC to collect the dues from GoK / Departments / Panchayaths.
13. Interest on loan should not be levied on consumers.
14. Prepaid meters are not installed for temple connection and for industries.
15. Individual meters and sub-meters have to be given to sub-units of industries in a premises.
16. CESC should carry out works relating to supply as is being done for Panchayats and should not entrust it to KIADB.
17. Separate tariff category has to be provided for MSME sector.
18. After NJY, less tariff should not be given to Rural people, as they are also benefited by good quality of power.
19. Corporate officers have to meet consumers regularly and solve their problems.
20. There are no proper facilities / improvement activities in rural area, complaints are not attended by officers.
21. Tariff petition is not published in notice board – no publicity given by CESC.
22. Consumer meetings are not held with prior publicity.
23. Incentivize consumers who save power, ½ hour Power outage daily can save power.
24. CGRF awareness needed, Energy savings – workshops should be held, awareness on theft of energy may be created.

25. Solar energy to be encouraged.
26. Failed distribution transformers are not replaced within the specified time and officers harass farmers.
27. No maintenance works are carried out by CESC. Broken Electric Poles are not replaced promptly. Creepers grow on poles.
28. Solar water heater rebate is not revised since many years. The same should be increased.
29. Mushroom growers should be given concessional tariff or separate category as cheaper tariff is provided in other States.
30. Directions of KERC are not complied with by CESC. The LED and timer switches have to be installed to street lights, 5 star rated equipments not installed by consumers. CESC should check and advise consumers.
31. Load shedding – no prior intimation is given.
32. Energy audit implication has to be disclosed, feeder separation under NJY not done properly – 2 lines are drawn on same poles.
33. Sagged lines not repaired.
34. Education institutions and hostels run by trust are billed under commercial category. This has to be changed and treated on par with Government institutions.
35. 10 HP power given free of cost by GoK to farmers – coffee growers have lost plantations in recent floods. GoK has withdrawn concession of 10 HP free power.
36. CESC has given concession and the same has to be continued.
37. During Rainy season there is Power supply problem, due to breaking of lines – Adequate staff should be provided for maintenance works.
38. Voltage problem to be solved effectively.
39. Coffee growers use electricity for coffee only for 2-months in a year. Hence, free electricity to be given, charging commercial tariff is not proper.
40. Floods have devastated lives in Kodagu, hence concessional tariff should be given to IP sets of coffee growers.

**CESC Reply:**

The Managing Director, while replying to the points raised above, assured the Commission that necessary action would be taken on the points raised by the stakeholders.

**Commission's View:**

The Commission has taken note of the points raised by the public. The CESC is directed to attend to the issues relating to operation and maintenance and other issues pertaining to CESC, on priority. The points relating to extension of subsidy and concessional power to certain category of consumers, shall have to be taken up with the Government of Karnataka, as all the Consumers are required to make payment of cost of supply of power. As a Policy, if any concessional or free power has to be extended, the cost thereon has to be met by the Government, in case, the Government desires to extend such concessional or free power. The other tariff related issues have been considered by the Commission, to the extent they are implementable.