

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD BY PRINCIPAL  
SECRETARY, IRRIGATION & POWER (PSIP) WITH THE  
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INDUSTRIAL  
CONSUMERS ON 22.2.2010.**

**FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT**

- 1) Chairman, PSEB
- 2) Member/F&A,PSEB
- 3) Member/Generation, PSEB
- 4) Member/Transmission,PSEB
- 5) Member/Distribution
- 6) CE/SO&C,PSEB

PSIP welcomed the representatives of Industry & apprised them about the prevailing power position of the State. He said that the State Govt. has already awarded three thermal power plants at Talwandi Sabo, Goindwal Sahib & Rajpura & work on these projects is making satisfactory progress. But such projects have a long gestation period of 42 to 48 months. He stressed that in view of this situation, there is serious need of the industry getting as much power as possible through open access from outside the state to meet the deficit. He assured the industry representatives that the State Govt. as also the Board Management would do everything possible to facilitate purchase of power by the industry through open access and stream line/simplify the procedure for availing open access and make it consumer friendly and hassels free.

The following issues were discussed and decided.

a) **OPEN ACCESS**

i) Member/Transmission informed the consumers that the pattern of weekly off days observed during the peak consumption months from June to October during the year 2009 has been as under:

| Months/Year     | Weekly off days |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| June 2009       | 2.5days         |
| July 2009       | 3 days          |
| August 2009     | 3 days          |
| September 2009  | 2.5 days        |
| October onwards | 1.5 days        |

PSIP advised the consumers that while planning the purchase of power under open access during 2010-11, the pattern of weekly off days of 2009 may be kept in view as the weekly off day's pattern for the current year is expected to be same.

ii) Member/Transmission confirmed that although the transmission & Distribution System of PSEB is almost fully loaded during paddy season, it will be possible to handle the transmission of power to be purchased by various consumers/units under open access. However, the availability of corridor will have to be managed by the open access customers on their own.

iii) It was decided that the open access consumers would be given time upto 30.6.2010 to replace CTs of 0.5 accuracy with CTs of 0.2 accuracy.

iv) Only double core single ratio CTs are required to be installed by the open access consumers. However dual ratio CTs will be permitted for open access consumers upto 31.5.2010 by which time they would be required to replace the dual ratio CTs with the single ratio CTs.

v) The representatives of the units requested the PSIP to make the system of billing of power procured under open access efficient and trouble free for the consumers. The consumers informed that they were being made to shuttle between their place of operations and Patiala a number of times even for getting the bills prepared. It was clarified by PSEB that as per agreement, open access consumers are required to arrange submission/delivery of meter reading data, as downloaded jointly by Sr.Xen/MMTS and Sr.XEN/DS in presence of consumers representative as hard & soft copy duly authenticated by Xen MMTS & DS in sealed cover to the O/O Director/open access. However, the bills shall be delivered through fax to consumer/CBC by open access directorate. Member/Transmission informed that procurement of required hardware & software to automate the UI billing is under process. PSIP directed that this should be put in place by 30.6.2010.

vi) Some of the consumers informed that applications for grant of NOC for purchase of power under open access were pending with PSEB and inconvenience was being caused to the consumers. Member/Transmission informed that no case for open access is pending with PSEB. The PSIP directed that in future all applications for grant of NOC for purchase of power under open access should be cleared within 15 calendar days from the date of filing of application, failing which NOC shall be deemed to have been given. The PSIP also directed the concerned PSEB officials to put, on the website, all the requirements to ensure preparation of fault free applications, with in 72 hours i.e. by 25<sup>th</sup> February so that the applications submitted by the consumers for grant of NOC for purchase of power under open access are complete in all respects and can thus be disposed off expeditiously.

vii) Some of the consumers requested the PSIP that issuing of NOC/Standing Clearance is cumbersome as they are required to send their representative to Patiala for each application alongwith demand draft towards application fee. It was decided that open access consumer can

deposit a lump sum revolving amount of Rs. 2 lacs with PSEB which will be adjusted against NOC/standing clearance applications. Further the application can be submitted through e.mail or fax. NOC/standing clearance shall also be conveyed to the consumers through fax/e.mail by PSEB.

viii) Some of the consumers informed the PSIP that as per PSERC open access regulations 2005 (Sr. No. 30), information regarding short term open access power should be readily available to the consumers on the website such as period of open access granted, start date and end date, open access capacity used, updation of information upon every change of status and all previous reports etc. Right now the said information is not available on the web site. The PSIP directed the Member (Transmission) and CE (Systems and Operations) to ensure that this issue is resolved and the required information is made available on the SLDC website w.e.f. 31/05/2010 positively.

ix) Some of the consumers complained that PSEB has approved only one supplier for ABT meters which was leading to price exploitation by the supplier and poor quality of services. The PSIP decided that PSEB should approve at least two suppliers.

x) Some of the consumers complained that they had purchased ABT meters about a month ago but such meters were awaiting installation due to lack of co-ordination of ME lab and MMTS and very slow action by the PSEB officials. PSIP directed Member/Distribution that all the pending cases must be cleared within one week and in future, meters shall be installed at the earliest possible but in no case later than 15 calendar days.

xi) Most of the consumers complained that ABT meter display and downloading of data from ABT meters is not being allowed by PSEB. Member/Transmission informed that data downloading of ABT meter can only be carried out by PSEB authorized officials in presence of consumers and it can not be allowed to the consumers. However, the request for availability of display of meter data would be looked into & appropriate action shall be taken by the Board.

xii) Some of the consumers requested the PSIP to create greater awareness about the facility of purchasing power from outside the State through open access among the consumers. PSIP directed Member (Distribution) to organize awareness sessions in all the districts of the state to create grater awareness among the consumers.

xiii) The PSIP advised the consumers that in case of any difficulty or undesirable delays in the matter of purchase of power under open access System they should contact the concerned member of PSEB. He further added that he will not mind the Chairman, PSEB and the PSIP himself being contacted in case of undue delays and harassment caused to the consumers.

B) **PEAK LOAD EXEMPTION**

i) Member (Transmission) informed that power during Peak Load Hours will not be available after 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010, especially during the peak power consumption months. However, he further informed that the case of Continuous Process Units is different and special. Therefore, peak load exemptions shall continue to be made available to them as per the regular sanction already granted to them. He further informed that the enhancement in peak load exemption will not be allowed during the paddy season to such units. Both the PSIP and Chairman, PSEB agreed with this point.

ii) It was decided that keeping in view the difficulties being faced by the consumers for getting peak load exemption, all cases of peak load exemption upto 100 KW will be decided by the SEs/Distribution & all cases above 100 KW will be decided by CE/SO&C as was hitherto fore, within the policy guidelines of the Board. No individual case shall now come upto the Member for approval.

C) **CAPTIVE/COGENERATION**

Some of the consumers complained that grant of NOC for captive generation or co-generation of Power was pending for the last few months. PSIP asked the Member (Distribution) to ensure clearance of all the pending cases within next 7 calendar days and in future all such cases must be dealt with on top priority and be cleared not later than 15 calendar days. It was decided that the consumers will submit the application for NOC in the concerned Sub Division with a copy to Member/Distribution to enable him to monitor the progress. If the consumer does not receive approval within 15 days it shall be deemed to have been granted.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.