

**AGENDA NOTE  
FOR  
THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE STATE ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2008</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>11.00 A.M.</b>
<b>Venue</b>	<b>Conference Hall Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Neptune Tower Opp: Nehru Bridge, Ashram Road Ahmedabad - 380009</b>

<b>No.</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>
1	Approval of the minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the State Advisory Committee held on 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2007
2	Action Points of the Sixth Meeting of the State Advisory Committee.
3	MYT Petitions
4	Recent activities/orders/notifications
5	SOP Regulations — compilation of reports
6	Monitoring Reports of the Forums and Ombudsman
7	Letters from Members.
8	Any other item with the permission of the Chair.

## **NOTES ON THE AGENDA**

### **Item No. 1**

#### **Approval of the minutes of the Sixth Meeting Of the State Advisory Committee held on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2007**

The Sixth meeting of the Advisory Committee was held on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2007. Minutes of the meeting were sent to all the Members vide letter No. GERC/SEC/2008 dated 11.6.2008 (delay in sending the minutes is regretted). However, a copy of the minutes is enclosed with this agenda for ready reference. If there are no further suggestions regarding the minutes, it may be approved.

### **Item No. 2**

#### **Action Points of the Sixth Meeting of the State Advisory Committee.**

**A.** Government of Gujarat has appointed Dr P.K. Mishra as Chairman of the Commission. Dr Mishra has taken over charge as the Chairman on 2.9.2008.

#### **B (a) Item No. 6(3)**

Shri K.K. Bajaj of CERS had raised the issue regarding agricultural metering in the last meeting. He had also stated about the authorization and capacity building of consumers groups and updating of GERC website. Agricultural metering is a very vital and sensitive issue. The Commission is seized of the matter and propose to coordinate with the agencies concerned including the Government regarding this issue. The Commission has already written a letter to the Government to obtain their views on this issue (copy of the letter enclosed) .

In the last meeting it was pointed out by the Commission that though there is no system of any formal recognition consumer groups, the Commission always welcome such consumer groups and give enough opportunity to them to represent the various consumer interests during the hearing of

The Commission takes steps for updating its website and redesigning it. The recently updated website has been appreciated by consumer groups and stakeholders including CERS. The names of the Members of the State Advisory Committee have been uploaded on the Commission's website.

(b) **Item 6 6**

The issue raised by Western Railways regarding road map for reduction in cross subsidy was discussed in the meeting. The Commission has prepared a road map for reduction of cross subsidy and has uploaded on the website inviting suggestions and objections from the stakeholders. After receiving the suggestions and objections the Commission would finalise the road map for reduction in cross subsidy in due course. Therefore, this matter may be treated as complied at this stage.

**Item No. 3**

**MYT Petitions**

The Commission had issued MYT Regulations in December 2007 as discussed in the previous meeting of the State Advisory Committee. The TPL filed its MYT Petition for the period of three Financial Years i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 in the month of May 2008. Objections and suggestions were invited by giving public notice. The period of the public notice was extended considering the requests of the consumers organizations and other institutions. The Commission has completed the public hearing on the objections and suggestions received. The Commission is now examining the suggestions and objections and analyzing the data with the assistance of the Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad as its consultant.

Similarly, the unbundled utilities i.e. GETCO, PGVCL, UGVCL, DGVCL, MGVCL and GSEC have also filed their MYT petitions on 18.8.2008 for the period of three Financial Years i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008. to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011. The Commission has invited objections and suggestions for which fire time limit was 22.9.2008. However, on the request of various stakeholders, the Commission has extended the last date for submission of objections and suggestions upto 13.10.2008.

Copies of the MYT petitions of these companies are available on the website of the Commission and also on the website of the companies concerned. Considering the requests of the consumer organizations, cost of copy of such petitions has been reduced to Rs. 150/-. The Commission requests all the Members of the Committee to send their views/suggestions on the petitions of the utilities.

#### **Item No. 4**

##### **Recent activities/orders/notifications.**

The Commission had issued the Removal of difficulties order in Security Deposit Regulations on 11.4.2008. A copy of the said order is placed below. This order has been issued to remove the difficulties of the consumers after considering the requests of various stakeholders.

- (i) The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India has notified a policy for Grid Inter-active Solar PV Power Generation on 24.1.2008. According to this policy, the State Commissions are expected to determine the tariff for procurement of energy from solar generating stations. The SERCs are expected to promote the renewable energy. Solar energy is one source of renewable energy and with a view to promoting solar power generation in the State, the Commission had already invited objections and suggestions through a "Discussion Paper on Tariff for Grid Connected Demonstration Solar Power Plants for the purpose of MNRE, Government of India Notification No. 32/61/2007-08 PVSE". The Commission has proposed Rs. 3.37/unit as tariff for procurement of power by distribution companies from such power plants. The said tariff has been proposed considering the highest tariff per unit approved by the Commission in case of Wind Energy.

The Commission has received comments and suggestions on the discussion paper for Grid connected Solar Power Plants. It is planned to finalise the tariff before 31.10.2008. This will help the prospective investors of Solar Plants in the State of Gujarat and thereby encouraging new source of electric energy in the State.

## **Item No. 5**

### **SOP Regulations — compilation of reports.**

The Commission has received reports from various utilities for the year 2007-08 and for the first quarter of F.Y. 2008-09. These reports are available on the website of the Commission.

## **Item No. 6**

### **Monitoring Reports of the Forums and Ombudsman**

There are 8 Consumer Grievance Redressal Forums of distribution companies in Gujarat. These Forums are to hear the representations of consumers in their respective areas. These consumer forums comprise two Senior Officers from the distribution company and one independent member nominated by the Commission in accordance with the Electricity Rules, 2005. The reports of the consumer Forums for the last two quarters of 2007-08 and the first quarter of 2008-09 are circulated with the Agenda Notes.

The Commission has appointed the Secretary as Ombudsman under the Electricity Act, 2003. The reports of the Ombudsman for the last two quarters of 2007-08 and the first quarter of 2008-09 are circulated with the Agenda Notes.

Members of the State Advisory Committee may take note of the above Reports and give their suggestions.

## **Item No. 7**

### **Letters from Members.**

Letters of the Members, if any, would be circulated at the time of the meeting.

## **Item No. 8**

### **Any other item with the permission of the chair**