

GUJARAT ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Ahmedabad

Minutes of the 12th Meeting of the Co-Ordination Forum held on 24th April, 2013.

The 12th meeting of the Co-Ordination Forum was held in the Conference room of the Circuit House (Annexe), Ahmedabad on 24th April, 2013 at 11.00 A.M.

The following were present in the meeting,

1. Dr.P.K.Mishra, Chairman, GERC
2. Shri Pravinbhai Patel, Member (Technical), GERC
3. Dr.M.K.Iyer, Member (Finance), GERC
4. Dr.Ketan Shukla, Secretary

Members / Representatives of Co-ordination Forum:

1. Shri Raj Gopal, IAS, MD, GUVNL
2. Shri Gurdeep Singh, MD, GSECL
3. Shri S.K. Negi, MD, GETCO
4. Shri S.B. Khayaliya MD, MGVCL
5. Shri Sandeep Kumar, IAS, MD, PGVCL
6. Shri K.H. Chorera, Dy. Secretary, Energy and Petrochemical Dept.
7. Shri N.K.Shah, Energy and Petrochemical Dept.
8. Shri V.J.Trivedi, Energy and Petrochemical Dept.
9. Shri P.N. Gandhi, Chief Electrical Inspector
10. Shri Jagrut Vyas, Executive Director, Torrent Power Limited, Surat.
11. Shri S.B.Patil, Dy. Director, GEDA
12. Shri K.P. Jangid, G.M.(Commerce),GUVNL
13. Shri B.B. Mehta, CE, SLDC , Vadodara
14. Shri. M.B. Jadeja, ED, PGVCL
15. Shri D.C. Parmar, CE, UGVCL
16. Shri B.V.Shah, ACE, DGVCL.
17. Shri P.N. Trivedi, GM (Com), GIPCL
18. Shri T.S. Bhatt, MD, Essar Power, (Hazira)
19. Shri Abhay Potdar, Sr. VP (operation),CLP India Pvt. Ltd.,
20. Shri Jasmin J. Gandhi, Dy. CAO (R&C), PGVCL
21. Shri Sameer Shah, Torrent Power Limited
22. Shri Vipul H Jadav, AGM, Adani Power Ltd.
23. Shri Mehul Rupera, Sr. Manager, MUPL
24. Shri P.S. Pathan, SE (E), KPT

25. Dr. P.K.Vishwanathan, GIDR, Ahmedabad.
26. Mr. Rajeev Bhabhra, Aspen Infrastructure Limited.

Officers of the Commission:

1. Shri D.R.Parmar, Joint Director,
2. Shri S.R.Pandey, Legal Advisor,
3. Shri M.N.Khalayani, Deputy Director (A & A),
4. Shri B.R. Joshi, Consultant (Technical),
5. Shri Kashyap Parikh, Under Secretary,
6. Shri Apurva Adhyaru, Deputy Director,
7. Shri Gopal Dayalani, Deputy Director,

Dr. Ketan Shukla welcomed the members of the Co-ordination Forum for the first meeting of F.Y. 2013-14 and congratulated the State owned DISCOMs for achieving A+ rating for better operational and financial performance in comparison with other state utilities as per the ratings of MoP.

The meeting was presided over by Dr. P.K.Mishra, Chairman, GERC. Chairman welcomed all members and introduced new member Shri Sandeep kumar who recently took charge as Managing Director, PGVCL. Thereafter, the discussion took place on the following agenda.

Item No. 1 : Approval of the minutes of the 11th Meeting of the Co-ordination Forum held on 17th October, 2012

Minutes of the last meeting as circulated to the members was, as no comments were received, the same was confirmed.

Agenda Item No. 2: Action Taken Report on the minutes of the 11th Meeting of the Co-ordination Forum.

The Commission laid emphasis on timely submission of action taken report on the proposed actions in the minutes of meeting.

Item No. 2(3) : OSD, EPD informed the members that the State Assembly has passed the amendment to the Gujarat Electricity Duty Act 1958 and briefed highlights of amendments. He also briefed that, the amended duty structure for different categories is simplified to correlate with the tariff structure. The duty structure will be as under and shall be effective from 1st April 2013 :

1. Residential : 7.5 % in Rural and 15 % in Urban
2. Hostel : 7.50 % in Rural and 11.25 % in Urban
3. Industrial Undertaking : 15 % for HT and 10% for LT Consumers.

Item No.2 (6) : Analysis of the Accident that took place during the last three years.

Chairman, GERC pointed out that the PGVCL has not submitted the analysis of accidents. MD,PGVCL was asked to submit the analysis of accidents that took place during the last three years and safety measures taken for reducing accidents like replacement of deteriorated conductors, maintenance, reactivation of transformer earthing, etc. Further on a query on the disconnection of TV cables on the electric poles, MD, MGVCL expressed that it is very difficult to disconnect all TV cables and internet cables crossing electric lines or tied on electric poles as there is no specific regulations to that effect. MD, GUVNL stated that some safety guidelines required for proper insulation of such communication cables and safe distance to be maintained with the electric lines. Torrent power limited had identified 527 such locations and removed cables from more than 400 locations. The Commission advised Chief Electrical Inspector to study the matter and come up with a circular of safety guidelines to be implemented to reduce accidents due to TV and Internet cables being carried on electric lines. Also DISCOMs should identify such locations for further actions as per guidelines issued by CEI.

(Action: CEI & All DISCOMs)

Item No. 2(13) : Pilot Project for Energy Efficient Pump set

PGVCL officials informed that consumers were not responding to the scheme due to the fact that one third cost of pumpset is to be paid by them and old pumpset is credited to DISCOMs on installation of new energy efficient pumpset. As majority of agriculture consumers in Amreli and Halvad area having flat HP based tariff, the scheme does not incentivize such consumers on their bills.

Item No. 8 : Chairman, GERC asked utilities about compensation mechanism for non-compliance of SoP regulations. MD, MGVCL and ACE, DGVCL stated that no claim has been made for compensation due to non compliance of SoP and as such the complaints were analysed at respective offices or CGRF. Member (Technical) emphasized that the

DISCOMS may prepare a mechanism which would automatically provide for compensation to the affected consumer for any delay or non compliance of SoP.

Item No. 9 : PGVCL informed that the “Franchisee Model” needs the approval of GUVNL for framing common policy in all DISCOMs. Chairman, GERC stated that losses of PGVCL are much higher than of other DISCOMs and no noticeable results have been found for reduction of losses in the PGVCL area. The framing of Franchisee Model need not be the same for all DISCOMs. The Commission advised PGVCL to take concrete steps for high loss areas for speedy reduction of losses and submit a report in the next meeting.

(Action : PGVCL)

Item No. 11 : RPO Compliance

KPT stated that it is in the process of engaging a consultant for compliance of RPO as per Regulations. It has very limited staff to deal with the issue. The chairperson informed that if KPT is purchasing power from PGVCL/GUVNL, then there may not be a need to purchase Renewable energy by KPT because supply of energy by PGVCL/GUVNL consists of Renewable energy purchase in compliance of R.P.O. The same shall also be applicable to KPT. The same may also be applicable in the cases of M/s Jubilant Infrastructure Ltd. and M/S Aspen Infrastructure Ltd. who are purchasing power from DGVCL and MGVCL respectively to supply to the consumers.

MPSEZ stated it is exploring various sources to purchase renewable energy for fulfillment of RPO.

Agenda Item No. 3 : Tariff Order for 2013-14

Chairman, GERC briefed about tariff orders for 2013-14 issued by the Commission which shall be effective from 1st April 2013. The tariff orders have addressed the entire ARR gaps of all the DISCOMs. MD, GUVNL appreciated the tariff orders.

Agenda Item No. 4 : Demand Side Management

GUVNL stated that load research activity and preparation of DSM plan for all four DISCOMs has been assigned to TERI. Member (Technical), GERC emphasized that the study of load research may include (a) Types of consumer end load which is responsible

for peak demand (b) Possibility of shifting of such load from peak to off-peak (c) Time of use tariff determination (d) scope of improvement in energy efficiency at end use of electricity, in the context of the DSM plan. The Commission has decided to call a meeting of all distribution licensees to review of DSM related actions.

Agenda Item No. 5 : Fuel Audit of GSECL and TPL Stations

Final suggestions from GSECL are pending in response to report submitted by M/s Pricewaterhouse Coopers Pvt. Ltd., who was assigned the work for Fuel audit of GSECL and TPL generating station. The commission will circulate the report after analysis.

Agenda Item No. 6 : Comprehensive Third-Party Audit of Annual Accounts of State Owned DISCOMs and TPL.

The consultant has already completed the audit work and the report is awaited.

Agenda Item No. 7 : Connectivity Standards for Renewable Projects at voltage below 66 KV.

The commission has received various representations regarding connectivity standards at low voltage. CEA has published draft guidelines for connectivity standards for distributed generation resources for voltage level below 33 KV. The commission advised MD, GUVNL and CEI to discuss and prepare draft guidelines with consideration of connectivity standards prepared by CEA/ CERC for connectivity and submit suggestions to the commission. The Dy. Director, GEDA briefed about solar roof top plants installed by about 40 institutions which are working properly. Chairman, GERC advised GEDA to submit a report and analysis of such Solar plants.

(Action : GUVNL, CEI and GEDA)

Agenda Item No. 8 : Suggestions on Function of Licensed Electrical Contractors

The role of Licensed Electrical Contractor was discussed in detail. CEI briefed about the procedure for sanctioning of license to electrical contractor. Chairman, GERC advised CEI to submit report on role and responsibility of licensed electrical contractors. DISCOMs will also give suggestions for inspection of installation before release of new connections with regards to safety aspect.

(Action : CEI)

Agenda Item No. 9 A : Recovery of Service Line Charges

GUVNL had submitted proposal for revision of recovery of charges to Commission. Chairman, GERC advised MD, GUVNL to make presentation to the commission with justification on the proposal to revise recovery of Service line charges.

Agenda Item No. 9 B : Standard of Performance (SoP) and Monitoring of performance of CGRFs

MD, MGCVCL informed that pendency of faulty meter was higher due to remote tribal area in Godhra, Lunawada and Bodeli, though they are putting their best efforts to bring down numbers of faulty meters.

Chairman, GERC stated that though TPL-Surat has small licensee area, it has faulty meters pending for replacement. Member (Technical) pointed out that reporting figures show large numbers of faulty meters added in every quarter, which should be analysed by DISCOMs. Chairman, GERC further suggested that SoP and compliance of CGRF & Ombudsman orders should be reviewed at MD level in all DISCOMs in a regular manner.
(Action : All DISCOMs)

Agenda Item No. 10: Metering of Distribution Transformers.

The Chairman, GERC observed that progress in metering of DTs in PGVCL is not satisfactory compared to other Discoms and no improvement is noticed from to the data of the last three quarters. Chairman advised MDs of all Discoms to give more emphasis on this issue of providing meters and energy audit.

(Action : All DISCOMs)

Agenda Item No. 11: Presentation by PGVCL on its T&D losses.

In the presentation, PGVCL highlighted its key T&D loss reduction activities like providing HVDS system, meter replacement, feeder bifurcation, replacement of bare conductor by AB cables, etc. Feeder managers have been assigned job for continuously monitoring the high loss feeders. The mass checking drives are arranged for curbing theft

of electricity in high loss areas. Chairman, GERC advised PGVCL to make a presentation on trend of T&D losses after carrying out various loss reduction activities.

(Action : PGVCL)

Agenda Item No. 12: Status of Transmission Projects.

Chief Engineer, SLDC briefed on projects of new transmission lines, substations and R&M of network carried out by GETCO during the year 2013-14 and planning for projects to be implemented for the year 2014-15 for strengthening power transmission system within the State.

Agenda Item No. 13: Status of RPO – Presentation by GEDA.

Shri S.B. Patil, GEDA gave the current status of renewable energy generation by Biomass, Wind and Solar projects. He has also briefed about RPO compliance status of different licensees for the year 2012-13.

Agenda Item No. 14: Presentation on Power sector Scenario by GUVNL.

Shri K.P.Jangid, GM (Commerce), GUVNL made a detailed presentation on the power scenario in the State. He pointed out that as on 1st April 2013, the total installed capacity is 18270 MW with addition of about 2964 MW in the year of 2012-13. He indicated that generation capacity of about 2600 MW would be commissioned in the current year. He further briefed about capacity addition in the next four years, current status of such projects, load growth, renewable capacity addition, T&D Losses and average cost of supply and realization.

Agenda Item No. 15: Presentation on analysis of effect of pending agriculture connection applications on losses.

The commission has assigned the work to Dr. P.K.Viswanathan to carry out a study on pending agriculture connections and losses in agriculture feeders in the area of PGVCL. Dr. P.K. Viswanathan made a presentation based on an analysis of agriculture consumption, agriculture feeder losses, pending applications in different areas of PGVCL. Chairman, GERC advised MD, PGVCL and Dr. Viswanathan to discuss the findings when the detailed study is completed by him.

The meeting was concluded with a Vote of Thanks to the chair.

**SECRETARY
GERC**