

CHAPTER – 3

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

SUGGESTIONS / OBJECTIONS & REPLIES

3.1 As per the provisions of Section 64 of the Electricity Act, 2003, the Commission undertook the process of public consultation, in order to obtain suggestions/views/objections from the interested stake-holders, on the application filed by GESCOM for Annual Performance Review for FY16 and approval of Revised Annual Revenue Requirement for FY18 revised retail supply tariff for FY18 under the MYT Principles. In the written submissions as well as during the public hearing, the stake-holders and the general public have raised several objections/ made suggestions, on the Tariff Application.

The names of the persons who have filed written objections and made oral submissions are given below:

List of persons who filed written objections

Sl. No	Application No.	Name & Address of Objectors
1	AE-01	Sri. Prem Chand, Chief Electrical Traction Engineer, South Western Railway.
2	AE-02	Smt. Shroti Bhatia, VP (Regulatory Affairs & Communication), Indian Energy Exchange.
3	GB-01	Hyderabad Karnataka Chamber of Commerce & Industry.
4	GB-02	Sri. Ramu B. Pawar, Rajapur, Kalaburagi.
5	GA-01	Hyderabad Karnataka Environment Awareness & Protection Organization.
6	GA-02	Laghu Udyog Bharati - Karnataka
7	GA-03	Sri. Prem Chand, Chief Electrical Traction Engineer, South Western Railway.
8	GA-04	Sri. B. Praveen, Hon General Secretary, KASSIA.

3.2 List of the persons, who made oral submissions during the Public Hearing, held on 06-03-2017.

List of persons who made oral submissions during the Public Hearing

SL No	Names & Addresses of Objectors
1	Sri. Deepak G. Gala, Hyderabad Karnataka Environment Awareness & Protection Organization, Kalaburagi.
2	Sri. Maruthi P. Manpade, President, Karnataka Regional Farmers Sangha, Kalaburagi.
3	Sri. Ramu B. Pawar, Hyderabad Karnataka RTI Activist, Kalaburagi.
4	Sri. Nirupadappa Jolada Rashi , Bharatiya Kissan Sangha, Sindhanoor.
5	Sri. Yogesh Rao, Renew Power Ventures Pvt Ltd, Bengaluru
6	Sri. Siddu, Bharatiya Kissan Sanghaa, Pattan, Gulbarga Taluk.
7	Sri. Siddaramayya Hiremath, President, RTI Activist Association Kalaburagi.
8	Sri. Deepak Nag Punyashetti, Ex- Zilla Parashid President, Kalaburagi.
9	Smt. Anuradha, BCIC, Bengaluru.
10	Sri. Chennaveerappa Salagar, Kalaburagi.
11	Sri. Gundappa Ankalagi, Kalaburagi.
12	Sri. Suryakanth Guddadagi, Kalaburagi..
13	Sri. Lakshmikanth Ganacharya, Kalaburagi.
14	Sri. Ranga Rao, Gangavathi.
15	Sri. S. Basavaraj, Gangavathi
16	Sri. K.Sesha Rao, Gangavathi.
17	Sri B. Umapathi, Sedam.

The gist of the submissions made during the Public Hearing, held on 06.03.2017.

1. Though the distribution loss of GESCOM is stated as 18%, it is as high as 42% in some areas and 11kV feeders have loss in the range of 20 to 39%.
2. The Power purchase from Jurala Hydro station and Sharavathi generating station at high cost needs to be checked by the Commission.
3. GESCOM has not levied interest on the receivables of Rs.1148 Crores, whereas, for the loans availed interest is paid and passed on to the consumers.
4. IP Set arrears prior to 2008 have to be collected with interest.
5. The excess Capital expenditure increased without the approval of the Commission should not be allowed.
6. Even though the DTC metering is stated to be carried out, the energy audit is carried out for only 7% of DTCs.

7. GESCOM has not quantified the results of NJY.
8. GESCOM should install consumer help line service and educate consumers about the procedures for availing power supply, metering, etc.
9. The proposal of GESCOM to reduce the Banking to three months is not to be considered, as it discourages renewable energy.
10. Power supply to the IP sets to should be provided during the day time to help farmers and avoid accidents.
11. The transformer failure rate is very high and the repairs and replacement is not happening within time.
12. The GESCOM has not complied with the Directives issued by the Commission. The rules and regulations are not implemented properly.
13. The GESCOM has not taken any action against the corrupt officers in spite of complaints quoting specific instances.
14. The subsidy to the IP Sets should be given directly to the farmers.
15. The GESCOM should note that, the HT consumption has reduced by 4% due to highest energy charges, as compared to other States in South India.
16. The women appointed for carrying out the works as linemen, are assigned some other duties other than linemen.
17. The GESCOM is not conducting consumer meetings as per the requirement in the directives. The Commission should penalize the companies which are not conducting such meetings.
18. In case of BJ connections, some people are using air conditioners also, such installations should be billed appropriately.
19. Action should be taken to link the high employee cost to performance and productivity.
20. The concessional electricity extended to the employees of GESCOM should be stopped.
21. The GESCOM has not supplied safety equipment to linemen, resulting in increased accidents.

22. The farmers of Gangavathi who have invested 25% of the cost of HT Lines for their IP Sets are being billed under LT4(c) instead of billing under LT4 (a). The Commission should verify and change the tariff.
23. The GESCOM should explore the possibility of providing group meters to the BJ/KJ installations.

The Managing Director, GESCOM has replied to some of the points raised as follows:

- i. The High cost of power supply was due to fire accident in Sharavathy station and purchase of power under section 11 of Electricity Act.
- ii. If the transformers are not replaced by the concerned officers, they will be penalized as per SoP.
- iii. Toll free No.1912 is in operation which can be utilized for complaints as well as help.
- iv. The theft cases are being registered by the Vigilance officers.
- v. A number of DTC meters have become defective and action is being taken to replace them.
- vi. The substandard works will be checked by the TA & QC wing.
- vii. Administrative action will be taken against the concerned in cases of corruption.
- viii. The consumer meetings are being held once in three months.
- ix. The issue of IP Set installation of farmers of Gangavathi, the Government has to take a decision.
- x. The Group metering for BJ/KJ installations as suggested will be analyzed. The GESCOM shall furnish replies as other points directly to the concerned issues relating to tariff and dealt appropriately by the Commission in the relevant chapters of this Tariff Order.

- 3.3** The gist of the written objections, Replies by GESCOM and the Commission's Views is appended to this order as **Appendix-1**.