

**KARNATAKA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
BANGALORE  
Notification No: K.E.R.C. /RP/D/07/08 dated: 12.3.2008**

Published, in Page 1369 to1371 of Part 3 of the Karnataka Gazette dated.20<sup>th</sup>  
March 2008.

**Sub: Amendment to Clause 4.0 (c) of Safety Standards for Distribution  
System notified along with the Grid Code / Distribution Code - 2005**

**Preamble**

The Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC) has issued the Karnataka Electricity Grid Code – 2005 along with the Distribution Code and Standards for Transmission System and Distribution System and the same was published in Karnataka Gazette on 26.1.2006.

In terms of clause 1.5.1 of the Distribution Code any user of the Distribution Licensee to whom the provisions of the Distribution Code apply, and for any reason unable to comply with the same, shall promptly refer the matter to the KERC, justifying his action. In this regard the Commission has received several representation from the general public regarding certain difficulties experienced in implementation of Safety Standards for Distribution System

In order to consider the representations of the general public, the provision under Clause 4.0 (c) of Safety Standards for Distribution System restricting construction of buildings below EHT lines requires certain amendment.

As per Clause 1.3.4 (b) of Distribution Code, the “Review Panel” established by the Distribution Licensees shall have to review all such suggestions for amendments to the DISTRIBUTION CODE and send proposals to the Commission for necessary action.

In this regard the Commission has addressed several letters to ESCOMs to establish a “Review Panel” to review all the suggestions for amendments. However, ESCOMs have not established the “Review Panel” and have not proposed any amendment the above provision. The Commission has also addressed a Demi-offical letter to the MD KPTCL and Chairman of all ESCOMs to instruct all the M.D s. of ESCOMs to take immediate action to form the “Review Panel”. Thereafter the K.P.T.C.L. has accorded approval to constitute the “Review Panel” vide Order No: K.P.T.C.L./B28/3891/2007-08 dated: 16.1.2008. However, the Review Panel is yet to look into the grievance of the general public and thereby the representations of the general public are yet to be addressed.

Meanwhile the subject of ‘Formation of a Review Panel’ by ESCOMs was discussed in the 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Commission Advisory Committee held on 17. 4. 2007. The need to amend Clause 4.0 (c) of Safety Standards for Distribution System to address the problems of applicants seeking power supply for installations constructed below EHT lines was also discussed in the said meeting.

As there is no response from the ESCOMs, and also several representations received from the general public seeking power supply for installations constructed below EHT lines are pending with the Commission, it is felt necessary to initiate necessary action to mitigate the problem of the general public and to initiate action to amend the above Clause under the above provision.

Accordingly, the draft amendments to the above Clause were issued by the Commission and were circulated among all the Stakeholders to elicit their views / suggestions and comments. The Commission has received response from 10 persons, which include K.P.T.C.L. and ESCOMs. The Commission has considered these views / suggestions and has thus finalized the amendments.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 86(1)(h) of the Electricity Act 2003 (Central Act 36 of 2003) and all powers enabling it in that behalf, the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission hereby makes the following Code further to amend Karnataka Electricity Grid Code - 2005

I. Title and commencement:

- a) This Code may be called the Karnataka Electricity Grid Code (First Amendment) - 2008.
- b) This shall come into force from the date of publication in the official gazette of Karnataka and will be in force unless amended otherwise.

II. Amendments to the following Section of Karnataka Electricity Grid Code – 2005: The existing provisions of Clause 4.0 (c) of Safety Standards for Distribution System notified along with the Grid Code / Distribution Code – 2005 as in column 2 of the Table below shall stand substituted by the provisions as in column 3 of the Table below.

Clause No.	As existing	As proposed for amendment																																				
1	2	3																																				
4.0 (c)	<p>Buildings shall not be constructed under EHT Lines. In case the buildings are to be constructed near LT or HT Lines, with bare wires, the following minimum clearances shall be maintained.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Particulars</th> <th>For LT Lines (Mtr)</th> <th>For 11 KV Lines (Mtr)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>a)Minimum height of any conductor of an overhead line across any street</td> <td>5.8</td> <td>6.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b)Minimum height of any conductor of an overhead line along any street</td> <td>5.5</td> <td>5.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c)Minimum height of any conductor (bare) of an overhead line erected elsewhere</td> <td>4.6</td> <td>4.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>d)Minimum height of any conductor (insulated) of an overhead line erected elsewhere</td> <td>4.0</td> <td>4.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>e)Minimum clearance of an overhead conductor from buildings</td> <td>3.5(2.5)* (Vertical) 1.8(1.2)* (Horizontal)</td> <td>4.5(3.7)* (Vertical) 1.8(1.2)* (Horizontal)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Particulars	For LT Lines (Mtr)	For 11 KV Lines (Mtr)	a)Minimum height of any conductor of an overhead line across any street	5.8	6.1	b)Minimum height of any conductor of an overhead line along any street	5.5	5.8	c)Minimum height of any conductor (bare) of an overhead line erected elsewhere	4.6	4.6	d)Minimum height of any conductor (insulated) of an overhead line erected elsewhere	4.0	4.0	e)Minimum clearance of an overhead conductor from buildings	3.5(2.5)* (Vertical) 1.8(1.2)* (Horizontal)	4.5(3.7)* (Vertical) 1.8(1.2)* (Horizontal)	<p>4.0 (c)(i) In case the buildings are constructed / to be constructed under EHT Lines, provisions of clearances as stipulated under Rule 80 of the IE Rules 1956 (Annex-1) shall be adhered to till the CEA finalizes the CEA (Measures relating to Safety and Electric Supply) Regulations, 2007. Thereafter the provisions as in the final notification of the above Regulations of CEA shall be adhered to.</p> <p>4.0 (c)(ii) In case the buildings are constructed / to be constructed near LT or HT Lines, with bare wires, the following minimum clearances shall be maintained:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Particulars</th> <th>For LT Lines (Mtr)</th> <th>For 11 KV Lines (Mtr)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>a)Minimum height of any conductor of an overhead line across any street</td> <td>5.8</td> <td>6.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b)Minimum height of any conductor of an overhead line along any street</td> <td>5.5</td> <td>5.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c)Minimum height of any conductor (bare) of an overhead line erected elsewhere</td> <td>4.6</td> <td>4.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>d)Minimum height of any conductor (insulated) of an overhead line erected elsewhere</td> <td>4.0</td> <td>4.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>e) Minimum clearance of an overhead conductor from buildings</td> <td>3.5(2.5)* (Vertical) 1.8(1.2)* (Horizontal)</td> <td>4.5(3.7)* (Vertical) 1.8(1.2)* (Horizontal)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Particulars	For LT Lines (Mtr)	For 11 KV Lines (Mtr)	a)Minimum height of any conductor of an overhead line across any street	5.8	6.1	b)Minimum height of any conductor of an overhead line along any street	5.5	5.8	c)Minimum height of any conductor (bare) of an overhead line erected elsewhere	4.6	4.6	d)Minimum height of any conductor (insulated) of an overhead line erected elsewhere	4.0	4.0	e) Minimum clearance of an overhead conductor from buildings	3.5(2.5)* (Vertical) 1.8(1.2)* (Horizontal)	4.5(3.7)* (Vertical) 1.8(1.2)* (Horizontal)
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Note: 1) The clearances indicated in the IE Rules have been increased to have better safety margin in view of the large number of accidents taking place. In case these clearances cannot be maintained, Ariel Bunched Cables shall be used

\* The figures in brackets are as per IE Rules, 1956.

2) The Licensee shall obtain an undertaking on stamped paper of Rs.100/- from the prospective consumers to maintain the vertical and Horizontal clearance as noted above.. In case of violation of the provisions stipulated under the above Clause, power supply to such of the installations shall be disconnected with 15 days' prior notice. .

**By order of the Commission**

**Secretary**

**Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission.**

**Annex-1**

**Extract of Rule No.80 of the IE Rules, 1956**

**80. Clearances from buildings of high and extra-high voltage lines-**

(1) Where a high or extra-high voltage overhead line passes above or adjacent to any building or part of a building it shall have on the basis of maximum sag a **VERTICAL CLEARANCE** above the highest part of the building immediately under such line, of not less than-

- (a) for high voltage lines upto and including 33,000 volts : 3.7 metres  
(b) for extra-high voltage lines: 3.7 metres plus 0.3 metre for every additional 33,000 volts or part thereof.

(2) The **HORIZONTAL CLEARANCE** between the nearest conductor and any part of such building shall, on the basis of maximum deflection due to wind pressure, be not less than-

- (a) for high voltage lines upto and including 11,000 volts:1.2 metres  
(b) for high voltage lines above 11,000 volts and up to and including 33,000 volts: 2.0 metres  
(c) for extra-high voltage lines: 2.0 metres plus 0.3metre for every additional33,000 volts for part thereof.

[**EXPLANATION**-For the purpose of this rule, expression “ building” shall be deemed to include any structure, whether permanent or temporary.]

Note: The provisions of clearances as stipulated under Rule 80 of the IE Rules 1956 which are noted above shall be adhered to till the CEA finalizes the CEA (Measures relating to Safety and Electric Supply) Regulations, 2007. Thereafter the provisions as in the final notification of the above Regulations of CEA shall be adhered to.