

KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Present: Shri. Preman Dinaraj, Chairman

Petition No. OP 10/20

In the matter of : Petition filed by M/s Kochi Metro Rail Limited (KMRL) for amending certain clauses in the HT&EHT service connection agreement of KMRL etc.

Petitioner : M/s Kochi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd
Petitioner represented by : Sri. Rajendran A.R, General Manager, KMRL

Respondent : Kerala State Electricity Board Limited
Respondent represented by : Shri. K.G.P Nampoothiri, EE, KSEB Ltd.

Daily Order dated 17.06.2020

1. M/s Kochi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (hereinafter referred to as the petitioner or KMRL) on 05.03.2020 filed a petition before the Commission with following prayers.

(1) Clause 17 of EHT agreement and Clause 15 of HT agreement of the service connection agreements of the following three service connections of KMRL for Metro Rail operations may please be amended / be agreed in-line with the similar facility granted to Indian Railways being essential public services and considering as critical loads.

- a. EHT Agreement No. 3/2017 – 18 dated 31.10.2017
- b. EHT Agreement No. 3/2019 – 20 dated 24.07.2019
- c. HT Agreement No. ECE/HT-11/17-18 dated 18.05.2017

(2) The method of billing for commercial loads issued by the Hon'ble KSERC through Clause C of RP No. 4/2017, Order of Hon'ble Kerala State Electricity Regulatory Commission Thiruvananthapuram dated: 12.07.2017 may also be extended for the office load consumption at JLN Metro station as below:-

The commercial loads at the Stations of KMRL are to be metered at one point at each Auxiliary Transformers at stations by KSEB Ltd and the total energy consumption of such commercial loads shall be billed at the applicable energy charges of LT VII A tariff. KMRL corporate office load are to be metered at one point at stations by KSEB Ltd and

the total corporate office consumption shall be billed at LT VI A tariff. The consumption of commercial loads and office loads are to be deducted from the total consumption recorded at KMRL point of supply at Muttom for billing the traction load. A single bill for the traction load is to be issued along with charges for commercial consumption and KMRL corporate office as above.

- (3) Permit KMRL to retain the 33 kV Backup power supply from Kaloor 110kV KSEBL substation to KMRL JLN Stadium metro station substation without any charges including Demand Charges for using the power in case of exigencies, force majeure or major issues from KSEBL to feed Kochi Metro through Muttom or Thykoodam RSS with energy charges to be paid by KMRL for the usage alone in such situations.

2. Regarding the Prayer No.1, the petitioner submitted the following.

- (1) At present, KMRL entered into three power supply agreement with KSEB Ltd for availing electricity from KSEB Ltd, as detailed below.

Sl No	EHT/ HT agreement No.	Date of agreement	Contract demand	Point of drawal
1	EHT agt No. 3/2017-18	31.10.17	5.5 MVA	110 kV Muttom RSS
2	HT agt No. 3/2017-18	18.05.2017	1 MVA	33 kV Kaloor JLN
3	EHT agt No. 3/2019-20	24.07.2019	3 MVA	110 kV Thykoodam RSS

As per the EHT agreements, KMRL shall take 110 kV three phase supply from KSEB Ltd and convert 110 kV to 33 kV at Muttom RSS and Thykoodam RSS. KMRL has constructed two 110 kV substations at Muttom and Thykoodam. The total load of the KMRL is been divided into these two substations with facility for extension in case of failure of either feeder.

In normal circumstances, KMRL Muttom RSS will feed from Aluva to Changapuzha metro station. Thykoodam sunstation will feed from Changapuzha to Petta station and further till Thripunithara metro station which is under construction.

A redundant power supply at 33 kV is being taken from Kaloor 110 kV s/s, which directly feed the auxiliary and traction system from JLN metro station upto 1 MVA power during emergency failure of power

supply from main substations. This has become redundant with the commissioning of Thykodam 110 kV RSS.

- (2) The Petitioner further submitted that for periodical maintenance of their lines, KSEB Ltd avails shutdown of the HT/EHT feeders. During such shutdown period or at times of 110 kV supply failure from 200kV substation Kalamassery or 110 kV New Vyttila substation, KMRL is extending power supply from the nearest healthy receiving substation to the unhealthy side to keep the system operational. During such period, while availing supply from other 'receiving substations', the recorded maximum demand (RMD) may increase and exceed the monthly average recorded maximum demand. In such situations, KSEB Ltd taken such excess RMD for billing purposes and force KMRL to pay excess demand charges of 50% over and above the normal tariff, though it has resulted from issues pertaining to KSEB Ltd.

Thus, the above situation results in excess demand beyond the contractual demand and KMRL is forced to pay excess demand charges for no fault of theirs.

Similar power failures or shutdown has been occurring periodically. Hence a suitable clause may be included in the EHT agreement so that this eventuality is addressed within the overview of the agreement.

- (3) A request for amending the clause-17 of the EHT agreements No. 3/2017-18 and No. 3/2019-20 and clause-15 of the HT agreement No. ECE/HT-11/17-18 has submitted to KSEB Ltd. Similar facility was already extended to Indian Railways, treating them as public service. A meeting also conducted with the agreement authority, Chief Engineer (Distribution- Central), KSEB Ltd, and during the meeting the field offices of KSEB Ltd given No objection in extending power supply technically from the part of the KSEB Ltd. In the meeting, Chief Engineer KSEB Ltd, informed that the amendment to EHT agreement of Indian Railways was incorporated for Indian Railways on the basis of a petition filed by Railways with KSERC and as per the subsequent Board orders, and directed KMRL to file a petition before the KSERC along with other matters.

3. Regarding the Prayer No.2, the petitioner submitted that,

- (1) The Commission vide the order dated 12.07.2017 in petition RP No. 4/2017 ordered as follows.

Orders of the Commission

22. Having considered the review petition filed by KMRL and the reply furnished by KSEB Ltd the Commission has decided as follows:

- a. Having considered the details furnished by KMRL, the traction supply is allowed to be extended to feed the auxiliary loads such as stations, train control, signalling, telecommunication, passenger information display, public address system, ticketing, air-conditioning for technical equipment rooms, passenger amenities and Safety services etc. at the stations. Accordingly there is no separate tariff for the metro stations of KMRL. The said traction tariff is also applicable to backup supply provided by KSEB Ltd.*
 - b. The Offices of the KMRL shall be charged under LT VI (B) /HT II (A) tariff.*
 - c. The commercial loads at the Stations of KMRL are to be metered at one point at each station by KSEB Ltd and the total energy consumption of such commercial loads shall be billed at the applicable energy charges of LT VII A tariff. The consumption of commercial loads is to be deducted from the total consumption recorded at KMRL point of supply at Muttom for billing the traction load. A single bill for the traction load is to be issued along with charges for commercial consumption as above.*
 - d. KMRL shall charge the commercial loads in the stations separately at the applicable LT VII A tariff for both fixed and energy charges*
 - e. The schedule of Tariff and Terms and Conditions for Retail Supply of Electricity by KSEBL and other licensees with effect from 18-4-2017 to 31-3-2018, is amended as stated in para 21."*
- (2) Presently at KMRL metro stations, the number of commercial establishments have increased. KMRL is supplying electricity for the retail purpose as per the order dated 12.07.2017 as above. As the auxiliary transformers installed at metro stations have limited capacity in certain stations, additional auxiliary transformers were installed so as to meet the increase in load requirements at metro stations. KSEB Ltd informed that, as per the order of the KSERC dated 12.07.2017, commercial energy metering is to be done at one point at each station by KSEB Ltd. They therefore directed KMRL to approach KSERC for amendment to facilitate multiple commercial metering points at each metro stations.
- (3) The corporate office of the KMRL has started functioning at JLN Metro station, Kaloor. KMRL is availing power supply for its corporate office from KMRL substation. A power transformer is presently available at

JLN station for supply of power to commercial loads, through which KMRL office needs can also be catered. To provide power supply to the corporate office, a feeder has been allocated, which is segregated from the commercial loads with provision for sealing of panel in the commercial load panel.

As per the order of the Commission dated 12.07.2017, the corporate office of the KMRL is ordered to charge under LT-VI(B) / HT II(A) tariff. As such, KMRL recommended that the method of billing issued by KSERC may be extended for the office load consumption. The consumption of the commercial loads and office loads may be deducted from the total consumption recorded at each KMRL substations. The office loads shall also billed separately at LT VI(B)/ HT II(A) tariff.

4. Regarding Prayer No.3, the petitioner submitted as follows.
 - (1) KMRL submitted that, out of the three substations as detailed under paragraph 3(1) above, the 33 kV s/s at Kaloor, JLN stadium with a contract demand of 1 MVA is not being utilized since the commissioning of 110kV Thykoodam s/s. KMRL desires to retain the 33kV s/s, if no demand charge is billed on them for maintaining the contract demand. As per the discussion with KSEB Ltd, the licensee informed that, KMRL has to pay minimum charges for contract demand for maintaining the station as standby. According to KMRL, this is an additional expenditure to KMRL for its standby arrangement.
 - (2) Hence KMRL request to permit them to retain the 33kV backup supply from Kaloor 110 kV s/s of KSEB Ltd to KMRL JLN stadium without any charges including Demand Charge. The supply from the substation will be used in case of exigencies, force majeure or major issues from KSEB Ltd to feed Kochi Metro through Muttom or Thykoodam and energy charges will be paid by KMRL for the usage.
5. The Commission admitted the petition as petition No 10/2020 and forwarded a copy of the petition to KSEB Ltd for their comments.
6. KSEB Ltd, vide the affidavit dated 06.06.2020 submitted the written comments. The summary of the counter affidavit submitted by KSEB Ltd is given below.
 - (1) Regarding the Prayer No.1, KSEB Ltd agreed to avoid charging penalty or excess demand charges which occurred due to KSEB Ltd's power failure. In all other cases the excess demand that occurred has to be charged on the consumer as per the rates approved by the

Commission. Hence KSEB Ltd requested before the Commission to give approval for modifying the clause 17 of the EHT agreement and clause 15 of the HT agreement.

- (2) Regarding the prayer No.2, KSEB Ltd agreed to adopt the billing suggested by the petitioner KMRL, except that the consumption of the corporate office of KMRL may be billed under LT VI(B) tariff instead of the LT-VI(A) tariff proposed by the petitioner.
 - (3) Regarding the Prayer No.3, KSEB Ltd submitted that, even during the period of disconnection, the billing demand shall be the recorded maximum demand for the month in kVA or 75% of the contract demand as per the agreement, whichever is higher. KSEB Ltd requested that, they may be allowed to collect the applicable charges in maintaining the 33 kV supply at JLN stadium.
7. The Commission conducted the hearing on the petition on 08.06.2020 at 12.00 noon through video conferencing. Sri. Rajendran A R, General Manager presented the petition on behalf of the petitioner KMRL. Sri.K.G.P Nampoothiri, Executive Engineer presented the counter arguments of the respondent of KSEB Ltd.
 8. During the deliberations, the Commission observed that, the petitioner KMRL and the respondent KSEB Ltd have already reached consensus on the Prayers 1 and 2. However, regarding the Prayer-3 on providing backup supply at 33 kV from the 110 kV Kaloor substation to KMRL JLN stadium metro station, KSEB Ltd insists on collecting collect the applicable charges for maintaining the backup supply. However KSEB Ltd does not have any objection to KMRL reducing its contract demand to the minimum level for maintaining the HT supply. By this, the charges for maintaining the backup supply can be reduced. KMRL requested to permit them to retain the existing CT in such case. However KSEB Ltd reported that as per the earlier orders of the Commission, the CTs also has to be replaced while reducing the contract demand.
 9. Based on the deliberations, Commission hereby direct KSEB Ltd and KMRL to discuss and arrive a consensus on reducing the contract demand to maintain the HT supply as per the prevailing Rules and Regulations, and report the same before 29.06.2020.

Sd/-
Preman Dinaraj
Chairman

Approved for issue

Secretary