

Draft

ANDHRA PRADESH ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Regulation No. of 2025]

**Third Amendment to the Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission
(Licensee's Duty for Supply of Electricity on Request) Regulation, 2013
(Regulation No.4 of 2013)**

Introduction:

The erstwhile APERC (Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission) of the undivided Andhra Pradesh State notified the Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Licensee's Duty for Supply of Electricity on Request) Regulation, 2013 (Regulation No.4 of 2013) (hereinafter referred to as 'the Principal Regulation') which was published in the AP Extraordinary Gazette on 29.07.2013.

And the newly constituted APERC for the residual State of Andhra Pradesh, which came into existence w.e.f. 01.08.2014, post bifurcation of the undivided AP State, adopted the above Regulations, among others, vide APERC (Adaption) Regulation, 2014 (Regulation No.4 of 2014). Subsequently, the new APERC notified the first (Regulation No. 5 of 2014) and second (Regulation No.6 of 2021) amendments to the Principal Regulation in the AP Extraordinary Gazette on 29.11.2014 and 31.12.2021 respectively.

Whereas the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has issued amendments to the Central Electricity Authority (Installation and Operation of Meters) Regulations, 2006 through the CEA (Installation and Operation of Meters) (Amendment) Regulations, 2019, and the CEA (Installation and Operation of Meters) (Amendment) Regulations, 2022. The 2019 amendment mandates that all new consumer meters must be Smart Meters with a prepayment feature and that the existing meters (excluding Smart Meters) must be replaced with Smart Meters with a prepayment feature within a timeline specified by the Central Government(Clause 4(1)(b)).

The 2022 amendment substitutes the the above Cluase4(1)(b) with the following:

- In areas with a communication network, all consumers must be supplied electricity through Smart Meters operating in prepayment mode, conforming to relevant Indian Standards (IS), within timelines specified by the Central Government.

- For consumer connections exceeding the current carrying capacity specified in the relevant IS, meters must have an automatic remote meter reading facility or be Smart Meters as per the relevant IS.
- In areas without a communication network, the installation of prepayment meters conforming to relevant IS will be permitted, as approved by the respective State Electricity Regulatory Commission.

Whereas, the Ministry of Power(MOP) issued notifications dated 17.08.2021 specifying the timelines for the replacement of existing meters with smart meters.

Whereas, APDISCOMs, vide their letters requested the Commission to make appropriate amendments to the General Terms and Conditions of Supply (GTSC) and the relevant Regulations notified by the Commission in the backdrop of the installation of Smart Meters.

After thoroughly examining the amendments to the CEA (Installation and Operation of Meters) Regulations, MOP notification, APDISCOMs' requests, and other relevant aspects, the Commission, in exercise of the powers conferred on it under sub-section (zp) of Section 181(2) read with Sections 43 & 45 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (36 of 2003) and all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby amends the Principal Regulation as follows.

1. Short title, Extent, and Commencement

- This Regulation shall be called the Third Amendment to Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Licensee's Duty for Supply of Electricity on Request) Regulation, 2013 (Regulation No.4 of 2013).
- This Regulation shall extend to the whole of the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- This Regulation shall come into force on the date of its publication in the Andhra Pradesh Gazette.

2. Clause 7(2) shall be substituted with the following.

“(2) It shall be the duty of every distribution licensee to provide an electric meter for giving an electric supply to a consumer. The Distribution Licensee shall install smart meters, including the display unit, conforming to the technical requirement as prescribed in the CEA (Installation and Operation of Meters) Regulations, 2006 and its subsequent amendments. The smart meter shall have both ways of communication and shall be compatible with AMI and AMR applications. The

smart meter shall have a built-in security mechanism to guard against any attempt to steal the codes. The Licensee or the Consumer can bear the meter and allied equipment cost. If the Licensee bears such cost, it may collect meter cost as rent approved by the Commission under section 45 of the Act. Or in Tariff Orders. Alternatively, the Licensee may require the Consumer to bear the full cost of meter and allied equipment, and in such a case, the Licensee is not entitled to collect meter rent.”

(By Order of the Commission)

Place : Kurnool
Date : 01.01.2025.

Sd/- 01/01/2025
P.Krishna
Commission Secretary (i/c)

