

## ANDHRA PRADESH ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Singareni Bhavan, Red Hills, Hyderabad 500 004

I.A.No.20 of 2017 in O.P.No.1 of 2016 Dated: 07-10-2017

# Present Sri Justice G. Bhavani Prasad, Chairman Sri P. Rama Mohan, Member

#### Between:

Eastern Power Distribution Company of A.P Limited (APEPDCL)
... Applicant/Petitioner

#### AND

- 1. Government of Andhra Pradesh Rep. by Chief Secretary, Velagapudi, Amaravathi, A.P.
- 2. Southern Power Distribution Company of A.P Limited Rep. by its Chairman & Managing Director Seethammadhara, Visakhapatnam, A.P.

... Respondents/Respondents

This Application has come up for hearing finally on 07-10-2017 in the presence of Sri P. Shiva Rao, learned Standing Counsel for the petitioner assisted by Sri G.V. Brahmananda Rao, Advocate and Sri M. Venu Gopal Reddy, Officer on Special Duty, Energy, I & I Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh on behalf of 1<sup>st</sup> respondent. After carefully considering the material available on record and after hearing the arguments, the Commission passed the following:

### ORDER

Heard Sri P. Shiva Rao, learned Standing Counsel for the petitioner assisted by Sri G.V. Brahmananda Rao, Advocate and Sri M. Venu Gopal Reddy, Officer on Special Duty, Energy, I & I Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh on behalf of 1<sup>st</sup> respondent. A reply was submitted by the Principal Secretary to Government of Andhra Pradesh, Energy, I & I Department on behalf of the State Government stating that in compliance with the directions of the Government of Andhra

Pradesh in respect of agricultural consumers as part of  $24 \times 7$  supply of power to the agriculture sector, the Government has no objection to bear any additional subsidy which may be payable for additional hours of supply, as may be determined by this Commission.

No objections have been received from any stakeholder or interested person or member of the public against the request made in the petition in spite of public notice.

Sri M. Venu Gopal Reddy, Officer on Special Duty represented that State Government has no objection. The petitioner has given the details of the additional sales volume due to extension of supply to agriculture for additional hours in excess of stipulated 7 hours a day during August, 2016 to October, 2016 quantifying the same at 75.03 million units. The overall actual sales to LT agriculture consumers during the Financial Year 2016-17 was estimated to be 2399.41 million units, which is in excess of the approved quantity of 2281.16 million units by 118.25 million units. The reasons therefor were attributed to be compliance with the directions of the Government of Andhra Pradesh for extending supply beyond the stipulated 7 hours due to acute lack of rainfall in the subject districts. The Petitioner's request for approving the extension of supply to the agriculture in terms of the directions of the State Government and the additional sales volume and for consequential direction to the State Government to provide an additional subsidy of Rs.64.26 crores towards the same has to be therefore accepted. However, it may be left open to the State Government to approach this Commission for any variation in the quantum of additional subsidy due to any subsequent findings of the excess supply so made to be more or less than the claimed 118.25 million units. Therefore, the action of the petitioner in making the extended supply to the agricultural consumers in the draught affected districts during the Financial Year 2016-17 is approved. Hence, additional volume projected by the petitioner also is accepted. The Government of Andhra Pradesh shall provide a further sum of Rs.64.26 crores as additional subsidy towards the cost of the power purchase and supply for agriculture over and above the already approved quantity for the Financial Year 2016-17. The State Government is at liberty to approach the Commission if any variation in the quantum of additional subsidy is found to be necessary due to finding the excess supply to be more or less than 118.25 million units. No costs.

This order is corrected and signed on this the 07<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2017.

Sd/P. Rama Mohan
Member

Sd/-Justice G. Bhavani Prasad Chairman