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**The Hon'ble Bihar Electricity Regulatory Commission,
Vidyut Bhawan-II, Bailey Road,
Patna**

In the matter of proposal of Bihar State Power (Holding) Company Limited on behalf of its subsidiary distribution companies -North Bihar Power Distribution Company Limited (herein after "NBPDC") & South Bihar Power Distribution Company Limited(herein after "SBPDCL") to provide further relaxation in the norms of providing 50 lacs new connection in rural areas on turnkey basis to the prospective consumers in line with the order of the Hon'ble Commission dated 29.09.2014 in BEREC case no. 42/2014.

The petition on behalf of the petitioner -Bihar State Power (Holding) Company Limited (hereinafter referred as "BSPHCL") for approval over a proposal to provide further relaxation in the norms of providing 50 lacs new connection in rural areas on turnkey basis to the prospective consumers in line with the order of the Hon'ble Commission dated 29.09.2014 in BEREC case no. 42/2014.

1. Bihar State Power (Holding) Company Limited hereinafter "BSPHCL" had earlier filed a petition on behalf of two discoms-North Bihar Power Distribution Company Limited hereinafter "NBPDC" and South Bihar Power Distribution Company Limited hereinafter "SBPDCL" vide letter no. Com/NC/224/2013/1565 dated 15.09.2014 of Chief Engineer (Commercial),NBPDC to release new connection to the prospective consumers covering both rural & urban areas.

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2 The salient features of the aforesaid petition were:-

a) No application fee, security amount and labour cost shall be taken at the time of filing of application. Receipt of application shall be granted at that time.

b) Application form for new connection and load enhancement shall be made available free of cost.

c) The amount of security deposit, application fee and labour cost shall be taken from the consumer in monthly billing in two installments without levy of DPS.

3. The Hon'ble Commission vide its letter no. 953 dated 07.10.2014 in case no. 42/2014 had passed order approving the relaxation in holding the camps for allowing the new connection and enhancement of load of existing consumers as per their request/application.

4. In compliance of the order of the Hon'ble Commission, camps were organized and it bore fruit which is visible from the fact that upto June 2015, 4.95 lac new connection in NBPDC and 2.33lac in SBPDCL were given through camps. Further, new connection were released on war footing by prioritizing the work. However, while releasing service connection in large number during short period, great practical difficulties were experienced in releasing connection departmentally.

5. Based on the figure of rural households as on 01.04.2015 and considering that the entire BPL connection will be covered under the existing scheme of

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Rural Electrification under DDUGJY ,about 50 lacs APL households will be left for energization as on 01.04.2016.

6.. A tripartite MoU a been signed among Ministry of power,Government of India,Government of Bihar and discom-NBPDCL/SBPDCL on 22.02.2016 under UDAY(UJWAL DISCOM ASSURANCE YOJANA) for turnaround of both DISCOM.

7.The AT&C loss trajectory for both discom is to be achieved as per the MoU which is as under:

NBPDCL:

FY	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
AT&C loss	40%	34%	28%	20%	15%

SBPDCL:-

FY	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
AT&C loss	44%	38%	30%	22%	15%

8.For above to achieve and also to stand to the mission of the government to provide 24x7 Power for All by year 2018-19 and agenda of the State Government for providing electricity connection to all rural households by 2017-18, the discoms are making all out efforts to achieve the target. As it is evident that the T&D/AT&C loss figures has not been able to be reduced to a level as prescribed by the Hon'ble BEREC though regular efforts are being made by taking initiative for meter installation and enhancement in number of new connection under all categories and taking other appropriate administrative measures. Major contribution to the losses is

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primarily due to illegal connection over which the company has tried its best to put a check but has not succeeded fully especially in rural areas. Also, there may be the prospective consumers who are not availing electricity in a proper manner due to cumbersome process of so many cross verifications.

For such a herculean task, releasing connection from the present manpower is practically impossible within timeline .

9. So, to ease the process, it has further been decided to release the 50 lacs connection in time bound manner of two years on turnkey basis engaging an agency.

It has been decided that norms may be relaxed further in addition to as approved by the Hon'ble Commission in its order dated 29.09.2014 as per the salient features given below:

1) *No application fee, security amount and estimate cost in providing service connection shall be taken at the time of filing of application. Receipt of application shall be granted at that time.*

2) *Application form for new connection shall be made available free of cost.*

3) *The amount of security deposit, application fee and estimate cost shall be taken from the consumer in monthly billing in installments without levy of DPS.*

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The security deposit shall be charged 50% in first bill and rest in next two installments in ratio of 50:50.

The estimate cost (excluding cost of meter) of Rs. 2145/- (Rupees Two Thousand One Hundred Forty Five) and application fees shall be charged to the consumers in ten installments starting from first bill. For ready reference the estimate cost sheet is enclosed.

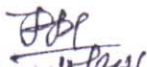
It is meant primarily for APL rural households.

Therefore, the petitioner prays most humbly that the Hon'ble Commission graciously be pleased to grant approval on the proposals made above in the interest of prospective consumers & longer interest of the company.

And/Or

pass such order or orders as the Hon'ble Commission deem fit and proper.

And for this the petitioner shall ever pray


(Purushottam Prasad)
Chief Engineer (Commercial)
NBPDC



