



ORDER
OF
WEST BENGAL ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
IN THE MATTER OF
CASE NO: OA-286/18-19

IN REGARD TO THE APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED (WBSEDCL) FOR ISSUANCE OF ORDER FOR CANCELLATION OF PENDING APPLICATION FOR NEW CONNECTION DUE TO NON-COMPLETION OF SERVICE CONNECTION WORK BY THE APPLICANT ON TURNKEY BASIS UNDER REMOVAL OF DIFFICULTIES.

PRESENT:

SRI DURGADAS GOSWAMI, MEMBER

DATE: 27.12.2018



In regard to the application submitted by West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (WBSEDCL) for issuance of order for cancellation of pending application for new connection due to non-completion of service connection work by the applicant on turnkey basis under removal of difficulties.

Noting by Office or Advocate	Sl. No.	Date	Office notes, reports orders or proceedings with signature
		27.12.2018	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ORDER</u></p> <p>1.0 This is in regard to the application submitted by West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (in short 'WBSEDCL') for an appropriate order for cancellation of pending application for new service connection under removal of difficulty in case of failure of the applicants to take up/non-completion of the service connection work to be done by them on Turnkey Basis.</p> <p>2.0 WBSEDCL submitted that in terms of regulations 3.0 and 4.0 of the West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Standard of Performance of Licensees relating to Consumer Services) Regulations, 2010, (in short 'SOP Regulations) new service connections are provided upon compliance of all formalities e.g. deposition of service connection charges, submission of security deposit, execution of agreement and completion of service connection works.</p> <p>3.0 WBSEDCL also submitted that a good number of intending HV/EHV bulk consumers have complied with all formalities like deposit of service connection charges, execution of agreement with WBSEDCL and submission of security deposits. As per willingness of the applicants / intending consumers, the service connection works are to be executed by them on "Turn-Key' basis with supply of materials and labour charges maintaining the guidelines of WBSEDCL.</p> <p>4.0 WBSEDCL further submitted that in some cases the service connections cannot be effected for not taking up / completing</p>



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		<p>the service connection work by the applicants / intending consumers in spite of repeated reminders. And in that case the applications have been lying pending for a long time and even 6-7 years in some cases.</p> <p>5.0 It is submitted by WBSEDCL that presently there is no provision in the existing regulation for cancellation of application for new service connections of those applicants by Distribution licensee who have failed to take up or complete the service connection works without giving any justification/reason. Cancellation of application is allowed only on request of the applicant / intending consumers as per existing regulations.</p> <p>6.0 It is also submitted that till cancellation of the application, the contracted quantum of power booked for those applicants for service connection(s) cannot be allotted to other prospective consumers of nearby locations from the same sub-station/ feeder.</p> <p>7.0 Accordingly, WBSEDCL has prayed before the Commission to pass suitable order keeping in mind the facts and circumstances of the case and to incorporate provisions for cancellation of applications for new service connection by the Distribution licensee suo-moto upon serving notice to the existing as well as new applicant for non-submission of reasonable ground of delay in taking up / completion of the service connection works by them on turnkey basis.</p> <p>8.0 The Commission after carefully analyzing the submission of WBSEDCL in this instant petition observes that as per sub-section (2) of section 43 of the Electricity Act, 2003 it is the</p>
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duty of distribution licensee to provide, if required, electric plant or electric line for giving electric supply to the premises of the applicant. The licensee is however authorized to recover the expenses reasonably incurred in providing such electric line or electric plant as per West Bengal Electricity Regulatory Commission (Recovery of Expenditure for Providing New Connections) Regulations 2013 framed under section 46 of the Act. Further the procedures and time limits for new connection along with the roles and responsibilities of applicant and licensee are explicitly mentioned in SOP Regulations. Accordingly, the Commission directs that WBSEDCL shall follow the provisions of SOP Regulations while dealing with the application for new connection.

9.0 With the above direction, the application is thus disposed of.

10.0 Let a copy of the order be served upon WBSEDCL.

sd/-
(DURGADAS GOSWAMI)
MEMBER

Dated : 27.12.2018

(TK Mukherjee)
Secretary