

PRACTICE DIRECTIONS UNDER ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CODE

REGULATIONS, 2005:

PERIOD FOR GIVING SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY

Preamble

Distribution Licensees in Maharashtra are required to provide, upon application, new connections and supply of electricity within the time period stipulated under Section 43(1) of the Electricity Act, 2003 (subject to its provisos), read with Regulation 4.7 of the MERC (Standards of Performance of Distribution Licensees, Period for Giving Supply and Determination of Compensation) Regulations ('SoP Regulations'), 2014.

Subject to certain provisos, Section 43 (1) of the Act provides as follows:

“Section 43. (Duty to supply on request): (1) Save as otherwise provided in this Act, every distribution licensee, shall, on an application by the owner or occupier of any premises, give supply of electricity to such premises, within one month after receipt of the application requiring such supply:...”

Regulation 4.7 of the SoP Regulations specifies that:

“4.7 The Distribution Licensee shall, on an application by the owner or occupier of any premises, give supply of electricity to such premises, within one (1) month after receipt of the completed application and payment of charges for requiring such supply, if the supply to an applicant is to be given from an existing network of the Distribution Licensee.”

The period stipulated under the statutory provisions cited above is the maximum period for providing supply of electricity, beyond which compensation becomes payable if claimed. The matter of providing such supply within a shorter period has been under discussion with the Distribution Licensees. In the background of these discussions, the Commission is of the view that Distribution Licensees should endeavour to provide supply of electricity to all categories of consumers, within the area of the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai as a first step, within 15 days, i.e. well before the stipulated maximum period, so as to provide more expeditious service to consumers and improve the ease of doing business. Considering their experience in the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai area, the Distribution Licensees could extend this dispensation to other areas of Maharashtra as per the actual site conditions.

The following Practice Direction is issued accordingly under Regulation 22 of the Supply Code Regulations, 2005.

Practice Direction

Subject to the statutory provisos, the Distribution Licensees shall endeavour to release new connections and provide supply of electricity to all categories of consumers within the area of the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai within fifteen days of the receipt of applications complete in all respects.

Considering their experience in the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai area, the Distribution Licensees shall endeavour to extend this dispensation to other areas of Maharashtra as per the actual site conditions.

This Practice Direction shall be effective from the date of its issue.

**Sd/-
(Deepak Lad)
Member**

**Sd/-
(Azeez M. Khan)
Member**

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(Chandra Iyengar)
Chairperson**