Before the

MAHARASHTRA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION World Trade Centre, Centre No.1, 13th Floor, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai 400005 Tel. 022 22163964/65/69 Fax 22163976

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Date: 31 January, 2023

CORAM: Sanjay Kumar, Chairperson I.M. Bohari, Member Mukesh Khullar, Member

Case No. 7 of 2023 and IA No. 3 and 4 of 2023

Case of M/s. Gajkesari Steels & Alloys Private Limited under Regulation 16.2.4 of the MERC (Electricity Supply Code and Standards of Performance of Distribution Licensees Including Power Quality) Regulations, 2021 challenging the "Debit Bill Adjustment" Amounting to Rs. 24,25,16,847.55 included by MSEDCL in the petitioner's current monthly energy bill dated 11 January, 2023.

M/s. Gajkesari Steels & Alloys Private Limited. : Petitioner

Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Co. Ltd. : Respondent

Appearance

For the Petitioner: Adv. Ashish Singh

For the Respondent: Adv. Rahul Sinha –

Connected but did not argue

Daily Order

- 1. The advocate of the Petitioner mentioned the matter, today on 31 January, 2023.
- 2. The Commission during the hearing dated 17 January, 2023 has directed as below:
 - "...6. The Petitioner is at liberty to avail the option given by MSEDCL to all similarly placed consumers for payment of first installment of the amount, within 3 days. Commission directs MSEDCL not to take any coercive action against the Petitioner and thereafter also in case one instalment is paid by the consumer..."
- 3. The advocate of the Petitioner stated that the Petitioner has paid one of the three

installments to avoid any coercive action from MSEDCL. However, the Petitioner has strong apprehension that inspite of the specific direction from the Commission, MSEDCL may show the balance disputed amount as arrears in the next bill which will be generated on 2 February 2023, and if not paid, make the Petitioner non-eligible for various incentives. The eligibility for availing the incentives is that there should be no pending arrears.

- 4. The Petitioner requested the Commission to direct MSEDCL once again as ruled in the Daily Order and refrain them from disallowing the incentives if debit adjustment bill is not paid, till the Commission finally disposes the pending case.
- 5. The Commission notes that in its Daily Order dated 17 January 2023, the Commission has already directed MSEDCL not to take any coercive action against Petitioner if it pays one installment of disputed amount. As Petitioner has paid such installment, the petitioner is eligible for protection granted through above referred Daily Order. As dispute involved in present matter is related to payment of amount shown in the bill as debit bill adjustment, direction for no coercive action that means non-payment of the balance two installment of disputed amount shall not hamper the eligibility of the Petitioner to avail of the incentives as applicable in the normal course, till the final disposal of the present matter. MSEDCL shall act accordingly.
- 6. The Secretariat shall independently inform MSEDCL accordingly since their counsel had not represented today.
- 7. Next date of e-hearing in the main matter will be Tuesday, 14 February 2023 at 10.30 am.

Sd/(Mukesh Khullar)
Member

Sd/
(I.M. Bohari)
Member

(Sanjay Kumar)
Chairperson