



# महाराष्ट्र विद्युत नियामक आयोग

## Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission

Ref. No. MERC/FAC/2023-24/LBSCML/Q1/0557

Date: 31 October, 2023

To,  
Lakshmiipati Balaji Supply Chain Management Limited  
205 & 206 (part), 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor,  
Ceejay House, F-block Shiv Sagar Estate,  
Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli  
Mumbai, Maharashtra, 400018

**Subject:** Post-facto approval of Fuel Adjustment Charges (FAC) submissions of LBSCML for the months of May, 2023 and June, 2023.

**Reference:** 1. LBSCML's FAC submission for the month of May, 2023 and June, 2023 vide email dated 10 August, 2023.  
2. Data gaps communicated to LBSCML vide email dated 1 October, 2023.  
3. LBSCML's response to data gaps on 6 October, 2023.

Sir,

Upon vetting the FAC calculations for the months of May, 2023 and June, 2023 as mentioned in the above reference, the Commission has accorded approval for FAC Amount of Rs. (0.025) Crore and Rs. (0.027) Crore for the months of May, 2023 and June, 2023, respectively. However, the total amount of FAC Fund after adding the FAC amount for May, 2023 is Rs (0.035) Crore and for June, 2023 is Rs (0.062) Crore. The said FAC Fund is being carried forward to next FAC billing cycle with holding cost as per the Order dated 31 March, 2023 in Case No 220 of 2022. Accordingly, the FAC chargeable to its consumers is as shown in the table below:

Month	May, 2023	June, 2023
Z <sub>FAC</sub> allowed for recovery (Rs. Crore)	NIL	NIL

LBSCML shall maintain the monthly account of FAC Fund and also upload it on its website to ensure transparency and also for information of all the stakeholders.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Rajendra G. Ambekar)  
Executive Director, MERC

Encl: Annexure A: Detailed Vetting Report for the period of May, 2023 and June, 2023.



**POST-FACTO APPROVAL FOR FAC CHARGES FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY, 2023  
AND JUNE, 2023**

**Subject:** Post-facto approval of Fuel Adjustment Charges (FAC) submissions of LBSCML for the months of May, 2023 and June, 2023.

**Reference:** 1. LBSCML's FAC submission for the month of May, 2023 and June, 2023 vide email dated 10 August 2023 and 6 October 2023.

**1. FAC submission by LBSCML:**

1.1 LBSCML has made FAC submissions for the months of May, 2023 and June, 2023 as referred above. Upon vetting the FAC calculations, taking cognizance of all the submissions furnished by LBSCML, the Commission has accorded post-facto approval to LBSCML for negative FAC amount of Rs. (0.025) Crore and Rs. (0.027) Crore for the months of May, 2023 and June, 2023 respectively. The approved FAC amount shall form part of FAC Fund and shall be carried forward to next FAC billing cycle with holding cost as per the Order dated 31 March, 2022 in Case No 220 of 2022 (herein after referred to as "Tariff Order").

**2. Background**

2.1 On 31 March, 2023 the Commission has issued Tariff Order in respect of LBSCML (Case No. 220 of 2022) for approval of Truing-up of FY 2020-21 & FY 2021-22, Provisional Truing-up of FY 2022-23, and Aggregate Revenue Requirement (ARR) and Tariff for the Multi-Year Tariff period for FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25.

2.2 The Commission had communicated the excel formats and guiding principles for filing of FAC submissions to all Distribution Licensees including SEZs. The Commission also directed all Distribution Licensees to submit FAC computations, including details pertaining to variation in fuel cost of generators for the approval of the Commission.

2.3 In the Tariff Order, the Commission has stipulated methodology of levying FAC as follows:

**"5.9 Stabilising Variation in Consumer Bill on account of FAC**

5.9.1 *As per MYT Regulations, 2019, the aggregate gain or loss to a Distribution Licensee on account of variation in cost of fuel, power purchase, and inter-State Transmission Charges shall be passed through under the Fuel Adjustment Charge (FAC) component of the Z-factor Charge (ZFAC), as an adjustment in its tariff on a monthly basis. Relevant part of the MYT Regulation is reproduced below:*

*"10.2 The aggregate gain or loss to a Distribution Licensee on account of variation in cost of fuel, power purchase, and inter-State*



## Approval of FAC for the months of May, 2023 and June, 2023

*Transmission Charges, covered under Regulation 9.1, shall be passed through under the Fuel Adjustment Charge (FAC) component of the Z-factor Charge (ZFAC), as an adjustment in its Tariff on a monthly basis, as specified in these Regulations and as may be determined in orders of the Commission passed under these Regulations, and shall be subject to ex-post facto approval by the Commission on a quarterly basis:*

.....”

- 5.9.2 *Similar arrangement for passing on the variation in fuel and power purchase cost existed in all previous Tariff Regulations of the Commission. Such mechanism is in line with the provision of the EA, 2003 which mandates recovery of the fuel cost in timely manner so that the Distribution Licensees are able to recover their legitimate power purchase cost variation. This has helped regular recovery of power purchase variations without accumulating it till next tariff revision. This provision also addresses the financial/cash flow issue of Distribution Licensee wherein the payment for power purchase is required to be made in timely manner at prevailing cost. At the same time it also helps in reducing carrying cost burden on consumer which otherwise would have to be borne if such monthly levy accumulates and the gap is recovered through tariff revision in MYT or MTR as the case may be. Although, consumers are now well aware of this mechanism, there is general and reasonable expectation that once the tariff is approved by the Commission, to the extent possible, it should remain constant during the year and there should not be large variations due to FAC. The unknown variation in the tariff on account of FAC has adverse financial implications on all the categories especially Industrial and Commercial categories where the impact of FAC is generally higher. Variation in tariff is magnified when there is negative FAC leading to reduction in tariff during a particular month and positive FAC in the immediate next month thereby increasing the tariff.*
- 5.9.3 *Variation in FAC is either on account of change in fuel related costs or mix of power procurement. During the Public hearings in case of other Distribution Licensees, many suggestions were received on this issue and the consumers requested that an appropriate revised mechanism should be put in place wherein there is a minimum impact of FAC felt by the consumers. The Commission opines that this is a very reasonable expectation of the Consumers. The Commission is fully aware that inspite of approving this tariff, the possibility of FAC cannot be ruled out due to uncontrollable event occurring globally or within the country affecting the power purchase cost of the licensee. To ensure stabilisation of tariffs to the extent possible, and to minimise the variation in FAC, the Commission thinks it fit to approve constitution of a FAC Fund with Distribution Licensee which can be built up over a period of time to be used for payment of FAC bills of Generating companies without immediately loading it on consumers.*
- 5.9.4 *Therefore, using its powers for Removing Difficulty under Regulations 106 of MYT Regulations, 2019, the Commission is making following changes in FAC mechanism stipulated under Regulation 10 of MYT Regulations, 2019.*
- a) *Distribution Licensee shall undertake computation of monthly FAC as per Regulation 10 of the MYT Regulations, 2019 except for treatment to be given to negative FAC as follows:*



- i. *Negative FAC amount shall be carried forward to the next FAC billing cycle with holding cost.*
- ii. *Such carried forward negative FAC shall be adjusted against FAC amount for the next month and balance negative amount shall be carried forward to subsequent month with holding cost.*
- iii. *Such carry forward of negative FAC shall be continued till next tariff determination process.*
- iv. *In case such FAC Fund is yet to be generated or such generated fund is not sufficient to adjust against FAC computed for given month, then Distribution Licensee can levy such amount to the consumers through FAC mechanism.*

5.9.5 *In order to maintain transparency in management and use of such FAC Fund, Distribution Licensee shall maintain monthly account of such FAC fund and upload it on its website for information of stakeholders. Such details shall also be submitted to the Commission on quarterly basis along with proposal for post facto vetting of FAC."*

- 2.4 Further, as per provisions of MYT Regulations, 2019, before levying FAC for the first month of the 4<sup>th</sup> Control Period, Distribution Licensee including SEZ is required to seek prior approval of the Commission. Accordingly, vide its email dated 29 May, 2023, LBSCML has filed FAC for the month of April, 2023 for prior approval.
- 2.5 The Commission has scrutinized the submissions provided by LBSCML and has also verified the power purchase bills provided along with its submissions. The Commission has approved the FAC Vetting Report for the prior approval of the FAC for the month of April, 2022 vide FAC Vetting Report dated 24 July 2023.
- 2.6 As per provisions of MYT Regulations, 2019 a Distribution Licensee (SEZ) is required to obtain post-facto approval of the Commission on a quarterly basis for FAC charges within 60 days of close of each quarter. Accordingly, vide its letter dated 10 August, 2023, LBSCML has filed FAC submissions for the months of May, 2023 and June, 2023 for post-facto approval. The Commission has scrutinized the submissions provided by LBSCML and has also verified the fuel and power purchase bills provided along with its submissions.

### 3. Energy Sales of the Licensee

- 3.1 In the MTR Order passed by the Commission in Case No. 220 of 2022, the Commission has approved the tariffs so as to maintain Zero cross subsidy across tariff categories.
- 3.2 The net energy sales within Licence area as submitted by LBSCML in the FAC submission and as approved by the Commission are as shown in the Table 1 below:

**Table 1: Energy Sales approved and Actual in MUs**

Consumer Category	Approved by the Commission (MU)	Monthly Approved (MU)	Actual Sales (May, 2023) (MU)	Actual Sales (June, 2023) (MU)
	(I)	(II=I/12)	(III)	IV
<b>HT Category</b>				
HT- I (A) Industrial	-	-	-	-
HT-II Commercial	2.79	0.23	0.20	0.20
<b>LT Category</b>				



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Consumer Category	Approved by the Commission (MU)	Monthly Approved (MU)	Actual Sales (May, 2023) (MU)	Actual Sales (June, 2023) (MU)
	(I)	(II=I/12)	(III)	IV
LT II A – Commercial (0-20 kW)	0.17	0.01	0.01	0.01
LT II B – Commercial (20-50 kW)	0.87	0.07	0.05	0.05
LT II C – Commercial (above 50 kW)	0.97	0.08	0.08	0.08
LT V – Industry	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.82</b>	<b>0.40</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>0.34</b>

3.3 It can be observed from above Table 1 that the actual sales during the month May, 2023 and June, 2023 are 0.34 MU which is lower by 16% for respective months compared to the approved energy sales of 0.40 MU per month for the FY 2023-24. It can be observed that the actual sales numbers are at major variation vis-à-vis approved energy sales in categories such as HT-II Commercial and LT IIB – Commercial (20-50 kW). The reason for such lower sales is lower realisation of the upcoming load as per estimation.

**4. Power Purchase Details**

4.1 **Power Procurement from Short Term Contracts:** LBSCML has envisaged procurement of its power requirement from short term power procurement sources for meeting its Base Load and Peak Load requirement during FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25. LBSCML also envisaged procurement of additional power requirement through the Power Exchanges through available market products, as per requirement.

4.2 The Commission in Order dated 6 February, 2023 in Case No. 8 of 2023 noted that Power Procurement rate discovered by LBSCML fulfils mandates and requirements for adoption as set out in Section 63 of the EA, 2003. Accordingly, the Commission adopted the Power Procurement rate of Rs. 5.20 per unit for supply of 1 MW power (0.5 MW Base Load RTC and 0.5 MW peak load from 9.00 to 23.00 Hrs except Sundays and Public holidays) for the period of 1 year from 1 February, 2023 to 31 January, 2024. The relevant extract from the tariff order is reproduced below:

*4.5.6 The Commission in its Order dated 6 February 2023 in Case No 8 of 2023 has adopted the tariff discovered through Competitive Bidding route and approve the PPA for the period 1 February, 2023 to 31 January, 2024 at Rs 5.20/kWh. The Commission has accordingly considered the said rate recently discovered through competitive bidding route for short term power purchase for FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25.*

4.3 The Commission has accordingly considered the said rate recently discovered through competitive bidding route for short term power purchase for FY 2023-24. The power purchase approved for FY 2023-24 is Rs. 5.42/kWh in the said tariff order which includes the power procured from short term sources and procurement of Solar and Non-Solar REC's. The Commission has approved the Power Purchase considering all the sources of electricity supply opted by LBSCML, including the RPO compliance.

4.4 Accordingly, LBSCML has procured power from M/s. Manikaran Power Limited (MPL) in the months of May, 2023 and June, 2023 at the rate of Rs. 5.20/kWh as approved by the Commission at Maharashtra State Periphery.

4.5 Summary of power purchase of LBSCML is as under:



Approval of FAC for the months of May, 2023 and June, 2023

Sr. No.	Particular	Compliance																						
1	Purchase from Approved Sources	The Commission in its Order dated 6 February 2023 in Case No 8 of 2023 has adopted the tariff discovered through Competitive Bidding route and approve the PPA for the period 1 February, 2023 to 31 January, 2024 at Rs 5.20/kWh. Accordingly in the MTR Order dated 31 March, 2023 in Case No. 220 of 2022 has accordingly considered the said rate recently discovered through competitive bidding route for short term power purchase for FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25. In May'2023 LBSCML fulfil its RTC power purchase requirement from Manikaran Power Limited (MPL).																						
2	Merit Order Dispatch	LBSCML has only one source of power i.e., Manikaran Power Limited (MPL) which has been contracted on short term basis. LBSCML has followed merit order for scheduling of power and preference was given to cheapest power. Further, LBSCML met its peak power requirement through power procurement from power exchange which is in line with MOD principles.																						
3	Fuel Utilization Plan	<b>Not applicable.</b> All the sources of power procurement fall under Section 63 of EA, 2003.																						
4	DSM Pool	LBSCML on the real-time basis has overdrawn 0.01 MU and 0.03 MU for the respective months of May, 2023 and June, 2023																						
5	Sale of Surplus Power	No Surplus power available for the month of May, 2023 and June, 2023																						
6	Power Purchase	Actual Power Purchase for May, 2023 and June, 2023 were 0.348 MU and 0.345 MU respectively as against approved 0.425 MU due to lower sales																						
7	Source wise Power Purchase	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Source Name</th> <th rowspan="2">Approved (MU)</th> <th>May, 2023</th> <th>June, 2023</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Actual MU)</th> <th>Actual MU)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Manikaran Power Limited</td> <td>0.425</td> <td>0.337</td> <td>0.317</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Power exchange</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.005</td> <td>0.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Others (Deviation Quantum)</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.007</td> <td>0.028</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>0.425</b></td> <td><b>0.348</b></td> <td><b>0.345</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Source Name	Approved (MU)	May, 2023	June, 2023	Actual MU)	Actual MU)	Manikaran Power Limited	0.425	0.337	0.317	Power exchange	0.000	0.005	0.000	Others (Deviation Quantum)	0.000	0.007	0.028	<b>Total</b>	<b>0.425</b>	<b>0.348</b>	<b>0.345</b>
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- 4.6 The Commission also notes in the MTR Petition, LBSCML has submitted that there is no clear visibility of anticipated load of LBSCML in FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25. Accordingly, based on the estimated load, LBSCML has submitted that it will purchase power on short term basis for FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 through competitive bidding. Accordingly, LBSCML was approved the power purchase rate of Rs. 5.20/ unit for FY 2023-24 on the price discovered by LBSCML for the Period February 2023 to January 2024.
- 4.7 Further, LBSCML has also procured power through IEX in the RTM and DAM market products during May, 2023. However, the corresponding purchase in June, 2023 was nil from the Power exchange. LBSCML relied upon the power purchase through the power exchanges, where the prices are market driven and competitively discovered. LBSCML met its contingent peak power requirement of 0.005 MU from power exchange at the rate of Rs. 3.66/kWh.
- 4.8 LBSCML has also overdrawn 0.01 MU and 0.03 MU for the month of May, 2023 and



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June, 2023 at the corresponding rate of Rs. 4.38/kWh and Rs. 4.11/kWh respectively.

**5. Power Purchase Cost:**

- 5.1 The Commission has scrutinised the detailed bills/invoices submitted for power purchase during the month of May, 2023 and June, 2023, in order to verify the claim of LBSCML regarding Average Power Purchase Cost (APPC). The Commission has verified the actual as well as approved Net Purchase (MUs), Variable Cost (Rs. /kWh) and Power Purchase Cost considered in FAC computation from the invoices and applicable MTR Order.
- 5.2 The Power Purchase cost incurred in May, 2023 and June, 2023 are Rs. 0.181 Crore and Rs. 0.177 Crore which is significantly lower than the approved Power Purchase cost of Rs. 0.230 Crore by the Commission for the FY 2023-24.
- 5.3 **Manikaran Power Limited:** The PPA with MPL for 1 MW Power is for the period 1 February, 2023 to 31 January, 2024 at the rate of Rs 5.20/kWh. The Commission notes that LBSCML has sourced 0.337 MU and 0.317 MU for May, 2023 and June, 2023 respectively, against its base load requirement from the approved sources from the available capacity of contracted source, i.e., MPL. (Short Term existing contract) as per the approved tariff. Therefore, the effective tariff in the actual per unit rate of contracted source is similar to the unit rate approved by the Commission for the month of May, 2023 and June, 2023 i.e., Rs.5.20/kWh respectively. Further, it has been noted that for the month of April 2023, the Commission has considered the daily scheduling Fees of Rs. 2250/day considering the same to be payable by LBSCML. However, it was clarified from LBSCML, that the same is borne by MPL and hence the same is nullified for the month of April, 2023 and accordingly, FAC fund has been revised by adding Rs. 67500 to the Closing FAC Fund. The Commission has verified the bills from the power purchase bills of Manikaran Power Limited.
- 5.4 **Power Procurement from Exchange:** LBSCML has procured 0.005 MU at the rate of Rs.3.66/kWh from the Power Exchange to meet the peak power requirement in May, 2023. The Power procurement from Power Exchange was not envisaged in the MTR Petition in Case No. 220 of 2022 while computing the APPC of Rs. 5.42/kWh. The power so procured by LBSCML from Power Exchange at Rs. 3.66/kWh is lower than Rs. 5.42/kWh as approved by the Commission in the MTR Order for short term power procurement. Also, this source contributed to only 1.30% of the total power procurement for the month of May, 2023.
- 5.5 **Renewable Sources:** In the MTR Petition in Case No. 220 of 2022, considering the small quantum of RE power required, LBSCML had proposed to purchase RECs from the Power Exchanges in FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 to meet the RPO compliance requirements. Also, the Commission has considered REC purchase at Rs 1/kWh to meet the RPO Obligation for FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25. The amount of Rs. 0.01 Crore per month is allowed to LBSCML for purchase of RECs. LBSCML has purchase Nil RECs for the month of May, 2023 and June, 2023. By avoiding purchase of REC, LBSCML has





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reduced power purchase cost for May, 2023 and June, 2023 but created liability for future.

5.6 **Deviation Quantum and Cost:** It is seen that LBSCML has overdrawn 0.007 MU and 0.028 MU for the months of May, 2023 and June, 2023 respectively. The said over drawl is on account of real time demand of consumers as against the estimation by the Distribution Licensee. It has been scrutinised and it appears that the same has happened on account of real-time variation, which couldn't be planned.

5.7 The Commission has noted that LBSCML has followed Merit Order Dispatch for scheduling of power and all sources are scheduled according to SLDC instructions.

5.8 No Sale of surplus power was done during the month of May, 2023 and June, 2023.

5.9 **Approved Cost:** The details of the overall cost approved and actual for the month of May, 2023 and June, 2023 as per MTR Order is as shown in the **Error! Reference source not found.** below:

**Table 2: Approved Actual Power Purchase cost for LBSCML for May and June 2023**

Source	Month	Power Procured (MU)	Fixed Cost		Variable Cost		Total Cost	
			in Rs Crore	in Rs/kWh	in Rs Crore	in Rs/kWh	in Rs Crore	in Rs/kWh
Manikaran Power Limited /Short term Power Purchase	<b>Approved</b>	<b>0.425</b>	-	-	<b>0.221</b>	<b>5.200</b>	<b>0.221</b>	<b>5.200</b>
	May 2023	0.337	-	-	0.175	5.200	0.175	5.200
	June 2023	0.317	-	-	0.165	5.200	0.165	5.200
Power Exchange	<b>Approved</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	May 2023	0.005	-	-	0.002	3.662	0.002	3.662
	June 2023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Solar & Non-Solar REC	<b>Approved</b>	-	<b>0.009</b>	-	-	-	<b>0.009</b>	-
	May 2023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	June 2023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deviation Quantum	<b>Approved</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	May 2023	0.007	-	-	0.003	4.382	0.003	4.382
	June 2023	0.028	-	-	0.012	4.112	0.012	4.112
SLDC Fees	<b>Approved</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	May 2023	-	0.001	-	-	-	0.001	-
	June 2023	-	0.001	-	-	-	0.001	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>0.425</b>	<b>0.009</b>	<b>0.216</b>	<b>0.221</b>	<b>5.200</b>	<b>0.230</b>	<b>5.414</b>
	May 2023	0.348	0.001	0.022	0.180	5.163	0.181	5.185
	June 2023	0.345	0.001	0.022	0.176	5.112	0.177	5.133

5.10 Considering the above, the Commission allows the average power purchase cost of Rs.5.185/kWh and Rs.5.133/kWh for the respective months of May, 2023 and June, 2023 as shown in Table 2 above. The Commission vide its MTR Order dated 31 March, 2023 in



## Approval of FAC for the months of May, 2023 and June, 2023

Case No. 220 of 2022, has approved the Average Power Purchase Cost as Rs.5.42/kWh for the FY 2023-24. The variation in the power purchase cost is on the lower side due to non-procurement of REC or Renewable power in the month of May, 2023 and June, 2023 respectively.

### 6. FAC on account of fuel and power purchase cost (F)

6.1 The Commission has worked out the average power purchase costs for the May, 2023 and June, 2023 as shown in below Table 3. Table 3: The same has been compared with the average power purchase cost approved by the Commission in MTR Order dated 31 March, 2023 in Case No. 220 of 2022 to arrive at the differential per unit rate at which  $Z_{FAC}$  is to be passed on to the consumers.

6.2 Thus, the following Table 3 shows the  $Z_{FAC}$  worked out by the Commission on account of difference in power purchase cost for the months of May, 2023 and June, 2023.

**Table 3: FAC on account of Power Purchase Cost**

Sr. No.	Particulars	Units	May, 23	June, 23
1	Average power purchase cost approved by the Commission	Rs. /kWh	5.42	5.42
2	Actual average power purchase cost	Rs. /kWh	5.19	5.13
3	Change in average power purchase cost (=2 -1)	Rs. /kWh	(0.23)	(0.28)
4	Net Power Purchase	MU	0.35	0.34
5	Change in power purchase cost (=3 x 4/10)	Rs. Crore	(0.008)	(0.010)

### 7. Adjustment for over recovery/under recovery (B)

7.1 There is no past adjustment for over recovery/under recovery for the month of May 2023 and June 2023 respectively as the Commission is determining the FAC for the first time after the adoption of Tariff from April 2023 onwards.

### 8. Carrying Cost for over recovery/under recovery (C)

8.1 As there is no past adjustment for over recovery/under recovery and hence no carrying cost for over recovery/under recovery for the month of May 2023 and June 2023 respectively.

### 9. Disallowance due to excess Distribution Loss

9.1 Regulation 10.8 of MYT Regulations, 2019 provides for FAC amount to be reduced in case the actual distribution loss for the month exceeds the approved distribution loss. The relevant extract is reproduced as follows.

*“10.8 The total  $Z_{FAC}$  recoverable as per the formula specified above shall be recovered from the actual sales in terms of “Rupees per kilowatt-hour”:*



*Provided that, in case of unmetered consumers, the Z<sub>FAC</sub> shall be recoverable based on estimated sales to such consumers, computed in accordance with such methodology as may be stipulated by the Commission:*

*Provided further that, where the actual annual sliding distribution losses of the Distribution Licensee exceed the level approved by the Commission, the amount of Z<sub>FAC</sub> corresponding to the excess distribution losses (in kWh terms) shall be deducted from the total Z<sub>FAC</sub> recoverable”*

- 9.2 The following Table 4 provides the comparison of approved and actual distribution loss and disallowance due to excess distribution loss:

**Table 4: Disallowance of FAC due to excess Distribution Loss**

Sr. No.	Particulars	Units	Approved in Tariff Order	May, 2023	June, 2023
1	Net Energy input at Distribution Voltages	MU	0.41	0.34	0.33
2	Energy sales at Distribution voltages	MU	0.40	0.34	0.34
3	Distribution Loss (1 - 2)	MU	0.01	-	-
4	Distribution Loss as % (3/1)	%	2.26 %	-0.86%	-0.85%
5	Annual Sliding Distribution Loss	%		-1.04%	-0.95%
6	Excess Distribution Loss = [Actual Distribution Loss (4) - Distribution loss approved] x Net Energy Input (1)	MU	-	-	-
7	<b>Disallowance of FAC due to excess Distribution Loss</b>	<b>Rs. Crore</b>		-	-

- 9.3 As seen from the above Table 4, distribution loss for the months of May, 2023 and June, 2023 is – (0.86) % and –(0.85)% respectively, which is lower than the approved distribution loss of 2.26 %.

- 9.4 Also, the annual sliding distribution loss for the month of May 2023 and June 2023 is – (1.04) % and –(0.95)% respectively against the approved distribution loss of 2.26%. Since the distribution loss is negative and lower than the approved distribution loss, the Commission has not worked out any disallowance on account of excess Distribution loss.

- 9.5 Further, the Commission has already addressed the issue of Negative Distribution loss of LBSCML in the MTR Order dated 31 March, 2023 in Case No. 220 of 2022 as under:

*“2.3.4 The Commission sought justification for negative distribution loss for FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22. LBSCML in its reply has submitted, as mentioned above, that negative distribution loss is mainly due to absence of individual metering of common services such as STP, streetlight, GSR, water supply, reefer supply, etc., and that HT metering of MSEDCL was retained for recording the common area consumption by subtracting the consumption of all consumers. It further submitted that the technical loss of distribution transformers and the internal network is accounted in the common area consumption and is being billed to the Developer. The Commission notes that in such a scenario, the Distribution*



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loss has to be 'Zero'. However, as submitted by LBSCML, the distribution loss is working out to be slightly negative depending on the errors of meter and metering equipment.

- 2.3.5 The Commission is of the view that it was responsibility of licensee to immediately install the meters to all consumers including the common area connections. As mentioned above, there cannot be negative distribution loss unless there is overbilling by the licensee. However, in the present case, there is negative distribution loss due to specific circumstances such as absence of metering for common loads and reliance by LBSCML on main HT meter recording consumption for entire area of supply even after more than 2 years of operations. In fact, LBSCML should have installed the meters as soon as Deemed Distribution License was taken on record by the Commission and the energy balance on a monthly / yearly basis should have been carried out. However, LBSCML chose not to do the same even after 2 years of operations. Furthermore, LBSCML in the present Petition had also projected negative Distribution Loss for FY 2022-23 to FY 2024-25. It was after data gaps were raised by the Commission and clarification sought during TVS, LBSCML has computed the estimated positive distribution loss for the said period. This clearly shows the lackadaisical approach of the licensee in running its operation.
- 2.3.6 The Commission sought implementation plan including timelines for installation of individual meters to all consumption points, so as to correct the metering errors. LBSCML submitted that it is planning to install individual energy meters at all consumption points in the DL area, which pertains to common area supply. There are 11 nos. of such identified feeders, which are planned to be metered. There are network changes with laying of cable and installation of suitable panel for providing such metering. The work of providing metering to all consumption points is targeted to be complete in six months. The Commission notes the submission of LBSCML and directs LBSCML to complete the metering as early as possible but not later than 3 months from the date of this Order and submit compliance report to the Commission.
- 2.3.7 Further, in response to query on segregation of distribution loss between HT and LT Levels, it is submitted by LBSCML that it does not have any LT networks in its Distribution Licence area. Hence, the entire Distribution losses reported by LBSCML are HT level losses.
- 2.3.8 The Commission has considered drawal at T<>D interface as submitted by MSLDC and accordingly recomputed the distribution losses for FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22. However, in absence of any past trend, as FY 2020-21 being the first year of operations, the Commission is approving the negative Distribution Loss of 1.01% and 0.27% for FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22.
- 2.3.9 The Commission reiterates that negative loss phenomenon is not an acceptable feature in the electrical network. LBSCML has used common meter (which was



*billing meter when LBSCML was HT consumer of MSEDCL) for billing of common services spread across its license area by subtracting consumption of other individual consumers from common meter. This led to billing of internal distribution loss to common services. LBSCML was aware that it was not correct metering practice but still continued with the same for 2 years. This approach of the Distribution Licensee is not justified, but as it is for truing up year and such excess billing was done to common facilities of developer and not impacted other consumers, the Commission has considered the same for truing up with the direction to install correct meter to all consumers within 3 months from date of this Order.”*

- 9.6 Accordingly, the Commission directs to resolve the issue of negative distribution loss as directed in the MTR Order and considering the time limit of 3 months provided in the MTR Order, the status of the metering to be provided in the next FAC submission.

#### 10. Holding Cost for FAC fund

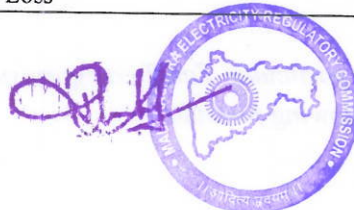
- 10.1 The Commission in its FAC approval for the month of April 2023 vide FAC Vetting Report dated 24 July 2023 has allowed to accumulate the negative FAC amount of Rs. 0.003 Crore in FAC stabilisation fund. Considering the reversal of Rs. 67500 of scheduling fees considered in Power Purchase cost in April 2023, as specified in para 5.3, the revised FAC fund is Rs. (0.009) Crore.
- 10.2 Accordingly, as per the principle laid down by the Commission, LBSCML has carried forward the negative FAC amount and accumulated the same in the FAC fund along with the holding cost.
- 10.3 The same has been allowed by the Commission and for calculation of the Holding Cost, it has considered SBI MCLR rate of the respective month plus 150 basis points which works out to  $8.50\% + 1.50\% = 10.00\%$  for May, 2023 and June, 2023.

#### 11. Summary of Allowable Z<sub>FAC</sub>

- 11.1 The summary of the FAC amount as approved by the Commission for the month of May, 2023 and June, 2023 as shown in the Table 5 below.

**Table 5: Summary of Allowable Z<sub>FAC</sub>**

Sr. No.	Particulars	Units	May, 2023	June, 2023
<b>1</b>	<b>Calculation of Z<sub>FAC</sub></b>			
1.1	Change in cost of generation and power purchase attributable to Sales within the License Area (F)	Rs. Crore	(0.008)	(0.010)
1.2	Carrying cost for over-recovery/under-recovery (C)	Rs. Crore	-	-
1.3	Adjustment factor for over-recovery/under-recovery (B)	Rs. Crore	-	-
1.4	<b>Z<sub>FAC</sub> = F+C+B</b>	Rs. Crore	<b>(0.008)</b>	<b>(0.010)</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Calculation of Per Unit FAC</b>			
2.1	Energy Sales within the License Area	MU	0.338	0.337
2.2	Excess Distribution Loss	MU	-	-



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Sr. No.	Particulars	Units	May, 2023	June, 2023
2.3	ZFAC per kWh [(1.4/2.1) *10]	Rs. /kWh	(0.238)	(0.289)
<b>3</b>	<b>Allowable FAC</b>			
3.1	FAC disallowed corresponding to excess Distribution Loss [(2.2 x 2.3)/10]	Rs. Crore	-	-
3.2	FAC allowable [1.4-3.1]	Rs. Crore	(0.008)	(0.010)
<b>4</b>	<b>Utilization of FAC Fund</b>			
4.1	Opening Balance of FAC Fund	Rs. Crore	(0.009)	(0.035)
4.2	Holding Cost on FAC Fund	Rs. Crore	(0.000)	(0.000)
4.3	ZFAC for the month (Sr. N. 3.2)	Rs. Crore	(0.008)	(0.010)
4.4	Additional recovery & Rs. 0.50/kVAh	Rs. Crores	(0.017)	(0.017)
4.5	Closing Balance of FAC Fund	Rs. Crore	(0.035)	(0.062)
4.6	ZFAC leviable/refundable to consumers	Rs. Crore	(0.035)	(0.062)
<b>5</b>	<b>Total FAC based on category wise and slab wise allowed to be recovered in the billing month of June, 2023</b>	<b>Rs. Crore</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Carried forward FAC for recovery during future period (4.4-5.0)</b>	<b>Rs. Crore</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

11.2 It can be seen from the above Table 5 that standalone FAC for the month of May, 2023 and June, 2023 is Rs. (0.008) Crore and Rs. (0.010) Crore respectively.

11.3 Further, in the MTR Order in Case No. 220 of 2022, LBSCML was also directed to park the additional recovery Rs. 0.50/ kVAh allowed by the Commission and subsumed in the energy charges, to be parked in the separate FAC fund and to be utilized to offset any additional power purchase cost over and above allowed to be recovered as part of FAC mechanism so as to avoid tariff shock to consumers in future. Thus, the standalone FAC for the month of May, 2023 and June, 2023 including the additional recovery is Rs. (0.025) Crore and Rs. (0.027) Crore respectively.

11.4 Since the total effective FAC is negative, it shall be accumulated in the FAC Stabilisation fund as stipulated in the MTR Order dated 31 March, 2023 in Case No. 220 of 2022 and as specified in para 2.3 of this approval.

11.5 As the FAC computed in the month of May, 2023 and June, 2023 as shown in Table 5 above is negative, the same gets added into the opening FAC fund of the respective month. The said amount will be accumulated in the FAC Stabilisation fund. Accordingly, the Commission allows Rs. (0.035) Crore and Rs. (0.062) Crore as closing balance for the month of May, 2023 and June, 2023, in FAC stabilisation fund. Accordingly, there is no FAC leviable on the consumers for the month of May, 2023 and June, 2023 respectively.

**12. Recovery from Consumers:**

12.1 Regulation 10.9 of MERC MYT Regulations, 2019 provides for methodology of recovery of FAC charge from each category of consumers. The relevant extract is reproduced as below.

*“10.9 The Z<sub>FAC</sub> per kWh for a particular Tariff category/sub-category/consumption slab shall be computed as per the following formula: —*



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$Z_{FAC\ Cat} (Rs/kWh) = [Z_{FAC} / (Metered\ sales + Unmetered\ consumption\ estimates + Excess\ distribution\ losses)] * k * 10,$

Where:

$Z_{FAC\ Cat} = Z_{FAC}$  component for a particular Tariff category/sub-category/consumption slab in 'Rupees per kWh' terms;

$k = Average\ Billing\ Rate / ACOS;$

Average Billing Rate = Average Billing Rate for a particular Tariff category/sub-category/consumption slab under consideration in 'Rupees per kWh' as approved by the Commission in the Tariff Order:

Provided that the Average Billing Rate for the unmetered consumers shall be based on the estimated sales to such consumers, computed in accordance with such methodology as may be stipulated by the Commission:

ACOS = Average Cost of Supply in 'Rupees per kWh' as approved for recovery by the Commission in the Tariff Order:

Provided that the monthly  $Z_{FAC}$  shall not exceed 20% of the variable component of Tariff or such other ceiling as may be stipulated by the Commission from time to time:

Provided further that any under-recovery in the  $Z_{FAC}$  on account of such ceiling shall be carried forward and shall be recovered by the Distribution Licensee over such future period as may be directed by the Commission....”

- 12.2 The Commission has invoked power of removing difficulties under MYT Regulations 2019 and has suggested changes in computation of FAC under para 5.9.4 of MTR Order in Case No. 220 of 2022 as specified in para 2.3 of this approval.
- 12.3 Since the FAC is negative, there is no recovery allowed from the consumers. Therefore, the negative FAC amount is to be carried forward to FAC Stabilisation Fund for the months of May, 2023 and June, 2023.
- 12.4 The Commission allows the FAC amount of Rs. (0.025) Crore and Rs. (0.027) Crore for the month of May, 2023 and June, 2023 respectively to be accumulated as FAC Fund and shall be carried forward to the next billing cycle with holding cost.
- 12.5 The Commission in its approval for the month of April, 2023 has directed LBSCML to carry forward the approved FAC amount of Rs. (0.009) Crore (revised as per para 10.1 of this approval) to be accumulated as FAC Fund and to be carried forward to the next billing cycle with holding cost. The opening balance of FAC fund along with holding cost is Rs. (0.010) Crore.
- 12.6 Accordingly, considering the approved standalone FAC amount of Rs. (0.025) Crore and Rs. (0.027) Crore for the month of May, 2023 and June, 2023 respectively and opening balance FAC Fund of the respective month, the total amount of Rs. (0.035) Crore and Rs.



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(0.062) crore for the month of May 2023 and June 2023 is being allowed to be accumulated in the FAC Fund and shall be carried forward to the next billing cycle along with holding cost.

