

**JOINT ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
FOR
UT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND UT OF LADAKH
To be published in Extra-Ordinary Part III Section 4
DRAFT NOTIFICATION**

Jammu, the __/__/2024

No. JERC-JKL/Reg/2024/_____: - In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 181(2)(t), Section 181(2)(x) read with Section 43, Section 44, Section 45, Section 48, Section 50 and Section 56 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (Act No. 36 of 2003) (hereinafter referred to as 'the Act'), and all other powers enabling it in this behalf including sub-ordinate legislation, rules, statutory orders, resolutions, clarifications issued by the Government in terms of the Act relating to supply of electricity, the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the UT of Jammu & Kashmir and the UT of Ladakh hereby makes the the following amendments in the **Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the UT of Jammu & Kashmir and the UT of Ladakh (Electricity Supply Code) 2023 (Principle Regulations)**:

1. Short Title and Commencement

1.1 These regulations may be called the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for UT of Jammu & Kashmir and UT of Ladakh (Electricity Supply Code) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2024.

1.2 These regulations shall come into force from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette:

1.3 These Regulations shall extend to the UT of Jammu & Kashmir and the UT of Ladakh.

2. Clause 2.3 (52) of Principal Regulations is substituted with the following clause:

(52) "owner" means the person who is having absolute right over the property and the expression owner includes the legal heirs';

3. After clause 2.3 (59) of Principal Regulations, a new definition is added:

(59 A) 'Resident Welfare Association' (here in after referred to as the Association) means an association comprising all the property owners within a Co-operative Group Housing Society, Multi storied Building, Residential Colony, or a similar body registered with the State Government.”

4. Clause 5.53 of Principal Regulations is substituted with the following clause:

5.53 The overall timeline for releasing new electricity connection, from the date of receipt of application, shall be as under:

Activity	Metropolitan area	Urban area:	Rural area:	Rural area with hilly terrain
New connection/additional load where supply can be provided from existing network	3 days	7 days	15days	30days
Enhancement work or enhancement of transformer capacity if required.	a) LT- 20 days	a) LT-30 days	a) LT-45 days	a) LT-55 days
	b) HT- 75 days	b) HT-90 days	b) HT-90 days	b) HT-120 days
	c) EHT- 120 days	c) EHT-180 days	c) EHT-180 days	c) EHT-210 days
extension of distribution mains, or commissioning of new sub stations	immediately after such extension or commissioning within a period not exceeding 90 (Ninety) days			

Provided that the Licensee may approach the Commission for extension of time specified above, in specific cases where extension of Distribution mains requires more time, along with details. In such cases, the Licensee shall inform the consumer about the likely time of completion of works.

5. **Clause 5.59 of the Principal Regulations is substituted with the following clause:**

5.59 Procedure for providing a single point connection for the Association or individual connections for each and every owner:

- a. In case of multi-consumer complexes, such as Group Housing, Showrooms (Shop Cum Offices SCOs), etc., the new connection sought shall preferably be provided at single point with single meter on LT if load is up to 100 kVA and on HT if load exceeds 100 kVA. A new connection will not be granted until the entire electrical infrastructure is completed. The Licensee shall ensure energization of new connection only after physically verifying the entire internal electrical infrastructure and fulfilment of Regulation 5.36. However, this shall not restrict the individual owner or occupier of any premises for applying for individual connection and the Licensee shall sanction such individual connections, subject to conditions mentioned under clause (f) to (i). The choice of having single LT/HT connection or individual connections, once exercised before release of connection, cannot be revoked due to operational problem.
- b. In case the connected/contracted load of any connection as decided by the Licensee is projected to be more than 100 kVA, a separate transformer of adequate capacity shall be installed at consumer's cost. The space/room required for housing the transformer, substation, switch gears, meters and panels shall be provided by the consumer, free of cost, which is easily accessible to the Licensee.
- c. For any new connection with connected /contracted load lower than 100 kVA also, Licensee may install a separate transformer if requested by the consumers, at consumer's cost.
- d. In case the consumers in multi-consumer complex have availed individual connections, separate connection shall be provided for consumption of energy for common services such as lifts, pumps for pumping water, etc., and such consumption of such connection shall be billed at highest slab of respective tariff category.
- e. For all the connections exceeding 11 kV for multi-storied building of more than fifteen metre in height, the connection shall be released after obtaining the certificate from Electrical Inspector in accordance with the provisions of Central Electricity Authority (Measures relating to Safety and Electric Supply) Regulations, 2010 as amended from time to time.
- f. The distribution licensee shall provide either a single point connection for the Association or individual connections for each and every owner, on the basis of choice of the majority of the house or flat owners in such Association and the choice shall be ascertained by means of a transparent ballot to be held by the distribution licensee;

Provided that if more than fifty percent of the owners prefer individual connection then individual connection shall be given to each owner.

- g. The metering, billing, and collection shall be done separately for
 - (i) individual electricity consumption sourced from the distribution licensee;
 - (ii) individual consumption of backup power supplied by the Association; and
 - (iii) electricity consumption for common area of such Association sourced from the distribution licensee.
- h. In the case of a single point connection, the Association shall be responsible for metering, billing, and collection and for individual connections, these responsibilities shall vest with the distribution licensee.
- i. In the case of a single point connection:
 - (i) the charges deducted through pre-payment meters or bills raised by the Association for individual electricity consumption shall be on no-profit-no-loss basis.
 - (ii) the distribution licensee's tariff for single point connection to Associations shall not exceed the average billing rate for low tension domestic category.
 - (iii) the total billing done by Association for the electricity supplied by the distribution licensee shall not exceed the overall tariff paid to the distribution licensee.
 - (iv) an additional amount as prescribed by the Appropriate Commission may be charged towards the sub-distribution network cost incurred for providing electricity up to the premises of the individual consumer."

6. After Clause 5.59 of the Principal Regulations, a new clause 5.59.A is added:

5.59.A - For electrified areas up to 150 kW or such higher load as the Commission shall specify the connection charges for new connection shall be fixed on the basis of the load, category of connection sought and average cost of connection of the distribution licensee so as to avoid site inspection and estimation of demand charges for each and every case individually. The demand charges, in such cases, may be paid at the time of application for new connection.

7. After Clause 5.64 of the Principal Regulations, a new clause is added:

5.64.A -Procedure for supply to Electric Vehicle charging system:

On the request of an Association or an owner of the flat or house in an Association or any other consumer, the distribution licensee shall provide a separate connection for supply of electricity for Electric Vehicle charging system;

Explanation. - it is clarified that the time line for providing this connection shall be in accordance with the **Regulation 5.53**.

8. Clause 6.38 of Principal Regulations is substituted with the following clause:

6.38 Before testing a consumer's meter, the Licensee shall give 7 days advance notice in urban areas, 10 days advance notice in rural areas and 15 days advance notice in remote areas intimating the date, time and place of testing so that the consumer or his authorized representative may be present at the time of testing.

The testing of meters shall be done by the distribution licensee within thirty days of receipt of the complaint from the consumer about their meter readings not being commensurate with his consumption of electricity, stoppage of meter, damage to the seal, burning or damage of the meter, and the like:

Provided that in case of complaint by a consumer regarding meter reading not being commensurate with his consumption of electricity, distribution licensee shall install an additional meter within five days from the date of receipt of the complaint, to verify the consumption, for a minimum period of three months.”

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

**V.K. Dhar (JKAS)
Secretary, JERC
J&K and Ladakh**