

CHAPTER – 3

PUBLIC CONSULTATION SUGGESTIONS / OBJECTIONS & REPLIES

3.0 As per the provisions of Section 64 of the Electricity Act, 2003, the Commission has undertaken the process of public consultation, inviting suggestions/ views/objections from the interested stakeholders and the general public on the application filed by HESCOM for Annual Performance Review for FY22, approval of revised ARR for FY24 and determination of Retail Supply Tariff for FY24. In the written submissions filed as well as during the public hearing, the stake-holders and the public have raised several objections/ made suggestions, on the HESCOM's Tariff Application dated 30.11.2022. The names of the persons who filed written objections and made oral submissions are given below:

3.1 The following is the List of persons who have filed written objections:

Sl. No	Application No.	Name & Address of objectors
1	HA-01	Dr. Shankarayya Salimath, Secretary, South India Sugar Mills Association, Karnataka, Bengaluru.
2	HA-02	Sri B. Praveen, Hon. General Secretary, KASSIA, Bengaluru.
3	HA-03	Sri Mahanthappa Nagappa Nilugalla Sa Gadag.
4	HA-04	Sri Ramesh Ramrao Patil, CEO & MD, Gokak Textiles Ltd., Bengaluru.
5	HA-05	Sri Lokaraj, Secretary General, FKCCI, Bengaluru.
6	HA-06	Sri Rajendra Suvarna, President, Karnataka Coastal Ice Plant and Cold Storage Owners Association.
7	HA-07	Sri G.G. Hegde Kadekodi, President, North Kanara District Chambers of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture, Sirsi.
8	HA-08	Sri Vinay J Javali, President, Karnataka Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Hubballi.
9	HB-01	Sri Amitav Sahay, Plant Head, Tata Motors Ltd., Dharwad.
10	AEB-01	Sri B.S.N. Shetty and Others.
11	AEB-02	Sri Jogendra Behera, CRO & VP (Regulatory & Market Economics), Indian Energy Exchange Ltd., Noida.

3.2 The objections/suggestions mainly pertain to:

- a. Tariff;
- b. Quality of Power Supply and Service;
- c. Capital Expenditure incurred by HESCOM
- d. Compliance of Commission's directives; and
- e. Certain specific requests.

3.3 The summary of the objections, HESCOM's reply and the Commission's view are annexed as **Appendix-1** to this Order.

3.4 The following is the List of the persons, who made oral submissions during the Public Hearing, held on 24.02.2022:

Sl. No	Name and Address of Objectors
1	Uday Kumar, (General Secretary) Karnataka Coastal ICE Plants and Cold Storage Owners Association.
2	Gautam .V. Kumtakar ,(DGM) Gokak Textiles Limited.
3	Madhav Hegde (GS), BKS Uttar Pranth.
4	Basavaraj Chandargo, BKS. Dharwad
5	Sandeep Bidasarya, Karnataka Chamber of Commerce.
6	Vijayakumar Guddad, Karnataka Chamber of Commerce.
7	AVK Chowdary (SIM), Airtel Next.
8	Kulbhusan, Renew Power.
9	Shivanand sardar, Bhartiya Kisan Sangh (BGM).
10	S.L. Ganagi, Bhartiya Kissan Sangh (BGM).
11	Ujjwal Surana, Fortune Five.
12	M T Marcharaddes (Rtd Officer), Agriculture Dept.
13	Shridhar Prabhu, FKCCI, Advocate.
14	Tushar Baddi, Electrical Contractor.
15	S.S Patil, Chamber of Commerce Gadag.
16	Mallikarjun V. Bellary, KRRS Haveri.
17	Basavaraj Ingalgi, Farmer, Savdatti.
18	Lokesh L. Hegde, CGRF, Uttarkannada

The summary of the additional points raised during the Public Hearing are as follows:

1. All the consumer who participated in the public hearing have opposed the tariff hike proposed by HESCOM. Generally, all the participants have reiterated the same submissions what they had submitted in writing.

2. Tariff benefits to be given to the ice plant installations used for fisheries is coastal belt.
3. Argued against Grid Support charges proposed by HESCOM.
4. Argued against the proposal of increase in fixed / demand charges.
5. To continue both the Special Incentive Scheme (SIS) and the Discounted Energy Rate Scheme (DERS).
6. HESCOM is not providing quality power supply.
7. HESCOM has to take suitable action to recover huge amount of arrears from the local bodies, Government departments and other industries.
8. Continue the existing ToD slots and increase the incentive in off-peak hours to Rs.1.50 / unit.
9. Interest on belated payment power purchase cost and carrying cost should not be allowed.
10. Cross Subsidy Surcharge and Additional Surcharge should not be increased.
11. Rebate of 50 paise per unit to LT-5 consumers should not be continued, instead rebate amount to be revised.
12. Not to withdraw solar water heaters rebate.
13. HESCOM has not complied with the directives of the Commission.
14. Data Centers to be classified under industrial tariff category.
15. Reconductoring of the distribution lines existing since 40 years are not done.
16. HESCOM has to give power supply to IP set during the day time instead of night time.
17. 'Grahakar Kaipidi' not printed and distributed.
18. Vacant posts in the HESCOM are not filled.
19. Tariff petition book is bulky; it should be made simple for better understanding.
20. Performance audit of HESCOM should be conducted.
21. Consumer interaction meetings are not being chaired by SEEs / EEEs.
22. Ice Cream cold storage to be included in LT-5 tariff category.
23. Services to the senior citizens to be taken to their doorstep.
24. Maintenance of distribution Transformer to be regularly undertaken by HESCOM.

25. Failed distribution transformer was not replaced within the specified time.
26. Publicity about the holding the public meetings to be also published in the local newspapers and notified in the village panchayats offices.

HESCOM's Response:

The MD, HESCOM stated that the replies to most of the issues raised in the public hearing have been furnished along with the written replies. The other issues which are not covered, would be looked into and remedial action taken.

Commission's Views:

The Commission directs the HESCOM to look into the unresolved non-tariff issues and attend to them on priority as per law, under intimation to the respective objectors.