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ODISHA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
BIDYUT NIYAMAK BHAWAN
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Present : Shri G. Mohapatra, Officiating Chairperson
Shri S. K. Ray Mohapatra, Member

CASE NOS. 84 of 2024, 88 of 2024, 95 of 2024 & 99 of 2024

DATE OF HEARING: 27.02.2025 at 11.00 A.M (TPWODL),
20.02.2025 at 11.00A.M (TPSODL),
24.02.2025 at 11.00A.M (TPNODL)
25.02.2025 at 11.00 A.M (TPCODL)

DATE OF ORDER: 24.03.2025

IN THE MATTER OF: Applications of Distribution Companies TPWODL, TPSODL, TPNODL & TPCODL for approval of their Aggregate Revenue Requirement (ARR), Wheeling Tariff and Retail Supply Tariff for the FY 2025-26 under Sections 62,64 & 86 and other applied provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with relevant provisions of OERC (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Wheeling and Retail Supply Tariff) Regulations, 2022 and OERC (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2004 and other Tariff related matters.

AND

CASE NOS. 85 of 2024, 100 of 2024, 96 of 2024 & 89 of 2024

DATE OF HEARING: 27.02.2025 at 11.00 A.M (TPWODL),
20.02.2025 at 11.00A.M (TPSODL),
24.02.2025 at 11.00A.M (TPNODL),
25.02.2025 at 11.00 A.M (TPCODL)

IN THE MATTER OF: Applications for approval of Open Access Charges for FY 2025-26 in accordance with Regulation 22, 23, 24 & 25 of OERC (Terms and Conditions of Intra-State Open Access) Regulations, 2020 for approval of Wheeling Charges, Cross Subsidy Surcharge, Additional Surcharge & Standby charges applicable to Open Access Customers for use of intra-state transmission/ distribution system in view of Section 42 of the Electricity Act, 2003 of DISCOMs namely TPWODL, TPSODL, TPNODL & TPCODL.

AND

Case No. 86 of 2024

DATE OF HEARING: 27.02.2025 at 11.00 A.M (TPWODL)

IN THE MATTER OF: TPWODL's application for approval of Truing up of expenses for the FY2023-24 along with reconsideration/revisit of Truing up of for the FY2022-23.

AND

Case No. 101 of 2024

DATE OF HEARING : 25.02.2025 at 11.00 A.M (TPSODL)

IN THE MATTER OF: TPSODL's application for approval of Truing up of expenses for the FY 2023-24 along with reconsideration/revisit of Truing up of for the FY2022-23 & certain issues related to truing up of for the FY 2020-21(3 months) & for the FY 2021-22.

AND

Case No. 97 of 2024

DATE OF HEARING : 24.02.2025 at 11.00 A.M (TPNODL)

IN THE MATTER OF: TPNODL's application for approval of Truing up for the period of FY 2023-24 under Sections 62 & 86 (1) and all other applicable provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with OERC (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Wheeling Tariff and Retail Supply Tariff) Regulations, 2022 and other related Rules and Regulations.

AND

Case No. 90 of 2024

DATE OF HEARING : 25.02.2025 at 11.00 A.M (TPCODL)

IN THE MATTER OF: TPCODL's application for approval of Truing up of expenses for the FY2023-24 along with reconsideration/ revisit of Truing up for the FY2022-23.

AND

Case Nos. 87, 102, 98 & 91 of 2024

DATE OF HEARING : 27.02.2025 at 11.00 A.M (TPWODL),
20.02.2025 at 11.00A.M (TPSODL),
24.02.2025 at 11.00A.M (TPNODL)
25.02.2025 at 11.00 A.M (TPCODL)

IN THE MATTER OF: Applications of Distribution Companies TPWODL, TPSODL, TPNODL & TPCODL for approval of Capital Investment Plan for Installation of Smart Meter for the FY 2025-26 to FY 2031-32 in their areas of supply.

AND

Case No. 50 of 2024

DATE OF HEARING : 27.02.2025 at 11.00 A.M (TPWODL)

IN THE MATTER OF: TPWODL's application for approval of Additional Capex Plan for FY 2024-25 & 2025-26.

ORDER

The Distribution Licensees operating in the state of Odisha namely TPNODL, TPWODL, TPCODL and TPSODL are carrying out the business of distribution and retail supply of electricity in their licensed areas as detailed below:

Table – 1

Sl. No.	Name of DISCOMS	Licensed Areas (Districts)	Percentage area of the State	Nos. of Consumers (As on 31.03.2024)
1.	TPNODL	Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Bhadrak, Balasore and major part of Jajpur.	18.0	1954513
2.	TPWODL	Sambalpur, Sundargarh, Bolangir, Bargarh, Deogarh, Nuapara, Kalahandi, Sonepur and Jharsuguda.	32.3	2332015
3.	TPCODL	Puri, Khurda, Nayagarh, Cuttack, Denkanal, Jagatsinghpur, Angul, Kendrapara and some part of Jajpur.	18.9	3206600
4.	TPSODL	Ganjam, Gajapati, Kandhamal, Boudh, Rayagada, Koraput, Nawarangpur and Malkanagiri.	30.8	2270915
Total Odisha			100.0	9764043

The Commission had initiated proceedings on the filing of Aggregate Revenue Requirement (ARR), Wheeling Tariff and Retail Supply Tariff (RST) Applications for FY 2025-26 of these Distribution Licensees under relevant provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003 (36 of 2003). By this common Order, the Commission considers aforesaid Aggregate Revenue Requirement (ARR), Wheeling Tariff and Retail Supply Tariff applications of the above-mentioned Distribution Licensees along with other tariff related matters.

A. PROCEDURAL HISTORY (PARA 2 TO 21)

2. After the revocation of licenses of distribution utilities i.e. WESCO Utility, SOUTHCO Utility, NESCO Utility and CESU, the Commission, under Section 21 of the Electricity Act, 2003 vide its orders dated 28.12.2020 in Case No. 82 of 2020 had vested the Utilities of WESCO with TP Western Odisha Distribution Limited (TPWODL). Similarly, the Utility of SOUTHCO was vested with TP Southern Odisha Distribution Limited (TPSODL), vide its order dated 28.12.2020 in Case No. 83 of 2020. The utility of NESCO was vested with TP Northern Odisha Distribution Limited (TPNODL) vide order dated 25.03.2021 in Case No. 09 of 2021 and the utility of CESU was vested with TP Central Odisha Distribution Limited (TPCODL) vide order dated 26.05.2020 in Case No.11 of 2020. Accordingly, the responsibilities of erstwhile distribution utilities have been transferred to TPWODL, TPSODL, TPNODL and TPCODL with effect from 01.01.2021, 01.01.2021, 01.04.2021 and 01.06.2020 respectively.
3. As per OERC (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2004 and OERC (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Wheeling and Retail Supply Tariff) Regulations, 2022, herein after referred to as “OERC Wheeling & RST Regulations, 2022”, the Distribution Utilities i.e. TPCODL, TPWODL, TPNODL and TPSODL have filed their Aggregate Revenue Requirement (ARR), Wheeling Tariff and Retail Supply Tariff (RST) Applications for FY 2025-26 on or before 30th November, 2024.
4. The said Aggregate Revenue Requirement (ARR), Wheeling Tariff & Retail Supply Tariff applications were duly scrutinized and were registered as Case No. 88/2024 (TPCODL), Case No. 95/2024 (TPNODL), Case No. 84/2024 (TPWODL) and Case No.99/2024 (TPSODL).
5. As per the direction of the Commission, applicants have published the Aggregate Revenue Requirement (ARR), Wheeling & RST tariff Applications, Truing up applications and their applications for Capital Investment Plan for Installation of Smart Meter for the FY 2025-26 to FY 2031-32 in the prescribed formats in the leading and widely circulated Odia and English newspaper in their area of supply in order to invite objections/suggestions from the general public. The above applications were also posted on the Commission’s website (www.oriarc.org) including the website of the DISCOMs. The Commission had also directed the applicants to file their respective rejoinder to the objections filed by all the Objectors.
6. The Commission had also appointed the following Consumer Counsels under Section 94(3) of the Electricity Act, 2003 to represent the interest of the Consumers and present their views on the proposals of the DISCOMs in their ARR Applications, based on the feedback received from the Consumers in the licensed areas as mentioned in the Table below:

Table – 2
Details of Consumer Counsel appointed by the Commission

Sl. No.	Name of the Organisations/persons with address	Name of the Distribution Utility from where the Consumer Counsel to represent
1	Grahak Panchayat, Friends Colony, Parlakhemundi, Dist: Gajapati-761200	TPSODL
2	Orissa Consumers' Association, Balasore Chapter, Balasore-756126	TPNODL
3	Secretary, Confederation of Citizen Association, 12/A, Forest Park, BBSR-9.	TPCODL
4	Shri Satya Bhusan Rath, advocate, N2/51, IRC Village, Bhubaneswar-751015.	TPCODL
5	Shri Lalatendu Dikhit, At/Po-Sarakana, Ps-Balianta, Dist: Khordha-752100.	TPCODL
6	Sambalpur District Consumers' Federation, Balaji Mandir Bhavan, Khetraipur, Sambalpur-678003	TPWODL
7	Sundargarh District Employee Association, AL-1, Basanti Nagar, Rourkela-769012	TPWODL
8	The Secretary, PRAYAS Energy Group, Pune- 411004	TPCODL, TPNODL, TPWODL & TPSODL

7. In response to the above public notices, the Commission received objections/ suggestions from the following persons/ associations/ institutions/ organizations as mentioned below against each of the respective distribution companies:

Objections / suggestions on TPWODL's (Erstwhile WESCO Utility) application by:

- (1) M/s. Microcosm Reframin Private Ltd., Arya Residency, Flat No.104, Block-C, Sarabahal, Jharsuguda-768201, (2).M/s. Vedanta Ltd., 1st Floor, C-2, Fortune Tower, C.S.pur, Bhubaneswar-751023, (3). Shri Akshya Kumar Sahani, Retd. Electrical Inspector, GoO, B/L-108, VSS Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751007, (4). M/s. Odisha Roller Flour Mills Association, (ORFMA) At-Shri Lalbaba Roller Flour Mills (P) Ltd., Gosala, Nayabazsar, Cuttack-753004, (5) . M/s. All Odisha Rice Miller's (AROMA) at S-3/36, Sector-A, Zone – Bmancheswar, (6). Shri Priyabrata Sahu, S/o. Late Adikanda Sahu, At-Bijay Bihar, 3rd Lane, P.O: Berhampur, Dist.-Ganjam-760004, (7). Sampatrai Rotary Club of Senior Citizens Home (SRCCSCH), Naraj, Cuttack-754006, (8). Shri Ramesh Ch. Satpathy, Secretary, National Institute of Indian Labour & President, Upobhokta Mahasangha, Plot No.302(B), Beherasahi, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751012, (9). M/s. East Cost Railway, Rail Sadan, Chandrasekharapur, Bhubaneswar-751017, (10). M/s. Utkal Chamber of Commerce & Industry Ltd.(UCCI), N-6, IRC Village, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015, (11). M/s. Scan Steels Limited,(Unit-I), At- Rambahal, P.O:Keshramal, Near Rajgangpur, Dist.-Sundargarh-770017, (12). M/s. Power Tech Consultants, At-K-8/82,Kalinga Nagar, Ghatikia, Bhubaneswar-751029,(13). M/s. Bajrang Steel & Alloys Ltd.,Plot No.31,Goibhanga,Kalunga,Rourkela, Dist.-Sundargarh-770031, (14). Odisha Power Transmission Corporation Ltd.,Janpath, Bhubaneswar-751022,(15). Er.(Dr.) P.K.Pradhan,HIG-I, SDA Colony,Near VSSUT, Burla-768018, (16). M/s. Scan Steels Ltd.(Unit-III),At-Bai-Bai, Tudalaga, Bargaon, Dist.-Sundargarh-770016, (17). M/s. Shree Salasar Castings Pvt. Ltd., Regd. Office-Balanda, Po-Kalunga,