

Before

# UTTARAKHAND ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Petition No. 28 of 2020

**In the matter of:**

Petition seeking approval on the draft plan to pass on the benefit in electricity tariff to the end consumers of the State.

**In the matter of:**

Uttarakhand Power Corporation Ltd.

... Petitioner

**CORAM**

**Shri D. P. Gairola          Member (Law)**

**Shri M. K. Jain          Member (Technical)**

**Date of Order: December 08, 2020**

Uttarakhand Power Corporation Ltd. (herein after referred to as "UPCL" or "the Petitioner") has filed a Petition seeking approval on the draft plan to pass on the benefit in electricity tariff to the end consumers of the State.

## **1 Background and Petitioner's submissions**

- 1.1 A Petition dated 05.09.2020 was filed by UPCL for seeking approval on the draft plan to pass on the benefit in electricity tariff to the end consumers of the State. The Petitioner submitted that the Commission under Section 62 of the Electricity Act, 2003 has been vested with the powers to determine the electricity tariff and as the present Petition is related to providing rebate in electricity tariff to the consumers, therefore, approval of the Commission on the same is essential before its implementation.
- 1.2 The Petitioner submitted that 21 days nationwide lockdown imposed on 24.03.2020 had taken an unprecedented and overwhelming toll on the functioning of industrial and commercial sectors across India, and suddenly all human activities came to standstill as people of the country were requested by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to observe

“Social Distancing” and to stay at home for their own safety to contain the spread of COVID-19. The Petitioner submitted that due to the said reasons, the Commercial and Industrial establishments had gone into almost complete shutdown except a few such as pharma and food industries, and the Commercial and Industrial activities were allowed from 18.05.2020, i.e. w.e.f. imposition of lockdown-IV. The Petitioner submitted that the said category of consumers has demanded waiver off fixed charges from Government and Discoms.

1.3 The Petitioner submitted that on the demand of consumers/representatives of commercial and industrial categories, Hon’ble Chief Minister, Uttarakhand on 13.04.2020 approved various relief measures in tariff to the electricity consumers of the State. Further, on the demand of the Agriculture consumers and with a view to recover accumulated electricity dues, relief in Delayed Payment Surcharge was also approved by the Hon’ble CM, GoU on 13.04.2020 for the consumers who make payment of their electricity dues by 30.06.2020. The Petitioner submitted that GoU vide its letter no. 429/I (02) 2020-06/01/2020 dated 21.05.2020 issued detailed orders extending various relief measures in tariff to the electricity consumers.

1.4 The Petitioner submitted that pursuant to the directions issued by GoU, it has allowed the following reliefs in tariff to the electricity consumers:

S. No.	Consumer Category	Relief in tariff provided to electricity consumers
(i)	<b>Commercial category :</b> Hotels, Restaurants and Dhabas etc.	UPCL vide its Office Memorandum No. 1333/UPCL/RM/N-55, dated 28-05-2020 ordered to waive off the fixed charges on the energy consumed for the period from March, 2020 to May, 2020 payable from the month of April, 2020 to June, 2020 by the Hotels, Restaurants and Dhabas. <b>Financial implication on this account to the tune of Rs. 6 Cr. (approx.) shall be reimbursed by GoU to UPCL as per GO No. 429/I (02) 2020-06/01/2020, dated 21.05.2020.</b>
(ii)	<b>Commercial category :</b> Other than Hotels, Restaurants and Dhabas etc. and <b>Industrial Category</b>	UPCL vide its Office Memorandum No. 3372/प्र0नि0/उपाकालि/ओएम dated 01.05.2020 ordered to defer the fixed charges on the energy <b>consumed</b> for the period from March, 2020 to May, 2020 payable from the month of April, 2020 to June, 2020 by the consumers of Non-Domestic/Commercial category and Industrial Category. The recovery of these fixed charges shall be done in four equal monthly installments from July, 2020 to October, 2020 without

S. No.	Consumer Category	Relief in tariff provided to electricity consumers
		any delayed payment surcharge. <b>Financial implication on this account to the tune of Rs. 8 Cr. (approx.) shall be reimbursed by GoU to UPCL as per GO No. 429/I (02) 2020-06/01/2020, dated 21.05.2020.</b>
(iii)	Private Tubewells / Agriculture Category	UPCL vide its Office Memorandum No. 3371/प्र०नि०/उपाकालि/ओएम, dated 01-05-2020 ( <b>Annexure - E</b> ) ordered to waive the 100% delayed payment surcharge of those consumers who make <b>payment</b> of their electricity dues by 30-06-2020. <b>Financial implication on this account to the tune of Rs. 3.64 Cr. (approx.) shall be reimbursed by GoU to UPCL as per GO No. 429/I (02) 2020-06/01/2020, dated 21-05-2020.</b>
(iv)	All categories	UPCL vide its Office Memorandum No. 3391/प्र०नि०/उपाकालि/ओएम, dated 02.05.2020 ordered to allow 1% rebate on the due payment made out of current bill through digital mode. The maximum <b>amount</b> of this rebate is Rs. 1 lakh for HT consumers and Rs, 10,000 for LT consumers per bill. <b>Financial implication on this account to the tune of Rs. 2 Cr. per month (approx.) shall be borne by the petitioner through Working Capital Management. Further, as per approval of Board of Directors, the petitioner will request the Commission for allowing the said value of rebate in ARR at the time of truing-up exercise for FY 2020-21.</b>
(v)	All categories	It has been ordered by the petitioner not to disconnect supply of electricity to the <b>consumers</b> by 30.06.2020 due to non-payment of electricity bills.
<p><b>Remark :</b> On the demand of consumers/representatives of Dharmshalas, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Uttarakhand on 08.06.2020 announced to waive off the fixed charges of Dharmshalas for the period from April, 2020 to June, 2020. UPCL vide its letter no. 1393/UPCL/RM/N-55, <b>dated</b> 08.06.2020 submitted a proposal in the matter to GoU seeking approval for reimbursement of fixed charges of Rs. 24 lakh (approx.) to be waived by UPCL. UPCL may take action in the matter as per approval of GoU.</p>		

- 1.5 The Petitioner submitted that the MoP, GoI vide letter no. 11.06.2020-TH-II, dated 10.06.2020 provided the details of rebate of Rs. 39.42 Crore as offered by various Central Public Sector Generation and Transmission Companies to the State of Uttarakhand and desired from GoU to furnish a detailed statement alongwith timeline indicating how the State Government shall be actually passing on the benefits of this rebate to the end consumers. As per direction of GoU, UPCL vide its letter no. 1464/UPCL/RM/N-55, dated 16.06.2020 provided the plan for passing on the benefit/rebate to the end consumers. As there was a complete lockdown in the month of April, 2020 and the

Commercial and Industrial establishments were badly affected during lockdown period, the Petitioner prepared the plan to provide the relief in fixed charges to the Industrial and Commercial Consumers for the consumption month of April, 2020.

1.6 The Petitioner submitted that it has received rebate in fixed charges from Central Public Sector Generation and Transmission Companies as follows:

(i) THDC Limited	:	Rs. 1,90,44,763
(ii) NHPC Limited	:	Rs. 11,57,00,000
(iii) Meja Urja Nigam	:	Rs. 81,00,000
(iv) APCPL	:	Rs. 50,00,000
(v) NHPC Limited	:	Rs. 6,74,86,303
(vi) SJVN Limited	:	Rs. 3,18,00,363
(vii) PGCIL	:	Rs. 14,43,09,130
<b>Total</b>	:	<b>Rs. 39,14,40,559</b>

1.7 The Petitioner submitted the draft plan to pass on the benefit to the Industrial and Commercial Consumers of the State, as received through reduction in fixed power purchase expenses/transmission charges from the Central Public Sector Generation and Transmission Companies as follows:

- (i) As per the provisions of tariff order, the fixed charge on LT Industrial Consumers for the month of April, 2020 has been billed on the basis of contracted load and fixed charge on HT Industrial Consumers for the said month has been billed on the basis of maximum demand or 80% of contracted load, whichever is higher. As such fixed charges amounting to Rs. 52.38 Crore has been billed on these consumers for the month of April, 2020. With a view to provide relief to these consumers, fixed charges on them for the month of April, 2020 shall be charged on the basis of actual demand which is Rs. 24.48 Crore. Accordingly, rebate amounting to Rs. 27.90 Crore. (Rs. 52.38 Cr. – Rs. 24.48 Cr.) shall be passed on to these consumers.
- (ii) The fixed charge on Commercial Consumers (other than hotels, restaurants, dhabas and dharmshallas) for the month of April, 2020 has been billed on the basis of contracted load as per the provisions of Tariff Order. As such fixed charges

amounting to Rs. 11.84 Crore has been billed on these consumers. With a view to provide relief to these consumers, their fixed charges for the month of April, 2020 shall be waived off in full. Accordingly, rebate amounting to Rs. 11.84 Crore shall be passed on to these consumers.

(iii) Any excess/deficit of the above rebate shall be adjusted at the time of true-up exercise for FY 2020-21 by the Commission.

1.8 The Petitioner further submitted that as the fixed charges of the aforesaid consumers shall be waived off to the tune of Rs. 39.14 Crore, which shall be adjusted by the amount of rebate received by the Petitioner from the Central Public Sector Generation and Transmission Companies.

1.9 The Commission in order to give all the stakeholders an opportunity to submit their objections/suggestions/comments on the proposal of the Distribution Licensee, directed UPCL to publish the salient points of its proposals in the leading newspapers. The salient points of the proposal were published by the Petitioner in the following newspapers:

**Table. 1: Publication of Notice**

S. No.	Newspaper Name	Date of Publication (Notice related to draft plan to pass on the benefit in electricity tariff to the end consumers of the State)
1.	Amar Ujala	20.09.2020
2.	The Times of India	21.09.2020

Through the above notice, the stakeholders were requested to submit their objections/suggestions/comments latest by 12.10.2020 on the Petition filed by UPCL (copy of the notice is enclosed as **Annexure-I**). The Commission received in all 4 objections/suggestions/comments in writing on the Petition filed by UPCL.

1.10 The Commission also sought information from UPCL on certain points in the Petition, and UPCL submitted its comments on the same vide its letter dated 10.11.2020.

1.11 The submissions made by the Petitioner, comments of the Stakeholders and Petitioner's response on the same, alongwith the analysis of the Commission are dealt in the subsequent Section.

## 2 Stakeholders' Objections/Suggestions, Petitioner's Responses and Commission's Views

- 2.1 The Commission has received suggestions and objections on UPCL's Petition on the draft plan to pass on the benefit in electricity tariff to the end consumers of the State. The Commission also obtained responses from UPCL on the comments received from the stakeholders. Since, several issues are common and have been raised by more than one Respondent, all suggestions/responses/comments have been clubbed and summarized below.
- 2.2 M/s Tehri Iron & Steel Industries, M/s Rukmini Iron Pvt. Ltd., and M/s D.S. Rolling Mills Private Limited submitted that the ability to operate by the LT & HT Industrial consumers was affected during the period of complete lockdown, i.e. from 22.03.2020 to 17.05.2020, and, therefore, apart from proposed waiver off fixed charges of Industrial Consumers for the month of April, 2020, the fixed charges applicable from 22.03.2020 to 17.05.2020 should also be waived off.

In response to the same, the Petitioner submitted that UPCL is a commercial organization and is required to meet its Annual Revenue Requirement out of the revenue realized from the consumers through electricity tariffs. The Petitioner further submitted that pursuant to the directions issued by Government of Uttarakhand vide its Order no. 429/I(02) 2020-06/01/2020, dated 21.05.2020, UPCL has allowed the reliefs in tariff to the electricity consumers as follows:

- i) Fixed charges of Hotels, Restaurants and Dhabhas have been waived off for the period from April, 2020 to June, 2020.
- ii) The fixed charges of Industrial Category and Commercial Category (other than hotels, restaurants and dhabhas) for the period from April, 2020 to June, 2020 have been deferred. These fixed charges shall be recovered from the consumers in four equal monthly installments from July, 2020 to October, 2020 without any delayed payment surcharge.
- iii) Delayed payment surcharge of those PTW Agriculture Consumers have been waived off who have made payment of their electricity dues by 30.06.2020.

UPCL submitted that financial implication on account of above reliefs shall be

reimbursed by GoU to UPCL. UPCL further submitted that, rebate @ 1% on the due payment made out of current bill through digital mode is being allowed to the consumers of all categories, and the maximum amount of this rebate is Rs. 1 lakh for HT consumers and Rs. 10,000 for LT consumers per bill. The financial implication on this account shall be borne by UPCL through working capital management and the Commission will be requested to allow the said value of rebate in the ARR.

UPCL further submitted that various Central Public Sector Generation and Transmission Companies have provided a rebate of Rs. 39.14 Crore to UPCL in power purchase/transmission bills to be passed on to the end consumers and action on the same shall be taken based on approval of the Commission.

- 2.3 M/s Tehri Iron & Steel Industries, M/s Rukmini Iron Pvt. Ltd., and M/s D.S. Rolling Mills Private Limited submitted that the payment of fixed charges applicable upon the Industrial Category Consumers for the energy consumed during March to May 2020 was deferred by UPCL vide office memorandum No. 3372 dated 01.05.2020. Thereafter, the Government of Uttarakhand vide its G.O. No. 429/I (02)- 06.01.2020 dated 21.05.2020 affirmed the decision of UPCL communicated vide the office memorandum dated 01.05.2020. Hence, the relief of deferment in fixed charges has been allowed independently by the Government of Uttarakhand and it shall not be inter-mixed with the relief provided to UPCL by the Central Power Generating Stations and Central Transmission Utility (PGCIL), as proposed by UPCL under paragraph 3.6(i) and 3.6(iv) of the Petition.

In response to the same, UPCL submitted that as per direction issued by GoU vide its order dated 21.05.2020, UPCL has deferred the fixed charges of Non-Domestic Category consumers and Industrial Category consumers for the period from March, 2020 to May, 2020 (payable from April, 2020 to June, 2020). The recovery of these fixed charges has to be done in four equal monthly instalments from July, 2020 to October, 2020 without delayed payment surcharge. The value of this delayed payment surcharge which have been waived off due to deferment of the same, shall be paid by GoU to UPCL.

UPCL further submitted that it has proposed in the Petition for relaxation in fixed charges for the month of April, 2020, there will be no deferment in that case and, accordingly, there will be no cost to UPCL on this account.

2.4 M/s Tehri Iron & Steel Industries, M/s Rukmini Iron Pvt. Ltd. and M/s D.S. Rolling Mills Private Limited submitted that UPCL has deferred the amount of LPS during lockdown period but the same should be waived off keeping in mind the financial difficulties of consumers.

In response to the same, UPCL submitted that it is a commercial organization and has no power to make any change in the tariff determined by the Commission. However, any subsidy/grant provided by GoU may be passed on to the consumers.

2.5 Shri Shailesh Singh Mathura, President, Hotel Association submitted that UPCL has proposed to provide rebate in Fixed Charges for the month of April, 2020, whereas GoU has provided rebate for three months, i.e. April to June, 2020. It was further submitted that the directions of GoU for providing rebate for the three months as aforesaid may be implemented, and, accordingly, relaxation may be provided to the consumers. Shri Shailesh further submitted that they have objection regarding the inclusion of rebate allowed by UPCL to the consumers in true up of FY 2020-21, which eventually would result in recovering of rebate amount from the consumers at a later date.

In response to the same, UPCL submitted that in the Order dated 21.05.2020 of GoU, various categories of consumers have been provided rebate in electricity tariffs. In compliance to the said Order of GoU, UPCL vide its office Order dated 28.05.2020 has provided rebate in fixed charges equivalent to energy consumed by consumer category like Hotels, Restaurant and Dhabhas during the months of March, 2020 to May, 2020, in the bills for the months of April, 2020 to June, 2020. UPCL further submitted that various Central Public Sector Generation and Transmission Companies have provided rebate of Rs. 39.14 Crore to UPCL in power purchase / transmission bills to be passed on the same to the end consumers, and UPCL shall take action in the matter as per approval of the Commission.

### **3 Petitioner's submission, and Commission's Analysis and Ruling**

3.1 The Commission analysed the submissions made by UPCL and observed that at para 3.6(i) of the Petition UPCL has proposed to charge fixed charges on industrial consumers for the Month of April, 2020 as follows:

*"As per the provisions of tariff order, the fixed charge on LT Industrial Consumers for the month of April, 2020 has been billed on the basis of contracted load and fixed charge on HT Industrial*



*Consumers for the said month has been billed on the basis of maximum demand or 80% of contracted load, whichever is higher. As such fixed charges amounting to Rs. 52.38 Cr. has been billed on these consumers for the month of April, 2020. With a view to provide relief to these consumers, fixed charges on them for the month of April, 2020 shall be charged on the basis of actual demand which is Rs. 24.48 Cr. Accordingly, rebate amounting to Rs. 27.90 Cr. (Rs. 52.38 Cr. – Rs. 24.48 Cr.) shall be passed on to these consumers.”*

Further, at para 3.6(ii) UPCL has proposed as follows:

*The fixed charge on Commercial Consumers (other than hotels, restaurants, dhabas and dharmshallas) for the month of April, 2020 has been billed on the basis of contracted load as per the provisions of Tariff Order. As such fixed charges amounting to Rs. 11.84 Cr. has been billed on these consumers. With a view to provide relief to these consumers, their fixed charges for the month of April, 2020 shall be waived off in full. Accordingly, rebate amounting to Rs. 11.84 Cr. shall be passed on to these consumers.*

Further, at para 3.3 at S. No. (ii) UPCL has submitted that as per the directions of GoU the relief to commercial category consumers, other than hotels, restaurants and dhabas etc. and industrial category, has been allowed as follows:

*“...*

*to defer the fixed charges on the energy consumed for the period from March, 2020 to May, 2020 payable from the month of April, 2020 to June, 2020 by the consumers of Non – Domestic / Commercial category and Industrial Category. The recovery of these fixed charges shall be done in four equal monthly installments from July, 2020 to October, 2020 without any delayed payment surcharge.*

*Financial implication on this account to the tune of Rs. 8 Cr. (approx.) shall be reimbursed by GoU to UPCL as per GO No. 429/I (02) 2020-06/01/2020, dated 21-05-2020.”*

3.2 The Commission in this regard asked UPCL to clarify why different months have been picked to provide relief to same category of consumers as can be seen from the above quoted para 3.3 at S. No. (ii) of the Petition UPCL has provided relief to these consumers from the month of March, 2020 and at above quoted para 3.6(i) and para 3.6(ii) of the Petition UPCL has proposed to provide relief for the month of April, 2020 to these consumers. The Commission further asked UPCL to clarify why two benefits for the same period has been claimed by UPCL as can be seen from para 3.6(ii) of the Petition, as quoted above, where UPCL has proposed to waive off the fixed charges for April, 2020

months whereas at para 3.3 at S. No. (ii), UPCL has claimed financial impact of deferring the recovery of fixed charges.

- 3.3 In response to the same, the Petitioner submitted that the lockdown in the State was imposed w.e.f. 22.03.2020 and on account of the same the Commercial and Industrial establishment had gone into almost complete shutdown except a few industries such as pharma and food industries. On the demand of such consumer category, GoU vide its Order no. 429/I(02)/2020-06/01/2020, dated 21.05.2020 provided relief in electricity tariff to various categories of consumers including deferment of fixed charges of industrial and commercial categories on the energy consumption of March, 2020 to May, 2020. As per direction of GoU, UPCL provided relief in electricity tariff to the designated consumer categories.

UPCL further submitted that, with respect to rebate in fixed charges received from Central Public Sector Generation and Transmission Companies for passing on the same to the consumers, as there were complete lockdown in the month of April, 2020 and the Commercial and Industrial establishments were badly affected during lockdown period, the Petitioner has proposed to provide the relief in fixed charges to the Industrial and Commercial Consumers for the consumption month of April, 2020.

UPCL also submitted that the fixed charges of industrial and commercial consumers except Hotels, Restaurants and Dhabas etc. have been deferred for the consumption month of March, 2020 to May, 2020 as per direction of GoU, and the financial impact on account of this deferment shall be reimbursed by GoU to UPCL.

- 3.4 The Electricity Act, 2003 provides that the Commission shall while safeguarding the consumer's interest shall ensure recovery of the cost of electricity in a reasonable manner. Besides the Act also provides that if the State Government want to provide any benefits/subsidy to any consumer or class of consumers in the tariff determined by the Commission, it may do so providing the subsidy in advance to the licensee. One of the consumer submitted that any shortfall in allowing these benefits should not be considered during the true up of FY 2020-21 as the same would result in recovering of rebate amount from the consumers at a later date. It should not be forgotten that UPCL is a commercial organization having limited resources and thus, it cannot be expected to bear such burden. Any under-recovery of costs of UPCL, other than due to inefficiency

of UPCL, has to be passed on to the consumers.

3.5 The Commission after going through the submissions made by the Petitioner, responses received from the Stakeholders and further information sought from UPCL, is of the view that the draft plan to pass on the benefit to the Industrial and Commercial Consumers of the State, as received through reduction in fixed power purchase expenses / transmission charges from the Central Public Sector Generation and Transmission Companies and also through direct subsidy provided by Government of Uttarakhand may be approved as detailed hereunder:

1. The fixed charges for the period from March, 2020 to May, 2020 payable by the Hotels, Restaurants and Dhabas shall be waived off subject to GoU providing subsidy to UPCL by way of adjustment in the next bill of the consumers.
2. The recovery of fixed charges for the period from March, 2020 to May, 2020 payable by the consumers of Non - Domestic / Commercial category other than the Hotels, Restaurants and Dhabas and Industrial Category shall be deferred and shall be done in four equal monthly installments from July, 2020 to October, 2020 without any delayed payment surcharge. Since this has already been done, UPCL should ensure that it receives the subsidy equivalent to the financial implication from GoU.
3. One-time waiver of 100% delayed payment surcharge of Private Tubewells / Agriculture Category consumers who make payment of their electricity dues by 30.06,2020 subject to it receiving the same from GoU.
4. 1% rebate on the timely payments of the current bill through digital mode subject to the maximum amount of Rs. 1 lakh for HT consumers and Rs, 10,000 for LT consumers per bill shall be allowed and the rebate shall be allowed in the truing up for FY 2020-21.
5. As submitted by UPCL, fixed charges amounting to Rs. 52.38 Crore has been billed on LT Industrial Consumers and HT Industrial Consumers for the month of April, 2020.

With a view to provide relief to these consumers, fixed charges on LT Industrial Consumers and HT Industrial Consumers for the month of April, 2020 shall be charged on the basis of actual demand which works out to Rs. 24.48 Crore,

as submitted by UPCL, and accordingly, rebate amounting to Rs. 27.90 Crore (Rs. 52.38 Crore - Rs. 24.48 Crore) shall be passed on to these consumers by way of adjustment in the next bill of the consumers.

6. As submitted by UPCL the fixed charge on Commercial Consumers (other than hotels, restaurants, dhabas and dharmshalas) for the month of April, 2020 has been billed on the basis of contracted load amounting to Rs. 11.84 Crore.

With a view to provide relief to these consumers, their fixed charges for the month of April, 2020 shall be waived off in full, and accordingly, rebate amounting to Rs. 11.84 Cr. shall be passed on to these consumers by way of adjustment in the next bill of the consumers.

7. The Commission shall adjust any excess/deficit of the above rebates at the time of true-up exercise for FY 2020-21.
8. As the fixed charges of the above-mentioned consumers shall be waived off to the tune of Rs. 39.14 Crore, i.e. the amount of rebate received by the Petitioner from the Central Public Sector Generation and Transmission Companies. Further, the deferred amount of fixed charges shall be worked out in the ratio of (amount deferred against fixed charges ÷ total amount of fixed charges) × (amount of fixed charges based on actual demand as proposed by UPCL), and interest cost of balance deferred amount shall be claimed from GoU. UPCL is directed to maintain separate records of the amount received from the CPSU's and the impact of waiver of fixed charges on the consumers which shall be submitted to the Commission during truing up for FY 2020-21.
9. It shall also be ensured that the subsidy amount committed by GoU is received by UPCL failing which any shortfall will not be allowed to be pass through in tariffs.

3.6 Ordered Accordingly.

**(M.K. Jain)**  
**Member (Technical)**

**(D.P. Gairola)**  
**Member (Law)**



## UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LTD.

(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking) (Corporate Identity No. UA40109UR2001SGC025867/2358)

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### PUBLIC NOTICE

**Inviting Comments on the Petition for approval on the draft plan to pass on the benefit in electricity tariff to the end consumers of the State, filed by UPCL before the Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission**

1. Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited (UPCL), the sole Distribution and Retail Supply Licensee in the State, has filed a Petition before Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission (UERC or Commission) for approval on the draft plan to pass on the benefit in electricity tariff to the end consumers of the State.
2. Through the above Petition, UPCL has submitted that it has received a rebate of Rs. 39.14 Crore from the Central Public Sector Generation and Transmission Companies.
3. UPCL has proposed a draft plan, to pass on the benefits of reduction in fixed power purchase expenses / transmission charges from the Central Public Sector Generation and Transmission Companies, to the Industrial and Commercial consumers of the State as follows:
  - (i) As per the provisions of tariff order, the fixed charge on LT Industrial Consumers for the month of April, 2020 has been billed on the basis of contracted load and fixed charge on HT Industrial Consumers for the said month has been billed on the basis of maximum demand or 80% of contracted load, whichever is higher. As such fixed charges amounting to Rs. 52.38 Crore has been billed on these consumers for the month of April, 2020. With a view to provide relief to these consumers, fixed charges on them for the month of April, 2020 shall be charged on the basis of actual demand which is Rs. 24.48 Crore, and accordingly, rebate amounting to Rs. 27.90 Crore (Rs. 52.38 Crore – Rs. 24.48 Crore) shall be passed on to these consumers.
  - (ii) The fixed charge on Commercial Consumers (other than Hotels, Restaurants, Dhabas and Dharmshalla's) for the month of April, 2020 has been billed on the basis of contracted load as per the provisions of Tariff Order. As such fixed charges amounting to Rs. 11.84 Crore has been billed on these consumers. With a view to provide relief to these consumers, their fixed charges for the month of April, 2020 shall be waived off in full. Accordingly, rebate amounting to Rs. 11.84 Crore shall be passed on to these consumers.
  - (iii) Any excess / deficit of the above rebate shall be adjusted at the time of true-up exercise for FY 2020-21 by the Commission.
  - (iv) Further, as the fixed charges of the above-mentioned consumers shall be waived off to the tune of Rs. 39.14 Crore, i.e. the amount of rebate received by the petitioner from the Central Public Sector Generation and Transmission Companies, the deferred amount of fixed charges as per UPCL's office memorandum dated 01.05.2020 (refer para 3.3 (ii) of the Petition), shall be also be reduced by Rs. 39.14 Crore and the Petitioner will claim the interest cost on the reduced amount of fixed charges deferred.
4. Responses/suggestions, if any, are sought from consumers and other stakeholders on the Petition. Responses may be sent to the Secretary, Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission, either in person, or by post at 'Vidyut Niyamak Bhawan', Near ISBT, PO-Majra, Dehradun-248171 or through e-mail to [secy.uerc@gov.in](mailto:secy.uerc@gov.in) by 12.10.2020.
5. The Petition is also available at the website of the Commission ([www.uerc.gov.in](http://www.uerc.gov.in)) and at UPCL's website ([www.upcl.org](http://www.upcl.org)).

No. 471/EE(CM) /UPCL/A-2 Date 19.09.2020

Managing Director

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