GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB DEPARTMENT OF POWER (Power Reforms Wing)

To

The Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, Patiala.

Memo No. 1/4 | 2020 - EB (PL) | 187 Date, Chandigarh the 7th April, 2020

Subject:

To give relief to the electricity consumers in the State of Punjab for mitigating the impact of COVID-19.

You may be aware that the restrictions have been imposed by the State Government on movement of public and opening of offices and establishments etc. to control the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this time of crisis, due to the unprecedented situation which is likely to continue for some time the consumers are unable to pay their dues to Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL).

Keeping in view the hardship being faced by the people of Punjab and to mitigate the impact of COVID-19, Hon'ble Chief Minister Punjab has decided to give following reliefs to the electricity consumers:

- 1) Due date of electricity bills of all the Domestic & Commercial consumers having current monthly/bimonthly bills up to Rs.10000/- payable on or after 20th March, 2020 has been extended up to 20th April, 2020 without levy of late payment surcharge and 1% rebate will be given to the consumers on the current bill (exclusive of any previous arrears) who will pay electricity bills online through digital modes by original due date.
- Due date of electricity bills payable on or after 20th March, 2020 of all the Industrial consumers i.e. SP, MS and LS has been extended up to 20th April, 2020 without levy of late payment surcharge and 1% rebate will be given to the consumers (exclusive of any previous arrears) who will pay electricity bills online through digital modes by original due date.

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- 3) Fixed Charges for Medium Supply (MS) and Large Supply (LS) Industrial Consumers be exempted for next 2 months from 23.3.2020 and Energy Charges may be fixed to commensurate with reduction in Fixed Charges (single rate). Revised Energy Charges will be paid by consumers and not to be considered for subsidy.
- 4) PSPCL shall ensure continuity of supply. Complaints related to safety and restoration of supply shall continue to be attended.
- 5) PSPCL shall discontinue other non-essential services which require visiting consumer premises like i.e. meter reading, billing, release of new connections etc. during the lockdown period.
- 6) In absence of meter reading, the consumers shall be intimated about their bill through PSPCL website, SMS, Email, Mobile App etc. and bill shall be issued on average basis.
- 7) Wherever Automated Meter Reading (AMR) is in place, same shall be used.
- 8) No new disconnection shall be carried out against non-payment till restrictions are withdrawn by the Authority.

All the above measures may be brought in the knowledge of public through electronic media and print media for wider publicity.

Principal Secretary, Power