BEFORE THE HARYANA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION BAYS No. 33-36, SECTOR-4, PANCHKULA- 134112, HARYANA

Case No. PRO 17 of 2021

Date of hearing : 05.08.2021

Date of Order : 05.08.2021

In the Matter of

Petition under Regulation 10 of HERC (Duty to supply electricity on request, Power to recover expenditure incurred in providing supply and Power to require security) Regulations, 2016, seeking relaxation for supplying electricity for the purpose of Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging to the Premises already having electricity connection for another purpose of use.

Petitioner

Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam Limited, Shakti Bhawan, Sector 6, Panchkula, Haryana

Present:

On behalf of the Petitioner:

Sh. R.K Khanna, Chief Engineer, Commercial, UHBVN

QUORUM

Shri Pravindra Singh, Member (in Chair) Shri Naresh Sardana, Member

ORDER

1. Brief background of the case:

Main excerpts of the petition and prayers by the petitioner are as under:

1.1 That the instant has been filed by UHBVN citing Tariff Order dated 30.03.2021 that the Commission allowed concessional tariff for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations of Rs 5.55kWh or Rs 5.00/kVAh

- and Fixed Charges of Rs 100/kW/kVA per month and further for faster adoption of Electric Vehicles, benefit of Time of Day/Use Tariff also allowed to EV Charging Stations (having supply at HT level) on total consumption, instead of incremental consumption in off-peak demand period (November to March).
- 1.2 That pursuant to above, application for release of connection for electric vehicle charging station were received from the consumers where in it was observed that already a connection for specific purpose of use stands released in the consumer premises and thus in such a scenario releasing additional connection for purpose of use of electric vehicle charging station will contravene the existing regulation 3.8 (titled as "One connection in One Premises") of HERC (Duty to Supply Electricity). Also, if a portion of the residential/industrial premises is regularly used for any commercial activity, then separate connection under non-domestic supply is to be obtained for such portion.
- 1.3 That in similar issue, the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) issued an interim order to relax the existing terms and conditions directing applicable tariff for charging E-Vehicle at the premises will remain the same as the tariff approved for the existing purpose of use. Whereas, the tariff applicable for charging E-Vehicle at charging stations will remain the same as approved in the Tariff Order. It was further directed that the charging stations must avail a separate connection for associated purpose and shall be billed under the Non-Domestic supply category.

Subsequently, DERC directed that the premises like Retails outlets of Oil Marketing Companies, Housing Societies, Malls, Office Complexes, restaurants, Hotels, Parking of Metro Stations, etc., should be given separate connection by extending separate wiring and installing meter for electric vehicle charging station. Furthermore, where single point supply connection is released, a separate EV Charging connection at LT level shall be provided and in such case minus metering may be adopted.

- 1.4 The petitioner in the instant petition requested the Commission to allow the following relaxations in the existing regulations or issue any other directions as deemed fit:
 - a) Tariff applicable for charging of Electric Vehicle at premises other than charging stations shall be the same as applicable for the relevant category of connection at such premises.
 - b) Tariff for Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations on single point delivery shall be applicable for charging of batteries at swapping facilities provided that such swapping facilities are exclusively used for swapping of batteries of E-Rickshaw/E-Vehicle only.
 - c) At EV Charging station a separate electricity connection shall be taken by the applicant for other associated purposes such as office of charging station, public amenities, consumption of other equipment etc. The applicant shall ensure a separate metering arrangement for such purposes and tariff as applicable to relevant category shall be applicable to the same.
 - d) Permit a separate connection for EV charging in retails outlets of Oil Marketing Companies, Housing Societies, Malls, Office Complexes, restaurants, Hotels, Parking of Metro Stations or its premises etc., Further, in cases where single point connection has been provided in the premises, and a separate EV connection is desired at LT level, Distribution Licensee in such cases may adopt minus metering by providing separate wiring and metering for EV charging activities.
 - e) Applicant must be having the approval for safety and/or fire clearance for EV Charging station wherever applicable from the concerned department such as petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization (PESO), fire department, etc.

2. Commission Analysis and Orders:

- 2.1 The case came up for hearing on 05.08.2021 as scheduled through video conferencing in view of Covid-19 Pandemic.
- 2.2 At the outset Chief Engineer/Commercial, UHBVN reiterated the petition submitting that application for release of connection of Electric Vehicle Charging Station are being received from the consumers (having Outlets of Oil Marketing Companies, Housing Societies, Malls, Office Complexes, restaurants, Hotels, Parking of Metro Stations) and in most of the cases, it has been observed that a connection for specific purpose of use already stands released in the consumer premises, and releasing additional supply for any other purpose of use particularly for Electric Vehicle Charging Station will contravene the existing HERC (Duty to supply), Regulation 3.8 (titled as "One connection in One Premises") which states that only one connection in one premises is to be released unless the given premises is duly independent or partitioned into separate units. Further, separate connection under non-domestic supply can be released additional to such residential/industrial premises if any portion of the same is regularly being used for commercial activities permitted under the laws.
- 2.3 The Commission observes that to support of Government of India initiatives to promote adoption of E- Vehicles in India, the commission in its Tariff Order dated 30.03.2021, allowed concessional tariff for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

comprising of Energy Charges of Rs 5.55/kWh or Rs 5.00/kVAh and Fixed Charges of Rs 100/kW/kVA per month and for faster adoption of Electric Vehicles, benefit of Time of Day/Use Tariff also allowed to EV Charging Stations (having supply at HT level) on total consumption, instead of incremental consumption in off-peak demand period (November to March).

- 2.4 The commission has taken note of the existing conditions of Regulation 3.8 of HERC (Duty to supply electricity on request, Power to recover expenditure incurred in providing supply and Power to require security) Regulations, 2016, "one connection in one premises" allows only one connection in one premises to be released and separate connection under non-domestic supply can be released additional to such residential/industrial premises. As such release of another connection under nondomestic supply to a portion of the premises being used regularly under commercial activity are creating legal obstacles to the Discoms while giving connection for E-Vehicles.
- 2.5 As per Regulation 9 of HERC (Duty to supply electricity on request, Power to recover expenditure incurred in providing supply and Power to require security) Regulations, 2016, if any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of these Regulations, the Commission may, by order, make such provision, not consistent to provisions of the act and these Regulations, as may appear to be necessary for removal of difficulty.

- 2.6 In view of Regulation 9 of HERC (Duty to supply electricity on request, Power to recover expenditure incurred in providing supply and Power to require security) Regulations, 2016, as a special case, the Commission allows the petition as prayed for as under:
 - a) Tariff applicable for charging of Electric Vehicle at premises other than charging stations shall be the same as applicable for the relevant category of connection at such premises.
 - b) Tariff for Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations on single point delivery shall be applicable for charging of batteries at swapping facilities provided that such swapping facilities are exclusively used for swapping of batteries of E-Rickshaw/E-Vehicle only.
 - c) At EV Charging station a separate electricity connection shall be taken by the applicant for other associated purposes such as office of charging station, public amenities, consumption of other equipment etc. The applicant shall ensure a separate metering arrangement for such purposes and tariff as applicable to relevant category shall be applicable to the same.
 - d) Permit a separate connection for EV charging in retails outlets of Oil Marketing Companies, Housing Societies, Malls, Office Complexes, restaurants, Hotels, Parking of Metro Stations or its premises etc.
 - e) Further, in cases where single point connection has been provided in the premises, and a separate EV connection is desired at LT level, Distribution Licensee in such cases may adopt minus metering by providing separate wiring and metering for EV charging activities.
 - f) Applicant must be having the approval for safety and/or fire clearance for EV Charging station wherever applicable from the concerned department such as petroleum and

Explosives Safety organization (PESO), fire department, etc.

The petition is disposed of accordingly.

This Order is signed, dated and issued by the Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission on 05.08.2021.

Date: 05.08.2021 (Pravindra Singh) (Naresh Sardana)
Place: Panchkula Member Member