No.02:10:APDRP Vol.-III:2010

November 8, 2010

All Utilities ] as per list attached

Sub: Procurement and installation of HT and LTCT energy meters for electricity distribution network and consumers, under R-APDRP projects.

ii) Minutes of the Meeting held with Meter Manufacturers at PFC on 15/01/2010
iii) CE/CEA letter no. 502/6/2010-DP&D/120-60 dtd: 25.01.2010

Sir,

This has reference to our letter ctd 30.07.2010 indicated above, wherein utilities were advised to adhere to the model technical specification and Guideline Document (ICS-BIS-ETD 13 -6211-Apr2010) for procurement and installation of energy meters (33/11 kV feeders, DT, HT, CT operated LT consumers meters) for RAPDRP projects, however it has come to notice that additional parameters and features are being included in the tender meter specification.

As explained earlier, in the guideline document (i.e. standard ICS-BIS-ETD 13 -6211-Apr2010, being issued by BIS), the parameters of each category of meters has been identified based on recommendation of high level committee appointed by MoP consisting of CEA, CPRI, Utilities, NTPC and IEEEMA for the purpose of implementation of new standard and also discussed extensively in subsequent meetings at PFC involving utilities, manufacturers, CEA, CPRI, BIS etc. to cover the parameters comprehensively. Accordingly BIS has finalised the Companion Specification and allotted OBIS code only for the parameters identified by the high level committee. However in the specification, array of load survey parameters are identified for capturing and storing at specified time intervals or capture times, which is programmable by the utilities. The nos. of selected parameters depends on capture times (15 or 30 minutes) which depend on available memory of the meter.

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The basic purpose of use of model technical specification and Guideline Document (Indian Companion Standard-ICS-BIS-ETD 13-6211-Apr2010) in R-APDRP project is to follow and implement uniform standards throughout the country, this will help in standardisation in AMR reading which is an important part of IT enabling project under R-APDRP Part-A and also create competitive market due to presence of standard meters in the market. On the contrary, alteration / addition of different parameters in different utilities shall need introduction of new specific OBIS code for each parameter by different manufacturers, shall result into non-standardisation of parameters and adversely affect the market competition as only few manufacturers may be able to supply the meters.

Therefore, for timely implementation of R-APDRP projects, utilities are advised to align their meters specification as per Indian companion standard mentioned above, the model technical specification and guidelines issued by PFC/ MOP for procurement of meters under RAPDRP. Any deviation in this regard may cause violation of guidelines resulting into rejection of expenditure claimed against procurement and installation such meters in R-APDRP. In addition to this, the delay in procurement/installation of meters, which may occur due to changes in model specification, ICS etc runs the risk of non conversion of loan into grant for the project areas sanctioned under R-APDRP.

In case there is requirement of additional parameters in meters, utilities may approach CEA (Central Electricity Authority) for inclusion of such parameters. The empowered High Level Committee at CEA may look into the requests and assign the OBIS code for the parameter. Only after incorporation of this code in Indian Companion Standard-ICS-BIS-ETD 13-6211 by BIS, the utilities may go for procurement of energy meters with those additional parameters.

It is also advised to procure the Hand Held Units (HHU) or CMRI for the meters separately as the HHUs manufacturers are different from meter manufacturers.

With regards,

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

V K Shah
GM (R-APDRP)

Copy for kind information to:
1. JS (Distribution) MoP, Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi
2. Director (Distribution), MoP, Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi