

Minutes of the Meeting held with Meter Manufacturers at PFC on 15 January 2010

A meeting of IEEMA, Meter manufacturers, CPRI, CEA, MoP & PFC (nodal agency for R-APDRP) under chairmanship of JS (Dist), MoP, GOI was held on 15 Jan'2010 to review availability of system energy meters for R-APDRP projects. List of Participants is enclosed as annexure-I. The salient points are as follows:

- i) Director (Distribution) MoP, GOI expressed concern on delay in availability of required system energy meters for R-APDRP projects, even after release of specification along with Guideline Document (draft Indian companion standard of IEC 62056 & DLMS) in first week of September 2009. The tender enquiries floated by different utilities are not getting adequate response from the meters manufacturers. Further CPRI has not yet completed the testing set-up for these meters. The non availability of energy meters is adversely affecting the programme implementation targets.
- ii) Director (Distribution) MoP, GOI also expressed dissatisfaction over BIS's slow progress in finalization of Indian Companion Standard of IEC 62056 & DLMS, the draft copy of which was thoroughly discussed among its stakeholders namely meter manufacturers, IEEMA, utilities, CPRI, CEA etc in Aug 2009 and also the wide-circulation norm was completed on November 30,2010.
- iii) BIS representative informed that the Chairman of the committee ET13, which has been set-up for finalization of the above standard, is not available from quite some time due to personal reasons which is leading to delay in finalization. It was suggested to BIS to also look for alternatives and finalize the standard at the earliest.
- iv) CPRI, Bangalore informed that they shall complete the required conformity tests set-up by end of January 2010 and shall be in a position to test meters of three manufacturers simultaneously every week and issue necessary certificates with DLMS logo from 1st February 2010 onwards.
- v) IEEMA and Meter manufacturers confirmed that they are ready with the specified energy meters. The lack in response was due to non finalization of Indian companion standard by BIS, delay in availability of testing facilities at CPRI Bangalore, and asking of sample meters with bids by some utilities. Since now the issues have been addressed, there shall not be lack of response from their side in submission of bids to the utilities for supply of meters. Further it was informed that the utilities are not deciding and going slow in procurement of these meters on the same reasons.
- vi) Meter manufacturers confirmed that meters complying the above draft companion standard shall not require fresh type test and only the additional features shall need to be tested for compliance because the basic physical properties of the meters manufactured for complying the companion standard shall not change, only the firmwares need to be modified. This is as per

provision 12.2 of IS 14697:1999 (reaffirmed 2004) which states that meters that undergo modifications after the type test affecting only part of the meter, it is sufficient to perform limited tests on the characteristics that may be affected by the modification.

However, at the time of seeking conformity tests, and the time of delivery to utilities, they (manufacturer) will give a certificate that the basic design of the meter has not changed; only firmware has been modified for compliance of companion standard.

In order to expedite procurement of systems meters under RAPDRP by utilities, it was decided that CEA shall write to utilities clarifying the issues relating adoption of draft companion standard. **(Action: CEA)**

- vii) It was pointed out by HPL Socomec that compatible CMRI may not be available at this moment in the market.

CEA shall take up the issue with the CMRI manufacturers for early availability of same. **(Action: CEA)**

- viii) It was suggested by Landis & Gyré that some distinction should be made between energy meters complying IEC 62056 protocol and draft Indian companion standard (which has additional features). It was clarified that certificates issued by CPRI shall confirm the same. **(Action: CPRI)**

- ix) Madhya Gujarat VIJ Co Ltd pointed out that even after requests Secure Meters and L&T Ltd, whose meters are installed at various locations (sub-stations, DT, HT consumers etc) in the utility, are not providing the protocols/memory maps for the meters which is adversely affecting the R-APDRP implementation time line. **(Action: Secure/IEEMA)**

PFC informed in the meeting that in the Secretary (Power) MoP, GOI meeting in April 2008, IEEMA and meter manufacturers had agreed to provide protocols/ data structure /memory maps for their legacy meters free of cost to the Utilities who can use it by developing their own software for reading meter data directly using meter protocol. Alternatively utility may use API/MIOS provided free of cost by meter manufacturers for this purpose.

IEEMA and meter manufacturers agreed to provide the required protocols/memory maps/API/MIOS free of cost for the legacy meters as per utilities requirements.

- x) It was agreed that:
- a) The Guideline Document (draft Indian companion standard) indicated under point (i) above shall continue to be followed in R-APDRP for installation of ring-fencing, feeder, DT and HT consumer meters.
 - b) At this stage Utilities may not insist for submission of sample energy meters along with bids till 31 March 2010, to facilitate full scale set-up of CTT lab by CPRI Bangalore for testing large nos. of meters. The bidders shall submit relevant compliance certificates at

the time of meters delivery. Utilities may include suitable penal clause in their bid document in this regard for bidders who do not comply their commitments.

- c) In addition to the normal method of tender enquiry, utilities should also forward the copy of the same to the IEEMA and manufacturers' representatives whose e-mail addresses shall be made available to the utilities.
- d) PFC shall upload, on apdrp web portal, the list of manufacturers who are issued conformance certificates by CPRI.
- e) In order to expedite procurement of systems meters under RAPDRP by utilities, it was decided that CEA shall write to utilities clarifying the issues relating adoption of draft companion standard.
- f) Meter manufacturers shall provide the required protocols/memory maps/API/MIOS free of cost for the legacy meters as per utilities requirements.

Summarizing the meeting, Joint Secretary (Distribution) MoP, GOI expressed hope that there shall not be further delay in availability of energy meters required for ring-fencing, feeders, Distribution Transformers and HT consumers in R-APDRP.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

List of Participants

MoP,GOI

- i. Shri Devender Singh, JS(Dist)
- ii. Shri Kapil Mohan, Director (Dist)
- iii. Shri Ramesh Chand, US
- iv. Shri Kamlakar Singh, DGM (APDRP)

CEA

- i. Shri Alok Gupta, Chief Engineer

PFC

- i. Shri M K Goel, Director (ID&A)
- ii. Shri Avkash Saxena GM (APDRP)
- iii. Shri V K Shah GM (APDRP)
- iv. Shri S Rudra, AGM (APDRP)
- v. Shri A K Shrivastava DGM (APDRP)
- vi. Shri P S Goswamy, Sr. Manager (APDRP)
- vii. Shri Rajiv Pharlia, Mgr (APDRP)
- viii. Shri Suresh Babu, Dy. Mgr (APDRP)

CPRI, Bangalore

- i. Shri Arunachalam, Addl Director

BIS (Electrotechnical)

- i. Mrs Manju Gupta, Scientist E

JVVCL

- i. Shri A.K. Kalla , SE (IT)
- ii. Shri Anil Gupta, EE

MGVL

- i. Shri R.O. Gandhi, CE
- ii. Shri H.M. Patel
- iii. Shri K.M. Dave

Kalkitech

- i. Shri Vimal Warriier

NDPL

- i. Shri R.K.Singh, AGM
- ii. Shri Ranjeev Kadalbajoo

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