

**Central Electricity Regulatory Commission  
New Delhi**

19<sup>th</sup> August, 2020

**Notice**

In consideration of the advisory issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare vide Office Memorandum dated 5.3.2020, cautioning against mass gathering due to the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic, the Commission vide notice dated 16.3.2020 had deferred the physical hearing of the petitions. Subsequently, due to closure of the Commission's office in terms of MOP, GOI OM dated 25.3.2020 and since physical filing of hard copies of Petitions was not possible, the Commission vide notice dated 3.4.2020 issued the following guideline:

*"2. For matters involving extreme urgency, Advocate/Party-in-person may file the Petition through e-filing mode available on the Commission's website. The Petition must inter-alia clearly contain the case details and contact details of the Advocate/Party-in person, etc. together with a prayer for exemption of filing duly affirmed affidavit in the prevailing circumstances with an undertaking that duly affirmed affidavit will be submitted subsequently..."*

2. As the Commission decided to hear cases during the on-going pandemic (Covid-19) through Video Conferencing, a notice was issued on 30.4.2020 setting out the guidelines and procedure to be adopted by the Advocates/Party Representatives for the Virtual Court Room hearing. One such guideline prescribed in the notice dated 30.4.2020 was the following:

*"7. In fresh matters, an undertaking shall be given by the Advocates/ Party Representatives to file the original paper books or Interlocutory Application (IA), complete in all respects including the requisite documents, affidavit(s) and duly signed Vakalatnama/ Power of Attorney, etc. in original within a week after the resumption of normal working of the Commission.."*

3. Accordingly, the Commission has been hearing and disposing of urgent and part-heard matters through Video Conferencing, based on the documents/pleadings e-filed by the Advocates/Party representatives with the aforesaid undertaking.

4. Pursuant to the Guidelines for Phased Reopening (Unlock-3) issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs vide order dated 29.7.2020, the Registry of the Commission has been accepting hard copies of the e-filed petitions in terms of the relevant Regulations notified by the Commission and subsequent orders thereof.

5. Accordingly, all stakeholders /parties who have e-filed their Petitions (which includes Interlocutory Applications/Replies/Rejoinder etc.,) during the lockdown period, based on the undertaking as stated, are hereby directed to submit the hard copies of the same in original, with affidavit duly affirmed, within 15 days from the date of this notice. This should also be accompanied by duly signed Vakalatnama and Power of Attorney, as the case may be, in the relevant petitions.

6. It is hereby informed that with effect from 1.9.2020, the normal practice of e-filing the Petitions in the portal of the Commission followed by the filing of duly affirmed hard copies of the petitions before the Registry shall be continued. However, in order to avoid mass gathering and to ensure social distancing, the hard copies of the Petitions shall be received by the Registry with restricted timings from 10.00 hrs to 13.00 hrs, on all working days, until further orders.

Sd/-  
(Sanoj Kumar Jha)  
Secretary