

OFFICE OF UTILITIES REGULATION

ORDER

[Ele 2005/02]

(Issued pursuant to Section 4 (5) of the Office of Utilities Regulation Act)

IN THE MATTER OF PRESCRIBING PROCEDURES FOR THE TESTING OF METERS USED BY JAMAICA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY LTD. TO MEASURE CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY BY ITS CUSTOMERS

AND

IN THE MATTER OF THE OFFICE OF UTILITIES REGULATION ACT (1995) AS AMENDED BY THE OFFICE OF UTILITIES REGULATION AMENDMENT ACT (2000)

WHEREAS the Office of Utilities Regulations Act (“the Act”) as amended empowers the Office of Utilities Regulation (“the Office”) pursuant to Section 4 (5) of the Act by Order published in the Gazette to inter alia

- (a) Prescribe the unit of measurement and the type of measuring device to be used by a licensee or specified organization in relation to prescribed utility services;
- (b) Prescribe standards for the measurements of quantity, quality or other conditions relating to prescribed utility services;
- (c) Provide for the inspection and testing of any prescribed utility services or of any equipment or measuring device used in connection therewith;
- (d) Prescribe minimum standards of quality and accuracy in relation to any equipment used or any commodity supplied by a licensee or specified organization in connection with the relevant prescribed utility;

WHEREAS **Jamaica Public Service Company Ltd.** (JPS) is obliged by virtue of Condition 2 paragraph 6 of its All Island Electricity Licence 2001 “....to discharge its obligations and perform the duties imposed or authorized under the relevant laws.....” .

THE OFFICE HEREBY ORDERS THAT:

1. All meters used by JPS shall be specified, manufactured, tested to and be compliant with the currently in force ANSI Standard C.12 (the Standard) including any related standards and
2. All instrument transformers and devices that are required for metering and is integral to the measuring system shall be specified, manufactured, tested to and be compliant with the ANSI Standard C.12 and C. 57 currently in force including any related standards.
3. All meters that are to be introduced into Jamaica for the purpose of measuring electricity consumption by customers must be pattern approved to ensure conformity with the standards in force.
4. Batches of approved meters are to be tested at the point of importation to establish that the shipment imported conform to the approved pattern.
5. Samples of meters that are installed at customers' premises are to be selected, using a methodology agreed with the Office, and field tested in order to monitor compliance with the specified standard of accuracy.
6. Customers shall have the right to request that their meters be tested and JPS must respond to any such request reasonably made on the company.

AND HEREBY NOTIFIES JPS THAT: in order to secure compliance with this ORDER the Office will from time to time appoint and authorize any competent authority or authorities that it deems fit to act as its Agent to test metering and associated equipment used for revenue purposes, for such period as the Office may decide, to perform the relevant duties as set out hereunder:

- (i) Type approve all pattern or models of electricity meters prior to order and purchase;
- (ii) Provide a quality assurance and testing system that will ensure that all batches of type approved meters conform to performance requirements as stipulated in the Standard;
- (iii) Ascertain that the accuracy of electricity meters installed in the field are maintained within acceptable tolerances;
- (iv) Ensure that the measurements involved in consumer complaints are verified with respect to the accuracy in a transparent and fair manner.
- (v) Enforce such performance requirements for electricity meters, as may be agreed, in accordance with the Standard;

THE OFFICE HEREBY APPOINTS AND AUTHORISES the Bureau of Standards, Jamaica as its Agent, for the time being, to perform these duties in compliance with such procedures as the Office may from time to time direct.

This **ORDER** becomes effective on the First Day of August 2005.

BY ORDER OF THE OFFICE

SIGNED THIS 29th DAY OF JULY 2005

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J. PAUL MORGAN
DIRECTOR GENERAL