

J. 94/6091

2008/04/18

Smt. Vasundhara Raje  
Hon'ble Chief Minister  
Government of Rajasthan  
Chief Minister's office, Jaipur

Dear Madam,

**Request to fill up the vacant position of Chairperson and Member in the Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission (RERC) on a priority basis**

Greeting from CUTS International!

We would like to invite your kind attention to the above-mentioned subject. The Commission has been working without a Chairman and a member since January 2007. As you know under the provisions of The Electricity Act 2003, very important functions and responsibilities have been assigned to the Commission. Regulation of electricity is a multi-skilled job; therefore, it requires expertise from various fields such as economics, law, engineering etc. However, as a result of vacancies in the Commission for a long period, the functioning of the body is being affected adversely.

Rajasthan is one of the pioneer states initiating electricity reforms at the state level. The state government has supported the reforms process since inception. Various national as well as international agencies including Ministry of Power (Mo) have recognized this fact from time to time. At this stage when lot of important issues such as open access, multi-years tariff, trading margin, consumers grievances etc are to be resolved by the Regulator, there is an urgent need to fill up these posts in the Commission.

Sections 85 (2) of the Electricity Act 2003 states that "*State Government shall ..... six months before the superannuation or end of tenure of the Chairperson or Member, make a reference to the Selection Committee for filling up of the vacancy*".

In this context, we request to you to urgently fill up the vacancies by appointing capable persons as regulators, who will take the reform process forward through effective regulation for the benefit of the ultimate users. Looking forward for a favorable immediate decision from you.

With Regards

Yours sincerely

George Cheriyan  
Director, CUTS International  
(Member, State Advisory Committee, RERC)

Copy for Information to:

1. Secretary, Dept. of Energy, Govt. of Rajasthan
2. Mr. K.L. Vyas, Officiating Chairman, RERC