IN THE APPELLATE TRIBUNAL FOR ELECTRICITY AT NEW DELHI (APPELLATE JURISDICTION)

<u>IA NO. 51 OF 2016</u> <u>IN</u> <u>DFR NO.2565 of 2015</u>

Dated: 19th December, 2016.

Present: Hon'ble Smt. Justice Ranjana P. Desai, Chairperson

Hon'ble Shri I.J. Kapoor, Technical Member.

In the matter of:

Energy Watchdog ... Applicant/

Appellant

Vs.

Tamil Nadu Electricity

Regulatory Commission & Ors. ... Respondents

Counsel for the Mr. Anil Kumar (Rep.)

Applicant(s)/Appellant (s)

Counsel for the Respondent(s) Mr. S. Vallinayagam for **R-2**

Mr. Sanjay Sen, Sr. Adv. Mr. Hemant Singh for **R-3** to

R-5

Mr. Rahul Balaji

Mr. Rakesh Shah

Mr. Anand K. Ganesan

Ms. Swapna Seshadri for **R-6**

to 10, R-13 & R-14

Mr. Sakya Singha Chaudhuri

Mr. Avijeet Lala

Ms. Molshi Bhatnagar for

R-11 & R-12

Ms. Manu Seshadri for **R-18**, **R-19 & R-24**

Ms. Divya Chaturvedi Ms. Arunima Kedia for **R-20**

Mr. Jayanth Muthraj Ms. Malavika for **R-25**

ORDER

The Applicant is a registered Society. Its members are electricity consumers. The Applicant has made the following prayers in the application.

"3. In view of the above, the Appellant prays for the following reliefs:

- "(a) Allow the waiver of court fees of Rs.3,10,000/-
 - (i) Appeal fee with four Respondents = Rs.1,00,000/- &
 - (ii) Respondent fee from Respondent 5 to 25 = Rs.2,10,000/-; and
- (b) pass any other order as this Hon'ble Tribunal deems fit and proper in the interests of justice and the facts and circumstances of the case."

It is submitted on behalf of the Applicant that the Applicant survives on the voluntary contribution from its members. Its financial resources are limited. A certificate of the Applicant's Chartered Accountants is annexed as <u>Annexure-A</u> to the instant Application. It states that the total collection of the Applicant till date is Rs.27,500/-. The certificate is dated 10/12/2015.

It is true that the Applicant is a consumer organization. However, in the present appeal, there are 25 Respondents. The Applicant is required to pay Rs.3,10,000/- as court fees. In the circumstances, the Applicant will have to arrange for funds and pay Rs.50,000/- as court fees. Rest of the court fees can be waived.

In the circumstances, we direct the Applicant to pay Rs.50,000/- as court fees. Rest of the amount of court fees is waived.

Application is disposed of.

(I.J. Kapoor) Technical Member

(Justice Ranjana P. Desai) Chairperson