



**NIGERIAN ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
**ORDER ON UNAUTHORISED ACCESS, METER TAMPERING AND BY-PASS**  
**ORDER NO: NERC/REG/41/2017**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. The Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (the "Commission") is required by section 32 (1) (b) of Electric Power Sector Reform Act ("EPSRA") to maximize access to electricity services, by promoting and facilitating customer connection to distribution systems in both rural and urban areas.
- B. The Connection & Disconnection Procedures for Electricity Services ("CDPES") Regulations of 2007 provide for the connection of customers to electricity distribution networks by distribution companies ("DisCos").
- C. DisCos are authorised to disconnect unauthorised connections to the distribution network without giving any notice in compliance with Regulation 6 (a) of CDPES.
- D. The conditions for reconnecting unauthorised connections to the distribution network are provided for Regulation 12 (1)(c) of CDPES and these conditions include –
  - i. Customers' formalisation of electricity supply arrangements to the satisfaction of the DisCo.
  - ii. Payment of approved reconnection costs to the DisCo or entering into an agreement for the payment of reconnection costs.
- E. The Commission has received complaints from DisCos and has also observed an increase in the incidents of unauthorised access to electricity and meter bypass by customers.

**NOW THEREFORE:**

Upon due consideration of the foregoing and the need to reduce unauthorised access to electricity supply by tampering and meter bypass; the Commission pursuant to the powers conferred by EPSRA and Regulation 12 (1) of CDPES hereby approves the following conditions for reconnecting unauthorised connections:

1. Any customer that gains unauthorised access to electricity by tampering or meter bypass shall be reconnected upon payment of the reconnection costs in the schedule below –

*DA*

## Schedule of Reconnection Costs

	Customer Class	Initial Incident (NGN)	Subsequent Incidents (NGN)
1	Single Phase Residential	50,000.00	75,000.00
2	Three Phase Residential	100,000.00	150,000.00
3	Single Phase Commercial	50,000.00	75,000.00
4	Three Phase Commercial	100,000.00	100,000.00

## Maximum Demand(MD) Meters

The initial incident of unauthorised access to electricity by tampering or bypassing an MD meter shall attract a reconnection cost of 300% of the last authorised recorded monthly consumption of the customer. Subsequent incidents of unauthorised access to electricity by tampering or bypassing an MD meter shall attract a reconnection cost of 450% of the last authorised recorded monthly consumption of the customer.

## Administrative Charges

All customers shall be liable to pay the administrative charges below in addition to the reconnection costs stated in the schedule above.

	Customer Class	Administrative Charges (NGN)
1	Single Phase Residential	1,500.00
2	Three Phase Residential	3,000.00
3	Single Phase Commercial	3,000.00
4	Three Phase Commercial	6,000.00
5	MD LV Residential	7,500.00
6	MD HT Residential	7,500.00
7	MD LV Commercial/Industrial	7,500.00
8	MD HT Commercial/Industrial	15,000.00

2. A customer that gains access to electricity by tampering or meter bypass shall in addition to paying for the reconnection costs and administrative charges stated above be liable to pay for the loss of revenue by the DisCo for the unauthorised consumption by paying back-bills.
3. DisCos are authorised to back-bill customers who gain unauthorised access to electricity at the prevailing tariff of the customer for the established period of the unauthorised access.
4. All DisCos shall file reports on all cases of unauthorised access with the Commission on a monthly basis.
5. DisCos shall be liable to pay customers delayed reconnection costs for failing to reconnect the customer within 48 hours of the customers' payment of reconnection costs and administrative charges for unauthorised access to electricity in accordance with Regulation of 11 of CDPES.



6. DisCos shall also be liable to pay customers delayed reconnection costs where the customer was unjustifiably disconnected.

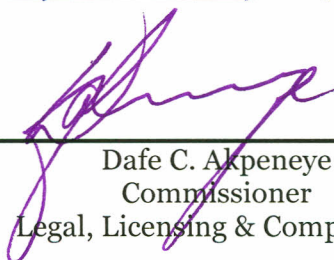
**Delayed Reconnection Costs**

Customer Class	Delayed Reconnection Costs (NGN per day)
Residential	1, 000.00
Commercial	1, 500.00
Industrial	2, 000.00
Special	2, 000.00

Dated this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December 2017



Sanusi Garba  
Vice Chairman



Dafe C. Akpeneye  
Commissioner  
Legal, Licensing & Compliance