

Torrent Power signs distribution franchisee agreement for Kanpur and Agra.

Lucknow, 18th May, 2009: Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (UPPCL) and Ahmedabad based Torrent Power Limited (TPL) today signed Distribution Franchisee Agreement for Kanpur urban area, part of Kanpur Electricity Supply Company (KESCO) and Agra urban area, part of Agra Circle of Dakshinanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited (DVVNL). Torrent Power was selected through a competitive bidding process undertaken by UPPCL in February 2009. The company has already started the ground work and is expected to take over the power distribution operations soon.

“It gives me great pleasure to flag off the first of its kind public-private partnership in Uttar Pradesh. This partnership will lay the foundation for much needed reforms in the distribution sector in the State” said Shri Navneet Sehgal, Chairman and Managing Director, UPPCL.

Kanpur area is spread over 500 sq. kms having a customer base of about 5 lakhs with sales of 1700 Million Units. Agra urban area is spread over 188 sq, kms having a customer base of 2.71 lakhs with sales of 1270 Million Units. AT&C losses in Kanpur are at 47% and at Agra are 42%. Speaking on the occasion, Shri. Narendra Bhooshan, Additional Managing Director of UPPCL said, “The two cities were selected as the losses are very high. The franchise would not only improve the power situation of these areas but will also improve customer services. It is a win-win situation for all the stakeholders, Distribution Companies (KESCO and DVVNL), Torrent Power and most importantly, the customers of the two cities.”

Torrent Power, which currently distributes 10 billion units power to over 2 million customers in the cities of Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar and Surat in Gujarat and Bhiwandi in Maharashtra, has one of the lowest T&D losses in the country at

8.75% and a has one of the highest power reliability at 99.87% in its license area. Torrent Power has been the pioneer in providing customer friendly solutions like 24X7 call centre, mobile vans for providing onsite services, multiple payment options etc. which has led to high degree of customer satisfaction. Torrent Power has also been declared as the best “Power Distribution Management Company” by Ministry of Power for 2 years in a row earlier.

Torrent Power, to its credit, is the first urban distribution franchisee in the country. It had taken over Bhiwandi Circle in Maharashtra in January 2007 and in a period of little over 2 years, the company has systematically planned and invested towards creating a robust, safe and reliable distribution network. The company has also opened 2 new customer service centres and introduced mobile van to provide better services to customers. In just over 2 years, there has been considerable improvement in the power situation and customer satisfaction at Bhiwandi.

“Over the years, we have built up efficiencies in our distribution networks. We have also successfully brought in the improvements as Distribution Franchisee of Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (MSEDCL) in Bhiwandi. We are confident that with our experience and perseverance, we will bring in the necessary improvements in Kanpur and Agra” said Shri Murli Ranganathan, Director of Torrent Power.

The company is also aggressively adding its power generation capacity. The company’s 1147.5 MW Gas-based SUGEN project near Surat in Gujarat is slated to start commercial operations soon. Other upcoming projects at Pipavav, Dahej at Gujarat and other States will add to its existing generation capacity of 1647.5 MW.