



We'll sanction DISCOs for non-provision of metres- NERC.

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NIGERIA: -

The Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) says it will sanction Electricity Distribution Companies also known as DISCOs which failed to meter electricity customers in their networks before Feb. 28, 2017.

According to Ceoafrika, NERC in a statement made available on its website today said that, the sanctioning of the defaulting DISCOs would begin on the 1st of March.

It stated that the envisaged sanction was sequel to the initial directives by NERC and the moratorium period given to DISCOs to meter consumers.

The company that this was in line with its mandate of protecting the rights of customers had in June 2016 after consultation with the operators directed DISCOs to conclude metering of all customers before Nov. 30, 2016.

According to NERC, the commission at the expiration of that notice granted three months moratorium which will expire Feb. 28, 2017 to enable the DISCOs effectively execute the metering deployment plan for MD customers.

It stated that any electricity customer yet to be metered as at Feb. 28, 2017 should report to the commission

through any of its Forum Offices in all the states of the federation.

NERC urged customers that had advanced money to the DISCOs through the now wound down Credited Advance Payment for Metering Initiatives (CAPMI) to make use of the complaint redress mechanism.

“The Commission is by this notice advising electricity customers not to take laws into their hands by attacking staff of electricity distribution companies.

“They may wish to be guided not to resort to legal proceedings as the first option in seeking redress, but to explore the commission’s redress mechanism to save litigation cost and time.”