

National Electric Power Regulatory Authority Islamic Republic of Pakistan

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No. NEPRA/SA(M&E)/LAD-03/19 F&T

November 17, 2025

Chief Executive Officer, Gujranwala Electric Power Company Limited (GEPCO), 565/A, Model Town, G.T Road, Gujranwala

Subject:

ORDER OF THE AUTHORITY REGARDING EXPLANATION ISSUED TO GUJRANWALA ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY (GEPCO) UNDER REGULATION 4(1) & 4(2) OF THE NEPRA (FINE) REGULATIONS, 2021 REGARDING NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE AUTHORITY'S DIRECTIVE REGARDING OVERHEAD POWER LINES OVER THE PAKISTAN RAILWAY TRACKS

Please find enclosed herewith, the Order of the Authority (total 02 pages) in the subject matter for information.

.Enclosure: As above

(Wasim Anwar Bhinder)

NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER REGULATORY AUTHORITY M&E (HSE)

Subject: ORDER OF THE AUTHORITY REGARDING EXPLANATION ISSUED TO GUJRANWALA ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY (GEPCO) UNDER REGULATION 4(1) & 4(2) OF THE NEPRA (FINE) REGULATIONS, 2021 REGARDING NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE AUTHORITY'S DIRECTIVE REGARDING OVERHEAD POWER LINES OVER THE PAKISTAN RAILWAY TRACKS.

This order shall dispose of Explanation # NEPRA/DG(M&E)/LAD-03/3778, issued to GEPCO on March 12, 2025, under Regulation 4(1) & 4(2) of the NEPRA (Fine) Regulations, 2021, regarding non-compliance with the Authority's directive on overhead power lines over Pakistan Railway tracks.

- 2. On September 27, 2023, Pakistan Railways, Rawalpindi, reported a critical incident under case No. WE/26/0/Genl/1999/2000 (Pt-II) (F/A), highlighting a potentially catastrophic event that an 11 KV overhead conductor broke down and fell onto the railway track on Sept 11, 2023 between Madina Tul Hajaj and Golra Railway Station. Fortunately, the conductor fell before the passage of the HAZARA Express train through this section, which was carrying over 300 passengers. The Railway promptly halted the train safely, averted a potentially catastrophic disaster.
- 3. The matter was brought before the Authority's notice, whereby the NEPRA Authority issued a directive to GEPCO via Letter No. NEPRA/DG(M&E)/LAD-II/34329-49 dated October 16, 2023 for rectification of safety issues within sixty (60) days pertaining to overhead power lines crossing over Pakistan railway tracks on an emergency basis to ensure public safety. However, despite the deadline expired on December 15, 2023, the GEPCO failed to comply with the directions of the Authority.
- 4. A reminder was issued via Letter No. NEPRA/DG(M&E)/LAD-II/128-146 dated January 2, 2024, urging GEPCO to expedite the work and submit the necessary certificate/report of compliance within thirty (30) working days. The specified timeline lapsed on January 15, 2024. The status of compliance with the Authority's direction regarding the aforementioned Authority directives have neither submitted the requisite certificate nor reported the completion of the task, hence the GEPCO failed to comply with the directions of the Authority.
- 5. A final reminder Letter No. NEPRA/DG(M&E)/LAD-III/11047-58 dated July 24, 2024 was issued to GEPCO to show their compliance with the Honorable Authority's directives regarding overhead power lines over the Pakistan Railway tracks, within seven (7) days. GEPCO submitted its response, which was not in compliance with the Authority's directives.
- 6. The GEPCO failed to promote a 'safety-first' culture, where nothing is more important than implementation of the Authority's directives to prevent the recurrence of similar incidents and to protect the lives and well-being of humans and animals.

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- 7. GEPCO has violated Sections 21(2)(f) and 48 of the NEPRA Act, as outlined below, and is not in compliance with the Authority's directions.
 - 21. Duties and responsibilities of distribution licensees.— (2) The licensee shall— (f) follow the performance standards laid down by the Authority for distribution and transmission of electric power, including safety, health and environmental protection instructions issued by the Authority or any Government agency 1 [or Provincial Government].
 - 48. Power of the Authority to issue directives, circulars, guidelines, etc .-- The Authority shall have the power to issue such directives, codes, guidelines, circulars or notifications as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act and the rules and regulations made hereunder.
- An Explanation # NEPRA/DG(M&E)/LAD-03/3778, issued to GEPCO on March 12, 8. 2025, under Regulation 4(1) & 4(2) of the NEPRA (Fine) Regulations, 2021 for submission of a certificate/report of compliance, signed and stamped by the Company Representative and the Railway Electrical Inspector. However, in response to the explanation, GEPCO submitted Letter # 78473-74/O&M(Dist.) on March 27, 2025, submitted certificates duly signed and stamped by the Company Representative and Railway Electrical Engineer.
- 9. The Authority has reviewed all certificates submitted by GEPCO, along with its response in the said matter, and finds the response regarding the implementation of its directives to be adequate and conclusive. Furthermore, the submission of duly signed and stamped compliance certificates constitutes compliance with the Authority's directives.

Order of the Authority

10. After detailed deliberation, the Authority accepts the response to the Explanation, as its directives have been implemented in the matter through the submission of certificates duly signed and stamped by the Company Representative and the Railway Electrical Engineer. The Registrar is directed to issue an order to GEPCO under Section 4(6) of the NEPRA (Fine) Regulations, 2021, confirming acceptance of the Explanation response and closure of the case.

Mr. Rafique Ahmad Shaikh Member (Technical)

Ms. Amina Ahmed Member (Law)

Engr. Magsood Anwar Khan Member (Licencing)

Mr. Waseem Mukhtar Chairman

Date: 18th Nov 2025

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