



Before the Appellate Board
National Electric Power Regulatory Authority
(NEPRA)
Islamic Republic of Pakistan

NEPRA Office , Ataturk Avenue (East), G5/1, Islamabad
Tel. No.+92 051 2013200 Fax No. +92 051 2600030
Website: www.nepra.org.pk E-mail: ikramshakeel@nepra.org.pk

No. NEPRA/Appeal/094/2024/ 666

July 11, 2025

1. Muhammad Javed Ashraf,
S/o. Muhammad Ashraf Malik,
Prop: Power Looms, Chaudhary Park,
Eidgah Road, Masoodabad, Faisalabad
Cell No. 0300-8651199

2. Chief Executive Officer,
FESCO Ltd,
West Canal Road, Abdullah Pur,
Faisalabad

3. Malik Asad,
Advocate High Court,
Sargodha Khushab Law Chambers,
First Floor, Turner Tower,
9-Turner Road, Lahore
Cell No. 0342-9786786

4. Sub Divisional Officer (Operation),
FESCO Ltd,
Mujahidabad Sub Division,
Faisalabad

5. POI/Electric Inspector,
Energy Department, Govt. of Punjab,
Opposite Commissioner Office,
D.C.G Road, Civil Lines,
Faisalabad Region, Faisalabad

Subject: **Appeal No.094/2024 (FESCO Vs. Muhammad Javed Ashraf) Against the Decision Dated 31.07.2024 of the Provincial Office of Inspection to Government of the Punjab Faisalabad Region, Faisalabad**

Please find enclosed herewith the decision of the Appellate Board dated 11.07.2025 (04 pages), regarding the subject matter, for information and necessary action, accordingly.

Encl: As Above

(Ikram Shakeel)
Deputy Director
Appellate Board

Forwarded for information please.

1. Director (IT) –for uploading the decision of the Appellate Board on the NEPRA website



National Electric Power Regulatory Authority

Before The Appellate Board

In the matter of

Appeal No. 094/POI-2024

Faisalabad Electric Supply Company Limited

.....Appellant

Versus

Muhammad Javed Ashraf S/o. Muhammad Ashraf Malik,
Prop: Power Looms, Chaudhary Park, Eidgah Road,
Mansoorabad, Faisalabad

.....Respondent

APPEAL U/S 38(3) OF THE REGULATION OF GENERATION, TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC POWER ACT, 1997

Hearing dated 26.04.2025

For the Appellant

Malik Asad Akram Advocate

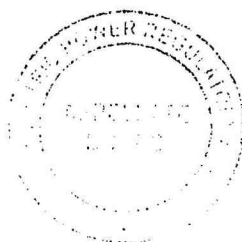
Hearing dated 11.01.2025

For the Respondent

Mr. Muhammad Anwar

DECISION

1. Through this decision, the appeal filed by the Faisalabad Electric Supply Company Limited (hereinafter referred to as the "Appellant") against the decision dated 31.07.2024 of the Provincial Office of Inspection, Faisalabad Region, Faisalabad (hereinafter referred to as the "POI") is being disposed of.
2. Brief facts of the case are that Muhammad Javed Ashraf (hereinafter referred to as the "Respondent") is an industrial consumer of the Appellant bearing Ref No.24-13217-5100450-U with a sanctioned load of 68 kW and the applicable Tariff category is B-2(b). The metering equipment of the Respondent was initially checked by the M&T team of the Appellant on 26.02.2021 and the backup meter was found defective, whereas the billing meter was found working within BSS limits with reading index 40729. Therefore, the old backup meter was replaced with a new backup meter with a reading index of 4.06 by the Appellant. Subsequently metering equipment of the Respondent was checked by the Appellant on 29.01.2024, wherein the billing meter with upset date and time recorded less units as compared with the backup meter. Thereafter, a detection bill of Rs.1,985,900/- for



11/50

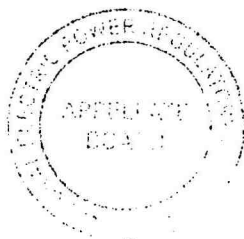


National Electric Power Regulatory Authority

37,680 units for the period from 26.02.2021 to was debited to the Respondent due to the difference in readings between the billing and backup meters and added in April 2024.

3. Being aggrieved, the Respondent filed a complaint before the POI and challenged the above detection bill. During joint checking dated 30.05.2024 of the POI, both billing and backup meters of the Respondent were found working within BSS limits, however the date and time of the billing meter was found defective. The complaint of the Respondent was disposed of by the POI vide the decision dated 31.07.2024, wherein the detection bill of Rs.1,985,900/- for 37,680 units debited to the Respondent in April 2024 was cancelled. As per the POI decision, the Appellant was directed to revise the bill of April 2024 as per the reading recorded by the impugned meter in the said month.
4. Subject appeal was filed by the Appellant before the NEPRA against the above-referred decision of the POI. In its appeal, the Appellant objected to the maintainability of the impugned decision, *inter alia*, on the main grounds that the detection bill of Rs.1,985,900/- for 37,680 units was debited to the Respondent due to the difference in readings between the backup and billing meters; that the impugned decision suffers from serious misreading and non-reading of record and has been passed in a mechanical and slipshod manner; that the POI has not applied his judicial mind while concluding and passed order without appreciating the available evidence on record; that the POI overlooked the aspect that the difference was charged on account of not recording the correct reading whereas the said forum set aside the total bill which is a glaring illegality.
5. Upon the filing of the instant appeal, a notice dated 26.09.2024 was sent to the Respondent for filing reply/para-wise comments to the appeal within ten (10) days, which were filed on 11.01.2025. In the reply, the Respondent rebutted the version of the Appellant on the main grounds that the both the billing and backup meters were found within permissible limits during checking dated 26.02.2021 and 10.10.2022; that the billing meter recorded 2,056 units less as compared to the backup meter during checking dated 14.02.2023; that the billing meter again found slow as compared to the backup meter during checking dated 29.01.2024; that the billing was shifted on the backup meter w.e.f April 2024 and onwards; that the impugned detection bill charged by the Appellant was challenged before the POI, who witnessed both the billing and backup meters working within permissible limits; that there is no justification to charge 37,680 units; and that the impugned decision be upheld.

11.02





National Electric Power Regulatory Authority

6. Hearing was initially conducted at NEPRA Regional Office Lahore on 11.01.2025, which was attended by the representative for the Respondent, whereas no one represented the Appellant. The representative for the Respondent opposed the charging of a detection bill of 37,680 units with the plea that the impugned billing and backup meters were found within specified limits; as such, there is no justification to debit the impugned detection bill. He prayed for upholding the impugned decision and for dismissal of the appeal. In order to provide an opportunity of hearing to the Appellant, the appeal was again fixed on 26.04.2025, which was attended by the counsel for the Appellant. Learned counsel for the Appellant contended that the billing meter was found slow as compared to the backup meter during the checkings dated 14.02.2023 and 29.01.2024 of the Appellant, as such the detection bill of Rs.1,985,900/- for 37,680 units debited to the Respondent due to the difference of readings between the billing and backup meters to recover the revenue loss sustained by the Appellant. As per learned counsel for the Appellant, the above detection bill was cancelled by the POI without perusing the documentary evidence. He finally prayed that the impugned decision is liable to be set aside.

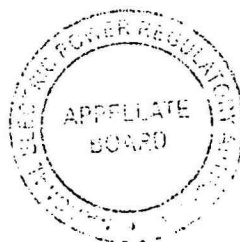
7. Arguments were heard and the record was perused. Following are our observations:

7.1 Detection bill of Rs.1,985,900/- for 37,680 units debited to the Respondent due to the difference in readings between the billing and backup meters:

The metering equipment of the Respondent was checked by the Appellant on 29.01.2024 and reportedly, 37,680 units were found uncharged due to the difference between the backup and billing meters. Thereafter, a detection bill of Rs.1,985,900/- for 37,680 units was debited to the Respondent due to the difference in readings between the billing and the backup meter, which was challenged before the POI.

7.2 According to Clause 6.1.2 of the CSM-2021, the meter reading above 40 kW load is recorded by the SDO/AM (Operation) of the distribution companies, and the said officers will check the irregularities/discrepancies in the metering system and report the same discrepancy, according to Clause 6.1.4 of the CSM-2021. In the instant case, the connection under dispute is sanctioned for 68 kW load and the meter reading is being taken by the senior officer of the Appellant but the Appellant did not point out any irregularity in the billing as well as the discrepancy in the metering equipment of the Respondent during the monthly readings except the checking dated 21.02.2023 and 29.01.2024. The Appellant claims that the impugned billing meter has been running slow since 26.02.2021, but they

M. D.





National Electric Power Regulatory Authority

failed to substantiate their contention before the POI as well as NEPRA. During joint checking dated 30.05.2024 of the POI, both billing and main backup meters of the Respondent were found working within BSS limits, the joint checking report was signed by both parties without raising any objection.

7.3 To further check the claim of the Appellant, analysis of consumption recorded by both the billing and backup meters is done below:


Table-1	A	B	D=B-A	C
Readings	checking dated 26.02.2021	checking dated 21.02.2023	Difference	%Slowness= $\frac{\text{diff. of b/up meter} - \text{diff. of billing meter}}{\text{diff. of b/up meter}} \times 100$
Billing meter	40729.24	60672.21	19942.97	1.34%
Backup meter	4.06	20218.83	20214.77	

Table-2	A	B	D=B-A	C
Readings	checking dated 21.02.2023	checking dated 30.05.2024	Difference	%Slowness= $\frac{\text{diff. of b/up meter} - \text{diff. of billing meter}}{\text{diff. of b/up meter}} \times 100$
Billing meter	60672.21	71894.91	11222.7	1.45%
Backup meter	20218.83	31607.05	11388.22	


As evident from the above table, the impugned meter recorded 1.45% less consumption as compared to the backup meter from the date of checking of the Appellant i.e. 21.02.2023 to the date of joint checking of POI i.e. 30.05.2024, which is within permissible limits of 3% as prescribed in Rule 32 (b) of the Electricity Rules, 1937.

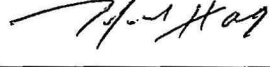
7.4 Under these circumstances, we are of the considered view that the impugned detection bill of Rs.1,985,900/- for 37,680 units debited to the Respondent is unwarranted, inconsistent with the provision of the CSM-2021, and the same is declared null and void as already determined by the POI.

8. Forgoing in view, the appeal is dismissed.


Abid Hussain
Member/Advisor (CAD)

Dated: 11-07-2025


Naweed Illahi Sheikh
Convener/DG (CAD)


Muhammad Irfan-ul-Haq
Member/ALA (Lic.)

