



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

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No. NEPRA/Appeal/039/2023/ 1/8

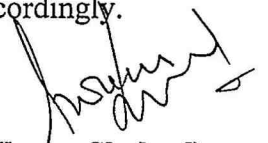
February 06, 2025

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Baqar Arafat,
S/o. Muhammad Latif,
R/o. Bazar Ghulam Muhammad Thakedarwali,
Street No. 6, Mohallah Islampura, Gujranwala | 2. Chief Executive Officer,
GEPCO Ltd, 565-A,
Model Town, G. T. Road,
Gujranwala |
| 3. Rai Shahid Abbas,
Jalal Law Associates,
Advocate High Court,
Office No. 8, Ground Floor,
CM Centre, Mozang Road,
Lahore
Cell No. 0322-4852225 | 4. Sub Divisional Officer,
GEPCO Ltd,
Eimanabad Sub Division,
Wapda Town Grid Station,
Gujranwala |
| 5. POI/Electric Inspector,
Gujranwala Region,
Energy Department, Govt. of Punjab,
Munir Chowk, Near Kacheri Road,
Gujranwala | |

Subject: Appeal No.039/2023 (GEPCO Vs. Baqar Arafat) Against the Decision Dated 27.01.2023 of the Provincial Office of Inspection to Government of the Punjab Gujranwala Region, Gujranwala

Please find enclosed herewith the decision of the Appellate Board dated 06.02.2025 (03 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.039/POI-2023

Gujranwala Electric Power Company Limited

.....Appellant

Versus

Baqar Arafat S/o. Muhammad Latif,
R/o. Bazar Ghulam Muhammad Thakedariwali, Street No.06,
Mohallah Islampura, Gujranwala

.....Respondent

APPEAL UNDER SECTION 38(3) OF THE REGULATION OF GENERATION, TRANSMISSION, AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC POWER ACT, 1997

For the Appellant:

Rai Shahid Abbas Advocate

For the Respondent:

Nemo

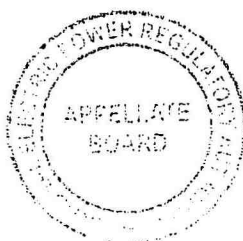
DECISION

1. As per the facts of the case, Baqar Arafat (hereinafter referred to as the "Respondent") is a commercial consumer of Gujranwala Electric Power Company Limited (hereinafter referred to as the "Appellant") bearing Ref No.27-12134-2408800-U having sanctioned load of 10 kW and the applicable tariff category is A-2(C). The display of the billing meter of the Respondent became defective in January 2021, hence it was replaced with a new meter by the Appellant on 05.05.2021 and sent to M&T laboratory for checking. As per the M&T report dated 14.06.2021 of the Appellant, the impugned meter was found defective with vanished display, and 8,727 units were found uncharged, therefore, a detection bill of 8,727 units was debited to the Respondent on the basis of the data retrieval report and added to the bill for July 2021.
2. Being aggrieved, the Respondent filed a complaint before the Provincial Office of Inspection, Gujranwala Region, Gujranwala (hereinafter referred to as the "POI") and challenged the above detection bill. The complaint of the Respondent was disposed of by the POI vide decision dated 27.01.2023, wherein the detection bill of 8,727 units was cancelled. As per POI

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decision, the Appellant may charged revised bills @ 1,529 units/month for June 2021 and July 2021 as recoded in August 2021.

3. Being dissatisfied, the Appellant has filed the instant appeal before NEPRA and assailed the decision dated 27.01.2023 of the POI (hereinafter referred to as the “impugned decision”). In its appeal, the Appellant opposed the maintainability of the impugned decision, *inter-alia*, on the following grounds that the impugned decision is against the law and facts of the case; that the POI passed the impugned decision without perusing the record; that the impugned meter became defective with vanished display in January 2021 and nil consumption was charged to the Respondent since then; that the detection bill of 8,727 units was charged to the Respondent based on data retrieval report, which was declared as null and void; that the POI miserably failed to analyze the consumption data in true perspective; and that the impugned decision is liable to be set aside.
4. Notice dated 14.04.2023 of the appeal was issued to the Respondent for filing reply/para-wise comment, which however were not filed.
5. Hearing of the appeal was conducted at NEPRA Regional Office Lahore on 14.09.2024, wherein learned counsel appeared for the Appellant and no one represented the Respondent. Learned counsel for the Appellant contended that the billing meter of the Respondent was found defective with vanished display in January 2021 and it was replaced with a new meter by the Appellant in May 2021, therefore a detection bill of 8,727 units was debited to the Respondent based on data retrieval report. Learned counsel for the Appellant argued that the POI did not consider the real aspects of the case and erroneously declared the above detection bill as null and void. Learned counsel for the Appellant prayed that the impugned decision is unjustified and liable to be struck down.
6. Having heard the arguments and record perused. Following are our observations:
 - 6.1 **Detection bill of 8,727 units charged in July 2021:**
As per the available record, the billing meter of the Respondent was found defective with the vanished display in January 2021 and it was replaced with a new meter in May 2021, thereafter, a detection bill of 8,727 units was debited to the Respondent in July 2021, which is under dispute.
 - 6.2 It is observed that the Appellant took more than four months to replace the impugned meter. The Appellant even did not produce the impugned meter before the POI for checking. To further check the justification of the above detection bill, consumption data is analyzed below:



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Period before dispute		Disputed period		Period after dispute	
Month	Units	Month	Units	Month	Units
Feb-20	61	Jan-21	0	Aug-21	1529
Mar-20	41	Feb-21	368	Sep-21	1096
Apr-20	135	Mar-21	0	Oct-21	1036
May-20	119	Apr-21	0	Nov-21	444
Jun-20	190	May-21	0	Dec-21	173
Jul-20	178	Jun-21	0	Jan-22	259
Aug-20	202	Jul-21	0	Feb-22	88
Sep-20	774			Mar-22	140
Oct-20	539			Apr-22	254
Nov-20	508			May-22	255
Dec-20	567			Jun-22	368
Average	301	Average	53	Average	513
Detection bill of 8,727 units					


As evident from the above table, the consumption charged during the disputed period from January 2021 to July 2021 is considerably lesser than the consumption of the period before and after the dispute. However, such high consumption charged as a detection bill of 8,727 units has never been recorded in the billing history of the Respondent. Therefore, we are of the considered view that the detection bill of 8,727 units charged to the Respondent is unjustified and the same is cancelled, which is also the determination of the POI.

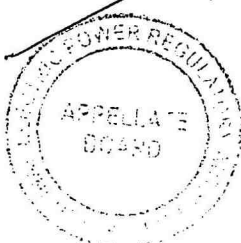
- 6.3 As less consumption was recorded during the disputed period i.e. January 2021 to July 2021, it would be fair and appropriate to charge the revised bills @ 513 units/month for the disputed period i.e. January 2021 to July 2021 as per average consumption of the period after the dispute. The impugned decision is liable to be modified to this extent.
7. In view of what has been stated above, it is concluded that the detection bill of 8,727 units charged in July 2021 is unjustified and the same is cancelled. The Respondent may be charged the revised bills @ 513 units/month for the period from January 2021 to July 2021 on the basis of average consumption of period after the dispute. The billing account of the Respondent may be overhauled, accordingly.
8. The impugned decision is modified in the above terms.



Abid Hussain
Member/Advisor (CAD)

Dated: 06-02-2025

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Naweed Illahi Sheikh
Convener/DG (CAD)




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