



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

NEPRA Office , Atta Turk Avenue (East), G5/1, Islamabad  
Tel. No.+92 051 2013200 Fax No. +92 051 2600030  
Website: [www.nepra.org.pk](http://www.nepra.org.pk) E-mail: [office@nepra.org.pk](mailto:office@nepra.org.pk)

No. NEPRA/AB/Appeal/161/2019/ //o/


November 10, 2020

1. Imtiaz Ahmed  
S/o. Haji Muhammad Siddique,  
R/o. House No. 09, Street No. 10,  
Dill Afroz Street, Saadi Park,  
Mozang, Lahore
2. Chief Executive Officer  
LESCO Ltd,  
22-A, Queens Road,  
Lahore
3. Assistant Manager (Opr),  
LESCO Ltd,  
Gulshan-e-Ravi Sub Division,  
Lahore
4. Electric Inspector/POI  
Lahore Region, Energy Department,  
Govt. of Punjab, Block No. 1,  
Irrigation Complex, Canal Bank,  
Dharampura, Lahore

Subject: **Appeal Titled Imtiaz Ahmed Vs. LESCO Against the Decision Dated 26.02.2019 of the Provincial Office of Inspection to Government of the Punjab Lahore Region, Lahore**

Please find enclosed herewith the decision of the Appellate Board dated 05.11.2020, regarding the subject matter, for information and necessary action accordingly.

Encl: **As Above**

  
(Ikram Shakeel)  
Assistant Director  
Appellate Board

Forwarded for information please.

1. Director (IT) -for uploading the decision on NEPRA website



# National Electric Power Regulatory Authority

## Before Appellate Board National Electric Power Regulatory Authority Islamabad

In the matter of

### Appeal No.161/2019

Imtiaz Ahmed s/o Haji Muhammad Siddique R/o House No.09,  
Street No.10, Dil Afroz Street, Saadi Park Mozang, Lahore .....Appellant

Versus

Lahore Electric Supply Company Limited .....Respondent

### **APPEAL UNDER SECTION 38(3) OF REGULATION OF GENERATION, TRANSMISSION, AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC POWER ACT, 1997 AGAINST THE DECISION DATED 26.02.2019 PASSED BY PROVINCIAL OFFICE OF INSPECTION LAHORE REGION, LAHORE**

For the appellant:

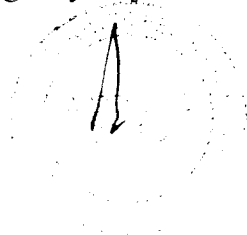
Mr. Imtiaz Ahmed

For the respondent:

Nemo

### **DECISION**

1. Briefly speaking, the appellant is a commercial consumer of Lahore Electric Supply Company Limited (LESCO) bearing Ref No.44-11112-0623603 having a sanctioned load of 5 kW and the applicable tariff is A-2(c). The appellant challenged before the Provincial Office of Inspection (POI) the arrears of Rs.69,342/- charged by LESCO in August 2018, which included the bills for the months July 2018 and August 2018. Electric supply of the appellant was disconnected by LESCO in September 2018 and the disputed billing meter was removed with final reading (off peak=37,511, peak=21,828). The disputed billing meter of the appellant was checked by POI in presence of both the parties on 31.01.2019, wherein its final readings were noticed as total kWh=59,339 (off peak=37,511, peak=21,828), both the parties signed the checking report without raising any objection. The complaint of the appellant was





## National Electric Power Regulatory Authority

- disposed of by POI vide decision dated 26.02.2019 wherein the arrears of Rs.69,342/- added in the bill for August 2018 were declared justified and payable by the appellant.
2. The appellant has filed the instant appeal against the afore-referred POI decision (hereinafter referred to as the impugned decision) before NEPRA. In its appeal, the appellant contended that the premises was vacant w.e.f April 2018 and onwards and there was no use of electricity. As per appellant, LESCO charged the exaggerated billing during the months of July 2018 and August 2018. The appellant prayed for withdrawal of 3,676 units charged in the months of July 2018 and August 2018.
  3. Notice of the appeal was issued to LESCO for filing reply/para-wise comment, which however was not submitted.
  4. Hearing of the appeal was conducted in NEPRA regional office Lahore on 03.10.2020 wherein the appellant appeared in person and no one attended hearing for LESCO. The appellant reiterated the arguments the same as given in memo of the appeal and contended that the premises was closed and the meter reading shot being defective/fast. According to the appellant, the accuracy of the disputed meter was not checked by POI, hence the bills for the months of July 2018 and August 2018 are unjustified and liable to be cancelled.
  5. Arguments heard and the record perused. Following are our observations:
    - i. The appellant challenged the arrears of Rs.69,342/- accumulated till August 2018 before POI, which included the bills for the period July 2018 to August 2018. POI jointly checked the disputed meter of the appellant on 31.01.2019 and observed the final reading of the disputed meter as total =59,339 (off peak=37,511, peak=21,828), both the parties signed the checking report without raising any



## National Electric Power Regulatory Authority

objection. The appellant though claimed that the premises remained vacant during the disputed months i.e. April 2018 to August 2018 but did not provide any document in support of his contention. Hence, the appellant is liable to pay the bills as per final reading=59,339 (peak=21,828, off peak=37,511) of the disputed meter as confirmed by POI pursuant to clause 6.2(b) of CSM, which is reproduced below:

*“In cases where accumulated readings are recorded, segregate bills shall be prepared keeping in view the number of months for which the readings have been accumulated to give relief to the consumer.”*


- ii. Perusal of bill for December 2018 transpires that LESCO charged nil consumption during the period March 2018 to June 2018 to the appellant and subsequently accumulated units i.e. 2,676 units and 1,000 units were charged by LESCO to the appellant in July 2018 and August 2018 respectively. Obviously the billing process by LESCO is violation of Consumer Service Manual (CSM), which binds LESCO to take monthly reading and charge the appellant accordingly. As a matter of fact, the concerned staff is liable to face the disciplinary action due to their failure in observing monthly readings and the bills issued accordingly. Hence the determination of POI for allowing LESCO for recovery of accumulated arrears of Rs.69,342/- from the appellant is not correct and liable to be withdrawn. However the total chargeable 3,676 units need to be segregated amongst six months and the appellant need to be charged as per approved and applicable tariff during the disputed period i.e.




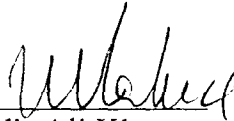
## National Electric Power Regulatory Authority

March 2018 to December 2018.

6. Forgoing in preceding paragraphs, it is concluded that:
- i. The arrear bill of Rs.69,342/- charged by LESCO to the appellant in August 2018 is unjustified and declared null and void.
  - ii. The appellant should be charged 3,676 units by LESCO equally segregated in six months i.e. March 2018 to August 2018 and the bills be calculated as per applicable tariff in the relevant period.
  - iii. The arrears may be recovered in six equal installments along with monthly bill.
7. The impugned decision is modified in above terms.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Muhammad Qamar-uz-Zaman  
Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Muhammad Shafique  
Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nadir Ali Khoso  
Convener

Dated: 05.11.2020

