



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

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No. NEPRA/Appeal/014/2026/ 689

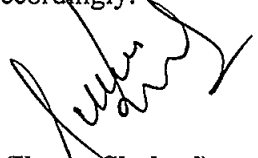
September 11, 2026

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| 1. Nawaz Hussain,
S/o. Muhammad Hussain,
R/o. House No. 98, Street No. 16/12,
Mohallah Nawanwala Chowk,
Shalimar Tow, Lahore | 2. Chief Executive Officer,
LESCO Ltd,
22-A, Queens Road,
Lahore |
| 3. Ch. Muhammad Azeem,
Advocate High Court,
2 nd Floor, Zahoor Chambers,
I-Mozang Road, Lahore
Cell No. 0333-4402579 | 4. Assistant Manager (Operation),
LESCO Ltd,
Wahga Sub Division,
Lahore |
| 5. POI/Electric Inspector
Lahore Region-I, Energy Department,
Govt. of Punjab, Block No. 1,
Irrigation Complex, Canal Bank,
Dharampura, Lahore | |

Subject: Appeal No.014/2026 (LESCO vs. Nawaz Hussain) Against the Decision Dated 28.02.2025 of the Provincial Office of Inspection to Government of the Punjab Lahore Region-I, Lahore

Please find enclosed herewith the decision of the Appellate Board dated 11.09.2026 (03 pages), regarding the subject matter, for information and necessary action, accordingly.

Encl: As Above


(Ikram Shakeel)
Additional 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.014/POI-2026

Lahore Electric Supply Company Limited

.....Appellant

Versus

Nawaz Hussain, R/o. House No.98, St No.18/12,
Mohallah Nawanwala Chowk, Shalimar Town, Lahore

.....Respondent

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

For the Appellant:

Ch. M. Azeem Advocate

For the Respondent:

Nemo

DECISION

1. Brief facts of the case are that Nawaz Hussain (hereinafter referred to as the “Respondent”) is an industrial consumer of Lahore Electric Supply Company Limited (hereinafter referred to as the “Appellant”) bearing Reference No.46-11311-2019510-U, having a sanctioned load of 22 kW, under the tariff category B-1(b). The Respondent filed a complaint before the Provincial Office of Inspection Lahore Region-I, Lahore (hereinafter referred to as the “POI”) and challenged the arrears of Rs.273,782/- charged till September 2024. The POI vide ex-parte decision dated 28.02.2025 cancelled the above arrears.
2. Being dissatisfied with the impugned decision of POI, the Appellant filed instant appeal before NEPRA under Section 38(3) of the NEPRA. In its appeal, the Appellant opposed the impugned decision *inter alia*, on the main grounds that the impugned decision is against the facts of the case and law applicable thereto; that the Appellant charged the detection bill of Rs.273,782/- for 4,781 units charged in September 2024 on the basis of data retrieval report to recover the revenue loss sustained by the Appellant; that the POI failed to apply his independent and judicious mind and passed the impugned decision on surmises and conjectures; and that the impugned decision is liable to be set aside. In his application for condonation of delay, the Appellant stated that the POI proceeded ex parte, and it came to the knowledge of the Appellant on 07.11.2025 when the Respondent approached the Appellant. Learned counsel for the Appellant prayed that the appeal be decided on merits rather than technicalities, in accordance with the law laid down by the superior courts.





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3. Notice dated 17.02.2026 of the appeal was issued to the Respondent for filing reply/para-wise comment, which however were not filed.
4. Hearing of the appeal was conducted at NEPRA Regional Office Lahore on 20.08.2026, wherein learned counsel tendered appearance for the Appellant and no one represented the Respondent. In response to the question of limitation raised by this forum, learned counsel for the Appellant reiterated the same stance as contained in memo of the appeal and contended that the lower forum passed the impugned decision without intimation to the parties. Learned counsel for the Appellant further contended that the Appellant received a copy of the impugned decision, and the present appeal was filed before NEPRA within 30 days as envisaged in Section 38(3) of the NEPRA Act. Learned counsel for the Appellant finally pleaded that the appeal be heard on merits instead of on technical grounds.
5. Having heard the arguments and the record perused. Following are our observations:
 - i While addressing the point of limitation raised by this forum, it is observed that a copy of the impugned decision dated 28.02.2025 was obtained by the Appellant on 07.11.2025, and the subject appeal was filed before NEPRA on 06.01.2026 after a lapse of sixty (60) days, which is a violation of Section 38(3) of the NEPRA Act. This shows gross negligence on the part of the Appellants while defending their case.
 - ii As per sub-section (3) of Section 38 of the NEPRA Act 1997, any person aggrieved by the decision of the POI may prefer an appeal to NEPRA within thirty days of receipt of the order. Further, it is supplemented with Regulation 4 of the NEPRA (Procedure for Filing Appeals) Regulations, 2012 (the "Appeal Procedure Regulations") which also states that the Appeal is required to be filed within 30 days of the receipt of the impugned decision of POI by the Appellant, however, a margin of 7 days' is provided in case of submission through registered post, and 3 days in case of submission of appeal through courier is given in the Appeal Procedure Regulations. Reliance in this regard is placed on judgment dated 25.04.2016 of the honorable Lahore High Court Lahore rendered in the Writ Petition Nos.16172/15, 1637/15, 14895/15, 13470/15, 29335/15, 19916/15, 11039/15, 16677/15, 19763/15, 29623/15, 13908/15, 18195/15, 19762/15, 19882/15, 812/15 & 5119/15, wherein it was held that the POI is bound to transmit copy of the decision to the parties and the period of limitation is to be counted from the date of receipt of the copy of such decision, the relevant excerpt of the said judgment is reproduced below for the sake of convenience:





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“12. The above discussion leads me to the irresistible conclusion that the Provincial Office of Inspections/Electric Inspector is bound to transmit the copy of the order to the aggrieved person through the modes provided under Regulation 4 of Regulation 2012 and in this way, the period of limitation for filing an appeal in terms of subsection (3) of section 38 will be calculated from the date of receipt of order.”

iii In this regard, further reliance is placed on the various judgments of the honorable Supreme Court of Pakistan reported in 2011 SCMR 676, 2006 SCMR 1251, 2006 SCMR 1248, 2023 SCMR 478, 2023 SCMR 476, 2023 SCMR 870 and 2023 SCMR 866.

6. In view of the foregoing discussion, we are of the opinion that an inordinate delay in filing the appeal before the NEPRA despite acknowledgment of the impugned decision is not condonable as no sufficient reasons have been given by the Appellant to justify the delay in filing the appeal. As such, the application for condonation of delay is rejected and the appeal filed before NEPRA is dismissed being barred by time.


Abid Hussain
Member/Advisor (CAD)


Naweed Illahi Sheikh
Convener/DG (CAD)


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

Dated: 11-09-2026

