



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

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No. NEPRA/Appeal/018/2026/ 690

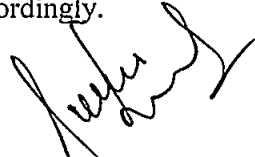
September 11, 2026

1. Javed Iqbal,
S/o. Muhammad Aslam,
R/o. 1/35, Iqbal Road,
Chah Miran, Lahore
Cell No. 0300-4288905
2. Chief Executive Officer,
LESCO Ltd,
22-A, Queens Road,
Lahore
3. Ch. Abdul Waheed,
Advocate High Court,
121-Alflah Town,
Bedian Road, Lahore Cantt
Cell No. 0321-4166309
4. Assistant Manager (Operation),
LESCO Ltd,
Chah Miran Sub Division,
Lahore
5. POL/Electric Inspector
Lahore Region-I, Energy Department,
Govt. of Punjab, Block No. 1,
Irrigation Complex, Canal Bank,
Dharampura, Lahore

Subject: Appeal No.018/2026 (LESCO vs. Javed Iqbal) Against the Decision Dated 22.07.2025 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.018/POI-2026

Lahore Electric Supply Company Limited

.....Appellant

Versus

Javed Iqbal S/o. Muhammad Aslam,
R/o. 1/35, Iqbal Road, Chah Miran, 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. Abdul Waheed Advocate

For the Respondent:

Mr. Javed Iqbal

DECISION

1. Brief facts of the case are that Javed Iqbal (hereinafter referred to as the "Respondent") is a domestic consumer of Lahore Electric Supply Company Limited (hereinafter referred to as the "Appellant") bearing Ref No.26-11153-0993629-U, having a sanctioned load of 1 kW, and the applicable tariff category is A-1. Premises of the Respondent was checked by the Appellant on 30.05.2019 and the Respondent was reportedly found involved in illegal abstraction of electricity through tampering with the meter (body repasted) and the load of the industrial connection was shifted to the tampered of the impugned domestic connected. The Appellant disconnected the electricity of the premises, lodged an FIR against the Respondent and debited a detection bill of Rs.275,934/- for 11,714 units for the period from June 2018 to May 2019 to the Respondent on the basis of connected load and added to the bill for July 2019.
2. Being aggrieved, the Respondent filed a complaint before the Provincial Office of Inspection Lahore Region-I, Lahore (hereinafter referred to as the "POI") and challenged the above detection bill. The POI vide decision dated 22.07.2025 cancelled the detection bill of Rs.275,934/- for 11,714 units for the period from June 2018 to May 2019 and directed the Appellant to revise the detection bill for three months i.e., March 2019 to May 2019 on the basis of connected load i.e. 3.4x0.2x730x03.
3. 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





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case and law applicable thereto; that the POI overlooked the evidence available on record; that the impugned decision was passed in hasty manner without adhering to the relevant provision of law and that the impugned decision is liable to be set aside.

4. Notice dated 18.02.2026 of the appeal was issued to the Respondent for filing reply/para-wise comment, which were filed on 04.03.2026. In his reply, the Respondent opposed the contention of the Appellant with regard to charging the impugned detection bill of Rs.275,934/- for 11,714 units for the period from June 2018 to May 2019 and contended that the POI after correct perusal of record cancelled the above-said detection bill. The Respondent defended the impugned decision for revision of the detection bill for three months being general supply consumer. He finally prayed for dismissal of the appeal with costs.
5. Hearing of the appeal was conducted at NEPRA Regional Office Lahore on 20.08.2026, wherein learned counsel tendered appearance for the Appellant and the Respondent appeared in person. At the outset of hearing, the Respondent raised preliminary objection regarding limitation and averred that the appeal filed before NEPRA is time barred. He prayed for decision on the ground of limitation prior proceeding to the merits of the case. In response, 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 passed the impugned decision without consideration of facts and applicable law in the instant case. Learned counsel for the Appellant stated that copy of the impugned decision was obtained on 22.07.2025 and delay in filing the appeal before NEPRA was neither deliberate nor intentional but due to internal departmental process. Learned counsel for the Appellant further contended that huge amount is involved in the instant case, as such the appeal be heard on merits instead of on technical grounds.
6. Having heard the arguments and the record perused. Following are our observations:
 - i While addressing the preliminary objection of limitation raised by the Respondent, it is observed that a copy of the impugned decision dated 22.07.2025 was obtained by the Appellant on the same date i.e., 22.07.2025, and the subject appeal was filed before NEPRA on 04.11.2025 after a lapse of one hundred five (105) days, which is a violation of Section 38(3) of the NEPRA Act. This shows gross negligence on the part of the Appellant 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



M. Q.



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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:

“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.

7. In view of the foregoing discussion, we opined 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 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

