

# Before the Appellate Board National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA)

### Islamic Republic of Pakistan

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No. NEPRA/Appeal/076/2022/ 467

May 19, 2025

- 1. Imtiaz Haider, S/o. Abdul Ghaffar, Through Shafique Ahmad, S/o. Rehatullah, Porp: Tube Well, R/o. Chak No. 105/15-L, Tehsil & District Khanewal Cell No. 0300-4422432
- 3. Executive Engineer (Operation), MEPCO Ltd, Khanewal Division, Khanewal
- POI/Electric Inspector,
   Multan Region,
   Energy Department, Govt. of Punjab,
   249-G, Shah Rukan-e-Alam Colony,
   Phase-II, Multan

- Chief Executive Officer, MEPCO Ltd, MEPCO Complex Khanewal Road, Multan
- Sub Divisional Officer (Op), MEPCO Ltd, Kacha Khu Sub Division, Kacha Khu, Tehsil & District Khanewal

Subject:

<u>Decision of the Appellate Board Regarding Review Petition Filed by Imtiaz Haider Against the Decision Dated 12.08.2024 of the Appellate Board in the Matter Titled "Imtiaz Haider Vs. MEPCO"</u>

Please find enclosed herewith the decision of the Appellate Board dated 19.05.2025 (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

## REVIEW PETITION FILED BY IMTIAZ HAIDER UNDER THE NEPRA REVIEW (PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS, 2009 AGAINST THE DECISION DATED 12.08.2024 OF NEPRA IN APPEAL NO.076/POI-2022

Imtiaz Haider S/o. Abdul Ghafar,	
Through Shafique Ahmed, Prop: Tube Well,	
R/o. Chak No.105/15-L, Tehsil & District Khanewal	Petitioner
Versus	
Multan Electric Power Company Limited	Respondent
APPEAL UNDER SECTION 38(3) OF THE REGULATION OF GENERATION,	

TRANSMISSION, AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC POWER ACT, 1997

For the Petitioner: Mr. Imtiaz Haider

For the Respondent: Nemo

#### DECISION

1. Briefly speaking, Imtiaz Haider (hereinafter referred to as the "Petitioner") is an agricultural consumer of Multan Electric Power Company Limited (hereinafter referred to as the "Respondent") bearing Ref No.29-15916-1718700 having a sanctioned load of 15 kW and the applicable tariff category is D-2(b). The billing meter of the Petitioner was checked by the Metering and Testing (M&T) team of the Respondent on 04.02.2021 and it was declared tampered (loop installed in terminal) for the dishonest abstraction of electricity and the connected load was noted as 19 kW. The electric supply of the Petitioner's premises was disconnected by the Respondent. Thereafter, a detection bill of Rs.493,963/- against 32,959 units for six months for the period from July 2020 to December 2020 was charged to the Petitioner based on 70% load factor of the connected load i.e.19 kW along with arrears of Rs.118,658/- of February 2017 reflected in the deferred column of January 2021 against which the Petitioner paid an amount of Rs.247,000/- to restore the electricity of the premises. Later on, the impugned meter of the Petitioner was replaced with a new meter by the Respondent on 18.02.2021 and handed over to the police.

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- 2. Being aggrieved with the above actions, the Petitioner filed an application before the Provincial Office of Inspection, Multan Region, Multan (hereinafter referred to as the "POI") on 22.03.2021 and assailed the detection bill of Rs.493,963/- along with the deferred arrears of Rs.118,658/-. Subsequently, FIR No.375/2021 dated 08.09.2021 was registered against the Petitioner on account of theft of electricity. The complaint of the Petitioner was disposed of by the POI vide decision dated 22.12.2021, wherein, the detection bill of Rs.493,963/- against 32,959 units for six months for the period from July 2020 to December 2020 and the arrears of Rs.118,658/- were cancelled.
- 3. Being dissatisfied with the afore-referred decision of the POI, the Respondent filed appeal No.076/POI-2022 before NEPRA, which was subsequently disposed of vide the NEPRA Appellate Board decision dated 12.08.2024 (the "impugned decision"), the operative portion of which is reproduced below:
  - "7. In view of what has been stated above, we concluded that:
  - 7.1 The detection bill of Rs.493,963/- for 32,959 units for six months for the period from July 2020 to December 2020 debited to the Respondent is unjustified and the same is cancelled.
  - 7.2 The Respondent may be charged against net of 17,177 units for the period from October 2020 to December 2020 as calculated in Table B above.
  - 7.3 The impugned decision to the extent of cancellation of the deferred arrears of Rs.118,658/- is incorrect and the same is set aside. However, the Respondent may file a fresh complaint before the POI against the arrears of Rs.118,658/- deferred in February 2017 and the POI make a fresh determination after hearing both parties in accordance with law.
  - 7.4 The billing account of the Petitioner may be overhauled, accordingly.
  - 8. The impugned decision is modified in the above terms."
- 4. The Petitioner filed a review petition before the NEPRA on 10.09.2024, wherein the impugned decision has been opposed, inter alia, mainly on the main grounds; (1) the Respondents have not presented the disputed meter before the POI for verification of alleged tampering; (2) mere drop of consumption during the disputed period does not tantamount the involvement of the Petitioner in theft of electricity through tampering with the meter; (3) revision of impugned detection bill on 50% load factor is a clear violation of the CSM-2021; (4) no record of Rs.118,658/- exist with the Respondent and the whole story is based on assumption and presumptions; and (5) the impugned decision is liable to be upheld.
- Hearing in the matter of the subject review petition was scheduled for 11.01.2025 at NEPRA
   Regional Office Lahore for which notices dated 03.01.2025 were issued to both parties (the

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Petitioner and Respondent). On the date of the hearing, the Petitioner was present, whereas no one tendered appearance for the Respondent. The Petitioner reiterated the same contentions as given in the memo of the review petition and contended that the entire proceedings including the alleged checking were carried out by the Respondent unilaterally and the impugned detection bill of Rs.493,463/- was charged on account of false and fabricated story. The Petitioner defended the decision of the POI and prayed that the same be upheld in the best interest of justice.

- 6. Arguments were heard and the record was examined. Following are our observations:
- 6.1 In the review petition, the Petitioner repeated the same stance as taken at the appellate stage. The Petitioner even has no just reasoning with regard to the registration of FIR by the Respondent. NEPRA Appellate Board duly considered and addressed the plea of both parties and decided the matter after perusal of the consumption record in accordance with relevant provisions of the CSM-2021.
- 6.2 In terms of Regulation 3 (2) of NEPRA (Review Procedure) Regulations, 2009, a motion seeking review of any order of the Authority is competent only upon discovery of a mistake or error apparent on the face of the record or a new and important matter of evidence. In the instant review motion, no mistake or error apparent on the face of the record has been highlighted by the Petitioner. Further, the Petitioner has not come up with any new and important matter of evidence that was not considered by the Appellate Board while making its decision dated 12.08.2024. Therefore, there is neither any occasion to amend the impugned decision nor any error inviting indulgence as admissible in law.
- 7. In view of the above, the instant review motion of the Petitioner is dismissed being devoid of merits and the decision dated 12.08.2024 of the Appellate Board is upheld.

Abid Hussain
Member/Advisor (CAD)

Dated: 19-05-2025

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

Naweed Illahi Sheikh Convener/DG (CAD)

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