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National Electric Power Regulatory Authority

Islamic Republic of Pakistan

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No. NEPRA/R/ADG(Trf)/TRF-122/UCH-II-2008/ 19830-34

November 18, 2025

Subject: Decision of the Authority in the matter of Joint Applications filed by CPPA-G for Adjustment of tariff Components of Uch-II Power (Private) Limited

Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed herewith the subject Decision of the Authority (total 05 pages) regarding Joint application filed by CPPA-G for Adjustment of tariff Components of Uch-II Power (Private) Limited in Case No. NEPRA/TRF-122/UCH-II-2008.

2. The Decision is being intimated to the Federal Government for the purpose of notification in the official Gazette pursuant to Section 31(7) of the Regulation of Generation, Transmission and Distribution of Electric Power Act, 1997 within 30 Calendar days from the intimation of this Decision. In the event the Federal Government fails to notify the subject tariff Decision within the time period specified in Section 31(7), then the Authority shall notify the same in the official Gazette pursuant to Section 31(7) of NEPRA Act.

Enclosure: As Above


(Wasim Anwar Bhinder)

Secretary,
Ministry of Energy (Power Division),
'A' Block, Pak Secretariat,
Islamabad

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Finance, 'Q' Block, Pak Secretariat, Islamabad
2. Mr. Shehriyar Abbasi, Deputy Secretary, Cabinet Division, Cabinet Secretariat, Islamabad
3. Chief Executive Officer, Central Power Purchasing Agency Guarantee Limited (CPPA-G), Shaheen Plaza, 73-West, Fazl-e-Haq Road, Islamabad
4. Chief Executive Officer, Uch-II Power (Pvt.) Limited, Building 2-B, I&T Center, Sector G-6/1, Islamabad



**DECISION OF THE AUTHORITY IN THE MATTER OF JOINT APPLICATIONS
FILED BY CPPA-G FOR ADJUSTMENT OF TARIFF COMPONENTS OF UCH-II
POWER (PRIVATE) LIMITED**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Central Power Purchasing Agency (Guarantee) Limited (CPPA-G) signed Negotiated Settlement Agreement (NSA) dated June 03, 2025 with UCH-II Power (Pvt.) Ltd (UCH-II).

2. FILING OF APPLICATIONS

- 2.1. CPPA-G vide letter dated June 26, 2025 filed joint application for reduction in tariff components pursuant to Negotiated Settlement Agreement of UCH-II.
- 2.2. The Authority admitted the application on August 11, 2025 and a notice of admission was published on August 29, 2025.

3. GROUNDS OF APPLICATIONS

- 3.1. CPPA-G and UCH-II have agreed on following terms and conditions for reduction of tariff components:
- O&M indexation mechanism
 - Maximum limit of insurance premium
 - Foreign ROE and ROEDC components
 - Hybrid Take and Pay model for ROE

4. COMMENTS OF STAKEHOLDER

- 4.1. In response to the Notice of Admission, Mr. Rehan Jawed vide email dated August 30, 2025 submitted following comments:
- First of all, I want to appreciate that some important changes have been made in the agreements which are good for consumers. Capping O&M increases at 5%, fixing ROE at 13% with a locked exchange rate of 168, limiting forex pass-through, and introducing a Hybrid Take-and-Pay model are all positive steps. These measures will help in reducing unnecessary burden on electricity bills.
 - At the same time, there are a few more points that can bring greater benefit to consumers. Quaid-e-Azam Thermal (Bhikki) has been running at very low load factors, sometimes only 30–40%, while Uch-II runs much higher because it has cheaper gas. When Bhikki is not fully used, people end up paying higher capacity charges per unit. To fix this, I strongly suggest that Bhikki should be given a blended allocation of indigenous gas and RLNG, so that its fuel cost comes down to a more reasonable level. This will allow it to run more, reduce idle capacity, and ultimately lower the per-unit cost for consumers.



- I also think ROE can be reviewed further in light of the current economic situation. O&M costs should be properly audited so companies do not automatically take 5% increases without proof. Insurance costs should also be verified clearly, and efficiency tests like heat rate should be strictly monitored to ensure plants are working as promised.
- Overall, the steps taken are in the right direction and deserve appreciation, but further reforms like blending fuel for Quaid-e-Azam Thermal and stricter checks on costs can make the benefit for consumers much stronger.

5. HEARING

- 5.1. Public hearing in the matter was held on September 11, 2025 which was attended by the representatives of CPPA-G and Uch-II.

6. CONSIDERATION OF THE VIEWS OF THE STAKEHOLDERS, ANALYSIS AND DECISION ON IMPORTANT ISSUES

- 6.1. The issue wise discussion, submissions of stakeholders, analysis and decision are provided in the succeeding paragraphs.

a) Indexation of O&M Components

- 6.2. The O&M components as determined by NEPRA (for the quarter ended December 31, 2024) shall continue as revised reference with the following indexation mechanism:

i. Local O&M

- 6.3. Fixed and Variable O&M – Local shall be indexed with lower of (a) five percent (5%) per annum or (b) the actual average National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) for the preceding twelve months.

ii. Foreign O&M

- 6.4. Fixed and Variable O&M – Foreign shall be indexed as per the existing mechanism provided that the PKR / USD depreciation shall be allowed only to the extent of 70% of actual depreciation per annum. In case the PKR appreciates against USD in a year, then 100% of such appreciation shall be passed on to the consumers.
- 6.5. For clarification, the indices used in the quarterly indexation determined by NEPRA for the period Oct – Dec 2024 shall prevail.
- 6.6. The submissions of the applicants have been reviewed. It is pertinent to mention that same mechanism was requested in previous joint applications filed by CPPA-G with power plants for reduction in tariff components wherein the Authority approved following indexation mechanism vide its decisions dated May 27, 2025 and July 30, 2025:
- a) Local O&M components (Variable and Fixed) shall be indexed on quarterly basis until either the cumulative increase reaches the maximum limit of 5% or average annual NCPI value, whichever shall be lower. The reference values for the entire year shall remain

fixed. The final indexed component and average NCPI for the preceding shall serve as the reference for the subsequent year.

- b) Foreign O&M components (Variable and Fixed) shall be indexed quarterly on the basis of 70% of the cumulative rupee devaluation against US dollar. In case rupee appreciates against US Dollar, 100% of the same shall be passed on to the consumers. The reference values for the entire year shall remain fixed. The final indexed component and exchange rate at the end of the year shall serve as the reference for the subsequent year.

6.7. Accordingly, the same has been approved in the instant case w.e.f. January 01, 2025.

b) Insurance

- 6.8. According to the applicants, insurance during operations shall be revised such that it should be paid in actual subject to a maximum limit to be capped at 0.9% of the allowed EPC cost, as per the provision of PPA.
- 6.9. The submission of the applicants has been reviewed. Currently, maximum cap of insurance component is 1.35% of the allowed EPC cost., however, the actual insurance cost remains within the maximum allowed limited. The revised insurance cap is in favour of consumers, therefore, the Authority has decided to revise the maximum limit of insurance to 0.90% of the allowed EPC cost which shall be applicable from the next agreement year.

c) Foreign ROE Component

- 6.10. According to the applicants, the foreign component of ROE and ROEDC as determined by NEPRA for the Oct-Dec 2024 quarter shall be recomputed based on and 17% rate of return at the fixed exchange rate of PKR 168 / USD. Thereafter, there shall be no exchange rate indexation.
- 6.11. The submission of the applicants has been reviewed. The requested return is in line with the return approved by the Authority vide its decision dated May 27, 2025 for thermal IPPs established under 2002 power policy. The comparison of existing and requested ROE and ROEDC components is provided hereunder:

Component	Existing* (Rs. /kW/h)	Revised (Rs. /kW/h)	Difference (%)
ROE	1.4567	0.9947	(32%)
ROEDC	0.4200	0.2772	(34%)

*Jan – March 2025 Quarter

- 6.12. Considering the above, the Authority has decided to revise the foreign ROE and ROEDC components of UCH-II on the basis of return of 17% and fixed exchange rate of Rs. 168/US\$. The revised components will remain fix without any indexation and shall be applicable w.e.f January 01. 2025.



d) Hybrid Take and Pay Model

6.13. The Parties agree to implement a 'Hybrid Take-and-Pay Model'. The plants will be entitled to 35% of the revised ROE and ROEDC components of tariff as part of CPP which will be computed as per the existing terms of the PPA. In case the Dispatched and Delivered Net Electrical Output (NEO) exceeds 35% of the total contract capacity in terms of kWh, then IPPs will be entitled to receive ROE and ROEDC components of tariff which shall be calculated on the actual NEO exceeding 35% of the total contract capacity in terms of kWh and IPPs shall claim the differential CPP accordingly.

6.14. The submission of the applicants has been reviewed. The arrangement has been mutually agreed between CPPA-G and power plants and is in line with the mechanism adopted in case of similar power plants, therefore, the Authority has decided to approve the same.

7. ORDER

I. The Authority hereby modify and approve its earlier decisions in the matter of UCH-II Power (Pvt.) Limited to the extent of following:

Tariff Components	Unit	Tariff
ROE (Foreign)	Rs. /kW/h	0.9947
ROEDC (Foreign)		0.2772

II. The O&M indexation mechanism is also modified to the following extent:

- Local O&M components (Variable and Fixed) shall be indexed on quarterly basis until either the cumulative increase reaches the maximum limit of 5% or average annual NCPI value, whichever shall be lower. The reference values for the entire year shall remain fixed. The final indexed component and average NCPI for the preceding shall serve as the reference for the subsequent year.
- Foreign O&M components (Variable and Fixed) shall be indexed quarterly on the basis of 70% of the cumulative rupee devaluation against US dollar. In case rupee appreciates against US Dollar, 100% of the same shall be passed on to the consumers. The reference values for the entire year shall remain fixed. The final indexed component and exchange rate at the end of the year shall serve as the reference for the subsequent year.
- The indices used in the quarterly indexation determined by NEPRA for the period October – December 2024 shall prevail as reference for the first year's indexation.

III. The insurance component shall be adjusted annually on the basis of actual cost subject to maximum insurance cap of 0.9% of the EPC cost.

IV. The ROE and ROEDC components have been revised based on 17% rate of return at fixed exchange rate of Rs. 168/US\$. There shall be no exchange rate indexation on revised ROE and ROEDC components.



- V. Hybrid Take & Pay arrangement for payment of ROE component on the basis of Net Electrical Output exceeding 35% of the total contract capacity in terms of kWh. Up to 35%, the existing mechanism shall prevail.
- VI. The revised tariff components along with revised indexations shall be effective from January 01, 2025.

NOTIFICATION

The above Order of the Authority is intimated to the Federal Government for notification in the Official Gazette in terms of Section 31(7) of the Regulations of Generation, Transmission and Distribution of Electric Power Act, 1997.

AUTHORITY



Engr. Rafique Ahmed Shaikh
Member



Amina Ahmed
Member



Engr. Maqsood Anwar Khan
Member

Waseem Mukhtar
Chairman

