

National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) Islamic Republic of Pakistan

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No. NEPRA/AB/Appeal-149/POI-2016/ /382 - /398

September 20, 2017

- Tanveer Aslam Qureshi, S/o Muhammad Aslam Qureshi, Through Obaid Ullah, S/o Faiz Ahmed, R/o 11-Commercial Zone, Canal View, Lahore
- Saeed Ahmed Bhatti, Advocate High Court, Second Floor, Akram Mansion, Neela Gumbad, Lahore
- Electric Inspector Lahore Region, Energy Department, Govt. of Punjab, Block No. 1, Irrigation Complex, Canal Bank, Dharampura, Lahore

No. NEPRA/AB/Appeal-149/POI-2016/ /387

Forwarded for information please.

- Chief Executive Officer LESCO Ltd, 22-A, Queens Road, Lahore
- Sub Divisional Officer (Operation), LESCO Ltd, Niaz Baig Sub Division, Lahore

Subject: <u>Appeal Titled LESCO Vs. Tanveer Aslam Qureshi Against the Decision Dated</u> <u>29.06.2016 of the Electric Inspector/POI to Government of the Punjab Lahore</u> <u>Region, Lahore</u>

Please find enclosed herewith the Decision of the Appellate Board dated 19.09.2017, regarding the subject matter, for information and necessary action accordingly.

Encl: As Above

(Ikram Shakeel)

September 20, 2017

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Assistant Director Appellate Board

1. Registrar

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CC:

1. Member (CA)

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National Electric Power Regulatory Authority

Before Appellate Board

In the matter of

Appeal No. NEPRA/Appeal-149/POI-2016

Lahore Electric Supply Company Limited

.....Appellant

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Versus

For the appellant:

Mr. Saeed Ahmed Bhatti advocate

For the respondent:

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DECISION

 As per fact of the case, the respondent is a domestic consumer of Lahore Electric Supply Company Limited (hereinafter referred to as LESCO) bearing Ref No.15-11234-0062300-U with a sanctioned load of 1 kW with applicable tariff A-1. The respondent challenged the electricity bills of Rs.48,633/- and Rs.17,372/- for January 2010 and April 2010 respectively before Lahore High Court, Lahore. The honorable High Court vide its decision dated 27.01.2015 disposed of the matter with direction to petitioner to approach the Electric Inspector for redressal of

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the grievance.

- 2. The respondent filed an application before Provincial Office of Inspection/Electric Inspector, Lahore Region, Lahore (hereinafter referred to as POI) on 01.09.2015 and assailed the aforementioned electricity bills. POI provided opportunity of hearing to both the parties but FESCO failed to file reply/parawise comments and appear before POI in-spite of notices. The matter was disposed of by POI vide its decision dated 29.07.2016on ex-parte basis.
- 3. Being dissatisfied with the POI decision dated 29.07.2016 (hereinafter referred to as the impugned decision), LESCO has filed the instant appeal under Section 38 (3) of the Regulation of Generation, Transmission and Distribution of Electric Power Act 1997 (hereinafter referred to as the NEPRA Act 1997). In its appeal, LESCO contended that neither any notice was served upon nor any notice was received from POI. LESCO contended that impugned decision was rendered without hearing them. LESCO pleaded that the impugned decision may be declared illegal, void, without jurisdiction and be set aside and the case be remanded back to POI for adjudication on merit after providing opportunity of hearing to the litigant parties. Notice of the appeal was issued to the respondent for filing reply/parawise comments, which however were not filed.
- 4. After issuing notice, the appeal was fixed for hearing in the provincial office NEPRA Lahore on 28.08.2017 in which Mr. Saeed Ahmed Bhatti entered appearance for the Page 2 of 3





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appellant LESCO and no body represented the respondent. Learned counsel for LESCO reiterated the same arguments as narrated in memo of the appeal and pleaded that the case be remanded back to POI for adjudication on merits after hearing both the parties.

- 5. Since the respondent has failed to appear, there is no rebuttal as to the stance of LESCO. We are inclined to agree with the contention of learned counsel for LESCO that the matter was decided by POI without hearing LESCO and the case be remanded back to POI for hearing afresh.
- 6. In consideration of above, the impugned decision dated 29.07.2016 is set aside and the matter is remanded back to POI for adjudication on merits after providing opportunity of hearing to both the parties.

Muhammad Qamar-uz-Zaman Member

Nadir Ali Khoso Convener



Member

Dated: 19.09.2017



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