

National Electric Power Regulatory Authority

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

Provincial Office

1st Floor, Link Arcade, 54B, GECH Society, Phase 3, Link Road, Model Town, Lahore. Phone: 042-99333931

Consumer Affairs Department

POL.05344 -2024 August 13, 2024

Chief Executive Officer, Lahore Electric Supply Company (LESCO), 22-A, Queens Road, Lahore.

Subject: DECISION IN THE MATTER OF COMPLAINT FILED BY MR. MUHAMMAD AZAM UNDER SECTION 39 OF THE REGULATION OF GENERATION, TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC POWER ACT, 1997 AGAINST LESCO REGARDING EXCESSIVE BILLING & REPLACEMENT OF DEFECTIVE METER (REF#13 11461 0799201 R)

Case No. LESCO-LHR-35976-03-24

Please find enclosed herewith the decision of NEPRA Complaints Resolution Committee (CRC), dated August 13, 2024 regarding the subject matter for necessary action and compliance within fifteen (15) days, positively.

Encl: As above

(Aisha Kalsoom)
Assistant Director (CAD)

Copy to:

- 1. C.E/Customer Services Director LESCO, 22-A, Queens Road, <u>Lahore</u>.
- Mr. Rana Rizwan Sibghat Ullah, Manager/Incharge Central Complaint Cell LESCO, (Focal Person, NEPRA) LESCO, 22-A, Queens Road, <u>Lahore</u>.
- 3. S.E 4th Circle LESCO, Dist, Complex Okara <u>Lahore</u>.
- 4. XEN Hujra Division, LESCO 66kv Grid Station Hujra Shah Muqcem, Okara.
- 5. Mr. Muhammad Azam S/O Muhammad Ibrahim R/O Rajowal, Tehsil Depalpur, District Okara Cell#0344-7535465



BEFORE THE NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER REGULATORY AUTHORITY (NEPRA)

Complaint No. LESCO-LHR-35976-03-24

Mr. Muhammad Azam, Complainant R/O Rajowal, Tehsil Depalpur, District Okara

Cell#03:14-7535465

Versus

Lahore Electric Supply Company (LESCO) 22-A, Queens Road, Lahore.

...... Respondent

22 11, Quissia 1000, <u>2001010</u>

Date of Hearing: June 06, 2024

On behalf of:

Complainant: Mr. Muhammad Azam

Respondent: Mr. Shah Nawaz, SDO Hujra, LESCO

Subject: DECISION IN THE MATTER OF COMPLAINT FILED BY MR. MUHAMMAD AZAM UNDER SECTION 39 OF THE REGULATION OF GENERATION, TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC POWER ACT, 1997 AGAINST LESCO REGARDING EXCESSIVE BILLING & REPLACEMENT OF DEFECTIVE METER (REF#13 11461 0799201 R)

DECISION

This decision shall dispose of the complaint filed by Mr. Muhammad Azam (hereinafter referred to as "the Complainant") against Lahore Electric Supply Company Limited (hereinafter referred to as the "Respondent" or "LESCO"), under Section 39 of the Regulation of Generation, Transmission and Distribution of Electric Power Act, 1997 (hereinafter referred to as the "NEPRA Act").

- 2. The Complainant in his complaint submitted that LESCO has charged him an illegal bill amounting to Rs. 54936/-. The complainant approached LESCO but his grievance was not redressed. Subsequently, the Complainant approached NEPRA for correction of his bill and redressal of his grievance.
- 3. The matter was taken up with LESCO for submission of parawise comments/report. In response, LESCO reported that the connection of the Complainant was checked on October 10. 2023 by LESCO (Operation) team and found the meter "Intentionally burnt/Washed out". Subsequently, the Complainant was charged with a detection bill of 1058 units in October 2023 for the period of 03 months w.e.f. July 2023 to September 2023 on the basis of connected load (i.e., 2.5 kW). An FIR was also lodged against the Complainant.
- 4. In order to probe further into the matter, a hearing was held on June 06, 2024 at NEPRA Provincial Office, Lahore which was attended by representatives of both the parties who advanced their arguments based on their earlier submissions.
- 5. The case has been examined in detail in the light of the written/verbal arguments of both the parties and applicable law. The following has been concluded:

- i. The Complainant is a commercial consumer of LESCO and has one connection installed in the name of Mr. Muhammad Ibrahim S/O Allah Din with reference number 13 11461 0799201 R under the A-2a(04) tariff. During the hearing, it was revealed that the premises of the Complainant was checked on October 10, 2023 by LESCO (Operation) team and found the meter "Intentionally burnt/Washed out". Subsequently, the Complainant was charged with a detection bill of 1058 units in October 2023 for the period of 03 months w.e.f. July 2023 to September 2023 on the basis of connected load (i.e., 2.5 kW). An FIR was also lodged against the Complainant.
- ii. The LESCO officials were directed to assess the load of the Complainant his presence and submit load assessment report. Later on, LESCO submitted load assessment report on June 27, 2024, as per which the current load of the Complainant was 0.500 kW. Therefore, the detection bill charged to the Complainant needs to be revised on latest load assessment report.
- iii. Clause 9.2 of Consumer Service Manual (CSM) provides procedure for establishing illegal abstraction of electricity and charging of detection bill thereto. However, the bill was charged to the Complainant in instant case seems on higher side on the basis of excessive load i.e., 2.5 kW instead of actual load i.e., 0.500 kW.

6۔ مندرجہ بالا حقائق کے پیش نظر نسیکو کو ہدائت کی جاتی ہے کہ شکائت کنندہ کو ماہ اکتوبر 2023 میں موجو وہ لوڈ (2.5 kW) کی بنیا دپر چارج کیا گیا 1058 میں موجو وہ لوڈ (2.5 kW) کی بنیا دپر چارج کیا گیا 1058 یو نشس کا بل آخری جمع کروائی گئی لوڈ اسیسسٹ رپورٹ (15) یوم کے مطابق ورست کیا جائے اور تعمیل کی رپورٹ پندرہ (15) یوم کے اندرو فتر اہذا میں جمع کروائی جائے۔

(Aisha Kalsoom)

Member Consumer Complaints Committee/Assistant Director (CAD)

Lahore, August 13, 2024

(Engr. Dr. Bilal Masood)
Member Consumer Complaints
Committee/Additional Director (CAD)

