

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.05**23**82 -2024 May 29, 2024

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

Subject: DECISION IN THE MATTER OF COMPLAINT FILED BY MR. SHOAIB ZAFAR UNDER SECTION 39 OF THE REGULATION OF GENERATION, TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC POWER ACT, 1997 AGAINST LESCO REGARDING EXCESSIVE BILLING (REF#14 11112 1256000)

Case No. LESCO-LHR-34075-01-24

Please find enclosed herewith the decision of the NEPRA dated May 29, 2024 regarding the subject matter for necessary action and compliance within fifteen (15) days, positively.

Encl: As above

(Aisha Kalsoom)
Assitant Director (CAD)

Copy to:

1. C.E/Customer Services Director LESCO, 22-A, Queens Road, <u>Lahore</u>.

 Rana Rizwan Sibghat Ullah, Manager/Incharge Central Complaint Cell LESCO, (Focal Person, NEPRA) LESCO, 22-A, Queens Road, <u>Lahore</u>.

3. S.E 1st Circle LESCO, 132 kv Suggian Grid Station, Abdul Qadir Jilani Road, <u>Lahore</u>

4. XEN Gulshan e Ravi Division, LESCO 88-A, Mian Road, Gulshan-e-Ravi, Lahore

5. Mr. Shoaib Zafar R/O House No. 55, Block F, Gulshan-e-Ravi, <u>Lahore</u> Cell#0321-4870874



BEFORE THE NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER REGULATORY AUTHORITY (NEPRA)

Complaint No. LESCO-LHR-28931-09-23

Mr. Shoiab Zafar, R/O House No. 55, Block F, Gulshan-e-Ravi, Lahore Cell#0321-4870874

Versus

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

..... Respondent

..... Complainant

22-A, Queens Road, Lanore.

Date of Hearing:

May 02, 2024

On behalf of:

Complainant:

Mr. Shoaib Zafar

Respondent:

Mr. Nouman Ahmad, XEN, LESCO

Subject: DECISION IN THE MATTER OF COMPLAINT FILED BY MR. SHOAIB ZAFAR UNDER

SECTION 39 OF THE REGULATION OF GENERATION, TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC POWER ACT, 1997 AGAINST LESCO REGARDING

EXCESSIVE BILLING (REF#14 11112 1256000)

Case No. LESCO-LHR-34075-01-24

DECISION

This decision shall dispose of the complaint filed by Mr. Shoaib Zafar (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 excessive bill amounting to Rs. 193078/- during the month of August, 2023 for a vacant house. 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 meter of the Complainant was checked on July 10, 2023 by M&T and found its yellow phase dead. Subsequently, LESCO charged the Complainant a detection bill of 3611 units during the month of September, 2023 for the period of three months w.e.f. May 2023 to July 2023 on the basis of connected load (i.e., 5 kW + 02 Acs).
- 4. In order to probe further into the matter, a hearing was held on May 02, 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:

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- i. The Complainant is a domestic consumer of LESCO and has one connection installed in the name of Tafseer Ud Din with reference number 14 11112 1256000 U under the A-1b(03)T tariff. The connection was installed on November 08, 1989. During the hearing, LESCO officials apprised that the meter of the Complainant was checked on July 10, 2023 by M&T and found its yellow phase dead. Subsequently, LESCO charged the Complainant a detection bill of 3611 units during the month of September, 2023 for the period of three months w.e.f. May 2023 to July 2023 on the basis of connected load (i.e., 5 kW + 02 Acs). Moreover, the meter of the Complainant was disconnected due to non-payment of the bill during the month of September, 2023.
- ii. The Complainant apprised that his premises is vacant from July, 2023 till date with less electricity consumption. Additionally, he submitted his gas bills in support of his arguments. The history of gas bills indicates low consumption, providing evidence that the premises was indeed vacant during the said period.
- 6. Relevant Clauses of NEPRA Consumer Service Manual (CSM) elaborate that;
 - **4.3.3 (c) i.** "In case, slowness is established, DISCO shall enhance multiplying factor for charging actual consumption till replacement of the defective metering installation".
 - **4.3.3 (c) ii.** "Further, charging of a bill for the quantum of energy lost if any, because of malfunctioning of metering installation shall not be more than two previous billing cycles".

7- مندرجه بالاحقائق کے پیش نظر لیسکو کوہدائت کی جاتی ہے کہ ؟

(الف) نیپرا قوانین کی روشنی میں شکائت کنندہ کو ماہ ستمبر 2023 میں میٹر کے ایک فیز (yellow phase) ڈیڈ کی بنیاد پر چارج کیا گیا 1 361 یو نٹس کابل ختم کیا جائے۔

(ب) دوماہ (جون 2023اور جولائی 2023) کے لیے 33 فیصد ست روی (slowness) چارج کی جائے۔

(ج) ماہ سمبر 2023 کے بعد چارج کیے گئے تمام ابور یج بلزوالیس کیے جامیں۔

(د) شكائت كننده كاكنكشن في الفور بحال كياجائے۔

(ه) ورج بالا احكام يعلى كار يورث يندره (15) يوم كم اندرو فتر ابذا مين جمع كروائي جائي

(Aisha Kalsoom)
Assistant Director (CAD)

(Engr. Dr. Bilal Masood)

Incharge/Additional Director (CAD)

Lahore, May 29, 2023