

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/ -2025 July 09, 2025

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. GHULAM ABBAS S/O
ABDUR RASHEED UNDER SECTION 39 OF THE REGULATION OF GENERATION,
TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC POWER ACT, 1997 AGAINST
LESCO REGARDING DETECTION BILL (REF# 08 11216 1458200 U)
Case No. LESCO-LHR-45411-10-24

Please find enclosed herewith the decision of NEPRA Complaints Resolution Committee (CRC), dated July 09, 2025 regarding the subject matter for necessary action, please.

Encl: As above

Copy to:

- C.E/Customer Services Director LESCO, 22-A, Queens Road, <u>Lahore</u>.
- Manager/Incharge Central Complaint Cell LESCO, (Focal Person, NEPRA) LESCO, 22-A, Queens Road, <u>Lahore</u>.
- S.E 2nd Circle LESCO, 132kv Grid Station, Chandni Chowk, Town Ship, Lahore.
- XEN Township Division, LESCO
 132kv Gird Station Chandni Chowk Township, <u>Lahore</u>.
- 5. Mr. Ghulam Abbas S/O Abdur Rasheed R/O Firdous Park, Gazi Road, Lahore Cantt, <u>Lahore</u> Cell# 0324-4928495

(Aisha Kalsoom)
Assistant Director (CAD)





BEFORE THE

NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER REGULATORY AUTHORITY (NEPRA)

Complaint No. LESCO-LHR-45411-10-24

..... Complainant

..... Respondent

Mr. Ghulam Abbas S/O Abdur Rasheed

Firdous Park, Ghazi Roasd, Lahore Cantt.

District Lahore.

VERSUS

Lahore Electric Supply Company (LESCO)

22-A, Queens Road, Lahore.

Date of Hearing:

January 07, 2025 March 04, 2025 June 19, 2025

Complainant:

Mr. Ghulam Abbas

Respondent:

Mr. Azeem, Addl. XEN, LESCO

Mr. Nadeem Akhtar, SDO (Operation), LESCO Mr. Hamid Raza, SDO (Operation), LESCO

SUBJECT:

DECISION IN THE MATTER OF COMPLAINT FILED BY MR. GHULAM ABBAS S/O ABDUR RASHEED UNDER SECTION OF REGULATION OF GENERATION, TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF AGAINST LESCO ELECTRIC POWER ACT. 1997

DETECTION BILL (REF # 08-11216-1458200)

DECISION

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

- NEPRA received a complaint from Mr. Ghulam Abbas wherein the Complainant 2. submitted that an amount of Rs. 227,766/- against the bill adjustment was charged by LESCO during the month of October, 2024 without any notice. The matter was taken up with LESCO and hearings were held at NEPRA Provincial Office, Lahore during which LESCO officials submitted that the Complainant's meter became defective and was, later, replaced while the units retrieved through M&T, LESCO were, then charged against the Complainant's account. Upon which, the Complainant raised observations and challenged the delay in charging of belated adjustment.
- The case has been examined at length in light of the record made so available by parties, arguments advanced during the hearings and the applicable law. Following has been observed:
 - against a reference number i.e. The Complainant's commercial connection installed 08-11216-1458200 located at Pindi Stors Peco Roa Road District Lahore was charged a etober, 2024 on account of the detection bill of (4630) units by LESCA

Page | 1

meter defectiveness. The issue raised by the Complainant was that the mala fide exorbitant detection bill has been charged by LESCO accruing a considerable delay.

Perusal of the documentary evidence reveals that the Complainant was charged the detection bill of (4630) units during the month of October, 2024 on account of the actual consumption of the defective meter replaced during August, 2022. According to clause 4.3.2 (d) of Consumer Service Manual (CSM), consumer's account shall not be liable to any adjustment if the data is not retrieved within three months of display wash. However, as per the available record, the Complainant's meter was declared defective during June, 2022 and was replaced during August, 2022. Subsequently, detection bill based on the retrieved units was, later, charged during October, 2024 accruing considerable delay of approximately (26) months while standing in direct violation of CSM.

- iii. Hence, charging of the detection bill on basis of reading difference is not merited as per above mentioned clause of CSM which obligates LESCO to finalize adjustment as per retrieval report within (3) months of malfunction, however, actually levied by LESCO after delay of (26) months in instant matter which requires withdrawal of the detection bill.
- iv. Nonetheless, it is a matter of fact that despite bona fide usage during the period i.e. December, 2021 to May, 2022 with exception of January, February & March, 2022, being the disconnected period; the Complainant was charged zero units, which can now be correlated with the prior consumption pattern to meet the ranks of justice. It is evident that the Complainant maintained a consistent & healthy consumption prior to disputed period suggesting no dip or extraordinary level of consumption in the preceding months. As per which it is of considered approach to translate the consumption recorded during the corresponding months of previous year i.e. 2020-21 over the period having only zero consumption.
- 4. Foregoing in view, LESCO is directed to waive off aforementioned detection bill of 4630 units charged to the Complainant during October, 2024. LESCO is further directed to charge electricity bills against the months i.e. December, 2021, April & May, 2022 as per consumption recorded against corresponding months i.e. December, 2020, April & May, 2021. The revised bill be issued to the Complainant within thirty (30) days and further proceedings in the matter are being closed by this office.

(Ubaid\Khan)

Member, Complaints Resolution Committee/Assistant Director (CAD) (Aisha Kalsoom)

Member, Complaints Resolution Committee /Assistant Director (CAD)

Lahore, July09, 2025