

## National Electric Power Regulatory Authority ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN **Provincial Office of Consumer Affairs**

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> POP/ 1121 /2023 December 13, 2023

Chief Executive Officer Peshawar Electric Supply Company (PESCO) WAPDA House, Sakhi Chashma Shami Road Peshawar

Subject: COMPLAINT FILED BY MR. ZULFIQAR UNDER SECTION 39 OF REGULATION GENERATION, TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION **ELECTRIC POWER** ACT, 1997 **AGAINST PESCO** REGARDING DETECTION BILLING (A/C NO. 17 26221 0155570 )

COMPLAINT # PESCO/PSH-29976/10/2023

Please find enclosed herewith the decision of the NEPRA Complaint dated December 11, 2023, regarding the subject matter for necessary action and compliance within due course of time.

Encl: As Above

Copy to:

- Director General (CAD) 1. NEPRA Office Building, Attaturk Avenue (East), Sector G-5/1, Islamabad
- Chief Commercial Officer, PESCO, 2. WAPDA House, Sakhi Chashma Shami Road, Peshawar
- Incharge Complaint Cell, PESCO 3. WAPDA House, Sakhi Chashma Shami Road, Peshawar
- Mr. Zulfigar S/o Abdul Jalil 4. Village Banda Sheik Ismaeel, Nowshera Khyber Pakhtunkwa Cell No. 0316-9571087

(Imtiaz Khan) Deputy Director



## BEFORE THE NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER REGULATORY AUTHORITY (NEPRA)

# Complaint No. PESCO-PSH-28541-09-23

Mr. Zulfigar Village Sheikh Ismail Khel, Nowshera, ..... Complainant Khyber Pakhtunkkhwa

#### Versus

Peshawar Electric Supply Company (PESCO)

WAPDA House, Sakhi Chashma Shami Road, Peshawar.

Respondent

Date of Hearing:

November 07, 2023 On behalf of:

Complainant:

Mr. Zulfigar

Respondent:

Mr. Atif Khan, SDO Pabbi-I, PESCO

Mr. Riaz Khan, MRS Pabbi-I, PESCO

Subject: **DECISION IN THE MATTER OF COMPLAINT FILED BY MR. ZULFIQAR** UNDER SECTION 39 OF THE REGULATION GENERATION, TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC POWER ACT, 1997 AGAINST PESCO REGARDING EXCESSIVE/DETECTION BILLING (A/C# 17 262210155570)

### **DECISION**

This decision shall dispose of the complaint filed by Mr. Mr. Zulfiqar, Village Sheikh Ismail Khel, Pabbi, Nowshera (hereinafter referred to as "the Complainant") against Peshawar Electric Supply Company Limited (hereinafter referred to as the "Respondent" or "PESCO"), under Section 39 of the Regulation of Generation, Transmission and Distribution of Electric Power Act, 1997 (hereinafter referred to as the "NEPRA Act").

- The complainant through the above referred complaint submitted that PESCO has charged excessive billing to the complainant as compared to actual meter reading at site. Moreover, a detection bill amounting to Rs. 35,000/- was charged against him in April 2023, he further added. The complainant approached PESCO office but PESCO failed to redress grievances of the complainant. Subsequently, the complainant approached NEPRA for correction of his bill and redressal of his grievances.
- The matter was taken up with PESCO for submission of parawise comments/report. 3. Thereafter, in order to probe further into the matter, a hearing was held on November 07, 2023 at NEPRA Provincial Office, Peshawar which were attended by representatives of both the parties who advanced their arguments based on their earlier submissions. During the hearing it was revealed that PESCO charged the complainant upto 1190 reading index in

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the billing month of October 2023 whereas actual reading in the meter was 516 reading index as such 674 units were charged in excess. The complainant's sanction load was 01KW. In this regard clause 6.1 of Consumer Service Manual (CSM) provides that the consumer be charged bills as per actual meter readings/snaps. Additionally, clause 6.1.2 and clause 6.2.1 of CSM provides that Meter Reader and Line Superintendent are responsible for meter reading of such consumers and percentage checking of meters as well. However, due to sheer negligence of concerned Meter reader and Line Superintendent, the complainant was charged with excessive billing.

- 4. PESCO has also charged a detection bill to the complainant amounting to Rs. 35,000/- in April 2023, on account of illegal abstraction/theft of electricity. Clause 9.1 of CSM provides procedure of establishing illegal abstraction/theft of electricity and charging of detection bill thereafter. PESCO has failed to provide any evidence of illegal abstraction/theft and justify charging of detection bill.
- 5. Foregoing in view, PESCO is directed
  - (i) To revise the bill of the complainant as per actual meter reading snap by next billing cycle and adjust FPA and LPS accordingly.
  - (ii) To withdraw detection bill charged to the complainant during the month of April 2023 being unjustified.

6. Compliance report be submitted within fifteen (15) days.

(Palwasha Hamid)
Deputy Director (CAD)

(Imtiaz Khan) Deputy Director(CAD)

Islamabad, December \\ , 2023.