

# NEWSLETTER 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter January - March 2025

**NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER REGULATORY AUTHORITY** 

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# 1 KEY HIGHLIGHTS 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER 2025

#### 1.1 Tariff

Decisions issued for multiple HPPs; FCAs, indexations, and review motions (e.g., FESCO, PQEPCL) processed.

#### 1.2 Licensing

2,321 net metering approvals (313.68 MW); license changes for fuel conversion and shareholding updates approved.

#### 1.3 Consumer Affairs

4,114 complaints received; more than 78% resolved. Geo-tagging, SMS alerts, and online wiring portal introduced; KE & FESCO warned.

#### 1.4 CTBCM

K-Electric integration plan finalized; eligibility criteria amended; collaborations initiated with IGC, RELP & World Bank.

#### 1.5 M&E

Rs. 650+ million fines imposed; actions taken against CPGCL, NTDC, and DISCOs for safety, outages, and load shedding.

#### 1.6 Technical

Hearings on DISCO investment plans held; PPA amendments for Shahtaj Sugar & JPCL approved.

#### 1.7 IT

More than 3,000 regulatory documents uploaded to NEPRA's website.

#### **1.8 Coordination**

115 regulatory meetings and 51 public hearings held to boost stakeholder engagement.

#### 1.9 HR & Admin

Admin/HR team won football tournament; new attendance system, office upgrades, training, and daycare improvements implemented.

# 2. TARIFF DEPARTMENT

#### 2.1 Hydropower

Decisions were issued for annual and quarterly indexations for several hydropower projects including Mira Power, Suki Kinari HPP, Chianwali, Marala, Pak Pattan, and Star Hydro

#### 2.2 Distribution Tariff

Decisions included fuel charge adjustments (FCA) for the months of November 2024, December 2024 & January 2025; Quarterly indexations for the second quarter of 2024-25, insurance and withholding tax adjustments for XWDISCOs. Review motions filed by FESCO in the matters of annual adjustment/indexation of tariff & distribution tariff and Port Qasim Electric Power Company in the matter of Fuel Price Adjustments were also processed.

#### 2.3 K-Electric

Decision of the Authority in the matter of Monthly Fuel Charges Adjustments January 2025; December 2024; November 2024; and, October 2024.

# **3** LICENSING DEPARTMENT

#### **3.1 Licensee Proposed Modifications:**

The Authority approved modifications in the generation licences of the following companies to permit the operation of their generation facilities on Gas, RLNG, or a blend thereof:

- a. Dadu Energy (Pvt) Limited (Licence No. SGC/62/2010, dated October 13, 2010)
- b. Omni Power (Pvt) Limited (Licence No. SGC/63/2010, dated October 13, 2010)
- c. Shikarpur Power (Pvt) Limited (Licence No. SGC/64/2010, dated October 13, 2010)
- d. Thatta Power (Pvt) Limited (Licence No. SGC/76/2011, dated December 20, 2011)

#### 3.2 Change in Shareholding of Licensees

Pursuant to Section 32 of the NEPRA Act and Rule 14(1)(c) of the NEPRA Licensing (Generation) Rules, 2000, the Authority approved changes in the shareholding structure of the following entities:

- a. Engro Powergen Thar (Private) Limited
- b. Uch Power (Private) Limited
- c. Uch Power (Private) Limited (Uch-II)
- d. FFBL Power Company Limited
- e. Liberty Power Tech Limited
- f. Liberty Wind Power-I Limited
- g. Liberty Wind Power-II Limited

#### **3.3Net Metering Concurrences**

NEPRA granted 2,321 net metering concurrences (for installations exceeding 25 kW), totaling a

cumulative capacity of 313.68 MW, during the first quarter of 2025.

#### 3.4 Change in Name of Licensee

The Authority acknowledged the change in name of ENI New Energy (Private) Limited to Prime Green Energy (Private) Limited.

### 4 CONSUMER AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT & COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT

#### 4.1 Complaints and Hearings

A total of 4,114 complaints were received, with 3,217 resolved and 897 under process during Q1 2025.

1,876 hearings were conducted across regional offices head office and via zoom/ online.

Out of 15,243 complaints received via the NEPRA ASAAN mobile app, 15,138 were resolved.

#### 4.2 Court Cases

Sixteen complaints, cases, and writ petitions referred by various courts were processed and resolved.

#### 4.3 Major Cases Processed

Fifty major complaints were decided by Consumer Complaints Tribunals, with directions issued accordingly.

#### 4.4 Other Highlights

KE directed to process all net metering applications promptly and upgrade overloaded transformers to avoid service denial.

PITC tasked to develop an online portal for issuing authentic and traceable wiring test reports.

DISCOs instructed to correct historical MDI data to prevent excessive fixed charges.

KE warned by NEPRA (Order dated Feb 12, 2025) for delayed information submission and directed to ensure future compliance.

FESCO warned after consumer complaints; directed to resolve transformer replacement issues within NEPRA-defined timelines.

DISCOs & PITC directed to print geo-tagged meter photos on bills and notify consumers via SMS after meter reading.

# 5. **REGISTRAR**

No of Licences/Determinations/Decisions/notifications/ Concurrence etc. issued during January-March 2025.

Sr.	Particular	No(s)
1	Investment Plan (review of IESCO), Decision of the Authority on the Review Motion of IESCO regarding its investment plan	01
2	Distributed Generation Concurrences	2337
3	Licensee Proposed Modification (LPMs)	04
4	Tariff Determinations/Decisions	10
5	Tariff Adjustments (Monthly, Quarterly, Biannual. Annual)	204
6	No of Tariff Determinations/Decisions notified in official gazette	70

No of applications/Petitions etc registered/admitted during January-March 2025.

Sr.	Particular	No(s)
1	Supply License Applications	03
2	Distribution License Applications	02
3	Concurrence Application	02
4	Tariff Petitions (including Petitions for determination of Use of System Charges by DISCOs and Security Deposit rates by DISCOs)	01
5	Tariff Petitions	09
6	Review Motions	12
7	Licensee Proposed Modifications (LPMs)	01

# 6 **CTBCM Department**

The CTBCM team has actively contributed to key milestones in market development, including the finalization of the K-Electric (KE) Integration Plan and the amendment process of the NEPRA Consumer Eligibility Criteria (Electric Power Suppliers) Regulations, 2022, aligning them with broader market liberalization goals. Additionally, the Final Test Run Report (FTR), submitted by the Market Operator to demonstrate market readiness, has reached an advanced stage of internal approval.

In parallel, NEPRA has established strategic partnerships with the International Growth Centre (IGC), Global Renewable Energy Mass Adoption Program (RELP), and the World Bank to support evidence-based policymaking, market reforms, and regulatory enhancements. IGC provides analytical research on tariffs, competition, and clean energy transitions; RELP offers technical

support for designing competitive auctions, risk mitigation frameworks, and integrated planning mechanisms; and the World Bank delivers structured technical assistance for regulatory modernization, digitalization, and performance monitoring. The CTBCM team has played a central role in steering these collaborations, ensuring alignment with the evolving competitive electricity market framework.

### 7 MONITORING & ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT

#### 7.1 Generation

Hearings have been scheduled in the matter of Show Cause Notices issued to Orient, Saif, Sapphire, Lalpir, Halmore, HUBCO, Thar Energy Limited and Nandipur (NPGCL) in wake of the total power system collapse occurred on 23.01.2023;

Hearings in the matter of Show Cause Notices issued to NTDC/NPCC and CPPA-G for nonfinalization of the operating procedures and non-activation of black start facilities were held; Hearing in the matter of unit transformer damage of China Power Hub Generation Company Limited (CPHGCL) was held; Hearing in the matter of explanation issued to WAPDA in wake of the total power system collapse occurred on 23.01.2023 was held; Hearings in the matter of Show Cause Notices issued to Lucky Electric, Sahiwal Coal, K-Electric and QATPL (Bhikki) were held; and, an Explanation was issued to Tapal Energy Limited in connection with the total power system collapse occurred on 23.01.2023;

Performance Evaluation Report of operational power plants for the period July-Dec 2024 was published;

A fine of Rs. 100 Million was imposed on CPGCL on account of prolonged forced outage of ST-16 of Guddu 747;

NEPRA is monitoring the merit order based operation of NTDC and identified inefficiencies and cost implications due to constraints such as the South-North transmission bottleneck and reduced utilization of economical generation. There was a substantial financial impact on the operation of KE's plants and reduced drawl from NTDC. The main reason for the operation of expensive plants was to fulfil the take or pay agreement with Pakistan LNG Limited (PLL).

#### 7.2 Transmission

Bi-annual Performance Evaluation Report of Transmission licensees for 2024-25 was published on NEPRA's website; and Recommendations issued to the Transmission Licensees in PER 2023-24;

Imposed a fine amounting to Rs. 10 million on NTDC on Account of Fatal Accidents;

Matter of Violation of NTDC Specification P44: 2018 has been taken up with NTDC; an explanation has been issued to NTDC and a hearing has been held. Whereas, Investigation Committee has presented its report in the matter of violation;

Clarification sought from NTDC regarding the high number of voltage violations reported by NTDC during FY 2023-24 in comparison with FY 2022-23;

Hearing in the matter of fire incident occurred at 220 kV Band Road Grid Station was held

after issuance of explanations to NTDC;

Proceedings initiated against the NTDC in the matter of energizing the 220 kV Jhimpir-II Grid Station without any official handing/taking over by EHV & GSO formations and decided grant additional six (06) months time to NTDC for completion of remaining work, however, considerable time has lapsed since then;

Proceedings initiated against NTDC regarding delay in completion of Lahore-North grid station and hearing in the matter is yet to be scheduled; and

Reviewed Monthly report of NTDC regarding progress of system constraints removal project.

#### 7.3 Distribution:

Penalties of PKR 50 million each were imposed on HESCO, SEPCO, QESCO, PESCO, and K-Electric for using AT&C losses as a basis for load shedding without Authority approval. KE has challenged the decision; Show Cause Notice (SCN) issued to four DISCOs are under review;

All XW-DISCOs (except SEPCO) were fined PKR 10 million each for failing to ground HT/LT structures. IESCO, MEPCO, and FESCO have since complied;

KE's pilot for PMT-level load shedding was found unsatisfactory; Proceedings are ongoing; also, KE is under scrutiny over delayed ToU meter data submission;

LESCO was fined PKR 23 million over monsoon-related fatalities; IESCO was fined PKR 200 million for a child's electrocution. Both LESCO and IESCO were directed to compensate victims' families. IESCO has filed an appeal;

IESCO was fined PKR 50 million for delaying grid integration of renewable projects. HESCO faces action for its CEO's absence from a public hearing;

IESCO was fined PKR 200 million on account of non-fatal accident of a 08 year old child and directed all DISCOs to develop regular patrolling mechanisms and to identify/rectify the hazardous points, strengthen the mechanism of consumer complaints and response time, and replacement of CDG relays with Digital protection relays at 11kV feeders;

Fines totaling PKR 225.5 million were imposed on multiple DISCOs for FY 202223 fatal incidents. TESCO was cleared after investigation;

Physical verifications were conducted in MEPCO, GEPCO, and TESCO to assess investment utilization; reports were submitted;

HESCO and QESCO were fined PKR 10 million each for not establishing independent Safety Directorates;

A Report in the matter of Pending Ripe Connections submitted by DISCOs has been published; and

IESCO has initiated AMI/AMR project for installation of AMR meters on PMT level, and on individual consumer level, particularly in Rawalpindi and Cantt circles.

### 8 TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT

Conducting Hearing of MEPCO, HESCO and SEPCO on five years Distribution Investment Plan.

Approval of Amendment No 1 against Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) of Shahtaj Sugar Mills.

Approval of Amendments No 2, against Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) of Jamshoro Coal Plant (JPCL).

### 9 COORDINATION & IMPLEMENTATION (C&I)

During the reporting period 107 Authority Regulatory Meetings were conducted and 25 Public Hearings/Hearing/Consultative Sessions were held.

### **10 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)**

During this quarter, 3010 documents were uploaded on NEPRA website relating to Authority Decisions, determinations, tariff adjustments, licenses, advertisements, tenders and other documents.

# 11 HUMAN RESOURCE, ADMINISTRATION & MEDIA

Internship Program: NEPRA onboarded an intern on an unpaid basis for six months, offering valuable exposure to regulatory functions and enhancing professional development for young graduates.

Transfers & Postings: One officer from HR and one staff member from the Head Office were transferred to NEPRA's Regional Office Lahore to support operational efficiency.

Enhanced Attendance Management: A new attendance tracking system was implemented, enabling real-time monitoring and monthly reporting to departmental heads for improved accountability.

Training & Capacity Building: Employees were nominated for various professional trainings and workshops, reaffirming NEPRA's commitment to continuous development and sectoral excellence.

Digitization Drive: HR records and documents are being digitized to streamline data management, improve efficiency, and enable real-time reporting.

Daycare Center Upgraded: The NEPRA Tower daycare center was renovated with new flooring, hypoallergenic carpets, and enhanced hygiene standards to provide a safer environment for children.

Regional Office Refurnishing: Offices in Lahore and Gujranwala were upgraded with ergonomic furniture, revamped reception areas, and a new daycare facility in the Provincial Office Lahore.

Football Tournament 2025: NEPRA's 5th Inter-Departmental Football Tournament was held on 22nd February 2025 in Islamabad, where NEPRA Sultans (Admin & b HR) claimed victory amidst spirited participation.