

**Minutes of the 12th Board Meeting of the National Energy
Efficiency and Conservation Authority (NEECA)**

The 12th meeting of the National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (NEECA) Board was held on Friday, 16th August 2024 at 1700 Hrs in the Committee Room of the Ministry of Energy (Power Division) 2nd Floor A-Block Pak Secretariat Islamabad, under the Chairmanship of the Federal Minister for Energy Mr. Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan Leghari /Chairman, NEECA Board.

2. The Chairman, NEECA Board welcomed the Board members and appreciated their continued support for operationalization of energy efficiency and conservation agenda in the country. Subsequently, the Chairman opened the floor for the proceedings of the 12th Meeting of the NEECA Board.

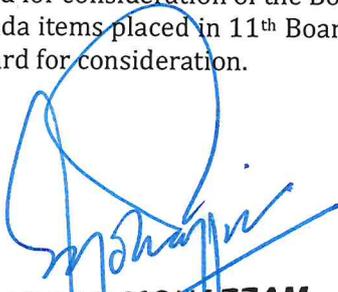
3. After Recitation from Holy Quran and a round of introduction, Managing Director NEECA, Dr. Sardar Mohazzam/Secretary of NEECA Board delivered a brief introduction of NEECA encompassing the organizational mandate, Board composition, HR & Budget Allocations, and past performance of NEECA.

4. MD NEECA apprised the Board on the agenda items of the 12th Board Meeting with the permission of the Chair and informed the members that today's agenda has been grouped under two components i.e. Technical and Administrative matters. The proceedings on each agenda item are minuted as under:

Item No. 01 Confirmation of the Minutes of the 11th Meeting of the NEECA Board held on 17th January, 2024

MD NEECA/Secretary of the Board informed the members about the decisions of the 11th meeting of NEECA Board held on 17th January 2024. The Board was briefed on each agenda item and the related actions undertaken in light of those decisions. It was, also, submitted that some agenda items previously tabled in the 11th meeting are again being placed for consideration of the Board in today's meeting after compliance of the Board's earlier directions. Further, it was apprised that the Chairman NEECA Board advised the MD NEECA/Secretary to place the draft minutes of 11th Board Meeting in the next Board Meeting for approval.

2. Secretary, Power Division/Vice Chairman NEECA Board observed that the Board usually approves the Minutes right after the proceedings of the meeting and the minutes are submitted for confirmation in next Board Meeting. However, the minutes have not been approved yet and the fact that three agenda items are again placed for consideration of the Board today. The Chairman NEECA Board advised that the remaining agenda items placed in 11th Board Meeting shall be placed in the subsequent meetings of the NEECA Board for consideration.


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Decision:

The Board decided to nullify the proceedings of the 11th Board Meeting and directed that the agenda items of 11th Board Meeting shall be placed in subsequent meetings of the current Board for its consideration.

Item No. 1: Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) and Battery Swap Stations (BSS) Regulation

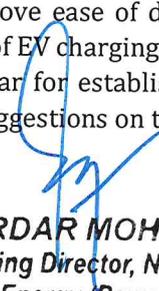
MD NEECA, Secretary of the Board informed the Board members that Government of Pakistan has formulated Electric Vehicle Policy in 2019 with an EV penetration target of 30% of the new sales by 2030 and mandated NEECA for standardization and compliance of charging infrastructure in Pakistan. It was submitted that standardization and compliance of EV charging infrastructure framework will directly support the adoption of 30% EVs in the Country by 2030 which will result in savings of 5.37 MTOE of energy and 16.66 MTCO_{2e} reduction in the GHG emissions. MD NEECA, Secretary of the Board submitted that NEECA has drafted Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) and Battery Swap Stations (BSS) Regulations to facilitate the sustainable and standardized development of EV Charging Infrastructure in Pakistan. It was apprised that all major international charging infrastructure standards (including Chinese and western technologies) have been covered in the said regulations.

2. It was submitted that there is a critical need for developing clear implementation strategies/roadmap and mechanisms through One Window Operations for establishment of charging stations, battery swap stations, identifications of charging hosts, power requirements, grid planning, tariff regimes, pricing mechanisms and Safety Standards. It was, further, submitted that, with-out effective EVCI & BSS Regulations for charging stations, the EVs acceptance/growth in the country will be adversely impacted due to consumer dissatisfaction (especially EV Station Anxiety) and could also lead to challenges involving the electricity distribution system in the country.

3. The Board members were, also, apprised on extensive national stakeholder consultations conducted by NEECA on these regulations especially with NEPRA, NTRC, Engineering Development Board (EDB), as well as Provincial Governments through NEECA's Provincial Designated Agencies. It was also submitted that the Technical Committee of NEECA Board have also reviewed the proposed regulations. A detailed briefing was given on the comparative analysis of proposed EVCI & BSS Regulations and the NEPRA's Consumer Service Manual (CSM). It was submitted that the aims and objectives of the CSM are limited to ensure safe, effective, and reliable supply of electric power to consumers. Also, the scope of NEPRA CSM Chapter-16 is limited to the connection of EVCI to the Distribution Network of Distribution Companies and Tariff for EVCI. Whereas, the EVCI & BSS Regulations formulated by NEECA deal with all aspects related to standardization and sustainable development of EVCI in Pakistan. Further, it was submitted that, through the Provincial Designated Agencies of NEECA, the provinces are onboard for enforcement of these Regulations.

4. The Secretary, Power Division/Vice Chairman, NEECA Board asked the EDB and NEPRA representative to share their inputs on the proposed EVCI & BSS Regulations. The EDB representative submitted that the proposed EVCI&BSS regulations have been reviewed and three to four working group meetings were also conducted with a suggestion to simplify the procedures laid out in the Regulations. MD NEECA submitted that the regulations have been designed with a focus to offer one window facility to the investors and improve ease of doing business. It was submitted that time period against licensing for establishment of EV charging stations has been set at no more than three (03) months which is around one (01) year for establishment of fuel pump stations. The NEPRA representative said that detailed inputs/suggestions on the proposed regulations have already been

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submitted to NEECA. MD NEECA said that all the comments and suggestions have been incorporated while finalizing the proposed regulations especially the Combined Charging System-2 provisions. MD NEECA also presented the value addition of EVCI & BSS Regulations vis-à-vis the NEPRA CSM to the NEECA Board.

5. The Chairman, NEECA Board enquired if the proposed regulations were placed for public comments/feedback at any forum. MD NEECA apprised that regulations were placed at NEECA Website for public feedback and comments and very few comments were received which were evaluated and incorporated wherever possible. The Chairman NEECA Board noted that the enforcement of these regulations are being proposed to be conducted via NEECA's provincial designated agencies which reflects national coverage and ease of access.

6. The Vice Chairman, NEECA Board also noted that currently there is no uniformity in electricity rates for EV charging stations and the proposed regulations do provide for mechanisms for equitable tariff determination to control overcharging in consumer perspective as well as extend powers to NEECA to nominate enforcement officers across the country acting as price magistrates as well. The Vice Chairman NEECA Board said that the proposed regulations are very extensive and seem appropriate.

7. The Chairman, NEECA Board directed that the Board Members shall submit their comments/input, if any, with in next two working days. It was also, directed a Board Meeting shall be convened next week possibly Friday to consider the proposed EVCI & BSS regulations along with comments/inputs received in writing from all the Board Members. All the while, the Board, unanimously, agreed that there is a need for EVCI & BSS Regulations in the country.

Decision:

The agenda item was deferred till the Board meeting in the next week with a direction to Board members for submission of their comments/inputs, if any, with in next two working days.

The Chairman NEECA Board noted that the agenda of the 12th Meeting is substantial and requires three to four Meetings. It was directed that remainder of the Agenda items such as PEL Regulations, Fan Replacement Program, and NEECA Budget may be prioritized in consultation with Vice Chairman NEECA Board and the next meetings shall be appropriately scheduled in quick succession (5-6 Weeks) to conclude all pending matters of NEECA.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks from the Chair.


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