

Approved Minutes of the 13th Board Meeting of the National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (NEECA)

The 13th meeting of the National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (NEECA) Board was held on Monday, 23rd September 2024 at 1100 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 13th 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 apprised the Board on the agenda items of the 13th Board Meeting with the permission of the Chair. The proceedings on each agenda item are minuted as under:

Item No. 01 Confirmation of the Minutes of the 12th Meeting of the NEECA Board held on 16th August, 2024

MD NEECA/Secretary of the Board informed the Chair and Members of the Board about the decisions of the 12th meeting of NEECA Board held on Friday, 16th August 2024. The Board was briefed on the decision against agenda items of the 12th Board Meeting.

2. Secretary, Power Division/Vice Chairman NEECA Board requested the members for their inputs on the draft minutes of the 12th Meeting of the Board, if any. However, the Board members submitted no objection and the Chair approved the minutes and confirmed the decisions of the 12th Board Meeting held on 16th August 2024.

Decision:

The NEECA Board approved and confirmed the minutes/ decisions of its 12th meeting held on 16th August 2024.


DR. SARDAR MOHAZZAM
Managing Director, NEECA
Ministry of Energy (Power Division)
Government of Pakistan
Islamabad

Item No. 2: Pakistan’s Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) and Battery Swapping (BS) Regulations 2024

The Chairman NEECA Board/Federal Minister (Power Division) directed that NEECA shall initiate the agenda item with a presentation on the revisions made to the “Pakistan Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure & Battery Swapping Regulations 2024” in light of the discussion held in the last meeting of the Board and comments received from members, if any. Secretary NEECA Board/MD NEECA presented the chapter-wise revisions made to the EVCI & BS Regulations to the Board.

2. The following table covers the decision of the Board on each revision proposed in the Pakistan’s EVCI&BS 2024 Regulations:

Sr. #	Proposed Revision: <u>Deletion/ Addition in the Pakistan’s EVCI&BS Regulations 2024</u>	Board Approval Status of Revisions
R1.	<p>Chapter-01: Preliminary</p> <p>Revision (Deletion):</p> <p>Title: “National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority’s (Registration of EV Charging Infrastructure) Regulations 2024.”</p> <p>Scope: This regulation shall apply on all specified charging levels except level 1 & Level 2 (if deployed at home/residential complex)</p> <p>Revision (Addition):</p> <p>Title: “Pakistan’s EV Charging Infrastructure and Battery Swapping Regulations 2024.”</p> <p>Scope: This regulation applies to charging stations installed in public spaces, as well as those intended for commercial or private captive use.</p> <p>Private restricted charging stations at Level 2 and above must register with NEECA but are not subject to compliance requirements.</p>	<p>Proposed revisions were approved by the Board proposed in Chapter-01.</p>
R2.	<p>Chapter-02</p> <p>Application & Requirement</p> <p>Revision (Addition):</p> <p>Location & Priority of EVCS for Public Use:</p> <p>1.) Multiple charging stations may be installed on both sides of roads, highways, motorways, and expressways, subject to load management and assessment provided to NEECA by the relevant DISCO in urban, semi-urban, peri-urban, and rural areas of Pakistan.</p> <p>2.) For long haul Electric Vehicles, it is suggested to install one fast charging station every 100 KM on motorways and highways.</p> <p>3.) The designated agency in collaboration with the relevant DISCO shall use density distance requirements to determine suitable locations.</p> <p>4.) Priority may be given to existing retail outlets of Oil Marketing Companies for installation of Charging Stations for Public Use, with higher preference to company owned and company operated Petrol Stations/CNG Stations.</p> <p>5.) Public & Private land may be used for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations as per terms and conditions mutually agreed between EVCS and land owner.</p>	<p>The Board directed to omit the proposed revisions in section Location & Priority of EVCS for Public Use in Chapter-02</p>

DR. SHERAZ MOHAZZAM
 Secretary
 NEECA
 Ministry of Power Division
 Government of Pakistan
 Islamabad

	6.) Revenue sharing agreement may also be done for a suitable period as per the terms and conditions mutually agreed upon between EVCS and land owner.	
R3.	<p>Chapter-02 Application & Requirement</p> <p>Revision (Addition):</p> <p>Registration 1.) DISCOs upon receiving application along with applicable NOCs would provide connection within 15 days for existing CNG stations/Petrol stations operated by Oil Marketing Companies and 30 days for completely new set up. 2.) A steering Committee under Secretary Power Division will review progress on application submitted every week to ensure avoidance of all un-necessary delays.</p>	<p>The proposed revision R3.(1) was approved by the Board in section on Registration Chapter -02:</p> <p>And The Board directed to omit the proposed revision R3. (2) in Chapter-02:</p>
R4.	<p>Chapter-03 : Preliminary Charging Station Design Criteria Title: Charging Station Design Criteria</p> <p>Revision (Addition):</p> <p>Accessible Facilities: 1.) EVCS owner will provide reservation mechanism to its customers to ensure smooth and efficient operations. 2.) 24/7 operation will be ensured by EVCS owner to maintain uptime more than 90%.</p>	<p>The proposed revisions were approved by the Board in Chapter-03 (Charging Station Design Criteria)</p>
R5.	<p>Chapter-04 : Preliminary</p> <p>Revision (Deletion):</p> <p>Battery Swapping Stations 1.) The Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment used at Swappable station must be approved by NEECA. 2.) NEECA, in consultation with NEPRA, shall determine the tariff rates for the BSS.</p> <p>Revision (Addition): NEPRA, shall determine the tariff rates for the BSS.</p>	<p>Proposed revisions were approved by the Board in Chapter-04.</p>


DR. SARDAR MOHAZZAM
 Managing Director, NEECA
 Ministry of Energy (Power Division)
 Government of Pakistan
 Islamabad

6.	<p>Chapter-05: Tariff & Grid Connectivity</p> <p>Revision (Deletion):</p> <p>1.) NEPRA, in consultation with NEECA, shall determine which of the following tariff models can be implemented for the EVCS.</p> <p>a) Flat Rate Model b) Time of Use Model, c) Pay per Time or Energy Use Model d) Real Time or Dynamic Pricing e) Cross subsidized Model</p> <p>2.) NEPRA, in consultation with NEECA shall determine the tariff rate for the EVCS for a public charging station as per Chapter 16 of the Consumer Services Manual of NEPRA.</p> <p>3.) EVCS shall be subject to all the provisions of the Consumer Services Manual of NEPRA, NEPRA Performance Standards (Distribution) Rules (PSDR), 2015 as amended from time to time, and Distribution Code for obtaining a connection and submitting the requisite application forms stated therein from NEPRA with prior approval of NEECA.</p> <p>4.) NEPRA and DISCOs, in consultation with NEECA, shall determine the issues of Billing, Metering and Maximum Margin, as per the Consumer Service Manuel.</p> <p>Revision (Addition):</p> <p>1.) NEECA confirms Charging of Electric Vehicles as Service on Charging Stations installed for Public/Commercial use.</p> <p>2.) Domestic tariff or any new tariff category will be applicable on Charging stations deployed for Private Use in residential areas.</p> <p>3.) Electricity provision at new tariff for a specific tenure may be provided by NEPRA as per the policy guidelines by Ministry of Energy with special consideration to grow nascent market of Electric Vehicle Charging Stations</p> <p>4.) A separate metering setup for EV charging, excluding auxiliary services such as lighting, mini-marts, and service areas, while sharing the same connection</p>	<p>Proposed revisions were approved by the Board in Chapter-05</p>
7.	<p>Chapter-08: Enforcement</p> <p>Effectiveness, Interpretation, Severability:</p> <p>Revision:</p> <p>The provisions of these regulations shall have overriding effect, notwithstanding anything contained in any other regulations / provisions pertaining to EVCS/BSS, as the case may be, after the coming into force of the said provisions.</p>	<p>The proposed revision was approved by the Board in Chapter-08</p>

3. Member from Ministry of Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives submitted that the market liberalization, ease of doing business, and alignment of the EVCI & BS Regulations with existing Consumer Service Manual and EV Framework of NEPRA must be ensured for the growth of EV Market.

DR. SARDAR MOHAZZAM
Managing Director, NEECA
Ministry of Energy (Power Division)
Government of Pakistan
Islamabad

4. Member from Electrical Inspectorate, KP Energy & Power Department said that the mandate of inspection, rests with the electricity inspectorate as per the Electricity Act 1910. However, the Board did not agree on the Electrical Inspectorate's mandate, capacity to monitor, regulate and inspect the EV Charging Station and Battery Swapping Mechanism which is a Federal mandate under the NEEC Act 2016.

5. All other members of the Board including Ministry of Industries & Production and EDB endorsed the EVCI & BS Regulations 2024.

Decision:

The NEECA Board has approved Pakistan's Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) and Battery Swapping (BS) Regulations 2024.


DR. SARDAR MOHAZZAM
Managing Director, NEECA
Ministry of Energy (Power Division),
Government of Pakistan
Islamabad

Item No. 3 Approval of NEECA Budgets FY 2023-2024 & Budget FY 2024-2025

a) NEECA Budget FY 2023-2024 (As per actual expenditure):

Secretary of the NEECA Board/MD NEECA informed that the Board in its 12th Meeting held on 16th August 2024 directed that the Budget for FY 2023-2024, in line with actual expenditures, shall be placed at the forum again for consideration in next Board meeting. It was submitted that the Finance Division has allocated 230 Million PKR for FY 2023-2024 via Assignment Account under the heads of Employee Related Expenditure (ERE) and Operating Expenditure against the budget demand of 350 Million PKR submitted by NEECA. Out of the 230 Million PKR, 130 Million PKR were allocated under the head of ERE and 100 Million PKR were allocated under the head of Operating Expenses.

The Board was informed that the total released funds to NEECA for FY 2023-24 were PKR 202,744, 405. It is noted that, out of total released funds, there was no sanctioned release for 4th Quarter FY 2023-2024 amounting to PKR 32.5 Million under ERE. It was submitted that the organization executed PKR 170.10 million in FY 2023-2024 where PKR 70.15 million was spent in ERE and PKR 99.95 million in the operating expense head as per the Procurement Plan for FY 2023-2024.

The Vice Chairman NEECA Board/Secretary (Power Division) opened the floor for comments with remarks that the Budget FY 2023-2024 has been executed and the Audit is on-going, and it would be prudent that Board may approve the actual expenditure against FY 2023-2024. The Member from Finance Division enquired if the Budget is based on Government of Pakistan, to which it was informed that the budget is based on Government of Pakistan allocation. The representative of Finance Division said that if the Audit is ongoing then the Budget for FY 2023-2024 on actual expenditure may be approved which was concurred by all the members.

Decision:

The Board approved the Budget for FY 2023-2024 as per actual expenditure.


DR. SARDAR MOHAZZAM
Managing Director, NEECA
Ministry of Energy (Power Division)
Government of Pakistan
Islamabad

b) NEECA Budget FY 2024-2025:

With respect to FY 2024-2025, it was submitted that the Finance Division has allocated 228 Million PKR under the heads of Employee Related Expenditure (ERE) and Operating Expenditure against the budget demand of 415 Million PKR submitted by NEECA. Out of the 228 Million PKR, 125 Million PKR have been allocated under the head of ERE and 103 Million PKR have been allocated under the head of Operating Expenses.

2. The Vice-Chairman NEECA Board opened the floor for any queries regarding the subject agenda item. Member from Finance Division enquired about reason behind the enhanced allocation under Basic Pay head in FY 2024-2025 vis-à-vis FY 2023-2024. It was submitted that the increase reflects addition of new specialist positions under NEECA Professional Grade Cadre in light of on-going Phase-I hiring. It was recommended by Finance Division that, as the first quarter has passed, saving in the ERE head may be reflected in the actual expenditure in line with onboarding of new positions under Phase-I. The Member from Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives noted that NEECA executed PKR 170 million out of PKR 230 million allocation in FY 2023-2024 and recommended that NEECA shall ensure timely execution of PKR 228 million allocation under FY 2024-2025. It was submitted that NEECA was transferred from Ministry of Science & Technology to Power Division in September 2023 and due to administrative challenges affiliated with such Transfers some funds were surrendered to MoST and, similarly, NEECA did not request ERE sanction against 4th Quarter FY 2023-2024 from Power Division.

3. No further observations/recommendations were recorded by Members of the Board.

Decision:

The Board approved the Budget for FY 2024-2025.


DR. SARDAR MOHAZZAM
Managing Director, NEECA
Ministry of Energy (Power Division)
Government of Pakistan
Islamabad

c) Accrued Service Benefits of NEECA Employees:

It was submitted that NEECA has not given any increment, or other benefits to its employees, which are now overdue for the past two financial years, as per the obligation arising from the gazette notified NEECA Service Regulations 2021. Also, it was apprised that no Ad-hoc relief has been extended to the employees despite consistent inflationary pressure in the past two years as well as the award of similar benefits in other departments/organizations.

2. Further, Secretary of the Board/MD NEECA submitted that withholding the employee benefits has adversely affected the employees' motivation and has deteriorated the organizational capacity. It is apprised that 04 employees have already left the organization due to withholding of employee benefits since 2022 and the organization is unable to maintain market competitive remuneration especially in prevalent inflationary situation.

3. It was submitted that proposals of Finance & Risk Management Committee on recommendation of the HR&R Committee in its 5th meeting held on 8th December 2023 recommended 30% salary increment for NEECA employees against overdue benefit and a policy decision of 15% fixed annual salary increment to the Board. It was submitted that the recommendation of 30% overdue salary increment since December 2023 accounts to 3.12% of the total Budget allocation of PKR 228 Million in FY 2024-2025 and, that, these overdue benefits are accounted-for in the budget allocation for FY 2024-2025.

4. Vice-Chairman NEECA Board requested Finance Division for comments with a remark that if there is no violation to government rules and the fact that employees shall be incentivized to improve retention rate, the Board shall approve the accrued service benefits of the NEECA employees. The member from Finance Division suggested that Board may approve the Accrued Service Benefits of the Employees (30% over due Salary Increment and 15% annual increment policy), however, the policy decision of 15% Annual Salary Increment should be cleared from Finance Division (Regulation Wing) before coming into effect.

Decision:

The Board approved the 30% over-due Salary Increment and the policy decision of 15% Annual Increment subject to clearance from the Finance Division.


DR. SARDAR MOHAZZAM
Managing Director, NEECA
Ministry of Energy (Power Division)
Government of Pakistan
Islamabad

d) Phase-II Hiring of HR for Implementation of PEL Regulations and EVCI & BS Regulations:

Secretary of the NEECA Board/MD NEECA submitted that the Board approved the hiring of HR at NEECA in four phases against the sanctioned strength of 255, and after abolishment of NEECA Executive Grade Positions by the Board the sanctioned strength was reduced to 242. Hiring against 34 specialist positions (Director-19, Sr. Assistant Director-05, and Assistant Director-10) under Phase-I is being carried out through third party recruitment which is expected to be completed within 2nd quarter of FY 2024-2025. It was, also, submitted that HR is being strengthened with an aim and a strategy to focus on establishing in-house reliable core competencies during Phase-I while availing technical services on contractual basis in remaining phases. MD NEECA said that the aim has been to maintain NEECA as a lean, thin, and effective organization with a focus of delivering targets of NEEC Action Plan 2023-2030 approved by the Cabinet.

2. It was submitted that enforcement of Pakistan Energy Label Regulations 2023, Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Regulations & Battery Swapping Regulations 2024, and implementation of ECBC 2023 requires manpower to manage and implement these regulatory frameworks at the national level. This requires 30 additional HR in NEECA Professional Grade Cadre and 20 under NEECA Staff Grade Cadre as per following categorization:

Category	Position Title	Grade	No. of Positions Requested
Officers (Specialist Positions-NPG Cadre)	Joint Director	NPG-2	5
	Deputy Director	NPG-3	10
	Sr. Assistant Director	NPG-4	5
	Assistant Director	NPG-5	10
Total Officer Positions			30
Category	Position Title	Grade	No. of Positions Requested
Staff (NSG-Cadre)	Associate	NSG-1	2
	Assistant	NSG-2	6
	Junior Assistant	NSG-3	10
	Staff-II	NSG-4	-
	Staff-I	NSG-5	2
Total Staff Positions			20
Total Position Requested under Phase-II			50

3. The Vice-Chairman NEECA Board/Secretary Power Division enquired if the hiring in NEECA is approved by any forum of the NEECA Board to which it was submitted that NEECA Board has approved the hiring in 4 phases in its 3rd meeting held on 2nd April 2021 and directed NEECA to

DR. SARDAR MOHAZZAM
Managing Director, NEECA
Ministry of Energy (Power Division)
Government of Pakistan
Islamabad

present each of the next hiring phase to the Board for approval prior to its initiation. The MD NEECA submitted that the organization is requesting the initiation of Phase-II hiring as per proposed categorization in light of requirements to enforce the above mentioned regulatory frameworks which will also support NEECA in operationalization of its revenue generation. The Chair opened the floor for comments of the members and the members noted that as the Board in its earlier decision has already approved the 04 hiring phases of NEECA then Board should approve the requested positions under phase-II which are crucial for implementation of the key energy efficiency initiatives undertaken by NEECA.

Decision:

The Board approved the hiring of 30 positions in NPG Cadre and 20 positions in NSG Cadre under Phase-II Hiring of NEECA.

Muhammad Umar
Director Power & Energy
Thursday, 27 November, 2025, 9:11:37 A


DR. SARDAR MOHAZZAM
Managing Director, NEECA
Ministry of Energy (Power Division)
Government of Pakistan
Islamabad

Item No. 4 Implementation Strategy for Pakistan Energy Label Regulations 2023

Secretary of the NEECA Board/MD NEECA submitted that NEECA developed the Pakistan Energy Label Regulations 2023 for five electrical appliances namely fans, motors, air conditioners, refrigerators, and LED lights which were approved by the Federal Cabinet on 9th August, 2023 after extensive consultative process with the public & private stakeholders including industry and national standards body (PSQCA) to promote manufacturing of energy efficient appliances in the country. It was submitted the PEL regulations are notified in Part-II of The Gazette of Pakistan dated 20th March, 2024 under Statutory Regulatory Orders (S.R.O.) No. 411 – 415.

2. MD NEECA apprised the Board that the enforcement of above mentioned PEL Regulations has requirements related to engagement of Pakistan Energy Label printing firms, mechanism for appliances testing labs enlistment with NEECA, development of automated Product Registry System (PRS), mechanisms for role of Provincial Designated Agencies of NEECA, human resources requirements, office and IT infrastructures, and associated budget requirements. In light of these requirements, an Implementation Strategy for Pakistan Energy Label Regulations 2023 is prepared for the consideration of the NEECA Board. MD NEECA said that the operationalization of Pakistan Energy Label Regulations 2023 is imperative for successful execution of Fan Replacement Program.

3. The Board was apprised that, upon full scale implementation by 2030, Pakistan Energy Label Regulations will support reduction of 15,861 GWh / year electricity (especially in peak) and annual savings of 498 Million USD. It was also informed that these Regulations are anticipated to yield annual inflows of approx. Rs. 371 million to NEECA within a 5-year period. Further, it is submitted that carbon credit trading mechanisms will be explored through solicited or unsolicited proposals with in the overall enforcement of the PEL Regulations 2023. Further, It was apprised that implementation of PEL Regulations will require capacity enhancement at NEECA especially in terms of HR and targeted IT infrastructure which has been covered in the foregoing agenda item. The Chair opened the floor for comments.

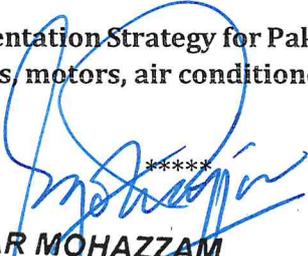
4. The member from Ministry of Industries and Production appreciated the development of Pakistan Energy Label Regulations 2023 and enquired if the standards for five appliances have been developed by NEECA, to which, it was submitted that NEECA has developed the Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) which were adopted by the PSQCA. Similarly, it was submitted that these PEL Regulations will enforce the MEPS along with labelling regime for these appliances.

5. Secretary of the NEECA Board/MD NEECA requested that in order to quickly enforce these Regulations, support is required from Power Division for HR on deputation basis and the Board may give the approval. The Chair said that Board approval for moving Deputation case is not required and if such case is moved, Power Division will facilitate NEECA.

6. The member from Ministry of Planning, Development, & Special Initiatives endorsed the development and implementation strategy for PEL Regulations 2023 and recommended that NEECA should ensure strengthening and synchronization of its HR capacity to enforce these PEL Regulations 2023 and other regulatory frameworks.

Decision:

The Board approved the Implementation Strategy for Pakistan Energy Label Regulations 2023 for five electrical appliances (fans, motors, air conditioners, refrigerators, and LED lights).



DR. SARDAR MOHAZZAM
Managing Director, NEECA
Ministry of Energy (Power Division)
Government of Pakistan
Islamabad

