



**PAKISTAN
WATER AND POWER DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

OFFICE OF THE
MEMBER (POWER) WAPDA
WAPDA HOUSE LAHORE

No. 1468-99 /M(P)/GMCS/DD(R&CP)/56217

DATED. 26.10.1999

ALL CHIEF EXECUTIVES
OF DISCOS.

SUBJECT: **POLICY AND PROCEDURES ON DETECTION BILLS**

In suppression of policy on the subject circulated vide No. 2889-3282/MDD/GMCS/DG(R&CP)/56217 dated 18th October 1995 following guidelines are laid down for compliance with immediate effect.

2. It has been noticed that at times detection bills are prepared arbitrarily. Subsequently when these bills are challenged in a legal forum or in a court of law then it becomes difficult to defend the cases. This gives rise not only to unnecessary litigation but also reflects adversely on the position of receivables. It has therefore been decided to lay down the following policy and procedure for detection bills and matters ancillary thereto to be followed strictly.

3. **DETECTIONS BILLING**

i. **DETECTION BILLING FOR THEFT OF ENERGY**

- a. While preparing detection bill the provisions of S-26-A S-39 S-39-A and S-48 of the Electricity Act, 1910 as amended shall be complied with strictly.
- b. Detection bill for dishonest abstraction or consumption of energy will be assessed strictly in accordance with the provisions of section 26-A of the electricity act 1910 detection bill will be prepared on prescribed Performa attached as annex-A.
- c. Before service of detection bill a notice prescribed at annex-B will be served upon the person whoever is found undulged in theft of energy as defined in section 39 & 39-A of the electricity act 1910.

ii. **DETECTION BILLING FOR DIRECT HOOKING**

Whoever is found to have connected his installations appliances and apparatus with the works of license for the purpose of supply of energy without its written consent commits an offence to be prosecuted under section 39 & 39-A of the Electricity Act 1910 which requires an FIR to be lodged with police further to compensate the loss sustained on account of theft of electricity in pursuance of provisions of section 48 ibid a detection / assessment bill is to be served as per laid down procedure to such illegal and unregistered consumer. For assessment of the amount of energy deemed to have been dishonestly abstracted consumed or used for the period direct electrical connection from the aerial line / supply line through artificial means the provisions of section 26-A will be followed strictly. The owner or occupier of the premises which are found for the time being connected illegally for the purpose of supply of energy with the works of the license are liable for payment of detection / assessment bill prepared and served to compensate the loss sustained on account of theft of electricity.

iii. **DETECTION BILLING ON ACCOUNT OF SLOWNESS**

- a. In a vigilant system slowness of a meter on mechanical or technical grounds should be detected within one reading cycle or two. Slowness should be determined either with the help of a check meter or by getting the meter tested with the appropriate testing equipment. Four Performa annexes C,D,E & F have been prescribed to be used in series for ascertaining . Determining and charging of slowness of meters when element of dishonest abstraction or consumption of energy is not involved. Charging on account of slowness will continue till the meter is replaced. Efforts should be made to replace the slow meters without delay.
- b. The period and amount of energy supplied to the consumer during such time when meter was slow will be determined / assessed after considering results of check meter / testing equipment consumption pattern sanctioned load connected load or any other suitable criteria of the connection.
- c. In case slowness is detected within one reading cycle or two it will be charged with the approval of load sanctioning authority but CEO will be final authority in all cases.
- d. In case where slowness of meter was not detected within one reading cycle or two the detection / assessment bill on account of slowness shall be charged after obtaining approval of competent authority mentioned in para-4 below.

4. **APPROVAL OF DETECTION BILL**

- a. The competent authority to approve a detection bill will be the authority next above of the load sanctioning authority.
- b. In case where the load sanctioning authority is Chief Executive Officer of the company or above the Chief Executive Officer will be the competent authority to approve a detection bill.
- c. Detection bills recommended by the Surveillance Teams / other detecting agencies will be served only after the approval of the competent authorities mentioned at (a) & (b) above.

5. **ACCOUNTABILITY**

Whenever a competent authority as defined in para-4 above receives a detection / assessment bill for a period exceeding three months for approval such authority will ask for fixation of responsibility for negligence in this regard. However approval will not be held for fixation of responsibility.

6. **SERVICE OF DETECTION BILL**

After approval of the detection bill by a competent authority as Para 4 details thereof will be supplied to the Revenue officer concerned. He will serve the detection / assessment bill to the consumer alongwith details as well as reasons thereof. The Revenue officer will feed the amount of detection / assessment bill to computer through relevant input form. The computer will issue separate detection / assessment bill without including it in the current monthly bill. It will be included as arrears in the next current monthly bill. No officer other than a Revenue officer is authorized to issue detection bill and therefore manual preparation of detection bill and therefore manual preparation of detection bill should be avoided.

7. **REVISION OF DETECTION BILL**

Since utmost care is to be exercised in the preparation of detection / assessment bill in the first instance there should normally be no occasion to revise it. However if at all necessity is felt to revise a detection bill on the representation of the consumer then the revision of the detection bill will be approved by a Review Committee as constituted below. However

simultaneously committee will recommend disciplinary action to be taken against those who prepared wrong detection bills in first instance.

- A. For review of detection / assessment bills approved by XEN.
 - 1. Superintending Engineer concerned. Convener
 - 2. Circle Manager (M&T) Member
 - 3. XEN concerned Member

NOTE: Superintending Engineer concerned and one member of the committee will constitute the quorum

- B. For review of detection / assessment bills approved by S.E. or Chief Executive Officer.
 - 1. Chief Executive of DISCO Convener
 - 2. Regional Manager (M&T) Member
 - 3. S.E. concerned Member

NOTE: CEO and one member of the committee will constitute the quorum.

Meeting of Review Committees will be held on fortnightly basis.

8. **LITIGATION / DISPUTES ON DETECTION BILL**

- a. Neither Electricity Act 1910 nor the regulations of generation transmission and distribution of electric power act (XL of 1997) empower electric inspectors of Provincial Governments to assume jurisdiction to entertain complaints and determination / adjudication upon the detection / assessment bills served for theft or energy under section 26-A of the electricity act 1910.
- b. Amount of the detection bill will not be excluded from the current monthly bills except where its recovery is suspended by a competent authority as defined under clause-C of section – XII of the WAPDA Book of Financial Powers or by a court / forum of competent jurisdiction.

9. **RECOVERY OF DETECTION BILL**

In case of default in payment of a detection bill the existing procedures laid down for recovery of arrears including disconnection on account of default in payment will be followed.

10. The above instructions may be followed in letter and spirit in the event of any doubt written clarification may be sought from this office.

(ENGR. S.T.H NAQVI)
MEMBER (POWER)

Copy to

- 1. The General Manager (Operation)/G.M (ACC) WAPDA
- 2. The Director General (Commercial)/(E.M)WAPDA
- 3. The Director General (WAPDA Audit) Govt. of Pakistan Lahore.
- 4. The Chief Auditor WAPDA
- 5. The Director (Public Relations) WAPDA
- 6. S.O to Chairman Wapda
- 7. P.S to Dy. Chairman Wapda
- 8. All officers in Customer Services Division.