

K-Electric and Net Metering?

India has an ambitious plan to boost its clean energy capacity to 175 Gigawatt by 2022 and will invest Rs.127 billion to achieve this goal. Sadly Pakistan's budget has neither a target nor an allocation to do what is critical for the future of this country and this planet.

The least that could have been done was to create massive schemes to encourage individuals and organisations to seek alternate energy solutions. Net metering is one such scheme that enables those who generate their own solar power to return the excess (unused) power to the grid and also be compensated for it. This means that the electrical meter measures what is received as well as what is returned to the grid. The customer is billed for the net difference between the two. Thus both parties, the solar power generator as well as the distribution company benefit from the scheme.

NEPRA notification SRO 892 (1) 2015 stipulates the procedure for power supply companies to provide the net metering facility to those who install their own solar systems. While MEPCO (Multan), IESCO (Islamabad), LESCO (Lahore), FESCO (Faisalabad), and HESCO (Hyderabad) have adopted this scheme, the K-Electric has inexplicably opted to look the other way.

Considering that there is an acute shortage of electricity, the provision of net metering facility will greatly help the people, the country and the climate change. Would the K-Electric please wake up and provide reverse metering option to all its solar power generating customers? Should our sleepy NEPRA not force the K-Electric to comply with SRO 892.