



**Report from the Public Hearings on  
Jungle Energy Power (JEP)  
Notification For  
Reconsideration of the Commission's  
December 30, 2024, Tariff Decision**

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## **I. Introduction**

On December 30, 2024, the Commission announced Jungle Energy Power (JEP) tariff decision in Ganta City, Nimba County. The new tariff should have taken effect on January 31, 2025, but on January 9, 2025, JEP notified the Commission to reconsider its decision highlighting several reasons for the reevaluation of the tariff decision.

In accordance with the Commission's rules, public hearings were held on February 17 and 18, 2025, in Bong and Nimba Counties respectively, where JEP made presentations outlining the reasons for the request for reconsideration. The public hearing in Nimba County was held at the Liberia International Community College in Ganta, while the public hearing for Bong County was held at the Gbarnga Administrative Hall.

## **II. Findings and Recommendations on JEP's Notice for Reconsideration of the Commission's December 30, 2024, Tariff Decision**

### **1. Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) Price Increase by CIE**

JEP claimed that CIE sent a notification to increase the power price from US\$0.1481 per kWh to US\$0.1578 per kWh beginning January 2025. The Commission requested JEP to submit the amended PPA and the January 2025 payment invoice from CIE; however, JEP management communicated that they haven't gotten both the January 2025 payment invoice and the amended PPA from CIE.

Without an amended PPA with the new price, the Commission cannot adjust the price of the power from CIE through the cross border in its tariff model. Also, even if the price change occurred later, it cannot be a basis for objecting to the Commission's tariff decision of December 30, 2024, so long there is no evidence to prove that the Commission ignored information submitted by JEP at the time of tariff determination.

#### **a. Decision**

The PPA price in the Commission's tariff decision shall remain unchanged since JEP did not provide evidence of the price change. However, if a price change occurs during the tariff implementation period, JEP may write the Commission to trigger a minor tariff review as provided for in Section 10.3 of the 2021 Multi Year Tariff Methodology.

## **2. Meter & New Connection Fee**

During the presentation, JEP claimed that the meter wholesale price in China is about US\$ 40.00 per piece. When they add the import, wires and breaker costs, the total amount to connect one additional customer is about US\$ 68.00.

In the December 30, 2024's tariff decision, the Commission accepted the cost of a meter and new connection fee of \$100 as proposed by JEP. However, the cost was divided into two parts: a fixed connection fee of \$40.00 per new customer and the remaining \$60 is recovered through the tariff. The 40:60 ratio decision strikes a balance between ensuring that the cost of connecting new customers is affordable while enabling JEP to realize portion of its revenue upfront to guarantee improved quality of service.

### **a. Decision**

The Commission maintains that the meter cost remains \$100.00, and the allocation ratio remains the same as in the tariff decision of December 30, 2024: US\$40 as new customer connection fee and US\$60 recovered through the tariff.

## **3. Loan Repayment**

JEP claims that in 2018 it took US\$2,000,000 loan from its parent company, Jungle Water Group, to finance its operations. The terms of said loan are 10 years repayment period and 12 percent interest on the annual repayment amount. This means that JEP should be paying \$224,000 annually to its parent company. Yet, the Commission has seen no trace of debt obligations in any of its audited financial statements. The financing agreement the utility submitted after the deadline for submission had long passed is not only found absent in the utility's audited financial statements, but there is also absolutely no trace of such financial transaction in the utility's business plan, quarterly reports, or other documents.

### **a. Decision**

The Commission cannot include the loan amount in the tariff computation as there is no untenable evidence to substantiate the loan amount.

## **4. Vegetation Clearing**

In its tariff application, JEP's Operation & Maintenance expense submission included cost of Vegetation management. This Cost item was reviewed and approved.

### **a. Decision**

The Commission maintains that the approved Operation and Maintenance Expense is sufficient to cover the cost of vegetation.

## **5. Withholding of LEC 1 Cent**

JEP and LEC signed an Assets Assignment and Power Supply Agreements for the operations of the Nimba and Bong counties grid. However, LEC has a PPA with CIE for the power supply from Ivory Coast. The PPA has several terms and conditions that LEC must monitor. One of such conditions is the deployment of a meter by the parties to record the amount of power being supplied to Liberia. This meter has not yet been installed, a situation that is potentially causing revenue loss to JEP.

### **a. Decision**

The Board of Commissioners will convene a meeting with LEC and JEP to resolve this issue as soon as possible. The Commission cannot unilaterally interfere with contractual obligations by authorizing JEP inc. to withhold the 1 cent per kWh of energy revenue that is due to be remitted to LEC.

## **III. Conclusions**

The Commission believes that JEP did not provide compelling reasons for the Commission to alter the price set in the tariff decision of December 30, 2024. Therefore, the tariff decision is US\$ 0.22/kWh is upheld. However, the monthly fixed charge is adjusted by 25 cents from US\$1.25 to US\$.1.50 for all customers. JEP shall commence the implementation of that decision by March 20, 2025.



Hon. Claude J. Katta  
**CHAIRMAN**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**