



NIGERIAN ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

NERC Headquarters

Plot 1387 Cadastral Zone A00, Central Business District, P.M.B. 136 Garki, Abuja.

Tel: +234 9 462 1400, +234 9 462 1410

www.nerc.gov.ng, info@nerc.gov.ng

NERC/REG/EKEDC/GEN/5432/T/36

21 March 2024

Dr. Dere Otubu
Chairman
Eko Electricity Distribution Plc
24/25 Marina Road
Lagos

RE: ALLEGED GHOST WORKERS IN EKO ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY – CALL FOR INVESTIGATION

The Commission writes further to our meeting with selected members of the board of Eko Electricity Distribution Plc ("EKEDC") at our offices in Abuja on 8 March 2024 and also our meeting with all members of EKEDC's board at our offices on 20 March 2024 to discuss the allegations of ghost workers at EKEDC along with actions taken by the board to address the issue.

2. The steps taken by the EKEDC's board to investigate the matter was discussed extensively at the meeting of 20 March 2024 and it was unanimously agreed that the matter posed a reputational risk to both EKEDC and the Nigerian Electricity Supply Industry ("NESI").

3. The adequacy of the steps taken by EKEDC's board to address the matter was also discussed and it was also unanimously agreed that further measures were required to address this particular incident along with putting in place safeguards to mitigate future risks.

4. Further deliberations were held by the Commission after the meeting with EKEDC's board and the Commission resolved as follows –

- a. EKEDC is hereby directed to terminate forthwith the existing secondment arrangement whereby lawyers employed Messrs. George Etomi & Partners ("GEP") are seconded to EKEDC to work as members of EKEDC's inhouse legal team. All secondees on this arrangement are to be returned to GEP and EKEDC may contract with the firm to

provide services as external counsel on an arm's length basis through a retainer for legal services or contracting on a case-by-case basis.

- b. EKEDC is hereby directed to ensure that all staff working for the utility are employed by the utility directly, bound by applicable service conditions that are applicable to the employees of the utility and paid through the utility's payroll.
- c. EKEDC is hereby directed to return ALL existing WPG secondees that were involved in the loss of revenue to EKEDC in this matter be withdrawn back to WPG. Other staff of EKEDC involved in this loss of revenue for EKEDC should be handled strictly in line with the Conditions of Service for EKEDC.
- d. EKEDC is hereby directed to file details of all existing secondment arrangements with 3rd party providers with the Commission.

5. The Commission has specified 27 March 2024 as the return date for you to file evidence of compliance with the aforementioned directives, failing which we shall intervene regulatorily further to powers vested in the Commission by the Electricity Act 2023, without further recourse to you.

6. Please accept the assurances of the Commission's best regards and consideration.



Dafe C. Akpeneye
Commissioner