



Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement
Western Cape Provincial Parliament
IPalamente yePhondo leNtshona Koloni

(Ref no:) 11/3/4

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON ENERGY CRISIS

Wednesday, 24 May 2023 (14h00), Virtual: Microsoft Teams

ATTENDANCE

Members:

Democratic Alliance

Fry, C (Chairperson)
America, D
Bartman, D
Bosman, G (Alternate for Hon A van der Westhuizen)
Maseko, M
Murray, C
Philander, W (Alternate)
Pretorius, G
Sileku, I

African National Congress

Dugmore, C
Nkondlo, N

African Christian Democratic Party

Christians, F

Economic Freedom Fighters

Cassiem, A

Freedom Front Plus

Marais, P

Al Jama-ah

Brinkhuis, K

Apology:

Van der Westhuizen, A (DA)

The following persons were in attendance:

Mr C Cassim, Eskom: Acting CEO
Mr B Nxumalo, Eskom: Group Executive Generation
Ms I Fick, Unit: Systems Operator
Ms S Nassiep, Acting Executive: Group Regulatory Affairs
Mr A Lester, Special Advisor to the Premier

Members of the public:

Ms N Ebrahim, News24: Journalist
Ms L Omarjee, News24: Journalist
Ms N Daniels, Cape Times: Journalist
Mr M Nienaber, Netwerk24 and Burger: Journalist
Ms D Matthews, Parliamentary Monitoring Group
Mr M Fredericks
Ms I Fick
Ms C Morilly

Western Cape Provincial Parliament

Ms L Cloete, Senior Procedural Officer
Ms M Mrubata, Committee Assistant
Mr M Sassman, Manager: Committees
Mr C Dowman, Manager: Security and Facilities Management
Mr W Naidoo, Officer: Security and Facilities Management
Dr M Odendal, Stakeholder and Communications Unit

1. Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed the Members, the Acting CEO of Eskom, Mr Calib Cassim, and Mr B Nxumalo, the Group Executive: Generation, as well as the other officials of Eskom in attendance, guests and members of the public. The Chairperson noted the apologies received from Member Andricus Van der Westhuizen and that Member Gillion Bosman will be the alternate member for this meeting. The Chairperson further informed the Committee that the Minister of Electricity will join the meeting once the Cabinet meeting is concluded.

The Chairperson explained the rules of engagement to Members and officials in respect of virtual meetings and then proceeded to the presentations.

The Chairperson allowed the Members of the Committee to introduce themselves and the delegation of Eskom led by the Acting CEO, and the rest of the team of Eskom introduced themselves.

The Chairperson requested that Eskom continue to brief the Committee since the Minister of Electricity will brief the Committee as soon as he finishes the Cabinet meeting. The Acting CEO of Eskom continued with the briefing to the Committee.

2. Briefing by the Acting Chief Executive Officer of Eskom on the current status of the Energy Crisis in South Africa and its effect on the Western Cape

The Acting CEO provided the Committee with an executive summary of the plans of Eskom and the Winter plan and the outlook for the next 3 months or the remaining periods of winter. Mr Cassim reported that Eskom are focusing on various ways to limit outages and several scenarios are being tested. It is reported that even though loadshedding higher than stage six is a concern, the likelihood of a national blackout is limited and further explained the recovery plan of generation over the next 24 months.

Ms Isabel Fick briefed the Committee on the winter outlook which indicates a significant risk of demand and supply imbalance.

Mr Bheki Khumalo further proceeded to brief the Committee on key or critical issues Eskom be focusing on to minimise loadshedding to stage six and lower, based on the number of scenarios performed daily by the system operators.

The Committee deliberated on the briefings presented by Mr Cassim, Ms Fick and Mr Khumalo.

3. Consideration and Adoption of Draft Committee Minutes of 28 April 2023

The Committee considered and adopted the draft Committee Minutes of 28 April 2023.

4. Committee Matters

The Chairperson requested the Senior Procedural Officer to inform Members of the status of the attendance of Minister of Electricity, Dr Ramokgopa. The Senior Procedural Officer informed the Committee that Minister Ramokgopa has been called into another meeting after the Cabinet meeting and his office therefore advised the Committee that they will provide a revised date when the Minister is able to address the Committee. The Committee thereafter unanimously decided that the Office of the Minister of Electricity be contacted to provide an alternate date for the briefing.

The Chairperson informed the Committee that the scheduled oversight visit to Ankerlig Power Station for Friday 2 June 2023, is still pending in terms of arranging the actual visit for 2 June 2023, since the Ministry of Public Enterprises has not responded to the invitation of the Committee as yet. The Committee will however be cognisant of the activities in the Parliamentary programme more especially in relation to legislation when confirming the visit to Ankerlig Power Station. The Chairperson further informed the

Committee that the City of Cape Town confirmed their attendance for the briefing meeting scheduled for Wednesday 14 June 2023, SALGA however, need to confirm their attendance.

5. Resolutions/Actions

The Committee RESOLVED the following:

- 6.1 That the Office of the Minister of Electricity provide a date to brief the Committee since the Minister could not attend today's meeting due to other engagements.
- 6.2 That Eskom provides the Committee with (i) Monthly progress updates to have units at Kusile, Medupi and Koeberg restored by December 2023, to avoid stage 8; (ii) a progress report on the battery storage projects in the Province.
- 6.3 That included in the briefing meeting with the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) on the Wind and Solar projects that the Committee invites the South African Wind Energy Association and the South African Photovoltaic Industry Association at the same meeting or on another occasion to brief the Committee on the type of planned renewable projects.
- 6.4 To invite the National Ministry of Environmental Affairs to brief the Committee on the impact of the outstanding environmental impact assessments on the Power Ships since it's been reported that the Department of Transport has given the ships permission to moor off the coasts.
- 6.5 Due to significant references being made by Eskom in its presentation for the approval of the extension of coal-fired power stations and running these power stations to full capacity and the resultant impact it would have on air pollution, the Department of Environmental Affairs should be invited to brief the Committee on the impact of the extended lifespan of aging coal power stations and if any environmental work is underway regarding the extension of the Koeberg Power Station, specifically due to the expiration of the current license of the nuclear reactor fuel.

The meeting adjourned at 16:00.



MR C FRY, MPP
CHAIRPERSON: AD HOC COMMITTEE ON ENERGY CRISIS
DATE: