



**NEWS EDITOR**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Windhoek**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Recently, as part of an annual Surplus Sales Agreement NamPower has in place with both Eskom and the Botswana Power Corporation (BPC), NamPower was in the fortunate position to assist the two utilities when much needed power was requested from them.

The capacity to assist Eskom and BPC was as a direct result of surplus energy being available at the time due to the flagship power generation plant, the Ruacana Hydropower Station, generating at full capacity (330 MW). This year, strong inflows (of up to 400 cubic metres/second) due to good rains in the catchment area of the Kunene River Basin made this possible. This would not have been possible during the dry season (typically between mid-May and November each year). Inflows have since decreased, which means that the generation capacity has decreased with the power station currently generating from 06h00 to 22h00 for domestic purposes only.

Apart from the fact that NamPower could assist the two utilities due to surplus power being available, it is important to note that as a participating Southern African Power utility, NamPower should act in solidarity with its neighbouring utilities just as they would, in the interests of economic development in the SADC region under the ambit of the SAPP energy trading platform.

Namibia is fortunate that NamPower has consistently been able to meet the domestic electricity needs of all sectors of the economy without load shedding, at a cost that has continued to foster overall economic growth.

During the next four to five years, no serious power supply disruptions are envisaged as NamPower has had the foresight to put adequate measures in place, through its Short-term Critical Supply initiatives (1 -5 years), to mitigate potential shortages. These include the following initiatives:

- Demand Side Management (DSM)
- Van Eck Refurbishment
- Runners replacement at Ruacana Hydropower Station
- Negotiation of PPA's with regional utilities and IPP's;
- and the development of a 250 MW power plant.

The 250MW power plant will be a joint development with the private sector. The plant will fill the supply gap prior to the commissioning of Kudu and thereafter, its operating regime has been designed to complement Kudu.

Planned medium to longer-term projects include the development of the Kudu Gas Power Station and the Baynes HydroPower Plant.

NamPower shall continue to Power the Nation and if and when possible Beyond the borders of Namibia. It shall also continue to foster healthy and positive relations with its main shareholder, the Government and key stakeholders domestically, regionally and internationally.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the nation for heeding our call to save energy wherever possible and would encourage every citizen to continue doing so.

**ISSUED BY THE MARKETING AND CORPORATE COMMUNICATION SECTION OF  
NAMPOWER**

ISSUED BY

Monica Nashandi

NamPower Spokesperson

Tel: (061) 205 2373

Fax: (061) 205 2372

Email: [monica.nashandi@nampower.com.na](mailto:monica.nashandi@nampower.com.na)