

(17 September 2008 – to date)

ELECTRICITY REGULATION ACT 4 OF 2006

Government Notice 660 in Government Gazette 28992, dated 5 July 2006. Commencement date: 1 August 2006 – unless otherwise indicated [Proc. R30, Gazette No. 9057, dated 21 July 2006].

ELECTRICITY REGULATIONS FOR COMPULSORY NORMS AND STANDARDS FOR RETICULATION SERVICES

Government Notice R773 in Government Gazette 31250, dated 18 July 2008. Commencement date: 18 July 2008.

as amended by:

General Notice 1190 in Government Gazette 31436, dated 17 September 2008. Commencement date: 17 September 2008.

I, Buyelwa Sonjica, Minister of Minerals and Energy hereby, under section 35(4) of the Electricity Regulation Act, 2006 (Act No. 4 of 2006), after consultation with the Regulator, Promulgate the regulations in the Schedule.

SCHEDULE

1. Definitions.

In these Regulations, any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act, shall have the meaning so assigned and, unless the context otherwise indicates -

"building" includes any other structure, whether of a temporary or permanent nature and irrespective of the materials used in the erection thereof, erected for or in connection with-

- (a) the accommodation or convenience of human beings or animals;
- (b) the manufacture, processing, storage, display or sale of any goods;
- (c) the rendering of any service;
- (d) the destruction or treatment of refuse or waste materials; or
- (e) the cultivation or growth of any plant or crop.

"**time of use**" means measurement of energy consumption on a time interval basis,

"**integrated power system**" means the interconnected network of electricity lines and equipment that connect the transmission, distribution and reticulation systems in South Africa;

"**the Act**" means the Electricity Regulation Act, 2006 (Act No. 4 of 2006),

"**smart system**" means an electricity system that allows for -

- (a) measurement of energy consumed on a time interval basis,
- (b) two-way communication between the customer/end-user and the licensee,
- (c) storage of time interval data and transfer it remotely to the licensee, and
- (d) remote load management.

(Definition of "smart system" amended by Gen N 1190 of 2008)

"**system operator**" means a licensed entity responsible for directing the operation and the reliability of the integrated power system

2. In order to maintain good quality of supply, to ensure stability of the electricity network, to minimise electricity load shedding and to avoid blackouts, the following norms and standards for reticulation services must be maintained in an area of jurisdiction-

(a) In respect of lighting-

- (i) energy efficient fittings must be used in all buildings except where a specific fitting is required for some purpose and the nature of the purpose does not allow an energy efficient fitting;
- (ii) street and highway lighting must be energy efficient and licensee must ensure that it is switched off during the day;
- (iii) Street lights must be fitted with systems that allow for remote reduction of power especially during capacity constraints.
- (iv) sub- regulation (a)(i),(ii) and (iii) must be in place not later than 01 January 2010.

(Regulation 2(a)(iv) inserted by Gen N 1190 of 2008)

(b) In respect of existing buildings, where an electric water heating facility is required-

- (i) a licensee should install a facility to remotely control the supply of electricity to any electric geyser that does not incorporate a solar heating water facility;
 - (ii) sub-regulation (b)(i) must be in place not later than 01 January 2012;
- (c) In respect of space heating, ventilation or cooling in existing buildings, to be in place not later than 01 January 2012, a licensee must-
- (i) install a facility to remotely control the supply of electricity to heating, ventilation and cooling system in its area of supply.
 - (ii) link a swimming pool drive and heating system to a facility that enables the licensee to remotely control its supply of electricity;
- (d) An end user or customer with a monthly consumption of 1000kWh and above must have smart system and be on time of use tariff not later than 01 January 2012;
- (e) Sub-regulations (b) and (c) do not apply in an event where the licensee can remotely reduce or increase the supply of electricity to the building using a smart system.
- (f) The System Operator and other licensee may only reduce the supply of electricity to customers during capacity or network constraints. Where the interruption is planned, the licensee must comply with the provisions of NRS 048 and inform affected customers at least a day before about the interruption of electricity supply.
- (g) In respect of sub-regulations (b) and (c) above, the licensee may remotely control the supply of electricity only during capacity or network constraints to avoid electricity blackouts. The System Operator must issue a notice to the licensee declaring the constraints in terms of network or capacity and requesting distributors to reduce demand.