



PO Box 9, Meyerton, 1960 C/o Junius & Mitchell Street, Meyerton Tel (016) 360 5800
Fax: 086 502 0523 E-mail: edengineering@midvaal.gov.za Website: www.midvaal.gov.za

ENGINEERING SERVICES

04 February 2011

Our Ref: (R. Mallinson)

Dear Customer

ELECTRICAL LOAD SHEDDING

The events of January 2008 when the country underwent weeks of load shedding are indelibly in our minds. As a Country, we do not want to go back to that situation. However during the past week the Eskom CEO, Brian Dames said that Eskom has repeatedly warned that the South African power network will be under severe pressure in 2011 and 2012, because of a lack of generating capacity. Mr. Dames confirmed to the media that the power network is under pressure and this task to address this unfortunately cannot be the responsibility of ESKOM and municipalities only. It requires a partnership approach between all stakeholders using electricity and must involve every business and citizen in the community.

We believe it is appropriate to bring to your attention Eskom's warning and the seriousness of the situation, as well as the need for all of us to take pro-active and appropriate action to ensure that the situation is kept under control in the next 2 to 3 years.

Eskom has some immediate challenges and there will be ongoing challenges in balancing electricity supply and demand.

For Midvaal to keep its lights burning, an overall saving of 10 % based on the 2006/2007 years consumption must be achieved. Further to the above electricity consumption between the hours of 7:00 and 10:00 and 18:00 and 20:00 will have to be reduced drastically to avoid possible load shedding during these times in the near future. It is thus important that households reduce the electricity usage during these hours by switching off as many appliances as possible, especially geysers.

Midvaal has a load management system that controls some geysers in its supply network and will assist by controlling load during the times mentioned above. However, the load we are able to control is not enough to exempt Midvaal from future load shedding, especially because some consumers have by-passed the ripple relay unit in their homes. More load management equipment will have to be installed and Council is considering this at the moment.

The ongoing challenge in the next 2 years is that demand growth is anticipated to exceed growth, unless there is slow-down in the economy, (which under normal circumstances is not desirable) or a specific demand supply side intervention (load shedding or a reduction in consumption) is executed.

Although ESKOM has put plans in place to limit the effect of load shedding, ESKOM cannot do it all alone and everyone using electricity will have to play a part in the next 2 to 3 years by reducing consumption, especially during the times indicated above.

With some effort from Midvaal consumers, we can limit future load shedding. Load shedding in Midvaal is thus in your hands.

S. COETZEE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ENGINEERING SERVICES

Note: As a service to our consumers we want to set up an information and notification system from where we will be able to inform you as consumer on electricity usage, possible reductions needed and information on possible future load shedding times and schedules. If you want to be informed send your name/business and e-mail address to edengineering@midvaal.gov.za