

A WINTER WITH NO POWER?

**Civil
Society
Conference**

FIX THE ELECTRICITY CRISIS

02 - 05 June 2015

Programme & Venue:

Booyesen Hotel and Conference Centre

33 Booyesen Street
Booyesen

Day 1: Tues 02 June

Time	Topic/Activity	Who?
09:00-09:20	Introduction & welcome Outline of objectives & programme	Mazibuko Jara - United Front (UF)
09:20-09:30	Why are we supporting the conference	Renate Tenbusch - Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)
Panel: Roots, Impacts and Possible Solutions to the Electricity Crisis: Labour Perspectives <i>Facilitator: Sandra van Niekerk</i>		
09:30-09:50	Numsa's position on the Electricity Crisis	Karl Cloete - Numsa Deputy General-Secretary
09:50-10:10	Solidarity's position on the Electricity Crisis	Dirk Hermann - Solidarity Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
10:10-10:30	UASA's position on the Electricity Crisis	Brian Muir - UASA Sector Manager Metal & Engineering Sector
Tea break		
Brief Statements: The Electricity Crisis & its Impacts on Communities <i>Facilitator: Vuyo Bikitsha</i>		
11:00-11:10	Electricity supply to schools. How outages and inadequate electricity infrastructure affect learning and teaching?	Nombulelo Nyathela - Equal Education
11:10-11:20	The unaffordability of electricity for the poor	Faith Vanqa - Orlando West Concerned Residents
11:20-11:30	Eskom and environmental injustice	Lerato Maregele - Earthlife
11:30-11:40	The cruelty of prepaid meters	Zodwa Madiba - Soweto Electricity Crisis Committee
11:40-11:50	Do you get your electricity from Eskom or from a municipality? The effects of fragmented electricity distribution on consumers.	Kenneth Tsotetsi - Lesedi Development Forum
11:50-12:00	Electricity price hikes increase food hunger in SA	Pat Tshikane - SA Food Sovereignty Campaign (SAFSC)
12:00-12:15	Conference energiser	All participants in plenary

Guest Speaker Session 1 Chair: Brian Ashley		
12.15-12.45	The roots of the Eskom crisis and the need for a judicial enquiry	Ted Blom - Mining & Energy Advisory Partner at Blom Consulting and Training
12.45-13.15	Questions and discussions	All participants in plenary
Lunch		
14.00-14.15	The impact of the electricity crisis on industry, business & commerce	Vusi Khumalo – President of the South African Chamber of Commerce and Industries (SACCI)
14.15-14.45	Questions & discussions	All participants in plenary
14.45-15.00	Introducing “alternative rooms” to the exclusive Eskom “war room”	Dinga Sikwebu
Tea		
15.30-17.00	Alternative Rooms: <i>Beginning to think amongst ourselves</i>	
15.30-17.00	Alternative Room 1: How to deal with loadshedding? Who decides? Who gets loadshedded? Eskom’s economic merit order for load shedding. Loadshedding schedules. Inequality of loadshedding.	Chair: Kwezi Mbandazayo Resource person: Patrick Bond
15.30-17.00	Alternative Room 2: Financing Eskom? What are key cost drivers? How to mitigate and what do with the rising costs? How to avoid Eskom’s financial meltdown? Is it through “bailouts” or “cost reflective tariffs”, loans or other means?	Chair: John Appolis Resource person: Sam Ashman
15.30-17.00	Alternative Room 3: How to ensure more supply? Grid augmentation. New sources of energy and new build programme?	Chair: Trusha Reddy Resource: Dinga Sikwebu
15.30-17.00	Alternative Room 4: Democratising and putting Eskom under public and democratic control. What has been the experience of corporatisation of Eskom?	Chair: Sandra van Niekerk Resource person: Daniel Chavez
15.30-17.00	Alternative Room 5: Restructuring the Electricity Industry. Do we need some public-public competition? Is there a role for the private sector in the electricity supply industry (ESI)?	Chair: Woody Aroun Resource person: Richard Worthington
15.30-17.00	Alternative Room 6: Eskom and environmental justice. What’s Eskom’s track record in relation to environmental justice? How do we ensure that when proposing measures and interventions to deal the electricity crisis, our demands to Eskom for environmental justice don’t fall by the way side? What are our demands?	Chair: Noluthando Patricia Mbeje Resource person: David Fig

Day 2: Wednesday 03 June
Government Perspectives & Our Responses
Chair: Oupa Ralake

09.00-09.15	Recap	
09.15-09.30	Introducing the programme of the day	Oupa Ralake
09.30-10.15	A government perspective on causes of the electricity crisis and plans in the pipeline to ensure security of supply.	Representative from the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE)
10.15-10.45	Questions & discussions	All participants in plenary
Tea break		
11.15-12.00	Challenges facing Eskom and proposals from the “war room”	Daphne Mokwena – Eskom’s Operations and Maintenance Manager
12.00-12.30	Questions & discussions	All participants in plenary
12.30-13.00	Response to government’s and Eskom’s views on the challenges facing Eskom and how to resolve them	Chris Yelland - Electrical engineering and managing director of EE Publishers (Pty) Ltd
Lunch		
14.00-14.15	Introducing tasks for six commissions	Mziyandi Twani
14.15-15.00	Digesting inputs from DPE and Eskom	All six commissions
Tea break		
(Commission reports to plenary) - 15.30-17.00		
15.30-15.40	Draft resolution on loadshedding	Alternative Room 1
15.40-15.50	Draft resolution on financing Eskom	Alternative Room 2
15.50-16.00	Draft resolution on supply-side measures	Alternative Room 3
16.00-16.10	Draft resolution on putting Eskom under real democratic and public control	Alternative Room 4
16.10-16.20	Draft resolution on restructuring the electricity supply industry	Alternative Room 5
16.20-16.30	Draft resolution on Eskom and environmental justice	Alternative Room 6
16.30-17.00	Preliminary comments on the draft resolutions.	All participants in plenary

Day 3: Thursday 04 June
Tariffs & the Electricity Distribution Industry (EDI)
Chair: Anja Muller-Deibicht - Imatu

09.00-09.15	Recap	
09.15-09.30	Introducing the programme of the day	Anja Muller-Deibicht - Imatu
09.30-10.00	Implications of the electricity crisis for Eskom and municipal tariffs	Thembani Bukula – Electricity Regulator in the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (Nersa)

10.00-10.30	Questions & discussions	All participants in plenary
Tea break		
11.00-11.20	What local government can do to mitigate the ongoing electricity crisis?	Mike Mulcahy - Project manager at Green Cape
11.20-12.00	Questions and discussions	All participants in plenary
12.00-12.20	What can be done at a local level? The proposal for Msunduzi Municipal Area to Eskom	Melanie Veness – CEO of Pietermaritzburg Chamber of Business
12.20-12.40	Questions and discussions	All participants in plenary
12.40-13.00	Introducing commission work for the afternoon	Willem van Heerden - Imatu
Lunch		
14.00-15.00	Commissions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eskom and municipal tariffs • What to do about the fragmented and perilous state of the electricity distribution industry (EDI)? 	
Tea break		
15.30-16.30	Commissions report	
16.30-17.00	Discussions on the reports	All participants in plenary
Day 4: Friday 05 June <i>Developing a campaign</i> Chair: John Appolis		
09.00-09.15	Recap	
09.15-09.30	Introducing the programme of the day	John Appolis – United Front
09.30-10.30	The need for an all-sided national electricity campaign	Zwelinzima Vavi (tbc) – Cosatu General Secretary
Tea break		
11.00-11.45	Presentation of a draft declaration of the conference	Brian Ashley
11.45-12.15	Discussions on the declaration	All participants in plenary
12.15-12.45	Presentation of a draft campaign diary for consideration by different organisations	Sandra van Niekerk
12.45-13.00	Vote of thanks and closure of conference	National Office Bearers (NOBs) National Working Committee (NWC)