



ESKOM Eases Load Shedding; Increases Generation By 54MW

Jinja, Uganda, September 20, 2011 - ESKOM Uganda today eased load-shedding by increasing its power generation at Jinja Nalubaale and Kiira Dams by an average of 54MW.

Eskom Chief Executive Officer Nokwanda Mngeni today announced that the dispensation from the Directorate of Water Resource Management (DWRM) allowing for an increase in water releases gave the power generation company an average capacity of up to 172MW.

"We have received a go-ahead from the DWRM and we hope that Ugandans will be happy with the increased electricity available for Umeme to supply. Load shedding is an issue that affects the entire sector, and we all work together consistently to decrease the inconvenience all round," she said today.

Eskom Uganda has been the largest electricity generator with an average of 118MW production a day, before the increase of 54MW, followed by Aggreko and Jacobsen thermal plants, which both generate an average of 50MW.

According to an Electricity Regulatory Authority figures, Eskom accounted for about 60% of energy purchases by UETCL, but at a cost of less than 10%.

"Hydro power is much cheaper than the alternative forms of generation. This is why the investments we make here have such a high positive impact on the economy as a whole - and we welcome more investments in dams at Bujagali and Karuma," Mngeni added.

Eskom Uganda has invested more than US\$10million in generation at Jinja's Nalubale and Kiira Dams.