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Editor’s Note

NERSA celebrates special days

In life, there are always winners and losers. When the Acting CEO called upon NERSA to ‘Back the Boks’ in line with Sports Minister Fikile Mbalula’s appeal, we had high hopes of winning the Rugby World Cup 2015. Although that honour finally went to New Zealand, South Africa’s Springboks held their heads high and made us proud.

In terms of reaching our targets, NERSA performed well after the second quarter of this financial year, as discussed in the Acting CEO’s report. It is now simply a question of keeping up the good work for the remainder of the Annual Performance period.

The NERSA spirit was evident when NERSA staff gave support to the elderly as part of our Mandela Day contribution. It is a laudable initiative, which individuals and corporate entities alike should undertake more often, as the dire needs of the underprivileged and the inequality remaining in our country are tangible and heart-wrenching.

It was therefore especially important for NERSA to celebrate Women’s Day, in view of the historic contribution women have made in this country. Given the backlog in eradicating inequality in our society, we should focus even more on growing the Energy Regulator’s activities in support of young women.

I was pleasantly surprised by the enthusiasm of our staff as they dressed up in traditional gear for Heritage Day. Not only did this give us all the opportunity to learn from each other, but it also contributed to positive staff morale and nation-building.

As we report on these and other activities, it is important that we highlight both the internal and the outward-bound activities to give an all-round perspective of NERSA. We welcome your input and feedback on NERSA News and all comments or contributions can be sent through to poppie.mahlangu@nersa.org.za

Best wishes
Charles Hlebela

Visit our website at www.nersa.org.za for updates on our activities, public hearings and event calendar.

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I am pleased to announce that NERSA has yet again received the Auditor-General's Award for achieving a clean audit opinion for the 2014/15 financial year. This is a remarkable achievement as NERSA is receiving this award for the second time in succession (2013/14 and 2014/15). I would like to thank all NERSA staff for their continuous efforts to elevate the organisation’s performance, reputation and status in South Africa and across the continent.

NERSA will be celebrating its tenth anniversary since its launch on 01 October 2005 as the single regulator for the electricity, piped-gas and petroleum pipelines industries. The organisation has faced major challenges and achieved major successes during the past 10 years. NERSA’s 10th Anniversary is a perfect opportunity to celebrate and commemorate NERSA’s decade of ground-breaking work.

The 10th Anniversary will be celebrated in a remarkable way with various activities planned to mark this significant milestone. These include a specially designed 10th Anniversary logo, which will be used prominently throughout the anniversary year on all corporate material. A special 10th Anniversary email signature has also been designed to be used by all staff throughout the 10th Anniversary Year.

Many of our stakeholders, including staff and other readers of this NERSA newsletter, might not necessarily understand the background to the performance measurement of our activities. A case in point is the Annual Performance Plans, which NERSA developed for the periods 2012/13 to 2014/15; 2013/14 to 2015/16; and 2014/15 to 2016/17. As far back as October 2010, the National Treasury instituted a Framework for Strategic Plans and Annual Performance Plans (“the Framework”).

Instruction Note 33 of National Treasury required Schedule 3A public entities, like NERSA, to comply with the Framework from 2012/13 onwards. This prompted NERSA to draw up its Strategic Plan 2012/13 — 2016/17, and to develop the Annual Performance Plans (APPs) in line with the Framework, all of which were approved by the Minister of Energy.

On 29 October 2015, the Energy Regulator approved a Mid-Term Review Report, which gave effect to some amendments to the 2015/16 APP. While the Minister has yet to approve the amendments, NERSA’s performance for the second quarter can be judged from both the approved APP and the revised APP indicators.

For Electricity Industry Regulation, NERSA had met 63% of its targets for 2015/16 by the second quarter, despite an increase from 20 targets for 2014/15 to 24 targets for 2015/16.

In terms of Piped-Gas Industry Regulation and Petroleum Pipelines Industry Regulation, by the second quarter NERSA had achieved 100% of its targets for both – despite an increase in targets from 13 to 17 for Piped-Gas Industry Regulation in the revised APP. In Transversal Regulatory we met 100% of our targets, although the revised APP lowered the target from 4 to 3. Organisational Performance stood at 75% after the second quarter.

The total targets met after the second quarter was shown to be 84% in the approved APP, which decreased to 82% in the revised APP, but remains a notable achievement. I would like to thank all NERSA staff and encourage them to continue their efforts in ensuring that we not only meet our targets, but exceed them.

Warm regards

Paseka Nku
Acting Chief Executive Officer
The committee visited NERSA on 21 July 2015, where it was briefed on the recent developments regarding NERSA’s rejection of Eskom’s third Multi-Year Price Determination (MYPD3) reopener.

NERSA gave a detailed analysis on why the 25% tariff increase was not approved. Committee chairperson Fikile Majola said it was the committee’s view that ‘a joint meeting with NERSA and Eskom should be set so that challenges facing Eskom could be dealt with immediately by both entities’ and so that issues ‘are not raised in isolation’.

During the oversight visit, the committee also interacted with the South African Nuclear Energy Cooperation (NECSA), Eskom and the South African National Energy Development Institute (SANEDI).

The committee’s visit to NECSA was aimed at assessing its state of readiness on the government’s planned nuclear new-build programme.
The Official Newsletter of the National Energy Regulator of South Africa

Public Hearings

NERSA holds public hearings on IPP Window 4

In light of the success of the renewable energy programme to date, NERSA held a range of public hearings for Window 4 of the Independent Power Producer (IPP) renewable energy power plant licence applications over a four-day period, from 08 to 11 September 2015.

According to the Minister of Energy, Ms Tina Joemat-Pettersson, the Renewable Energy IPP Programme is a flagship programme of her Department, through which a total of 4 322MW has been procured in less than four years.

In a media statement, she said:

‘Resolving the energy challenge remains a critical element of the South African Cabinet’s list of nine strategic priorities to be pursued in partnership with the private sector and all stakeholders.’

Early last year the Department of Energy (DoE) released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Bid Window 4 of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producers (REIPPs). A total of 77 bids amounting to 5 804MW were received and 26 preferred bidders were announced in two batches, with a total capacity of 2 205 MW. The first batch of 13 preferred bidders was announced on 10 April 2015 and the second batch of 13 preferred bidders on 07 June 2015.

The licence applications received covered on-shore wind farms, solar photovoltaic (PV), small hydro and biomass in several provinces across the country.

Minister Joemat-Pettersson also requested the IPP team in her Department ‘to redesign the current RFP for the Fifth Bid Submission phase to be ready for release in the second quarter of 2016’.

In her statement, the Minister said the Bid Window 4 procurement process has been “extremely successful” and that she expected financial close for this bid window to be in the fourth quarter of this year, with commissioning of these projects from November 2016.
The event was supported by South African government and non-government organisations, showing the private sector’s willingness to work with government towards the development of South Africa’s gas-to-power generation industry. The DoE convened the event to consider several significant issues around South Africa’s energy requirements, notably natural gas.

The DoE is tasked by the Ministerial Determination to procure 3 126 megawatts of power from gas between 2019 and 2025, with the aim of diversifying the energy mix away from coal. Baseload and/or mid-merit energy generation capacity is needed from gas-fired power generation to contribute towards energy security.

The gas Independent Power Producer (IPP) procurement programme involves all types of gas, including indigenous natural gas resources and liquefied natural gas (LNG). South Africa has limited indigenous gas resources, although the prospects of shale gas in the Karoo region has the potential to change this situation in future.

Mr Ompi Aphane, Deputy Director-General of energy policy, said it would take a decade to properly develop these resources, while further exploration is still to determine the country’s true shale gas potential.

At present, LNG seems to be an ideal source of gas, which could be imported in the short to medium term to make gas available for the gas IPP procurement programme. This programme will be delivered within the present legislative framework, including that in respect of Electricity, Gas and Ports, within the existing authority of the Minister of Energy in consultation with NERSA and will flow from Ministerial Determinations.

In terms of gas pricing and tariffs, Ms Nomfundo Maseti, in her capacity as the Regulator Member primarily responsible for Piped-Gas, clarified NERSA’s mandate on gas prices and tariffs, as well as the regulatory tools used by NERSA to give effect to that mandate. She explained that NERSA has developed a methodology to approve maximum prices for gas, which provides for two approaches that licensed gas traders could use to determine their prices for approval by NERSA, namely the Energy Price Indicator’s approach and the pass-through approach.

She further explained that the Energy Price Indicator’s approach, which references the price of gas to other energy indicators such as coal, electricity, diesel, heavy fuel oil (HFO) and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), is a preferred default/primary methodology to determine the maximum gas energy price.

However, she emphasised that licensees would be allowed to use the pass-through approach to determine the gas energy price should the licensee deem the price determined by the default approach to be materially lower or higher than their preferred and appropriate gas price, in that it impacts on their ability to compete and/or recover efficiently and prudently incurred costs and make a profit commensurate with risk.

In relation to gas tariffs, Ms Maseti explained the guidelines for monitoring and approving piped-gas transmission and storage tariffs, which were developed by NERSA in 2010. Ms Maseti also explained that there are several gas tariff methodologies that licensees can choose from to calculate their gas transmission and storage tariffs (where applicable) for approval by NERSA, which include:

- rate of return regulation;
- incentive regulation;
- price caps;
- revenue caps;
- hybrids of the abovementioned approaches;
profit sharing or sliding scales; and
tariffs based on a discounted cash flow model of allowable revenue.

Given that LNG is a possibility for South Africa in the near future, Ms Maseti mentioned to potential investors that the current gas pricing and tariffs regime is conducive to allow LNG investment in the country. In particular, she emphasised that investors would be allowed to recoup their capital investment for the required LNG import infrastructure through tariffs, and the cost of the LNG molecule through the maximum price as well as a trading margin, in the case of gas traders.

The total gas price to the final consumer, being the gas power plant for instance, would include the elements of maximum gas price (charge for gas molecule), tariff charges and a trading margin as depicted in Figure 1 below. The maximum gas energy price and the trading margin are key elements of the gas price, while the individual tariff elements would be added as pass-through costs to determine the total price for gas to customers only where applicable.

Figure 1: Components of the total gas price to customers

In further explaining NERSA’s role, Ms Maseti highlighted how the manner in which NERSA regulates gas infrastructure, gas prices and tariffs will affect the IPP projects. It is important to note that:

• regulated tariffs are applicable when gas is transported/stored for a third party at a charge;
• transmission tariffs will not be regulated when transmitting gas for own use;
• the price of gas is regulated when there is commercial exchange of ownership of the gas molecule, including LNG;
• the price of gas, including the maximum gas energy price and the Trading Margin, will not be regulated when the gas supplier and IPP are one entity; and
• the gas distribution tariff will be allowed as a pass through cost to an IPP off-taking gas from a pipeline operating at pressures between 2 and 15 bar gauge.

The DoE recognises this as an important partnership and set of relationships, benefitting from the private sector’s development capabilities, experience and funding. Moreover, State Owned Companies are to ensure that opportunities for development of the gas market are realised and must support the development of infrastructure. NERSA and other regulators are to ensure that the regulatory frameworks are aligned to support and enable the envisaged gas to power development in South Africa.

Ms Maseti emphasised that ‘NERSA is ready to regulate pricing and tariffs for gas and LNG’.
NERSA develops a Cost of Supply Framework

NERSA developed a cost of supply Framework to be used as a guidance by all licensed electricity distributors (licensees) in South Africa when developing their COS studies.

Electricity distributors in South Africa have to undertake cost of supply (COS) studies every five years, or when significant licensee structure changes occur, according to the requirements of the Electricity Pricing Policy.

To this end, NERSA embarked on a process of developing a COS Framework to be used as a guidance by all licensed electricity distributors (licensees) in South Africa when developing their COS studies. The COS Framework aims to promote the sustainability of the electricity supply industry while protecting customers against unduly high prices.

The adopted approach in the framework is the Embedded Cost Basis and it follows a four-step process. The steps cover:

1. Revenue Requirement;
2. Cost Functionalisation;
3. Cost Classification; and
4. Cost allocation with an ultimate goal of rate setting.

In its consultation paper, NERSA requested written comments on the framework and indicated that it would conduct a public hearing for stakeholders to comment on a range of pertinent issues. The consultation paper suggested no less than 15 issues for stakeholder comment, including NERSA’s overall approach towards the cost of supply framework.

NERSA has collated all comments received, which will be taken into consideration when the final framework is developed.

‘The framework will serve as a regulatory standard that will guide licensees to develop their individual COS studies and submit them to the Energy Regulator for consideration,’ NERSA stated.
Eskom Cost of Unserved Energy

On 03 September 2015, NERSA held a public hearing on Eskom’s Cost of Unserved Energy (COUE).

Eskom is required to use a NERSA-approved methodology to determine the COUE in order to ensure the network is planned and built to meet the Grid Code requirements. These requirements also aim to ensure an orderly and economic expansion of the network infrastructure to meet future electricity demand with an acceptable level of reliability.

Therefore, NERSA called for the submission of comments, requesting input from both the public and stakeholders. A consultation paper was also made available on NERSA’s website in order for stakeholders to comment on specific issues outlined in the paper.

NERSA is currently finalising the internal processes regarding the application.
NERSA Report

NERSA’s report on the National Free Basic Electricity

Funds from the National Government are distributed on an equitable basis to local authorities for the purpose of free basic services (FBS). The concept of FBS is provided for in Section 152 of the Constitution, announced by Government in 2001, and includes Free Basic Electricity (FBE).

The Department of Energy (DoE) introduced the Electricity Basic Services Support Tariff (EBST) policy in 2003 to provide 50kWh of free electricity to poor households identified by municipalities and connected to the national grid.

The National Energy Regulator (NERSA) is by law required to regulate prices and tariffs for electricity. However, NERSA does not have the mandate on the FBE implementation, but can only determine the rate that Eskom charges to municipalities for supplying FBE on its behalf.

The rate is adjusted annually using the mechanism that was approved by the National Energy Regulator in May 2011. In December 2013, NERSA also reviewed and approved the mechanism for determining the National FBE rate by which local authorities compensate Eskom.

According to the report, ‘FBE implementation is still a challenge that affects all stakeholders’. Reviews of monthly and quarterly FBS/FBE meetings involving Eskom, NERSA, National Treasury (NT), the DoE and other entities enabled mitigating solutions to be formulated.

It was proposed that municipalities introduce mobile sites and additional vending stations to avoid situations where customers in rural areas have to travel long distances to collect tokens. It was also found that some municipalities apply for higher tariffs to compensate for revenue shortfalls when they provide more than the 50kWh FBE. In such instances, it was suggested that NERSA should monitor all municipalities and decline such tariff applications.

The report also showed that many customers remain unaware of FBE. All stakeholders, including NERSA, are to embark on the rollout of awareness campaigns on a national basis to bring free basic electricity to those who need it most.

total of 89,444kWh of free basic electricity was consumed in the 2013/14 financial year. Most of the municipalities had an indigent register, but not all municipalities provided the 50kWh FBE. While only three municipalities do not provide FBE at all, the others differ in their offerings.

NERSA’s report on National Free Basic Electricity makes for interesting reading, as it shows that a
Understanding the Energy Sector

NERSA holds Customer Education Workshops

With the aim of empowering stakeholders regarding the energy industry and regulatory information, NERSA’s Communication and Stakeholder Management Department (CSM) hosts regular customer education workshops. Ten such workshops were planned for the second quarter, however thanks to the commitment of the NERSA team, no less than 14 were conducted. A total of 3,502 individuals attended the workshops. The venues ranged across the country as shown in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City/Town</th>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mosehleng</td>
<td>Limpopo</td>
<td>14/07/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mokhurumela</td>
<td>Limpopo</td>
<td>15/07/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kimberley</td>
<td>Northern Cape</td>
<td>23/07/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kagiso</td>
<td>Gauteng</td>
<td>29/07/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noordgesig</td>
<td>Gauteng</td>
<td>13/08/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madidi</td>
<td>North West</td>
<td>18/08/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ennerdale</td>
<td>Gauteng</td>
<td>20/08/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standerton</td>
<td>Mpumalanga</td>
<td>21/08/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacobsdal</td>
<td>Free State</td>
<td>24/08/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kaffiefontein</td>
<td>Free State</td>
<td>25/08/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wedela</td>
<td>Gauteng</td>
<td>27/08/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luckhoff</td>
<td>Free State</td>
<td>16/09/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daveyton</td>
<td>Gauteng</td>
<td>29/09/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springs</td>
<td>Gauteng</td>
<td>30/09/2015</td>
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</table>

In addition, NERSA hosted a workshop on career awareness in the Northern Cape following an invitation from the Department of Energy (DoE).

The interest shown in the workshops is underscored by the comprehensive issues raised, which ranged from the escalating costs of electricity, theft of electricity, load shedding, quality of service and supply, to the Inclining Block Tariffs and participation in NERSA’s public hearings on pricing determinations.
Foreign Delegations visit NERSA from Uganda and Malawi

The Electricity Regulatory Authority of Uganda

During a rather cold week from 06 to 10 July 2015, NERSA played host to the Electricity Regulatory Authority of Uganda (ERA). The benchmark tour, headed by Dr Benon Mutambi of ERA, was organised by the International Cooperation and Partnerships Department (ICP) at NERSA.

ERA had outlined their needs for the benchmark tour and as such, ICP compiled a programme that would enable ERA to engage with City Power, the Department of Energy (DoE), Eskom and two of South Africa’s independent power producers, as well as NERSA.

The seven-member ERA delegation was given a broad overview of City Power’s customer service strategy, quality of service measures, tariff setting and application, as well as loss reduction initiatives. The delegates were received by Ms Lungi Mbewu, City Power’s General Manager for Strategy, and her team.

The DoE provided an overview of the South African Energy Sector, Market Structure and the Integrated Resource Plan 2010–2030. The IRP is a ‘living plan’ that is revised by the DoE every two years. A presentation was also given on South Africa’s Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP). The DoE’s Director of International Relations, Mr Makgabo Tsiri, facilitated this visit.

Eskom provided ERA with a high-level overview of Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd. In addition, the Eskom team, led by Mr Thava Govender, Group Executive for Transmission and Sustainability, discussed power demand–supply balance, demand side and efficiency measures and loss destruction measures. Ms Mandisa Mzondeki, Eskom’s Regional Interface Manager, Southern Africa, helped to facilitate this portion of the tour.

ERA was able to witness the work of two independent power producers. Mr Rafikh Ismail, Managing Director of Scatec Solar, gave an extensive presentation on a solar project that the company had formulated for Uganda. Through Scatec’s presentation, ERA was able to ask pertinent questions about the implementation and the challenges that faced Project Uganda.

BioTherm Energy provided an overview of the renewable energy and Greenfields development projects. The BioTherm Energy team was led by Chief Executive Officer Jasandra Nyker and Technical Director Ludwig van Aarde and discussions covered construction, operation and project financing for renewable energy.

NERSA’s Dr Bianca Belinska, the Head of Department (HoD) for Electricity Infrastructure and Planning, covered the Energy Efficiency and Demand Side Management Programme as well as incentive tools for regulating renewable energy.

Mr Charles Hlebela, the HoD: Communication and Stakeholder Management, and Mr Peter Buys, a Customer Education Officer, elaborated on service provider engagement, which covered communication, consultation and development of customer voice, especially that of communities as end users.
Mr Dennis Seemela, the HoD of Electricity Licensing, Compliance and Dispute Resolution, covered the licensing process, including the licensing of IPPs, terms and conditions of licences, as well as standards on occupational health and safety and environmental protection. Lastly, Mr Seemela elaborated on standard operating procedures on compliance, monitoring and enforcement (including audit processes), as well as quality of supply and service.

The Petroleum Pipelines Tariffs Department spoke on the tariff setting process and methodology. MERA received an in-depth presentation on the legal case management system through Mr David Mashiane, Legal Advisor, and Ms Nomalanga Sithole, Executive Manager of Corporate Services.

Ms Thandeka Jamba, the HoD of Information Resource Management, facilitated the first day. Her team presented on knowledge management, regulatory reporting, licensee management and complaints management systems.

NERSA’s Electricity Pricing and Tariffs Department engaged with MERA in a discussion on the financing model for tariffs and pricing. Through the HoD, Mr Brian Sechotho, MERA also learnt about the tariff setting process, tariff methodologies (Multi-Year Price Determination and municipal tariffs) and the future tariff outlook.

NERSA’s International Cooperation and Partnerships Department would like to extend a special word of thanks to the stakeholders, as well as NERSA staff, for their assistance in successfully hosting these foreign delegations.
With the aim to improve the lives of people as envisaged in the global Mandela Day celebrations, NERSA visited the Khayelithle Old Age Home in Soshanguve north of Pretoria on 17 July 2015. Khayelithle is home to 55 permanent residents, with an additional group of 15 elderly women also being cared for.

Mandela Day is celebrated worldwide every year on 18 July to honour former President Nelson Mandela’s birthday by contributing 67 minutes towards a positive initiative.

As our acting CEO Mr Paseka Nku said: ‘We at NERSA believe that any day can be Mandela Day and we are here today to spend 67 minutes with the people of Khayelithle to show you that we care and to give you our support.’

Earlier in July, a call was made for NERSA staff to contribute blankets, clothes and non-perishable foodstuffs for donation to the home. On the day, the delegation provided snack platters, juice and food parcels to the elderly inhabitants.

‘It is my honour and pleasure to present you with our donations and food parcels – we hope that these contributions will make a difference in your lives,’ Mr Nku said.

He reminded all those present that Mandela Day started in 2009, inspired by a call Madiba made in 2008 for the next generation to take on the burden of leadership in addressing the world’s social injustices.

Madiba said:

The world remains beset by so much human suffering, poverty and deprivation. It is in your hands... to make of our world... a better one for all.

Mr Nku said he felt privileged to be part of the NERSA delegation that could celebrate Mandela Day with the residents of Khayelithle.

It always seems impossible until it’s done.
Acting NERSA CEO Mr Paseka Nku presenting gifts, Mr Charles Hlebela and Khayelithle Manager Mrs Twala

NERSA staff with the elderly at Khayelithle Old Age Home

Khayelithle elderly group photo

Some of the gifts for the elderly to keep them warm

NERSA staff
Heritage Day

NERSA celebrates Heritage Day 2015

In the words of former President Nelson Mandela on Heritage Day, 1996:

When our first democratically-elected government decided to make Heritage Day one of our national days, we did so because we knew that our rich and varied cultural heritage has a profound power to help build our new nation.

At NERSA, staff celebrated the day by wearing traditional clothes on Wednesday, 23 September 2015.

On the official South African Government website, Heritage Day, celebrated on 24 September each year, is described as a recognition and celebration of the cultural wealth of our nation:

‘South Africans celebrate the day by remembering the cultural heritage of the many cultures that make up the population of South Africa... Living heritage plays an important role in promoting cultural diversity, social cohesion, reconciliation, peace and economic development.’

Across these pages, NERSA staff members express our diverse cultures in a kaleidoscope of images.
Great Fun at the Office!

Learning about each other’s Heritage

Heritage Day
Women’s Day Celebration

Like many organisations across the country, NERSA celebrated Women’s Day on Thursday, 06 August – although the actual date for the celebration is 09 August, when 20 000 women marched on the Union Buildings in 1956 in protest of the pass laws.

Acting CEO, Mr Paseka Nku, labelled their march ‘an inspiring display of political strength, female solidarity and inner fortitude’. He said NERSA would celebrate ‘the achievements of the women of South Africa and the tenacious spirits of the fearless females who continue to advocate for change, defy norms and stand up for what they believe.’

Listing numerous women in South Africa who have already achieved high office, including in global positions like the African Union (AU) and United Nations (UN), he noted that South Africa ranked 11th out of 138 countries on the Women in Politics 2015 map, a measure launched by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and UN Women.

In addition to women occupying leadership positions in the energy industry, he was also proud of NERSA’s achievement, as shown by three female Regulator Members, including the Deputy Chairperson. NERSA also has 53% females in permanent positions, of which 39% are holding management positions.

NERSA’s job-shadowing programme, which exposes female learners from grades 8 to 12 to different careers in the energy industry, now has an intake of ten learners, a significant increase from the five learners in the 2013/14 financial year. Many of these learners come from previously disadvantaged communities. NERSA presents this programme in partnership with Uweso Consulting and the Department of Women, Children and People Living with Disabilities.

Currently, 50% of the interns in NERSA’s internship and learnership programme are female, as are 30% of the learners. “We hope our achievements at NERSA become an example for our sector both in South Africa and abroad,” Mr Nku said.

As long as outmoded ways of thinking prevent women from making a meaningful contribution to society, progress will be slow.

As long as the nation refuses to acknowledge the equal role of more than half of itself, it is doomed to failure.

- Nelson Mandela, from his autobiography: A Long Walk to Freedom
Health and Safety Training

Most employees in the workplace have some degree of awareness of occupational health and safety. However, this knowledge can be deepened to the benefit of all.

This prompted the National Energy Regulator to call in the services of Mr Matthew M Ncube, a renowned international specialist in Occupational Safety, Health, Public Health, Environmental Management and Quality Management. During September, Mr Ncube facilitated training over two days for NERSA executives, heads of departments, managers and representatives of NEHAWU.

Some of the key objectives were to raise awareness on the benefits of occupational safety and health management systems and programmes to improve the working conditions at NERSA, and to highlight the legal obligations and requirements for NERSA and all levels of management within the organisation.

The training also provided knowledge on the effects of occupational illnesses, injuries and diseases, and demonstrated the importance of the monitoring of and proactive responsiveness to any conditions or illnesses that may arise due to occupational hazards and risks in the workplace.

Back the Boks

Rugby World Cup 2015 - “Back the Boks” campaign

As part of Government’s campaign to unite South Africans behind the country’s national sporting teams, NERSA staff kept the South African flag flying high every Friday throughout the 2015 Rugby World Cup.

Acting CEO Mr Paseka Nku said NERSA supported the appeal by the Minister of Sport and Recreation, Mr Fikile Mbalula, for corporate South Africa to throw their weight behind the Springboks’ Rugby World Cup campaign by wearing their Springbok jerseys on BokFridays.

The 2015 Rugby World Cup took place in England from 18 September to 31 October 2015.

‘Let’s turn the country green and gold! Go Bokke!’

NERSA staff supporting Springboks during the Bok Fridays

NERSA acting CEO and staff attending Health and Safety Training
### Schedule of Energy Regulator and Subcommittee meetings for the period October to December 2015

The Energy Regulator envisages the following schedule for the 3rd quarter of 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Meeting</th>
<th>Date of Meeting</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>OCTOBER 2015</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Hearing</td>
<td>1 Oct 2015</td>
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| Executive Committee           | Monday, 12 Oct 2015 09:00 – 12:00 | • 2nd Quarter Management Accounts  
                                 |                              |   • 2nd Quarter Performance Report  
                                 |                              |   • Other Reports               |
| Regulator Executive Committee | Monday, 12 Oct 2015 13:00 – 15:00 | • 2nd Quarter Performance Report  
                                 |                              |   • Mid-term Review Report       
                                 |                              |   • Reports/Governance/Delegated matters |
| Human Resources and Remuneration Committee | Tuesday, 13 Oct 2015 09:00 – 12:00 | • 2nd Quarter Management Accounts  
                                 |                              |   • 2nd Quarter Performance Report  
                                 |                              |   • Reports/Governance/Delegated matters |
| Piped-Gas Subcommittee        | Tuesday, 13 Oct 2015 13:00 – 15:00 | • Reports/Governance/Delegated matters |
| Electricity Subcommittee      | Wednesday, 14 Oct 2015 09:00 – 12:00 | • Reports/Governance/Delegated matters |
| Petroleum Pipelines Subcommittee | Wednesday, 14 Oct 2015 13:00 – 15:00 | • Reports/Governance/Delegated matters |
| Finance Committee             | Wednesday, 21 Oct 2015 09:00 – 12:00 | • 2nd Quarter Management Accounts  
                                 |                              |   • Other Reports               |
| Audit and Risk Committee      | Thursday, 22 Oct 2015 09:00 – 12:00 | • 2nd Quarter Management Accounts  
                                 |                              |   • 2nd Quarter Performance Report  
                                 |                              |   • Other Reports               |
| Regulator Executive Committee | Monday, 26 Oct 2015 09:00 – 11:00 | • 2nd Quarter Performance Report  
                                 |                              |   • Mid-term Review Report       
                                 |                              |   • Reports/Governance/Delegated matters |
| Energy Regulator              | Thursday, 29 Oct 2015 09:00 – 13:00 | • 2nd Quarter Management Accounts  
                                 |                              |   • 2nd Quarter Performance Report  
                                 |                              |   • Mid-term Review Report       
                                 |                              |   • Subcommittee Reports        |
| **NOVEMBER 2015**             |                 |                                                                         |
| Executive Committee           | Wednesday, 4 Nov 2015 10:00 – 14:00 | • Reports/Governance/Delegated matters |
| Public Hearing                | Thursday, 5 Nov 2015 |                                                                         |
| Regulator Executive Committee | Monday, 9 Nov 2015 09:00 – 11:00 | • Second Draft of the NERSA Annual Performance plan (2013/14 – 2015/16) (if necessary)  
                                 |                              |   • Reports/Governance/Delegated matters |
| Electricity Subcommittee      | Tuesday, 17 Nov 2015 09:00 – 12:00 | • Reports/Governance/Delegated matters |
| Petroleum Pipelines Subcommittee | Tuesday, 17 Nov 2015 13:00 – 15:00 | • Reports/Governance/Delegated matters |
| Piped-Gas Subcommittee        | Wednesday, 18 Nov 2015 09:00 – 12:00 | • Reports/Governance/Delegated matters |
| Finance Bid Adjudication Committee | Wednesday, 18 Nov 2015 13:00 – 15:00 |                                                                         |
| Regulator Executive Committee | Monday, 23 Nov 2015 09:00 – 11:00 | • Reports/Governance/Delegated matters |
| Energy Regulator              | Thursday, 26 Nov 2015 09:00 – 13:00 | • 2nd Draft of the NERSA Annual Performance Plan (2015/15-2016/17)  
                                 |                              |   • Subcommittee Reports        |
| **DECEMBER 2015**             |                 |                                                                         |
| Electricity Subcommittee      | Tue, 1 Dec 2015 09:00 – 11:00 | • Urgent Matters |
| Petroleum Pipelines Subcommittee | Tue, 1 Dec 2015 11:30 – 13:30 | • Urgent Matters |
| Piped-Gas Subcommittee        | Wed, 2 Dec 2015 09:00 – 11:00 | • Urgent Matters |
| Public Hearing                | Thursday, 3 Dec 2015 |                                                                         |
| Regulator Executive Committee | Monday, 7 Dec 2015 09:00 – 11:00 | • Reports/Governance/Delegated matters |
| Executive Committee           | Tue, 8 Dec 2015 10:00 – 14:00 | • Reports/Delegated matters |
| Energy Regulator              | Thursday, 10 Dec 2015 09:00 – 11:00 | • Urgent Matters |
| Regulator Executive Committee | Monday, 14 Dec 2015 09:00 – 11:00 | • Urgent Matters |

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