

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY QUESTION 1185

Dr S M van Dyk (DA) to ask the Minister of Energy:

With reference to the 49m electricity savings initiative that is aimed at registered electricity consumers, what measures will Eskom implement to clamp-down on illegal electricity consumers and bring about further electricity savings? NW1320E

REPLY

With regard to curbing illegal electricity use, Eskom launched an Energy Losses Management Programme (ELM), which is in line with NERSA regulations. Currently, Eskom complies with NERSA's requirements and aim to significantly reduce energy losses. The ELM programme has various aspects:-

- a) Monitoring of installed meters for tampering, assessing levels of leakage and where these are found, fixing the problem;
- b) Installation of tamper proof technology (e.g. secure enclosures with prepaid meters inside);
- c) Rolling out a public awareness campaign called Operation Khanyisa which is aimed at behavioural change in the following areas: creating a culture of legal electricity use, improving on communities' reporting on illegal connections; reduction of theft of infrastructure; educating the public on energy efficiency; and educating the public on safety awareness. The campaign is a joint effort between Eskom, various arms of government, formal business and affected communities; and
- d) Efforts of strengthening the legal framework to assist in the prosecution of electricity theft.

