



MINISTRY OF ENERGY

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

National Assembly: 118

Ms B D Ferguson (Cope) to ask the Minister of Energy:

- 1) Whether his department can clearly identify and determine that electricity consumption has fallen since the load-shedding crisis of 2008; if not, why not; if so, what are the normal national levels of electricity consumption against periodic demand consumption;
- 2) Whether electricity consumption has been constrained due to steps taken by Eskom to stabilise its system; if so, what are the relevant details? NW123E

Reply

- 1) Since 2008, electricity consumption has decreased. Table 1 below sets out the electricity consumption in Gigawatt hours (Gwh) per annum and the percentage growth for the period 2008 to 2013 based on Eskom's financial year ending 31 March of each year. In addition it should be noted that demand is seasonal in that there is higher demand during winter season than the summer season, and demand tends to drop during holidays, such as the Easter Holidays.

Table 1: Electricity Consumption in Sales (Gwh) per annum

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Sales in GWh	216 561	224 785	224 446	218 591	214 850	224 366
Percentage Growth	(3.7)	0.2	2.7	1.7	(4.2)	2.8

- 2) The reduction in electricity consumption is as a result of various factors such as change in the economy and commodity prices. In general, Eskom meets all electricity demand, through its own supply; supply purchased from private power producers; demand reduction interventions; and specific demand reduction protocols.

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