



**DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC ENTERPRISES
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY
QUESTION NO.: PQ 3412**

QUESTION

3412. Dr W J Boshoff (FF Plus) to ask the Minister of Public Enterprises:

(1) Whether he can give a full description of how loadshedding tables are compiled, as several examples have been observed where different areas have load shedding of different duration of times at the same level;

(2) what are the reasons that it repeatedly appears that Soweto has less loadshedding on the same levels?

NW4214

REPLY

According to the Information received from Eskom

1. Loadshedding is implemented nationally when Eskom does not have sufficient capacity to meet the demand for the entire country. All municipalities are supposed to implement loadshedding as stipulated in the NRS048-9 specifications which NERSA has accepted as a licence requirement. Out of approximately 220 municipalities, only 20 implement loadshedding from their side, the rest are loadshed by Eskom. The metropolitan municipalities largely comply with the schedule, except for the City of Ekurhuleni as it does not have a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system that would enable the municipality to remotely implement loadshedding. Therefore, the City of Ekurhuleni implements loadshedding over a period of three hours as opposed to two hours. The extra hour is used for manually switching customers back on after loadshedding and this is a resource-intensive exercise.

The loadshedding breakdown is as follows:

- In Stages 1, 2 and 3, customers are loadshed for two (2) hours once in 32 hours
 - In Stage 4, customers are loadshed for two (2) hours four times in 32 hours
 - In Stage 5, customers are loadshed four (4) hours once in 32 hours, and for two hours three times within the same period (32 hours)
 - In Stage 6, customers are loadshed for four (4) hours twice in 32 hours, and two hours twice within the same period (32 hours)
 - In Stage 7 and 8 follow a similar pattern. however, these. have not been resorted to up to now.
2. The same principle explained above is applied in Soweto for loadshedding, Eskom is not aware of any deviation from the schedule. However, at times, Eskom does experience technical challenges whereby Eskom is unable to open or close breakers and this affects the duration of loadshedding, and this is not only limited to Soweto.