

## Light at the end of the tunnel?

The Department of Environmental Affairs has cleared the way for the immediate construction of a 900MW power plant on the KwaZulu Natal coast. The project involves assembling six gas turbine generators on a sugarcane farm outside Shakaskraal. This plant is intended to serve as a back-up source of power at peak times.

We certainly appreciate these short term energy-saving proposals, but long term plans should be given priority. According to the minerals and energy minister, Buyelwa Sonjica, 4 000MW needs to be saved daily for the next four weeks. This 900MW power station may sound like an insignificant amount of electricity, but it will contribute more than 2% to Eskom's total generation capacity. But most importantly, when we are stuck with no power, 900MW is going to make a difference.

If you still unhappy with the current electricity crisis, sue Eskom. According to DA Public Enterprise spokesperson, Manie van Dyk, Section 12 of the Electricity Act states that any consumer may institute a claim for damages against a license holder if such license holder neglected to fulfil its obligations as set out in the license.

Good luck and remember to "Go to sleep earlier so that you can grow and be cleverer."

Regards

[Jabulile](#)

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