



MINUTES OF NON TECHNICAL LOSSES REDUCTION WORKING GROUP

Date: 14 March 2011

Venue: The Westin Grand Hotel, Cape Town, South Africa

1) Attendance:

1.1) Present

Name	Call Name	Company
Macvittie	Chiphwanya	ESCOM – (Convenor)
Leonard	Chisina	Zesa (Deputy Convenor)
Kenneth	Chege	KPLC (secretary)
Francis	Maze	TANESCO
Sandile	Maphumulo	Ethekwini (Durban South Africa)
Harold	Hayes	Landis+Gyr (Metering)

1.2) Apologies

Name	Call Name	Company
Claudia	Coetzer	Integrity Control Systems (meter seals)
Lawrence	Juku	Landis+Gyr (Metering)
Tony	Coetzer	Integrity Control Systems (meter seals)
Rens	Bindeman	SARPA

1.3) Absent

Name	Call Name	Company
Edison	Makwarela	ESKOM (DSP)
Ndambi	Ilunga	SNEL
Frederick	Kitandwe	UMEME
Christopher	Mubemba	Zesco
MZ	Seitheko	LEC

2 Opening Remarks

The Convenor welcomed everyone to the workgroup meeting. He however requested the Deputy Convenor to chair. It was noted that there is need that the Secretariat have a bigger role in the workgroups, for example a role in the circulation of the minutes of the meetings.

3 Apologies

- Apologies were reported as on recorded as above.
- It was agreed that those members who do not send apologies be recorded as absent. The convenor to attempt to encourage all members to attend. In case of apologies, members should be encouraged to send their reports

4 Adoption of Agenda

The meeting adopted the agenda as presented.

5 Review of previous minutes

Minute no 8-what was reported from bullet three under TANESCO actually refers to ESCOM except bullet 5 and 7 that refers to KPLC.

The minutes were adopted with minor corrections.

6 Matters arising

Matters arising from the previous minutes were: -

- 6.1)** Feedback was a main point of the Agenda
- 6.2)** Rens was not there in the meeting. It was resolved that on the issue of sealing, Rens can give the Generic policy that could be adapted to suit the utility needs, on email. This can then be discussed on email and finalised at the Malawi meeting in Aug 2011
- 6.3)** This was also under agenda 6. The utilities were asked to give the data to the secretary.
- 6.4)** Members wanted to know more the qualifications of the trainers at Kafue Gorge, and the necessary requirements for certification and accreditation. Rens is to provide this information.
- 6.5)** The meeting was reminded that the achievable goal for the WG is to come up with a well documented procedure to be able to quantify network losses into technical and non technical. Members agreed to proceed with the implementation of the achievable Goal by appointing Sandile to do a draft procedure.
- 6.6)** It was noted that the official letter to request that the PIESA Loss Reduction Workgroup become a member of SARPA (South African Revenue Protection Association) was still outstanding. It was agreed that the convenor will facilitate this.

7 Prepayment Metering Training Project

- It was reported that the training was a success
- It was reported that KPLC, ESCOM, ZESCO, UMEME, LEC and some AMEU members attended.
- A CD was produced which will be distributed to all utilities
- It was noted that more topics could have been included.

8 Demand Side Management

- The members agreed that we need to know the impact of CFLs on the harmonics . this was assigned to TANESCO and the Convenor.
- The meeting noted on that there was need explore the best way to dispose the changed bulbs. KPLC was asked to give their experience.
- A common way to dispose of the CFLs is also needed, and the members resolved to have the environment group guide on the best practice.

9 Review of Board Report

- The Board was informed on training
- The board was given a proposal on the training program that is on Revenue recovery and protection and on demand side management, that is to come up with a best practice on DSM so that the member utilities not to make similar mistakes.
- The feedback was not yet gotten while we needed to make cost estimates
- Procedures to quantify the non technical losses are required.
- The penalties of fraud should be enhanced
- The Board directed the WG to take lead in the Smart Metering and DSM. The WG to collect information and advise the Board on the current scenario in the region on Smart metering.
- In view of the Boards Direction the meeting agreed that a template will be circulated to all members to provide information on the status of Smart Metering in their utilities.

10 Reports from utilities

TANESCO

- The DSM, specifically the retrofitting of CFLs is at its infant stage.
- Smart metering was first planned for large power Customers. Now it is including medium power users. Modifications are done by shifting the metering to locable cubicles. For the HTs, the meters are smart and are fixed high up on the poles. This includes the CTs and VTs.
- The normal usage customers are using 20-100 amp smart meters on GPRS.
- There are 8000 meters for tariff 1(T1) and fewer for T2 and T3. These meters are also on poles.
- They wish to go to prepaid smart meters, and split meters.

ESCOM

- Using concentric cables as service lines to the meter to minimise by pass.
- The service line has to be visible in its entire length.
- They are to re seal all meters with serialised seals from May 2011

- They wish to roll out prepaid meters
- On DSM, they are still on the @M CFLS that are being retrofitted.

KPLC

- They are on AMR but not on Smart metering, for large power customers.
- Doing ring fencing at the transformer level, where the units dispatched from a transformer is compared with the billed units, and when a discrepancy is noted, a thorough combing is done until the results become satisfactory.
- The split prepayment meters are now being rolled out, with the first 100,000 to be installed by June 2011, after successful pilot of 25,000 meters having been implemented.

ZESA

- Doing a pilot project of CFLs on 3 feeders. They first got the consumption before the CFLs were done and will therefore monitor consumption to see the effect. This involves about 400 customers
- Conflicting ideas necessitated a consultant. They have done a request for information, and were about to get a final report at the end of march

11 Malawi Conference

- It was noted that the other meeting will be held in Malawi together with the AGM and TIS Workshop. It was noted that the WG was supposed to present a paper on its activities. It was resolved that the Convenor take care of that.
- It was further agreed that a paper on SMART Metering technology be prepared and presented on behalf of the WG. Harold Hayes was requested to lead in the paper preparation. The Convenor encouraged members to consider submitting papers for the Conference

12 Action Plan

- It was agreed that the revised action plan be circulated together with the minutes and if there are no corrections be submitted to the Secretariat.

13 AOB

- It was felt that welfare of the WG members during conferences and meetings must be adequately considered for example transport from the airport etc. The secretariat to be requested to look into this.

14 Next meeting

To be held in Malawi in August 2011

15 Closure

The Deputy Convener thanked everyone for their participation and closed the meeting.