SAIPPA Positions on Key Issues

National Energy Regulator – The Energy Regulatory Bill being considered at the moment provides for the regulator to be reporting to the department of energy. Saippa would prefer the regulator to be an independent regulator reporting to parliament.

Approval of Generation Licenses – The regulator will normally approve new generation that is added onto old plants but when generation is not associated with old plants the application has to be approved by the minister in terms of regulations which is considerably slowing down the licencing process. Saippa would prefer a streamlining of the licencing processes and if ministerial approval is required this should be included in legislation rather than regulation.

Base-load Procurement – Noting that the implementation of the IRP2010 is being eclipsed by deterioration in the actual generation capacity of Eskom and new gas discoveries, Saippa is in favour of a re-evaluation of both the IRP2010 and of the total process to licence and procure new generation.