



### Eskom Grid Access Unit for IPPs and Generators

**Overview of the Eskom grid connection process** 

Presentation to the SAIPPA Workshop 30 November 2011

Wolfgang Böhmer Eskom

bohmerw@eskom.co.za

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# 1. The current situation: generation capacity in the country and future demand





- According to the IRP (2) Policy Adjusted, forecasted peak demand will grow from 38.9 to 67.8GW (average about 2.8% p.a.) by 2030
- Of the total 42.3GW existing fleet in 2010, Eskom's capacity is 40.6GW (about 95%)
- 89.5GW of generating capacity is required by 2030, mostly from renewables
- Ministerial determination will determine the allocation between Eskom and IPPs (ambition of 30% of total generating capacity in 2030 from IPPs).

## 2. The current situation and Eskom's role



- Eskom is currently dealing with 387 active applications for connections from IPPs, representing 34GW (November 2011)
- Since 2010, Eskom has connected 295MW of IPPs, generating about 180GWh per month
- As an example, the current RE IPP procurement program of the DoE/NT, targets 3,725MW of renewable energy, over 5 phases
  - 53 bid submissions were received for phase 1
  - of which about 1,000MW is for each of wind and PV
- Other commercial options for IPPs include wheeling, co-generation, self-generation, etc
- The ring-fenced System and Market Operator has been set up in Eskom, with focus on:
  - Energy Planning,
  - Single Buyer Office to facilitate procurement,
  - · Feasibility Unit, and
  - the Market Administrator.
- Many IPPs have indicated that there needs to be a holistic approach from Eskom, and a single point of contact (accountability) to manage the service relationship with them.
- Eskom policies and processes are not well co-ordinated.
- There are various financial and technical risks, between Eskom, IPPs and other generators, that need to be defined and managed.
- For Eskom this means that the service relationships to these IPPs needs to be improved, to support long term affiliations that support the same objectives.

## 3. The need to establish the Eskom Grid Access Unit IPPs and generators

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#### Mandate of the Grid Access Unit

- Organisation and set up of a new Unit that serves as point of contact/entry for IPPs and services IPP customer needs
- Set up a Unit with sufficient autonomy (relative to load customers) to guarantee non discriminatory grid access for IPPs and generators
- **Create transparency** on pricing policy, network contracts, and operating agreements
- Develop optimised IPP connection processes (incl self-build)
- Define operations processes for IPPs and generators incl. dispatch and balancing rules for the future after the IPPs have been connected

#### Aspiration

Establish **clear accountability** for IPPs and generators within Eskom

Achieve a **fundamentally improved image** of the way IPPs view the South African electricity market

Non-discriminatory grid access to enable IPPs >30% of overall generation capacity by 2030

**Effective organization** with excellence in IPP connection and operations processes

## (cont) End-to-end process vs Grid Access Unit role

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- Enabling and facilitating generators and IPP grid access, and making commercial options more viable requires service relationship, stakeholder and interface management, communication
- Management and integration of the development of relevant and appropriate standards, processes, frameworks
- Possibility of various connection, grid access and commercial options
- IPP pricing frameworks (costing of connection, network strengthening, and costs to "wheel")
- Technical capability for integration of the IPP generators
- Process and system capability, and facilitation thereof, to enable grid access
- Quotation and Contracting capability and management
- Sufficient data and information, to effectively facilitate, enable, plan and support
- Requirement for long-term viability, while dealing with current challenges

## 4. Grid Connection Process for Generators including IPPs

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# (cont) Grid Connection Process for Generators including IPPs











- Eskom welcomes IPPs in the electricity supply industry and is committed to facilitate efficient and non-discriminatory access to its networks, and facilitating PPAs where appropriate.
- This supports the DoE endeavours to establish new (including independent) power generation, as well as renewable and co-generation capacity.
- Benefits that IPPs can bring include the following, and which Eskom supports:
  - Generators are distributed on the network reduced network losses
  - Contribution to supply/demand balancing, reserves and ancillary services.
- Eskom is committed to facilitate the entry of IPPs and will collaborate with the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) to ensure this happens.