61st AMEU Convention

Summary of 2008 Convention Proceedings

Peter Fowles
29 October 2008
Affiliates Sports Day

• Golf, Bowls and a hike
• Much fun
• Sports prize giving and dinner at Numbers Night Club
• Many thanks to Affiliates
Opening Session

- Scene set by Kusile Youth Dance Theatre
- Warm welcome by Mayor, Honorable N C Peter
  - Spell out crisis in layman's terms and provide guidance to municipalities
- Minister Ms B Sonjica - keynote address
  - Many weaknesses in EDI that need attention
  - South Africans no longer believe we have an energy crisis so mandatory rationing
  - Bulk of measures to be funded by consumer
Opening Session

• 22nd Technical Meeting 2008 – invitation from George Ferreira on behalf of NMBM
• Honorary membership conferred on Vally Padayachee
• Affiliates Merit Award to Max Clarke
Opening Session

• Sandile Maphumulo
  – Valedictory address highlighting some challenging and important issues being addressed by the AMEU

• Induction of incoming President, Sy Gourrah
1\textsuperscript{st} Session – Day 1

• Phindile Nzimandi – Restructuring of the EDI
  – Industry stabilisation through ADAM
  – Minister promised change of Constitution
  – Analysis of stakeholder concerns available Friday

• Erica Johnson - Energy security in a resource constrained world
  – Need to understand the hard realities – few months ago it was coal now money
  – Mandatory reductions in consumption
2nd Session – Day 1

• Vashna Singh – Maximising the potential of energy efficiency and DMS interventions
  – Potential for EEDSM savings in RSA
  – Shift in focus from load management to EE

• Allyson Lawless - Numbers and needs in Local Government
  – Things we need to do to rebuild skills base
  – 1/10th numbers of CE cf with 1989
  – Trying to do the impossible
  – ‘We meet any new challenge by reorganising...”
Final Session – Day 1

• Lesley Ferrando – Regulation in the energy crisis
  – NERSA under resourced
  – Extensive workshops on PCP rules planned

• Herlita Bobadilla Robles – a Swedish electricity distribution tariff
  – New tool for regulation in 2004
  – Aim to make profit for owners and allow for future investment
  – Two part tariff [Fuse tariff] for LV customers
Final Session – continued

• Cllr Johnson – Skills shortages in the electricity industry
  – Generation, energy efficiency, Reds and scarcity of skills
  – SALGA to be vehicle to represent interests of LG
  – `2 hectares of land + 4 cows’ incentive

• Claudia Coetzer – Financial impact of electricity losses and emerging best practice
  – Survey – widespread problem
  – Need strong leadership and focus in management
  – Invest in a sealing process of unique seals
Social Activities – Day 1

• Ladies treated to a most enjoyable day at Buffalo Park Cricket Stadium – thanks to Aberdare Cables
  – Fashion Show
  – Entertained [belly dancers and Elvis]

• Well attended Civic Reception at the City Hall hosted by the Buffalo City Council
  – Dance troupe
1st Session – Day 2

A GLOBAL VIEW ON THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CHALLENGE

• Vally Padayachee – implementing power rationing in a sensible manner
  – Power crises affect the economic and social fabric of community, region or nation
  – Japan avoided load shedding through high consumer awareness

• At van der Merwe – regulatory imperatives to stimulate competition and market entry
  – Not easy for IPPs to enter into agreements with Eskom [playing fields not level]
  – Non-discriminatory market entry rules

The Association of Municipal Electricity Undertakings (Southern Africa)
2nd Session – Day 2

COGENERATION

• Mobolaji Bello - a methodology used for evaluation of Cogeneration applications
  – EG presents Eskom with huge technical, planning and HR challenges
  – Fundamental system studies guideline [NRS097]

• Sizwe Mabanga – The virtual power station
  – Very effective mechanism for peak shifting
  – Suggest munics establish VPS programs
3rd Session – Day 2

ASSET MANAGEMENT

• Deon Vrey – infrastructure development planning key to asset management
  – highlighted current realities [budgets, procurement, skills and theft]
  – need to assess spatial development framework for geographical load forecast

• Silas Zimu – the City Power experience
  – formation of City Power from 9 EDs since 1997
  – shortcomings of the MFMA
  – tensions when merging organisations
3rd Session [cont] – Day 2

ASSET MANAGEMENT

- PM Tlabela – Tshwane experience
  - theft having significant impact on ability to undertake planned maintenance
  - mainly a fire fighting maintenance focus
- Martin Cameron – Eskom infrastructure investment options
  - drive to improve reliability of networks
  - need to understand relationship between performance and cost
  - operating environment critical when analyzing network performance
Final Session – Day 2

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

• Ian McKechnie – Engineering skills – key to effective service delivery
  – Chronic skills shortage [collapse of artisan training]
  – Encouraging realisation of problem by Government
  – Holistic solution a key requirement

• Sanjian Malapermal – Skills development through e-learning
  – Network planning skills base strained
  – Modular training framework in 12 learning areas
  – Network Master Planning course to be piloted with AMEU members
Final Session – Day 2

SAFETY BRIEFINGS

• Roley McIntyre – Eskom
  – operating error while replacing a pole mounted transformer

• John Silweya – CEC
  – Result of investigations into SF6 circuit breaker failures

• Stephen Delport – Ekurhuleni Metro
  – Electrical incident while working on a 6.6kV cable

• Barry Gass – Alstom Electrical
  – A substation fatality
Social Activities – Day 2

• Ladies had an early start to their day at Inkwenkwezi Private Game Reserve – thanks to CBI Electric
  – Traditional dancers and game viewing – one lioness not impressed
  – Elephant interaction session!!!
  – Annatjie

• Gala Dinner at the BKB Building
  – Masked Ball
1st Session – Day 3

NON TECHNICAL LOSSES

• Rolf Niemand – Revenue protection in Emnambithi / Ladysmith Municipality
  – Development of structured process of meter sweeping – includes data clean up
  – Importance of customer awareness and education
  – Challenges – supply chain, skills and legal

• Chris Yelland – the Energy Conservation Scheme (ECS) and associated punitive tariffs
  – Rules and regulations – set savings targets
  – Real challenge – huge economic impact
  – Call for consultation and communication
2\textsuperscript{nd} Session – Day 3

SMART METERING

• Henri Groenewald – Advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) for residential and commercial customers [NRS049]
  – Residential time-of-use tariffs
  – NRS049 – functional requirements of components
  – Challenges in implementation [specialised skills]

• Ian Robinson/Reinhard Dettmar – future strategies for the implementation of smart metering with ripple control
  – Implications of R.773 requirements for load control of water heaters and installation of smart meters
  – Ripple control a well-proven existing technology
  – Hybrid solution proposed
ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND DSM

• Viv Cohen – DSM - does South Africa need a paradigm shift?
  – Maybe it is the time to look at things differently
  – Misconception that Eskom load profile is `relatively flat’
  – Benefits of load profile control using relays

• Dr Leon Kritzinger - Load shedding in the South African context
  – Diagnosis and treatment
  – Load control vs load shedding
  – Lesson of communication
Thank you

• Thank you to all the presenters
• Thank you to the Affiliates for the Sports Day, sponsorships and Exhibition
• Thanks to the AMEU Secretariat
• Thank you to the team from Buffalo City Electricity and all who have contributed to an enjoyable and very interesting Convention
61st AMEU Convention

Thank you

The Association of Municipal Electricity Undertakings (Southern Africa)