



MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND PUBLIC UTILITIES

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From: Senior Chief Executive, Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities

To: Supervising Officers in charge of Ministries

Contingency Measures in Response to the ongoing Middle East Conflict

The ongoing war in the Middle East has led to a significant escalation cost of petroleum products. Current international economic indicators suggest that the volatility in oil and freight prices is expected to persist.

2. As Mauritius relies on Heavy Fuel Oil (HFO) to meet more than 40% its total annual electricity needs, this is causing a significant increase in the cost for electricity generation. While the immediate threat of a disruption in HFO supply has been avoided, implementing energy conservation measures across all sectors is crucial in order to improve security of the country during this period of sustained global uncertainty and to mitigate the economic impact of these external shocks.

3. In this context, all public institutions need to adopt measures to ensure that energy is used judiciously without wastage. Each public institution is being called upon to set a target to achieve a marked reduction in their total electricity consumption with immediate effect. You will be required to submit your individual plan of action and electricity reduction target as well as your monthly electricity bills to the EEMO for purposes of monitoring.

4. To this end, you are hereby requested to:

- ensure the regular servicing of all air conditioners and chillers, as lack of regular maintenance can increase electricity consumption on average by 20% to 30%;
- strictly implement energy-saving practices by setting office temperatures between 24°C and 26°C;
- ensure all doors and windows remain closed while air conditioners are in use to prevent the loss of conditioned air;
- encourage staff to use the stairs instead of the lift for traveling up or down one or two floors;
- replace all remaining CFL or fluorescent tubes with high-efficiency LED lamps, which can use up to 20% less energy;
- ensure lights are switched off in unoccupied spaces such as boardrooms, kitchenettes, and storerooms; and
- ensure that all outdoor lighting is turned off when not needed.

Energy Saving measures are not limited to the above. You are encouraged to consider other measures that would enable your institution to attain its set target.

5. To support these efforts, the Energy Efficiency Management Office (EEMO) of this Ministry has developed specialised guidelines, procedures and an Excel-based Energy Management Tool for the monitoring of energy consumption in public institutions. This tool allows departments to:

- Input data directly from Central Electricity Board (CEB) bills;
- Determine specific Energy Performance Indicators; and
- Track progress toward the targeted reduction objective.

The guidelines, procedures and monitoring tool can be downloaded from the website of the EEMO at <https://eemo.govmu.org/> and were also circulated to your Ministry in 2022.

6. The successful attainment of this targeted electricity reduction goal is a shared responsibility that requires a conscious and sustained effort from every public officer. It is through collective efforts and the consistent application of these small yet impactful actions that the national electricity needs can be managed effectively and fiscal stability can be maintained during this period of global uncertainty.

7. For further support on energy-saving measures applicable in your respective departments, please feel free to contact the Energy Efficiency Management Office (EEMO) of this Ministry.

8. Supervising Officers are requested to bring the contents of this Circular Letter to the attention of all officers concerned and Heads of Parastatal/Statutory Bodies and Local Authorities falling under the aegis of their Ministry.



O. Sewtohul
for Senior Chief Executive

- Copy to: 1. Secretary to Cabinet and Head of the Civil Service
2. Secretary for Public Service