

ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT

GAPS IDENTIFIED IN USING LEGISLATION/POLICIES AND EXISTING BYLAWS IN FIGHTING

BYLAWS IN FIGHTING LOSS OF REVENUE



CONTENT

ETHEKWINI ELECTRICITY EXPERIENCE AND GAPS IDENTIFIED USING LEGISLATION/POLICIES AND EXISTING BYLAWS IN FIGHTING LOSS OF ELECTRICITY REVENUE, DUE ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS, TAMPERING AND DAMAGING ELECTRICAL SUPPLY INFRASTRUCUTRE.

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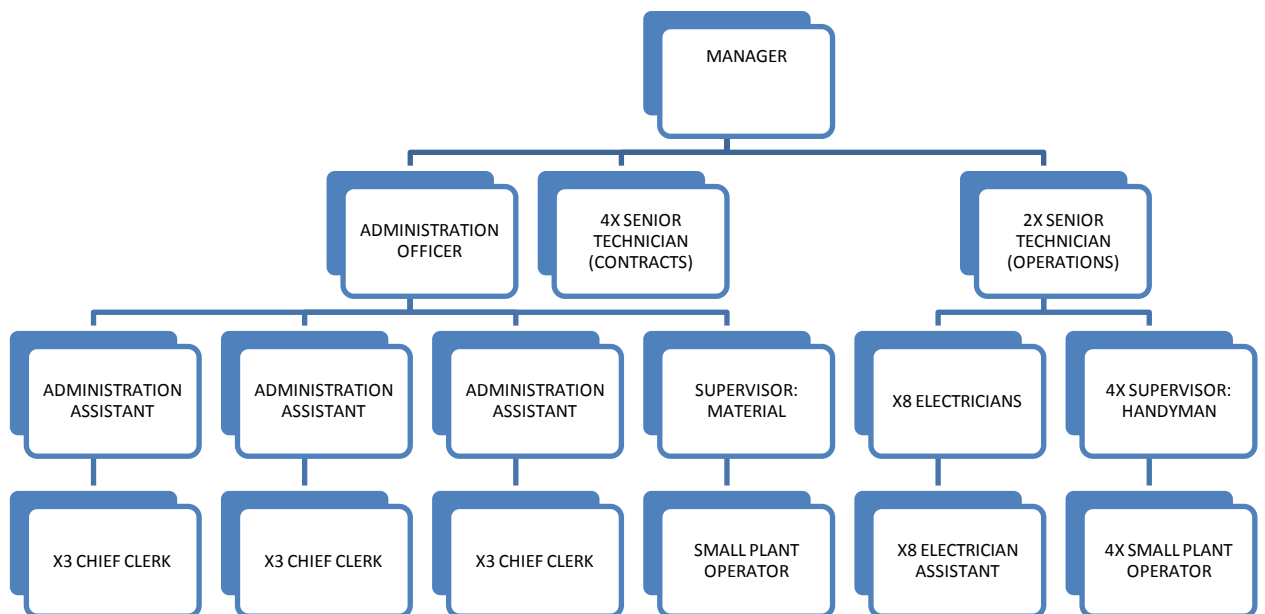
OUTLINE

- INTRODUCTION
- DIFFERENT TYPES OF ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS
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- REASONS FOR STEALING ELECTRICITY
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- ILLEGAL CONNECTION MITIGATION METHODS
- GAPS/CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED
- ETHEKWINI ELECTRICITY EXPERIENCE
- WAY FORWARD

INTRODUCTION

- ETHEKWINI ELECTRICITY SUPPLIES POWER TO OVER 662 000 CUSTOMERS (BUSINESS AND RESIDENTIAL)
- IN AN AREA COVERING NEARLY 2000 SQUARE KILOMETERS
- REVENUE PROTECTION DIVISION CONSIST OF 3 REGIONS, NAMELY CENTRAL, NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN

STRUCTURE OF REVENUE PROTECTION (EACH REGION)



DIFFERENT TYPES OF ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS

- UNMETERED ILLEGAL SUPPLY CONNECTED STRAIGHT TO THE STREET LIGHT POLE – LOW VOLTAGE DIRECT CONNECTED ON BARE CONDUCTORS
- BARE WIRES HANGING ON A LOW VOLTAGE POWER LINE CONNECTED ILLEGALLY BY ILLEGAL CONNECTORS
- TRENCHES DUG UP AND UNDERGROUND CABLE CUT OFF FORMING A T-JOINT STYLE ON THE GROUND TO OBTAIN ILLEGAL SUPPLY AND NEATLY COVERED, SO THAT IT CANNOT BE EASILY IDENTIFIED
- SUPPLY CABLE AND METER PREVIOUSLY REMOVED DUE TO NON PAYMENT AND NUMEROUS SELF-RECONNECTIONS – BUT RESTORE ILLEGALLY WITHOUT THE METER

OFFENDERS

- ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS
- INTERNAL EMPLOYEES
- CONSUMERS/COMMUNITIES

REASONS FOR STEALING ELECTRICITY

- BACKLOG IN APPLICATION FOR NEW ELECTRICITY CONNECTIONS
- AFFORDABILITY AND HIGH LEVEL OF UNEMPLOYMENT AT ETHEKWINI
- CULTURE OF NON PAYMENT FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES
- ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY POLICY –NOT TO RETICULATE INFORMAL SETTLEMENT WITH POOR ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE
- EXISTENCE OF INFORMAL SETTLEMENT DUE TO HOUSING BACKLOG
- ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WITHOUT PROPER DOCUMENTATION

IMPACT

- LOSS OF REVENUE
- SAFETY OF COMMUNITIES AND OFFENDERS
- TRANSFORMERS OVERLOADED AND BLOWN
- INCREASE IN NUMBER OF OUTAGES
- INCREASE IN TRANSFORMER MAINTENANCE COST
- SERVICE DELIVERY TO GOOD STANDING CONSUMERS AFFECTED

ILLEGAL CONNECTION MITIGATION METHODS

- EDUCATION TO COMMUNITIES VIA COMMUNITY LEADERS
- INVOLVE HOUSING DEPT FOR POSSIBLE RELOCATION OF INFORMAL SETTLEMENT DWELLERS
- FORMALISING AREAS FOR POSSIBLE INSTALLATION OF ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE
- ELECTRICAL CONFIGURATION – CHANGING UGM TO OHM
- IMPROVING SUBSIDY OF ELECTRICITY TO THE DESTITUDES
- REGULAR METER INSPECTIONS TO LIMIT LOSSES

GAPS/CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED

- LACK OF EDUCATION TO COMMUNITIES REGARDING CONSEQUENCES OF USING ELECTRICITY
- LAW ENFORCERS LACK OF UNDERSTANDING ON IMPACT OF STEALING ELECTRICITY
- OFFENDERS GET MINOR OR SUSPENDED SENTENCES
- LACK OF COMMITMENT FROM POLICE/PEACE OFFICERS
- NON RECOVERY OF LOST REVENUE FROM PROCEEDS OF CRIME
- OUTDATED BYLAWS, POLICIES AND LEGISLATIONS

WHAT HAVE WE DONE DIFFERENTLY?

- REVIEW ELECTRICAL BYLAWS
- ONGOING TRAINING OF IN-HOUSE PEACE OFFICERS
- 24 HOUR ILLEGAL CONNECTION REMOVALS
- ITRUMP MONTHLY OPERATIONS TO CLEAN THE CITY AND COLLECT OUTSTANDING REVENUE
- TURN BAD BUILDING TO BETTER BUILDING PROJECT
- MONTHLY INSPECTIONS OF ALL BUSINESSES FOR COMPLIANCE OF OUR BYLAWS
- ROUTINE RESIDENTIAL /BUSINESS METER SWEEP
- RETROFITING OF MORE SECURED CDUs TO PREVENT THEFT OF ELECTRICITY
- INTRODUCTION OF 80/20 PROJECT TO RECOVER OUTSTANDING DEBT
- ATTENDING FAULT COMPLAINS EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY
- REFERING ELECTRICITY THEFT CASES TO MUNICIPALITY COURT
- EFFECTIVE LY RAISNG BACKDATED CHARGES WHERE METER FOUND TAMPERED

ETHEKWINI ELECTRICITY EXPERIENCE

MAGISTRATE/HIGH COURT

- LESS KNOWLEDGE OF OUR BYLAWS
- DELAYS IN ELECTRICITY THEFT CASES
- FINES GO TO THE STATE
- LAW ENFORCER ARE DIVERSE
- GAPS IDENTIFIED IN THE SYSTEM- NOTHING DONE
- INCONSISTENCY-SORT PROBLEM NOW AND COMPLY LATER

MUNICIPALITY COURT

- FULL UNDERSTANDING OF OUR BYLAWS
- PRIORITY GIVEN – REVENUE COLLECTION
- FINES GO TO MUNICIPALITY
- LAW ENFORCERS SPECIALISES ON BYLAWS
- GAPS IDENTIFIED-FED BACK TO THE SYSTEM
- CONSISTENCY-SORT PROBLEM LATER, AND COMPLY NOW

WAY FORWARD

- SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IS SEEN IN REDUCING ELECTRICITY ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS
- NATIONAL LEGISLATION NEEDS REVIEW TO IMPOSE HARSHER SENTENCE TO OFFENDERS
- STEALING ELECTRICITY IS SUBOTAGING THE CONOMY OF OUR COUNTRY AND UNDERMINING EFFORTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DAY

THANK YOU

*****THE END*****

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS?

