

PRACTICE FOR ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION IN UNIVERSITY RESIDENCES

Approved by the Emergency Power Response Team on: 20.06.2023

1 Purpose

As part of ensuring the business continuity of the North-West University (NWU) relating to the supply of emergency power during instances of national loadshedding, the following practice is established. This practice is specifically implemented within the University Residence environment of the NWU to ensure that the consumption of electricity is reduced when emergency power is supplied, which may extend beyond national loadshedding periods.

2 Practice for student and staff electricity consumption

During instances when emergency power is supplied, the following practice must be implemented:

- i. All NWU installed heaters, and similar heat generating devices and appliances must be switched off.
- ii. The use of appliances such as stoves, countertop ovens, air fryers, electrical frying pans, kettles and similar appliances must be substantially reduced, with residents encouraged to cook together to limit the number of appliances used in the preparation of meals.
- iii. All unnecessary lights in recreational halls, sitting rooms, utility rooms and other spaces that may be unused, must be switched off.
- iv. The use of all privately owned heaters, electrical blankets and other heat generating devices and appliances are prohibited.

3 Practice for room inspections

In accordance with paragraph 9.2.2 of the Rules of the [University Residences and Day Houses of the North-West University \(2021\)](#)¹:

- i. House Parents and Residence Officers, in collaboration with House Committee members, will conduct routine room inspections to monitor the NWU installed heaters, electrical blankets, and other similar devices and appliances in students' rooms.
- ii. Where privately owned heaters, electrical blankets and other similar devices and appliances are found, students will be requested to return the device(s) to their primary place of residence or store said devices and appliances in the allocated storage facilities provided by Business and Enterprise Development (refer to paragraph 05 below).
- iii. Where appliances and devices are identified which are contrary to paragraph 9.4 of the Rules, residents will be ordered to remove such appliances and devices within a reasonable time. Failure to comply with said reasonable request(s) will result in the relevant disciplinary process.

4 Practice for change behaviour in electricity consumption

In the context of the prevailing national electricity crisis, further supported by the University's objective to ensure business continuity, Business & Enterprise Development and Student Life will, in collaboration with student leadership structures, develop and implement initiatives and incentives that proactively enable the behavioural change of residents relating to electricity consumption.

¹ Hereafter referred to as: *the Rules*.

5 Procedure for the temporary storage of appliances and devices

In instances where residents are unable to return the appliances and devices identified in paragraph 03 above to their primary place of residence, the following procedure will apply:

- i. The appliance or device (*the items*) will be registered with the Residence Officer of the relevant University Residence.
- ii. The resident will book-in their items in a sealed box, which is clearly marked with their name, surname, student number and contact number. If the resident is unable to provide a sealed box, the Residence Officer must supply a box and appropriately seal the device within.
- iii. The resident must ensure that they sign-in their items when booking-in the appliance or device, further confirming that the box is properly sealed.
- iv. The appliance or device must hereafter be placed in a lockable storage space within the University Residence, to which only the Residence Officer and House Parent have access.
- v. The resident may retrieve the item upon their return to their primary place of residence or at such time when communicated by Business and Enterprise Development.

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