

PRESS BRIEFS - Tuesday August 30, 2011

PUBLICATION	PAGE	HEADLINE & BRIEF
Business Daily	Pg 10	EDITORIAL: Support power investors
		According to the publication, the government has for long dominated electricity generation in Kenya. As a matter of fact, before the Independent Power Producers debuted in the early '00s, KenGen, freshly hives off from Kenya Power, was the sole power producer. Things have since changed in favour of private producers although the State dominates the field. The government is urged to fast track implementation of private power projects so as to reduce overdependence on thermal-based power production which has cost the economy hugely, by easing bureaucracy involved in seeking National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA) and Kenya Power nods.
	19	Zimbabwe power tariffs increase by 31 per cent
		The publication indicates that Zimbabwe's electricity regulator has ordered a 31 per cent tariff increase in a move meant to ensure the state owned power utility ZESA's profitability. The Southern African country currently generates less than 1,000MW against demand of more than 2,000MW, a situation that has held back the recovery of the key mining and manufacturing sectors. Zimbabwe compliments local power generation with imports from the DRC, Mozambique and Zambia.
Nation	28	Barclays to sign Sh1.2bn power back-up deal with oil refinery

		<p>According to the publication, Barclays Bank of Kenya is expected to sign a Sh1.2 billion deal with the Kenya Petroleum Refinery to build a 9.3MW power plant at the refinery to ensure stable electricity supply. The bank will arrange the deal to finance the first major upgrade of the plant that is half-owned by the government and Essar Oil and Gas of India. Essar has a 51 per cent controlling majority shareholding.</p>
The People Daily	3	<p>NEWS FEATURE: Life changes as power project lights village</p>
		<p>While many Kenyans cringe whenever they get their electricity bills, which have in the recent times shot up. Residents of Thaita Village in Kirinyaga Country are all smiles as they light up their homes, thanks to a micro hydro-power project from River Rutui. The project was started in 1999 by a group of 80 people and generates 11kva. It has opened up business opportunities for locals thereby changing their lives.</p>