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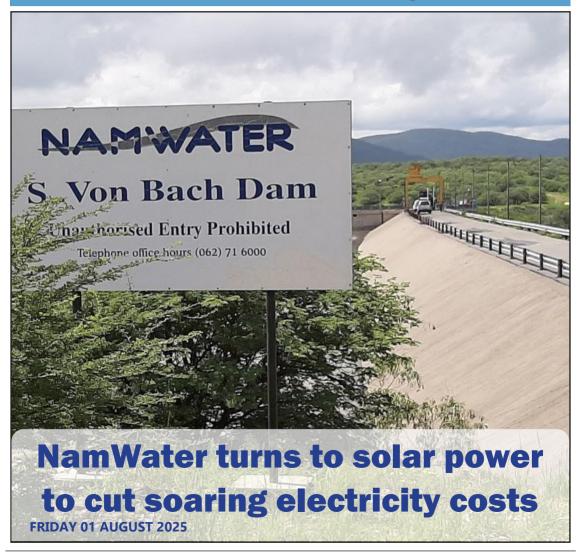
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BRIEF



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MAIN STORY



NamWater turns to solar power to cut soaring electricity costs

ational water utility, NamWater, is transitioning to power parts of its operations using solar energy in a bid to reduce mounting electricity costs, which currently account for as much as 40% of its annual operational expenses.

In documents seen by The Brief, NamWater said it had launched a procurement process inviting Independent Power Producers (IPPs) to prequalify for the construction and operation of solar photovoltaic (PV) plants on NamWater-owned land and dams.

The procurement includes a specific project to power the Von Bach–Windhoek water supply scheme.

"NamWater is now faced with the situation where the cost of electricity remains a major concern. If alternatives to address high electricity costs could be identified, the situation could at least be managed more competently and efficiently," the utility stated.

According to NamWater, energy costs for water treatment and pumping totalled more than N\$363 million in 2021. During that year, the average specific energy cost was N\$2.22 per kilowatt-hour (kWh), with average consumption recorded at 2.67 kWh per cubic metre of water.

Crucial Dates

- Bank of Namibia Monetary Policy announcement date:
 - * 13 August 2025
 - * 15 October 2025
 - * 3 December 2025



The utility noted that between 2016 and 2021, payments to NamPower alone rose from N\$136.9 million to more than N\$171 million, while distributors such as ErongoRED and CenoRED also saw annual charges steadily increase.

NamWater said its current electricity demand stands at 18 megawatts (MW) per hour and is expected to double due to upcoming infrastructure projects, including the Coastal Desalination Plant and upgrades to the Rundu and Oshakati water treatment plants.

To manage future demand and cost pressures, the utility said its renewable energy strategy, developed under its Strategic Plan 2022–2034, aims to integrate solar PV technology across selected water schemes.

"The target of the goal is for solar PV power plants to supply 30%–70% of the required energy for targeted water supply schemes," NamWater noted.

As part of this plan, NamWater issued a separate Expression of Interest for a solar PV project on Farm Aqua Clara 329, near the Von Bach treatment facility. The project is expected to meet the 5.748 MWh daily energy requirement of the Von Bach–Windhoek water supply scheme.

The utility cited a 2023 feasibility study led by the Namibia University of Science and Technology, which identified four schemes—Von Bach, Oshakati, Calueque, and Kuiseb—as having strong technical and economic potential for solar PV deployment. The study found that achieving 70% renewable energy penetration at Von Bach would result in the lowest levelised cost of energy (LCOE) and the highest net present value (NPV).

"For the RE penetration levels considered (30%, 50%, and 70%), the higher the %RE, the lower the LCOE, lower operating costs, and a higher NPV," the report concluded.

NamWater said it is authorised to generate and procure renewable energy under the Modified Single Buyer Model and the National Renewable Energy Policy of 2017. These regulatory frameworks allow the utility to enter into direct power purchase agreements with IPPs and feed surplus electricity into the national grid.

According to NamWater, the primary aim of the initiative is "to promote renewable energy generation, reduce carbon emissions, and contribute to Namibia's energy security and sustainability goals."



NamRA extends tax return deadline

The Namibia Revenue Agency (NamRA) has extended the deadline for the submission of income tax returns to 31 October 2025 for taxpayers affected by the implementation of Section 21 of the Income Tax Act, 1981 (Act No. 24 of 1981).

NamRA's Chief of Strategic Communications and Support Engagements, Yarukeekuro Ndorokaze, said the extension applies to returns that were originally due on 31 July, 31 August, and 30 September 2025.

Ndorokaze explained that the extension was prompted by "system readiness challenges" as NamRA prepares to implement amendments to Section 21.

"The Namibia Revenue Agency (NamRA) hereby informs all taxpayers affected by the implementation of Section 21 of the Income Tax Act, 1981 (Act No. 24 of 1981), that the submission of returns has been extended to 31 October 2025," he said.

The amended section introduces limits on the setting-off of assessed losses carried forward from previous years of assessment.

NamRA has encouraged all affected taxpayers to use the extended period to familiarise themselves with the changes and ensure compliance.

This comes as NamRA collected N\$19.9 billion in net revenue during the first quarter





NamRA has encouraged all affected taxpayers to use the extended period to familiarise themselves with the changes and ensure compliance.

of the 2025/26 financial year, representing 22.4% of its annual revenue target of N\$88.999 billion.

According to the revenue agency, gross revenue as at 30 June 2025 stood at N\$22.5 billion. After issuing tax refunds amounting to N\$2.6 billion, the net figure came to N\$19.9 billion.

NamRA stated that international taxes were the largest contributor to the total,

accounting for N\$5.7 billion or 28.6% of net revenue. This was followed by Value Added Tax (N\$5 billion), Pay-As-You-Earn (N\$4.2 billion), and Corporate Income Tax (N\$3.7 billion). Other tax categories contributed a further N\$1.3 billion.

In addition, NamRA said domestic taxes generated N\$13.6 billion, while customs and excise duties brought in N\$6.3 billion during the period under review.





Fuel prices to remain unchanged for August 2025

The Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy (MIME) has announced that fuel prices will remain unchanged for the month of August 2025.

According to the Ministry, Unleaded Petrol 95 will continue to retail at N\$20.37 per litre, Diesel 50ppm at N\$19.92 per litre, and Diesel 10ppm at N\$20.02 per litre.



MIME said the decision followed a monthly fuel price review which showed mixed movements in international oil markets

"The international market recorded a 2.27% decline in the average price of petrol, from US\$83.92 to US\$82.03 per barrel. Conversely, diesel prices increased by 5.03%, from US\$88.82 to US\$93.31 per barrel, due to tight global supply and steady industrial demand," the Ministry stated.

MIME noted that the slight strengthening of the Namibia Dollar against the US Dollar helped to cushion the impact of the rising diesel prices.

Executive Director in the Ministry, Moses Pakote, said that despite under-recoveries on diesel, the Ministry had decided to keep prices steady.

"To that end, the Ministry pleased is to announce that the prices of ULP 95 and both diesel grades will remain unchanged for the duration of August 2025. Petrol will be maintained at N\$20.37 per litre, Diesel 50ppm at N\$19.92 per litre. and Diesel 10ppm at N\$20.02 per litre, consistent with the previous period," he said.

Pakote further explained that an over-recovery of 0.46 cents per litre was recorded for petrol, while under-recoveries of 90.62 cents and 83.86 cents per litre were noted for Diesel 50ppm and Diesel 10ppm respectively.

"To protect consumers from price increases, the National Energy Fund will absorb the estimated N\$24.7 million in under-recoveries," he added.

Pakote said the Ministry would continue to monitor both international and local market developments and adjust prices when necessary "to promote a sustainable and reliable fuel supply for Namibia".



Be a motivator, not an intimidator

By Junias Erasmus

In every organisation, classroom, boardroom, or community, leadership makes the difference between thriving potential and suppressed talent.

The choice between motivating and intimidating is a defining line, one that separates transformational leaders from those who merely manage through fear.

At the heart of meaningful leadership lies a deep understanding of human nature: people respond better to encouragement than they do to threats. They perform at their best when they feel safe, seen, and supported, not when they are constantly watching their backs.

To be a motivator means to lead with vision, to uplift others through belief, and to empower teams and individuals to realise their capabilities. It is not about forcing compliance but about cultivating commitment.

Motivators are leaders who understand the power of presence, not as a tool of dominance, but as a source of inspiration. Their words do not echo fear, but rather confidence and courage.

Their actions don't push people down, they lift people up. When people are motivated, they don't just meet expectations, they exceed them, because they believe in the vision they are part of.

Intimidation, by contrast, may create short-term obedience, but it poisons the work environment in the long run. People perform to avoid punishment, not to pursue excellence. Creativity is stifled, voices go silent, and morale diminishes.

66

leaders who understand the power of presence, not as a tool of dominance, but as a source of inspiration.

Motivators are

Fear-based leadership turns teams into spectators instead of collaborators. The presence of such a leader may demand attention, but it does not inspire admiration.

It creates a culture of control, not commitment, one where trust is absent, and growth is accidental, not intentional.

Inspiring with your presence starts with emotional intelligence. It means being approachable, empathetic, and genuinely interested in the success of others.

It means setting high standards while also being a source of encouragement when things go wrong. People want to follow those who understand their struggles and recognise their efforts.

They want leaders who celebrate wins, no matter how small, and who provide guidance instead of guilt when progress slows.

Whether you're a manager, teacher, coach, or parent, your ability to influence others rests not in your title, but in your attitude.

Be the leader who builds people. Be the person whose presence brings calm, confidence, and clarity.

Let your legacy be oneof growth and empowerment, not silence and stress. In

"

Fear-based leadership turns teams into spectators instead of collaborators.

the end, people will not remember how loud you were or how strict you appeared, they will remember how you made them feel and how you helped them believe in themselves. Choose to motivate. Choose to inspire. Choose to lead with presence, not fear. *Junias Erasmus works in the Financial Sector. He is a Management Scientist and Operational Researcher, a Strategic Scholar & a Motivational Speaker. This article is written in his personal capacity. For inquiries, contact him at Junias99@gmail.com



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Eos Capital appoints Elzine Mushambi as Co-Managing Director

os Capital has announced the appointment of Elzine Mushambi as its new Co-Managing Director, effective 1 August 2025. She will lead the Namibian private equity firm alongside current Co-Managing Director, Immanuel Kadhila.

The move comes as Eos Capital marks ten years since its founding in 2015.

"As we enter our second decade, we are stepping into a time of renewal and reimagination. Eos Capital has become a cornerstone of Namibian private equity, capital is our tool, but transformation is our mission. We measure success not just in IRR, but in industries built, jobs created, and communities empowered," said Mushambi.

"I am excited to lead the firm into its next horizon, scaling cross-border investments and expanding our dynamic portfolio."

Kadhila said her appointment comes at a key moment for the firm.

"Elzine's leadership comes at an exciting time for Eos Capital as we launch our fourth fund and enter into a new decade of investment excellence. Elzine is an accomplished finance and investment leader, and brings a deep understanding



of African markets, strategic foresight, and a passion for building inclusive ecosystems. Her appointment reinforces Eos Capital's evolution into a regional force with global standards," he said.

The firm has so far raised and deployed capital through three funds—Allegrow, Euphrates, and NIDF 1— supporting local businesses and contributing to economic growth. It manages over N\$1 billion in assets and has built a portfolio of 14 companies.a



City rejects calls for pensioner debt write-off, citing financial risk

he City of Windhoek has rejected calls for the unconditional cancellation of debts owed by pensioners, warning that such a move would undermine the municipality's financial health and its ability to deliver essential services.

This follows a formal petition submitted by the Khomas Ratepayers and Residents Association, which raised concerns over various aspects of urban governance.

"Doing so would compromise the Council's financial sustainability and its ability to maintain essential services to all residents," the City said.

In its response, the municipality noted that many pensioners fall back into arrears even after receiving targeted relief, describing this trend as unsustainable.

"The unfortunate reality is that many pensioners fall back into arrears even after targeted relief, and this cycle is simply unsustainable," the City said.

The municipality stressed the importance of meeting bulk payment obligations to NamPower and NamWater in order to avoid broader service

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disruptions. Pensioners are instead being encouraged to switch to prepaid utility systems to better manage consumption and reduce future debt risk.

Alongside the debt issue, the City addressed long-standing challenges related to communal housing under the Built Together Program and informal savingsled housing models. These models, the City said, although useful in facilitating

land access, create legal and administrative hurdles.

"These Savings Groups have typically acquired land in bulk and informally subdivided it among members," the City explained.

Land transfers through former Built Together Groups will only take place once all debts are settled and the groups are formally dissolved. "Only once these

conditions are fulfilled can

land be transferred from the City to the group, and from the group to individual members," the statement read.

Residents involved in such arrangements are being encouraged to apply for formal ownership through the Flexible Land Tenure System or request exemptions from the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development. "Groups are encouraged to visit our Human Settlement Office in Katutura for step-bystep guidance," the City advised.

The City also clarified that the Built Together Program has been discontinued and replaced with the Informal Settlement Upgrading Program, which focuses on secure tenure and affordable housing. "Financial support for servicing land or house construction is no longer provided through the Built



"

The City also clarified that the Built Together Program has been discontinued and replaced with the Informal Settlement Upgrading Program, which focuses on secure tenure and affordable housing.

Together Program," it noted.

In response to a call for better coordination between electricity and debt management departments, the City confirmed that internal discussions are under way. However, it warned residents that tampering with meters or illegal connections will not be tolerated. "Illegal connections and meter tampering are criminal offenses and will be prosecuted," the City said.

On the matter of residents relocated to Farm 508 following recent flooding, the municipality reported that more than 300 households have been accommodated.

Essential services, including water, sanitation, road access and lighting, are being rolled out in phases.

"Electrification and lighting are planned under the Council's Electricity Universal Access Program, subject to funding availability," the City stated.

The City confirmed that land has been earmarked for a police station, health centre, and school, but emphasised that these fall under national jurisdiction. "Residents and community leaders are encouraged to engage with these ministries to advocate for the timely delivery of these critical services," it said.





NNFU calls for urgent rollout of NCA Equalisation Fund

he Namibian National Farmers Union (NNFU) has called on the Ministry of Agriculture to fast-track the implementation of the long-awaited Northern Communal Areas (NCA) Equalisation Fund, warning that delays are holding back the development of communal farming.

Speaking at the groundbreaking ceremony

of a new EU-funded feedlot facility in Etunda, NNFU representative Sylvanus Naunyango said that while infrastructure investments are welcome, they must be accompanied by financial mechanisms that allow farmers to participate meaningfully in the livestock value chain.

"We would like to use this opportunity to remind the Ministry of Agriculture to



speed up the NCA Equalisation Fund. NCA equalisation is the conduit and enabler for these good works the ministry is doing. Let this be the beginning of many more such inclusive developments that truly unlock the potential of Namibia's communal farming sector," he said.

Naunyango described the feedlot as a long-overdue milestone for farmers in the Northern Communal Areas.

He said the biggest barriers for communal farmers had not been livestock numbers, but limited access to markets, poor animal

quality, and a lack of consistent supply to abattoirs.

He noted that the NCAs are home to more than half of Namibia's estimated 1.7 million cattle, vet the offtake rate remains below 5%, compared to around 25% in the commercial sector. farming While acknowledging some progress-such Meatco NCA slaughtering approximately cattle in the last financial vear—Naunvango efforts by farmers were still hampered by poor infrastructure and a weak enabling environment.

"We therefore appeal to all implementing ministries and contractors to expedite the construction process and ensure this facility becomes operational as soon as possible," he said.

The NCA Equalisation Fund, approved by Cabinet on 9 July 2024, is a government initiative aimed at compensating cattle farmers north of the Veterinary Cordon Fence for the price disparities they face compared to their counterparts in the south.

Since cattle of equal quality and weight often fetch lower prices north of the red line despite similar production costs, the Fund is designed to cover the difference and ensure farmers receive fair market value.

Supported by the NNFU, the Fund aims to level the playing field and offer relief to farmers in disadvantaged regions.



Namibian Ports Authority (Namport) hereby invites bids through Open National Bidding (ONB) procedures for the Provision of Security Services for Namport at the Ports of Walvis Bay and Lüderitz For a Period of Three (3) Years.

Bid Reference Number	Brief Description	Pre-bid Conference	Last Day for Clarification Requests	Closing Date
NCS/ONB/NAMPORT- 3672/2025	The Provision of Security Services for Namport at the Ports of Walvis	Non-Compulsory Pre-bid/Site Visit meeting on	15/08/2025	05/09/2025 @ 12h00 PM
	Bay and Lüderitz For a Period of Three (3) Years	01/08/2025 @ 10h00 AM		(Virtual Bid Opening Link available on website)

- Bids are invited through the Open National Bidding (ONB) procedure and the invitation is open to all eligible bidders. All Bidders must comply with the requirements outlined in the bidding document.
- 2. Interested eligible bidders are requested to visit the Namport website at https://www.namport.com.na/procurement for details of the bidding requirements. Bidders must register as suppiliers, express interest in a specific bid, make a payment of the (non-refundable) bid levy of N\$3000 and submit the proof of payment in order to be granted access to the bidding documents. The Namport Banking Details are available on the link: https://www.namport.com.na/procurement/banking-details/SF69/
- 3. A Non-compulsory Pre-Bid/Site Visit meeting is scheduled for 01 August 2025 at 10H00 AM. The meeting will be held at Executive Boardroom, Namport Head Office, Walvis Bay. Bidders should take note that the virtual meeting link is also available on the website for bidders that would like to join the meeting virtually.
- Bids must be delivered to: The Tender Box, Namibian Ports Authority (Namport) Reception, No. 17 Rikumbi Kandanga Road, Walvis Bay

ALL enquiries related to these bids must be directed in writing by email to the following contact details:

Procurement Manager
Melani de Klerk
Tel: +264 208 2319
Email: m.deklerk@namport.com.na or
procurement@namport.com.na

Tender and Contracts Administrator
Owike Amunkete
Tel: +264 208 2217
Email: o.amunkete@namport.com.na
procurement@namport.com.na





abinet has approved the drafting of a Space Science and Technology Bill, which will provide a legal and institutional framework to guide Namibia's space-related activities.

The decision was announced by the Minister of Information and Communication Technology, Emma Theofelus, following the 15th Cabinet meeting of 2025.

"The Space Science and Technology Bill aims to ensure effective coordination of space science and technology activities that contribute to socio-economic growth and development in the country," Theofelus said.

The Bill will be developed by the Ministry of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture, before being submitted to Cabinet for formal endorsement.

The move builds on earlier steps taken by government to revive the national space science agenda. In March 2024, the second National Space Science Council was appointed to serve as a technical and advisory body to the National Commission on Research, Science and Technology.

The council is made up of experts in astronomy, information and communication technology, law, electronics engineering and geographic information systems. It will serve until March 2027.

The proposed legislation is underpinned by Namibia's Space Science and Technology Policy (2021–2030), which aims to transition the country from being a passive user of space-based services to an active participant in the global space industry. The policy calls for the integration of space technologies into national development planning, improved public awareness, institutional capacity-building, and expanded access to commercial space applications.

The Ministry of Education leads the implementation of the policy, with the National Commission on Research, Science and Technology acting as the coordinating body.



