



## **Zesa load shedding increases countrywide**

*Business Reporter*

LOAD shedding has increased countrywide after a system disturbance at Hwange Power Station, Zesa chief executive officer, Engineer Ben Rafemoyo said yesterday. Responding to written questions from Business Chronicle Eng Rafemoyo said the power station on Tuesday experienced a system disturbance resulting in a forced outage of power. He said until early Tuesday morning, five generating units at the power station were in operation.

“However, there was a system disturbance (transmission grid failure), which caused a forced outage of the power station,” he said.

Eng Rafemoyo said yesterday morning, a similar disturbance occurred at the power station resulting in another forced outage of the three generating units that had been returned to service.

He revealed that electricity was also lost at the Kariba station when the lines between the station and Alaska bulk sub-station tripped out.

“We suspect that veld fires could have caused the power lines to trip out. The country was from then on emergency support from two neighbouring utilities. In the meantime the load shedding has increased outside the advertised schedules. And as of now Kariba is being restored with the first three generators already back in operation.

“We hope to achieve near normalcy by end of day today (yesterday),” he said.

Eng Rafemoyo said Zesa had set a technical committee to look at the causes of the system disturbances and recommend remedial measures to avoid repeat forced outages.