

FIJI RENEWABLE ENERGY POWER PROJECT

The Fiji Renewable Energy Power Project is a newly-established unit within the Department of Energy and is managed by a Project Manager and a Project Assistant.

FREPP is a Global Environment Facility (GEF)-funded project and focuses on the removal of barriers (policy, regulatory, market, finance and technical) to the wide-scale use of renewable energy resources for grid-connected power generation in Fiji. It is in line with the GEF-4 Strategic Program 3 on promoting market approaches for the supply of renewable electricity in utility scale grid-based power systems and Strategic Program 4, on promoting sustainable energy production from biomass and modern uses of biomass.

The project consists of 4 main components, each addressing specific categories of barriers and these are:

- Energy Policy and Regulatory Frameworks
- Renewable Energy Resource Assessments and Renewable Energy-based Project Assessments
- Renewable Energy-based Power Generation Demonstration and
- Renewable Energy Institutional Strengthening

FREPP is expected to facilitate investments in renewable energy-based power generation in Fiji which will not only support the socio-economic development of the country but also make use of the country's renewable energy resources and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The duration of the Project will be for 3 years.

Department of Energy Biogas User Training

The Department of Energy (DOE) conducted a one day Biogas User Training to twelve (12) biogas users on the 31st July 2012 at the Koronivia Research Station. The training was an integral part of the programme to ensure that participants were equipped with the right knowledge and skills to efficiently operate and maintain the long term sustainability of the biogas project.

Resource personnel for the training included the Department of Environment, Fiji Development Bank, Department of Animal Health & Production, Fiji National University and the Department of Energy. To date, the Department has installed a total of thirteen (13) biogas digesters in Viti Levu mostly for dairy and pig-gery farms. Those biogas plants provide for the energy needs of the people



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ADOPTION & ENFORCEMENT OF MINIMUM ENERGY PERFORMANCE STANDARDS AND LABELLING (MEPSL) FOR REFRIGERATION & FREEZERS

In accordance with Section 2 of the Order, the Australian/New Zealand Standard on performance of refrigerating appliances is now being adopted in the country. The specific standards involved include;

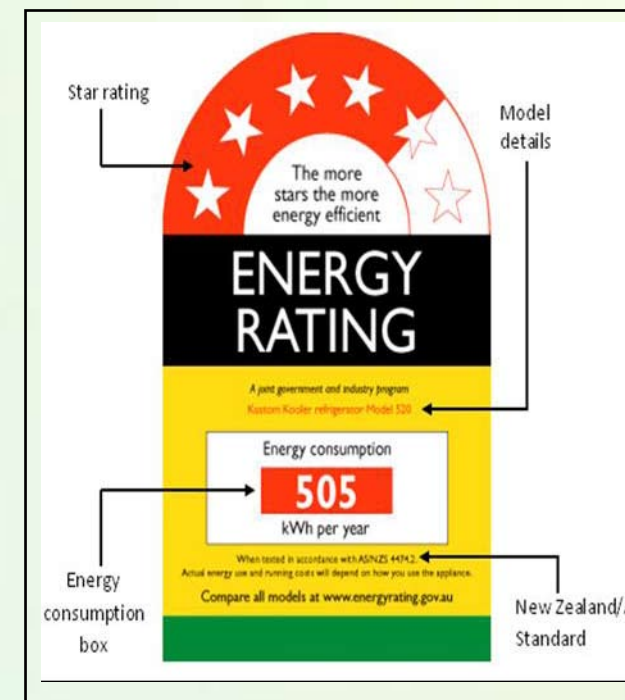
AS/NZS 4474.1:2007
AS/NZS 4474.2:2009

Effective from 1st January 2012, all household electric freezers and refrigerators arriving into the country will now be required to comply with the above mentioned standards and consequently be affixed with the appropriate labels as outlined on the left;

The MEPSL Program is now MANDATORY in Fiji and the importation of all household electric freezers and refrigerators into the country will now be monitored at the Fiji Borders by the Fiji Revenue and Customs Authority.

The MEPSL program is one of the energy efficiency and conservation initiatives pursued by DoE under the National Energy Policy. Such initiatives intend to address our ever increasing demand for energy and manage its ill effects on our economy. With the success of the program, the DoE hopes to extend this program and to incorporate other electrical appliances that will be sold in the country.

In view of the above, it will now be mandatory for all relevant importers of electric household freezers and refrigerators to apply and seek approval for the registration and importation of such appliances.



The Department of Energy (DoE) through the Ministry of Works, Transport and Public Utilities wishes to inform the general public that the "Trade Standards (Household Electric Refrigerating Appliances) Order 2007" has come into force from 1st of January 2012.

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COMMISSIONING OF SOLAR HOME SYSTEMS - NAVAGA

15th August, 2012 will be etched into the minds of Navaga villagers, in the highlands of Navosa as the day they celebrated the commissioning of the Solar Home Systems (SHS) project by Hon. Timoci Natuva, Minister for Works, Transport and Public Utilities. Minister Natuva acknowledged the efforts by the villagers to bring light into the community. Speaking in Fijian he said that all this was possible through pillar 5 of the People's Charter. "This is part of the programme set by Government to take the country forward, through assistance such as this, to fight poverty, to better our livelihood. The assistance is directed to those living in the rural sectors."

20 households were electrified through the \$44,000 SHS project through the Department of Energy. Minister Natuva reiterated the need to utilize this new addition for the betterment of children's education and the increase in opportunities for financial prosperity. The project was one of the 1000 households under the SHS programme for 2012.

These households will pay a monthly rental fee covering the cost of maintenance on the Government owned systems.



Minister Natuva commissioning Navaga's Solar Home System project in August of this year.

NATIONAL HOUSING EXPO

Since the implementation of the National Housing Policy (2011—2015), the Department of Housing through the Hibiscus Festival have been organizing the National Housing Expo which has proven to be a huge success.

With the theme "Affordable and Decent Homes to all Communities by 2020", the Expo was able to take visitors through booths that provided information from various stakeholders. Each booth manned with its staff answered queries on housing assistance, land purchase and also rural electrification. This year the Department of Energy once again participated exhibiting its Dual Fuel Kit, Mini and Pico Hydro's and its application process for Rural Electrification Assistance.



SEFP AWARENESS & OUTREACH

In order to create more awareness on Sustainable Energy Financing Programme (SEFP) and reach remote areas, the Department accompanied FDB and RBF exhibiting the sustainable energy financing facility during the Inter-Provincial Adaptation Forum, Wainimaku Open Day, Labasa Agriculture Show and the Lautoka Agriculture Show. Equipment's were on display and demonstrated on technologies such as solar, hydro, coconut oil fuel and energy efficiency. Visitors were impressed with the simplicity of the systems and the reasonable cost of the equipment in comparison to equipment running on fossil fuel. To promote the use of solar energy, portable solar lanterns were donated to remote schools. 3 schools were selected by the Labasa office: Cikobia District School, Lutukina District School and Nasasa District School. The main objective of the donation was for students to experience the benefits of solar and to promote its positive effects to their communities.



GENERATOR INSTALLATIONS - 2012

Three primary schools in the rural sectors were recipients of biofuel compliant generators this third quarter. The generators are supplying power to;

1. Wairiki Primary School at Suweni in Vanua Levu
2. Nasinu Primary School in Cakaudrove; Vanua Levu and
3. Nasegai Primary School in Kadavu

The initial implementations of the 3 projects started in 2011 with the wiring of the teacher's quarters, the school buildings, the offices and the ablution blocks of the 3 primary schools plus the underground cabling works from the power house to the pillar boxes in which protection (circuit breakers) are mounted. Government contributed 95% to total project costs and the communities completed the remaining 5%.

Wairiki Primary School - Suweni, Cakaudrove

For a number of years Suweni village had been pursuing electricity supply to the FEA grid and payments had been made to Government for this. Aware of the immediate need to supply electricity to the village, it was agreed that the community use \$4,718.15 of their funds to assist the school. This would allow the students to receive proper lighting and other benefits that would have a positive impact on the school and the students.

Consequently the school blocks, the four teachers quarters and the library are now supplied with electricity recently with the installation of their 10KVA Lister Generator.

Nasinu District School, Navatu, Cakaudrove.

The school consisting of 7 teachers' quarters and an Ablution Block were wired and electrified through the community's contribution of \$5,014.75 towards the project.

Japan Training on Solar Power Generation Technology

Simione Bituwaqa, a technical officer with the Rural Electrification Unit completed his training at the Osaka City University with a Certificate in Solar Power Generation Technology in September. The programme coordinated between Japan's International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Osaka University was attended by nine participants from 8 countries in the Asia Pacific Region namely Bhutan, Burundi, Malawi, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Tonga and Fiji. The 3 months training course introduced participants to solar power generation, the characteristics of solar cells, the basics of electrochemistry, the effective utilization of energy and solar home systems. Practical training on panels and batteries, on DC Motors and polymers was also part of the programme.

The community is now supplied with electricity from the new 10KVA Lister generator which was installed this year.

Nasegai Primary School, Kadavu

The primary school is comparatively a big one consisting of: a) three dormitories for boys and girls b) a dining hall c) 3 school blocks; and d) an ablution block. The school paid \$4,025.00 as its contribution towards the electrification project. Similar to the other 2 schools mentioned above. The wiring of the houses and the underground reticulation were completed last year. The school is also supplied with a 10KVA generator and is now operating with its own generator.



A dual fuel unit being displayed at the Department during the PM's recent visit. The unit runs on pure coconut oil and is attached to a running generator.

