

## SERVICE HOTLINE

**REFERENCE NUMBER:** 024/2023

23 February 2023

## EXTENDED POWER OUTAGES - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

We refer to previous correspondence with regard to the ongoing extended power outages in the country, which has raised questions regarding the impact of the disruption on the capital markets should the levels of loadshedding continue to escalate.

We have previously shared the JSE's contingency measures to mitigate power loadshedding and wish to assure our stakeholders that we are focused on ensuring that JSE markets remain fully operational to the extent possible. We continue to review and refine our contingency measures with our stakeholders and partners to ensure that as a capital markets ecosystem, we are as prepared as possible.

Appreciating the interdependencies in our markets and the impact that various stakeholders have on market continuity, we continue to emphasize the obligation of each market participant to ensure that they have adequate contingency measures in place to remain resilient during power outage scenarios.

We have prepared responses to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) from stakeholders regarding the JSE's contingency measures.

FAQ	Response
1. How long can the JSE keep its systems running in an extended power outage (excluding a blackout scenario)?	The JSE can operate for 6 to 7 days at full diesel capacity onsite. Additional diesel capacity, the arrangements for which are in place, enables the JSE to operate beyond the 7-day period.
2. Do you have a plan in place should the telecommunications networks be disrupted due to higher levels of loadshedding?	The heightened power outages may impact the resilience capabilities of telecommunication networks and may result in breaks in the relay of technical messages between stakeholders. The extent of the disruption of telecommunications will determine the JSE's plan. Limited disruption could be accommodated by adjustments to trading and settlement timeframes. A more severe disruption may result in limited trading hours. The market will be consulted to the extent possible before any such decisions are taken by the JSE.

### Markets / Services:

All Markets

### Environment(s):

Production

### Additional Information:

If you have any queries about this announcement, please contact the Client Service Centre:

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### Issued By:

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Enterprise Risk Management

3. Does the JSE have a plan should there be a national blackout?	The JSE has collaborated with key stakeholders in the capital markets value chain and has developed a comprehensive response plan should the country experience an extended power blackout. This plan has been socialised with key role players.
4. Considering the recent escalation of concerns around power security, has the JSE made any formal decisions around market continuity in event of a serious utility failure?	A framework and plan for the Orderly Closing and Re-Opening of Markets (OCARM) has been developed in collaboration with the broader sector. The JSE's blackout response plan referenced in 3. above aligns with the principles of the industry wide plan but further drills down to more detail specific to JSE operations.
5. Will clients be able to contact JSE staff in the different divisions in the event of an extreme power outage?	As long as telecommunication networks are available, JSE staff will be accessible via their normal email addresses and telephone numbers.
6. How prepared is the JSE for a social unrest as a result of diesel shortages?	The JSE has a plan to cater for various scenarios, including social unrest.
7. Does the JSE have adequate contingency measures to ensure market continuity in the event of increased loadshedding?	The JSE has contingency measures and appropriate oversight to ensure market continuity in the event of increased loadshedding. These measures include: 1) Sufficient generator capacity at the JSE and BCP data centres that service the transitioning of power in the event of loadshedding; and 2) Sufficient diesel supply and water storage on hand, with arrangements in place for additional capacity to be added as required.
8. The JSE has previously sourced information from market participants on inter alia, diesel dependencies and other contingency measures. What is this information used for?	The JSE uses these insights to inform industry resilience planning in conjunction with the broader financial sector. The capital markets ecosystem is dependent on not just the JSE, but also a number of stakeholders across the trading and settlement value chain.
9. What is my responsibility in ensuring market continuity in the face of ongoing power outages?	Each member should ensure that they have adequate power backup and BCP capabilities to remain operational during extended power outages.

We continue to collaborate with the industry through the Financial Sector Contingency Forum to ensure a coordinated response, including exploring, where possible, securing certain dispensations for the sector where practical.

Please send queries and/or responses to the above questions to [CustomerSupport@jse.co.za](mailto:CustomerSupport@jse.co.za)