



**HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
PRESS OFFICE
No.6 Convent Place
Gibraltar
Tel:20070071; Fax: 20043057**

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Opposition trying to defend the indefensible on power issues

The latest Opposition press release on the state of the electricity distribution network is nothing more than a feeble attempt to get themselves off the hook for their failure to tackle the problem.

The reality, despite everything they have said, is that they failed to address the issue in depth from 1996 when they were elected until 2011 when they left office. That they may or not have made provision for this to happen in the contract for the new power station is an irrelevant red herring.

The plain fact is that Gibraltar's creaking distribution network should have been tackled in nearly sixteen years of GSD Government and it was not. Moreover, neither the GSD power station project nor the distribution network would have been ready by now in the general scheme of things and it is therefore highly misleading for Mr Netto to suggest otherwise.

There was a report in 1999 which warned that Waterport Power Station was on its last legs and the GSD Government ignored it. There was a report in 2005 which warned them that the prevalent attitude then of "praying" and keeping their "fingers crossed" in relation to the distribution network was unsustainable and the GSD Government failed to take action.

It is clear that the Opposition are simply trying to defend the indefensible because they failed Gibraltar on power generation and they failed Gibraltar on the state of the distribution network. Indeed, the Leader of the Opposition has already accepted publicly that they are partly to blame for the current state of affairs. They have to understand that the whole blame rests squarely on their shoulders.