**MEDIA RELEASE**
**BY CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE (CDA)**

**10 March 2010 (3)**

**Semi-staatsinstellings nou minie-staatjies op eie houtjie**

"Te midde daarvan dat Jan Publiek nog vrede probeer maak met die elektrisiteitstariefverhogings wat deur NERSA aangekondig is en sukkel om kop bo water te hou, kom die ontstellende nuus dat 138 top-elektrisiteisverbruikers net tussen 6 c en 9 c per kilowatt-uur opdok, en dat die top tien verbruikers glad nie eens deur die prysverhogings geraak word nie," sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP) en waarnemende voorsitter van die Christen-Demokratiese Alliansie (CDA).

"Die ergste is egter dat Eskom weier om die sluier te lig oor wie die bevoorregtes is. Hierdie inligting is selfs van NERSA weerhou, wat oor die tafiefverhogings moes beslis, en daarom kan 'n mens maar net bespiegel oor hoe weldeurdag hul finale besluit kon wees."

"Indien Eskom toegelaat word om onder 'n sluier van geheimhouding sake te doen, moet noodwendig afgelei word dat sommige sake-instellings voorgetrek word, of nog erger, dat die ANC self 'n bevoordeelde eindbegunstigde kan wees."

**Parastatals a law unto themselves**

"In the midst of the general public still trying to process the impact of electricity tariff hikes announced by NERSA and battling to balance their budgets, comes the shocking revelation that 138 top energy users are only paying between 6c and 9c per kilowatt hour, with the top 10 users not being affected by the tariff increases at all. " So says Rev Theunis Botha leader of the Christian Democratic Party (CDP) and acting chair of the Christian Democratic Alliance (CDA).

"Worse still is ESKOM's refusal to reveal who the users are that are receiving these benefits. As this information was even withheld from NERSA, who is supposed to adjudicate the legitimacy of tariff increases, one wonders how well-thought-out their final decision was."

"Should ESKOM be permitted to operate under a veil of secrecy it would be concluded that certain business concerns are being favoured, or worse still that the ANC could be one of the end beneficiaries?"