

We want electricity, not poles all over

I received on Monday the news of the launch of the rural electrification project in several sub-counties in Nakapiripit District not yet covered by the electricity poles. Of course it leaves everyone else excited and every politician wanting to be part of the success as government programmes are launched. True one of the sub-counties where the launch took place is the youngest sub-county in the district, Loregae Sub-county. However, why I am not excited yet is because as a commerce student, I wonder what the economic relevance of the rural electricity is to the Karimojong, especially where it is already covered

We see wires and poles crossing over people's houses moving over to Amudat District with no connections to consumers or meters to the houses. Even with a Umeme office in Nakapiripit, people have never been sensitised on how to benefit from this power. More than two years down the road, some poles starting to rot away without being used. In order to ensure achievement of the primary objective of the programme, I suggest that we prioritise usage and pole coverage.

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