



...Electricity generation declined by 6% in Q4 2020, amid breakdowns and extended outages at Hwange...

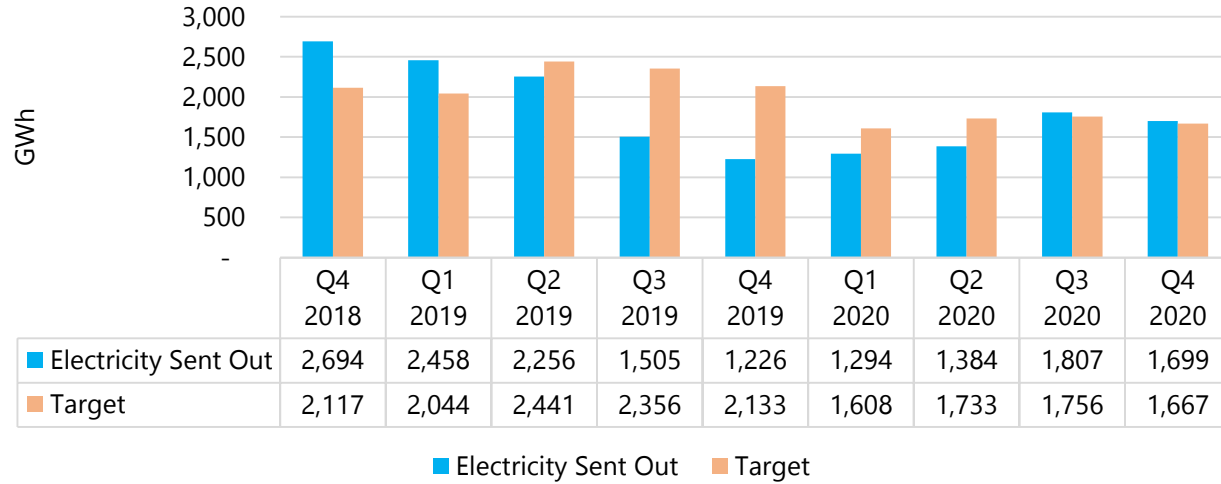
Energy Sector Developments

Electricity Generation

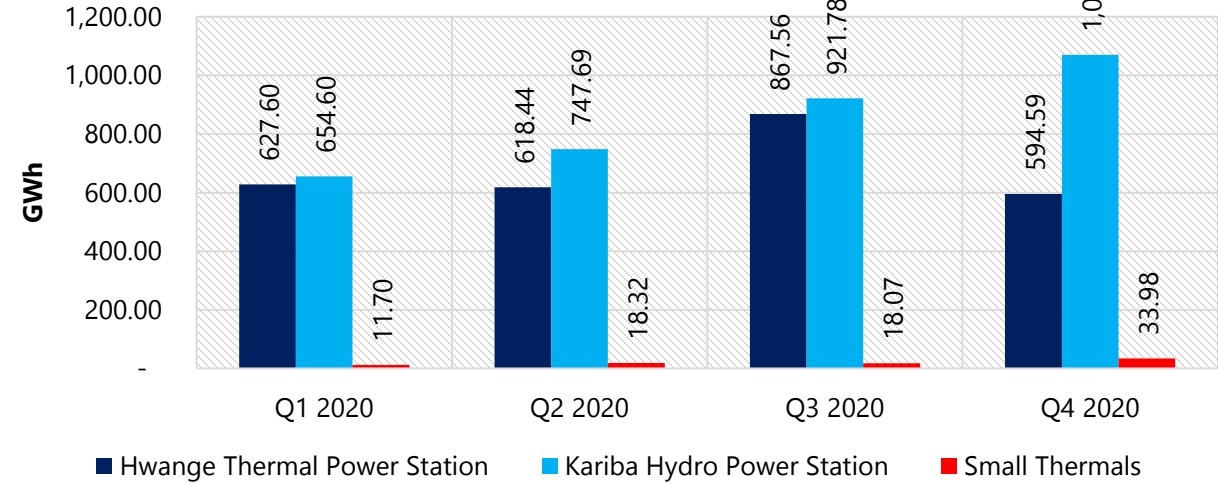
Q4 2020



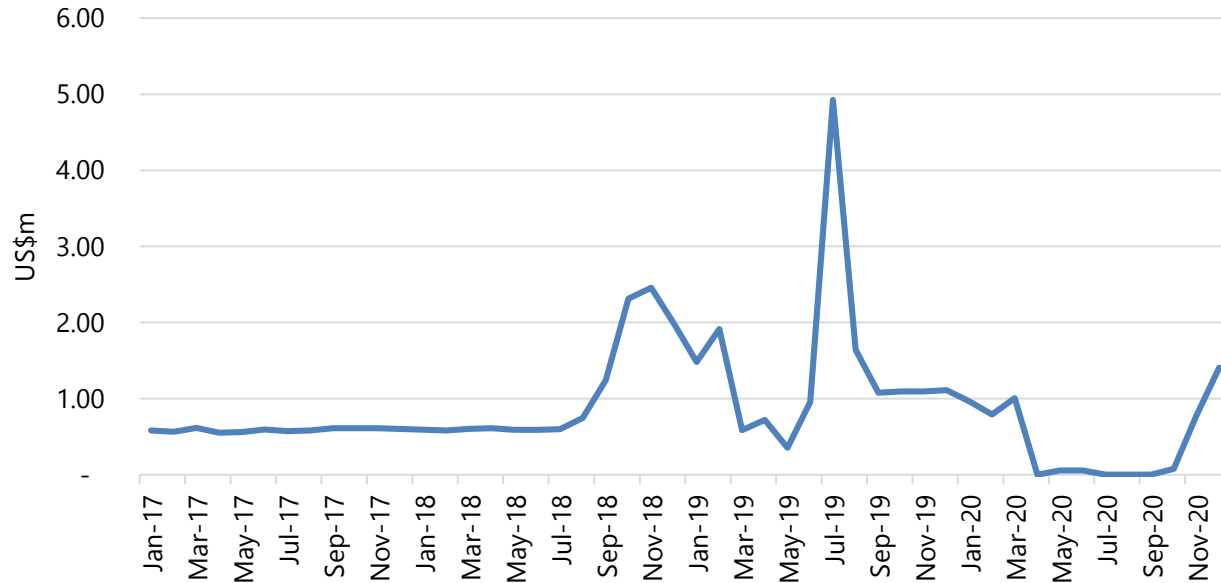
Graph 1: Quarterly Electricity Generation Trends



Graph 2: Electricity Generation By Units



Graph 3: Electrical Energy Imports



- According to the Zimbabwe Power Company “ZPC”, electricity generation during the fourth quarter (Q4) of 2020 declined by 6.0% to 1,699GWh, compared to 1,807GWh generated during the previous quarter. The fall in power generation was attributed to constant breakdowns at small thermal stations due to coal stock outs and aged plants. Hwange’s Unit 3 and 6 continued absence due to extended outages also suppressed electricity generation during the quarter - **Graph 1**.
- However, compared to the last quarter of 2019, there was a 38.6% improvement in power generation from 1,226GWh. Cumulatively, power generation declined by 17% to 6,18458GWh in 2020. Going forward, ZPC may consider expanding its power generation capacity by setting up another plant at the Tugwi-Mukosi Dam.
- Kariba Hydro and Hwange power stations were the major sources of power generation during the quarter, contributing 63% (6% was exported to Namibia’s Nampower) and 35% respectively. Small thermal stations contributed 2% (33.98GWh) – **Graph 2**.
- The power company also advised that the construction of Hwange 7 and 8 expansion project was at 58.3%, against a target 78.5%. The unfavourable variance was attributed to COVID-19 pandemic and outstanding IPC payments by China Exim Bank.
- Meanwhile, electricity imports fell by 70% from US\$16.97m in 2019 to US\$5.14m in 2020- **Graph 3**, reflecting the impact of COVID-19 induced lockdowns on energy demand as well as increased use of alternative energy uses especially gas and solar.

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