

Electricity

Even since I can remember, the waste of water and electricity is a topic people like to talk about, especially those who are fond of pointing out the government's mistakes. I recall back in 1980, I was a fresh graduate in engineering and I started working in the Ministry of Oil. At the time, my favorite manager was the Assistant Undersecretary Siham Al-Razzouqi, a truly exceptional leader. In spite of receiving the best care and training from her, as well as from the respectable Sheikh Ali Jaber Al-Ali who was also an assistant undersecretary, I didn't spend much time in the oil sector. I left after only a year because I just couldn't seem to find myself there. When I first got in, I didn't get anyone to intervene for me, nor did I happen to know the right person on the inside. I applied for the job properly through the official channels and I was hired after an interview. It seems like life was easier back then, and people were kind and respectful.

One of the first projects I was involved with as an intern was related to the opening of the Northern Doha Power Plant. Our project was focused on supplying the stations with the fuel they required and I distinctly remember the MEW engineers boasting about the station's ability to burn all types of fuel. Naturally, I asked about this because I was new to the industry and my questions never came to an end. One of the engineers working on it was Korean and he said the power plant was designed to be more environmentally friendly, being able to burn cleaner natural gas but also able to burn heavy fuels in case of emergencies.

These words still resonate in my memory, and it pains me to say that the State kept burning highly polluting heavy fuels later on and MEW continues to do so today. The rationale behind this is that there's little natural gas in Kuwait, and the State'