

EMAKHAZENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



MESSAGE FROM THE HONORABLE EXECUTIVE MAYOR CLLR. T.D NGWENYA

ESKOM INTERRUPTION OF BULK ELECTRICITY SUPPLY TO EMAKHAZENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY EFFECTIVE FROM THE 23RD OF JANUARY 2017

The ESKOM notice published in November 2016 that the Bulk Electricity supply to Emakhazeni Local Municipality would be interrupted resulting in temporary scheduled disconnection for the entire municipality (Belfast Town, Emthonjeni, Waterval Boven and Machadodorp) has reference;

That ESKOM planned to interrupt electricity supply as follows:

MONDAY TO FRIDAY	SATERDAY AND SUNDAY
06H00 – 08H00	08H30 – 11H00
17H00 – 19H30	15H00 – 17H00

The Office of the Executive Mayor and administration would like to put it on record that the municipality has been hard at work trying to avert the situation by successfully introducing radical intervention programmes of maximizing revenue collection.

The municipality has implemented a revenue enhancement system which will require households to pay their current accounts in full before purchasing electricity. This will ensure that as from January 2017 going forward, the accumulation of arrears is completely eliminated from the municipal debtor's book. Arrears accumulated before this date,

arrangements will have to be made with the municipality for a reasonable and affordable payment plan.

In addition the municipality is implementing a project to change all the 935 conventional electricity metres to prepaid meters. This will ensure accurate billing as opposed to monthly average caused by inaccessibility to some of the households properties. The successful implementation of the project will result in the maximization of Revenue. All community members are urged to support the programme.

Further, the municipality will continue with the radical programme of curbing electricity theft and illegal connections. Stealing electricity is a criminal offence and it shall be treated as such.

On the basis of the above stated facts, the municipality hereby confirms and assures the community that its arrear debt to Eskom as at 31st of December 2016 was R 43 863 180.00.

Accordingly, the municipality has in a bid to avert electricity interruption by Eskom on the 23rd of January 2017, paid R 9 548 691.44 on the 12th of January 2017. Eskom has confirmed in writing that the municipality is no longer amongst the affected municipalities.

SEE ATTACHED COPY FROM ESKOM.

The municipality would like to apologize for any inconvenience that might have been caused by Eskom Notice of Electricity Interruption. The interruption would have materially, adversely affected and caused damage to household's appliances/ equipments, operations and business.

Moving forward, the municipality will target the top debtors including but not limited to Mines in the area, Government Departments, Parastatals, affording households, Commercial Farms, Business etc. The municipality recomits itself to honouring the agreement entered into with Eskom in May 2016.

The radical implementation of the above stated interventions will result in the municipality settling all the Eskom debts on or before December 2017.


Emakhazeni Local Municipality recommits itself towards the provision of affordable, sustainable and quality services to all the residence with minimal interruptions to community members.

Let me take this opportunity once more and thank you sincerely for working together in finding a long lasting solution to our societal challenges. You acted very well by trusting and cooperating with the municipality in averting the looming Eskom Electricity interruption. You did not involve yourself in unbecoming behaviour and disruptive activities but you remained calm and waited for your municipality to resolve the matter and communicate accordingly.

Indeed, "Together advancing in Unity in building the people's power in every community, Local Government is in your hands"

The year 2017 is declared as the year of advancing Socio Economic Transformation to ensure sustainable job opportunities, democratic governance and sustainable municipal services.

We wish you a joyous and prosperous 2017.



CLLR. T.D NGWENYA
EXECUTIVE MAYOR

13/01/2017
DATE