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Local Municipality

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### Media Release

#### **LOADSHEDDING EFFECTS ON MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE IS ENORMOUS**

The implementation of loadshedding at higher stages has enormous and adverse impact on the day-to-day operation of delivering quality services to our communities.

Regarding electrical services, the electrical infrastructure is not designed to handle the constant switching ON and OFF. It is therefore against this reason that most of the electrical faults occur upon restoration of power by Eskom due to inrush currents. This condition causes excessive high current to flow which causes damage to the electrical equipment and devices. These equipment failures unfortunately cause prolonged and unplanned outages in the areas.

The reality is that the Municipality does not have any control over these faults and abnormalities of the power systems.

Despite the disastrous effects of load shedding on the municipal infrastructure, cable theft is another challenge faced by the Municipality. Criminals, target areas where it is dark to steal cables and vandalise infrastructure. The community is urged to report such crimes to the Municipality and SAPS.

Our electrical team will continue with hard work and ensure that there is minimal impact on residents, however, it must be noted that the bigger the damage, the longer it will take for the repair to be fixed.

Whenever it rains, and restorations occurs after load shedding, the power system gets weakened and the Call Centre and Electrical Department are inundated with power outage reports. This is one of the reasons why power is not restored automatically in certain areas due to electrical failures.

Other municipal services mostly affected during loadshedding:

#### **Waste Water Pump Stations:**

Pump stations run on electricity. Interrupted electricity supply increase the risk of sewer spillage.

#### **Water Distribution:**

Interrupted electricity supply is affecting the treatment of water and the distribution of water supply to Skietbaan Reservoir. Due to strained water pump infrastructure, the ability for water to be pumped to our reservoirs becomes delayed resulting in low to no water pressure.

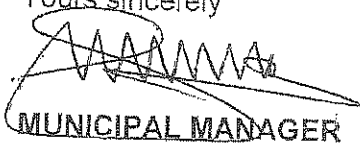


**Customer Care Call Centre:** With loadshedding the landlines at the call center are down at times but we have a backup number that doesn't get affected which is 013 243 1806 to lodge your complaint or WhatsApp us on 064 915 3362.

Residents can report to our call 24-hour call center on 013 249 7348/7344/7714/7349/013 243 1806 or 087 808 7430 and Switchboard 087 285 9010 only Monday-Thursday 07:30-16:30 and Friday 07:30-13:30.

For any enquiries please contact Ms Lerato Kgomo on 013 283 69943/079 719 7172 or email [Leratok@stim.gov.za](mailto:Leratok@stim.gov.za).

Yours sincerely



**MUNICIPAL MANAGER**

SM MNGUNI

15 MAY 2023

