



MEDIA STATEMENT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF MOQHAKA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, CLR JIHAD MOHAPI

ELECTRICITY POWER OUTAGE: KROONSTAD, MAOKENG AND SURROUNDING FARMS/PLOTS

The Moqhaka Local Municipality experienced an electricity outage on 09 September 2011 at approximately 01:00 in the morning. This occurred at the Municipal main electricity income point providing electrical energy to the entire municipal area of Kroonstad and Maokeng. The outage was reported the Municipal stand by personnel who immediately went to the site to investigate the cause of failure and possible remedial action.

When arriving on site and realizing that the problem is bigger than anticipated, an all-inclusive team comprising of both political and administrative leadership was constituted. This was formulated to realize the Municipal Constitutional obligations and responsibilities and policy position of Batho Pele Principles to ensure smooth flow of information and related works. Alternative feed supplies were explored to accommodate majority of consumers within the energy supply configuration. Assistance has been sourced from expert service providers and Eskom to expedite restoration of energy supply.

The following areas are without electricity: Wilgenhof, Panorama, Jordania, Tuinhof, Presidentia, Elandia, Uitsig, Morewag, Maokeng (Gelukwaarts, Constatia, Phomolong, Seissoville, Koekoe Village). Preliminary investigations revealed that the cause of outage is a high voltage cable failure resulting from voltage surge during the attempted cable theft. In the past weeks an outage occurred due to attempted copper theft and the matter reported to SAPS. Information available from police is that suspects have been apprehended today 09 September 2011. The Municipality appeal to communities to continue assisting authorities in dealing with copper theft activities.

The communities are further informed of other municipal services such as water and sewerage that are affected by electricity outage hence requested to use water sparingly. Water will be transported to worse affected areas by means of water tankers. Emergency and critical facilities (hospitals, clinics, funeral parlours) will be prioritized during the restoration of electricity.

The Moqhaka Local Municipality and the Political Leadership humbly apologizes for the inconvenience caused to all consumers due to this electricity outage. Further greatly appreciates the understanding and cooperation received from all affected. Consumers and users are urged to treat all electrical points as life at all times.

For more information and update on progress please contact;

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