



Lephalale Municipality

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22 March 2017

PRESS STATEMENT

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION STEENBOKPAN/LESEDING (FEEDBACK SESSION)

Following the temporary closure of BABCOCK Company last week, Lephalale Local Municipality Mayor, Cllr Jack Maeko, held a feedback session with the community of Leseding on the 22 March 2017.

The community of Leseding requested the Mayor's intervention on a number of issues ranging from recruitment processes, SMME empowerment to CSI project by BABCOCK Company. BABCOCK is one of Eskom's contractors which started operating in Lephalale in 2015. Babcock is responsible for the construction of transmission power lines that will assist with the transmission of power generated from Medupi in to the National grid.

As a result of a series of meetings between BABCOCK, Eskom and the Mayor, an agreement which addressed all concerns raised by the community was reached. The Mayor announced a list of available SMME projects which are gate installation, backfilling, cement supply, mixed concrete supply, toilets supply, bush clearing, transport, diesel supply and security. He encouraged local SMME's to participate when tenders are advertised.

The number of local employees which was 46 out of more than 200 employees on site will be increased. A total number of 60 local residents were selected and have been taken for medical tests, those who qualify will be employed. Another 30 were selected to be trained in various skills and upon completion they will all be absorbed by the company.

In response, excited community members welcomed the Mayor's intervention and appreciated the outcome of the engagements which they said is a clear sign that the Mayor prioritises poverty eradication, unemployment and economic development.

The only outstanding issue is the company's contribution towards CSI project. The Mayor referred it back to the company so that they can revise the funds which were set aside for CSI and come up with a better offer which will benefit the local residents.

Queries:

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