



Lephalale Municipality

Tel: 014 763 2193
Fax: 014 763 5662
Website: www.lephalale.gov.za

Private Bag X136
Lephalale
0555

23 March 2017

PRESS STATEMENT

PROJECTS SITE VISIT (CONCO&ROADMARK)

A team of Lephalale Local Municipality Councillors led by Executive committee member, Cllr William Motlokwa, conducted site visits to two projects along the R518 road. The visit follows dissatisfaction from Community members in Shongoane village on the recruitment processes and SMME empowerment of companies implementing development projects near Shongoane. Community members led by leaders of the Shongoane Concerned Group were planning to shut down all three projects.

The first site to be visited was CONCO which is contracted by Eskom for the Medupi-Borutho 400kV line Project which entails the construction of 174Kms of high voltage transmission lines from Medupi Power Station in Lephalale to a newly-built Borutho substation near Mokopane. Construction commenced in November 2015, and Eskom anticipates completing the line before the end of 2017. This line is divided into two separate sections.

Section A of the line falls within the Lephalale Local Municipality boundaries and is 84km in length. The section runs from Medupi Power Station, passes through Shongoane Village and, ends in Marken, while section B starts from a point near Marken, traverses through Tiberius, Bakenberg, Mapela and other villages to Borutho Substation. Section B of the line only affects Mogalakwela Local Municipality and is also constructed by CONCO.

The Medupi-Borutho 400kV line corridor is being constructed as part of a broader transmission infrastructure programme to integrate Medupi Coal-Fired Power plant into the national electricity grid. The line connects Medupi power station to Borutho Substation, and it is one of the large-scale power delivery projects aimed at supporting the grid system in Limpopo.



Lephalale Municipality

Tel: 014 763 2193
Fax: 014 763 5662
Website: www.lephalale.gov.za

Private Bag X136
Lephalale
0555

The fact finding visit was to verify whether local residents were given priority in terms of employment and SMME empowerment. At CONCO, Eskom's Marcus Lengwate explained that CONCO was appointed to take over from INABENZA due to operational reasons. Eskom is currently in a process to terminate INABENZA's contract and upon the completion of all legal processes CONCO is expected to commence with the recruitment processes in May. Lengwate said out of the 105 personnel needed 87 will be given to Lephalale local residents which translates to 82% out of the required 100%.

The delegation led by Cllr, Motlokwa proceeded to the second site at ROADMARK Company responsible for rehabilitating the R518 from Lephalale to Marken and is expected to be completed in May 2017.

A presentation by the company's Raldo Batler showed that 110 people are local residents of Lephalale and only 27 non-locals. Six local SMME's were given business opportunities in the supply of Tipper truck & TLB, security, supply of concrete and toilets. 228 people were given training in various skills.

Queries:

Conscious Chiloane
Communications Manager
LEPHALALE MUNICIPALITY
Tel: 014 7621496
0787251020
Email: conscious.chiloane@lephalale.gov.za