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# MERA FONG CITY

## LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

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[www.merafong.gov.za](http://www.merafong.gov.za)

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18 July 2022

### **DISCONNECTION OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLY TO COMMUNITIES, BUSINESSES AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS THAT OWE MUNICIPAL SERVICES.**

The purpose of this notice is to inform the local Communities, Businesses and Government Departments of the decision of the municipality to conduct electricity disconnections in all the areas that are not paying for the municipal services.

In the ordinary council meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022, Council resolved that, due to extremely low payment of services by consumers, the municipality will start disconnecting electricity supply in all the Communities, Businesses and Government Departments that are in arrears on their municipal accounts with immediate effect.

Those who are illegally connected to the electricity grid will be brought to book as these electricity losses are costing the municipality millions of Rand. Consumers are requested to work closely with the municipality so that those who are illegally connected are exposed and that tough legal action is taken against the perpetrators.

The municipality has a huge budget deficit due to low payment levels that are currently below 50% of collected revenue.

### **The following Urgent Revenue Interventions will be implemented:**

- *All Government Departments that are in arrears with the municipality will be disconnected. The total arrear debt owed by Government Departments with services is more than R10 million which must be immediately collected.*
- *Identified businesses in all areas that owe the municipality a combined total amount of more than R38m will be disconnected*

*and the amount due to the municipality will be collected immediately.*

- *All Community Households that owe the municipal services, who have not made payment arrangements and/or that have tampered with electricity meters will be disconnected from the electricity supply.*
- *The municipality will continue to implement electricity load-reduction programme in low paying townships. This will be done so that the municipal current account is kept at an affordable level.*

All Households, Businesses and Government Departments with owing municipal accounts are requested to visit the municipal finance department to make acceptable payments arrangements. With the help of the consumers as key municipal stakeholders, there will be no interruption or termination of the supply of electricity.

**Consumers who have entered into a suitable payment arrangement with the municipality will not have their services interrupted or disconnected.**

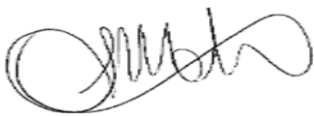
Revenue section is operational between 08h00 and 15h30, on weekdays.

**Consumers who are on a prepaid electricity will not be subjected to 60/40 debt control, on condition that their accounts are up to date or where they are paying in line with the concluded payment arrangements.**

**Consumers who cannot afford** to pay for their municipal services are encouraged to **apply for indigent subsidy**. Registered indigents who are consuming above the approved free basic services of 6kl for water and 50kwh for electricity will be billed for exceeded consumption. Water flow-restriction devices will be installed for all approved indigent households as per the Council policy.

The Municipality encourages all consumers to pay for municipal services as this a legal requirement to do so.

**“Working together we can do more”**




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**SIYETHEMBA MDLETSHÉ, Pr Tech Eng.  
ACTING MUNICIPAL MANAGER**