



PLEASE CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

**Proposed Vote of Thanks
Mr Mongezi Ntsokolo, Group Executive: Distribution
TRAC/Eskom Partnership Launch, Eastern Cape
24 February 2018**

Programme Director

Honourable Premier of the Eastern Cape, Mr Phumulo Masualle

Members of the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature

Leaders from local government

Business and community leaders

Government officials

Fellow Eskom Guardians

Distinguished guests

Learners, teachers and parents

Members of the community

Members of the media

Ladies and gentlemen

Good afternoon

It is not often that multidisciplinary stakeholders convene in the manner that we have done today. And when that happens it is certain that something beneficial to the country will unfold. This was evident today with the launch of the TRAC/Eskom partnership where bursary opportunities were pledged to a number of academically deserving learners from across the province.



Our partnership with TRAC gives us an opportunity to respond to government's call to all stakeholders to work together towards achieving a common goal of improving the lives of our people, especially the youth.

A former British Prime Minister, Benjamin Disraeli, once made this profound statement: "The youth of a nation are the trustees of prosperity." These trustees – our youth – need to be safeguarded, and a better way to do this is through educating the nation and encouraging learners to take mathematics, science, technology and related subjects and pursue careers in these fields. But for this to be realised, as partners, we need to create an enabling environment for quality teaching and learning, particularly for these subjects, as they are considered daunting. And the TRAC/Eskom partnership is one of many collaborative partnerships aimed at achieving this objective and to revive our hopes of a prosperous future for our beautiful country.

I am confident that all of us, young or old, drew inspiration from the addresses delivered by our speakers and from Masixole's moving testimony which, to a great extent, underlines what TRAC programme aims to achieve.

As much as we are known as the country's largest electricity provider, we also endeavour to be a caring organisation that makes a difference in communities where we operate. We believe in investing in the future of our young people. We also understand that partnerships will enable us to make the Eastern Cape, and the whole of South Africa, a place we can all be proud of.

At this point, allow me to express sincere words of gratitude to the TRAC, the Office of the Premier, the Eastern Cape Department of Education, Coega Development Corporation, the various spheres of local government. Your shared willingness to support the TRAC initiative and your presence here today demonstrates that you



have placed the interest of our youth and the success of the country at the top of your agenda. Most importantly, I would like to thank the learners and teachers who are taking part in this programme and the event organising team for the sterling job.

Please give them a hearty round of applause.

Finally, as Eskom approaches our 95th anniversary on 1 March this year, we are committed to continue giving back to our communities and building our country through a number of other corporate social investment initiatives coordinated and executed by the Eskom Development Foundation across the country. It is gratifying to note that most of these initiatives are aimed at the improvement of maths and science skills, thus boding well for the future of our country!

Thank you, and travel safely!