

OFFICE OF THE CEO
Communications & Marketing

Contact Person: L. Mamatu	Date: 25 March 2024
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Our Ref.: UNAUTHORISED WORK AND SWITCHING BY CONSUMERS	Your Ref.:

TO: THE COMMUNITY OF MANGAUNG AND ALL OUR AREAS OF SUPPLY.

Re: UNAUTHORIZED WORK AND SWITCHING BY CONSUMERS

CENTLEC (SOC) Ltd wishes to inform its customers in all our areas of supply that working on any of its equipment or network infrastructure without any prior authorization by the relevant personnel on duty is illegal, unsafe and considered vandalism.

We have noted with concern an unauthorized switching conducted by one of the consumers on our equipment/network which almost injured and kill one of our personnel while on duty. On the 22nd of March 2024 at 21h30, CENTLEC Control Room received complaints from areas including Olive Hill, Estoire and Vaalbanksuid that they are experiencing an area outage.

It was concluded that sectionalizer eighteen (18) had tripped and the Control Room dispatched an Electrician to patrol the line and locate the fault. At around 22h10, sectionalizer eighteen (18) was closed by an unauthorized person. This happened while our personnel were on site, If he had been busy on the line repairing a fault, he would have been severely injured or even killed.

We appeal to the community of Mangaung, off duty CENTLEC personnel, contractors and the consumers of our services to desist from carrying out any unauthorized switching during power failures. Only approved, competent CENTLEC personnel and Contractors can work on any of CENTLECs' equipment and network.

In terms of the Mangaung Electricity By-laws, sections 44 (1), 46 and 47, no person other than a person specifically authorised thereto by the service provider in writing, shall directly or indirectly connect, attempt to connect or cause or permit to be connected any electrical installation or part thereof to the supply mains or service connection.

Section 3 of the Criminal Matters Amendment Act, further, criminalizes any unlawful and intentional tampering with, damaging or destruction of essential infrastructure and provides for the possibility of the imposition of a severe penalty, namely imprisonment which may be up to 30 years or, in the case of a corporate body, a fine not exceeding R100 million

Members of the community are advised to report any acts of crime to the nearest police station or to the CENTLEC fraud hot line at (051) 412 2239 or WhatsApp: 064 616 5574.

Issued by CENTLEC Communications & Marketing.

-Ends-

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