



The Msunduzi Municipality

COMMUNICATIONS & IGR

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MEDIA STATEMENT

Date: 15 January 2021

RETIEF PRIMARY SUBSTATION OUTAGE

The Retief Primary Substation outage occurred on **December 30th, 2020**, due to the 11kV board being damaged. The outage occurred at **09h00** and affected the following areas:

CBD and surroundings (Boshoff Street, Pietermaritz Street, Berg Street, Longmarket Street, Slatter Street and Church Street), Showgrounds, Wembley, Liberty Midlands Mall, Grey's Hospital, Town Bush, Montrose, City Centre, VCC, Chase Valley, Oak Park, Athlone, Invesco Centre, City east, the bottom of Victoria road, Greyling Street, East Street, Retief Street, and Brookside.

The progress on the restoration of electricity are as follows:

The following areas were restored back on via ring feeds on **30 December 2020**:

- Showgrounds at **11h22**
- CBD and surroundings (Boshoff Street, Pietermaritz Street, Berg Street, Longmarket Street, Slatter Street and Church Street) at **14h21**

The following areas remained off **until the 6th January 2021** to allow the damaged electricity board to cool off, cleaned, assessed and tested:

- Wembley, Liberty Midlands Mall, Grey's Hospital, Town Bush, Montrose, City Centre, VCC, Chase Valley, Oak Park, Athlone, Invesco Centre, City East, the bottom of Victoria road, Greyling Street, East Street, Retief Street, and Brookside

The assessment and repairs of the damaged equipment undertaken and half of the 11kV board repaired was successfully energised on **4 January 2021** at **4 am** and the supply was restored to **ALL** affected areas with the exception of the areas specified in progress 3 below.

The following areas were not restored at the time of energising the repaired 11kV board due to downstream faults that had developed and were attended as follows:

- 1.1. At 748 Town Bush road to Waltdolf, the MV cable faulted. The fault was located and repaired. The supply was restored at **11h00** on the **5 January 2021**.
- 1.2. At Tounton/Fettes, the cable faulted, affecting supply to Henderson /Montgomery, Town Bush/Allerton, Town Bush/Niden, Kingsbury/Town Bush, Clifton/Marshall, Carter High School, Carter Henderson, and Velvista/Lesden. Repairs were undertaken and supply was restored at **23h15** on the **5 January 2021**.
- 1.3. At McCarthy SI 79 to Cascades Centre, the MV ring main unit ignited and the MV cable faulted affecting the Cascades Centre, McCarthy Drive, Sheraton and a mini substation feeding Virgin Active. The fault was located and repaired. Supply was restored at **01h00** on the **6 January 2021**.

The Municipality wish to confirm that electricity disruptions that occurred on the 30 December 2020 were all attended on the 6th January 2021. The construction of the Busbar at Retief Primary substation is currently underway. The Busbar will assist in bypassing the indoor switchgear especially during the replacement of the indoor board. The planned completion date is **January 28th, 2021**.

The Msunduzi Municipality regrets the inconvenience caused during this period and would like to request customers who may still be without power, as a result of the Retief Substation Outage that occurred on the **30th of December 2020**, to report the matter on the following contact details:

Electricity Fault Office: 033 348 2179 / 5081 or 033 348 2607

Email (Call Centre): call.centre@msunduzi.gov.za

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Issued by
T.Mafumbatha
Manager: Communications and IGR