



GAUTENG
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

22 May 2024

Gauteng government signs agreement with Independent Power Producers for the development of Merafong Solar Farm

The Gauteng Provincial Government (GPG) has today, 22 May 2024 signed an agreement with 2 of the 6 Independent Power Producers (IPPs) who will be responsible for the development of the Merafong Solar Farm. At completion, 800MW will be availed to the national grid.

This milestone in the process of contributing more energy into the grid to alleviate the energy availability challenges in the province is in line with the commitment that Premier Panyaza Lesufi made during his State of the Province Address (SOPA) in February 2023.

The project is a Public Private Partnership (PPP) which is managed and developed by a Non-Profit Company (NPC), Bokamoso Ba Rona. The founding partners of the NPC are the Far West Rand Dolomitic Water Association (FWRDWA), Sibanye Stillwater, West Rand District Municipality, and the Gauteng Infrastructure Financial Agency (GIFA), representing GPG. The project will be developed on a 1600 hectares of land that has been donated by Sibanye Stillwater.

The mandate to the IPPs was to source own funding, acquire all required permits for the site development, which means that the project will be implemented at no cost to the provincial government.

“This is a good template for what Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) can achieve to revitalize the economically distressed regions of the province and the country in general. It is also proof that, in the face of a fragile fiscal situation and an era of cost containment, it is still possible for the government to work with private sector partners to effect change, said MEC for Finance, Jacob Mamabolo.

“Energy is an essential component of our economy and ensuring that the nation’s economic hub has a reliable energy supply is vital for economic growth, employment creation, and cushioning its residents, especially impoverished households from load shedding,” said MEC for CogTA, Mzi Khumalo.

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Issued by the Gauteng Provincial Government

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