

Middelburg Chamber of Commerce & Industry Briefing Note

Subject: Eskom Green – Strategic Overview and Opportunities for Middelburg Businesses

Eskom has launched Eskom Green, a dedicated renewable energy business focused on accelerating utility-scale renewable energy projects, supporting industrial decarbonisation, and providing cleaner energy solutions to large electricity users. The business forms part of Eskom's broader energy transition strategy and is expected to deliver approximately 6 GW of new renewable and storage capacity by 2030, with a longer-term target of up to 32 GW by 2040. Eskom Green will focus on solar PV, wind energy, battery energy storage systems (BESS), pumped storage, and the repurposing of existing coal power station sites. A key feature of the model is its intention to partner with private industry and leverage existing Eskom infrastructure to accelerate project delivery.

For the Middelburg economy and broader Nkangala region, Eskom Green presents significant opportunities due to the concentration of power stations, industrial facilities, engineering skills, and manufacturing capability in the area. Potential opportunities include:

- EPC and construction services for renewable energy and battery storage projects.
- Mechanical, electrical, civil and instrumentation installation contracts.
- Operations and maintenance support for renewable generation assets.
- Fabrication of steel structures, pipework, platforms and balance-of-plant equipment.
- Water infrastructure solutions including pumping systems, water treatment and wastewater management.
- Environmental services, rehabilitation and compliance support.
- Skills development and technician training for renewable energy technologies.
- Supply chain opportunities for local manufacturers and engineering SMEs.
- Repowering and repurposing projects at ageing coal-fired power stations such as Hendrina, Arnot, Camden and Komati.
- Development of industrial renewable energy solutions for mining, smelting and manufacturing customers in Mpumalanga.

The Chamber should actively engage Eskom Green, Eskom Generation, local municipalities, educational institutions and industry stakeholders to ensure that Middelburg-based businesses are positioned to participate in the emerging renewable energy value chain. The transition presents an opportunity not only to preserve existing engineering capability within the region but also to create new employment, investment and industrial development opportunities for Mpumalanga.