



Statement on ESKOM's proposed tariff hike

22 August 2024

The United South African Movement (TUSAM) is deeply concerned about ESKOM's application to energy regulator NERSA to increase electricity tariffs by 38% in 2025.

With South Africans already battered and bruised by stagnant incomes and rising prices, unemployment and increasing household debt, it is unfathomable that ESKOM should apply for such a huge increase. The proposed hike is not only several multiples higher than inflation, it comes in the wake of 15 years of continuous double-digit percentage tariff increases. Electricity today is **seven times more expensive than it was in 2007**.

The impact of these unreasonable tariff increases reaches far beyond households. They diminish the already depleted financial capacity of South Africa's municipalities, significantly contributing to the deterioration of service delivery to our population. They force many SMEs and informal enterprises into bankruptcy, causing tens of thousands of people to lose their jobs and livelihoods.

Furthermore, it has also been clear for many years, that these repeated tariff increases have failed to resolve any of ESKOM's deep structural problems, which have played a major role in the decline of South Africa's economy over the past two decades. Instead, the overall impact has simply been to plunge the economy in an endless cycle of higher costs for ever less service, and an ever deeper crisis for ESKOM itself.

South Africans cannot be expected to pay the price for ESKOM's failures and refuse to be trapped in this cycle. We call for NERSA and Parliament to not grant any increase higher than inflation, and for ESKOM to stop expecting South Africans to keep suffering in silence.

END OF STATEMENT

Core Working Group: SN Xaba, GJ Komane, FT Bold, NS Moeng, AS Mkhize, B Ndzuzo, M Hansen, P Coetzer, A. Mkhize, C.E. Zwiendelaar, J. Xanthios, L. De Bruin, N. Morais, V. Sibeko, M. Jabour

www.tusam.co.za

BANKING DETAILS

The United South Africa Movement NPC • Registration# 2021/448627/08 • BANK: First National Bank (FNB) • Business Account # 63049056997



TUSAM

The United South Africa Movement

Core Working Group: SN Xaba, GJ Komane, FT Bold, NS Moeng, AS Mkhize, B Ndzuzo, M Hansen, P Coetzer, A. Mkhize, C.E. Zwiendelaar,
J. Xanthios, L. De Bruin, N. Morais, V. Sibeko, M. Jabour

www.tusam.co.za

BANKING DETAILS

The United South Africa Movement NPC • Registration# 2021/448627/08 • BANK: First National Bank (FNB) • Business Account #
63049056997