DEPUTY MINISTER OF ELECTRICITY & ENERGY AND ENERGY INTENSIVE USERS GROUP OF SOUTHERN AFRICA (EIUG) HOLD STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT

4 December 2025

On 2 December 2025, the Deputy Minister and her advisors met with the Energy Intensive Users Group of Southern Africa (EIUG) at the Glencore Headquarters in Sandton, for a collaborative and forward-looking discussion on the future of South Africa's energy sector.

The meeting brought together key stakeholders from government and EIUG member companies operating across mining, manufacturing, utilities, and technology sectors. The agenda focused on strengthening policy development, operational enablement, and advancing the country's energy reliability, affordability, and sustainability.

Key topics discussed included:

- The need for fair, transparent, and cost-reflective electricity pricing to support industrial competitiveness and economic growth.
- Accelerating reforms in electricity distribution, transmission, and market operations to ensure regulatory certainty and improved grid access.
- Supporting the just energy transition and decarbonisation, with alignment to climate policy goals while safeguarding energy security.
- Incentivising new energy technologies and operational innovation for energy-intensive users.
- Mapping investment pipelines and energy demand, including the potential restart of closed smelters and their impact on Eskom's demand.
- Exploring policy links between the Critical Minerals Strategy and local beneficiation.
- Ongoing coordination with ministries on national decarbonisation policy, carbon credits, and RECs trading among others.

The EIUG reaffirmed its commitment to evidence-based advocacy, constructive engagement, and supporting government efforts to maintain jobs and drive economic development. Both parties agreed to continue working together on policy clarity, grid access, and the development of an early warning system for de-industrialisation risks.

The EIUG stands ready to collaborate with the Ministry and all stakeholders to drive a sustainable, secure, and competitive energy future for South Africa.

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Notes to the editors:

The EIUG was established in 1999, and is a voluntary, non-profit association of energy intensive consumers whose constituency accounts for about 40% of the electrical energy consumed in South Africa. As electricity is a key input to the processes of these organisations, it is the 'life blood' of our businesses. Our members collectively contribute over 20% to the GDP of South Africa and employ over 650 000 people across multiple sectors, including mining, quarrying, manufacturing, electricity, transportation, and water. The EIUG is dedicated to the promotion of the interests of energy users in South African Industry.

The EIUG is a consumer-led organisation working for the good of the country. The group strongly believes that energy is the engine for economic growth and development in South Africa. We are therefore committed to working with government, power utilities and other stakeholders to ensure South Africa has energy industries which provide reliable supply at acceptable quality and competitive prices.

Energy Intensive Users Group of Southern Africa NPC
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