



EFF CALLS FOR NATIONWIDE CONTINGENCY PLAN IN EVENT OF GRID COLLAPSE: URGENT COLLABORATION NEEDED TO PROTECT SOUTH AFRICAN FOOD SECURITY

Saturday, 20 May 2023

The Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) has raised the alarm over the precarious state of our national energy sector and the agricultural sector is faced with a grave threat in the event of grid collapse.

The farming community, vital for our food security, is already struggling due to the ongoing electricity blackouts.

We urgently call on Eskom, South Africa's primary electricity supplier, to collaborate with the farming community, retailers, and all relevant stakeholders to establish an immediate, robust contingency plan to stave off a potential crisis threatening our food supply chains.

We particularly emphasize the hardship of black farmers, many of whom operate without contingency reserves, making the blackouts a severe threat to their livelihoods and farming operations. The expense of installing additional electricity generation capacity poses a substantial financial hurdle for these communities.

The EFF demands that the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development spearhead the prompt organisation of consultative

meetings across all provinces. This initiative should involve major municipalities and metropolitan cities to ensure a comprehensive approach to this challenge. We need an inclusive platform where the concerns of our farming community can be addressed, and collective solutions can be formulated.

The potential grid collapse threatens not only the farming sector but also the most vulnerable among us, our low-income households. Many of these households depend on locally grown produce, and any disruption to our food supply will have far-reaching effects on their livelihoods and our economy.

The EFF asserts that every South African has a right to secure, reliable energy and uninterrupted access to food. We urge all stakeholders to respond with the urgency this situation demands. We can no longer afford to put this issue on the back burner; immediate action is needed.

To safeguard our farming sector, protect our communities, and uphold our citizens' fundamental rights, we must forge a swift, effective response to this crisis. The EFF stands ready to assist in this effort, focusing on the practical measures needed to secure the resilience of our farming sector and the continuity of our food supply.

ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS

Sinawo Thambo (National Spokesperson) 072 629 7422

Leigh-Ann Mathys (National Spokesperson) 082 304 7572

 communications@effonline.org

 <http://www.effonline.org>

 @EFFSouthAfrica

 @EFFSouthAfrica

 Economic Freedom Fighters

THE YEAR OF MASSIVE
POLITICAL EDUCATION AND VOTER REGISTRATION

TO REGISTER TO VOTE: **DIAL: *134*20024#**