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To: H.E. President Cyril Ramaphosa
Republic of South Africa
Union Buildings
Pretoria

By Email:

Your Excellency, President Cyril Ramaphosa

**RE: REQUEST FOR IMMEDIATE PRESIDENTIAL INTERVENTION: IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATING UNIT RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOWING
INVESTIGATION INTO NELSON MANDELA BAY STREETLIGHT AND
FLOODLIGHT TENDER SCANDAL – PROCLAMATION R170 OF 2024**

I respectfully request your urgent intervention regarding the implementation of the findings and recommendations of the Special Investigating Unit (SIU) investigation into streetlight and floodlight tenders authorised under Proclamation R170 of 2024, specifically relating to Tender SCM/20-27/S in the Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality (NMBMM).

The SIU investigation, authorised by your office, examined allegations of unlawful and improper conduct in the Municipality regarding this tender between 1 November 2020 and 12 July 2024. The investigation identified serious irregularities in municipal procurement processes and made specific recommendations aimed at ensuring accountability and protecting public funds.

On 13 April 2026, the SIU presented its report to the Executive Mayor, the Mayoral Committee and various senior directors at a closed-door-meeting. The report recommended disciplinary proceedings against 21 municipal officials, the blacklisting of nine companies

implicated in irregular procurement, and further criminal and civil action where appropriate to recover R35 million. The Municipality was required to submit a progress report to the SIU within 90 days, a deadline that expired on 13 July 2026.

It is deeply concerning that, despite the SIU having concluded its investigation in November 2025, reports indicate that some of the companies implicated in the investigation have subsequently been awarded additional municipal contracts, including Tender SCM/1112/C/2023-2024 and High Mast Tender SCM/20-108/C. If these reports are accurate, they raise serious concerns regarding compliance with the SIU's recommendations, the integrity of the municipality's procurement processes and the effectiveness of consequence management within the Municipality.

We have also learned that the Municipality has laid frivolous charges against the official from the Internal Audit unit who has been leading the internal investigation into streetlights. The Municipality is now reportedly set to inform the SIU that documents relating to this investigation have been "lost" due to the alleged incompetence of that official - an official facing trumped-up charges. This is a clear attempt to sabotage the investigation.

In light of these developments, I respectfully request your intervention and seek clarity on the following matters:

1. What action has been taken by the Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality to implement the SIU's recommendations, including disciplinary proceedings against the 21 implicated officials?
2. Has the municipality complied with the requirement to report back to the SIU within the prescribed 90-day period, and if so, what progress has been made?
3. What steps are being taken to implement the recommendation to blacklist the nine companies implicated in the SIU investigation?
4. What measures will be implemented to prevent any further municipal contracts from being awarded to companies implicated in the SIU investigation while disciplinary, civil and criminal processes are underway?
5. Should the municipality have failed to implement the SIU's recommendations, what intervention will the Presidency undertake to ensure that the findings of the investigation authorised under Proclamation R170 of 2024 are fully implemented?

The DA Caucus in Nelson Mandela Bay has tried to get answers, with no success. In January, DA Cllr Ondela Kepe tabled a Council motion for the immediate suspension of implicated officials and recovery of lost funds. It was voted down. On, 21 April, Cllr Kepe wrote to the Acting City Manager requesting an urgent, comprehensive forensic investigation into all procurement in the Electricity and Energy Directorate, and that Council be updated. No response was received, and the matter has not been brought to Council.

Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality continues to face serious governance challenges that undermine public confidence, weaken institutional integrity and compromise the delivery of essential services to residents. The effectiveness of SIU investigations depends not only on the thoroughness of their findings but also on the swift and decisive implementation of their recommendations.

I therefore respectfully urge you to ensure that appropriate action is taken to enforce accountability, recover public funds where applicable, and strengthen oversight within the municipality. Equally important, decisive intervention will send a clear message that corruption, maladministration and procurement irregularities will not be tolerated, and that those responsible for undermining public administration will be held accountable in accordance with the law.

Given that this investigation was instituted under your authority, I respectfully request your urgent attention to this matter to ensure that the objectives of Proclamation R170 of 2024 are fully realised and that the people of Nelson Mandela Bay can have confidence that justice will be done and that public resources will be protected.

Yours sincerely,



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