

MEDIA STATEMENT

CITY POWER CRACKS DOWN ON DEFAULTERS AND ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS



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Two NSFAS-funded student accommodation flats were disconnected in the Inner City over R12m owed for electricity non-payment.

The disconnections which included night-clubs and other businesses, happened as part of the City of Johannesburg Mayoral CEO Clean-Up Campaign in Region F which includes the Inner City.

City Power used this event as part of its efforts to recover more than R10 billion debt owed to the utility, including R3.2 billion outstanding from defaulting residential and business customers, as well as Large Power Users (LPUs) within the Inner City supply areas. The utility is actively disconnecting non-paying customers and removing illegal connections in the Inner City and Braamfontein precincts.

The first property disconnected as part of today's campaign owed the utility a staggering R4.5 million in unpaid electricity bills. The second property, a well-known nightclub in Hillbrow, owing R4.5 million, had defaulted on an Acknowledgement of Debt (AOD) agreement issued in October 2025 after paying only R60,000. At the third property, illegal connections were successfully dismantled along Esselen Street.

At the fourth building, a prominent LPU had installed a pre-paid meter instead of the required postpaid meter. A level three disconnection was carried out, as all LPU customers are required to operate on postpaid meters. The customer was also found to be connected to two phases instead of the standard three, with one phase malfunctioning, a clear violation of supply regulations.

Two student accommodation facilities along Lillian Ngoyi Street owing R6 million and R6.4m in electricity respectively were also unfortunately disconnected. The two are from the same account holder who received allowances from NSFAS but does not pay municipal services.

Meanwhile, the Public Lighting team continued work to restore streetlights in the Braamfontein precinct, including Ameshoff, De Korte, Stiemens, Jorissen, Juta, Smit, Wolmarans, Simmonds, Melle, and Biccard streets, as part of the Mayoral CEO Clean-up campaign.

More than 70 streetlights have already been repaired and are now fully operational, with some converted into solar power.

ISSUED BY CITY POWER

Isaac Mangena, General Manager

Department of Public Relations and Communications