



Executive Summary

Supplementary to the full Case Study

SYNERGY FOR ENERGY: Securing a reliable energy supply for the iLembe district

A Case Study in the iLembe District of
KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

August 2023

Prepared by the Vuthela iLembe LED Support Programme which aims to improve the economic future of iLembe district residents through sustainable economic growth of the local economy and the creation of higher, better and more inclusive employment and income-generating opportunities.

of the challenges facing the district, along with the emerging opportunities to resolve them.

The body of information and insights generated at the seminar form the basis of this case study, which is intended to contribute towards improving the reliability of electricity in the coastal municipalities of the iLembe district.



The private and public sectors are experiencing significant challenges due to the national electricity crisis and ongoing loadshedding.

The negative impacts of electricity disruptions permeate every sector of the economy in the iLembe district.

In June 2023, the Vuthela iLembe LED Support Programme brought key stakeholders together to consider the initiatives already underway and what steps need be taken in the future to secure a reliable supply of electricity for the district.

The “Synergy for Energy” seminar allowed participants to share information and build a shared understanding

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The content is presented in three parts which describe the prevailing situation, initiatives underway and issues to consider for the future.

Several new approaches to securing a reliable electricity supply in the coastal areas of the iLembe district are being considered by the public and private sector.

However, the lack of sufficient collaboration between municipal officials and businesses operating in the energy sector and the absence of clear enabling policy and bylaws are hampering the implementation of

effective responses to the national electricity crisis.

The study concluded that there was an urgent need to strengthen interaction and seek opportunities for synergistic development.

Collaboration with National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA), Eskom, Department of Mineral Resources, independent power producers, the local municipalities and the private sector is required for successful implementation of projects that will secure a reliable supply of electricity in the iLembe district in the future.