

JOINT MEDIA STATEMENT

NTCSA and IDC sign MoU to collaborate on investing in SA's transmission infrastructure to support localisation

Monday, 04 May 2026: The National Transmission Company South Africa (NTCSA) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), aimed at strengthening the country's industrial capacity and accelerating critical infrastructure development.

This initiative focuses on supporting project development and execution, and the provision of industrial financing to NTCSA-verified suppliers and contractors involved in the expansion of South Africa's electricity transmission network. The implementation will be driven through a joint steering committee to fast-track agreed workstreams, track progress and address constraints. Further details on funding opportunities, including qualifying criteria and access processes, will be communicated as these are finalised in line with each organisation's governance and mandate.

The NTCSA is executing the Transmission Development Plan (TDP) for the period 2025–2034, with delivery already underway. This ambitious programme includes the construction of approximately 14 500 km of transmission lines, the development of substations, and the installation of approximately 210 transformers and other key components. The expansion of transmission infrastructure is driven by the need for significant network strengthening, particularly in the Western Cape, Eastern Cape, and KwaZulu-Natal.

The IDC Chief Executive Officer, Mmakgoshi Lekhethe, commended the two institutions for signing the MoU, stating that securing South Africa's energy security was critical to ensuring the country's sustainable socio-economic and industrial development. Lekhethe further commended Eskom Holdings SOC Limited for a remarkable turnaround in its performance. "We are proud of what you have done to stabilise energy security in the country. As the IDC, we stand ready to fund viable entities that will be selected to be part of this grid network expansion programme," said Lekhethe.

Commenting on the agreement, the NTCSA Chief Executive Officer, Monde Bala, said: "The TDP will create a substantial demand for manufactured inputs and components, placing a strong emphasis on ensuring the development of adequate local manufacturing capacity and capability to deliver. This agreement is designed to support verified suppliers identified by the NTCSA through its procurement processes and equip them with the technical expertise and potential financial backing from the IDC to build sustainable capacity for delivering on the TDP projects. It will also strengthen supplier development, localisation and industrialisation (SDL&I). The focus will be on constrained commodities such as

transformers, insulators, hardware, transmission steel, conductors, and broader grid infrastructure construction.”

Enabling localisation

The scale of transmission expansion required over the next decade demands a strong, reliable local supply base. This partnership with the IDC is about giving South African manufacturers greater visibility of demand and the support they need to invest with confidence. By aligning procurement, localisation and funding, the NTCSA and the IDC are strengthening the supply chain that underpins the delivery of the TDP and supports the country’s energy transition.

Through this partnership, the NTCSA will increase supplier development, localisation and demand visibility, while the IDC will, subject to its governance and due diligence processes, consider appropriate funding support for qualifying suppliers, including working capital and capital investment to expand production capacity.

The 72-month partnership represents a significant step towards strengthening South Africa’s transmission infrastructure, while supporting localisation, industrial development and long-term economic growth.

ENDS

National Transmission Company South Africa (NTCSA)

For media enquiries, please contact:

NTCSA Media Desk: media@ntcsa.co.za

Industrial Development Corporation (IDC)

For media enquiries, please contact:

Chimwemwem@idc.co.za

or Media@idc.co.za

Language edited



Mafu Ramotshela
Language Services
Corporate Affairs Division

Corporate Affairs Division