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MEDIA STATEMENT

NERSA REGISTERS 143 NEW GENERATION FACILITIES IN QUARTER THREE OF 2024/25

The National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) announced today that it has successfully registered 143 generation facilities during the third quarter of the 2024/25 financial year. These new facilities contribute a total capacity of 1,107 MW, representing a notable investment value of R23.18 billion. The average investment cost for this quarter stands at R22,371 per kW, reflecting the unwavering commitment to expanding South Africa’s energy generation capacity.

The Western Cape, Gauteng and North West provinces are leading in the new registered facilities, indicating the diverse geographical interest in energy generation. However, when considering the total installed capacity and investment cost, Limpopo, Free State and Gauteng emerge as the top three provinces. Notably, the Limpopo Province recorded the highest investment cost for the quarter, amounting to a staggering R13.5 billion, with an installed capacity of 627 MW. This significant investment underscores the province’s pivotal role in the country’s energy landscape.

Among the 143 new registrations, one facility has been registered for commercial purposes, featuring a capacity of 60 MW and an investment cost of R1.2 billion. This reflects the ongoing transition towards commercial energy generation in South Africa. The most favoured technology during this period was solar photovoltaic (PV), attributed to South Africa’s abundant sunlight, which is conducive for both small-scale and large-scale generation. Table 1 below provides details of the registered facilities.

Table 1: Details of the registered facilities

Technology	Number of generation facilities	Capacity (MW)	Location (Province)
Solar PV	142	1 106.5	WC (54), GP (35), KZN (9), EC (7), FS (10), LP (7), NW (14), NC (6)
BESS	1	0.500	GP (1)
Total	143	1 107	8 provinces

Regulator Members:

Mr T Bukula (Chairperson) Ms Z Mpungose (Deputy Chairperson) *Adv NP Sithole (Chief Executive Officer)

*Mr N Gumede *Ms N Maseti *Mr MW Mkhize Ms T Semane Mr FK Sibanda Ms PN Sibiya

*Full-Time Regulator Members

A total of 82 registered generation facilities with a capacity of 1 058.1 MW and investments costs of R22.47 billion are connected to Eskom distribution. The registered generation facilities connected to municipal distribution networks are 61, with a capacity of 48.9 MW and investments costs of R711 million.

Since the inception of the registration regime, NERSA has registered a total of 1 811 generation facilities, culminating in a notable total capacity of 10 550 MW. This growth is a testament to the effectiveness of the regulatory framework in facilitating energy generation capacity. During the third quarter, NERSA processed applications within an average of 14 working days, demonstrating its commitment to efficiency and responsiveness in the registration process. Table 2 below provides the number of registered facilities per year.

Table 2: Number of registered generation facilities per year

Year	Number of generation facilities registered	Capacity (MW)	Investment cost (R'm)
2018	52	26	-
2019	41	23	464
2020	124	53	681
2021	282	134	1 887
2022	406	1 646	25 000
2023	405	4 490	84 962
2024	501	4 178	89 744
Total	1 811	10 550	R202 738

NERSA derives the mandate to register generation facilities from the Licensing Exemption and Registration Notice, published on 17 January 2023 in Government Gazette No. 47877, Vol. 691. The key feature of this Notice is the removal of the registration cap of 100 MW and the exemption of all generation facilities above 100 kW from licensing requirements, regardless of the type of technology used.

'NERSA is proud to have facilitated the connection of over 10 GW of new generation capacity through its registration process, attracting a total investment of over R200 billion. Additionally, NERSA has significantly improved its efficiency, registering generation facilities within 14 days, well ahead of the legislated 30-day requirement', said Ms Nomfundo Maseti, Acting Regulator Member for Electricity Regulation.

NERSA remains dedicated to fostering a sustainable and diversified energy sector in South Africa.

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Enquiries:

Mr Charles Hlebela Head of Communications

Mobile: 083 646 8280

Email: charles.hlebela@nersa.org.za