



## SITE VISIT TO UMOYILANGA ENERGY PROJECT

### Pictures by Mahlogonolo Makwela

As part of the Minister and Members of the Executive Committee (MinMec) meeting taking place in Gqeberha, Eastern Cape, Minister Dean Macpherson, accompanied by Deputy Minister Sihle Zikalala, invited His Excellency, Deputy President Paul Mashatile, to visit the Umoiyilanga Project site.

The project, led by Infrastructure South Africa (ISA) in partnership with Électricité de France (EDF), offers clean and cost-effective wind and solar energy solutions. Loosely translated, Umoiyilanga is a combined Xhosa word meaning "wind and sun."

The purpose of the site visit was to showcase the work carried out by ISA in collaboration with EDF's power solution technologies to deliver dispatchable and reliable power to the national grid. Located on the outskirts of the Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality, this innovative project integrates solar, wind, and battery storage technologies.

Its virtual power plant in Dassiesridge, Eastern Cape, produces 75 MW of wind energy and 45 MW of battery storage. This project is a testament to South Africa's commitment to becoming a construction hub that protects jobs and attracts investment by ensuring a consistent and reliable energy supply to the grid.

According to EDF Project Director, Gregoire de Montgolfier, the project has already created 500 jobs during its construction phase, a milestone in safeguarding employment opportunities in the country.

In his remarks, Deputy President Mashatile thanked Minister Macpherson and Deputy Minister Zikalala for the invitation and expressed his appreciation for the progress made. He affirmed that the work on the ground is indeed advancing.

The Deputy President further echoed the sentiments of ISA CEO, Mametja Masemola, emphasising the urgent need for financial support to accelerate the delivery of this transformative project.



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