

HOGAN'S SHOCKING STATEMENT

Mantashe was there when I was fired!

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FORMER public enterprises minister Barbara Hogan has told the Commission of Inquiry into State Capture that she was fired because she questioned former president Jacob Zuma's interference in state-owned enterprises.

Hogan told the commission sitting in Parktown, Joburg how she had a heated interaction with Zuma when he interfered in the dismissal of then Eskom CEO Jacob Maroga.

She said Zuma had instructed Maroga to go back to his position and only backtracked after the then deputy minister, Enoch Godongwana, took the matter up with the ANC top six.

Hogan said when Zuma fired her, he was with former ANC secretary-general Gwede Mantashe.

"The meeting didn't last long. He told me the NEC had decided that I should be removed.

"I was told I was going to be appointed ambassador to Finland but I declined," she said.

Her dismissal was with immediate effect.

She told the commission about the incident when Maroga was removed, saying when she received a call from Zuma he was angry and shouting.

"He asked me 'what are you doing?' He instructed me to 'stop it now' and told me he had given Maroga permission to return to Eskom," she said.

She said Eskom had by then already been in the process of getting a new CEO and she informed ANC deputy secretary general Jessie Duarte about Zuma's instruction to halt the process.

She said when she eventually met Zuma, he told her to inform the board that Maroga was back as CEO.

She said she didn't want to take ownership of that proposal and want-

ed to make it clear to the board that it was Zuma's decision.

Hogan said when Maroga came back, he displayed arrogance. She suspected he had met Zuma privately because one day when she went to Zuma's house, the housekeeper said Maroga had been there earlier in the day.

She said Zuma made Maroga feel that he was above company laws.

She said she decided to resign as an MP because Zuma had assumed authority he didn't have to meddle with state-owned enterprises.