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GTM INFRASTRUCTURE HEAD ANNOUNCES ELECTRICITY PROJECT FOR RWANDA VILLAGE

GREATER TZANEEN MUNICIPALITY - Greater Tzaneen Municipality (GTM) Infrastructure Head, Councillor Conny Ramothwala, today announced an electricity project aimed at improving access to electricity in the Nwamitwa area (Rwanda village). The announcement was made during a handover meeting at the Nwamitwa Tribal Office. Addressing a gathering of community members, stakeholders, and local leaders, Cllr. Ramothwala highlighted that the project was a direct response to community requests raised during the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) public participation meetings. "In the last IDP meeting, I presented to the community that one of their needs would be addressed, and I am here today to announce the commencement of this project," said Cllr. Ramothwala. The project will electrify 82 households in Rwanda village and is expected to be completed by May

2025. ADY EM Technical (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as the contractor for the six months project, with Superior Quality appointed as the consulting engineer. The total cost of the project is R1.9 million, and approximately 8 community members will be employed during its implementation. EPWP database will be used to appoint the labourers. During the meeting, the consulting engineer presented a detailed map of the project to the stakeholders and community members. The map outlined the scope of work and the areas that would benefit from the electricity connection. While the announcement was met with enthusiasm, Cllr. Ramothwala acknowledged that there is still a significant demand for electricity in the area. "We are very much aware that there are over 300 households that require electricity, but only 82 have been allocated for this phase of the project," she said. Cllr Ramothwala further

said" When we apply for funding from the Department of Mineral resources and Energy, assessments are conducted to determine if a sufficient number of households in a given area meet the requirements for electrification. She called on the ward councillor, stakeholders, and traditional leaders to work together to ensure that houses are being built in the vacant stands so that more households can eventually be connected. A project steering committee of 3 members will be established to oversee the progress of the project and ensure that it runs smoothly. The electricity project is expected to bring significant benefits to the community, not only by providing much-needed power to households but also by creating local employment opportunities and improving overall quality of life. Issued by Patricia Muchabi