CLOSING REMARKS BY ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY CHAIRPERSON OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING, CLLR THEMBO NTULI AT THE ENERGY TRANSFORMATION SUMMIT, 2 MARCH 2023

- Programme Director
- eThekwini Municipality Mayor, Cllr Mxolisi Kaunda
- Head of Infrastructure South Africa: Prof Kgosientsho Ramokgopa
- Business fraternity
- Civil society
- Industry expert
- Government officials
- Delegates
- Ladies and Gentlemen

Good Afternoon

We have come to the end of our two-day energy transformation summit which was a resounding success. The discussions that ensued here over the past two days clearly demonstrate that eThekwini Municipality and the

province of KwaZulu-Natal is ready to lead the way in the energy transformation space.

We would like to convey our profound gratitude the Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, Mrs Nomusa Dube-Ncube and the MEC for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Mr Siboniso Duma for outlining the plans the province has put in place to address the energy crisis. Our appreciation also goes to Ambassador Suklal and US Consul-General for sharing their international experience on energy security.

Our gratitude also goes to industry experts, business leaders and all our social partners who participated in various panel discussions for your invaluable contribution. Your input will indeed go a long way in taking our energy transition strategy forward.

What became clear during the discussions is that eThekwini Municipality has a tangible programme of action with clear timelines to implement its energy transition policy. We therefore encourage all stakeholders to join hands with us so that the target we have set ourselves of ensuring that by 2026 we have

400mw of new generation capacity from Independent Power Producers is achieved.

Speakers and delegates in this summit have been very clear that this transition must not leave anyone behind and that it should not result to any job losses. It must also bring the majority of people who were deliberately excluded from participating in this sector, Blacks in general and Africans in Particular into the mainstream economy.

Finally, let me thank the officials who have worked tirelessly to organise this summit under the leadership of the Acting Deputy City Manager for Economic Development and Planning, Mr Lihle Phewa.

We also want to thank our delegates for being disciplined and contributing meaningfully to the discussions.

We are confident that through this summit we will establish long-lasting partnerships.

I thank you