

Matthys Johannes "Thys" Möller

*Director Electrical Engineering Services
Swartland Local Municipality*

I was appointed as the Director Electrical Engineering Services at Swartland Municipality in August 2022. I am responsible for the Operating and Maintenance of the electrical infrastructure (220V to 11kV) of the municipality. The planning, design, construction and commissioning of new infrastructure to meet the existing and future requirements of customers and quality standards is done under my leadership. The development and implementation of new strategies dealing with energy efficiency, renewable energy and revenue protection are some of the key challenges that I deal with. As the Director I am also responsible for the development of sustainable tariffs and motivating for annual tariff increases to NERSA (National Energy Regulator of South Africa). The municipality has implemented SSEG (Small Scale Embedded Generation) and are purchasing excess energy from customers and recently signed a Power Purchasing Agreement with an IPP to provide the municipality with Solar energy at one of our towns. We are also busy with an environmental impact assessment on a piece of municipal land which is earmarked for renewable, specifically solar, energy. Prior to joining the Municipality, I worked for Eskom, the National Energy Company, for 35 years. I have extensive experience dealing with electricity infrastructure creation (from conceptual idea formulation, planning, design, construction, project implementation, project management and construction management) and asset operation (Maintenance and Operations), Customer Services of a large utility as well as General Management of a complex utility business in all its facets. As the Engineering Manager and later General Manager of the Eastern Cape Operating Unit, I had the overall accountability for all engineering functions (Asset Management), Customer Services (Sales, Marketing, Pricing), supply chain management, financial management, human resources management, safety, health, quality, and environmental aspects and Integrated Risk Management. The Asset Management experience, from cradle to grave, and customer services experience that I obtained while working for Eskom as well as the interaction with the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), National government departments such as National Treasury, Co-operative governance and Traditional Affairs, Department of





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Minerals and Energy and various municipalities is standing me in good stead now as a Municipal official.

Organization Overview: As indicated above Swartland provides electricity to the four main towns in the municipal area. Annual Energy purchases from Eskom amounts to +/- 192 000 kWh with Energy Sales around 182 000 kWh. Total Energy losses is well below the NERSA norms of 8 – 12 percent and has been maintained at below 6.5% for a number of years. We have around 17 900 electricity customers of which +/- 65% are on prepaid metering.

The Department's capital budget for the previous financial year amounted to +/- R63 million and we have managed to spend >95% of the Capital Budget annually on a consistent basis. The Operating budget which includes, labour, transport, material as well as energy purchases amounts to R390 million.

Interests:

- Solar Power Generation
- Microgrid Technology