



# AZAPO

AZANIAN PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION

**TO: ALL MEDIA HOUSES FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FROM: AZAPO SECRETARY FOR PUBLICITY & INFORMATION**

**DATE: April 3, 2024**

**SUBJECT: AZAPO STATEMENT ON THE NERSA ELECTRICITY TARIFF INCREASE**

The National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) is at it again, all over the media for the wrong reasons.

The toiling, ever economically hard-pressed and the downtrodden Azanian masses will never be spared NERSA's sadistic practices.

Just in the past financial year 2023/2024, NERSA sought to skyrocket electricity tariffs to a whopping 32,2 %, unashamedly so without any form of consultation with the more than 30% unemployed citizens of this country.

It's noteworthy to mention that **ONLY** after **AZAPO** intervened through staging sit-ins and night vigils at their Pretoria headquarters, resulting in robust engagement with NERSA high echelon management there, did NERSA relent but pitched unilaterally so, electricity tariffs at 16,5%.

The poor people of our country are already accustomed to NERSA's intransigent, arrogant and heartless practices of imposing astronomical annual percentage tariff increases, rendering electricity an unaffordable commodity.

It remains an inarguable fact that NERSA's annual ritual of imposing steep electricity tariff increases is not without the usual vulnerable victims, being both the urban and rural poor who can barely make ends meet.

This economically insensitive and inhumane unilateral tariff increase of 12,74% by NERSA in the current financial year 2024/2025 still remains the highest in the midst of abject poverty, excruciating pangs of hunger and staggering rate of unemployment above 30% of the country's population.

The poorest Black people, who are in the main the majority, are not spared to bear the brunt of the approaching coldest winter season in the omnipresence of unabated loadshedding, all thanks to NERSA and the equally financially ransacked and fleeced ESKOM.

The poor Black majority continue to suffer double or even triple jeopardy with the remnants of State-Owned-Companies (SOCs) such as the South African Post Office (SAPO) having closed 320 establishments throughout the country.

Therefore, destining thousands of workers and their families into the gaping voracious ocean of the unemployed. government, which grossly mismanaged, milked our country's economy dry, through unbridled looting and without flinching destroyed our national infrastructure for 30 years.

**AZAPO** will not stand by and idly observe NERSA mercilessly suffocating the Azanian masses. Watch the space, our forces are mobilizing the ground for the war NERSA will never win.

**AZAPO** instructs that NERSA unconditionally, with immediate effect, drops the 12,74% unaffordable and astronomical electricity tariff increase against the poor Black majority NOW!

**END**

Issued by **AZAPO** Department of Publicity and Information (DPI).

**Name: Jabu Rakwena**

**Email: jaburakwena@gmail.com**

Enquiries: Jabu Rakwena 060 677 4257 or Nosipiwo Manona 065 899 4566

Office: **Publicity Secretary**

*Unit 04 – Ground Floor,  
396 Cork Avenue, Ferndale, Johannesburg 2194  
P.O. Box 4230, JOHANNESBURG 2000.*