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## MEDIA RELEASE

**To: News Editors**  
**From: Kgamanyane Maphologela**  
**Director: Communications & Stakeholder Management**  
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### **City warns defaulting communities to brace themselves for a cold winter over unpaid bill.**

The City of Johannesburg warns defaulting communities that they will soon be without electricity this winter – over close to half a billion targeted municipal debt. These are communities which are high on the City's list of perpetual defaulters.

High on the list of defaulting suburbs the City will start to disconnect this week include Midrand; Steyn City, Lenasia, Blue Hills, Steyn City, Bryanston, and Kyalami, who collectively owe the City a staggering R 464 732 136.00 to date. The City advises all residents of these suburbs to come forward before it is too late.

"The City has always consistently supplied water and electricity, as well as refuse removal to these communities. It is disappointing to establish that some communities are clearly demonstrating disregard to paying for the services rendered when they in position to afford to pay," said Director of Customer Communications for the City's Group Finance Department, Kgamanyane Maphologela.

Maphologela said the City has a ballooning debt of more than R52 billion and it was unsustainable for the City to continue to provide water, electricity, sewer, and refuse services without receiving payment in return.

"The City's highly specialised team of debt collectors will put more attention and focus every step of the way to ensure compliance with the credit control measure," added Maphologela

An observation has been made that some communities have adopted a trend of nonpayment and disregard to all correspondence from the City, when advising

property owners about the status of their accounts and pending credit control actions to be taken.

“We call upon all property owners to come forward before services are terminated at their properties. The City remains open to negotiations for payment arrangements,” said Maphologela.

Customers who wish to make payment arrangements should visit their nearest customer service centres or alternatively email [creditcontrol@joburg.org.za](mailto:creditcontrol@joburg.org.za).

**ENDS –**

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