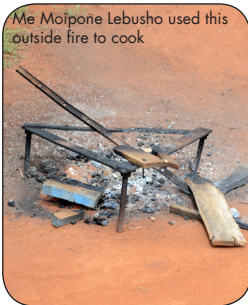




MMM Deputy Executive Mayor Clr Connie Rampai, EM Clr Thabo Manyoni, Energy Deputy Minister Ms Barbara Thomson, Speaker Clr Mxolisi Siyonzana and Centlec CEO Mr MP Seboka at the switch-on ceremony in Phase 2



Me Moipone Lebusho used this outside fire to cook



MMM Mayco members and councillors at the switch-on ceremony last week



MMM officials and the department of energy donated household appliances and food parcels to two disadvantaged households, including Me Moipone Lebusho

Khotsong gets electrified

A 54 years old mother of three, Moipone Lebusho, had been using paraffin and candles as sources of energy and light for most of her life. Her daily life comprised of setting the steel iron on an outside of fire to iron her child's clothes, while a three-legged pot on an outside fire were used to cook the day's meal.

All this changed on Friday, 01 March 2013, when Lebusho and hundreds of residents from Khotsong Township in Phase 2 had their households officially electrified in a joint operation by the Department of Energy, Centlec and

Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality.

The symbolic electricity switch ceremony at two houses was done by the energy Deputy-Minister Me Barbara Thomson, MMM Executive Mayor Clr Thabo Manyoni and the Ward 12 Councillor, Clr Masabata Matsemlela.

"Electricity really is life. Without it we struggle to do daily things that many take for granted. It is also a unique and special service in that it is used specifically by individuals unlike roads which are used by the entire community," the Deputy-Minister said.

According to some residents in the informal settlement, they sometimes spent over R600 on alternative energy like gas and paraffin and this would not always last a month. Besides the money spent, the residents were also concerned with their safety as these elements are known to cause major accidents.

The EM thanked the residents for being patient, adding that this was the first of other projects which will benefit the people of Mangaung.

"Citizens of Khotsong must feel proud that their government has come back to them to install

electricity even though the installation is in the shacks. I know for a fact there are other services that are under way and it is the same hope that will sustain you as we work towards bringing them to you, like proper housing," the EM said.

"Municipalities are not operating separately from national and provincial government. They form part of broader governance hence you see the deputy-minister today," he added.

The EM also commended the ward councillor for her persistence in ensuring that the ward gets electricity.

MANGAUNG NEWS UPDATE

This platform has been created to communicate all the activities, projects, events and the latest developments within MMM. If an individual Directorate wants to publish their information, please contact the communications unit: (Tel: 051-4058212 or e-mail qondile.khedama@mangaung.co.za)