

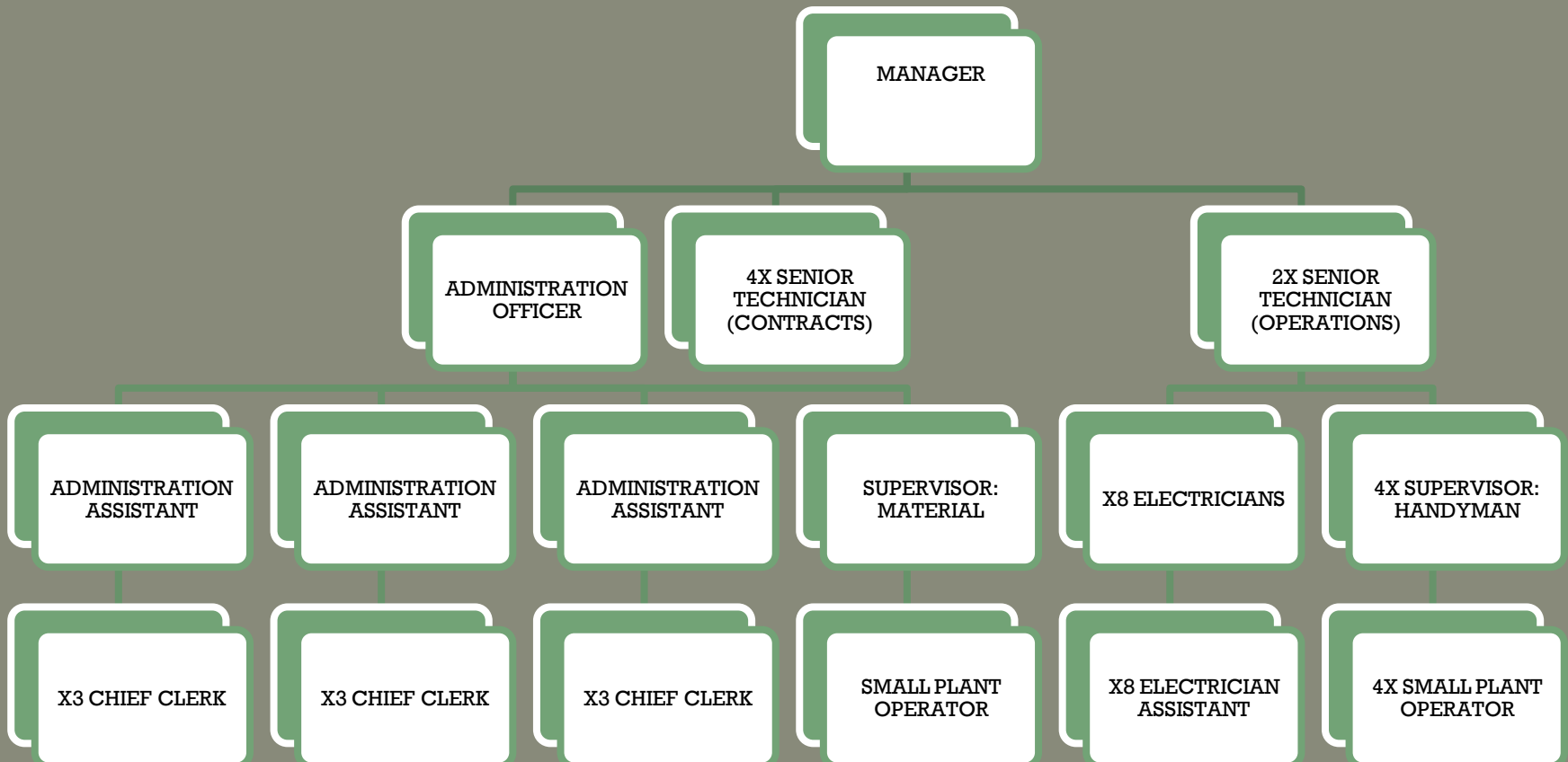
# OUTLINE

- INTRODUCTION
- DIFFERENT TYPES OF ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS
- OFFENDERS
- REASONS FOR STEALING ELECTRICITY
- IMPACT
- ILLEGAL CONNECTION MITIGATION STRATEGIES
- GAPS/CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED
- ETHEKWINI ELECTRICITY EXPERIENCE
- WAY FORWARD

# INTRODUCTION

- ETHEKWINI ELECTRICITY SUPPLIES TO OVER 662 000 CUSTOMERS
- IN AN AREA COVERING NEARLY 2000 SQUARE KILOMETRES
- REVENUE PROTECTION DIVISION CONSIST OF 3 REGIONS (NORTHERN, SOUTHERN AND CENTRAL)

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# ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS ON STREET LIGHT POLE



# ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS ON LV LINES



# ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS ON UGM





# ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS IN METER BOX/ROOM



# OFFENDERS

- ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS
- INTERNAL EMPLOYEES
- CONSUMERS



# REASONS FOR STEALING ELECTRICITY

- BACKLOG IN APPLICATION FOR NEW ELECTRICITY CONNECTIONS
- AFFORDABILITY AND HIGH LEVEL OF UNEMPLOYMENT AT ETHEKWINI
- CULTURE OF NON PAYMENT FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES
- ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY POLICY – NOT TO RETICULATE INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS
- INFORMAL SETTLEMENT-DUE TO HOUSING ALLOCATION BACKLOG
- ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WITHOUT PROPER DOCUMENTATION

# IMPACT

- LOSS OF REVENUE
- SAFETY OF COMMUNITIES
- INCREASES NUMBER OF OUTAGES
- INCREASES LABOUR COST
- SERVICE DELIVERY AFFECTED  
(CONSUMER INCONVENIENCE)

# ILLEGAL CONNECTION MITIGATION STRATEGIES

- ◉ ENGAGING WITH POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVES AND ITS COMMUNITIES
- ◉ INVOLVE HOUSING DEPT FOR POSSIBLE RELOCATION OF INFORMAL SETTLEMENT DWELLERS
- ◉ FORMALISING AREAS FOR POSSIBLE INSTALLATION OF ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE
- ◉ REGULAR METER INSPECTIONS TO LIMIT LOSSES

# GAPS/CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED

- LACK OF EDUCATION TO COMMUNITIES REGARDING CONSEQUENCES OF ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS
- LAW ENFORCERS (JUDGES, PROSECUTORS) LACK UNDERSTANDING ON IMPACT OF STEALING ELECTRICITY
- OFFENDERS GET MINOR OR SUSPENDED SENTENCES
- LACK OF COMMITMENT FROM POLICE/PEACE OFFICERS
- NON RECOVERY OF LOST REVENUE
- OUTDATED BYLAWS, POLICIES AND LEGISLATIONS

# WHAT HAVE WE DONE DIFFERENTLY?

- REVIEW BYLAWS
- ONGOING TRAINING OF IN-HOUSE PEACE OFFICERS
- ILLEGAL CONNECTION REMOVALS – USING CONTRACTORS, AND INTERNAL EMPLOYEES
- MONTHLY OPERATIONS THAT INVOLVES ALL GOVERNMENT DEPT (HEALTH, LABOUR, HOME AFFAIRS, SAPS, METRO POLICE, ELECTRICITY, WATER DEPT, ETC) TO CLEAN THE CITY OF ANY ILLEGAL OPERATIONS
- TURNING BAD BUILDINGS TO BETTER BUILDINGS FOR POTENTIAL INVESTORS IN ORDER TO GENERATE REVENUE FOR THE CITY

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- TARGET ALL BUSINESSES FOR COMPLIANCE
- ROUTINE RESIDENTIAL/BUSINESS METER SWEEP
- INTRODUCTION OF 80/20 PROJECT
- ATTENDING FAULT COMPLAINTS EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY
- TAKING ALL CASES OF ELECTRICITY THEFT TO OUR MUNICIPALITY COURT



# MAGISTRATES COURT



# MUNICIPALITY COURT



# ETHEKWINI ELECTRICITY EXPERIENCE

## MAGISTRATES/HIGH COURT

- LESS KNOWLEDGE OF OUR BYLAWS AND POLICIES
- DELAYS IN DEALING ELECTRICITY THEFT CASES- SEEN AS MINOR OFFENCES
- FINES GO TO THE STATE
- JUDGES AND PROSECUTORS ARE DIVERSE
- GAPS IDENTIFIED IN THE SYSTEM – NOTHING DONE
- INCONSISTENCY– SORT PROBLEM NOW & COMPLY LATER

## MUNICIPALITY COURT

- FULL UNDERSTANDING OF OUR BYLAWS
- PRIORITY GIVEN – REVENUE COLLECTION METHOD AND FOR CONSISTENCY
- FINES GO TO THE MUNICIPALITY
- SPECIALISES IN BYLAWS – GAPS IDENTIFIED ARE FED BACK TO THE SYSTEM
- CONSISTENCY – SORT PROBLEM LATER AND COMPLY FIRST

# CONCLUSION

- **ALTHOUGH THERE IS SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN REDUCING ELECTRICITY ILLEGAL CONNECTIONS AT ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY – OUR CHALLENGE STILL LIES IN NATIONAL LEGISLATION – IN ENSURING THAT THE ENTIRE NATION UNDERSTAND THAT ELECTRICITY ILLEGAL CONNECTION IS A CRIME!**
- **STEALING ELECTRICITY IS SUBOTAGING THE ECONOMY OF OUR COUNTRY.**



# COMMENT



# Comments and Questions?

