



More than 1,000 learners at Thushanang Primary School in Mpumalanga to benefit from GE school infrastructure upgrades

- *Today's sod-turning ceremony marks first milestone in GE's R20m investment to enable a safe and healthy learning environment at Thushanang Primary School*
- *Empowering local businesses with the appointment of civil construction firm, Pegasus Civil Construction*
- *R100m invested in school infrastructure projects across the Mpumalanga region and more than a billion to empower local businesses*

Mpumalanga, South Africa; 18 April 2019: [NYSE: GE] – At the sod-turning ceremony held at Thushanang Primary School today, General Electric's (GE) Steam Power committed R20 million towards the removal of asbestos classrooms and infrastructure upgrades to benefit over 1000 learners. The initiative, which forms part of GE's school infrastructure upgrade project, also helps the school meet the norms and standards of the School Infrastructure Regulations.

"As a responsible corporate citizen, GE strives to uplift the communities where it does business through various initiatives including skills training and local supplier development. We recognise that to make a sustainable impact, we must be deliberate in our efforts to support social change. We have been supporting schools in the province through upgrades since 2013", said Nthabiseng Kubheka, GE Steam Power, Executive Project Director. "A safe and healthy environment aids learning and contributing towards the reduction of asbestos in schools helps achieve this. The impact, we believe, will be felt by not only by the learners and educators but the entire community".

In addition to the removal of the harmful material from the building, GE also identified the need to improve the facilities.

"Over and above the removal of the asbestos, we found that the school had insufficient ablution blocks and no kitchen area. To remedy this, we will provide new ablutions, equipment for the kitchen as well as improve the outdoor recreational spaces, provide an outdoor assembly area, tuck shop and a vegetable garden," added Kubheka.

To support the development of local businesses, in line with its continuous strategy to empower local businesses, GE has contracted the services of Pegasus Civil Construction to lead the upgrades. The company is based in Mpumalanga and has further committed to subcontract a minimum of 25% of the work to local SMEs and employ within the community.

"We're honoured to be a part of this project and are committed to delivering a facility that will enhance the learners' school experience. All labour will be sourced from the local area and, through our partnership with GE, we will run both skills development and enterprise development programmes over the course of construction," said Maria Ndimande, Pegasus Civil Construction Director.



Press release

This is one of four school infrastructure projects that GE aims to roll out in 2019 in and around the province.

About GE Steam Power:

GE Steam Power is an industry leader in cleaner power generation, supporting customers with everything from full turnkey plants to individual components, upgrades, and core operations and maintenance services for their coal and nuclear power plants. As today's #1 steam franchise with more than 30% of the world's steam turbine capacity, 50% of the world's steam turbines for nuclear power plants and 30% of the world's boilers, GE Steam Power is delivering solutions that ensure a productive future for power plants all over the world. For more information please visit <https://www.ge.com/power/steam> and follow GE Power on [Twitter](#) and on [LinkedIn](#).

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