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Eurasian Resources Group in Africa

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Metalkol SA, a Eurasian Resources Group (ERG) company and SNEL SA inaugurate first circuit of 120 kV Nseke-RO line to strengthen power supply in Kolwezi**

**Kolwezi, 10 October 2025** – La Compagnie d'exploitation des Rejets de Kingamyambo SA (Metalkol SA or Metalkol), an entity of the Eurasian Resources Group (ERG), and the Société Nationale d'Électricité SA (SNEL SA) have inaugurated the first circuit of the 120 kV line connecting the Nseke power station to the West Substation (Nseke-RO) in Lualaba Province.

The ceremony, held at the Nseke-RO site, was attended by His Excellency, Mr Sakombi Molendo, Minister of Hydraulic Resources and Electricity; Clément Mufundji Tshinat, Vice-Governor of Lualaba Province; a delegation from SNEL SA led by Chairman of the Board Luc Badibanga and CEO Teddy Lwamba; Eric Monga, national Vice-President of the Congolese Employers' Federation (FEC) responsible for energy; representatives of ERG Africa; technical partners MCS and Sescon; and several public and private institutions.

The project demonstrates the value of collaboration between the private and public sectors in developing strategic infrastructure in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

In his address, the Minister emphasised the project's strategic significance for energy security and regional socio-economic development, stating: *"This large-scale infrastructure is the result of exemplary collaboration between SNEL and Metalkol SA. Completed in less than nine months, it stands as a testament to the effective partnership between the public and private sectors, built on mutual trust, complementary expertise, and a shared commitment to the public good. The project fully reflects the strategic vision of His Excellency Félix Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo, President of the Republic."*

In 2024, Metalkol and SNEL SA identified the project as a strategic initiative, set to directly strengthen the electricity network, enhance energy stability, and provide tangible, lasting benefits to the mining sector around Kolwezi as well as local communities.

Speaking at the ceremony, SNEL SA's Chairman, Luc Badibanga, emphasised, *"Without reliable, competitive, and sustainable electricity, our mineral wealth cannot be transformed into shared prosperity."*

The commissioning of the line increases transfer capacity to approximately 260 MW, enabling all energy produced at the Nseke hydroelectric plant to be transmitted to the RO substation.

The project also forms a key part of ERG Africa's sustainable development strategy, which seeks to balance industrial performance with positive community impact and environmental

responsibility. ERG Africa representatives, Joachim Nzuzi, Chief of Staff; Isabel Ramirez, Chief of Strategic Projects and Energy; and Adrian Fariala, Head of Energy, reaffirmed the company's commitment to a collaborative approach and to supporting national energy security.

The new line will allow Metalkol to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by approximately 2,000 tonnes per month and significantly decrease reliance on fuel. Improved network reliability will recover an average of 30 operational hours per month, representing estimated savings of nearly US\$3 million.

The project showcases the outstanding technical expertise of the team, comprising SNEL SA, Metalkol, MCS, and consulting engineers Sescon. It has also created more than 150 local jobs and facilitated substantial skills transfer for future projects.

The second phase, which Metalkol aims to start as soon as possible, will involve constructing the line spans at the substations to complete the double-circuit line, further strengthening the resilience of Kolwezi's electricity network and its surrounding areas.

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**About ERG Africa:**

Eurasian Resources Group (ERG) is a leading diversified natural resources group headquartered in Luxembourg, with integrated mining, processing, energy, logistics, and marketing operations. The Group has around 67,000 employees and sells products in more than 40 countries. The Group's main shareholder (40% stake) is the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

ERG is one of the world's largest producers of cobalt and ferrochrome and is a large international supplier of copper and iron ore. In Eurasia, it is a leading supplier of alumina and is the only producer of high-grade aluminium in Kazakhstan.

Overall, in Kazakhstan, the Group operates many of the country's leading production entities, including Kazchrome, Sokolov-Sarbai Iron Ore Mining Production Association (SSGPO), Kazakhstan Aluminium Smelter, Aluminium of Kazakhstan, Eurasian Energy Corporation, and others. The Group is a key power supplier and a large railway operator in Central Asia.

ERG Africa also forms a core part of the Group's international asset portfolio. ERG Africa is represented in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) by its principal entities – Metalkol, Frontier, Boss Mining and COMIDE. In the DRC, Frontier is the cornerstone of the Group's copper business and Metalkol is a major tailings reprocessing operation, which has become one of the world's largest producers of cobalt and a major producer of copper. The Group also has a copper and cobalt business in Zambia and development projects in South Africa and Zimbabwe which are focused on other minerals and products. In addition, the Group has its own supply chain on the continent through its logistics company SABOT.

In Brazil, ERG is developing BAMIN, an integrated mining and logistics project in the State of Bahia, which comprises the Pedra de Ferro high-grade iron ore mine, the Porto Sul deep-water port and the associated stretch of the new FIOL broad-gauge railway.