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Our Ref. Media Statement: Two Suspects Arrested For theft and vandalism of Essential Infrastructure.	**Your Ref.:**

MEDIA STATEMENT: TWO SUSPECTS ARRESTED FOR THEFT AND VANDALISM OF ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE.

CENTLEC welcomes the arrest of two suspects on separate incidents which occurred on Sunday 14 June 2026. In the first incident, a suspect was arrested for allegedly tampering with essential infrastructure at phase 4 in Bloemfontein following a tip off received by CENTLEC officials. The Armed Response members and the investigator were immediately dispatched to the scene where the suspect was found in possession of pliers, a spade, and copper cables with estimated value of R32 161,96.

Preliminary investigation revealed that two additional suspects managed to flee the scene, leaving behind their accomplice.

In a separate incident, a source reliably informed CENTLEC of a suspect who was spotted digging a trench. The information was operationalized and executed jointly by the South African Police Services and community patrollers from the H3 section in Botshabelo.

The suspect was later arrested at his house and is facing charges relating to theft and vandalism of essential infrastructure. During the arrest, the first suspect provided identifying details regarding the co-accused who allegedly stole the cable, valued at approximately R3,000. Follow-up investigations were conducted based on this

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information; however, the second suspect could not be located. SAPS continue active measures to track and apprehend the remaining suspect.

CENTLEC commends the swift response of its officials, SAPS members, community patrollers, and members of the public whose vigilance and cooperation contributed to these arrests. The entity remains committed to protecting essential infrastructure and ensuring that those responsible for infrastructure related crimes are brought to book.

-End-

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