



## Press Release

### ASTRAL FORCES CONCESSION FROM ESKOM TO NOT CUT ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

**3 May 2017: Astral Foods Limited** (Astral), a leading Southern African integrated poultry producer, appeared before the North Gauteng High Court the past two days in its application against Eskom to fend off the threat of disruptions in electricity supply to its operations in the Lekwa municipal region (Standerton).

An agreement offered by Eskom was concluded whereby they will not disrupt electricity supply to Standerton as previously threatened, which would have had devastating consequences for Astral's operations. "We are very pleased with this victory, which resulted in the settlement agreement being made an **order of court** thereby protecting Astral's operational interests in the region permanently," commented Chris Schutte, Chief Executive Officer of Astral.

The above originated from a previous judgement in February 2017 in the North Gauteng High Court whereby Astral was granted temporary relief from electricity interruptions pending further argument in the High Court, which played out over the past two days. The original complaint was based on planned action from Eskom whereby they would cut electricity supply to Standerton as a result of the municipality's incompetence and failure to pay over monies collected from consumers in the region and service mounting debt.

Astral will now receive uninterrupted power supply to its operations in Standerton on the basis that Astral will make direct payments to Eskom for its electricity consumption. As per the court order, Eskom will bear Astral's legal costs for all applications in this matter, including the earlier interim relief application.

Schutte concluded: "We are satisfied that a permanent solution has been obtained to eliminate the uncertainty surrounding planned power cuts threatened by Eskom." Astral will now focus its attention on challenging all organs of State, including the Lekwa Municipality, to meet their constitutional obligations to supply electricity and water, which extends to the proper maintenance of all related infrastructure.

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## Company background

**Astral Foods Limited** (Astral), a leading South African integrated poultry producer, with key activities in animal feed pre-mixes, manufacturing of animal feeds, broiler genetics, production and sale of day-old chicks and hatching eggs, with integrated breeder and broiler production operations, abattoirs as well as sales and distribution of various key poultry brands. The brands in the Astral stable include:

- County Fair
- Festive
- Goldi
- Earlybird
- Mountain Valley
- Ross Poultry Breeders
- National Chicks
- Meadow Feeds
- Tiger Animal Feeds (Zambia)
- Tiger Chicks (Zambia)
- Meadow Feeds (Mozambique)
- Mozpintos (Mozambique)
- CAL Labs
- Provimi SSA