

Matshela Koko off the hook, back in driving seat at Eskom

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Eskom acting CE Matshela Koko has been found not guilty on all charges in a disciplinary hearing.



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Chairman of the hearing advocate Mzungulu Mthombeni has ordered his reinstatement.

Koko had claimed the accusations against him started surfacing when he dealt with corruption on becoming interim CE.

He faced six charges, including allegedly failing to declare a conflict of interest owing to his stepdaughter owning shares in a company awarded a tender by a division he led.

Last week, Koko said in his closing submissions that Eskom had failed to bring any substantial evidence to support the charges.

Koko relied heavily on two documents: a memo he drafted and presented to former CEO Brian Molefe, and an e-form he printed out and handed to former board chairman Dr Ben Ngubane.

In the latter, he detailed the issues surrounding the possible conflict of interest arising from his stepdaughter Koketso Choma's directorship and shareholding in Impulse International.

In March this year, the *Sunday Times* revealed that Impulse was awarded a string of contracts worth nearly R1bn while Koko was acting CE.

But Koko submitted that Eskom could produce no evidence at the hearing or during forensic investigations that he had any influence over the awarding of the contracts.

Koko was charged with, among other alleged offences, failing to appropriately declare the potential conflict of interest.

His hearings have been described by analysts as a farce, with some key witnesses declining to give evidence.

Source: Business Day

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