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PUBLIC STATEMENT

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EFSCRJ Submits Recommendations to Presidential Electricity Taskforce

The Edward Francis Small Centre for Rights and Justice informs the public that today it has submitted a letter containing analysis and recommendations to the Presidential Taskforce on Electricity Supply, chaired by the Vice President and announced by President Adama Barrow on 8th September 2026.

This submission forms part of our **NAWEC Watch initiative**, “**Following the Money, Tracking the Performance**” and our commitment to holding public institutions accountable for the management of public resources and the delivery of essential services.

Persistent power cuts and low voltage disrupt healthcare, education, water supply, businesses, and livelihoods. Citizens deserve clear explanations as to why substantial investments and successive reforms have yet to secure consistently reliable, affordable, and safe electricity. The Taskforce must address both the immediate supply crisis and the institutional weaknesses that allow failures to recur.

Our submission calls for an assessment of implementation of the Strategic Electricity Sub-sector Roadmap 2021 – 2040, linking expenditure and completed infrastructure to actual improvements in service. We recognise infrastructure gains, but funding announcements and project commissioning must be accompanied by measurable reductions in outages, improved voltage, and greater affordability.

We also urge the Taskforce to investigate generation shortfalls, interrupted imports, overloaded feeders and transformers, maintenance deficiencies, and persistent low voltage. References to “peak demand”, “congestion” or “maintenance” must be accompanied by specific diagnoses, corrective measures, and restoration deadlines.

Governance, finance, and leadership are central to our recommendations. We call for scrutiny of procurement, contracts, expenditure, audit findings, and management decisions to establish whether public resources have delivered value. Service failures alone do not prove corruption, but concerns about wrongdoing and mismanagement require evidence-based investigation and accountability.

The submission further proposes an ambitious renewable energy programme, including solar power for streetlights, traffic lights, and public facilities, targeted support for households and businesses, and support for local councils to develop renewable energy systems. Solar expansion must be supported by adequate storage, network improvements, local technical skills, and transparent reporting on Jambur’s performance.

To strengthen energy sovereignty, we recommend investigating constraints at Kotu and Brikama power stations and assessing upgrades at Farafenni, Janjanbureh and Basse. Our objective is dependable domestic capacity capable of meeting the bulk of national electricity needs, complemented by regional trade that demonstrably serves the public interest.



We have proposed the following deadlines, measured from receipt of our submission:

- **Within 14 days:** Publish the Taskforce's membership, terms of reference, reporting timetable and arrangements for public submissions.
- **Within 30 days:** Publish an electricity recovery plan and begin regular public reporting on service performance.
- **Within 60 days:** Complete an independently verified assessment of priority technical problems and publish a costed repair program.
- **Within 90 days:** Publish a roadmap implementation review, preliminary governance and financial findings, a renewable energy expansion plan and an energy sovereignty strategy.

EFSCRJ has requested written acknowledgement and an opportunity to engage with the Taskforce. We also call for consultations with affected communities, businesses, technical professionals, and civil society, and for publication of the Taskforce's report and the Government's response.

Meanwhile, today, Tuesday, 29th September 2026, marks three weeks since the Presidential Task Force on Electricity Supply was established. President Barrow promised that the Task Force would report to him every two weeks, meaning its first report was due on 22 September. Three weeks later, the public has received no update. We demand that the President immediately disclose the Task Force's first report and inform the public of its findings, recommendations and actions taken. Public commitments must be honoured, and public institutions must be held accountable.

Through NAWEC Watch, EFSCRJ will continue to monitor institutional responses and implementation. We encourage citizens to document service failures, share information, and demand answers.

Electricity accountability means turning public money into dependable public service. Citizens deserve measurable improvements and consequences for preventable failures.

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