

# This lift was not quite the real lift

LOUISA STEYL

TWO Table View women recently had the shock of their lives when they spent half an hour trapped in the lift shell of the lift at the Blaauwberg municipal building in Milnerton.

Jackie Kennedy and Alice Soll were visiting the Block A offices of the building, near the Paddocks, on Friday 5 March at about 10:00.

Mrs Soll is a senior citizen and chose to take the lift instead of climbing the stairs to the first floor.

A City staff member opened the glass door

to the lift and helped the women inside. It was only once the door was closed behind them and they started looking for buttons, that they realised that the lift was in fact above them.

Kennedy says she doesn't think the staff member realised what he was doing. "It's not his fault," she says.

He tried to help by pressing buttons on the outside of the lift, but soon disappeared.

Kennedy explains that the floor had the same carpeting as the rest of the building.

"It looks like you are getting into the lift," she says.

The two say other staff members started drawing closer to the lift, to see how they

could help. "It was something out of a Bruce Willis movie," says Kennedy.

A supervisor was called, but the women say he didn't seem to know what to do.

After half an hour, the fire services and paramedics arrived to help. The fire services broke open the lock of the glass door to let them out.

"As we got out, the lift came down very slowly," says Mrs Soll.

The two want to use their story to urge people to be more aware when using lifts.

Gisela Kaiser, director of specialised technical services for the City says: "We are aware of the incident that happened on Friday 5 March, but do not know the identity of the person who allegedly helped the two women into

the lift or how they actually gained access to the lift."

When entering the municipal building, all visitors must sign an indemnity clause, but, as Kaiser explains: "The indemnity clause does not cover negligence on Council's behalf as per common law."

This means that if something had happened due to the Council not maintaining the lift in terms of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, they would be held liable, irrespective of the indemnity clause.

Kaiser says: "The interlocks were tested subsequent to the incident, and are such that when the lift is on top, the door cannot open via the normal button switches."



The lift where Table View women were stuck for half an hour.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA): 12/12/20/944**  
**ESKOM: PROPOSED NUCLEAR POWER STATION AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE**

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**AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND ASSOCIATED SPECIALIST STUDIES FOR PUBLIC REVIEW**

As part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed Eskom Nuclear Power Station and associated infrastructure, the public is hereby notified of the availability of the Draft EIA Report and associated specialist studies for public review and comment. The Draft EIA Report (hard copy and CD) will be made available during the Comment Period **6 March 2010 - 10 May 2010** at the following public venues:

**Eastern Cape, Public Libraries:** Humansdorp, Jeffery's Bay, Kareedouw, Kruisfontein, Plettenberg Bay and St Francis Bay. **Other venues:** Oyster Bay - Oesterbaai Elendomme

**Western Cape, Public Libraries:** Atlantis, Bredasdorp, Elim, Gansbaai, Hermanus, Koeberg, Milnerton, Table View and Welverdiend (Bredasdorp). **Other venues:** Arcus GIBB Cape Town Office, Baardskeedersbos Winkel, Jenny's Handelaar (Wolvengat).

**Public Venue, Gauteng:** Arcus GIBB Office, 14 Eglin Road, Sunninghill, Johannesburg

The Draft EIA Report can also be downloaded from the following websites:  
 • Eskom's website: [www.eskom.co.za/eia](http://www.eskom.co.za/eia) under the "Nuclear 1-Generation" link  
 • Arcus GIBB website: <http://projects.gibb.co.za/> under the "Nuclear 1 EIA" link

Summaries of the Draft EIA Report are available from the Public Participation Office.

**PUBLIC MEETINGS**

All Interested and Affected Parties are invited to attend Public Meetings scheduled as follows:

PROVINCE	AREA	DAY AND DATE	VENUE	TIME
Western Cape	Hermanus	Tue, 23 March 2010	Overstrand Municipal Auditorium	16H00 - 20H00
	Pearly Beach	Wed, 24 March 2010	Pearly Beach Club	16H00 - 20H00
	Bredasdorp	Thur, 25 March 2010	Overberg Agri Hall	16H00 - 20H00
Eastern Cape	Oyster Bay	Tue, 13 April 2010	Oyster Bay Hall	16H00 - 20H00
	Humansdorp	Wed, 14 April 2010	Humansdorp Country Club	16H00 - 20H00
	St Francis Bay	Thurs, 15 April 2010	St Francis Links	16H00 - 20H00
	Sea Vista	Fri, 16 April 2010	Sea Vista Community Hall	16H00 - 20H00
Western Cape	Cape Town	Mon, 19 April 2010	Vineyard Hotel, Newlands	16H00 - 20H00
	Duynfontein	Tue, 20 April 2010	Atlantic Beach Golf Club	16H00 - 20H00
	Atlantis	Wed, 21 April 2010	Thusong Centre Community Hall	16H00 - 20H00

The purpose of Public Meetings is to provide the public with an opportunity to (a) discuss the findings as they are presented in the Draft EIA Report and (b) comment on the specialist study findings and the outcomes of the EIA. The EIA Team will be available from 17h00 to answer individual questions on the Draft EIA Report. Interested and Affected Parties are encouraged to review the Draft EIA Report, attend Public Meetings and submit written comment by **10 May 2010**.

For further information, please contact Bongli Shinga, Dal'ene Murie or June Mottram at ACER (Africa) P O Box 503, Mtunzini, 3867  
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This assessment is conducted on behalf of Eskom Holdings Limited  
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