



**Environmental Management Consultants**

NATIONAL PREMIUM AWARD 2002 & 2004  
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
SOUTH AFRICAN CHAPTER

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25 May 2007

Ref No: Nuclear1 01E

«Title» «First\_Names» «Surname»  
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Dear «Title» «Surname»«Salutation»

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

This letter is intended to provide you with information on three aspects of the above project, viz. (a) a brief background to the project (b) commencement of the EIA (c) commencement of public participation.

**Background to the Project**

Eskom Holdings Limited (Eskom) is proposing to construct a Nuclear Power Station and associated infrastructure, either in the Eastern, Northern or Western Cape Provinces. This is due to South Africa's rapidly growing electricity demand, which requires Eskom to expand its electricity generating capacity.

Based on current planning, Eskom needs to increase its generating capacity by more than 40,000 megawatts of electricity over the next 20 years. This additional generating capacity could come from a variety of energy sources, for example, coal, liquid fuels, gas turbines, natural gas, hydro and pumped storage schemes, wind and solar energy, and uranium (nuclear).

In order to meet the required generation capacity, Eskom is investigating the construction of a Nuclear Power Station and associated infrastructure. In the early 1980s, Eskom considered it prudent to commission extensive (desktop) and intensive (field) pre-feasibility studies in order to identify sites in South Africa that would be suitable for possible future nuclear power generation. Subsequently, the Eskom Nuclear Site Investigation project, lead by a team of independent consultants, investigated sites along the South African coastline. Based on various social, economic and environmental criteria the following potential sites were identified:

- Bantamsklip (Western Cape – 10 km south east of Pearly Beach).
- Brazil (Northern Cape – Kleinsee/Port Nolloth area).
- Duynefontein (Western Cape – adjacent to the existing Koeberg Power Station, Cape Town).
- Schulpfontein (Northern Cape – Hondeklipbaai/Kleinsee area).
- Thyspunt (Eastern Cape – West of Port Elizabeth near Cape St Francis).

**Detailed information, including a Locality Map, is provided in the Background Information Document, which will be mailed to you separately.**

The proposed Nuclear Power Station will be of the Pressurised Water Reactor type technology. Although detail design still needs to be completed it is estimated that the entire development will require to be in the order of 31 ha, including all auxiliary infrastructure. Should the proposed project be authorised, it is expected that construction will commence in 2009/10 with the first unit being commissioned in 2016.

**Commencement of the EIA**

The construction of a Nuclear Power Station is a listed activity in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No 107 of 1998), and its associated regulations published in April 2006. The proposed project requires environmental authorisation from the National Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism with recommendations from the following provincial authorities:

- Eastern Cape Department of Economic Affairs, Environment and Tourism.
- Northern Cape Department of Tourism, Environment and Conservation.
- Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs, Development and Planning.

Eskom has appointed ARCUS GIBB (Pty) Ltd as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner to conduct the environmental assessment process for the proposed Nuclear Power Station. ACER (Africa) Environmental Management Consultants has been sub-contracted by ARCUS GIBB to deal with public participation aspects.

**Public Participation**

You are invited to participate in the EIA process by providing comments and raising relevant issues, concerns and/or suggestions at public meetings (**see table below**).

**PUBLIC MEETINGS**

AREA	DATE	VENUE	TIME
Northern Cape, Houthoop	06 June 2007	Houthoop Shed	10:00 – 12:30
Northern Cape, Koingnaas	06 June 2007	Castle Hill, Koingnaas	15:00 – 17:00
Northern Cape, Kleinsee	06 June 2007	Blue Diamond Hall, Kleinsee	18:30 – 20:00
Western Cape, Atlantis	08 June 2007	Saxonsea Hall, Atlantis	09:00 – 11:30
Western Cape, Duynefontein	08 June 2007	Atlantic Beach Golf Estate	12:30 – 15:00
Western Cape, Milnerton	08 June 2007	Summergreens Hall, Milnerton	16:00 – 18:30
Eastern Cape, Oyster Bay	11 June 2007	Oyster Bay Hall, Oyster Bay	11:00 – 14:00
Eastern Cape, Humansdorp	11 June 2007	Humansdorp Community Centre	15:00 – 18:00
Eastern Cape, Jeffreys Bay	12 June 2007	Jeffrey's Bay Hall	10:00 – 13:00
Western Cape, Gaansbaai	13 June 2007	Pretoria Saal, Gaansbaai	09:00 – 12:00
Western Cape, Pearly Beach	13 June 2007	Pearly Beach Club	13:00 – 16:00
Western Cape, Elim	13 June 2007	Elim Church Hall	17:00 – 20:00

Alternatively, please use the following opportunities for participation:

- Examine and respond to information provided in the Background Information Document (to be mailed separately).
- Complete the comment sheet and return by mail, fax or email.
- Attend meetings and workshops to obtain further information. Details of additional meetings will be communicated at the appropriate time.
- Contact the Public Participation Office to obtain further information and raise issues and concerns.

I would like to encourage you to take the opportunities we have provided to actively and meaningfully participate in the EIA process, and to contribute to the decision-making process.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Public Participation Office should you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,



ACER (Africa) Environmental Management Consultants  
Ms Bongi Shinga  
Public Participation Team Leader

✂ Please cut out and place on your notice board or fridge

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INFRASTRUCTURE**

**Public Participation Office Contact Details:**

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Local Public Involvement Officer  
Ms Suzette Hattingh (based in Cape Town)  
Tel: 083 2356799  
Email: [designop@designovative.com](mailto:designop@designovative.com)

Project documentation can be obtained on Eskom's Website: [www.eskom.co.za/eia](http://www.eskom.co.za/eia)