

NAME & ORGANISATION	ISSUES/COMMENTS	RESPONSE
9. VEGETATION (SITE SPECIFIC) AND BIODIVERSITY		
Mr Lionel Phillips Matzikama Municipality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The impact on nearby vegetation. 	<p>Thank you for these comments. Vegetation, Faunal, Marine, Hydrology and Fresh Water Ecological Assessments will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report). These assessments will investigate ecosystem level processes, and will determine the presence of rare and endangered species, including Red Data Species as well as endemic species and the potential impacts of the proposed NPS and associated infrastructure on these species.</p>
Ms Claire Craxton Plettenberg Bay Environmental Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vegetation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ I strongly object to the removal and/or disturbance of any indigenous vegetation. The proposed development would destroy natural undisturbed vegetation, as well as critically sensitive and endangered ecosystems. ○ Is Eskom planning to disregard the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act No.10 of 2004? According to the Act are we not supposed to be protecting threatened, endangered and critically endangered ecosystems? 	
Mr Werner Kriel Interested Party	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Construction of the proposed development (NPS and associated infrastructure) would mean the destruction of a vast tract of almost untouched Fynbos vegetation. This particular vegetation is worldwide renowned for its rarity and for its high levels of endemism and diversity. It is the major reason why the Western Cape has been identified as one of the world's "Hotspots for Biodiversity". Due to the nature of this vegetation it often contains large numbers of endangered species, which could face extinction due to developments such as this proposal. A complete specialist study therefore must be undertaken identifying all possible endangered or rare plants. 	<p>The team assessing the potential faunal impacts includes a herpetologist, Dr Marius Burger.</p> <p>Dune systems will be mapped as part of the Botanical Assessment, and potential impacts of the proposed NPS thereon will also be assessed.</p> <p>Eskom is bound to the provisions of law, just as is every other citizen, corporate or individual. Please refer to Chapter 2 of the Scoping Report which outlines the legal framework that underpins this EIA and its specialist studies.</p>
Mrs S J Hardie St. Francis Conservancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Collection / protection of wildlife. 	<p>The EIA Team is unsure of what is referred to by the collection of wildlife, but should the proposed NPS be constructed it may be the recommendation of both the specialist botanists and faunal specialists that collection and translocation of plant and animal species be advised. The EIA Team, however, cannot pre-empt the recommendations of these studies. It must also be noted that Eskom manages the area surrounding its current NPS for</p>
Mr Keith Van Winkel St. Andrew's College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The area in the vicinity of Oyster Bay is extremely sensitive in that very rare examples of fynbos occur there. Secondly, the area has good evidence of 'strandloper' activity from the past. Further research is needed in both areas. ▪ "Fallout" issues used to be discussed – proximity to large settlements etc. 	

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Mr Tim Barnard St. Andrew's College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Endemic, rare or endangered species. ▪ Freshwater supply and possible consequences for nearby estuaries. ▪ Area of high level of endemism 	conservation purposes.
Mr Nicolas Andre Bouwer St. Andrew's College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Endangered fauna and flora must be identified. 	Archaeology and Heritage Assessments will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report).
Mrs Lilian Ursula Bunzli	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Destruction of existing eco-systems. 	For the proposed nuclear power station Eskom is considering the latest design of Pressurized Water Reactor (PWR) technology. Internationally, these designs have formal emergency planning zones less than 16 km. The NNR will however determine the extent of the required zone based on a safety assessment of the design of the proposed nuclear power station and the proposed site and environs.
Mr Tertius Carinus SANPARKS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Platanna frog close to Bantamsklip site. 	
Dr Shirley Cowling Friend of St. Francis Nature Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Impacts on flora and fauna. ▪ What <i>quid pro quo</i> - how can loss natural habitat be recompensed. 	The specialists will assess the potential of biodiversity trade-offs, if applicable.
Ms Claire Craxton Plettenberg Bay Environmental Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Studies on a lagoon, the Trawsfynydd Lake, which has been used as a cooling lake during the active life of a nuclear power station in North Wales, prove that the lake-bottom sediment, to a depth of 300 mm, is contaminated with a concentration of 4¼ million Bequerels per tonne of radioactivity. 	Thanks for this comment. The Oceanographic, Freshwater Ecology and Hydrology Assessments will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report). These assessments will assess the potential for radioactive contamination of water resources (fresh- and seawater) by the proposed NPS and associated infrastructure.
Mr Sithembele P Cunge Grahamstown Tree Planting Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loss of biodiversity or biological resources. ▪ Loss of our indigenous plants and animals species. ▪ Air and water pollution and other physical resources. ▪ We must treat all leaving things with respect and consideration. ▪ The Capitalists are killing our environment. 	A suite of specialists will inform the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6 of the Scoping Report). These studies include Air Quality, Oceanographic, Freshwater Biology, Hydrology, Faunal, Flora, Geological, Geo-hydrological, Archeological and Heritage Resources Assessments (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report).

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Mr Neël Groenewald Strandveld Agriculture Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The power line must be planned as environmentally friendly as possible 	The transmission lines are subject to a separate EIA (being undertaken in parallel with this EIA). It is expected that during the next round of public consultation on this EIA the preliminary findings on the routing of the transmission lines will be available.
Ms Melissa Krige Interested Party	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Platbos Forest is a unique indigenous forest. It is protected and no branch may be cut without a permit from DWAF. Our concern is the transmission lines coming through the valley. 	
Mr Tim Barnard St. Andrew's College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Area of outstanding natural beauty. 	A suite of specialists will inform the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6 of the Scoping Report). These studies include Freshwater Biology, Hydrology, Faunal, Flora, Geological, Geo-hydrological, Archeological and Heritage Resources and Visual Assessments (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report). The visual assessment will include an assessment on the potential impacts of the proposed NPS and associated infrastructure on the 'sense of place' at and surrounding the alternative sites.
Mr Thabo LJ Matjiu Enviro Bursters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Flora south and west coast. ▪ Hydrology. ▪ Freshwater ecology. 	
Mr Sean Privett Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All aspects of botanical/freshwater general environmental impacts including impacts of power lines. ▪ Careful planning of power line route in context of regions unique biophysical/ landscape aspects and tourism potential. 	The transmission lines are subject to a separate EIA (being undertaken in parallel with this EIA). It is expected that during the next round of public consultation on this EIA the preliminary findings on the routing of the transmission lines will be available.
Mr Mias Strydom Estate Agent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creation of a nature park around the power plant. 	Eskom already conserves the potential nuclear sites that is has under its control as nature reserves. The area surrounding the proposed power station, if constructed, would be managed in a similar manner and would be accessible to the public.
Mr Pieter Sneewe National Union of Mineworkers	Vegetation Control and Monitoring Programme – for the entire operational phase, and report back during auditing of the facility.	This will be addressed in a Vegetation Assessment Specialist Study (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report).

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9 (a) Brazil		
9(b) Schulpfontein		
9(c) Duynfontein		
9(d) Bantamsklip		
Mr Louis De Wet Pearly Beach Conservation Society	Biodiversity impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The entire farm Groot Hagelkraal is one of the best-preserved pristine fynbos properties in the region. ▪ This farm is unique in the sense that it has an extremely high degree of endemism. Any disturbance will have an influence on the ecological make-up and might permanently damage the fine balance. ▪ It can be expected that increased sea temperatures will increase the humidity and the incidence of fog in the immediate vicinity. How will this affect the biodiversity? 	Botanical and Fauna Assessments (including assessments of the rare and endangered species, and ecosystems processes) will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report) to identify potential negative and positive impacts of the proposed NPS. Once identified, potential impacts will be mitigated, where possible, via the implementation of an Environmental Management Programme (EMP). The Oceanographic and Climatology Assessments will assess the potential of increased fog as a result of the proposed NPS and resultant increased seawater temperature in the vicinity of the outlet pipe.
Mrs Gillian Eyre Gullian Stuttaford Family Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Overberg area is extremely sensitive from a fynbos point of view. Will any intensive research and or plant identification take place in this area before any development takes place? ▪ Protected blue cranes are found in this area. Overhead lines kill them. How will they be protected? 	A Vegetation Assessment, inclusive of identifying rare and endangered plant species, will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report). Similarly, potential impacts on birds will be assessed in a Faunal (including avi-fauna) Assessment (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report). However, please note any impacts created by overhead transmission lines will be assessed in a separate EIA.
Mr and Mrs Michael/ Susanne Fuchs Klein Paradijs County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on the above issue. We understand that South Africa is in urgent need of new power sources and we are not against nuclear power <i>per se</i>. 	You are correct at the current rate of demand at least 40 000 MW of new generation capacity is required to meet increasing demand by 2025.

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House	<p>Nevertheless, we do not think that Bantamsklip is the appropriate place for a proposed nuclear power plant because of the pristine environment. In fact, the Farm Groot Hagel is considered to be a hotspot of plant endemism. Therefore, we believe that the following issues must be addressed by the Scoping Process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How will the plant and animal life at Bantamsklip be affected? What will happen to natural corridors and scarce plants? 	<p>Vegetation, Faunal, Fresh Water Ecology, Hydrology, Visual (including the assessment of 'sense of place', as well Archaeology and Heritage Resources Assessments will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report) to identify potential negative and positive impacts created by the proposed NPS and associated infrastructure. The suite of ecological specialist studies will assess the potential impacts on natural corridors, ecosystem processes and rare and endangered plant species. Once identified, potential impacts will be mitigated via the implementation of an Environmental Management Programme (EMP).</p>
Mr Gerald Willem Henrici Pearly Beach Conservation Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rehabilitation of indigenous vegetation. 	<p>A Vegetation Assessment, inclusive of site-specific rehabilitation measures, will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report). The area surrounding the proposed NPS will be considered for conservation purposes. The EMP will contain rehabilitation specifications. Should the proposed NPS and associated infrastructure receive the necessary authorizations and be built, the EMP will be contractually binding on the main and subcontractors.</p>
Mr Werner Kriel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Construction of the proposed development would mean the destruction of a vast tract of almost untouched Fynbos vegetation. This particular vegetation is worldwide renowned for its rarity and for its high levels of endemism and diversity. It is the major reason why the Western Cape has been identified as one of the world's "Hotspots for Biodiversity". Due to the nature of this vegetation it often contains large numbers of endangered species, which could face extinction due to developments such as this proposal. A complete specialist study therefore must be done identifying all possible endangered or rare plants. 	<p>A Vegetation Assessment, inclusive of identifying rare and endangered plant species and conservation value of each of alternative sites, will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report). Once identified, potential impacts will be mitigated via the implementation of an Environmental Management Plan (EMP).</p>

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<p>Anthony Wain</p>	<p>Stanford, as an interested and affected party in respect of the Eskom application to erect and operate a proposed Nuclear Power Station on the Pearly Beach Site, near Gansbaai.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Following the first public meeting with regard to the above project, I wish to confirm myself as both an interested and affected party in terms of the legislation and as an objector. ▪ Our conservation flower farm, Bhungani Farm, is well within the area that will be affected negatively should this project proceed. The farm is a conservation area for rare fynbos, milkwood thicket and wildlife as well as being naturally managed for sustainable wild flower harvesting in conjunction with Flower Valley of Flora and Fauna International, an NGO charity. The farm is a member of the Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy (WBFC) and, furthermore, a component of the approved Walker Bay Fynbos trail – a long distance hiking trail for tourists and visitors. ▪ My objection is based on the following environmental and tourism related issues: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The coastal fynbos zone, that includes this site, is a nationally recognised, high priority conservation area in botanical terms. 2. The consolidation of fynbos conservation and the ongoing development of the region as an ecotourism route will be adversely affected by the incongruous introduction of a nuclear power station, its construction logistics and its operating population. 3. The ecological management of the area which includes controlled burning and wild fires, will be compromised by the power station operation and security fencing. Furthermore, freedom of movement of significant animal species such as grysbok, honey badger and steenbok will be prejudiced by the enclosure of security and buffer areas around the proposed station. 4. The visual impact of the power station complex, its roads, power lines and pylons will be catastrophic in terms of damage to the coastal and mountain scenery. Scenery, which is part of a tourist resource. No level of mitigation will negate the inevitable appalling impact. 5. The disturbance to areas of sensitive indigenous vegetation 	<p>Thank you for your comments.</p> <p>A suite of specialist studies will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA to address these issues (see Section 10.6 of the Scoping Report).</p> <p>Vegetation, Fauna, Visual (including ‘sense of place’), Social, Economic, Tourism, Agriculture Assessments will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report). The ecological studies will identify rare and endangered plant species. Once identified, potential impacts will be mitigated via the implementation of an Environmental Management Programme (EMP).</p> <p>In addition to this, the visual impacts of the proposed NPS and associated infrastructure may be lessened by the engineering design of the infrastructure.</p> <p>Similar to the situation at Koeberg, the land surrounding the actual power station will continue to be conserved as a nature reserve and will be accessible to the public.</p> <p>Staff housing, living conditions and employment will form part of the Social and Economic Assessments to be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section ?? of the Scoping Report).</p>

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	<p>during the construction process will be unrecoverable.</p> <p>6. The introduction of masses of construction workers, staff and management into the area will have a long-term negative impact on its social structure. The provision of their housing and community facilities will disrupt the stability of the local communities. The same is true for the introduction of the operational staff of such a facility.</p> <p>7. The potential for employment of local people is far greater in the well-established eco-tourism industry than in the highly specialised nuclear power station field. The construction of the power station will not only curtail new eco-tourism jobs but threaten the existing employment base related to fynbos tourism and the exploitation of its products.</p> <p>8. The Western Cape has a clear policy for the development of sustainable nature based tourism, which recognises the highly valuable scenic and ecological landscapes of the province. This proposed location for a nuclear power station is entirely antagonistic to the aims of this policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I urge Eskom to abandon any proposal with regard to the Pearly Beach site on these grounds. I urge the planning authorities to recognise the unsuitability of such infrastructure development in such an awesome site of natural beauty and ecology. 	
Mr Tyran Mare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contamination of a pristine nature area any objections. 	<p>A whole host of bio-physical (e.g. vegetation, faunal, marine, fresh water ecology, geology, hydrology, geo-hydrology etc.) assessments, as well as visual assessments will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report). The visual assessment will, amongst other aspects, assess the potential impacts of the proposed NPS on the 'sense of place' at each of the alternative sites.</p>
Mr Phillip Ravenscroft Maluti GSM Consulting Engineers	<p>Impact of power station and construction activities on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unique biodiversity of wetlands, springs, bogs limestone fybos, birds, fauna, wetland flora, ground water and dependent ecosystems. ▪ Impact on the scarce water resources to supply water and to deal with waste produced. 	<p>The impact of the proposed NPS on the biodiversity of the whole ecosystem will be assessed via numerous specialist studies. These studies include a vegetation, faunal (including avi-fauna and invertebrates and vertebrates), marine, fresh water ecology (i.e. wetlands, bogs, springs etc), geology,</p>

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		hydrology and geo-hydrology assessments, amongst others (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report).
Mrs Sara Stevenson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contamination of water supplies, both surface dams and underground boreholes, aqueducts in Kromme River. 	The impact of the proposed NPS on the water supplies will be assessed via numerous specialist studies. These studies include a fresh water ecology, hydrology and geo-hydrology assessments, amongst others (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report).
Dr S M Brouckaert	<p>I am sure this has been mentioned but I have to add.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The plant life in this region is extremely rare and extremely valuable. In addition to this the Klein Hagelkraal River is the only watercourse in the entire country, which has an alkaline pH and is host to microorganisms that are found only here. The disruption to this sensitive ecosystem by the introduction of large earthmoving activity and the use of the local water supply will be nothing short of disastrous. ▪ This damage cannot be reversed when the uranium supply runs out in 30 years and we realise the folly of spending huge amounts of money that the country simply cannot afford, on a dangerous white elephant that will not in any way address our energy crisis as it stands today. 	<p>Vegetation and Faunal (avi-fauna, invertebrate and vertebrate) Assessments, inclusive of identifying rare and endangered plant and animal species, will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report). A Freshwater Ecology Assessment, as well as a Hydrology Assessment will also be undertaken to determine the effects of water use and the impacts on micro-organisms (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report). An Environmental Management Programme (EMP) for the construction and operational phases will also be compiled, and this plan will ensure that practical and appropriate mitigation measures/ management actions are put into effect should the NPS be constructed.</p> <p>Every 1000 MW of nuclear power capacity needs approximately 200 tonnes of natural uranium per annum. Thus, 4 000 MW of nuclear power operating for a 60 year period would require about 48 000 tonnes of natural uranium.</p> <p>South Africa's Reasonable Assured Resources</p>

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		<p>(RAR) of uranium is estimated to be 521 000 tonnes, with a further 211 000 tonnes as inferred resources. [Reference: IAEA/NEA “Uranium 2005: Resources Production and Demand” – the “Red Book”]. Thus, South Africa has enough uranium resources to support a bigger than 20 000 MW nuclear programme for the envisaged 60 year lifetime of the modern nuclear power plants.</p>
<p>Sean Privett Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy</p>	<p>The Walker Bay Fynbos Conservancy (www.fynbos.co.za) was established in September 1999 as a collaborative partnership representing twenty private, public and NGO landowners in the Walker Bay region. The conservancy members collectively own/manage over 12 500 hectares of land including the Walker Bay Nature Reserve. The Conservancies mission statement reads: “To promote the conservation of the natural and cultural diversity of the Cape Floral Kingdom in the Walker Bay area through co-operative partnerships and by mainstreaming biodiversity into tourism and sustainable use initiatives”. One of the major objectives of the conservancy is to safeguard the natural landscapes along the Walker Bay and surrounding coastline, a remarkable and high biodiversity value conservation area.</p> <p>As an organization that has strived over the last decade to develop the region as a conservation and ecotourism destination we collectively oppose the siting of a nuclear power station at Bantamsklip, Pearly Beach.</p> <p>We base our argument on the following main concerns:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The proposed power plant conflicts with the ideals of a biodiversity economy in the region. <p>The Agulhas Plain, located in the Cape Floristic Region Hotspot, is a globally significant repository of biodiversity, recognized internationally for its high irreplaceability and vulnerability (Cowling <i>et al.</i> 1999). It is not only a region of exceptional biodiversity (the diversity of habitat types, wetland ecosystems, Red data plant species and local endemics is unmatched in the Cape Floristic region), but land use pressures on</p>	<p>A suite of specialist studies (including botanical, faunal, freshwater ecology, hydrology, geo-hydrology, archaeology and heritage resources, marine, social, tourism, economic, agricultural) will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA to address these issues (see Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report).</p> <p>The EIA Team and the appointed specialist (all experts in their relevant fields and with much experience) are aware of the need for long-term data collections in order to predict potential impacts with confidence. The appointed specialists studies will build upon years of specialist work undertaken at the alternative sites e.g. Prof. Richard Cowling’s botanical work undertaken at the Groot Hagelkraal farm and UCT’s archaeological work undertaken on the same property etc.</p>

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	<p>biodiversity and Future Development Potential result in the area having one of the highest threat levels (Cole <i>et al.</i> 2000).</p> <p>In September 2000, the South African government approved the Cape Action Plan for People and the Environment (CAPE strategy). CAPE constitutes the first conservation strategy developed for an entire biodiversity hotspot. An overriding objective of the 20-year CAPE strategy is to create the foundations for a 'biodiversity economy': linking the environmental benefits of the Cape Floristic region directly to economic growth and livelihood creation. The Agulhas Biodiversity Initiative (ABI) is a CAPE project that was initiated in 2002 to develop this strategy on the Agulhas Plain. Two of the major focuses of ABI's multi-stakeholder partnership (including local government, provincial and national conservation agencies, local communities, NGOs and private land owners) relate to developing the regions unique opportunities around sustainable harvesting of natural products and nature-based tourism development. The WBFC is a partner in this program and its members are committed to these ideals.</p> <p>Nature based tourism has become a major economic activity in the region over the last decades and employs a significant number of people. Lodges, B & Bs, guest houses, shark and whale boat operators, fynbos and forest trails, birding routes, the Fynbos road, the proposed upmarket Walker Bay Fynbos Trail, the Lotto funded Klipgat Cave upgrade are all linked to tourists being attracted to the natural landscapes, biodiversity and beauty of the Agulhas area. The tarring of the Gansbaai – Bredasdorp road will bring more tourism into the area, with related increases in employment opportunities. A nuclear power plant will impact both visually and on the general sense of place, reducing the areas tourism attractiveness. The recent acquisition of Ratel River into the Agulhas National Park will create a new western gateway to this park, only a few kilometers from the proposed nuclear site.</p> <p>2. The development of a nuclear power station will lead to a dramatic increase in developmental pressures in the region.</p> <p>It could be argued that the construction of the nuclear plant at Bantamsklip will ensure the conservation of the immediate surrounding natural habitat. The footprint of the plant and accompanying infrastructure</p>	

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	<p>may not have major impacts on biodiversity (although their will certainly be some impacts – see below for more on this). Of graver concern are the regional impacts, which will accompany the construction of a massive industrial plant in a pristine, undeveloped natural area. These impacts will be less obvious but will include pressure on land for housing (especially low cost housing) and related development pressures (water, bulk infrastructure, sand and stone mining, schools, sports fields etc). All of these development activities eat away at natural landscapes and impact directly on biodiversity.</p> <p>Coastal development and urbanization is destroying and degrading the integrity of coastal habitats and ecosystem processes, as well as exacerbating pollution problems and increasing pressure on already over-utilized natural resources. Many plant species are narrow endemics that are threatened by these developments. The construction of a nuclear power plant in this region will impact significantly on the regions biodiversity</p> <p>3. The Hagekraal site has unique and exceptional biodiversity value and should be protected in its entirety as a national conservation treasure.</p> <p>The property proposed for the nuclear plant at Groot Hagekraal, is situated in the heart of critically important limestone habitats. Here an area of limestone, some 5 km² in extent, is the exclusive home to at least six plant species (i.e. local endemics). This number could be even more and it is our concern that the proposed botanical assessment of the site will not provide a full account of its flora.</p> <p>Although few detailed floras exist for farm units on the Plain, a seemingly unremarkable property (the 1750 ha Grootbos Nature Reserve) some 20 km to the west of Hagekraal has recorded 732 species, of which five are new to science, 99 are Red Data Species and 39 are range extensions (previously not recorded from the Agulhas Plain). The only reason this diversity of species has been recorded at Grootbos is that a detailed non-stop study, encompassing a full decade and including all seasons and all stages of post fire succession has been undertaken there. The initial three month detailed survey on Grootbos produced a list of 300 species, with 16 red data species and none new to science. In fact, two of the new species were only recorded in the last year following the February 2006</p>	

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	<p>fire. This despite ten years of preceding fieldwork and ongoing plant surveying. It is therefore impossible for any botanist, regardless of their credentials and experience, to undertake a thorough and comprehensive survey of the proposed site and its infrastructural footprints within the proposed time frames for the studies.</p> <p>It is our opinion that the Hagelkraal site should be integrated into the new Agulhas National Park and become the flagship for the regions exceptional biodiversity and conservation value.</p> <p>4. How will the project benefit communities in the long-term</p> <p>There are many examples in South Africa of how these kinds of projects have resulted in negative long-term social impacts (the hydro electric scheme at Grabouw is a typical example). It is clear that the construction of this plant will create a large number of temporary jobs. Where do these people come from, how can we be assured that local people who have lived in this area the longest will benefit from the employment opportunities? How can we be assured that there won't be a major influx of migrant workers to the region? What will Eskom leave behind other than a Nuclear power plant and lots of unemployed people? How will Eskom contribute to sustainable development, education, health and community development in our region?</p> <p>A Last Word</p> <p>Long after we are all dead and buried this proposed nuclear power station could be standing as a dominant feature on the Agulhas landscape, for all to see from land, island and sea. Ours is a truly remarkable part of this planet, people visit it from all over the world, marvelling at its pristine beauty and applauding the many initiatives underway to preserve it. Is Bantamsklip really the best alternative in our country?</p>	
<p>R.D.V. Nothnagel Pearly Beach Ratepayers Association</p>	<p>1) <u>Geology</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ From the Nuclear Siting Investigation Programme (NSIP) it is stated that the geology of this region was found to be extremely complex due to the intensive folding of the bedrock. It is further 	<p>Geological aspects, including seismology, will be addressed in a Geological and Geotechnical Assessment to be undertaken as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report).</p>

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	<p>stated, because of a statement by Fernandez, that the area has a moderate seismic hazard and that monitoring boreholes and seismic monitoring would be done. This would also assist in determining whether this area falls within the same seismotectonic province as the Tulbagh-Ceres area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ At the above meeting I requested that these monitoring results should be made available. Only one member of the team seemed to know about this matter, but could not provide any feedback. She did however state that this information would be made available. In a subsequent telephone call to ACER's office, on 20 July 2007, I spoke do Dalene (Not 100% sure of name) and again requested the information. To date I have not received any information. ▪ From my study of geology (Wits. 1965-1968), detailed knowledge of the area (permanent resident for 18 years) and discussions with people who have resided in the area for their entire lives, who state that the Tulbagh earthquake was felt strongly in this area, I can only conclude that this area is unsuitable. ▪ The siting programme mentions numerous fault planes and formation changes in the area and I have observed some of these on my site visits. <p>2) <u>Ecology.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is clearly stated, in the NSIP, that this area is highly sensitive. ▪ Quote: "Bantamsklip, being of major biotic importance and a National Heritage Site, has a very high conservation value. The purchase of this site, unless extremely well motivated, will have major repercussions amongst national and international conservation bodies." ▪ Were these bodies and the public recognized when the farm Groot Hagelkraal was purchased, many years ago? ▪ In section 6.5 of the NSIP (Recommendation of Site Specific Sensitivity) and under 6.5.2. Recommendation: Bantamsklip. ▪ The Bantamsklip site should not be purchased for later 	<p>It has been established that the boreholes were for assessment of the water resource not for seismic monitoring.</p> <p>A suite of specialist studies (including botanical, faunal, freshwater ecology, hydrology, geo-hydrology, archaeology and heritage resources, marine, social, tourism, economic, agricultural, visual) will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA to address these issues (see Chapter 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report).</p> <p>The criteria referred to in 6.5.4 were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Motivation ▪ Warm water effects ▪ Compensation <p>Bantamsklip was the only site identified in the Southern Cape during the Nuclear Siting Investigation programme.</p>

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	<p>development for a nuclear power station unless certain criteria are met.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Under 6.5.4. Criteria for purchase of Bantamsklip or Buffelsjagt: ▪ The following three major criteria should be met before either the Bantamsklip or Buffelsjagt sites are purchased. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Motivation - A clear and publicly motivated need is shown for the specific site - Site compared to other national sites 	<p>Potential warm water effects will be investigated in a Marine Assessment to be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report).</p> <p>Fair compensation was made to the landowners.</p> <p>Note that section 8 Property Acquisition of the same report contains the following: Quote "The Bantamsklip site is a well managed natural area (the property is registered as a Natural Heritage Site) and the farmstead and outbuildings are registered cultural historical monuments. After detailed investigation it was found that these attributes would, however, not be significantly adversely affected, by the proposed use of the site. The terrace for the power station (if built) will be located on the coastline, while the farm buildings are located inland. The conservation status and future of the area will be ensured through careful management by Eskom, as is the case on the land around Koeberg. In view of these facts it was decided to acquire this site."</p>
9(e) Thuyspunt		
Mrs Claudia Chandler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Impact on virgin pristine area. ▪ Flora and fauna damage. 	<p>Both a Vegetation and Faunal Assessment will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report). A whole host of other specialist studies will also assess the potential impacts of the proposed NPS and associated infrastructure on the 'sense of place' and pristine nature of the alternative sites.</p>
Mrs Sandra Cunningham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Impact on environment. 	<p>This EIA is being conducted to understand and assess potential impacts on the environment. Thus a suite of specialist studies will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA to address the issues on each component of the</p>

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		environment (see Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report).
Dr Francois Maritz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Roads should not damage dunes or natural vegetation. 	A Vegetation Assessment will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report). Impacts on natural Fynbos and/ or Strandveld vegetation and dune systems will be evaluated in that study and the results of which will be documented in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR).
Ingela Richardson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The size of the reactor - 31 hectares - is a large amount of space. What kind of impact is this going to have on the coastal fauna and flora? 	<p>Both a Vegetation and Faunal Assessment will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report). These studies will be peer reviewed by other botanical and faunal specialists.</p> <p>Similar to the situation at Koeberg, the land surrounding the actual power station will continue to be conserved as a nature reserve and will be accessible to the public.</p>
Mr Richardt van Rensburg	<p>Impact of Nuclear Power Station on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Damage to pristine natural environment. 	A whole host of bio-physical (e.g. vegetation, faunal, marine, fresh water ecology, geology, hydrology, geo-hydrology etc.) assessments, as well as visual assessments will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment of the EIA (Section 10.6 of the Scoping Report). The visual assessment will, amongst other aspects, assess the potential impacts of the proposed NPS on the 'sense of place' at each of the alternative sites.
Ryan Donnelly For A Safe Tomorrow F.A.S.T.	<p>Potential Impact on organic farming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I am an organic farmer who owns agricultural ground less than 10 km from the Thyspunt site. ▪ I have been practicing organic farming of vegetables, herbs and fruits for many years, which I have been selling to the public and restaurants. I am fearful of my product being perceived as not 	Agricultural issues will be investigated within the Agricultural Assessment that is to be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report). The Air Quality Assessment will assess the potential impacts of emissions from the proposed NPS and a Health Impact Assessment

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	<p>organic in that it will be very close to possibly the biggest nuclear power station in the world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Radioactive gasses and dust contaminate soils either from regular emissions or from a radioactive fall out. ▪ After any level of contamination the product will not be classed, as organic and official Organic certification will be revoked. ▪ Organic farming is hard work and little money but its contribution is healthy food for the community. ▪ My intentions have been to expand my organic farming efforts. <p>Product perception will be tarnished</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No amount of safety measures will secure the perception of my product in such close proximity to the proposed nuclear plant. <p>Responsibility to family and employees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I further voice my concern for the safety of my employees and family on the farm. Due to the close proximity of the proposed site (less than 10 km) and the prevailing Southwesterly there will be 15 minutes to evacuate my staff and family. ▪ I am afraid that this is not at all possible. Because of the close proximity I am afraid that in the event of a radioactive fallout from the proposed nuclear plant at Thyspunt my family and employees on the farm will die. <p>I am not in favour of the proposed nuclear plant at Thyspunt.</p>	<p>the potential impacts of the proposed NPS on human health. The Economic Assessment will assess potential impacts of the proposed NPS on small-scale organic farmers, as well as other farmers.</p> <p>Eskom will not construct and operate a nuclear power station if it is not convinced of its safety.</p> <p>In addition, the nuclear safety of, and the risk of a nuclear accident at the proposed power station will be independently assessed by the National Nuclear Regulator. The NNR will only issue a nuclear installation licence for the proposed power station if it is satisfied that the risk of an accident is acceptably low.</p> <p>The NNR can take away a licence that has already been granted if the NNR feels that nuclear safety is being compromised.</p>
Mrs Carol Patricia Lambert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The high environmental impact that a reactor would have on dune and water-flow dynamics, as well as on an area classified as an endangered eco-system. These areas are meant to be given protection in terms of the Bio-diversity Act. 	<p>Dune geomorphology and dynamics will be investigated as part of the Botanical Assessment being undertaken in the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report). Please also refer to Chapter 2 and Appendix F of the Scoping Report, which details the legal framework around which the EIA and specialist studies are being undertaken.</p>
Mr & Mrs Peter and Annette Naude Speddick Industrial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A reactor will have a high environmental impact. ▪ The fynbos is classified as an endangered ecosystem. 	
Mrs Seta van ees-van Tubbergh Van Ees Licensing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The fear that delicate and precious fynbos and pristine nature will be destroyed by (all aspects of) construction on a large scale in a remote region that's short of freshwater and other infrastructure. 	

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Mr Erik Van Ees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The concern that the trauma of construction and all that attends it will have a seriously adverse effect on the fynbos and precious nature of the area. 	<p>This EIA is being conducted to understand and assess potential impacts (positive, negative and neutral) on the receiving local, regional and national environment.</p> <p>A Vegetation Assessment, inclusive of identifying rare and endangered plant species, will be commissioned as part of the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report). This assessment, as well as the Faunal Assessment will discuss ecosystem level process, their significance and the potential impacts of the proposed NPS thereon.</p> <p>Construction impacts will be further investigated as part of a suite of specialist studies (including botanical, faunal, freshwater ecology, hydrology, geo-hydrology, archaeology and heritage resources, marine, social, tourism, economic, agricultural, visual) to be commissioned during the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA. These studies include a Freshwater Supply and Economic Assessment of the sites (Section 10.6.5 of the Scoping Report).</p> <p>Once identified, and should the proposed NPS and its associated infrastructure be authorised and built, potential impacts will be mitigated via the implementation of an Environmental Management Programme (EMP) for the construction and operational phase.</p>