What is compliance?
Compliance means conforming to environmental laws, regulations, standards and other requirements such as site permits to operate.

Why Environmental Compliance?
Environmental duty of care is part of Eskom’s values, policy and approach. Compliance is acknowledged as integral to maintaining our “license to operate”.

The Compliance Universe
In order to ensure compliance to environmental legislation, an organisation must know what their compliance obligations are. Therefore a compliance universe is developed and maintained for environmental management and is considered comprehensive and mature.
- Access to environmental legislation is available through [http://discover.sabinet.co.za/](http://discover.sabinet.co.za/).
- Additional web-based legal registers are available to ensure alignment to the Environmental Management System (ISO 14001:2015) and the Eskom Group Compliance requirements.

Role of Risk Management in Ensuring Compliance
- Identifying key risks that places the organisation’s license to operate at risk is important.
- Key environmental risks are managed in accordance to the Eskom Integrated Risk Management approach.
- Eskom has 1 priority 1 risk relating to environmental performance that may compromise the license to operate.

- Multiple controls are in place to address this risk, however the risk remains high.

Eskom Governance on Environmental Compliance
- The Eskom Environmental Strategy outlines key focus areas of compliance as well as measures to be implemented to improve Eskom’s Compliance status.
- The Environmental Compliance and Assurance Plan is updated annually to provide details of the overall compliance plan.
- Many Divisions have certified ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems (EMS) which also sets out compliance obligations.

Compliance Framework
- The compliance framework is detailed in the Environmental Compliance and Assurance plan.
Eskom uses a 3 tier environmental assurance mechanism.

Reviews and/or audits are conducted using this mechanism.

Breaches are identified through this mechanism and managed by the respective sites as well as the Sustainability Systems: Environmental Management Department.

Breaches are defined as non-compliance to requirements of environmental legislation (including provincial bylaws), authorisations, permits and licenses.

The total number of breaches reported includes environmental legal contravention-incidents and administrative non-compliances (as established using the 3 tier mechanism).

Let’s move to achieving full Compliance to environmental legislation, authorisations and permits!

By managing the number of incidents and findings identified through reviews, we can improve our environmental performance, compliance status and ultimately our environmental duty of care.

Essentially, the way forward is to have a downward trend for legal contraventions and the number of review findings in general due to effective governance and management. Thus reducing our impact on the environment from our operations and activities.

Make the right choices to ensure compliance!

Remember

- Non-compliance to environmental legislation may lead to criminal prosecution, jail time and fines being issued to individuals and/or the organisation.
Where can I view Compliance documents?

**Internal**

→ All compliance related information and documents can be found on the Environmental Management Share Point Site.

**External Stakeholders**

Eskom’s internal documents are controlled and therefore a request in terms of the Public Access to Information Act (PAIA) should be submitted for consideration.

Legislation is accessible on the Sabinet site: [http://discover.sabinet.co.za/](http://discover.sabinet.co.za/) and the Department of Environmental Affairs and Department of Water and Sanitation websites.

**Let’s Share**

- Supervisors must communicate the importance of compliance to all employees, including those without access to computers and contractors.
- Please share this factsheet at your meetings and encourage staff to tell their own stories and have a discussion about compliance matters.

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