

Siza wazi ukuthi lenchwadi kanye Neqoqo Lombhalo kuyatholakala ngolimi lweSeSotho kanye nangolweSiZulu uma kucelwa

Lemoha hore lengolo lena le Tokomane e Kgutsufaditsweng o ka di fumana ka Sesotho le se Zulu ha o di kopa

6 July 2010

Email: louise.corbett@af.aurecongroup.com

Dear Registered Interested and Affected Party

PROPOSED BRINE TREATMENT WORKS AT TUTUKA POWER STATION, MPUMALANGA (DEA REF NO.S: 12/12/20/1789 (EIA) & 12/9/11/L208/6 (WML)): AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR COMMENT

Our previous correspondence, dated 19 April 2010, regarding the above-mentioned project has reference. As a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process currently being undertaken, we would like to notify you of a change in project scope and the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for your review and comment. You are also invited to attend a focus group meeting where the findings of the Draft EIAR will be presented and discussed.

Current status

Eskom was proposing to construct additional infrastructure at the existing Tutuka power station, Mpumalanga for the treatment of groundwater and brine. The treatment facilities were to have consisted of two components; namely upgrading the existing reverse osmosis (RO) treatment plant to include an additional brine (hereinafter referred to as reject) concentration plant and the construction of a groundwater treatment works.

The need for the proposed groundwater treatment works was for the abstraction of a pollution plume beneath the ash dump, and its treatment at the proposed groundwater treatment works, in order to prevent the spread of the pollution plume. A Geohydrology Study was undertaken in order to assess the feasibility of the proposed groundwater abstraction and treatment works and its likely success of addressing the pollution plume. Findings of the Geohydrological Study indicated that the pollution plume would not spread should irrigation with reject on the ash dump be halted. It also indicated doubt as to whether the abstraction of the entire plume would be possible, based on the varied geology present beneath the ash dump. Based on these findings further investigations will be undertaken by Eskom and a different approach to the pollution plume investigated, and the most effective solution adopted.

As the proposed reject concentration plant would ensure that it would not be necessary to irrigate any of the reject on the ash dump, Eskom wishes to proceed with this component of the project urgently, in order to halt the continuation of the pollution plume. Therefore the ground

water treatment works will no longer form part of the current EIA process. Once the most appropriate management strategy with regards to the groundwater pollution plume has been decided, Eskom would undertake a separate EIA process, as required. Therefore a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) has been compiled for the proposed construction of the reject concentration plant at the existing RO plant only.

This approach has been discussed with the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), who confirmed that it was acceptable.

Draft EIAR

A Draft EIAR has been compiled which assesses the potential positive and negative environmental impacts (both social and biophysical) associated with the proposed reject concentration plant. We enclose, for your convenience, the Summary Document of the Draft EIAR. *Please note that the Summary Document is available in English and Afrikaans, as well as Sesotho and isiZulu on request.*

Copies of the Draft EIAR are available for review from 6 July 2010 at the Thuthukani and Standerton Public Libraries, the security centre at Tutuka Power Station and on the Eskom (www.eskom.co.za/eia) and Aurecon websites (www.aurecongroup.com/) (follow the South Africa and public participation links). I&APs have until 7 August 2010 to submit comment on the Draft EIAR.

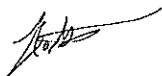
Focus Group Meeting

I&APs are invited to the Focus Group Meeting being held in Thuthukani on 22 July 2010 from 11h00 to 12h30 to discuss the findings of the EIAR. Should you wish to attend please RSVP for more details.

If you would like to submit any comments for this process please contact **Lindiwe Gaika** or **Karen Shippey** of Aurecon on Tel: (021) 481 2501, Fax: (021) 424 5588, lindiwe.gaika@af.aurecongroup.com or PO Box 494, Cape Town, 8000 before **7 August 2010**.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely
AURECON



LOUISE CORBETT
Practitioner: Environmental Services



BRETT LAWSON (*Pr.Sci.Nat., Cert. EAPSA*)
Technical Director: Environmental Services

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6 Julie 2010

E-pos louise.corbett@af.aurecongroup.com

Geagte Geregistreerde Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Party

**BEOOGDE PEKEL-BEHANDELINGSAANLEG BY TUTUKA KRAGSENTRALE,
MPUMALANGA 12/12/20/1789 (OIB) & 12/9/11/L208/6 (ABL): BESKIKBAARHEID VAN DIE
KONSEP OMGEWINGSINVLOEDBEPALINGSVERSLAG VIR KOMMENTAAR**

Ons vorige korrespondensie, gedateer 19 April 2010, rakende bogenoemde projek het betrekking. As 'n geregistreerde Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Party (B&GP) vir die Omgewingsinvloedbepalingsproses (OIB) wat tans onderneem word, wil ons u graag in kennis stel van 'n verandering in die omvang van die projek en die beskikbaarheid van die Konsep Omgewingsinvloedbepalingsverslag (OIBV) vir u oorsig en kommentaar. U word ook uitgenooi om 'n fokusgroepvergadering by te woon waar die bevindinge van die Konsep OIBV aangebied en bespreek sal word.

Huidige status

Eskom was van voorneme om bykomende infrastruktuur by die bestaande Tutuka kragentrale, Mpumalanga, vir die behandeling van grondwater en pekel te bou. Die behandelingsaanleg sou uit twee komponente bestaan het; naamlik die opgradering van die bestaande tru-osmose-behandelingsaanleg (TO) om 'n bykomende pekel-konsentreeraanleg in te sluit, asook die bou van 'n grondwater-behandelingsaanleg.

Die behoefte vir die beoogde grondwater-behandelingsaanleg was vir die onttrekking van 'n besoedelingspluim wat onder die ashoop gevorm het, en die beoogde behandeling van die besoedelingspluim by die beoogde grondwater-behandelingsaanleg om sodoende die verspreiding van die besoedelingspluim te voorkom. 'n Geohidrologiese Studie is onderneem om die uitvoerbaarheid van die beoogde grondwateronttrekking en behandelingsaanleg, asook die waarskynlike sukses in die hantering van die besoedelingspluim te bepaal. Die Geohidrologiese Studie het bevind dat indien die besproeiing met pekel gestaak word, die besoedelingspluim ook nie groter sal word nie. As gevolg van die gevarieerde geologie onder die ashoop is daar ook bedenkinge oor die moontlikheid om die hele pluim te onttrek. Op grond van hierdie bevindinge sal Eskom verdere ondersoek moet uitvoer, ander benaderings vir die besoedelingspluim moet ondersoek en dan die mees doeltreffende benadering moet toepas.

Aangesien die beoogde pekel-konsentreeraanleg sal beteken dat geen pekel meer op die ashoop gespuit word nie en dat die voortsetting van die besoedelingspluim sodoende stopgesit word, wil Eskom graag dringend met hierdie komponent van die projek voortgaan. Die grondwater-behandelingsaanleg is dus nie meer deel van die huidige OIB-proses nie. Sodra daar besluit is op die beste metode om die grondwater-besoedelingspluim te behandel sal Eskom 'n aparte OIB-proses hiervoor van stapel stuur. Die Omgewingsinvloedbepalingsverslag (OIBV) is dus saamgestel om slegs die beoogde bou van die pekel-konsentreeraanleg by die bestaande TO-aanleg aan te spreek.

Hierdie benadering is met die Departement van Omgewingsake (DOS) bespreek, wat bevestig het dat dit aanvaarbaar is.

Konsep OIBV

'n Konsep OIBV is saamgestel waarin die moontlike positiewe en negatiewe omgewingsimpakte (beide maatskaplik en biofisies) wat op die beoogde pekelkonsentreeraanleg van toepassing is, beoordeel is. Vir u inligting word die Opsommende Dokument van die Konsep OIBV hierby aangeheg. *Neem asseblief kennis dat die Opsommende Verslag op versoek in Engels, Afrikaans, Sesotho en Zoeloe beskikbaar is.*

Afskrifte van die Konsep OIBV kan vanaf 6 Julie 2010 besigtig word by die Openbare Biblioteke te Thuthukani en Standerton, die sekuriteitsentrum by die Tutuka Kragentrale, en aanlyn op Eskom (www.eskom.co.za/eia) en Aurecon se webtuistes (www.aurecongroup.com – volg die skakels na "Africa-Middle East" en "public participation"). B&GPe het tot en met **7 Augustus 2010** die geleentheid om op die Konsep OIBV kommentaar te lewer.

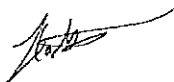
Fokusgroepvergadering

B&GPe word ook uitgenooi om 'n Fokusgroepvergadering by te woon waartydens die bevindinge van die Konsep OIBV aangebied en bespreek sal word. Dit sal vanaf 11h00-12h30 op 21 Julie 2010 in Thuthukani plaasvind. RSVP asseblief vir meer inligting indien u hierdie geleentheid wil bywoon.

Tree asseblief voor **7 Augustus 2010** met **Lindiwe Gaika** of **Karen Shippey** van Aurecon in verbinding indien u enige kommentaar op hierdie proses wil lewer. Tel: (021) 481-2501, Faks: (021) 424-5588, E-pos: lindiwe.gaika@af.aurecongroup.com of Posbus 494, Kaapstad 8000.

Moet asseblief nie huiwer om met die ondergetekende in verbinding te tree indien u enige navrae het nie.

Die uwe
AURECON



LOUISE CORBETT
Praktisyn: Omgewingsdienste



BRETT LAWSON (*Pr.Sci.Nat., Cert. EAPSA*)
Tegniese Direkteur: Omgewingsdienste