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**PROPOSED BIOMASS CO-FIRING DEMONSTRATION FACILITY AT ARNOT  
POWER STATION, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE  
DEA Ref No. 12/12/20/2380**

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**NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

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Dear Stakeholder

Eskom are proposing to establish a biomass co-firing demonstration facility at the Arnot Power Station. Arnot Power Station is an existing coal-fired power station located approximately 50 km east of Middleburg in the Mpumalanga Province. It has a nominal base load generation capacity of 2 400 MW, generated from six units, each with a nominal capacity of approximately 400 MW. Eskom is proposing the substitution of a limited amount (between 10% and 15%) of coal with biomass (wood pellets) as a co-firing fuel source. This project is considered to be a pilot exercise. This project forms part of Eskom's initiatives towards the reduction of their carbon footprint, and it forms the starting facility for pilot biomass co-firing.

**NOTICE OF BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

In terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations published in Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, No 107 of 1998), it is a legal requirement that environmental impacts be investigated and assessed for any activity which may have a potentially detrimental impact on the environment. The proposed project is listed as such an activity (as a result of the associated air emissions and development footprint), and therefore Eskom requires environmental authorisation from National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), as the competent authority (in consultation with the Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development, Environment, and Tourism (M DEDET)) for the undertaking of the proposed project. In terms of Listing Notice 1 of the EIA Regulations (as published in GN 544), a Basic Assessment Process is required to be undertaken in support of this application for authorisation. This project has been registered with the National DEA under application reference number **12/12/20/2380**.

Eskom has appointed Savannah Environmental, as the independent environmental consultants, to undertake the required Basic Assessment process to identify and assess potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project, and propose appropriate mitigation and management measures

as part of the Environmental Management Programme (EMP). The information generated by Savannah would be used by the Competent Authorities in decision making. As part of these environmental studies, I&APs will be actively involved through the public participation process, and throughout the project studies.

To obtain further information and register on the project database, please submit your name, contact information and interest in the project to the contact person below.

Comments can be made as written submission via fax, post or e-mail.

Please submit your comments to
<b>Alicia Govender of Savannah Environmental</b> PO Box 148, Sunninghill, Johannesburg, 2157 Tel: 011 234 6621 Fax: 086 684 0547 E-mail: <a href="mailto:alicia@savannahsa.com">alicia@savannahsa.com</a> To view project documentation, visit <a href="http://www.savannahsa.com/projects">www.savannahsa.com/projects</a>

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the proposed project. Our team welcomes your participation and looks forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Yours sincerely,

Alicia Govender  
(not signed sent via email /fax)