5 August 2015

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Dear Mr Hamamoto

RE: ESKOM EIA CONCERNS FOR THE PROPOSED NUCLEAR POWER STATION AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE (DEA Ref. No: 12/12/20/944)

Comment 1:

(Please refer to page number where possible.)

On condition that Eskom expects BWR (Boiling Water Reactor) technology as one of the candidate technology for Nuclear-1, some Chapters/Paragraphs as follows, but not limited to, should be modified.

Because reactor type for Nuclear-1 and preference of Eskom are directly or indirectly described exclusively within PWR (Pressurized Water Reactor) technology even its plant type is not fixed yet.

a) 3.2 Principles of producing heat for electricity generation
b) 3.5 Nuclear technology for the proposed power station (Nuclear-1)
c) 3.6 Operation of a typical nuclear power station
d) 4.3.1 (Pages 4-9) Pressurized Water Reactor (PWR) Technology
e) 5.4 (Pages 5-13 to 5-19) Nuclear plant types
f) 9.33.11 (Pages 9-334) Nuclear Plant types

Would that the applicable reactor type is described as “LWR (Light Water Reactor)” instead of “PWR (Pressurized Water Reactor)” and related descriptions are modified accordingly. Eskom can expand its selection of candidate reactor technology for Nuclear-1 inclusive of “BWR (Boiling Water Reactor)”.

Given same consideration to be necessary for the flexibility of selecting reactor type and plant type of Nuclear-1, some Chapters/Paragraphs of **FINAL SCOPING REPORT** issued in December, 2007 as follows, but not limited to, may require to be revised.

a) 4.6 (Page 4-9 to 4-10) Proposed Technology
b) 4.7.1 (Page 4-11) Pressurised Water Reactor Design
c) 8.6 (Page 8-20 to 8-21) Pressurized Water Reactor (PWR) Technology
d) 8.7 (Page 8-21 to 8-26) Pressurized Water Reactor Types

Response 2:

Your comment is noted however it is not the purpose of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process to act as a selection mechanism or to drive procurement in terms of the nature of the technology to be used in the construction and operation of the Nuclear-1 Power Station. It is the purpose of the EIA to assess the impacts of the construction and operation of a Generation III type (as described by an envelope of criteria) reactor on three proposed sites in the Western and Eastern Cape Provinces of South Africa. The procurement process will be led by Government. The start of procurement has not as yet been officially announced. The PWR technology is premised on the Nuclear Energy policy of RSA.

We therefore note your comments in terms of making changes to certain sections of the Revised Draft EIR Version 1, however the suggested changes will be not be made the report.

Yours faithfully
for GIBB (Pty) Ltd

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The Nuclear-1 EIA Team