

Environmental Impact Assessment for the two proposed coal-fired power stations in the Waterberg area, Limpopo, for Eskom

DEAT Ref No. 12/12/20/1255

Dear Stakeholder

EIA Public Participation Office
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3 November 2008

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) (12/12/20/1255) FOR TWO PROPOSED NEW COAL-FIRED POWER STATIONS IN THE WATERBERG AREA, LIMPOPO:

- **Availability of Draft Scoping Report for comment from 5 November 2008 to 9 January 2009 &**
- **Invitation to a public meeting**

The Background Information Document, the Letter of Invitation to contribute to the EIA for the proposed two new coal-fired power stations in the Waterberg area of September 2008, and the urgent notice of 1 October 2008 regarding the inclusion of the second power station have reference.

We trust that you received the documents and we wish to extend our sincere thanks to those stakeholders who have submitted contributions. Please be assured that the issues you have raised have already been passed on to the EIA technical specialists. Your issues will appear, linked to your name in the Issues and Response Report of the Draft Scoping Report, which will be available for comment shortly. Two focus group meetings also took place on 3 and 4 October 2008 with the local, district, provincial and national authorities and with landowners and the agricultural sector, respectively. The contributions made at the meetings were captured and are also recorded in the Issues and Response Report.

Draft Scoping Report available for public comment

In accordance with the EIA Regulations, the purpose of the Draft Scoping Report is to outline the scope of the project and to identify areas where further study is required in order to make an informed decision. Interested and affected parties also have an opportunity to verify that their contributions to date have been captured and correctly understood by the project team. All issues raised by the public, along with issues identified by the environmental technical specialists, have been used to define the terms of reference for the Specialist Studies that will be conducted during the Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA.

The Draft Scoping Report will be available for public review for a period of four weeks (from Wednesday, 5 November 2008 to Friday, 9 January 2009). Thereafter, the report will be updated and submitted to the competent environmental authority, the National Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT). DEAT will, in consultation with the environmental authority of the Limpopo Province consider the scope to be covered by the specialist studies and either approve the Scoping Report and Plan of Study for EIA, or request amendments to the scope.

The Draft Scoping Report will be available at the public places listed in the table below. The report is also available for download from the Eskom and Ninham Shand websites (www.eskom.co.za/eia and www.ninhamshand.co.za – click on 'hot topics' on the top left corner). A summary of the Draft Scoping Report will be made available in English and Afrikaans – this document will be mailed to all registered stakeholders.

List of Public Places

| ORGANISATION NAME | CONTACT | POSITION | CONTACT TEL | ADDRESS |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---|
| Agri Lephalale | Elana Greyling | Representative | (014) 763-1888 | 6A Jacobus Street, LEPHALALE |
| Lephalale Local Municipality | Parks Sebatjane | Municipal Manager | (014) 763 2193/ 1409 | Cnr Dou Water and Joe Slovo Drive, ONVERWACHT |
| Lephalale Public Library | Hazel Mashaba | Librarian | (014) 763 4402 | Cnr Dou Water and Joe Slovo , ONVERWACHT |
| Marapong Clinic | Sister Theunisson | Sister | (014) 768-2380 | 175 Mosethla Street, Marapong |
| Lephalale District Agricultural Union | Jannie Pretorius | Manager | (014) 763 3263 | NTK Building, Louis Botha Avenue, LEPHALALE |

You can comment on the Draft Scoping Report or its summary in any of the following ways:

- By completing the comment sheet that is available with the Draft Scoping Report and its summaries
- By writing a letter, or producing additional written submissions
- By email or telephone to the public participation office
- By attending the public meeting (see below).

Comments on the Draft Scoping Report and its summaries must be submitted by **Friday, 9 January 2009**.

Public meeting

The purpose of the public meeting will be to ensure that interested and affected parties understand the project scope and the proposed specialist studies, and to provide an opportunity for I&APs to comment and raise issues on the Draft Scoping Report. The findings of the scoping report will be presented during the meeting. It is important that you register for the public meeting in advance - please use the **enclosed form and return it by 19 November 2008**. This will allow us to send you a copy of the agenda and directions to the meetings. The public meeting will be held as follows:

LEPHALALE

Date: Wednesday, 26 November 2008
Venue: Mogol Club, Conference Centre, Lephalale
Time: Open House (Informal discussions) from 16:00 – 18:00
Public meeting from 18:00 – 20:00

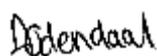
Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

It is important to note that the Draft Scoping Report will not be the last opportunity for stakeholders to comment in this process. The findings of the EIA (including those of the detailed specialists' studies still to be conducted) will be captured in a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR), which will be available for public comment, in the second quarter of 2009.

In closing, we would like to thank the many people and organizations who have thus far contributed to the EIA and who have set aside time to meet with the EIA team. Please contact either myself, Andre Joubert or Wilheminah Mosupye if you require further information at this stage, or wish to suggest someone else to be consulted. If you are registering for the public meeting please do so before **19 November 2008**.

Please note that this assessment is being conducted on behalf of Eskom

Sincerely



Anelle Odendaal
Public Participation Office: EIA for Waterberg coal-fired power stations