

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED BRINE AND GROUNDWATER TREATMENT WORKS AT TUTUKA POWER STATION,
MPUMALANGA:
COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT I (PROJECT INITIATION PHASE)**

This Comments and Response Report reflects the comments submitted in writing from **31 January 2010 until 1 March 2010** during the initiation phase of the proposed project. A total of two submissions were received and have been summarised and responded to below. In order to better address the comments received, the table has been divided into themed issues and the comments relevant to each issue have been included under the relevant (themed) section. Issues have been grouped under the following sections:

1. Pollution;
2. EIA Process; and
3. Socio-economic aspects.

List of submissions:

No.	Name	Organisation	Date Received	Method
1	N. Vermaak	Department of Water Affairs	03/02/2010	E-mail
2	M.E.Monnye	Mogaleadi Consulting	11/02/2010	E-mail

Comments and responses:

No.	Name and Organisation	Date Received	Issue	Response
1				
POLLUTION				
1.1	N. Vermaak, Department of Water Affairs	03/02/2010	My concern is that polluted runoff from the ash dumpsites would flow into the Grootdraai Dam. In the past, Sasol has raised concerns regarding the minerals they found in the water at Grootdraai Dam Pumpstation that provides water to the Sasol facilities at Secunda.	Eskom operates a Zero Liquid Effluent Discharge (ZLED) system, and has a clean and dirty water system to avoid impacts of dirty water runoff from the ash dump (as well as the power station precinct, etc). Essentially the dirty water system consists of a trench downstream of the ash dump. This trench traps ash dump runoff and channels it to Eskom's dirty water dam, located to the south of the ash dump. Clean water is captured by a similar trench upstream of the ash dump and channeled to the clean water dam below the dirty water dam. Impurities in the dirty water dam settle out and the water is used for dust suppression purposes on the ash dump. The water level of the dirty water dam is monitored and, should it be very high with a risk of overflow, water is pumped to the power station dirty water dam to prevent overflows. Water from the clean water dam is recycled back to the power station raw water dam and used for power station processes. As such, runoff from the ash dumps or any operations at the power station would not enter the natural drainage system and enter the Grootdraai Dam, under normal operating conditions.

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No.	Name and Organisation	Date Received	Issue	Response
2 EIA PROCESS				
2.1	M.E.Monnye; Mogaleadi Consulting	11/02/2010	Has the responsible ward councillor and relevant Local Municipality been informed of the proposed project?	Yes. The list of Interested and Affected Persons on the database, who were informed of the proposed project, is contained in Annexure E of the Scoping Report.
2.2	M.E.Monnye; Mogaleadi Consulting	11/02/2010	Public participation process should also be extended to the affected traditional authorities within the study area.	The directly affected landowner in this instance is Eskom, since the location of the proposed infrastructure is on Eskom owned land. The immediately abutting landowners have also been notified of the proposed project. Stakeholders further afield have been notified <i>via</i> public advertisements in the regional and local newspapers. Key correspondence (i.e. letters and executive summaries) would be made available in English, Afrikaans, seSotho, isiZulu, to enable broad community participation. We are unaware of any directly affected traditional authorities, but will endeavour to include these, should it be possible.
3 SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASPECTS				
3.1	M.E.Monnye; Mogaleadi Consulting	11/02/2010	The local people should be given preference over the people from outside the project area	The operation of the proposed facility would not generate a large number of additional jobs, and is likely to be limited to 15. At the construction phase, more jobs would be created, but this would be on a temporary basis. Eskom's policy is to employ a proportion of its labour force from the local community, which is typically a condition of the construction contract. Labour desks are typically set up for the large scale construction projects, as well as utilization of existing labour recruitment structures.
3.2	M.E.Monnye; Mogaleadi Consulting	11/02/2010	Eskom should develop a strategy to be followed regarding labour recruitment procedures.	Please refer to the comment directly above.