

## 9 CONCLUSION

### 9.1 Process to Date

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the proposed project is comprised of two main phases, namely the Scoping phase and Impact Assessment phase. This report documents the tasks which have been undertaken as part of the Scoping phase of the EIA. These tasks include the public participation process and the documentation of the issues which have been identified as a result of these activities.

To date, tasks that have commenced include the:

- Identification of stakeholders or I&APs;
- Notification and advertisements;
- Background Information Documents; and
- Ongoing consultation and engagement

More detail on the above is available in **Chapter 6**.

The Draft Scoping Report was released for public review and comment from **24 July to 2 September 2013**. During the review period a public participation process (PPP) was undertaken, allowing Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to engage with the project proponents and independent environmental consultants. The PPP will consist of a public meeting, Key Stakeholder focus group meetings as well as one-on-one interactions where required. Issues raised by I&APs during the public participation process have been documented and have been included in the Final Scoping Report.

The relevant authorities required to review the proposed project and provide an Environmental Authorisation were consulted from the outset of this study, and have been engaged throughout the project process. The National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), is the competent authority for this Project. The Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) and the City of Cape Town are noted as key commenting authorities. For a comprehensive list see **Chapter 2 and 6**.

The Scoping Phase of an EIA serves to define the scope of the detailed assessment of the potential impacts of a proposed project. The Environmental Scoping Phase has been undertaken in accordance with the requirements of sections 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) (Act 108 of 1998), as read with Government Notices R 543 of the 2010 EIA Regulations. The objectives of the Scoping Phase are to:

- Ensure that the process is open and transparent and involves the Authorities, proponent and stakeholders;
- Identify the important characteristics of the affected environment;
- Ensure that feasible alternatives are identified and selected for further assessment;

- Assess and determine possible impacts of the proposed project on the biophysical and socio-economic environment and associated mitigation measures; and
- Ensure compliance with the relevant legislation.

## 9.2 Conclusions and Recommendations

Based on the studies undertaken to date no environmental fatal flaws have been identified that would prohibit the project from continuing at this stage of the process. However, a number of potentially significant environmental impacts have been identified as requiring some more in-depth investigation and the identification of detailed mitigation measures. Therefore, a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment is required to be undertaken in order to provide an assessment of these potential impacts and recommend appropriate mitigation measures, where required.

Various projects are also proposed in and adjacent to the area which includes a possible landfill by City of Cape Town and proposed solar parks by IPP at / adjacent to *alternative 4* for example. At *alternative 1 - 3* at Koeberg itself, the Nuclear 1 Power Station and the associated infrastructures (i.e. including the 5 x 400kV power lines from Omega to the HV Yard of Nuclear 1) are proposed and the status of these projects is already at the advanced stages of EIA process. In terms of development on Cape Farm 34 (*Alternative 1- 3*) Eskom is yet to sign a binding stewardship agreement for the site or commit any parts of the Koeberg property to formal conservation: The Koeberg Training and Admin Complex EIA authorisation requires a Stewardship Agreement for the Nature Reserve to be agreed with CapeNature. A Number of discussions have been held with CapeNature and are still ongoing. No formal agreement has yet been concluded but is being progressed. The constraints to be imposed by the stewardship agreement and other projects should be considered and investigated further through the EIA process and public participation.

### **Alternatives:**

The technical analysis of all the alternatives was also undertaken the same period when the environmental scoping studies were undertaken. During the scoping public participation process I&APs have been allowed to comment on all the proposed alternatives. The preferred alternatives that will be taken into the EIA phase by taking all of this into consideration include **alternative 1 GIS** and **alternative 4 AIS**. The other alternatives have been deemed technically and/or ecologically unviable.

The scope of work required in the EIA phase of the project is included in the Plan of Study for EIA (**chapter 10**).