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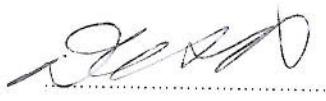



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1. Introduction

Eskom plays a central role in enabling the Government's vision and supporting economic growth in South Africa. Eskom is a large consumer of fresh water, accounting for approximately 2-3% of the country's total water consumption annually. Eskom power stations run constantly, supplying in excess of 95% of South Africa's electrical energy and about half of the electricity used on the African continent. Through its business of generating, transmitting and distributing electricity to various parts of the country, Eskom interacts with the environment. Water is one essential component of such environment and thus water is critical to Eskom's business.

Whilst Eskom business is interconnected with the environment, the livelihood of all South Africans is dependent on the quality of the same environment. As a result, Eskom has to demonstrate leadership by acting in a responsible and pro-active manner regarding the sustainable use of water.

The commitment of Eskom to environmental duty of care is articulated in its Safety, Health, Environment and Quality (SHEQ) Policy (32-727) which provides the framework for safety, health, environment and quality management in the organisation. "Reducing fresh water usage and eliminating liquid effluent discharge to avoid impacting water resources through effective water management processes and the use of mine water" is one of Eskom's environmental management strategic objectives.

The National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998) and the Water Services Act (Act 108 of 1997) are the key pieces of water legislation that have been enacted and implemented to date. The water legislation has a strong emphasis on 'equity', 'efficiency' and 'affordability' in the context of sustainability. It is this interplay between the various tenets of the water legislation and the water institutions that have and still need to be established in striving to promote the judicious use of water by all South Africans. The National Water Resource Strategy (NWRS) classifies Eskom as a Strategic Water User. This is due to the central/strategic role of electricity in the economy and the development of the country. As a result, Eskom is supplied with water to support electricity generation processes at a 99.5% assurance level by the Department of Water Affairs (DWA), a custodian of South Africa's water resources. The 99.5% assurance level implies that the risk of failure to supply water to Eskom from South Africa's water resources is 1 in 200 years.

Eskom strives for continued commitment towards water sustainability issues as a Strategic Water User through participation in some initiatives, such as the Water Conservation and Water Demand Management (WC/WDM) Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the DWA and the UN Global Compact (the CEO Water Mandate), which were signed in 2007 and 2010 respectively. The WC/WDM MoU seeks to promote and improve the effective and efficient use of water by the power stations.

The UN CEO Water Mandate is a non-binding, voluntary public-private initiative of the United Nations Global Compact and aims to provide platforms to participants such as Eskom to develop strategies and solutions that can contribute positively to the global water crisis.

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As a signatory to the UN Global Compact, Eskom can endorse the CEO Water Mandate and pledge its commitment to the principles and annually report on progress in supporting and promoting compliance with the principles.

In terms of water usage, Eskom currently uses approximately 2-3% of the total fresh water resource in South Africa:

- At the coal-fired stations, water is used to generate the steam that drives the turbines to generate electricity and for cooling purposes;
- Water is used drive the turbines to generate electricity at the hydro power and pumped storage schemes;
- Most power stations treat raw water to produce potable water for certain processes and to supply the nearby communities and tied collieries for domestic purposes.
- Most power stations make use of fresh water for cooling purposes ¹.

While Eskom's business is largely reliant on South Africa's scarce water resource, its activities including the construction and operation of its infrastructure, have a potential to affect water courses. In addition, Eskom must address the impacts of climate change. Climate change is a global challenge that will have a major impact on the future of Eskom's business and in particular around water security. To respond to issues of climate change, Eskom supports and contributes to global efforts to combat climate change while ensuring the sustainability of our economy and society. Eskom's climate change strategy focuses on the basis for the response to global climate change, and on South Africa's responses, the power sector's responses to climate change, and the summary of experiences in the power sector. The strategy also focuses on six key areas namely, diversification, energy efficiency, adaptation, innovation, investment and communication and advocacy.

This policy provides a framework through which Eskom's business should interact with water bodies throughout its value chain. It defines the roles and responsibility of Eskom as a Strategic Water User in alignment with the NWRS. This policy also recognises water and sanitation as a human basic right as defined in the UN Global Compact CEO Mandate.

2. Policy/Directive Content

South Africa has developed a sound policy and legislative framework for water which are internationally acclaimed in terms of its progressive, right-based and user-centred nature; however there are challenges in the implementation of these policies and legislation within the water sector. Some of these challenges include slow institutional establishment, varying institutional capacity, co-ordination and co-operation, institutional viability and sustainability challenges, lack of regulation and compliance as well as a low skills base.

The commitment of South Africa to water sustainability issues is embedded in its constitution. The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa Act (No. 108 of 1996) provides the following principles with respect to water and the environment:

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- Everyone has the right to have access to sufficient food and water;
- Everyone has the right to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being;
- The environment must be protected for the benefit of all people living now and in the future;
- National government is the custodian of the sources of water, such as rivers, ground water and dams; and
- Local government is in charge of municipal water services.

The constitution further provides framework for the government and other stakeholders to develop and implement reasonable legislative and other measures to achieve the above mentioned principles. A number of Acts, strategies and regulations have been developed and implemented to support the principles of the constitution. The fundamental water legislation include the:

- **National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998)** - the purpose of this Act is to ensure that environment is protected for the benefit of all people living now and in the future. It requires environmental duty of care.
- **National Water Act (No. 36 of 1998)** - the purpose of this Act is to ensure that the nation's water resources are protected, used, controlled, managed, conserved and developed in a sustainable and equitable manner, for the benefit of all.
- **Water Services Act (No. 108 of 1997)** - this Act provides a framework for the rights of access to basic water supply and sanitation.
- **National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (No. 10 of 2004)** – this Act provides a framework for the management and conservation of South Africa's biodiversity within the framework of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998).
- **National Environmental Management: Waste Act (No. 59, 2008)** – this Act provides a framework for waste managing activities in order to protect public health and the environment within the framework of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998).

Chapter 5 of the National Water Act, called for the development of the National Water Resource Strategy (NWRS) to provide a framework for the protection, use, development, conservation, management and control of water resources for the country as the whole. It is within the context of NWRS that Eskom was classified as the Strategic Water User.

2.1 Policy/Directive Statement

Eskom as a Strategic Water User and a signatory to the UN Global Compact – The CEO Mandate, is committed to:

- being proactive in addressing water sustainability issues by establishing and implementing this water management policy, water management strategies, systems, processes,

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practices, procedures and research initiatives to ensure compliance with legislative requirements and curb threats to scarce water resources.

- drive water sustainability agenda that also focus on the well-being of the communities in the area it operates. This is in recognition of water and sanitation as a human right as defined in the UN Global Compact – CEO Water Mandate.
- encourage its suppliers especially coal mines to subscribe to water sustainability practices.
- participate in multi-stakeholder engagements across sectors and societal spheres on issues related to water sustainability.
- being transparent when dealing with the water sustainability issues with DWA and all other stakeholders.
- raise awareness across its area of operation regarding water sustainability issues.
- ensure that water forms part of the sustainability indicators in business decision making.
- participate in the national and international accreditations aimed at improving issues of water sustainability.
- invest in researches of and implementation of new technologies aimed at improving water efficiency and minimizing impacts on water resources.

This will enable Eskom to support the national policy and strategies in protecting, using, managing, controlling, developing and conserving the nation's water resources in a sustainable manner and promote the principles of the CEO Mandate. Eskom will achieve this by focusing under four pillars, namely: stakeholder management; corporate water stewardship; assurance and compliance; and training and development.

2.1.1 Stakeholder Management

Eskom will:

- a) sustain a high level of liaison with DWA and other government departments to contribute to the achievement of these objectives and engage in the formulation of national water policy;
- b) participate in joint ventures and collaborate with other water users across different sectors and interested and affected parties including communities where the relationships support Eskom's business objectives and water sustainability issues;
- c) collaborate with appropriate international and national bodies on research and technology transfer with regard to technologies and processes that promotes water sustainability;
- d) establish forums internal and external where necessary to drive water sustainability issues; and
- e) communicate key water messages internally and externally with key stakeholders to promote awareness on water sustainability issues and afford timeous and informed decisions.

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2.1.2 CORPORATE WATER Stewardship

Eskom will:

- a) integrate the issues of water sustainability in its business planning and decision making.
- b) identify and implement Water Conservation and Water Demand Management initiatives;
- c) encourage suppliers e.g coal mines to also identify and implement WC/WDM initiatives in their operations;
- d) encourage the suppliers to promote and implement good water management practices in their operations
- e) encourage practices that promotes water resource pollution prevention and comply with a ZLED policy
- f) ensure all its new water containing infrastructure are designed, maintained and operated in a manner that water will be utilized effectively and efficiently and to ensure environmental duty of care;
- g) ensure that all new water treatment plants and processes are designed, maintained and operated in a manner that promotes the effective and efficient use and protection of the water resource;
- h) continually review and plan, in co-operation with DWA, the yield, quality and availability of water resources and reliability of water supply infrastructure, to ensure that these factors meet Eskom's water supply requirement in the short, medium and long term period; and
- i) ensure that water management information systems are in place and up-to-date in order to provide Eskom management and other stakeholders with timely and appropriate water performance information; and identify and manage risks in its water value chain.
- j) invest in research of and implementation of new technologies that promote water efficiency and minimize impacts on water resources and encourage a greener corporate culture where feasible.

2.1.3 ASSURANCE AND Compliance

Eskom will:

- a) ensure that operations have relevant water permits/licenses to comply with the relevant legislation.
- b) ensure that operations comply with their water permits/licenses conditions.
- c) continuously undertake due diligence in the form of water management reviews/inspections/audits throughout its value chain to fully understand the extent of water usage and impacts on the water resources.
- d) ensure that audits are conducted at appropriate time intervals in accordance with permits/water use licences/waste licences, Eskom policies, standards and procedures as required for assurance and compliance purposes; and
- e) devise and implement contingency and adaptation plans to reduce or minimize impacts on water resources.

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2.1.4 Training and Development

Eskom will:

- a) ensure that suitably trained, qualified and experienced staff are deployed to support this policy;
- b) ensure that relevant personnel receive required training and development on water management aspects.

2.2 Policy Principles or Rules

The following are the guiding principles for this water policy:

- To facilitate the integration of the water related legislation into Eskom's business,
- To support the objectives of the National Water Act (NWA), National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (NEMBA) and Waste Act, National Water Resource Strategy, Water Services Act (WSA) and Integrated Coastal Management Act,
- To give effect to the principles of the UN CEO Water Mandate, and Eskom and DWA Water Conservation and Water Demand Management Memorandum of Understanding,
- To promote and encourage the effective and efficient use of water and conservation and protection of water resources,
- To foster a culture of compliance with the legislative requirements, and
To give effect to the Eskom's ZLED philosophy

3. Supporting Clauses

3.1.1 Purpose

The main objective of this policy is to outline the management decision on the approach to Eskom's water management practices in supporting the national water policy, complying with the legislative requirements and defining Eskom role as a Strategic Water User.

3.1.2 Applicability

This policy shall apply throughout Eskom Holdings SOC Limited divisions, subsidiaries, and entities wherein Eskom has a controlling interest, including identified contractors, suppliers and service providers.

This policy/directive shall apply throughout Eskom Holdings Limited Divisions.

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3.2 Normative/Informative References

Parties using this policy/directive shall apply the most recent edition of the documents listed in the following paragraphs.

3.2.1 Normative

- [1] ISO 9001 Quality Management Systems.
- [2] ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems
- [3] Constitution of the Republic of South Africa Act (No. 108 of 1996).
- [4] National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998).
- [5] National Water Act (No. 36 of 1998).
- [6] Water Services Act (No. 108 of 1997).
- [7] National Environmental Management: Waste Act (No. 59, 2008)
- [8] National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (No. 10 of 2004).
- [9] Integrated Coastal Management Act (No. 24 of 2008)
- [10] National Water Resource Strategy, 1st Edition, September 2004.

3.2.2 Informative

- [1] 32-727, Eskom SHEQ Policy.
- [2] 32-736, Eskom Land and Biodiversity Policy
- [3] Strategic Planning for Water Resources in South Africa, DWA Report No: P RSA v 000/00/7809, a situation Analysis, September 2009.
- [4] 32-1110, Water Accounting Framework Directive.
- [5] UN Global Compact: The CEO Water Mandate, July 2007.
- [6] DWA/Eskom WC/WDM MoU, March 2008.

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3.3 Definitions

3.3.1 Climate Change: According to Intergovernmental Panel on Climate change (IPCC) climate change refers to a change in the state of the climate that can be identified (e.g. using statistical tests) by changes in the mean and/or the variability of its properties and that persists for an extended period, typically decades or longer. It refers to any change in climate over time, whether due to natural variability or as a result of human activity.

3.3.2 Eskom: applies to Eskom Holdings State Owned Company (SOC) Limited and its divisions and subsidiaries.

3.3.3 Environment: As per the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 -the surroundings within which humans exist and that are made up of:

- i) the land, water, and atmosphere of the earth;
- ii) micro-organisms and plant and animal life;
- iii) any part or combination of (i) and (ii) and the interrelationships among and between them; and
- iv) the physical, chemical, aesthetic, and cultural properties and conditions of the foregoing that influence human health and well-being.

In the context of Eskom, environment means the surroundings within which we live (and are dependent upon) that are made up of the land, water and atmosphere of the earth, plant and animal life and their inter-relationships.

3.3.4 Biodiversity: means the variability among living organisms from all sources including terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part and also includes diversity within species, between species, and of ecosystems (National

3.3.5 Ecosystem: means a dynamic system of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit (National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998).

3.3.6 Pollution: The direct and indirect alteration of the physical, chemical or biological properties of a water resource which results in it being less fit for any beneficial purpose for which it may reasonably be expected to be used.

3.3.7 Sustainability: broadly speaking sustainability means to support, sustain or endure. In the context of this policy, sustainability means the integration and consideration of three pillars namely, economic, social and environmental issues.

3.3.8 Stakeholder: person, group or organization that has direct or indirect stake in an organization because it can affect or be affected by the organization's actions, objectives and policies. Key stakeholders in a business organisation include creditors, customers, directors, employees, government, shareholders, suppliers, unions and the community from which the business draws its resources.

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- 3.3.9 Strategic Water User:** Due to Eskom's contributions to the country's development and growth through supply of electricity, Eskom is defined as a Strategic Water User (DWA NWRS, 2004). In terms of water supply, Eskom is supplied with raw water at 99.5% assurance level which implies that the risk of failure to supply water to Eskom from South Africa's water resources is 1 in 200 years.
- 5.3.10 Water Management:** The process which embraces the management of both quality and quantity of natural and treated waters, including protection, conservation, use, development and control of water resources throughout the life cycle of any facility used to generate electricity.
- 3.3.11 Water Resource:** includes a watercourse, surface water, estuary, aquifer/ground water and the sea.
- 3.3.12 Water Conservation and Water Demand Management:** relate to the efficient and effective use of water and the minimization of loss and wastage of water.
- 3.3.13 Zero Liquid Effluent Discharge:** This means taking all reasonable measures to prevent pollution of water resources by the establishment of a hierarchy of water uses based on quality. Cascading the water from higher quality to lower quality users/uses enables high rates of re-use. Where possible, water is lost only by evaporation and seepage through unlined facilities. The net result is that no deliberate discharge of pollutants to a water resource under normal operating conditions and average climatic conditions take place.

3.4 Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Explanation
BU	Business Unit
DWA	Department of Water Affairs
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
NWA	National Water Act
NWRS	National Water Resource Strategy
PED	Primary Energy Division
WC/WDM	Water Conservation and Water Demand Management
UN	United Nations
ZLED	Zero Liquid Effluent Discharge

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3.5 Roles and Responsibilities

- 3.5.1** The Chief Executive has the overall accountability for ensuring that this policy is implemented.
- 3.5.2** Group Executives, Divisional Executives and Senior General Managers shall be accountable for ensuring the development and implementation of effective management systems, and provision of the required resources to ensure that the objectives of this policy are achieved.
- 3.5.3** BUs line managers and/or supervisors shall be responsible for water issues at work, i.e. prevention of non-conformities in work execution and ensuring that work is carried out in accordance with established procedures and instructions
- 3.5.4** BUs line managers shall ensure that all employees are trained in water management tools and procedures that are relevant to their respective functions.
- 3.5.5** Each BU/department in all relevant divisions shall ensure implementation of this policy, compliance to legislative requirements and implementation of corrective measures where gaps have been identified.
- 3.5.6** Primary Energy BU suppliers shall encourage major suppliers especially coal suppliers to subscribe to water sustainability practices.
- 3.5.7** Eskom shall communicate key water messages internally and externally to promote awareness on water sustainability issues.
- 3.5.8** Eskom shall maintain a high level of liaison with DWA to engage on water issues and development of national water policy.
- 3.5.9** Coal-fired power stations shall ensure compliance to ZLED.
- 3.5.10** Each BU shall identify Water Conservation and Water Demand Management initiatives within their respective work area to promote water efficiency.
- 3.5.11** Eskom shall ensure that water containing infrastructure and water treatment plants are designed, maintained and operated in the manner that promotes the effective and efficient use and protection of the water resource.
- 3.5.12** Each BU shall ensure that water management information systems are in place and up-to-date in order to provide Eskom management and other stakeholders with timely and appropriate water performance information.
- 3.5.13** Each BU shall provide assurance to Eskom that all water related issues that are impacted by the business unit area are being addressed.
- 3.5.14** This policy applies to every Eskom employee and includes all business units, new-builds, subsidiaries and every person working on behalf of Eskom.

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3.6 Process for Monitoring

- 3.6.1** Eskom shall develop suitable targets to monitor the implementation of this policy and business units shall report on their targets as per the agreed reporting time-frames.
- 3.6.2** Eskom will undertake water management reviews/audits at the reasonable frequency the power stations to assess compliance with the strategies discussed in this policy and understand the extent of water usage in producing electricity.
- 3.6.3** Eskom will conduct internal audits and monitor and report on performance in accordance with an agreed audit programme and established business performance reporting procedures.

Sustainability Division through the relevant committees will monitor the implementation of this policy and closing out of actions where gaps have been identified

4. Acceptance

This document has been seen and accepted by:

Name	Designation
Mr T Govender	Group Executive - Generation
Ms T Molefe	Group Executive – Customer Service
Mr MM Ntsokolo	Group Executive - Transmission
Ms A Noah	Group Executive - Distribution
Dr SJ Lennon	Group Executive – Sustainability
Mr M Koko	Divisional Executive – Technology
Mr M Adam	Divisional Executive – Regulation and Legal
Ms K Maharaj	Divisional Executive - Primary Energy
Mr C Choeu	Divisional Executive – Corporate Affairs
Mr V Mboweni	Senior General Manager- Coal 1
Mr C van Niekerk	Senior General Manager - Coal 2
Mr N Bhula	Senior General Manager - Coal 3
Mr C le Roux	Senior General Manager - Koeberg Power Station
Mr K Steyn	Senior General Manager - Eskom Construction Management
Mr I du Plessis	Senior General Manager – Strategy and Risk Management
Ms A Nakedi	Senior General Manager – Renewables
Mr N Govender	General Manager Primary Energy Water and Environmental Operations
Mr DD Lucas	Corporate Specialist - Environmental
Mr R Kruger	Corporate Specialist - Environmental
Ms M Rambharos	Corporate Specialist - Environmental
Ms DL Herbst	Senior Manager - Environmental
Ms F Havenga	Environmental Manager - Transmission
Ms M Singh	Environmental Manager - Group Capital

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5. Revisions

Date	Rev.	Remarks
January 2013	0	New template and numbering used. The policy old reference was ESKPBAAJ4

6. Development Team

The following people were involved in the development of this document:

This policy was reviewed by Primary Energy Division, with inputs from:

- 6.1 Primary Energy Division;
- 6.2 Group Technology;
- 6.3 Legal Department;
- 6.4 Transmission Division;
- 6.5 Distribution Division;
- 6.6 Strategy and Risk Management;
- 6.7 Chemical Services Managers;
- 6.8 Generation Division (Power Station Manager's); and
- 6.9 Sustainability Division

7. Acknowledgements

Not Applicable

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