



SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR ENERGY CORPORATION (Necsa)

MEDIA STATEMENT- 8 March 2007

“RIDE FOR HOPE-BALEKELA ETHEMBENI”

The “Ride for Hope-Balekela Ethembeni” cyclists, are a team that was formed in partnership with CANSA, NTP Radioisotopes (Pty) Ltd and NTP’s parent organization, Necsa. Their journey started on 26 February 2007 from the Pretoria Academic Hospital. The group of fifteen cycled through Parys, Welkom, Bloemfontein, Middelburg, Graaf Reinet, Uniondale, Mossel Bay, Caledon and Swellendam. The riders will stop at iThemba Labs in Somerset West on 8 March 2007 where you could join them at a special function held from 11:00 to 13:00. On 9 March 2007 will mark the closure of the tour where all the riders will fly high their flags of success when they hand over the scroll, which they received from Pretoria Academic Hospital on 26 February, to Dr Heinz Morkel of the Panorama Hospital, Cape Town. One of the riders, Johan du Toit summed it up by saying, “if we were told to go back and do it again, we will all be interested because, not only did we build strong relationships on the road, but stood together for a worthy cause”.

This project is in Cancer is a non-profit organization whose aim is to substantially reduce the impact of cancer by promoting health in all communities within South Africa, through advocacy and the sustainable facilitation of research, prevention, early detection and care.

The main message that will be carried to South Africans directly or indirectly affected by cancer is that there is ever increasing **hope** of survival and cure and thanks due to the increased awareness and earlier detection and treatment of the disease.

A group of 15 cyclists comprised of NTP and Necsa personnel, cancer survivors and medical professionals will take to the long road over a period of 10-12 days covering approximately 1800km. This will mean riding an average distance of 180 km per day and maintaining an average speed of 25 km/hour! The group will be joined for short stretches by cyclists, including community leaders, celebrities, cancer sufferers and survivors, from towns through which the ride will pass. The cycle tour will include visits to centres en route where nuclear medicine is practiced and will incorporate daily awareness creation, educational, motivational and promotional activities focusing on nuclear medicine and cancer. The fundraising goal is to collect R 500

000.00 for CANSA (North West) to enable them to expand their Health promotion and education programmes in the Hartbeespoort-Brits area.

NTP Radioisotopes (Pty) Ltd, CANSA and Necsa have ploughed their full weight into this project and the success of this event will be determined by those cycling die-hards up for a challenge and also by your generous contributions.

If you would like to know more about the “Ride for Hope – Balekela Ethambeni” and how to pledge a donation in cash to the beneficiary, the CANSA organisation, you can either go onto their website www.cansa.org.za or you can deposit your contribution to ABSA, Boom Street, account number 1020030905, cheque account and quote RFH/NW06 as the reference.

For more information contact Petro Johnstone of NTP Radioisotopes (Pty) Ltd on 0123055129 or Lorinda Burger of CANSA North West on 0145330694.

SUMMARY OF ROUTE & LEG DISTANCES

DAY	DATE	DEPARTURE POINT	DISTANCE km	STOP-OVER POINT	DISTANCE Km	OVERNIGHT POINT	DAILY DISTANCE km	CUMMULATIVE DISTANCE km
Mon	26-Feb	Pretoria	50	Pharm/Linksf	0	Alberton	50	50
		Alberton	55	Vereeniging	52	Parys	107	157
Tue	27-Feb	Parys	101	Bothaville	58	Welkom	159	316
Wed	28-Feb	Welkom	95	Brandfort	53	Bloemfontein	148	464
Thu	01-Mar	Bloemfontein	0	Gariep			0	464
		Gariep	93	Noupoort	36	Middelburg	129	593
Fri	02-Mar	Middelburg	101	Graaf Reinet	55	Aberdeen	156	749
Sat	03-Mar	Graaf Reinet		Rest Day		Rest Day	0	749
Sun	04-Mar	Aberdeen	125	Willowmore	60	Uniondale	185	934

Mon	05-Mar	Uniondale	122	George	50	Mosselbay	172	1106
Tue	06-Mar	Mosselbay	87	Riversdal	72	Swellendam	159	1265
Wed	07-Mar	Swellendam	120	Caledon	75	Somerset West	195	1460
Thu	08-Mar	Somerset West	20	iThemba	40	Cape Town	60	1520
Fri	09-Mar	Tygerberg Hosp	25	Panorama Hosp	35			

ENDS

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