

**Necsa Public Safety Information Forum (PSIF)**  
**Minutes of the meeting held on Saturday, 4 December 2021**

**Venue** : MS Teams **Time** : 09:00 to 10:34  
**Chairperson** : Vacant **Deputy Chairperson** : Mr Joel Mphahla

**REGISTRATION (■ = PRESENT; X = Declined; A = Apology)**

NAME AND SURNAME	ORGANISATION	DATE – 2021/22				
		06/03/21 Virtual	05/06/21 Virtual	14/08/21 Virtual	04/12/21 Virtual	12/03/22 Virtual
Akortia, Cheryl	Necsa			■	■	
Ball, Gavin	NTP				■	
Barnard, Gert	Resident			■		
Brits, Laura	Resident		■			
Carolissen, Alan	NRWDI		■	■	■	
Chetty, Shaun	NTP		A	■	■	
Chinake, Alick	Necsa				■	
Dlungwana, Thabani	Necsa		■			
Du Preez, Frikkie	Necsa	■				
Gilbert, Dominique	Resident	■				
Kekana, Mologadi	Necsa	■	■	■	■	
Kgampe, Kobuwe	Pelchem			■	■	
Khanyile, Nkosinathi	Resident		■			
Kholofelo (no surname)	Resident (?)				■	
Kubyana, Victor	Resident	■	■			
Kunene, Noxolo	Necsa		■		■	
Louw, Piet	NTP			■	■	
Makofane, Ephraim	Resident	■		A		
Malatsi, Brian (Thabiso)	Resident				■	
Mali, Lungiswa	Resident			■	■	
Mashabathakga, Clemmy	Resident		■	■	■	
Masoleng, Zolani	Necsa	■				
Mathibe, Carol	Necsa				■	
Mathosa, Mareme	Resident	■	■	■	■	
Matlala, Obakeng	Resident	■	■	■	■	
Mathibe, Carol	Necsa				■	
Matube, Ntebatse	Necsa	■	■			
Mondi, Monde	Necsa		■	A	■	
Monedi Nxumalo, Ntombifuthi	Chairperson	■	A	A	Resigned	
Moonsamy, Gino	NNR	■	■	■	■	
Mphahla Joel	Deputy Chairperson	■	■	A	■	
Mthombeni, Ntombi	Necsa	■	■	A	■	
Natha, Umesh	Pelchem				■	
Naude, Theo	Resident		■			
Neuhoff, Charl	Resident		■	■	■	
Pather, Thiagan	NNR	■	■	■	■	
Pete, Ashy	DMRE				■	
Phahlamohlaka, Theuns	Resident	■	■		■	
Poopedi, Kwena	Pelchem			■	■	
Radebe, Ivan	Pelchem			■	■	
Rasweswe, Mosa	Necsa	■	■	■	■	
Rathebe, Bob	Madibeng		■	■	■	
Rennie-Kroon, Amelia	Necsa	■	A	■	■	
Rikhotso, Jackie	North-West PDMC		■			
Roon-Joubert, Maya	Resident			■	■	

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Singh, Avinash	NTP		■	■	■	
Steynberg, Coert	Resident			A	■	
Tengimfene, Nikelwa	Necsa	A	■	■	■	
Tshabane, SB	Resident				■	
Tyabashe, Loyiso	Necsa GCEO	■	A	■	■	
Van Heerden, Eurika	Necsa	■	■		■	
Wentzel, Veronica	Secretary	■	■	■	■	
Wiening, Lesley	Resident		A	A	A	

ABBREVIATION	DESCRIPTION
(G)CEO	(Group) Chief Executive Officer
D&D	Decommission and Decontamination
DMRE	Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
DSI	Department of Science and Innovation
ECC	Emergency Control Centre
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IRP	Integrated Resource Plan
JOC	Joint Operations Centre
Mo-99	Molybdenum-99
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPR	Multi-Purpose Reactor
Necsa	South African Nuclear Energy Corporation SOC Limited
NERSA	National Energy Regulator of South Africa
NGO	Non-government Organisation
NLA	Necsa Learning Academy
NNR	National Nuclear Regulator
NPO	Non-profit Organisation
NRWDI	National Radiation Waste Disposal Institute
PSIF	Public Safety Information Forum
SAFARI-1	South African Fundamental Atomic Research Installation
SAPS	South African Police Service
SDR	Special drawing rate
SHEQ	Safety Health Environment and Quality
ToR	Terms of Reference

TERM	CLARIFICATION / DEFINITION
Accident	An unintended event, including operating errors, equipment failures or other mishaps.
Disaster Management	A continuous and integrated multi-sectorial, multi-disciplinary process of planning and implementation of measures aimed at: a) Preventing or reducing the risk of disaster b) Limiting the severity or consequences of disasters c) Emergency preparedness d) Responding rapidly and effectively to disaster; and e) Post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation
Emergency	An event that requires taking prompt action, or the special regulation of persons or property, to limit the risk to people's health, safety or welfare, or to limit damage to property or the environment.
Emergency Plan	A document describing the organisational structures, its roles and responsibilities, concept of operation, means and principles for intervention during an emergency.
Evacuation	The rapid, temporary removal of people from the area to avoid or reduce short-term radiation exposure in the event of an emergency.
mSv	The millisievert (mSv) is a measure of the absorption of ionising radiation by the human body.
Public Notification	Notification to the public of an emergency and appropriate protective actions to be taken using the installed siren and loudspeaker system, local authorities, and Jacaranda FM and Motswedding.

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Radiation	Energy released in the form of particles or electromagnetic waves during the breakdown of radioactive atoms.
Release	The controlled or accidental discharge of radioactive substances into the environment.
Sheltering	A protective action whereby members of the public stay indoors with windows and doors closed, to reduce their exposure to radioactive material in an emergency situation.

**1. WELCOME AND OPENING**

No.	Minute	Responsible
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ms N Tengimfene welcomed all present and requested for a volunteer to chair the PSIF until Mr J Mphahla could join as he had connectivity problems.</li> <li>▪ Mr J Mphahla joined much later and requested Mr M Mathosa to proceed to chair the meeting.</li> </ul>	<b>N Tengimfene</b>

**2. SAFETY MINUTE**

No.	Minute	Responsible
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ms A Rennie-Kroon did the safety minute, highlighting the dangers of lightning, especially during the recent storms.</li> </ul>	<b>A Rennie-Kroon</b>

**3. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**

No.	Minute	Responsible
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No additional items were added to the agenda.</li> <li>▪ Mr T Malatsi moved for adoption of the agenda. Mr P Louw confirmed, seconded by Ms C Mashabathakga.</li> </ul>	

**4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

No.	Minute	Responsible
	<p>Mr T Pather requested two corrections on the Minutes relating to the NNR feedback:</p> <p><b>6.1</b> Line four and line eight, changed from Chairperson to Deputy Chairperson in both instances.</p> <p>Mr T Malatsi moved for adoption of Minutes as all members should have received it. The Minutes were adopted by Mr L Tyabashe and seconded by Mr T Phahlamohlaka.</p>	

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

No.	Minute	Responsible
	Discussed Under General	

**6. NECSA GROUP UPDATE & NECSA PUBLIC SAFETY FEEDBACK**

(Presented in three parts by Mr L Tyabashe of Necsa, Mr G Ball of NTP and Mr U Natha of Pelchem)

No.	Minute	Responsible
	<p><b><i>(Mr L Tyabashe welcomed Mr U Natha as the interim MD of Pelchem since mid-October 2021.)</i></b></p> <p>As part of his presentation Mr U Natha informed the meeting about a vehicle accident a week and a half prior to the PSIF on the R511. The truck that was involved belonged to Cargo Carriers, a logistics company, which carried HF acid, one of Pelchem's products. Necsa has since conducted an internal investigation regarding the incident, as well as a joint investigation with Cargo Carriers. Necsa was in the final stages of the investigation, it would be completed in the coming week and corrective measures would be put in place. Although the truck overturned, the product that was being carried in an Isotainer did not spill. However, there was a diesel spillage, which Cargo Carriers has since cleared off the road. The initial findings from the investigation were that the R511 route was not an approved route for that product due to its nature and that the vehicle was exceeding speed the limit.</p>	

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No.	Minute	Responsible
	<p><b><u>Question 1: Mr J Mphahla</u></b> Was the COVID vaccination station at Necsa for only one day, or would it be ongoing?</p> <p><b><u>Response 1a: Ms M Rasweswe</u></b> The vaccination station was arranged only for the day and was not meant to be an ongoing process. However, the Necsa medical team continues to engage with the Tshwane Municipality, which was the vaccination partner on whether there was a need to establish a site in the future. More information would be communicated further to the public should there be another opportunity.</p> <p><b><u>Response 1b: Mr L Tyabashe</u></b> Necsa was pursuing accreditation as a vaccination site. It was unfortunately impacted by the violence experienced in the country around July 2021. Necsa felt it would be undue risk to the national key point at the time. There was renewed focus of trying to explore this further.</p> <p><b><u>Question 2: Ms M Roon-Joubert</u></b> Can the public still rely on Necsa's support with regards to ambulance services and fire assistance? Is Necsa still backing the public, or should they need to rely on Madibeng Municipality.</p> <p><b><u>Response 2a: Ms M Rasweswe</u></b> Necsa communicated previously that due to internal constraints, it would pause providing some Emergency services. However, where required, Necsa would complement the Madibeng services in order to ensure that the services are provided. Since that communication, there were some changes, mainly with regards to our paramedic services. Necsa has now reinstated providing these services to the public, but for the other services such as firefighting, would be through Madibeng. The public needs to continue reporting incidents to the Madibeng municipality which would be referred to Necsa.</p>	

**7. NNR UPDATE**

No.	Minute	Responsible
7.1	<p><b><u>PSIF Chairpersonship</u></b></p> <p>The PSIF Deputy Chairperson position was published requesting nominations in all the community newspapers in October. The NNR also requested Necsa to make all PSIF members aware of the advertisement. The period of nominations closed on 30 November, and three nominations were received. The NNR was currently considering the nominations and it would be proposed to the NNR Board at their meeting in January 2022. Once the Board finalized the nominations, a new Deputy Chairperson for the PSIF would be formally appointed.</p> <p>The NNR also received a letter of resignation from the current Chairperson. This position is now also vacant and the NNR would need to start a process for appointment of a new Chairperson for the PSIF as well. This would be done early in 2022.</p>	
7.2	<p><b><u>Inspections and reduced activities on-site</u></b></p> <p>The NNR conducted 10 inspections in the last two months, a total of 14 inspections were conducted in the last quarter. These inspections did not identify any non-compliances and no enforcement action was needed. There were a few findings that warranted corrective actions on the part of the facilities and these have been communicated. NNR was following up on them. None of these were significantly requiring any further regulatory enforcement action.</p>	
7.3	<p><b><u>Vaalputs &amp; NRWDI</u></b></p> <p>NRWDI submitted an application to the NNR as the new license holder for the Vaalputs Waste Disposal site which is currently granted to Necsa.</p>	

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No.	Minute	Responsible
7.3	<p><u>Vaalputs &amp; NRWDI</u></p> <p>The NNR previously reported that the public consultation process was concluded at the end of March. The NNR received 71 comments from eleven respondents. NRWDI as the applicant was therefore required to update their submission document to address all of the comments received.</p>	
7.4	<p><u>NNR Act</u></p> <p>As indicated in the last PSIF meeting, the NNR Act was also in the process of amendment and was published for public comment. The period for public comments ended on 20 September 2021. There were a number of proposals made to the Act for amendments. These were being handled by the DMRE and the NNR would consider these issues.</p>	
7.5	<p><u>NNR Board site visit</u></p> <p>Seven members of the NNR Board visited Necsa on 26 October 2021. A number of facilities were visited, such as SAFARI-1, NTP, Necsa Emergency Control Centre, Thabana Pipe Store, smelter area and a few other facilities.</p>	
7.6	<p><u>NNR Regulatory Nuclear Emergency Exercise</u></p> <p>The NNR conducts regulatory nuclear emergency exercises every 18 to 24 months and the next one is scheduled for 26 January 2022. During this exercise, the NNR will develop a scenario and Necsa is required to respond to it. The aim of these exercises are to test the overall viability of the Necsa emergency in place. It will be a large scale exercise involving quite a large number of NNR staff monitoring all the emergency preparedness arrangements throughout the site. This includes activities of intervening organisations such as Madibeng. The NNR has concluded all the ground rules with Necsa, laying out what are the expectations for the exercise.</p>	
7.7	<p><u>Expansion of Thabana Pipe Store</u></p> <p>The NNR received the Necsa safety case documentation relating to the proposed expansion of the current Thabana pipe store. This would entail increased capacity for storage of the spent fuel from SAFARI-1, as well as some of the higher medium activity radioactive waste from the NTP Radio Chemicals facility. The NNR were currently reviewing these documentations and this process will include a period of public comments safety assessments are concluded.</p>	
7.8	<p><u>Proposed Multi-Purpose Reactor (MPR)</u></p> <p>The proposed MPR is intended as a replacement for SAFARI-1 in the time period 2030 and beyond. The NNR previously received a letter of intent whereby Necsa applied to proceed with this project. A pre-feasibility study was completed and Necsa was busy with the actual feasibility study. The NNR also received a high level licensing strategy which is currently under review. There will be formal engagements with Necsa early in 2022, relating to confirming the exact time frames, nature of the safety documentation, engagements on the final decision.</p>	

**8. GENERAL**

No.	Minute	Responsible
8.1	<p><u>PSIF Constitution</u></p> <p>Mr M Mathosa commented that Ms V Wentzel sent the PSIF Constitution the previous day, encouraging members to peruse the document and give comments as far as the contents were concerned. MS V Wentzel was requested to clarify when the comments were due. Ms N Tengimfene commented that Necsa was requested to draft a Constitution as guiding document for PSIF meetings.</p>	

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8.1	<p><u>PSIF Constitution</u></p> <p>Ms V Wentzel sent the document so that people could comment until the following week, Friday, 10 December 2021. The document was composed of various sections that included a context for the formation of the PSIF; the regulatory framework that it operated within; the PSIF statutory composition; proposals relating to the Code of Conduct; the appointment of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson; and generally how the meeting should be run. Necsa would appreciate members' contributions. It would be unfair if the document was tabled before members had seen it. The draft document also had comments from the NNR but Necsa would appreciate further comments from the NNR until the document was finalized.</p>	
8.2	<p><u>PSIF Survey</u></p> <p>Ms N Tengimfene informed that Necsa was requested to do a survey with regards to when the PSIF meetings could be held.</p> <p>Ms V Wentzel explained that Necsa sent the survey to PSIF database, which were members of public as well as members of Necsa staff that attended the meetings. The suggested days were on a Saturday morning from 09h00, Tuesday afternoon at 15h00, or Thursday evening at 19h00. Necsa received 42 responses and the majority voted for Saturday morning, the second vote was for Tuesday afternoons. The survey was however still open for discussion. A huge majority of votes requested for physical meetings, but at this stage due to the lockdown, Necsa would not be able to accommodate that.</p> <p><b><u>Question 1a: Mr M Mathosa</u></b></p> <p>Were the 42 people that responded fairly representing the numbers of PSIF attendance? What was the current numbers, and he noticed that the numbers are like dwindling quite a bit. Was it compared to the times when Necsa had physical attendances?</p> <p><b><u>Response1a: Ms N Tengimfene</u></b></p> <p>The survey was sent to the contacts on the Necsa PSIF database. The responses were difficult to ascertain whether these people regularly attended PSIF meetings or if they just added their voice in terms of the survey as asked.</p> <p><b><u>Question 2a: Ms C Mashabathakga</u></b></p> <p>Did Necsa consider people going to work, or it was all about considering everybody back from work to home, then we could do the visual meeting; or did they only consider who wanted the meeting and at what time?</p> <p><b><u>Question 2b: Mr M Mathosa</u></b></p> <p>The survey was sent to everybody who was in the PSIF. This was the way people responded to the survey that has been posed to them, so it's difficult to actually point the rationality behind the answers that the members gave. How many people were on the PSIF and as far as this response was concerned, was it more than 80% of the responses that we received? Maybe we need to extend the deadline if that was not the case. Could Necsa repeat the survey?</p> <p><b><u>Response 2a: Mr T Pather</u></b></p> <p>Looking at the responses in terms of the positives there was a clear preference for physical meetings, but that could only be held when feasible. The questions would be whether we continue to have the meetings on a Saturday or should it be moved to a weekday, options was either Tuesday or Thursday. Mr T Pather suggested that Necsa should reconstitute the survey, perhaps the questions should be more pointed as to whether people wished to have the meetings on a weekday or on a Saturday to get a clear preference from the members of the public in terms of which day actually suited them best.</p>	

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No.	Minute
8.2	<p><b><u>Response 2a: Mr T Pather</u></b></p> <p>Mr T Pather suggested that Necsa should reconstitute the survey, perhaps the questions should be more pointed as to whether people wished to have the meetings on a weekday or on a Saturday to get a clear preference from the members of the public in terms of which day actually suited them best. We have to take note that the PSIF meeting is actually a meeting of the public, so it should be the views expressed by the public in terms of when they prefer having it. A lot of people are working from home, but is the times given the most practical? Even if you're working from home, you are still occupied with normal business. Is 15h00 then actually feasible, or should it perhaps be at 17h00 or 18h00. Maybe 19h00 is a bit too late for people. These are the considerations when revamping the survey.</p> <p><b><u>Response 2b: Ms A Rennie-Kroon</u></b></p> <p>Necsa would make a few changes to the survey and resend it, and extend the deadline until 28 February 2022, as the next PSIF meeting is in March.</p> <p><b><u>Question 3a: Mr J Mphahla</u></b></p> <p>This is a public participation forum and how do we enhance it? The challenge is that most of the people are unable to actually connect due to resources. Mr Mphahla raised previously that there is a community willing to participate. The draft constitution says it is the responsibility of Necsa to ensure that there is a budget for meetings to be held. How can Necsa enhance attendance?</p> <p><b><u>Response 3a: Mr T Pather</u></b></p> <p>There are cellphone towers that people sit close to access WhatsApp and other applications. Could Necsa check if it can put chairs around this space where people can sit and have access so that everybody would become part of the meetings? Necsa used to provide transport from Atteridgeville thus could consider also putting chairs in the open space at the NVC and we will find the numbers increasing. Also take note that the virtual meetings will gradually phase out.</p> <p><b><u>Response 3a: Mr M Mathosa</u></b></p> <p>Mr Mphahla was referring to a township with free Wi-Fi. The fact that there is free Wi-Fi removes the barrier that Mr Mphahla was referring to, some of the people stay close to the Wi-Fi towers and they could easily connect.</p> <p><b><u>Response 3b: Ms N Tengimfene</u></b></p> <p>Reminded the members that there was a time that the PSIF meeting venues were rotated, including venues within townships. There is a budget to assist in making sure that the meetings take place efficiently but holding virtual meetings should be understood in the context of the ongoing pandemic. There is nothing that has changed from a Necsa point of view around inclusivity in terms of the public participation. So all the points that Mr Mphahla made were halted in the previous year and this year due to the pandemic. Alternative connectivity points could be discussed up until the pandemic is over and physical meetings resume.</p> <p><b><u>Question 4a: Mr SB Tshabane</u></b></p> <p>Requested a discussion on the issue of resources as they were not included in many things that took place at Necsa because of lack of connectivity. He asked the Chairperson if it could be discussed and then make sure everyone gets connected.</p> <p><b><u>Response 4a: Mr M Mathosa</u></b></p> <p>It seemed that there are some challenges as far as connectivity was concerned. He requested if it should be made a point in the next agenda, or was anything that we can decide as far as this is concerned for during the current meeting?</p> <p><b><u>Response 4b: Ms N Tengimfene</u></b></p> <p>Informed that Necsa took note of the issues that were raised, would deliberate on and advise accordingly.</p>

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8.3	<p><b><u>Unauthorised access to surrounding Necsa properties</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Question 1a: Mr Charl Neuhoff</u></b>            He submitted a written document regarding unauthorized access and wood theft on the surrounding Necsa properties and have to date not received any feedback.</p> <p><b><u>Response 1a: Mr M Mondl</u></b>            The matter was discussed in the August, Mr M Mondl and Ms M Rasweswe committed to deploy Necsa security personnel to continuously patrol the area on a continuous basis. Also, personnel remove people who might not be allowed to be in those spaces.</p> <p><b><u>Response 1b: Ms M Rasweswe</u></b>            Security does regularly patrol the site in question and have committed that Necsa's security would continue with it. She enquired if Mr Neuhoff was aware of any other incidents where there has been unauthorised access since our last meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Question 2a: Mr C Neuhoff</u></b>            Informed that there was still continuous movement and that it was clear that Necsa does not have any control over those properties. There is daily movement of huge numbers and there is definitely wood theft on a daily and weekly basis.</p> <p><b><u>Response 2a: Ms M Rasweswe</u></b>            Noted the matter and said that they would engage with the Necsa security team to look at what additional measures could be implemented in order to enhance security at that site.</p> <p><b><u>Response 2b: Mr L Tyabashe</u></b>            Suggested that Necsa engage Mr C Neuhoff directly with the security team so that Necsa could have more intelligence into this matter.</p> <p><b><u>Response 2c: Mr C Neuhoff</u></b>            Welcomed Mr Tyabashe's comment as would help to solve the problem with direct engagement.</p>	

**9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

No.	Minute	Responsible
	Saturday, 12 March 2022 at 09h00.	

**10. CLOSURE**

No.	Minute	Responsible
	<p>Mr J Mphahla wished everybody a Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year and requested all to take care.</p> <p>Ms N Tengimfene closed the meeting in the absence of Mr M Mathosa. Mr L Tyabashe and Ms C Mashabathakga supported the closure of the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10h34.</p>	

Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconder: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_