

Necsa Public Safety Information Forum (PSIF)
Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 9 June 2022

Venue : MS Teams **Time** : 19:00 to 20:49
Chairperson : Mr Mareme Mathosa **Deputy Chairperson** : Mr Joel Mphahla

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

NAME AND SURNAME	ORGANISATION	DATE – 2022/23			
		09/06/22 Virtual	11/08/22 Virtual		
Akortia, Cheryl	Necsa	■			
Basson, Davie	Necsa	■			
Bentley, Rob	Resident	■			
Boyede, Qhamkile	Necsa	■			
Brent, Steve	Resident	■			
Du Plessis, Andri	NTP	■			
Du Preez, Frikkie	Necsa	■			
Hawadi, Precious	Necsa	■			
Ismail, Zahir	Necsa	■			
Kekana, Mologadi	Necsa	■			
Kunene, Noxolo	Necsa	■			
Malatsi, Thabiso	Resident	■			
Mashabathakga, Clemmy	Resident	■			
Mathosa, Mareme	Chairperson	■			
Mondi, Monde	Necsa	■			
Mosoetsa, Christine	Resident	■			
Motsumi, Teboho	DMRE	■			
Mphahla Joel	Deputy Chairperson	■			
Mthombeni, Ntombi	Necsa	■			
Myoli, Ayanda	Necsa	■			
Natha, Umesh	Pelchem	■			
Ngwenya, Jabu	Resident	■			
Pather, Thiagan	NNR	■			
Pete, Ashy	DMRE	■			
Rennie-Kroon, Amelia	Necsa	■			
Rikhotso, Nto	Necsa	■			
Roon-Joubert, Maya	Resident	■			
Singh, Avinash	NTP	■			
Smith, Rodney	Resident	■			
Tengimfene, Nickelwa	Necsa	■			
Tyabashe, Loyiso	Necsa GCEO	■			
Van Heerden, Eurika	Necsa	■			
Wentzel, Veronica	Secretary	■			

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
JPC	Joint Planning Committee
Mo-99	Molybdenum-99

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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 Motsweding.
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"> ▪ Ms N Tengimfene welcomed all present and proceeded as Acting Chairperson. 	N Tengimfene

2. SAFETY MINUTE

No.	Minute	Responsible
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms A Rennie-Kroon did the safety minute, highlighting slipping and falling, holding onto rails when using stairs, and securing yourself whilst working on roofs, this is also known as "eyes on path". 	A Rennie-Kroon

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3. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON

No.	Minute	Responsible
	<p>Mr T Pather confirmed the current vacancies for the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson for the PSIF. The position of Deputy Chairperson was previously advertised in October 2021, and the NNR received three nominations from Mr Clive Zulu, Mr Joel Mphahla and Mr Mareme Mathosa. The position of chairperson was advertised in January 2022, with the previous Chairperson having resigned in the last quarter of 2021. The NNR did not receive any further nominations for Chairperson, and the matter was discussed during the last PSIF meeting, as captured in the Minutes.</p> <p>It was agreed that we would undertake a vote by the members of the Forum to actually choose between the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson. As discussed in the last PSIF the NNR did consult further with Mr Clive Zulu and based on the fact that he actually resides in KZN which is outside of the jurisdiction of the PSIF Mr Zulu has therefore been disqualified from holding either positions because it's not aligned with the regulations that govern the PSIF.</p> <p>In terms of the decision that had to be made the evening the Forum members would decide which of these two gentlemen would serve as Chairperson and the second gentleman would then automatically be appointed as Deputy Chairperson. He requested both individuals to give a short introduction of themselves so that the Forum could get to know the two individuals, where after voting would take place. Due to a problem utilising the electronic polling system built into MS Teams a physical voting session was suggested by Mr T Pather, where the participants could either make a comment in the Chat section, or by means of raising of hands. The person that was being voted for, would take the Chairperson position and the other person would automatically become Deputy Chairperson.</p> <p>Mr T Malatsi requested the amount of public members that were present in the meeting to check if the public was eligible to vote. Ms V Wentzel confirmed that there were nine (9) representatives present and Mr T Pather informed that Necsa employees living within the PSIF area were eligible to vote unless they were holding senior positions representing management. Ms N Tengimfene informed that the RSVP's from communities were at 15, nine were more or less within the range and were the numbers Necsa normally got from the Community.</p> <p>After voting was done and counted, Mr M Mathosa was elected Chairperson with seven out of twelve votes. Mr T Pather congratulated both gentlemen on their elected positions, hoping that the two gentlemen would work very well together in the interest of the Forum, as indicated in their introductory speeches.</p> <p>Mr T Pather handed over to Mr M Mathosa to take the Forum through the rest of the Agenda.</p> <p>As opening remark he expressed his gratitude for the confidence that the PSIF members have shown in electing him in this position and through working together, the members would be able to make the forum impactful. His wish was to increase participation of public members to curb any misinformation in the public with respect to what Necsa actually did.</p>	<p>T Pather PSIF Members</p>

4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

No.	Minute	Responsible
	No changes were added to the Agenda.	M Mathosa

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

No.	Minute	Responsible
	No corrections were required on the Minutes Mr J Mphahla moved for adoption of the Minutes, and were adopted by Ms C Mashabathakga.	

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6. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

No.	Minute	Responsible
6.1	<p><u>Informal settlement next to N4</u></p> <p>Ms Q Boyede said Necsa engaged with the JPC meeting on 26 May 2022 and was informed that they are looking into the matter, particularly the SAPS in terms of how it could be resolved, particularly on the bridge, and Necsa was informed that they would provide feedback. Mr M Mathosa requested that Ms Boyede provide subsequent feedback.</p>	Q Boyede
6.2	<p><u>PSIF Constitution</u></p> <p>Mr T Malatsi enquired about the PSIF Constitution that was sent to the public for amendment. Amendments were done and he did not receive any feedback whether the amendments have been taken into consideration. He found several issues that he thought as a forum would need to be engaged upon further, such as the issue of Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersonship position in terms of the radius and as Necsa was a national key point, it could not only be reduced to a five kilometer radius only. At some point some of the public were participating outside that particular radius, Mr Malatsi was from Atteridgeville and it restricted some members to contest for the positions. That was also the reason that when the email was distributed for nomination for the Chairperson position, some of the public refrained because of that particular clause. He also felt that there were several other issues that the Forum needed to engage on in the Constitution. He further enquired if it was discussed during the previous meeting, and requested clarity from the NNR regarding the aspect.</p> <p>Mr M Mathosa informed that the Constitution was again sent to all members after comments were dealt with and then sent to the NNR for further engagement.</p> <p>Ms A Rennie-Kroon confirmed that Necsa consulted with the public on the document and changes were made and was then sent to the NNR for finalization. Necsa was waiting for the election as the previous Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson resigned and the new elected names had to be added. It would therefore be finalized with the new names and as soon as the NNR gave their stamp it should be ready.</p> <p>Mr T Pather informed the current regulation stipulated within the five kilometer emergency planning zone, the NNR took into account the comments made by the public. The NNR Act was in the process of amendment and he would provide further feedback in terms of that. The NNR made proposals to the DMRE to have the regulation amended to expand to the municipal areas falling within the emergency planning zone. It was however a legislative process and would take some time. Regarding the Constitution the NNR requested that the Forum confirm the amendments and proposals that they had, ensuring that the NNR were meeting the full approach. The previous Necsa CEO's, Dr Adam and Mr Tshelane both agreed that the representation at the Forum would include representatives from beyond the immediate five kilometer zone which was also why colleagues from Atteridgeville were present. The current CEO has not indicated any change to the arrangement, therefore we would continue having members from beyond the immediate five kilometers zone within the Forum. Before the NNR could pronounce on it the Forum needed to confirm the changes proposed and how it would be implemented moving forward, as has been indicated, has been recirculated. During the next PSIF meeting the Chairperson could ask for confirmation from the PSIF members and the NNR could accept it after that.</p> <p>Mr M Mathosa suggested the Constitution discussion should be included in the next Agenda for discussion. He further requested that the previous document be sent to members should any member who did not see it and for others to peruse for discussion.</p> <p>Mr L Tyabashe gave his full support of the previous CEO's decisions in the past, of members attending from beyond the emergency planning radius, but still in the precinct of the Necsa site as the Community goes a little bit further than five kilometers.</p>	

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7. NECSA GROUP UPDATE & NECSA PUBLIC SAFETY FEEDBACK

(Presented by Mr L Tyabashe GCEO of Necsa and Ms Q Boyede GE Strategy and Enablement)

No.	Minute	Responsible
	<p>Mr L Tyabashe brought to the floor that Necsa has the regulations and licenses required to comply with assuring the safety of both people, environment and animals within our present surrounding communities. That is the essence of nuclear safety. He also noted the NNR Act and other regulatory legal statutes, and also our policies were derived from those particular acts to make sure that we move forward. He also mentioned the PFMA (Public Finance Management Act) which was very crucial running as a State Owned Entity, and in ensuring that Necsa stay on the straight and narrow in terms of good governance.</p> <p>Questions 1A: Mr T Malatsi enquired regarding the safety report in terms of the score cards in terms of safety and security so that the public could see if there was any improvement, or did it decline as previously?</p> <p>Answer 1A: Ms M Kekana informed that Necsa implemented an alternative compliance verification method during the Covid period, and because it is not a full scope audit that was followed, they looked at the system in totality, and could therefore not assign scores. However Necsa were going back to doing a full system audit, we would be able to restore scoring of the audit results. During the next PSIF they would be able to start reporting on specific scores.</p> <p>Mr T Pather clarified that the NNR required that Necsa to undertake self-inspection as it was one of the conditions of license. These audits were audits that Necsa undertook themselves, the NNR was not directly involved in it. The NNR however, reviewed the outcomes of the audits, and if any deficiencies were identified, the NNR would require that Necsa register a nuclear occurrence, so that those matters could be tracked, investigated in detail and Necsa would then put corrective actions to address those. The NNR would then evaluate it as part of their compliance assurance programme. At present, there were some challenges that they continued to monitor in terms of safety and security culture. In previous years Necsa was required to have an independent review of the safety and security culture that was done by the IAEA. So it was an external review that the NNR required Necsa to undertake and continue to monitor the improvements in terms of culture, but culture was not something that changed overnight, so the NNR was giving Necsa a little bit of rope to actually demonstrate the change. So far the NNR did not have any specific issues that they would like to raise at this point, but they would continue to monitor Necsa's approach to safety and security on their side. Mr Pather would provide more detail when he received the NNR feedback.</p> <p>Mr L Tyabashe acknowledged the question and the request on the scorecards and would be taken into account in upcoming meetings.</p>	

8. NNR UPDATE

No.	Minute	Responsible
8.1	<p>NNR Rebranding The NNR underwent a process of rebranding and refreshing of their brand in the first quarter of 2022, with a new logo. Many of the public was familiar with the old logo with the circle and coat of arms. The new logo comprised an atom or the representation of Atomic Energy. In the center there is a trefoil, which represented radiation and radiation protection, which was the main reason for the NNR's existence and their primary mandate. The green triangle that encased the trefoil denoted elements of safety, security, stability and dependability that the NNR was going through and four diamonds that surround and connected symbolized the NNR's strength and as well as commitment to effective stakeholder engagement.</p>	

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NNR UPDATE (continued)

No.	Minute	Responsible
8.2	<p><u>NNR CEO</u></p> <p>Many might have noticed newspaper articles indicating that the NNR CEO resigned as he took the position of Vice Chancellor at the University of the Northwest. He served the NNR for the past 8 ½ years and his term ran into middle 2023, but he received a good opportunity that was available to him and he has actually taken that up. Ms Ditebogo Kgomo was appointed as acting CEO for a period of approximately six months. The Department of Mineral Resource and Energy initiated the process for appointment of a new CEO, the advert was issued and closed at the end of May 2022.</p>	
8.3	<p><u>Amendment to NNR Primary Act</u></p> <p>Amendments to the National Nuclear Regulator Act, were promulgated for public comment middle 2022. The NNR received a number of comments, many was positive and the NNR was currently processing that. It was at the stage at the level of Nedlac, and going through the processes. The NNR anticipated that if all went well, it would be presented for final agreement and approval by Cabinet in the coming months. It was a process they hoped would be expedited, but the NNR had to wait for cabinet processes in that regard.</p>	
8.4	<p><u>New Necsa Management Team</u></p> <p>The NNR had an engagement with the new Necsa management team in February 2022 and agreed that there would further engagements with the Necsa executive management team and the NNR executive team roughly every six months to keep track on all strategic issues. The NNR continued to maintain regular engagements with Necsa senior management throughout the period in-between and would manage things in in that manner.</p>	
8.5	<p><u>Necsa Performance and Inspections</u></p> <p>The issues of safety and security culture were something that the NNR has been monitoring for some time, and they would continue to monitor. Safety culture in particular, was one of the primary focuses from the compliance assurance activities that the NNR team would undertake, as it was part and of the regular inspections. During the current quarter the NNR would conduct a total of 25 inspections. They have not identified any significant safety issues, after concluding their inspections.</p>	
8.6	<p><u>NNR Emergency Exercise</u></p> <p>As per Necsa’s report, the NNR conducted their emergency exercise at the end of January 2022, and the NNR’s overall conclusion was that Necsa’s emergency arrangements remained viable for protection of the public around their site. But as reported with the grading of the exercises being orange, there were some deficiencies. Necsa developed a corrective action plan that they submitted to the NNR and it was currently undergoing review by the team and would be responded to in terms of the acceptability of the corrective action plan and the NNR would be monitoring its implementation.</p>	
8.7	<p><u>Multi-Purpose Reactor</u></p> <p>Necsa previously indicated the intention to proceed with the establishment of a new multi-purpose reactor on site. The NNR had initial engagements with Necsa in terms of the project. To date the NNR have not yet received a formal application from Necsa, but during their engagements, the NNR were preparing to actually receive the formal application, which would then start off the process.</p>	

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9. GENERAL

No.	Minute	Responsible
9.1	<p>Question 1: Mr Steven Brent on Koeberg issues</p> <p>Answer 1: Mr T Pather informed that he received a question from Mr Steven Brent regarding Koeberg. There were newspaper articles relating to mishaps at Koeberg in relation to their safety and maintenance programme. The NNR's response was that the media article did actually refer to human factors and ESKOM's ability to implement major projects on time. It had to be noted that Eskom has the responsibility to operate the Koeberg nuclear power station safely and to ensure that human errors in relation to health and safety were managed effectively. With respect to the specific reference of an individual, cutting the valve of the nuclear sampling system on Unit 1 instead of the valve on Unit 2, the NNR could confirm that the occurrence was indeed due to a human error during the maintenance work, but further that it had no actual consequence on the safety of operations of the Koeberg units. The NNR was satisfied following the evaluation of ESKOM's corrective actions implemented and that they have taken appropriate and proportionate approach based on the lessons learned to address any recurrence of such human performance errors in future. With regard to Eskom projects that were being delayed, the NNR could confirm that none of those had an immediate impact on nuclear safety.</p> <p>The second part of Mr Brent's question was has a review been taken at Necsa to ensure similar incidents cannot take place? As Mr Pather indicated earlier the NNR was continually monitoring the situation at Necsa in terms of their safety culture and the implementation of that. During the course of last year, the NNR began a process to actually strengthen their conditions of authorization especially in terms of two areas. The other conditions were more clarifications of the existing conditions. The two areas where major changes were made were the conditions of authorization and these were the general conditions that would apply to all nuclear facilities on the Necsa site with respect to the safety committees that Necsa employs. The NNR strengthened their condition relating to that. The NNR also significantly strengthened their conditions relating to decommissioning, and in particular the provisioning of funding for decommissioning to the extent that the NNR now required Necsa to provide annual reports starting from the end of the current financial year regarding the nature of the funding, how it was implemented, if there was any shortfall in that funding, and how Necsa planned to address the shortfalls. The NNR included a new condition in terms of the implementation of written instructions for all operations that may affect nuclear safety on nuclear security. The NNR strengthened their controls in terms of that and their compliance assurance programmes have been modified to pay particular attention to human errors going forward.</p>	
9.2	<p>Question 2 Mr T Malatsi was tasked by their Community members that normally attended the meetings to enquire about attending face to face PSIF meetings since the Covid restrictions has been lowered as the community members experienced challenges joining virtually.</p> <p>Answer 2: Ms N Tengimfene informed that during the last meeting there was a debate on the issue of having the meetings virtually or face to face. One of the decisions was that the face to face meeting would be revisited during the warmer period of the year around in November. And also in consideration of the COVID-19 situation.</p>	
9.3	<p>Question 3 Mr T Malatsi enquired about a final report on the report for the environmental design for the Tabana pipeline that the community received to comment on. He recalled during the last email received, they were informed that it was the last. He enquired if the environmental report were finalised, and if it could be shared with the community.</p>	

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GENERAL (CONTINUED)

No.	Minute	Responsible
	<p>Answer 3: Mr L Tyabashe informed that the Tabana Pipe store is where Necsa stored the used fuel and some waste. The Department of Environment, Fisheries and Forestry granted the environmental authorization to extend the Tabana pipe store in the near future and as per the initial design. Necsa would continue to provide further updates during future meetings. Mr Tyabshe felt it was important to state for the record that Necsa received the environmental authorization by the Department of Environmental Affairs. Necsa was currently pursuing the NNR aspect of it.</p> <p>Mr T Pather reaffirmed from the NNR side that Necsa received the environmental authorization. The formal authorization from the NNR was still pending, they raised a few issues in terms of the safety case that has been submitted. The NNR submitted their comments to Necsa and were awaiting the responses in terms of those comments, a final decision would then be made.</p> <p>Mr T Malatsi requested that community members liaise with Ms V Wentzel via e-mail on any concerns so that she could assist or request assistance from the relevant Departments.</p> <p>Question 4 A request was raised with Necsa pertaining to protecting heritage sites like the Gustav Preller House and Preller Cemetery.</p> <p>Answer 4: Mr A Myoli informed that Necsa had an issue of overgrown vegetation that was being dealt with that was site wide, as we received a lot of rain during the summer season with the challenge of overgrown vegetation, therefore Necsa started inside the site to deal with the backlog, and would eventually get to the area outside the security fence where the Gustav Preller cemetery and the Preller House were. Mr Myoli took cognizance of these issues raised by Mr Mike Benn.</p> <p>Mr Myoli acknowledged that Necsa had a Site Management Plan of which the areas outside the secured fence formed part of. Necsa would attempt to cover those two areas.</p>	

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

No.	Minute	Responsible
	Thursday, 11 August 2022 at 19h00.	

11. CLOSURE

No.	Minute	Responsible
	Mr M Mathosa thanked all participants and presenters and closed the meeting at 20h49.	

Chairperson: _____

Second: _____

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____