

Necsa Public Safety Information Forum (PSIF)
Minutes of the meeting held on Saturday, 10 June 2023

Venue : Necsa Visitor Centre & MS Teams **Time** : 10:00 to 12:10
Chairperson : Mr Mareme Mathosa **Deputy Chairperson** : Mr Joel Mphahla

REGISTRATION (P = PRESENT ATTENDING PHYSICALLY / V = PRESENT ATTENDING VIRTUALLY / A = APOLOGY)

NAME AND SURNAME	ORGANISATION	DATE – 2022/23			
		10/06/2023 Virtual	12/08/2023 Virtual	11/11/2023 Hybrid	19/03/2024 Hybrid
Batsietseng, Confidence	Resident	P			
Boyede, Qhamkile	Necsa	P			
De Bruyn, Charles	Necsa	P			
Kekana, Mologadi	Necsa	P			
Komane, John	Necsa	P			
Langa, Fridah	Necsa	P			
Mabunda, Laura	Necsa	V			
Malatsi, Thabiso	Resident	P			
Masemola, Marvin	Necsa	P			
Mathosa, Mareme	Chairperson	P			
Moonsamy, Gino	NNR	V			
Mthembu, Botha	Necsa	P			
Ngwenya, Jabu	Resident	P			
Nkopane, Lebogang	Resident	P			
Nkopane, Michael	Resident	P			
Pather, Thiagan	NNR	V			
Rama, Jacques	Resident	V			
Rampersadh, Pradish	Necsa	P			
Reitumetse, Johnny	Resident	P			
Reitumetse, Thobakgale	Resident	P			
Rennie-Kroon, Amelia	Necsa	P			
Rikhotso, Nto	Necsa	V			
Schutte, Petrus	Pelchem	V			
Selome, Jackson	NTP	P			
Shezi, Wandile	Resident	V			
Simelane, Sengiphile	Necsa	V			
Tengimfene, Nickelwa	Necsa	V			
Tlhone, Mpho	Resident	P			
Tyabashe, Loyiso	Necsa GCEO	A			
Van Heerden, Eurika	Necsa	P			
Wentzel, Veronica	PSIF Secretariat	P			

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
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding

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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.
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.

1. WELCOME AND OPENING

No.	Minute	Responsible
	Mr M Mathosa welcomed all present and requested members to add additional issues.	M Mathosa

2. SAFETY MINUTE

No.	Minute	Responsible
	Ms M Kekana safety briefing focused on constant awareness of one's surroundings. This is whether there is an active threat of violence or not, a person should be aware of the surroundings. Recognising when there is danger begins with situational awareness. Knowing what normal looks like, is critical to notice when something is not right. If paying attention to your surroundings has not been part of your life then it is time to do things differently. This applies even if you go to a familiar environment, just approach it as if it is something new and observe with keen interest.	M Kekana

Necsa Public Safety Information Forum (PSIF)
Minutes of the meeting held on Saturday, 10 June 2023

SAFETY MINUTE (continued)

No.	Minute	Responsible
	<p>For example where are the exits right now, can you still maneuver your way out of here, or know where alternative exits are? Do you know where the fire extinguisher is? Do you know where your emergency exit is? Be aware of where you are, pay attention to people around you, even when walking around next to your home. Be aware of the basis that are familiar and faces that are unfamiliar and when things are different take note of it and how they behave, how they dress and changes in their actions. Do not judge or profile people, but trust your instincts. If someone makes you uncomfortable when you are driving, always check your surroundings, especially when you are about to stop, or driving out of your gates, including malls and even at the drive through to buy food because people may come to beg. You might not know if it is really a beggar or someone that is an opportunist. Do not blindly believe anyone trying to give a warning of a flat tire or something similar because they might want your attention. Their strategy would be to point as if there is something wrong with your car and the minute you open your open your window they will have your attention and they will attack. Do not use your phone in situations where it is essential to be vigilant. We are so addicted to our devices and it takes away our attention. Avoid putting both earbuds in your ears. If you have to use it, use only one.</p> <p>Avoid walking alone in areas where someone could hide, or a poorly lit area, or unfamiliar areas. You may not notice someone who intends to do you harm, but they look for people who are not paying attention. Try and imagine different scenarios that could arise and how you would respond to that. Look for places to hide or ways to prevent intruders from gaining entry. Some people die unnecessarily because they are curious and they want to capture the moment, people want to take videos to be the first to share it on social media You also do not have to be mature and show yourself to be a hero. Your instincts are here for a reason. Teach your loved ones to be secure. Do not under underestimate how empowering it is for everyone, including children, to know what they can do to contribute to their own safety, and be sure to advise them on situational awareness as well and explain what it is.</p> <p>Mr M Malatsi commented that the primary person responsible for your own safety is the person in the mirror. Most of the time, companies are told that they need to have a safety department in order to ensure that the workers go home the same way that they came to work, and lately people are working from home. Are you making sure that you are leaving your “workplace” in the same way that you went in? This is something that all of us should think about.</p>	M Kekana

3. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

No.	Minute	Responsible
	No additions were made to the Agenda.	M Mathosa

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

No.	Minute	Responsible
	<p>Dr E van Heerden informed on page 5, paragraph 5 the correct name is Moganwe Spruit, not Magamba.</p> <p>Dr E van Heerden informed on page 7, item 7.5 it should state soil samples, not salt samples.</p> <p>Mr J Ngwenya moved for adoption of the minutes, and were seconded by Mr J Selome.</p>	V Wentzel

Necsa Public Safety Information Forum (PSIF)
Minutes of the meeting held on Saturday, 10 June 2023

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

No.	Minute	Responsible
5.1	<p>Safety Management and Environmental presentations (Presented by Mr F Beeslaar, Acting Senior Manager: SHEQ Department; and Dr E van Heerden, Chief Scientist: Environmental Management).</p> <p><u>Question 1:</u> Mr T Malatsi enquired if the scorecard was based on standard safety measurements. Are the percentages true reflections of actual scores? The environmental presentation was also too difficult to understand and requested to receive a copy of the presentation so that they can do more research. This would ensure a meaningful engagement during the next PSIF in terms of the environmental presentation.</p> <p>Mr F Beeslaar commented that if he understands the comment correctly regarding a scorecard, Necsa sets its own objectives and we that is measured against those objectives. Is that what Mr T Malatsi is referring to as the scorecard?</p> <p>Mr T Malatsi commented that the safety side a scorecard were previously included in the safety presentation to assist the public in terms of engaging.</p> <p>Mr F Beeslaar said that there are some indicators in the following presentation by Necsa Management. There are multitude indicators, some on a very high level that is a summation of everything, as well as smaller types of indicators. If the mentioned scorecard is not addressed adequately in the following presentation, there could be more comprehensive feedback on the scorecard during the next meeting.</p> <p>Ms Q Boyede contextualized that there was a question about people who worked at Necsa at a certain point that either got sick with cancer, or issues about how are we monitoring certain particles or issues of a chemical that could enter the body. The presentation aimed at illustrating safety monitoring. The idea was to indicate what is being monitored weekly in various areas, whether it is soil or water, or whether we are using weather to monitor. The team is doing this diligently to ensure safe operations of our environment and our people. Mr T Malatsi highlighted that the message was a bit technical the team would rethink the narrative to make it more accessible, as it is also in our Annual Report.</p> <p><u>Question 2:</u> Mr J Ngwenya asked if Necsa was assisting with the cholera situation in Hammanskraal. He however, is feeling better after the explanation of water purification, going back home they would not again wish to hear of Necsa employees getting sick.</p> <p>Mr M Mathosa replied to Ms Q Boyede that the main message driving home is that Necsa is doing the monitoring to ensure that the environment and the people subjected to it environment are not in any way affected badly or negatively by Necsa’s activities on site. Tshwane also informed through media that it is dealing with the cholera issues.</p> <p>In the previous PSIF there was a gentleman who asked what exactly is Necsa doing in terms of monitoring various aspects of the environment. Necsa was responding to it with the presentations to show that this is what they are doing, how and often it is done.</p>	

Necsa Public Safety Information Forum (PSIF)
Minutes of the meeting held on Saturday, 10 June 2023

No.	Minute	Responsible
5.1	<p><u>Safety Management and Environmental presentations (continued)</u></p> <p><u>Question 3:</u> A member enquired how safe are the people from Atteridgeville, Lotus Gardens and immediate area in terms of outage, should Necsa explode? For instance if the sun would react more than expected on a certain day chemicals and Necsa explodes because of it, how safe is the community?</p> <p>Ms Q Boyede informed that Dr E van Heerden spoke in her presentation about Necsa’s 5km boundaries for emergencies. However, Necsa included areas beyond those boundaries in terms of how we also hold the PSIF meetings. Our NNR regulators, Mr. T Pather and Mr G Moonsamy is also present in this meeting. Making an example in a case where there was fire in one of the parliamentary buildings as well as the July riots that happened in 2021, facilities like Necsa being a national key point, had to rethink the measures in place, should we face a similar incident like a fire or explosion. There are the contingency plan to react on this and protect our people and environment as well as properties? The question asked is not only safety, but it matches safety and security together. Necsa does have those contingencies, in partnership with SAPS that is close to us for instance. Also, it is about the materials, for example is there anything that relates to our materials and where we put measures in place.</p> <p>Mr M Mathosa concluded with the idea that if a member of the public come across a topic that they want Necsa to discuss safety issues that may affect the community, they can request that Necsa explain in layman’s terms as far as possible. The regulator expects Necsa to provide such information, it might be part of the license agreement, but he speaks under correction.</p>	
5.2	<p><u>Terms of Reference</u></p> <p>The Secretariat forwarded the last round of requests for comment on 21 March 2023. There were no further changes thus document is proposed for adoption and signing by the chairperson and send to the NNR for endorsement. He asked the member to keep in mind that it is the first draft, if anything else need to be added or changed when the document was put up for review it can be added during the next review in future.</p> <p>Mr T Malatsi informed that he did not recall receiving the document. Secretariat reminded him that he made comments these were added, before the last distribution.</p> <p>Mr M Mathosa informed that the document was distributed for comment various times during the last financial year and that there was no any further request for addition</p> <p>. This means that the document is actually ready for the next stage, which is a signatures and approvals by the relevant authorities.</p>	

6. NECSA GROUP UPDATE & NECSA PUBLIC SAFETY FEEDBACK

(Presented by Ms Q Boyede: Acting GCEO; Mr P Schutte: Acting MD of Pelchem; Mr J Selome, General Manager of Production at NTP)

No.	Minute	Responsible
6.1	<p><u>Comment by Mr M Mathosa:</u> Necsa is doing outreach programmes, but they seem to focus a lot on school kids and there is hardly any programs for the older population. Maybe Necsa could look into this.</p>	
6.2	<p><u>Question by member attending:</u> A member enquired how could local small business owners apply to do business with Necsa as they are selling various products.</p>	

Necsa Public Safety Information Forum (PSIF)

Minutes of the meeting held on Saturday, 10 June 2023

No.	Minute	Responsible
6.2	<p>Response to member attending:</p> <p>A member enquired how could local small business owners apply to do business with Necsa as they are selling various products.</p> <p>Mr M Mathosa members should visit the Necsa website as the information to register is there. There is a link where the person can register their companies as a supplier. The government has centralized their procurement processes. The companies that work with Necsa needs to be registered on its database. Necsa encourages businesses with BBB-EE status to apply. The Necsa switchboard number is 012 305 4911, you can phone and ask to speak to a person in supply chain, but keep in mind that it must be done properly and that the person must be tax compliant. Mr J Selome offered to take the members telephone numbers to assist them with the registration.</p>	

7. NNR UPDATE (Mr T Pather)

No.	Minute	Responsible
7.1	<p>NNR Board of Directors</p> <p>The NNR Board of Directors term of office ends in August 2023. In March, the DMRE issued a call for nominations of members to serve on the NNR Board; the notification clarified all qualifying requirements. The period for nominations closed on 12 May the DMRE is processing received nominations. It is expected that the Minister will announce the new Board shortly before the end of the current term of office of the current board members.</p>	T Pather
7.2	<p>NNR Act</p> <p>The primary act under which the NNR operates, the National Nuclear Regulatory Act, Act 47 of 1999, was promulgated around 2010 early 2011. The NNR started a process to revise the Act, to make amendments and improve the provisions of it. The NNR followed all due processes through government processes. Cabinet approved the draft National Nuclear Regulator Amendment Act on 24 May 2023. Previously it was called a Bill, it is now formalized as an Act. It is scheduled for tabling before Parliament. The NNR believe that the process for revising the Act will run smoothly. The highlights of the proposed Act include amongst others: definitions amendments are brought up to date in terms of international developments; a few new definitions were added; clarifications in terms of the regulatory functions; a few additional regulatory functions have been added. The most notable is the need for regulation of radiation protection for aircrew.</p> <p>The Act also provides clarity in terms of transferring of nuclear authorizations. These are important documents that carry onerous responsibilities on the holders of these, particularly the mining sector with the changes in economic environment, there are requests to transfer, and people want to buy out other companies. Therefore, it provides clarification in terms of these.</p> <p>The revised Act also improves the powers of the NNR inspectors. Also, included are additional provisions relating to financial provisioning or funding of costs associated to safe rehabilitation and decommissioning of facilities. There is an inclusion of a system of administrative fines for minor non-compliances whilst major ones will still follow the process of prosecution, including criminal records and potential imprisonment.</p> <p>The NNR also included issues related to establishment of a national dose register. This is cooperation between the NNR and other radiation regulators called the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority and the Department of Labor.</p>	
7.3	<p>NNR onsite inspections</p> <p>The NNR has a regular programme of inspections to verify Necsa's compliance to regulatory conditions. For the current quarter ending on 30 June, the NNR had 25 inspections of which almost 22 inspections completed to date. The outcomes from those inspections show that there was general compliance, but it does not mean that there was full compliance.</p>	

Necsa Public Safety Information Forum (PSIF)
Minutes of the meeting held on Saturday, 10 June 2023

NNR UPDATE (Mr T Pather)

No.	Minute	Responsible
7.3	<p><u>NNR onsite inspections (cont)</u> There were a few issues in terms of administrative measures or failures to fully comply with procedures that were identified. NNR will communicate these, and Necsa is required to initiate corrective actions, but the overall view in terms of compliance is that Necsa satisfactory complied with the NNR requirements from the inspections conducted in this quarter.</p>	
7.3	<p><u>Thabana Pipestore</u> As reported during the last meeting, the NNR is finalizing their review related to the proposed expansion of the Thabana Pipestore, and that there would be a process of public consultation. There are outstanding comments that Necsa needs to resolve fully. The NNR received some revised submissions, once the NNR are satisfied with these then it will embark on the process to request written comments from members of the public before making their final decision on the Thabana Pipestore.</p>	

8. GENERAL

No.	Minute	Responsible
8.1	No further comments were received from the public.	M Mathosa

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

No.	Minute	Responsible
	Saturday, 12 August 2023 at 10h00. Hybrid meeting.	V Wentzel

10. CLOSURE

No.	Minute	Responsible
	Mr M Mathosa thanked all participants for the healthy attendance and participation during the meeting. Further encouraged the public to send their questions and comments to the PSIF Secretariat to add as an item on the agenda to discuss. The meeting ended at 12h10.	M Mathosa

Chairperson: _____

Secunder: _____

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____