

GENERAL NOTICES • ALGEMENE KENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY

NOTICE 2208 OF 2023



Notice of National Nuclear Regulator (NNR) Public Hearings and application to participate: Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd (Eskom) application to extend the operating life of the Koeberg Nuclear Power Station (KNPS) by 20 years.

Notice is hereby given of the NNR public hearings in accordance with section 21(4) of the National Nuclear Regulator Act (Act No.47 of 1999) (NNRA).

Background

The NNR is an independent regulatory body established as a juristic person in terms of section 3 of the NNRA. The NNR ensures the effective oversight of nuclear safety and radiation protection to protect people and the environment from the risks of radiation associated with nuclear power plants, nuclear technology, radioactive waste and naturally occurring radioactive materials.

The authority vested in the NNR is enshrined in national legislation, which gives it the power to exercise regulatory control related to safety over siting, design, construction, operation, manufacture of component parts, and decontamination, decommissioning, and closure of nuclear installations.

Eskom is authorised to operate the KNPS under the Nuclear Installation Licence, NIL-01 Variation 19 (and as amended from time to time in terms of section 23 of the NNR Act) and associated conditions. The KNPS comprises of two pressurised water reactor units which started commercial operation in July 1984 on Unit 1 and in November 1985 on Unit 2, and will reach 40 years of commercial operation in 2024 and 2025, respectively.

On 10 May 2021, the NNR received an application from Eskom for a variation to NIL-01 to operate the KNPS beyond the current license term of 21 July 2024, for an additional 20 years, to 21 July 2044 for Unit 1 and to 9 November 2045 for Unit 2. The application to operate the KNPS beyond the time frame established in NIL-01 is referred to as an application for Long-Term Operation (LTO).

In accordance with the provisions of section 21(3) of the NNRA, the NNR directed Eskom to serve notification of the application to stakeholders directly affected by the application and to publish notices in the Government Gazette and local community newspapers inviting members of the public to provide comments to the NNR on health, safety and environmental issues connected with the application. Following the closure of the public comment process on 16 March 2023, the NNR project team reviewed the comments received and made a recommendation to the NNR Board to conduct further public consultation on the application. The NNR Board as the decision-making authority determined that further public debate on health, safety and environment issues connected with the LTO application is necessary.

Public Hearings

The NNR Board will hold public hearings to provide members of the public an opportunity to make oral presentations to the NNR on health, safety and environment issues connected with LTO application.

Details for the public hearings

Date	Time	Location
3 February 2024	09:30 - 16:00	Tableview
10 February 2024	09:30 - 16:00	Atlantis
17 February 2024	09:30 - 16:00	Athlone

Availability of public information

The applicant, Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd has prepared a Public Information Document (PID) to enable public to participate in the public hearing.

- Public Information Document for the Long-Term Operation of the Koeberg Nuclear Power Station - K-29731-E Attachment 1 - 240-165294677 Rev 3 PID for LTO English
- Openbare inligtingsdokument vir die langtermynbedryf van Koeberg-kernkragentrale - K-29731-E Attachment 2 - 240-165294677 Rev 3 PID for LTO Afrikaans
- Uxwebhu Lukawonke-wonke Lokwandisa Ixesha Lokusebenzisa Isitishi Sokuphehla Umbane Ngenyukliya SaseKoeberg - K-29731-E Attachment 3 - 240-165294677 Rev 3 PID for LTO Xhosa
- Safety Case for Long-Term Operation of Koeberg Nuclear Power Station- K-29731-E Attachment 7 - 331-618 Safety Case for Long-Term Operation of Koeberg Nuclear Power Station - Revision 3

1. The LTO PID may be downloaded from -

a. The NNR website -

- English: <https://nnr.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/K-29731-E-Attachment-1-240-165294677-Rev-3-PID-for-LTO-English.pdf>
- Afrikaans: <https://nnr.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/K-29731-E-Attachment-2-240-165294677-Rev-3-PID-for-LTO-Afrikaans.pdf>
- isiXhosa: <https://nnr.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/K-29731-E-Attachment-3-240-165294677-Rev-3-PID-for-LTO-Xhosa.pdf>

b. The Eskom website:

<https://www.eskom.co.za/eskom-divisions/gx/nuclear/#LongT>

2. Hardcopies of the LTO PID and Safety Case document may be collected from the following locations;

- Atlantis Library
- Koeberg Library
- Cape Town Central Library
- Table view Library
- NNR Offices in 12 Raats Drive, Delphi Arch Building, Tableview.

Who can make representations at the NNR public hearings?

Any person who may be directly affected by the application to extend the operational life of the KNPS by 20 years may make representations to the NNR.

Opportunities to participate in the public hearings process?

Persons wishing to make written representations to the NNR may -

1. Submit written comments to the NNR.

- Submission of written comments must reach the NNR by no later than 15 January 2024.
- All written comments must be addressed to -
Mr Peter Bester, Programme Manager : Nuclear Power Plants, National Nuclear Regulator.
- Copies of written representations may also be hand delivered to the offices of the National Nuclear Regulator - 12 Raats Drive, Delphi Arch Building, Tableview
- Written representations may also be emailed to koebergLTO@nnr.co.za and marked for the attention: Programme Manager Nuclear Power Plants.

2. Oral presentations at the public hearing.

- Persons wishing to make oral presentations at the public hearing are required to register with the NNR as an intervener and provide details of the oral submission to be made.
- Oral presentations are limited to a maximum of 10 minutes per presentation.
- Application to register to make oral presentations must be done using the online Public Hearings Registration Form which can be found on the NNR website and the following details must be provided -
 - Full Name
 - Identity/passport Number
 - Organisation represented
 - Postal address
 - E-mail address
 - Contact telephone number (landline + mobile)
- Indicate if the oral presentation will be made in English or if a translator is required.
- Inform us if you have any special needs requirements that could make it difficult for you to access the public hearing venue.
- Closing date for registration as an intervener is 15 January 2024.
- No late registrations will be considered.
- Registered interveners will be informed by the NNR of the confirmed time for their oral presentations during the public hearing.
- For more information on the scheduled public hearings visit: <https://nnr.co.za/public-information/public-hearings/>