



NATIONAL NUCLEAR REGULATOR

MINUTES : "BUILDING BRIDGES TO CONNECT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY NGOs MEETING – GAUTENG"

Date of Meeting: 06 March 2014

Venue: NNR Offices. Centurion

Time: 10:00:15:00

In attendance

Civil Society Representatives:

Danny Mogotsi (SECC), Judith Taylor (Earthlife Africa), Nerisha Baldevu (Earthlife Africa), Makoma Lekaklala (Earthlife Africa), Bob Garbett (Pelindaba Working Group), Christine Garbett (Pelindaba Working Group), Femky Mofiwa (Off the Ground), Ferrial Adam (Greenpeace Africa) and Nomalizo Xhona (WECCF).

NNR Officials:

Adv. Boyce Mkhize (CEO & Chairperson), Peter Bester, Thabo Tselane, Orion Phillips, Thiagan Pather, Senoelo Pheto, Patle Mohajane and Gino Moonsamy.

1. Introduction

Adv Boyce Mkhize, in his capacity as Chairperson welcomed the attendees and formally declared the Meeting open. He then invited members to consider the draft Agenda for necessary amendment and approval.

2. Review of the minutes and Adoption of the Agenda

The matters arising and the agenda was reviewed. It was agreed that additional issues be discussed as part of the NNR's overall presentation. Adv Boyce Mkhize informed that the NNR received an objection from Ms Mariette Liefferink (FSE) on the response to Q2.5 and Q2.6 as reflected in the NNR's notes from meeting held on 6 June 2012. He noted that it was unfortunate that Ms Liefferink or a FSE



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representative was not present to discuss the objection and it is hoped that this could be done at a future meeting. The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Summary of High Level Discussions

3.1 Presentation on the NNR's Licensing Process

Stemming from the meeting held on 6 June 2012, Greenpeace requested information sharing on the NNR's Licensing process. Orion Phillips conducted a detailed presentation on the various stages of the NNR's Licensing Process. Orion Phillips clarified that the application for a licence is only received after the EIA process is concluded. Noting this he further informed that the NNR is required to liaise closely with Department of Environment on such processes. Rob Garbett requested clarification on the interface between the NNR nuclear authorisation process and the EIA process under the DEA and if there were linkages. Orion Phillips explained that both processes are independent and are informed by different legislations. He further emphasised the requirement for both processes to engage in public participation.

3.2. Discussion points from Earthlife Africa on the public notice for hearings for the proposed Necsma Smelter

Nerisha Baldevu raised concerns on the legality of the public notice issued by the NNR for conducting Public Hearings for the proposed licence application by Necsma for the Smelter Project and she commented that the PDF is not available on the NNR's website under Regulations and Licensing/Public Hearings. A question was raised if the NNR will provide transport for disadvantaged communities to attend the public hearing for the proposed smelter. Thiagan Pather confirmed that the NNR Notice of the Public Hearings is consistent with the wording in Section 21 (4) of the NNR Act and mentioned that the PDF is available on the website. The NNR



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requested more information on the transport requirements for disadvantaged communities and it was resolved that this matter be followed up after the meeting.

3.3 Presentation on nuclear regulatory emergency exercise at Koeberg and an overview of safety compliance

Stemming from the meeting held on 6 June 2012, the forum requested NNR to share information on the status of oversight on nuclear sites especially in light of recent reports from Fukushima. Thabo Tselane conducted a presentation on the regulatory emergency exercise at Koeberg and he provided an overview of the safety compliance index of regulated entities. Christine Garbett recommended that the NNR consider communicating safety performance information as a graphical representation. Adv Boyce Mkhize, noted the comment and informed that the NNR will consider this recommendation for the future. The attendees emphasised the urgent need to increase public awareness of the Emergency Plans and Traffic Evacuation models amongst affected communities and the general public. The NNR supported this notion and confirmed that it will progress the matter with the relevant entities in the future.

4. General

The following additional items were discussed under general;

- Funding of the NNR
- Changes to the NNR Board
- Civil Society Representative on the NNR Board
- Civil Society meetings in other provinces
- NNR Annual Reports on website

5. Resolutions stemming from the meeting

It was resolved that ;



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- The NNR will consider using graphical data to communicate nuclear safety information to its stakeholders
- NNR to provide a response on the principle of legal succession
- NNR and Civil Society to discuss the transport requirements for disadvantaged communities and provide assistance within reason
- NNR to publish all its Annual Reports on the website
- NNR to convene Civil Society Meetings in other provinces

6. Conclusion

The NNR recognises that the "Building Bridges to connect with Civil Society" initiative continues to be a worth platform for constructive dialogue and information sharing on matters relating to nuclear safety between NNR and Civil Society NGOs. It was agreed that meetings should take place on a quarterly basis in the relevant regions. The Chairperson thanked all participants for attending and closed the meeting.