

MEDIA RELEASE

NPP Safety: Koeberg Containment Building REF: 9/1/15/2/21

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY OF CONTAINMENT STRUCTURES AT KOEBERG NUCLEAR POWER STATION CURRENTLY COMPLIES WITH RELEVANT SAFETY TESTS REQUIRED BY THE NATIONAL NUCLEAR REGULATOR

The National Nuclear Regulator has noted recent media coverage suggesting that the outer shell of the containment buildings at Koeberg Nuclear Power Station were damaged and as a result it is not effective for preventing harmful radiation being discharged into the environment.

In terms of the structural integrity of the Koeberg Nuclear Power Station containment buildings, from the regulator's perspective, the NNR can confirm that the Koeberg Nuclear Power Station currently complies with regular tests required by the regulator. Furthermore, with the information at our disposal we can confirm that despite the concrete cracking and delamination observed on the outer surface, the containment structures remain currently effective for protecting the environment from radiation during accident conditions.

"We would like to assure all stakeholders that as the national competent authority responsible for overseeing nuclear safety regulation in South Africa, that the National Nuclear Regulator remains firmly committed to enforcing nuclear safety rules and requirements in support of protecting persons, property and the environment from nuclear damage. The Koeberg Nuclear Power Station is continuously monitored to ensure that the operation of the plant complies with nuclear safety requirements at all stages of operation." added CEO Dr Bismark Tyobeka.

Members of the public are advised to report nuclear safety concerns directly to the National Nuclear Regulator using the following contact information;

Website: nnr.co.za/report-a-nuclear-incident/ Email: <u>gmoonsamy@nnr.co.za</u> Mobile: +27 82 535 5365

For more information, please contact me.

About the National Nuclear Regulator

The National Nuclear Regulator (NNR) is a public entity which is established and governed in terms of Section 3 of the National Nuclear Regulator Act, (Act No 47 of 1999). The fundamental objective of the NNR is to provide for the protection of persons, property and the environment against nuclear damage through the establishment of safety standards and regulatory practices suited for South Africa. To this end, the NNR provides oversight and assurance that activities related to the peaceful use of nuclear energy in South Africa are carried out in a safe and secure manner and in accordance with international principles and best practices.