27 July 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NNR receives safety case in support of the application to extend the operational life of the Koeberg Nuclear Power Station beyond the current licence term of 40 years.

On 26 July 2022, the National Nuclear Regulator (NNR) confirmed that Eskom submitted the safety case in support of its application to extend the operational life of the Koeberg Nuclear Power Station beyond the current licence term in NIL-01, Variation 19. The application to extend the operational life was submitted by Eskom on 10 May 2021 and accepted by the NNR for further processing on 17 August 2021.

Mr Orion Phillips, Divisional Executive Nuclear Power Plant, confirmed that the safety case was submitted to the NNR on 21 July 2022, which is within the prescribed timelines and provides adequate time for the regulator to assess the safety case and for the Operator to respond to requests for more information as and when needed.

Eskom is in the process of finalising the Public Information Document (PID) and will have to publish both the application and the PID in the government gazette, newspapers and to serve notices to interested and affected parties.

"We are beginning a process of robust scrutiny of the safety case on which we will report our progress and findings, including public comments received in a Safety Evaluation Report to the NNR Board of Directors”. stated Mr Peter Bester, Programme Manager Nuclear Power Plant.

For LTO regulatory updates please visit: https://nnr.co.za/applications-in-progress/

Enquiries: Gino Moonsamy – 082 535 5365

###
HIGH LEVEL PROCESS FLOW: NNR LTO AUTHORISATION PROCESS

1. Eskom LTO application
2. NNR Public participation
3. LTO Safety Case submission
4. NNR Safety Case initial review
5. Publish PID and Application for Notice and comment
6. NNR Safety Case detail review
7. NNR Preliminary Safety Evaluation Report
8. NNR Safety Evaluation report
9. NNR Board Record of Decision

24 months

Further consultation as determined by Board
Definition:
“Long Term Operation” means the operation of the nuclear installation beyond an established time-frame set forth by, for example, the licence term, design, standards, licence or regulations, which have been justified by safety assessment, with consideration given to life limiting processes or features of structures, systems, and components.

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.