

REPORT ON THE STATUS OF NUCLEAR SAFETY IN SOUTH AFRICA. 1 APRIL 2023 – 30 JUNE 2023

The National Nuclear Regulator (NNR) regulates the South African nuclear sector to protect people and the environment from the potential risks associated with ionizing radiation as defined in the NNR Act (Act No. 47 of 1999). It is responsible for exercising regulatory control over the safety of nuclear installations, certain types of radioactive waste, irradiated nuclear fuel and the mining and processing of radioactive material. Facilities regulated by the NNR include the Koeberg nuclear power station, various facilities on the South African Nuclear Energy Corporation's Pelindaba site, the Vaalputs radioactive waste repository and several mining and minerals processing facilities.

I am honoured to present the Chief Executive Officer's first nuclear safety review report for the period 1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023. The NNR is committed to openness and transparency within legal requirements and this report is a testimony of that commitment in action.

The report is confined to the functions of the NNR and provides a brief overview of the regulatory activities undertaken to assure stakeholders that authorisation holders' responsibilities for radiation protection and nuclear safety are effectively discharged to protect the health, safety and the environment in South Africa.

The NNR's regulatory efforts comprising of compliance verification inspections, safety reviews and assessments contributed substantially to the achievement of good safety performance results by regulated facilities. Occupational and Public exposure to radiation at all regulated facilities were well within limits. Radioactive effluent and waste at all nuclear facilities were managed in accordance with regulatory requirements. There were no nuclear accidents reported by regulated facilities.

Based on the 69 inspections and 242 safety reviews and assessments conducted, the NNR staff concluded that regulated facilities operated safely during this quarter. A summary of the number of inspections and safety reviews and assessments per NNR regulatory programme conducted is presented as follows:

- 8 Inspections and 72 safety reviews and assessments were conducted at the Koeberg nuclear power station.
- 25 Inspections and 72 safety reviews and assessments were conducted at the Pelindaba and Vaalputs sites respectively.
- 36 Inspections and 98 safety reviews and assessments were conducted at facilities handling Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material.

Overall, the NNR is satisfied with the safety and security performance of the sites we regulate. I would like to thank team NNR for their support, dedication and unwavering commitment towards achieving these results.



Ditebogo Kgomo
Chief Executive Officer