

Private Bag X1, Pretoria, 0001
Gauteng Province
Republic of South Africa
T: +27 (0)12 305 3222
F: +27 (0)12 305 3200
E: info@nrwdi.org.za



Our reference:	
Your reference:	
Document no.:	NRWDI- LET-0593
Enquiries:	Mr Alan Carolissen
E-mail:	Alan.Carolissen@nrwdi.org.za
Telephone:	+27 (0) 12 305 6114
Date:	25 March 2021

Dear Esteemed and Valued Stakeholder of the Vaalputs Public Safety Information Forum

CANCELLATION OF THE IN-PERSON VAALPUTS PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION FORUM (VPSIF) MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 2021

Management is deeply committed to the health and wellbeing of our staff, partners, stakeholders, customers and members of the public in the communities surrounding Vaalputs. Of concern in this regard is the rapid spread of COVID-19 which has, and still is, impacting on everybody's livelihood and wellbeing. Combatting the epidemic is a collective responsibility and it is therefore up to every one of us to play our part to ensure that the spread and impact of the virus is reduced as much as possible.

As a safety precautionary measure in order to mitigate exposure risk of the VPSIF members and Vaalputs staff to COVID-19, Management has deemed it prudent and responsible to cancel the quarterly in-person Vaalputs Public Information Forum meeting that was scheduled to take place in March 2021.

To ensure continuity of the VPSIF, Management has also considered the option of conducting a virtual VPSIF meeting. However, due to the majority of the members residing in remote areas where access to Internet and Wi-Fi connectivity is not readily available, this option is deemed not feasible and viable.

Board of Directors: Ms. Thandeka Zungu (Chairperson); Mr. Mogwera Khoathane (Deputy Chairperson); Dr. Kgaugelo Chiloane; Dr. Cornelius Ruiters; Ms. Leandra Vilakazi; Ms. Lerato Makgae; Mr. Trevor Mark Gordon; Mr. Alan Carolissen (acting CEO) *; Mr. Justin Daniel (CFO)* (*Executive Directors).

Classification	Open
----------------	------

NRWDI-FRM-0001, Rev. 12

2.

As an alternative to providing verbal feedback on Vaalputs operational matters in a physical or virtual meeting, Management opted to make available in electronic format the information that is usually verbally presented during physical VPSIF meetings.

The information on the Vaalputs operations is herewith attached for your attention and perusal.

For those individuals who have access to internet facilities, the information has ~~is~~ also been made available on the National Radioactive Waste Disposal Institute's website: www.nrwdi.org.za

Please do not hesitate to contact me for any further clarification or amplification of the attached information.

Thanking you in advance for your understanding and cooperation to fight the global health pandemic created by the COVID-19 virus.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Carolissen', written in a cursive style.

Mr. Alan Carolissen

Acting CEO: NRWDI

NRWDI

NATIONAL RADIOACTIVE WASTE
DISPOSAL INSTITUTE



VAALPUTS PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION FORUM MEETING

FEEDBACK TO STAKEHOLDERS

MARCH 2021 PHYSICAL MEETING CANCELLED

Alan Carolissen
Acting Chief Executive Officer

www.nrwdi.org.za

PRESENTATION CONTENTS

- **Vaalputs Operations**
- **Update on Vaalputs Nuclear Licence application by NRWDI**
- **Update on the Centralised Interim Storage Facility for Spent Nuclear Fuel**
- **General**
- **Concluding remarks**

VAALPUTS OPERATIONS

- **Mr Marius Farmer has been appointed as Acting Manager: Vaalputs with effect of 1st January 2021 due to the early retirement of Mr Willem Willem Beukes.**
- **All Pre-shipment inspections were done at Koeberg and Necsa for the quarter.**
- **Four (two metal and two concrete) waste shipments from Koeberg were received for disposal and all waste packages complied with the Vaalputs Waste Acceptance Criteria.**
- **No waste shipments were received from Necsa.**
- **Statutory inspections were done on all IROFs and portable electrical equipment. No non-compliances were identified.**
- **All waste packages were covered with screened clay to comply to NIL28 conditions.**

VAALPUTS OPERATIONS

- All quarterly environmental samples were taken as prescribed.
- All radiological measurements were done in accordance with RP programme.
- No nuclear and safety deviations were reported.
- The NNR conducted their quarterly compliance assurance inspection from 16-18 February 2021. Outcome of this audit is still outstanding.
- Physical security inspection was conducted by NNR on 16th March 2021.
- The security system was upgraded (cameras and alarms).
- A backup system was implemented at the main gate in case of any power failure.

UPDATE ON VAALPUTS NUCLEAR INSTALLATION LICENSE APPLICATION

- Application for a Nuclear Installation License to manage and operate Vaalputs was done by NRWDI in terms of Section 21 of NNR Act.**
- All safety case documentation required for licensing approval were submitted to NNR.**
- The NRWDI Nuclear Installation Licence application was published in the Government Gazette and 4 newspapers circulating within the Vaalputs communities and Northern Cape Province (i.e., the Gemsbok, the Diamond Field Advertiser, the Plattelander and the Namakwalander).**
- Notifications of the license application were served on all interested and affected parties in February 2021.**
- Interested and affected parties have until 30 March 2021 to submit their written representations to the NNR.**

UPDATE ON CENTRALISED INTERIM STORAGE FACILITY FOR SPENT FUEL

- **The Prefeasibility Study report for the Centralised Interim Storage Facility (CISF) project, was successfully completed and submitted to the Shareholder.**
- **The Pre-Feasibility Study concludes that the CISF project is highly feasible for the following reasons:**
 - **The demand or need for the project is justified.**
 - **The national radioactive waste management policy promotes the CISF establishment.**
 - **A robust regulatory framework for the siting, licensing and construction of the CISF exists.**
 - **Expertise to deliver the project exist locally and internationally.**
 - **CISF is not a first-of-a-kind and can therefore be modelled on the existing ones in the world.**

GENERAL MATTERS

- **As part of NRWDI's mandate to provide information on all aspects of radioactive waste disposal to the public in general, NRWDI hosted an international webinar on the disposal management of radioactive waste.**
- **The webinar attracted more than 150 participants world-wide from countries such as Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Egypt, Finland, Germany, IAEA, Italy, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Poland, Rosatom, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Tanzania, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.**

CONCLUDING REMARKS

- **NRWDI remains unwavering committed to fulfilling the vast expectations of South Africans that radioactive waste can be safely managed in a manner that meets or exceeds all applicable regulatory standards and requirements for protecting the health, safety and security of our people and the environment, both now and in the future.**
- **Our commitment is underpinned by the Bill of Rights, Section 24(b) of the Constitution of the Republic of South that states:**
 - “Everyone has the right to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being; and to have the environment protected for the benefit of present and future generations through reasonable legislative and other measures”.**

THANK YOU.



@nrwdi



@nrwdi



info@nrwdi.org.za

www.nrwdi.org.za

NRWDI

NATIONAL RADIOACTIVE WASTE
DISPOSAL INSTITUTE



ANY QUESTIONS?