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Date:	15 December 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 DECEMBER 2021

Management has noted the surge in COVID-19 infections caused by the new Omicron variant and supports the tightening of restrictions on the movement of persons and gatherings. It is up to every one of us to play our part to ensure that the spread and effects of the virus is limited as much as possible. We must abide by the COVID-19 protocols by wearing masks, maintaining our social distance from other people and sanitizing regularly. In this regard I want to convey my sincerest condolences to those who have lost loved ones in this pandemic and my thoughts are with everyone who has suffered personal or financial hardship during this difficult time.

As a safety precautionary measure to contain the spread and infection rate of the COVID-19 virus, Vaalputs Management has therefore deemed it prudent and responsible to cancel the physical in-person Vaalputs Public Safety Information Forum (VPSIF) meeting that was scheduled to take place in December 2021.

Management has also assessed the option of conducting a virtual VPSIF meeting but due to the remoteness and the limited or non-existent Wi-Fi connectivity in the area, this option is not deemed feasible and viable because many of the communities surrounding Vaalputs will not be able to participate in such a virtual VPSIF meeting.

As an alternative to providing feedback on Vaalputs safety matters in either a physical or virtual meeting, Management opted to make the information available in hard copy format to all members of the Vaalputs Public Safety Information Forum meeting that was scheduled for December 2021. The information is attached for your perusal.

For those VPSIF members who may have access to internet facilities, the information is also available on the National Radioactive Waste Disposal Institute's website: www.nrwdi.org.za

Please feel free to contact Mr Marius Farmer: Manager Vaalputs or myself if you have any questions or you need any clarification and amplification on the attached information.

Board of Directors: Ms. Thandeka Zungu (Chairperson); Mr. Mogwera Khoathane (Deputy Chairperson); Dr. Kgaugelo Chiloane; Dr. Cornelius Ruiters; Ms. Leandra Mtshali; Ms. Lerato Makgae; Dr. Margaret Mkhosi-Motsaathebe (CEO) *
Mr. Justin Daniel (CFO)* (*Executive Directors).

Classification Open

2.

Thanking you in advance for your understanding and cooperation to fight the global health pandemic created by COVID-19 virus. In the words of our President "We are in this together, and it is by working together that we will prevail".

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Carolissen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'A'.

Mr. Alan Carolissen

Chief Operations Officer: NRWDI

VAAALPUTS PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION FORUM MEETING

FEEDBACK TO STAKEHOLDERS

DECEMBER 2021 IN PERSON MEETING CANCELLED

PRESENTATION CONTENTS



- **Appointment of new NRWDI CEO**
- **Vaalputs Operations**
- **Update on Vaalputs Nuclear Installation Licence Application by NRWDI**
- **COVID-19 Safety**
- **Concluding remarks**
- **Q&A**

APPOINTMENT OF NRWDI CEO

- **Dr Margaret Mkhosi-Mtsathebe has been appointed as the new CEO of NRWDI with effect from 1 November 2021.**
- **Dr Mkhosi-Mtsathebe is in possession of a doctoral degree in nuclear engineering, and throughout her career she has held various positions in the nuclear energy industry sector.**
- **She has broad and extensive experience in the nuclear and radiation fields, having held senior positions at various organisations. She brings with her over 15 years of relevant experience, and her most recent role has been that of Director at the Centre for Nuclear Safety and Security, at the National Nuclear Regulator (NNR).**



VAALPUTS OPERATIONS

- **Mr Marius Farmer has been appointed as Acting Manager: Vaalputs until further notice.**
- **One Pre-shipment inspection and the Annual Shipment Inspection were done at Necsa.**
- **The Annual Shipment Inspection for Koeberg was undertaken during 13-14 December 2021.**

VAALPUTS OPERATIONS

- **Three concrete waste shipments (2 x shipments with 5 containers and 1 with 4 containers) were received from Koeberg for disposal.**
- **One metal waste shipment (88 Containers) was received from Koeberg.**
- **Three concrete waste shipments (6 containers per shipment) were received from Necsa for disposal.**
- **All waste packages complied with the Vaalputs Waste Acceptance Criteria for disposal.**
- **All statutory training for staff are up to date.**

VAALPUTS OPERATIONS

- **All waste packages were covered with screened clay to comply to NIL-28 conditions.**
- **Statutory inspections were done on all statutory equipment. No non-compliances were identified.**
- **All quarterly environmental samples were taken as required by the Nuclear Licence conditions.**
- **All radiological measurements were done in accordance with Radiation Protection programme.**
- **The NNR conducted their security inspection on 11 November 2021. No findings were raised.**

UPDATE ON VAALPUTS NUCLEAR INSTALLATION LICENCE APPLICATION



- **NNR directed NRWDI to serve notice of updated PID's on those interested and affected parties upon which notice of the NIL application and PID was served in February 2021(done)**
- **The NNR notice was published in four newspapers circulating in the Vaalputs communities.**
- **The NNR notice was published in the Government Gazette of 26th November 2021.**
- **NRWDI provided proof to the NNR of notices served and NRWDI is in full compliance with NNR directive NTWP-DIR-0004.**
- **The Vaalputs site ownership has been endorsed by the Registrar of Deeds on 4 November.**

COVID-19 SAFETY



- **Wear a mask that covers you nose and mouth.**
- **Keep a safe distance from others.**
- **Stay away form closed or crowded spaces.**
- **Wash your hands regularly with soap or sanitizer.**
- **Stay home if you are not feeling well.**
- **Stay home if you have been in direct/close contact with someone who tested Covid-19 positive (isolate for 10 days and monitor if you develop any symptoms).**

STAY SAFE!

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”.**

NRWDI

NATIONAL RADIOACTIVE WASTE
DISPOSAL INSTITUTE



ANY QUESTIONS?

All questions to be directed to:

Alan.Carolissen@nrwdi.org.za

or

Cobus.Beyleveld@nrwdi.org.za

or

Marius.Farmer@necsa.co.za

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DISPOSAL INSTITUTE



THANK YOU.



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