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Date:	27 September 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 SEPTEMBER 2021

For the past weeks, we have seen a decrease in the number of daily new Covid-19 positive infections. This is an indication that we are near to exiting the third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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.

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.

Our overriding priority is the safety and health our workers and valued stakeholders. 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 September 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 September 2021. The information is attached for your perusal.

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

Classification	Open
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NRWDI-FRM-0001, Rev. 13

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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.

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
Acting CEO: NRWDI

VAAALPUTS PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION FORUM MEETING

FEEDBACK TO STAKEHOLDERS

SEPTEMBER 2021 IN PERSON MEETING CANCELLED

Alan Carolissen
Acting Chief Executive Officer

PRESENTATION CONTENTS



- **Vaalputs Operations**
- **Update on Vaalputs Nuclear Installation Licence Application by NRWDI**
- **Practical Arrangements for Borehole Disposal Facility (BDF)**
- **COVID-19 Safety**
- **Concluding remarks**
- **Q&A**



VAALPUTS OPERATIONS

- **Mr Marius Farmer has been appointed as Acting Manager: Vaalputs with effect of 1st January 2021 until further notice.**
- **One Administrative Officer and one Chief Operator were appointed at Vaalputs.**
- **Awaiting on the appointment of the Manager: Vaalputs, Chief Technical Officer, Section Head: Maintenance, RP Supervisor, Senior Operator and the Stakeholder Liaison Officer.**
- **One Pre-shipment inspection was done at Koeberg and none at Necsa for this quarter.**



VAALPUTS OPERATIONS

- **Three concrete waste shipments (5 containers per shipment) were received from Koeberg for disposal.**
- **Five 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.**
- **The annual inspection on the firefighting equipment **was** done by Boleng Fire Appliances.**
- **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 RP programme.**
- **The NNR conducted their quarterly compliance assurance inspection from 17-19 August 2021.**

UPDATE ON VAALPUTS NUCLEAR INSTALLATION LICENCE APPLICATION



- **The public participation process for NRWDI's Nuclear Installation License (NIL) application and Public Information Document (PID) was concluded on 30th March 2021.**
- **The NNR received a total of 71 comments on the PID from 11 respondents.**
- **None of the respondents opposed NRWDI's NIL application.**
- **NRWDI addressed all the public comments and updated the PID based on the comments received.**
- **The PID was also translated into Afrikaans.**
- **NRWDI is now waiting for the NNR's response and further direction for completion of the licencing process.**

PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR BOREHOLE DISPOSAL FACILITY (BDF)

- Ministerial approval was obtained on 14 June 2021 to enter into “Practical Arrangements between the IAEA and NRWDI on the cooperation in the area of the safe and secure Borehole Disposal of Disused Sealed Radioactive Sources”.
- Practical Arrangements was signed on the margins of General Conference on 22 September 2021.



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

THANK YOU.



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