

Necsa Public Safety Information Forum (PSIF)
Minutes of the meeting held on Saturday, 14 September 2024

Venue : Necsa Visitor Centre & MS Teams **Time** : 10:00 to 12:03
Chairperson : Mr Mareme Mathosa **Deputy Chairperson** : Mr Joel Mphahla

REGISTRATION (P = PRESENT ATTENDING PHYSICALLY / V = PRESENT ATTENDING VIRTUALLY / A = APOLOGY)

NAME AND SURNAME	ORGANISATION	DATE – 2024/25			
		22/06/2024 Hybrid	14/09/2024 Hybrid	23/11/2024 Hybrid	29/03/2025 Hybrid
Akortia, Cheryl	Necsa		P		
Baloyi, Breeze	Resident	P			
Boitumelo	Resident		P		
Boyede, Qhamkile	Necsa	A			
Chauke, Edga	Necsa	P			
Chetty Shaun	NTP	V			
Chinake, Alick	Necsa	V	V		
Damon, W	Resident		P		
Davis, Etienne	Necsa		V		
De Bruyn, Charles	Necsa		P		
Dlungwana, Thabani	Necsa	V			
Dubazana Sibusiso	Resident	V	V		
Hawadi, Precious	Necsa	V	P		
Hlophe, Sdumo	Resident	P			
Kekana, Mologadi	Necsa	V			
Komane, John	Necsa	P			
Lebo	Resident	V			
Lekwe, Gilbert	Necsa		P		
Lydia	Resident		P		
Mabena, Aubrey	Necsa	V	P		
Malaka, Sammy	Necsa	P			
Malatsi, A	Resident		P		
Makgae, Reuben	NNR	P			
Makhado, France	Resident		P		
Makhado, Mashudu	Resident		P		
Makhubo, Bongani	Necsa		V		
Maria	Resident		P		
Mathosa, Mareme	PSIF Chairperson	P	P		
Matshipi, Mario	Resident		P		
Matube, Ntebatse	Necsa	P	A		
Moagi, Boiki	Resident		P		
Mogafe Reuben	Necsa	V			
Mogorosi, Tshepiso	NNR		P		
Mogotlhong, Leonard	Necsa	V			
Moonsamy, Gino	NNR	V			
Moremi, Dinah	Resident		P		
Mosoeunyane, Sello	NNR	V			
Mosoetsa, Christine	Resident	V			
Mphahla, Joel	PSIF Deputy Chairperson	V			
Muremela, Ntshengedzeni	Resident		P		
Myoli, Ayanda	Necsa	V			
Newman, Jabez	Resident	P	P		
Ngwenya, Jabu	Resident		P		
Nkopane, Michael	Resident	P	P		
Nkopane, Vincent	Resident	P			
Pete Ashy	DMRE	V			
Phahlamohlaka, Teuns	Resident		V		

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Phega, Charmaine	Resident	P			
Pitsi, Thabo	Resident		P		
Ranamane, Paul	Resident	V			
Rampersadh, Pradish	Necsa		P		
Rennie-Kroon, Amelia	Necsa	P	A		
Rikhotso, Nto	Necsa	P	P		
Schutte, Petrus	Pelchem		P		
Selepe, Arnold	Resident	P	P		
Selome, Jackson	NTP	P			
Serero, Nolwazi	Madibeng Municipality		P		
Shezi, Sir	Resident		V		
Siko, Obakeng	Necsa		P		
Simelane, Sengiphile	Necsa	V			
Steynberg, L	Resident		P		
Susssa, K	Resident		P		
Tengimfene, Nikelwa	Necsa	P			
Thobakgale, Reitumetse	Resident		P		
Thobakgale, Johnny	Resident	P	P		
Tlabela, Tlou	Resident		P		
Tladi, Ernest	Resident	P			
Tselane, Thabo	NTP		P		
Tyabashe, Loyiso	Necsa	P	A		
Twala, Steward	Necsa		V		
Van Heerden, Eurika	Necsa	P			
Wentzel, Veronica	PSIF Secretariat	V	V		
Philemon	Resident	P			

ABBREVIATION	DESCRIPTION
(G)CEO	(Group) Chief Executive Officer
D&D	Decommission and Decontamination
DMRE	Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
DSI	Department of Science and Innovation
ECC	Emergency Control Centre
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IRP	Integrated Resource Plan
JOC	Joint Operations Centre
JPC	Joint Planning Committee
Mo-99	Molybdenum-99
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPR	Multi-Purpose Reactor
Necsa	South African Nuclear Energy Corporation SOC Limited
NERSA	National Energy Regulator of South Africa
NGO	Non-government Organisation
NLA	Necsa Learning Academy
NNR	National Nuclear Regulator
NPO	Non-profit Organisation
NRWDI	National Radiation Waste Disposal Institute
PSIF	Public Safety Information Forum
SAFARI-1	South African Fundamental Atomic Research Installation
SAPS	South African Police Service
SDR	Special drawing rate
SHEQ	Safety Health Environment and Quality
ToR	Terms of Reference

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TERM	CLARIFICATION / DEFINITION
Accident	An unintended event, including operating errors, equipment failures or other mishaps.
Disaster Management	A continuous and integrated multi-sectorial, multi-disciplinary process of planning and implementation of measures aimed at: a) Preventing or reducing the risk of disaster b) Limiting the severity or consequences of disasters c) Emergency preparedness d) Responding rapidly and effectively to disaster; and e) Post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation
Emergency	An event that requires taking prompt action, or the special regulation of persons or property, to limit the risk to people's health, safety or welfare, or to limit damage to property or the environment.
Emergency Plan	A document describing the organisational structures, its roles and responsibilities, concept of operation, means and principles for intervention during an emergency.
Evacuation	The rapid, temporary removal of people from the area to avoid or reduce short-term radiation exposure in the event of an emergency.
mSv	The millisievert (mSv) is a measure of the absorption of ionising radiation by the human body.
Public Notification	Notification to the public of an emergency and appropriate protective actions to be taken using the installed siren and loudspeaker system, local authorities, and Jacaranda FM and Motswedding.
Radiation	Energy released in the form of particles or electromagnetic waves during the breakdown of radioactive atoms.
Release	The controlled or accidental discharge of radioactive substances into the environment.
Sheltering	A protective action whereby members of the public stay indoors with windows and doors closed, to reduce their exposure to radioactive material in an emergency.

1. WELCOME AND OPENING

No.	Minute	Responsible
	The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting.	M Mathosa

2. SAFETY MINUTE

No.	Minute	Responsible
	Mr. Gilbert Lekwe conducted a safety briefing, emphasising the importance of staying active and maintaining good health, as health and safety are closely linked. He also stressed the need for everyone to sign the attendance register, as it would be crucial for accounting for all individuals in the event of an emergency.	G Lekwe

3. APOLOGIES

No.	Minute	Responsible
	Chairperson noted that the following individuals had sent their apologies for being unable to attend the meeting: 1. Mr Loyiso Tyabashe 2. Mr Ayanda Myoli 3. Ms Qhamkile Boyede 4. Mr Monde Mondli 5. Ms Mologadi Kekana 6. Ms Ntebatse Matube 7. Ms Amelia Rennie-Kroon	M Mathosa

4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

No.	Minute	Responsible
	The Chairperson asked if anyone wanted to add anything on the Agenda, under "General". There was no response so the agenda was adopted with no adjustments.	M Mathosa

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5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

No.	Minute	Responsible
	No corrections were made on the minutes.	M Mathosa
	Mr Sammy Malaka supported the adoption of the minutes and Ms Precious Hawadi seconded.	

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

No.	Minute	Responsible
	6.1 Meeting Proposed by Madibeng Municipality Ms Serero mentioned that a meeting with the Necsa GCEO and relevant stakeholders has been requested to further discuss downstream nuclear biotechnology development. She emphasised that it is important to have a clear plan in place and is looking forward to following up on this matter during the requested meeting. 6.2 Distribution of PSIF Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson Nomination Forms Dr Tengimfene mentioned that the nomination forms would also be distributed via the PSIF database.	M Mathosa

7. NECSA GROUP UPDATE & NECSA PUBLIC SAFETY FEEDBACK

[Presented by Ms P. Hawadi: GE of Financial Capital on behalf of Mr Loyiso Tyabashe: GCEO / Mr S. Malaka: GM of General Manager Reactor Operations (Safari) on behalf of Mr A. Myoli: GE of Nuclear Operations / Ms C. Akortia: SM of Waste Management / Mr T. Tselane: GMD of NTP Radioisotopes / Mr P. Schutte: MD of Pelchem / Ms E. Van Heerden: Chief Scientist of Environmental Management on behalf of Ms Q. Boyede: GE of Strategy and Business Enablement]

No.	Minutes	Responsible Person
6.1	Necsa Presentation covered the following key topics: - Compliance with public safety requirements; - Industry and business update; - Nuclear Operations: SAFARI-1 Operational Performance, Multi-Purpose Reactor - Thabana Pipestore; - NTP Update: Performance to display safety integration into operations; - Pelchem: Nature of business and key focus areas; - Safety and Security: Community Services, 2024 Scheduled emergency exercises, Radiological pathways that are monitored, Public Dose, Water quality: Crocodile River – Biomonitoring Envass/Necsa Analysis, Land use Census and Water Use License Application (WULA) to DWS in terms of Section 21 of National Water Act (ACT 36 OF 1998) – On-going.	P Hawadi S Malaka C Akortia T Tselane P Schutte E Van Heerden
6.2	<u>Questions/Discussions:</u> <u>Question/Comment: 1</u> Ms Nolwazi Serero from Madibeng Municipality Expressed concerns regarding the Nuclear Biotechnology Value Chain. It is the abstract nature of the nuclear biotechnology value chain. She raised the importance of integrating biotechnology within the value chain, particularly considering the context of smart cities. There is a need to ensure that entities along the value chain are located to the Madibeng municipality to facilitate better integration and development. Ms Serero further mentioned that as the Municipality, they are facing challenges regarding such queries from skilled professionals. She further highlighted that such decisions, especially concerning land use and proximity to infrastructure, are complex and difficult for municipality to deal with independently. She also mentioned that there is a need for collaboration on these decisions, particularly around the development of nuclear biotechnology.	M Mathosa

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	On the issue of the commercial potential of the nuclear biotechnology sector and the historical context of Necsa which has been in place since 1961, Ms Serero pointed out that, despite all these, the true integration of the organisation into communities has not yet fully materialised. Furthermore, Ms Serero challenged the collective leadership, encouraging them to focus on downstream development related to nuclear energy and especially with the energy mix being approved; this presents a great opportunity for Madibeng municipality to leverage it as an economic stimulus. Ms Serero mentioned that a meeting with the Necsa GCEO and relevant stakeholders has been requested to further discuss downstream nuclear biotechnology development. She emphasised that it is important to have a clear plan in place and is looking forward to following up on this matter during the requested meeting. Question/Comment: 2 Ms Serero raised a concern around the issue of community engagement. She mentioned that eight community groups were invited, many of whom were attending for the first time, which indicates the need for continued engagement and education to demystify nuclear technology across all communities. Ms Serero further highlighted that even though the municipality is underfunded, it is working to adopt new technology to improve public safety and response measures. She highlighted the importance of partnerships, particularly public-private collaborations, to address these concerns. Furthermore, Ms Serero raised concerns about off-grid communities that lack strong network connectivity, which complicates their ability to respond to emergencies or disasters. Specific concerns were raised about communities in proximity to nuclear facilities, especially on the Madibeng side. While metro areas are better covered, certain regions, such as Madibeng require stronger attention in terms of connectivity and disaster preparedness. In terms of strengthening relations, Ms Serero noted the need to improve relationships between the Madibeng community and Necsa, aiming to unlock greater economic opportunities. She expressed concern that, despite years of Necsa work in research and development, the local community has not felt the full benefits of these advancements, particularly in terms of economic inclusion and development. Furthermore, Ms Serero emphasised the importance of introducing and expanding STEM programmes in local schools and communities. She urged for local community members to be well prepared through STEM education, so they can meaningfully participate in the nuclear biotechnology value chain. According to Ms Serero, the goal is to equip the next generation with the necessary skills to contribute to and benefit from these industries. Response: In response to Ms. Serero, the Chairperson noted that many of the concerns raised by Ms. Serero are beyond the scope of the PSIF platform and suggested that these issues could be addressed during the proposed meeting with Necsa leadership. Ms. Hawadi agreed with the Chairperson's statement and added that, regarding community engagement, Necsa prioritises engaging with local communities where possible, before extending efforts to other areas. She highlighted that Necsa hosted a supplier day on December 12, 2023, where available opportunities were showcased. She concluded by stating that the remaining issues raised by Ms. Serero would be discussed in the upcoming proposed meeting. Question/Comment: 3 Teuns Phahlamohlaka pointed out that during Necsa's presentation on ambulance services and emergency issues; only Madibeng was mentioned, with no reference to Tshwane. He inquired whether both municipalities are included in these services. Regarding the number of emergency service exercises, Mr. Phahlamohlaka asked if there is a specific requirement for how many exercises must be conducted annually, and if so, what the minimum and	
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	maximum numbers are. He also asked whether these exercises involve the PSIF Forum and if they are subject to audits. Additionally, Mr. Phahlamohlaka referenced a previous meeting where the Necsa Group CEO emphasised that employees are the organisation's most valuable asset. However, he noted that Wellness Day was the only example given of employee appreciation and asked if there are other ways in which employees are recognized and valued. Response: Mr. Thabo Tselane began by emphasising the need to stay focused on relevant topics during PSIF meetings, noting that discussions often veer into issues unrelated to the forum's objectives. He stressed that PSIF is regulated by specific rules governing public safety and encouraged all attendees to familiarise themselves with these regulations to ensure discussions remain on-topic. Addressing unrelated issues, Mr. Tselane clarified that connectivity matters are not within Necsa's mandate, as the organisation is not responsible for electricity generation, production, or transmission. He advised that such concerns should be directed to Eskom or the Department of Energy and Electricity, as Necsa's reactor is used only for neutron production and other scientific purposes. On the topic of emergency exercises, Mr. Charles De Bruyn responded that Necsa operates between two municipalities: Madibeng and Tshwane. Six emergency exercises are conducted annually—three radiological, two chemical, and one security exercise. The next exercise involved off-site activities, and the City of Tshwane will be involved as the intervening organisation for a chemical exercise on the 104. The full-scale exercise originally scheduled for 20th September was moved to 25th October 2024. A radiological exercise with Madibeng is planned for November 2024. This directive comes from the DMRE, which has instructed Necsa to collaborate more with both municipalities. Regarding ambulance services, Mr. De Bruyn explained that Necsa responds to Madibeng's requests for assistance in situations like house fires. While Necsa assists with extinguishing fires, Madibeng is responsible for providing manpower. For vehicle accidents and ambulance calls, Necsa responds if personnel are available. Question/Comment: 3 Mr Mashudu Makhado from a project called Soulbent, asked that since it was mentioned that Necsa monitors Hartbeespoort Dam, Crocodile River and others, are they also monitoring the Moganwe Spruit, which runs from Atteridgeville pass Necsa before entering the Hartbeespoort Dam? He noted that the river is highly polluted. He also asked if there is any App that Necsa uses to monitor and if there is any platform where this is reported. Response: Dr Van Heerden responded confirming that monitoring of the Moganwe Spruit is actively conducted. Monitoring occurs both upstream, before tributary streams join and downstream after the exiled stream merges with the Moganwe Spruit. She noted that the Moganwe Spruit is less polluted than the Crocodile River, with an Integrated Habitat Assessment System (IHAS) score of Class D (poor water quality) compared to the more polluted Crocodile River. However, similar issues are observed, particularly upstream where non-functional sewage plants are contributing to pollution. Despite being less polluted, the Moganwe Spruit still faces contamination issues. The results of the monitoring are reported to DWS and NNR. Question/Comment: 4 Mr S. Thobagale, the owner of a robotics company, expressed his gratitude to Necsa, particularly to Mr. Gilbert Lekwe, for the valuable collaboration opportunity provided to his company this year. He highlighted the significance of educating 34-orphaned children from Atteridgeville, whom he brought to Necsa. He added that he looks forward to future educational and developmental initiatives.	
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	Question/Comment 5 A resident inquired about the potential health and safety risks, including possible diseases, arising from the ongoing sewage issue. She asked what specific dangers the community might face while the situation is being resolved and what measures can be taken to mitigate the risk of any outbreaks in the meantime. Response: Dr. Van Heerden explained that, to her knowledge, all residents of Madibeng and Hartbeespoort who receive water from the Hartbeespoort Dam have their water treated through a purification plant, ensuring it poses no risk to the community. However, she advised that if anyone is drinking water directly from the Moganwe Spruit or the Crocodile River, it is best to boil it before use. For residents in areas like Schoemansville and Hartbeespoort, where water is processed through a purification plant, the water is safe to drink. Necsa monitors the drinking water from both Kosmos and Schoemansville. She added that groundwater sources are generally safe, though it depends on the specific area, with most groundwater around the Necsa area being drinkable.	
6.3	Ms Cheryl Akortia delivered the Thabana Pipestore Presentation covering the following areas: • Facility overview; • Facility design; and • Storage process	C. Akortia
6.4	Questions/Discussions: There were no discussions or questions after the Thabana Pipestore update.	M Mathosa

8. NNR UPDATE (Mr Wesley Damon, Acting Manager: Inspectorate - NTWP, NNR)

No.	Minute	Responsible
7.1	Mr. Wesley Damon gave a presentation which covered the following key areas: • Inspections conducted; • Environmental sampling; • Radiological exposure; and • Reviews and assessments conducted.	W Damon
7.2	Questions/Discussions: There were no discussions or questions after the NNR update.	M Mathosa
7.3	PSIF Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson Nominations Update: Tshepiso Mogorosi provided an update on the nomination and appointment process for the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the PSIF. He began by apologising for the delay in facilitating the process and expressed gratitude to the community for ensuring that PSIF meetings took place as scheduled. Mr. Mogorosi emphasised that, according to the National Nuclear Regulation Act, the appointment of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the PSIF is the responsibility of the NNR board. He stressed that the primary focus is on public safety and ensuring regular communication regarding the safe operations of all Necsa facilities. He informed the attendees that nomination forms would be available for anyone wishing to nominate a candidate. He also provided details about the public notice, which outlines the nomination process, eligibility, and other relevant information. Nominations are open immediately and will close on October	T Mogorosi

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	31, 2024. Public members are encouraged to submit nominations for the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Pelindaba Safety Information Forum (PSIF). Mr. Mogorosi acknowledged that many attendees are familiar with similar nomination processes, such as elections for boards of directors or community forums. The procedure requires the nominee to accept the nomination, sign the form, and attach a certified copy of their ID and a recent CV. These documents must be submitted by October 31, 2024, via email to gmoonsamy@nnr.co.za or by post to PO Box 7106, Centurion, 0046. For inquiries, the public can call 012 674 7109 or 071 330 3491 during business hours. He concluded by thanking the outgoing Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson for their leadership over the past two years, noting that they are eligible for re-nomination if they choose. Mr. Mogorosi also mentioned that, as per regulations, the nomination notices would be advertised in local newspapers and posted on the NNR website, www.nnr.co.za, where nomination forms can be downloaded.	
7.3	<u>Discussions</u> To support Mr Mogorosi, Dr. Tengimfene added that the nomination forms would also be distributed via the database. She explained that the PSIF Chairperson's role begins before the Saturday meeting, as they meet with the secretariat to review the agenda and lead the meeting's structure. She expressed her sincere thanks to the Chairperson for his dedication and technical expertise. In response, the Chairperson thanked Dr. Tengimfene for her kind words, noting that the experience had been eye opening and a privilege. He also thanked the public for their confidence in him and the Deputy Chairperson and expressed hope that they had met expectations, acknowledging that there is always room for improvement. Mr. Lekwe then invited everyone to enjoy the refreshments provided.	M Mathosa

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

No.	Minute	Responsible
	Date of the next meeting: - 23 November 2024	M Mathosa

10. CLOSURE

No.	Minute	Responsible
	The Chairperson thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting. The meeting concluded at 12h03.	M Mathosa

Chairperson: _____

Seconded: _____

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____