

11 March 2013

Dear Stakeholder

**PROPOSED EXTENSION OF ASH DISPOSAL FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE
AT CAMDEN POWER STATION
(DEA REF NO: 12/12/20/2300)**

- **DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (DEIR) AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT; AND**
- **AN INVITATION TO A PUBLIC MEETING TO PRESENT THE ENVIRONMENTAL FINDINGS AS PER THE DEIR**

An integrated Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Waste Management License Application (WMLA) are being undertaken for the proposed extension of ash disposal facilities at Camden Power Station near Ermelo in Mpumalanga.

Recent studies have revealed that the current ash disposal facility will not be able to accommodate all the ash for the remaining operational life of the Camden power station, which will end in 2033. It was determined that the station would require an additional ash disposal facility by 2014, and this investigation is for undertaking the required environmental investigation and authorisation processes for this proposal.

The Final Scoping Report (FSR) and the associated Plan of Study for the EIA were submitted to the competent authority, the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) and DEA accepted the FSR and Plan of Study for the EIA in a letter dated 7 November 2011. Specialist studies were conducted as per the Plan of Study for the EIA.

The findings of these studies have been integrated and a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) and an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) are being developed. The DEIR and EMPr will provide a preferred site for the proposed ash facilities as per the findings of the specialists. The EMPr will detail proposed mitigation measures to ensure that limited harm is done to the environment with regards to the construction and operation of the ash disposal facilities.

**PUBLIC REVIEW OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FROM
THURSDAY 14 MARCH TO WEDNESDAY 17 APRIL 2013**

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) has been prepared in terms of the EIA Regulations as published in GNR 543 - 546 – Government Gazette No. 33306 of 2010. In accordance with the EIA Regulations, the purpose of the DEIR is to verify that issues raised during the process were considered and to assist the competent authority to make an informed decision.

The DEIR will be available for public review from **Thursday 14 March to Wednesday 17 April 2013**. Thereafter, the report will be updated into the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (FEIR) and submitted to the DEA. The DEA will, in consultation with the commenting authorities, consider the findings and recommendations and either grant environmental authorisation or not.

The DEIR will be available at the public places listed in the table below. The report is also available for download from the Eskom and Zitholele websites (www.eskom.co.za/eia and www.zitholele.co.za/camden-power-station).

As mentioned above, the report will be available for review from **Thursday 14 March to Wednesday 17 April 2013** at the following locations:

Venue	Address	Contact
Printed Copies		
Ermelo Public Library	Cnr Church and Smuts Street Civic Centre	Mr Stanley Dondolo 017 801-3621
Camden Power Station	N2 on-route Piet Retief, Reception	Ms Thandiwe Mzoyi 017 827 8000
Electronic Copies		
Eskom	www.eskom.co.za/eia /Camden ash disposal facilities	Mr Tobile Bokwe 011 800 2303
Zitholele Consulting	www.zitholele.co.za/camden-power-station	Mr Jan-Dirk Brak 011 207 8403
	Available on CD on request via email from Zitholele Consulting	janb@zitholele.co.za

You can comment on the DEIR or the summary in any of the following ways:

- By completing the comment sheet that is available with the DEIR.
- By writing a letter.
- By email or telephone to the public participation office.
- By attending the public meeting (see below).

INVITATION TO PUBLIC MEETINGS ON TUESDAY 9 APRIL 2013

The purpose of the public meeting will be to share the findings of the specialist studies and to provide an opportunity for interested and affected parties to comment and raise issues on the DEIR. Please fill in the attached form to register for the meeting and return it **on or before Wednesday 3 April 2013**. This will allow us to make the necessary arrangements.

The details of the public meeting are:

Date: Tuesday 9 April 2013

Times: 10:00 to 12:00

Or

18:00 to 20:00

Venue: Indawo Game Reserve (GPS: S 26°35.661, E 030°06.960)

(on the N2 between Ermelo and Piet Retief, about 3 km south-east of the Camden Power Station)

Should you wish to receive further information regarding this study, please contact Zitholele Consulting on Tel: 011-207-8403 or e-mail: janb@zitholele.co.za.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Snr Public Participation Practitioner