

Ms Anabela Lemos
JA! Justica Ambiental
Friends of the Earth
MOZAMBIQUE

Date:
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Enquiries:

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Dear Ms Lemos

RESPONSE TO NGOS ON THE MPHANDA NKUWA PROJECT

The issues you raise concerning the proposed Mphanda Nkuwa Dam and hydroelectric power project in Mozambique are important ones. These issues should be addressed during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, which is currently under way in Mozambique, with an estimated completion in 2011.

Eskom has been informed that a number of national and international NGOs are participating in the public participation process being undertaken by the Mphanda Nkuwa Hydro Power Project.

The EIA is being carried out in line with Mozambican legal requirements, which are very similar to those in South Africa. According to information available to us, the EIA will also comply with international best practice guidelines, namely, those of the International Finance Corporation, the World Commission on Dams, and the International Hydropower Association.

Eskom regards environmental issues as important, and we strive constantly to mitigate our environmental impact. Eskom is investigating the possibility of purchasing power from the Mphanda Nkuwa Hydro Project, so adding to its "green power" generated from renewable energy sources. The Southern African Power Pool, of which Eskom is a member, is pursuing all possible electricity supply options to the SADC countries. The aim is to meet the supply challenge facing the region and to grow the regional economy using the different energy resources available in each of the SADC member countries.

Mozambique is blessed with abundant hydro resources, and should development be done responsibly, the entire region would benefit.

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Eskom is pursuing its own renewable energy projects, including wind and solar. However, all energy options are considered, based on their different opportunities and constraints from an environmental, social, technical, and economic point of view.

Yours sincerely



Brian Dames
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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