

SUBMISSION ON ESKOM'S APPLICATION FOR SUSPENSION, ALTERNATIVE LIMITS AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE MINIMUM EMISSION STANDARDS FOR 10 OF ITS COAL-FIRED POWER STATIONS

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Sent: 04 February 2019 02:57 PM

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Good day Ms. Marissa Botha

Mpumalanga Agriculture is the provincial affiliate from Agri SA in the Mpumalanga Province. We represent a substantial number of commercial farmers in Mpumalanga.

From our side we strongly oppose the application by Eskom for the suspension, alternative limits and/or the postponement of compliance with the minimum emission standards for 10 of its coal-fired power stations.

A large number of our members have to produce food, in a sustainable way, next to these power stations. They will not be in the position to do it much longer except if Eskom reduce the air pollution dramatically. These producers also have to comply with certain health regulations set by local as well as international markets.

Eskom argue that they do not have the necessary funds available to put in place modern equipment to enable them to comply. New and modern equipment may assist to reach the prescriptive measures more comfortable but we believe that with the current facilities and equipment Eskom can also comply if management on all levels take responsibility. We understand that in a lot of cases the lack of following a proper maintenance program, normally led to ash disposals of extreme levels.

By continuing with the current status quo and allow Eskom not to comply with minimum emission standards, the damage to the agriculture sector in Mpumalanga will become irreversible and the negative effect of that on food security in South Africa will be enormous. Currently Mpumalanga and parts of the Eastern Free State are the most stable areas for maize and soya bean production, in regards average rainfall, in the country. In a drought year, like the current one, our province most probably will provide the biggest part of the national maize and soya crop in SA. Imagine the disaster if Mpumalanga was not in the position to plant maize because of air pollution that is out of control.

Please do not ignore this objection by Mpumalanga Agriculture.

Kind regards.

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4 February 2019

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Attention: Marissa Botha

POSTPONEMENT OF THE MES COMPLIANCE TIMEFRAME FOR ESKOM'S COAL FIRED POWER STATIONS

The meeting of 29 November 2018 at Amersfoort refers

***We as agricultural community cannot support or endorse the application from Eskom for the
postponement of the minimum emission standards for Majuba power station.***

Our concerns were raised and motivated at the meeting and we also take note that it is included in the preliminary minutes of the meeting.

Over and above the concerns in the minutes, we also want to put the focus on the following specific issues:

- The ash from Majuba power station is the major problem and concern.
 - The ash is blown over a very big area and is affecting the health of people and animals as well as lifespan of infrastructure.
 - The full negative economic impact has not been taken into account by Eskom. The economic impact on the affected parties has been completely ignored by Eskom.
 - The farming community have offered a long term environmentally friendly solution for the ash problem, but it has been completely ignored by Eskom.

- The problem at Majuba power station is the poor management of the ash dams. This same issue have been discussed several times over the past 20 years and to date the problem is not solved yet.
- Eskom committed that the problem will be solved by April 2019 – but this needs to be seen, especially with our experience and all the promises on this issue for the last 20 years.

You are welcome to contact us anytime.

Yours truly



Coenie Dafel

Voorsitter: Amersfoort Distriks Landbou Unie