



MEDIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Gino Moonsamy
t. (012) 674 7111 m.082 535 5365
e.gmoonsamy@nnr.co.za
w. www.nnr.co.za

Dear Editor

NATIONAL NUCLEAR REGULATOR (NNR) DIRECTED NECSA TO CEASE PRODUCTION IN NTP RADIOCHEMICALS COMPLEX.

- 23 November 2017, Centurion, Pretoria, South Africa –

On 17 November 2017, the NNR directed Necsa to cease production operations at the NTP Radiochemicals Complex and to conduct an investigation into the management of safety within the facility. This was in response to concerns emanating from Necsa's failure to adhere to safety requirements and violations of established procedures.

This directive follows on an earlier directive issued to Necsa on 1 November 2017, to cease operations within parts of the facility. In the same directive, the NNR cautioned Necsa that failure to take appropriate action would result in further suspension of activities in the facility. At this stage the NNR can confirm that notwithstanding the violations indicated above, there were no abnormal releases from the facility and hence no concerns relating to public safety.

"Operations at the facility will not resume until the NNR is fully satisfied that Necsa has taken appropriate actions to correct the non-compliances, ensure safe operations of the facility and compliance to regulatory requirements." stated NNR's Chief Executive Officer, Dr Bismark Tyobeka.

The NNR's investigation into the matter continues.

Should you require more information, please contact me.

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Issued by:

Gino **MOONSAMY**

Manager: Communications & Stakeholder Relations

National Nuclear Regulator

Eco Glades 2 Block G, 420 Witch Hazel Avenue, Highveld, Centurion. South Africa | PO Box 7106
Centurion, 0046

t: +27 (0) 12 674 7111 | f: +27 (0) 86 588 4450 | e: gmoonsamy@nnr.co.za | w: www.nnr.co.za

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About the National Nuclear Regulator

The National Nuclear Regulator (NNR) is a public entity which is established and governed in terms of Section 3 of the National Nuclear Regulator Act, (Act No 47 of 1999). The fundamental objective of the NNR is to provide for the protection of persons, property and the environment against nuclear damage through the establishment of safety standards and regulatory practices suited for South Africa. To this end, the NNR provides oversight and assurance that activities related to the peaceful use of nuclear energy in South Africa are carried out in a safe manner and in accordance with international principles and best practices.