

Did you know the government is planning to extend the life of the Koeberg nuclear power plant for another 20 years?



- You have a constitutional right to be properly informed and consulted.

Why is the public consultation process inadequate so far?

- The initial comment period of the proposed LTO over December and January ensured that many people were not aware of it.
- No transport has been offered to hearing venues.
- The link on the NNR website to the Safety Case Report is not working, limiting meaningful engagement.

Important Information about the Nuclear Power Plant at Koeberg:

- Koeberg was designed to run for 40 years, 1984- 2024.
- In May 2021, Eskom applied to the National Nuclear Regulator (NNR) to extend the life of Koeberg for 20 years beyond its design life.
- A safety case was made public in Jan 2023, but was heavily redacted (information removed).
- In March 2023 civil society objected to the call to comment on the life extension due to lack of transparency from Eskom.
- A PAIA process by Save Bantamsklip resulted in the release of the unredacted safety case in Sept 2023.
- In Nov 2023, the NNR announced public hearings for Feb 2024 and a deadline of 15 Jan 2024 for written submissions. Civil society pushed back.
- In Jan 2024, the NNR announced that written submissions will be accepted until 24 hours prior to hearings, that registration for oral submissions will be accepted until 72 hours before hearings, and that further hearings will be arranged in May/ June 2024.

Some suggestions of points to raise in submissions (ideally in your own words):

- This current consultation process is inadequate.
- In 2022, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) found 14 safety issues at Koeberg and recommended that these be rectified.
- Concerning incidents at Koeberg, include a loose bolt left in a generator unit, contamination of workers with radioactive isotope cobalt-58, and senior management leaving or being suspended.
- Inspections in 2018 discovered serious deficiencies, including a 110m crack in the housing of reactor Unit 2. Repairs will be expensive. A test for radioactive leakages is only scheduled for 2025.
- Fukushima and Chernobyl illustrated that wind can carry radioactive dust as far as 50km. There is not a plan in place to evacuate anyone further than 16km from Koeberg, this is insufficient.

- Written comments can be emailed to koebergLTO@nnr.co.za and should be addressed to Peter Bester, Programme Manager: Nuclear Power Plants, National Nuclear Regulator (NNR).
- The final public hearing date (this round) is 17 February 2024 09:30-16:00 in Athlone

For more information: <https://nnr.co.za/public-information/public-hearings/>