



**Mr Brad Ross-Jones**

Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd

Deputy Information Officer - Generation

By email: [PAIA@eskom.co.za](mailto:PAIA@eskom.co.za)

Our ref: CER/NL/MS  
Date: 15 December 2021

Dear Sir

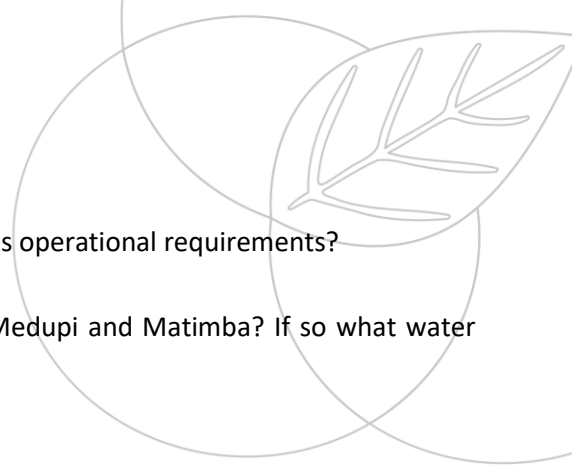
**THE PROPOSED MOKOLO CROCODILE WATER AUGMENTATION PROJECT PHASE 2A – REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON MEDUPI AND MATIMBA COAL PLANT AND RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE WATER REQUIREMENTS**

1. We act on behalf of Earthlife Africa<sup>1</sup> (“our client”). Our client has a particular interest in the proposed Mokolo Crocodile River (West) Water Augmentation Project (Phase 2A) (“MCWAP-2”) as well as Eskom’s coal plant facilities in the Waterberg region in Limpopo.
2. We note that the MCWAP-2 project is predominantly envisaged to augment water supplies to Eskom’s Medupi and Matimba power stations, in addition to a number of other proposed coal projects for the area – some of which have not materialised (for example, the Thabametsi coal-fired power station).
3. Our client respectfully requests that Eskom respond, in writing, to the following issues:
  - 3.1. We refer to the pre-feasibility study for MCWAP of September 2010, which states that water requirement scenarios were compiled in respect of Matimba Power Station (FBC), Medupi Power Station (FGD), three (3) new power stations (FGD) and coal supply to five (5) power stations.<sup>2</sup> What were the envisaged water scenarios for Medupi and Matimba as per the 2010 feasibility study and what are the current and projected 5 year water requirements of each facility and associated infrastructure? What is the current water consumption per unit at Medupi?
  - 3.2. What is Eskom’s current expenditure on the MCWAP-2 project, and estimated expenditure on the MCWAP-2 project for the duration of the project and annually?
  - 3.3. What is the current status of Eskom’s plans to abate sulphur dioxide (“SO<sub>2</sub>”) emissions at Medupi? What technology options are currently being considered for SO<sub>2</sub> abatement and what are the water requirements of the proposed SO<sub>2</sub> abatement technology options? Do these options require water over and above what is already available in the area?

<sup>1</sup> Earthlife Africa is non-profit organisation that seeks a better life for all people without exploiting other people or degrading their environment, by encouraging and supporting individuals, businesses and industries to reduce pollution, minimise waste and protect our natural resources.

<sup>2</sup> Department of Water and Sanitation ‘Mokolo Crocodile (West) Water Augmentation Project (MCWAP) Feasibility Study: Technical Module’ Report Number: P RSA D000/00/8309. The report can be accessed here [Supporting Report 12.pdf \(dws.gov.za\)](#).

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3.4. What are the current water supply sources for Medupi and Matimba's operational requirements?

3.5. Have alternative water sources to MCWAP-2 been considered for Medupi and Matimba? If so what water sources have been considered?

3.6. How many units of Medupi are currently online?

4. In addition to the questions listed above, please find enclosed herewith a completed Form A for request for access to records in terms of the Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000 (PAIA).
5. In accordance with section 25 of PAIA, you are obliged to respond to this request within 30 days of receipt. A decision in this matter is therefore due on **14 January 2022.**
6. Kindly advise if you require payment of the request fee, and we will ensure that payment is made as soon as possible.
7. We ask that you kindly acknowledge receipt of this request.
8. We look forward to your response on and by no later than **Monday, 14 January 2022.**

Yours faithfully

**CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS**

per:

PP

**Michelle Sithole**

**Attorney**

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