

REMEDIATION PROJECTS IN SOUTH AFRICA

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By:

Elna Fourie

Manager: Decommissioning Services

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Necsa's Nuclear History

The South African nuclear programme started as early as **1948** and focussed on Research and Development in the NFC. The Necsa site soon developed into a Multi-Facility Nuclear Site.

There was no waste disposal site available at the early stages and it was decided to use a specific hilly part known as Thabana on the Necsa site to deposit waste until it can be treated and managed in the future

Thabana

Thabana, the radioactive waste management facility at Pelindaba, stores radioactive waste generated since the commissioning of the SAFARI-1 reactor in 1965 as well as some of the waste from the nuclear weapons program in the early 1980s.

Since 1976, a total of 8 disposal trenches were excavated for the disposal of low level solid waste, while appropriate facilities were also erected to store intermediate level radioactive waste. The operation of Thabana was terminated in 1989.

Next phase: REMEDIATION

View of Thabana



ENVIRONET

Environet

Environet, which is managed through the IAEA, is offering excellent opportunities for various countries to share remediation experience and in cooperation with Argonne Laboratories in Illinois USA they offer a course on remediation.

They are also planning additional workshops and has offered to assist South Africa with expert advice on planning the Remediation for Thabana.

It is anticipated that an IAEA consultants meeting will be held in South Africa in 2010.

Necsa and Environet

Necsa is currently developing a remediation strategy for Thabana. The National Nuclear Regulator has requested such a strategy to be submitted before the end of April 2010.

Necsa is also assisting the uranium mines in performing Public Dose Assessments and is now intending to assist the mines in the compilation of remediation strategies and plans.

Necsa has well educated personnel that will benefit in undergoing Remediation training managed by the IAEA (Environet) in order to equip them for assistance to the uranium mines.

Necsa, Environet and Southern Africa

Necsa is currently offering services to neighbouring countries in performing radiological surveys and other radiation protection services as well as performing Public Dose assessments.

Necsa is planning to expedite the services to include services such as environmental remediation to countries such as Namibia and Botswana.

With the help of Environet Necsa believe it is possible to provide a meaningful service to neighbouring African countries.





Thank You!!!