

To: WSP PP Office
Attn: Public Participation Office
Email: Nuclear-PP-EIA@wsp.com
Project No: ZA0058322.7774
Date: 17 April 2026

**RE: FORMAL OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED ESKOM NUCLEAR POWER STATION
(BANTOMSKLIP) – PROJECT NO: ZA0058322.7774**

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Chairperson of the Baardskeedersbos Homeowners Association (BBHOA), a registered Interested & Affected Party (I&AP). On behalf of our members and as a deeply concerned resident of this region, we wish to record our strong objection to the proposed Eskom Nuclear Power Plant at Bantomsklip.

Having reviewed the Background Information Document (BID), the BBHOA formally requests that this project be rejected in its entirety. Our objection is based on the following material considerations:

1. Irreversible Ecological Disruption to a Global Biodiversity Hotspot

The proposed site is located within a critical and threatened marine biodiversity corridor. As the "Marine Big Five" capital, this region is a cornerstone of South Africa's natural heritage. The industrialisation of a Marine Protected Area for nuclear power is ecologically indefensible and creates an irreconcilable conflict with the region's protected status. We are particularly alarmed by the proposed warm-water discharges into the local marine environment. Thermal pollution of this magnitude poses a serious threat to the delicate cold-water aquatic ecosystems, potentially impacting the local fishing industry and violating the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act and the Integrated Coastal Management Act.

2. Erosion of Rural Character, Tourism, and Agriculture

The Bantomsklip region relies on its "sense of place" to sustain its two primary economic drivers: eco-tourism and agriculture. The industrialisation of this landscape through years of heavy construction, increased heavy-vehicle traffic, and permanent noise pollution will decimate the local tourism brand. This development stands in direct contradiction to the Western Cape Provincial Spatial Development Framework (PSDF), which prioritises the protection of scenic landscapes and the rural economy.

3. Infrastructure Strain and Transmission Uncertainty

The BID fails to provide clarity on the alignment of high-voltage transmission lines. This lack of transparency creates significant "planning blight," threatening the viability of farming operations and devaluing village properties. Furthermore, our local road networks and municipal services are not equipped to handle the influx of a massive construction workforce. This strain on local infrastructure will be borne by the residents, not the applicant.

4. Eskom's Track Record and Management Failure

The BBHOA holds no confidence in Eskom's ability to execute a "Mega-Project" of this sensitivity. Given the catastrophic cost overruns, design flaws, and environmental non-compliance witnessed at the Medupi and Kusile Power Stations, the potential for a similar failure at Bantamsklip is a material risk we cannot accept. A nuclear facility requires a standard of institutional excellence that Eskom has repeatedly failed to demonstrate.

The BBHOA views this project as an existential threat to our environment, our economy, and our quality of life. We demand that the applicant and the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) reject this application and cease further pursuit of the Bantamsklip site.

Sincerely,

BBHOA Chairperson