

Moody International South Africa Wins Two Key Contracts With Eskom



Pictured : Mr. Siphon Tjabadi (General Manager, Quality Management); Visham Bhimsan (Moody International Country Manager RSA and Regional Technical Inspection Services Business Unit Manager: Africa)

The South African state owned electricity provider, Eskom, has awarded two five-year renewable contracts for its new-build power plants, to Moody International South Africa. The global inspection contract, where Moody International South Africa is the contract holder, will see various Technical Inspection Services (TIS) opportunities for the Moody International Group. The local inspection contract, jointly held with a South African empowerment company, Sebata Institute, will focus primarily on inspection and audit activities within South Africa.

Eskom has embarked on an ambitious new-build program expected to run for seventeen years. The Medupi Power Station will be the fourth largest coal fired station in the world when commissioned between 2012 and 2015. Moody International South Africa has been appointed as the Approved Inspection Authority (AIA) and client inspection body for the power station. The current capital cost of the project is estimated at USD ten billion. This is the first new build power station in South Africa in over twenty years.

The second power station, Kusile, is also underway and will be fully commissioned by 2017. It will replace Medupi as the fourth largest coal fired station in the world upon completion. Eskom has also began work on pumped storage schemes and peaking stations to supplement the expected peak demand. An additional 10,000 MW (25%) of installed capacity will be added by the two coal fired stations and the pumped storage scheme will add 30% to the available peaking capacity.

The estimated total capital expenditure over the new-build program period is expected to reach USD 100 billion which includes Return To Service (RTS) of various mothballed power stations in South Africa.

Led by Managing Director Visham Bhimsan, Moody International South Africa began a selective diversification strategy two years ago in order to grow outside the downstream O&G (Petrochemicals) sector in South Africa . The Eskom contracts, amongst others, are seen as key to this strategy. In addition to Medupi, Moody International South Africa will be engaged in various Technical Inspection Services for the ongoing maintenance and replacement activities at the various existing coal fired stations.