



CEN INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT UNIT

Environmental and Rural Development Specialist

APPENDIX 4:

Proposed Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project

Public Participation Report – FINAL Basic Assessment Phase

9 May 2023

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Introduction

Red Cap Hoogland 1 (Pty) Ltd (Red Cap) proposes a new 400 kV grid connection from the authorised Nuweveld Wind Farm Development Collector Substation to the 132/400 kV Gamma Substation (~90 km to the east) (the project). The project is intended to expand the capacity of the Eskom grid and improve grid functionality in the area. Gridline access tracks for construction and maintenance also form components of the project.

Although the gridline would start and end in the Western Cape (Central Karoo District Municipality [DM] and Beaufort West Local Municipality [LM]), portions of the line will traverse land in the Northern Cape (Pixley ka Seme DM and Ubuntu LM).

The gridline corridor has the following start and end coordinates:

- Nuweveld Collector Substation: 31°51'21.18"S, 22°28'37.98"E
- Gamma Substation: 31°40'43.63"S 23°24'29.63"E

A summary of the gridline components and specifications are included in the table below:

Component	Description	Ha
Overhead lines and pylons	400 kV overhead line in a ~55 m servitude, within a 110 km long Corridor. Conservative pylon footprint: 100 m ² , with an average 400 m span	110 km 2.75 ha (permanent)
Access roads and tracks	Existing access roads and tracks (upgraded to ± 4.5 m wide where needed) will be used as far as possible and new access tracks would be created where needed (± 4.5 m wide).	The footprint for new access tracks will be up to 46 ha (permanent)
Temporary areas	Temporary laydown areas along the Gridline alignment. The main equipment and construction yards will be located along the alignment or based in one of the surrounding towns	Total estimated area: 5 ha (temporary)
Total disturbance footprint:	Temporary	5 ha
Total disturbance footprint:	Permanent	48.75 ha

A Basic Assessment (BA) process is being done to inform an application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the project, which requires a public participation process in line with the EIA Regulations (2014 as amended). Note that the assessment considered a 110 km long and 3 km wide Corridor intended to accommodate gridline and supporting infrastructure.

CEN Integrated Environmental Management Unit (CEN) are the Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAP) handling the required EA Application to the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE).

Public Participation is a key component of the identification and assessment of potential impacts of the project. A pre-application meeting was held with the DFFE where a 'Public Participation Plan' for the BA process was discussed. Guidance from the DFFE has been used to inform the consultation approach. This report presents the process that has been followed in notifying and engaging with stakeholders during pre-application stage and on the Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR).

The Notification Process

Identifying Stakeholders

A list of landowners located in and adjacent to the corridor was generated based on cadastral information. Contact details for these landowners were established by the Applicant during a comprehensive landowner negotiation process and provided to CEN. The Applicant obtained in-principle agreements from all landowners on the pre-negotiated route of the powerline during this process.

Other key stakeholders, such as farmers associations, ward councilors, non-governmental organizations and organs of state that may have an interest in the application were identified based on stakeholder databases for other renewable energy projects in the region, the experience of the EAP and publicly accessible contact details for these individuals and organizations.

The project traverses parts of the Northern and Western Cape, and the Beaufort West Local and Ubuntu Local Municipality (LM) in the Central Karoo and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality (DM) respectively. Contact details of relevant state departments and officials within these areas, as well as the Ward Councillors of affected wards, were obtained from departmental websites and other stakeholder databases.

Using the above sources, a project-specific database of potential stakeholders was compiled, comprising landowners within and adjacent to the Gamma Corridor and substation area, state departments (national, provincial, district, and local), Ward Councillors, Parastatals, and community groups/associations. The stakeholder database is attached as Appendix 1. Due to the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 14 of 2013), contact details of Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) are shaded out in this report.

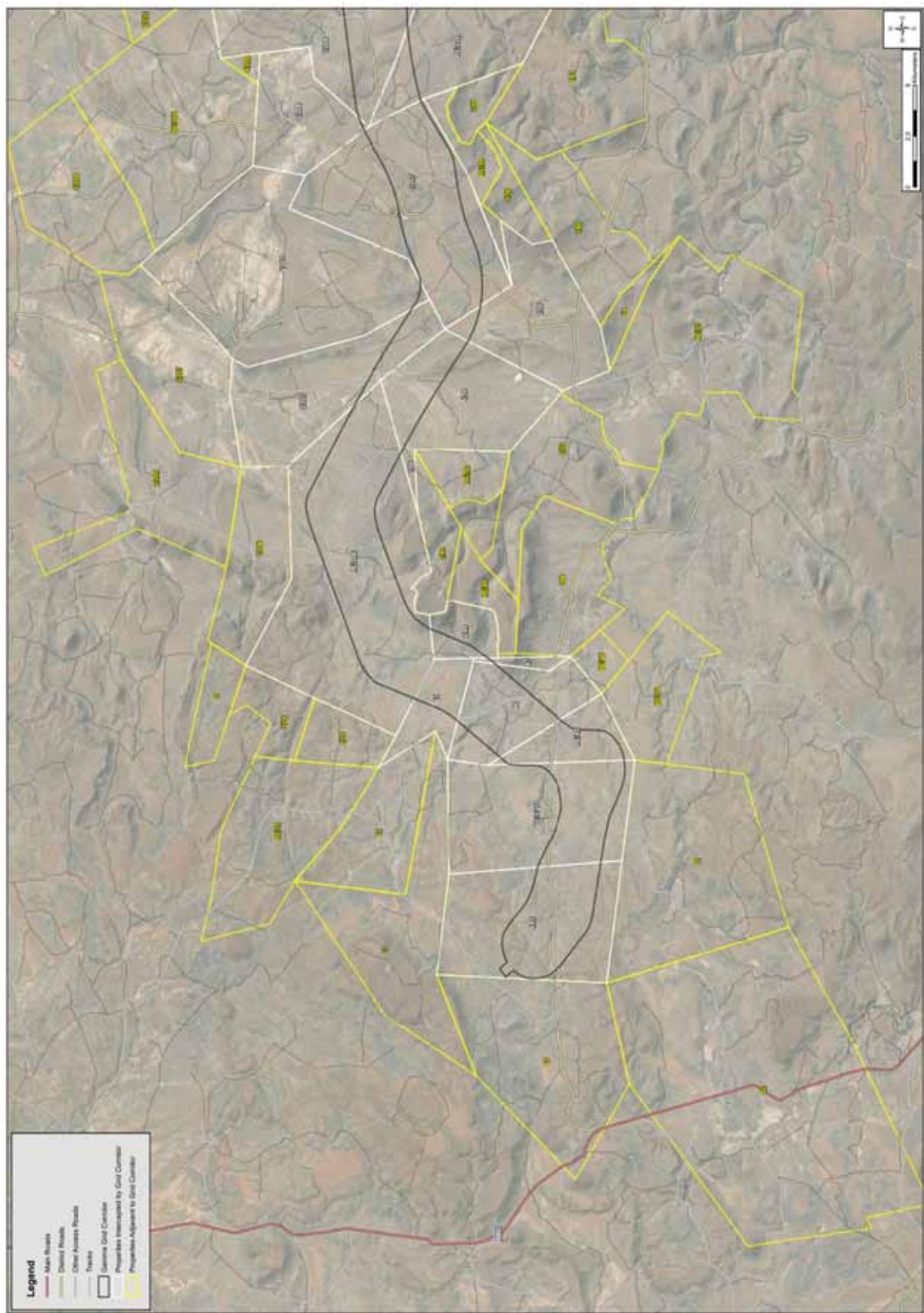
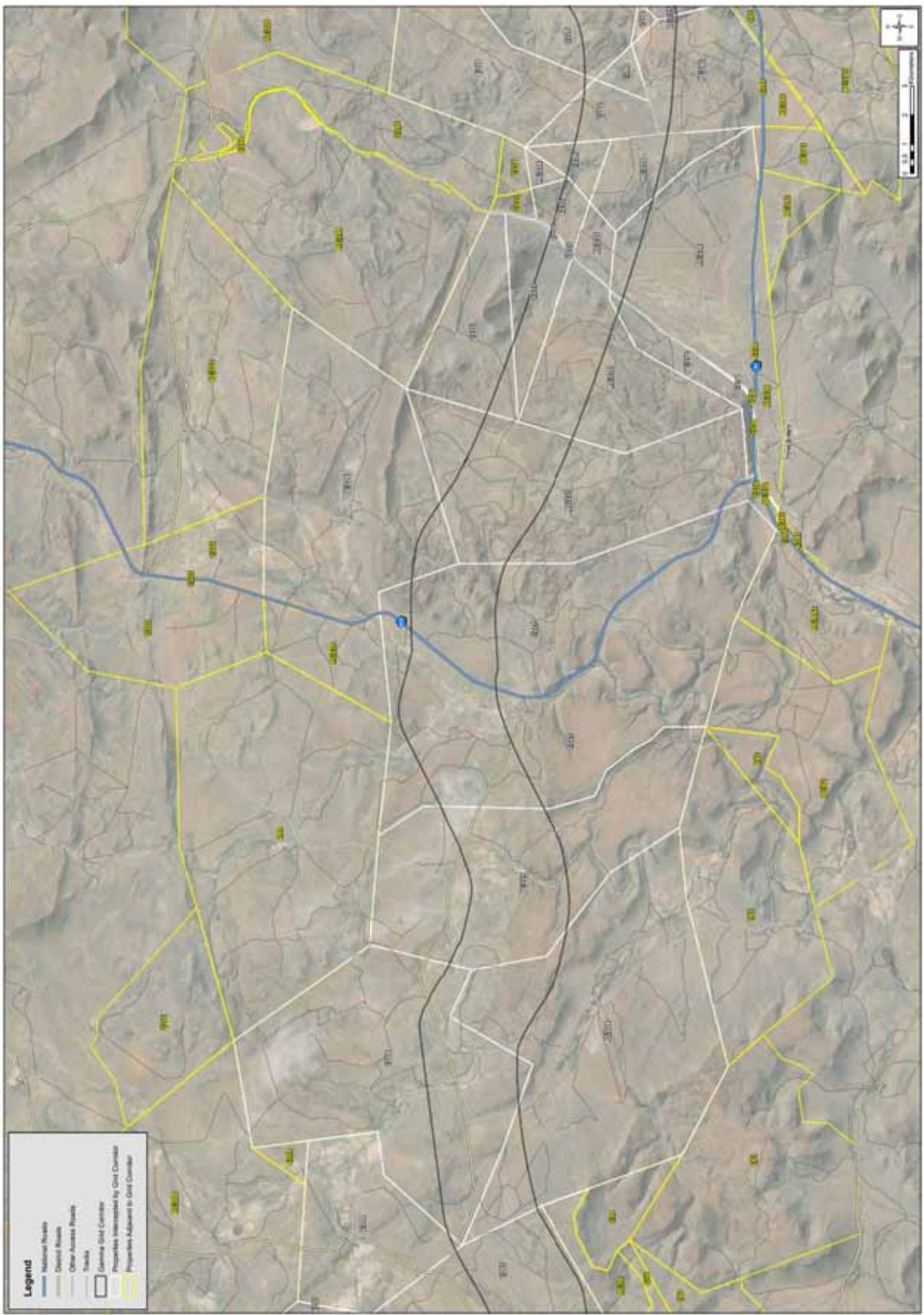


FIGURE 1A: MAP SHOWING THE GAMMA CORRIDOR AND PROPERTIES CHECKED FOR THE PROJECT STAKEHOLDER DATABASE

FIGURE 1B: MAP SHOWING THE GAMMA CORRIDOR AND PROPERTIES CHECKED FOR THE PROJECT STAKEHOLDER DATABASE



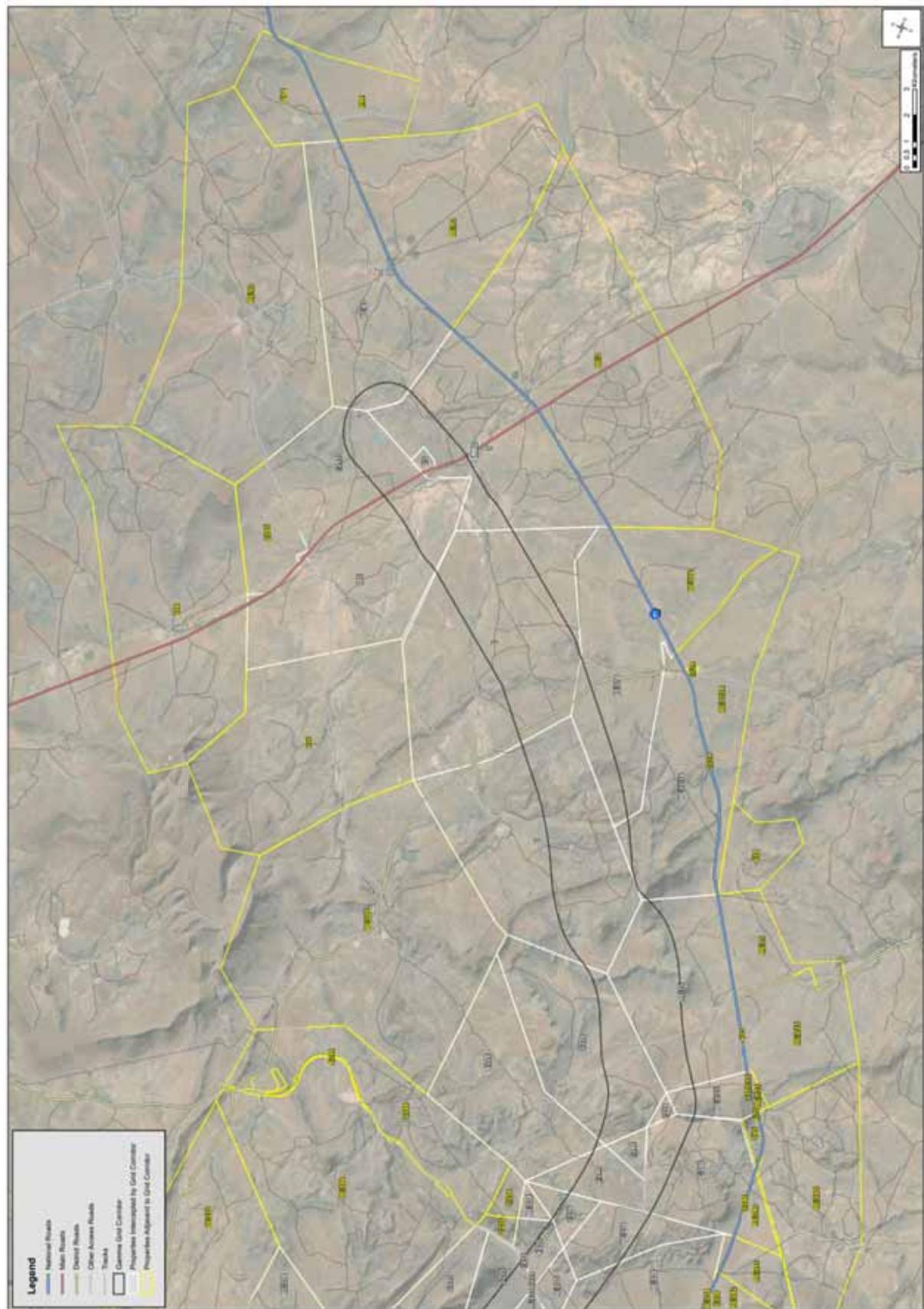


FIGURE 1C: MAP SHOWING THE GAMMA CORRIDOR AND PROPERTIES CHECKED FOR THE PROJECT STAKEHOLDER DATABASE

Notification Methods

Pre-Application Stage

A virtual pre-application meeting was held with the DFFE on 2 September 2022 to discuss the project and application process. Meeting notes were sent to the DFFE for comment and approval. A copy of the final and approved meeting notes is included under Appendix 3 (copies of correspondence).

A virtual meeting was held with the Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform on 6 September 2022. The intention was to present the project to the Department and specifically discuss the terrestrial biodiversity specialist study with relevance to the Provincial Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) Map since there are extensive areas mapped as CBAs within the Gamma Corridor. A copy of the summary meeting notes is included under Appendix 3 (copies of correspondence).

The socio-economic specialist for the project (Marchelle Terblanche of Index Consulting) consulted the following state officials regarding local socio-economic development priorities by means of telephonic, written and in-person discussions between July and September 2022:

- Mr. Lewellyn Lakay: Manager: LED Unit: Beaufort West LM
- Ms. N Mkontwana: Acting Municipal Manager: Ubuntu LM
- Cllr. Soutie Weldon Kock: Ward 3 Councillor: Ubuntu LM
- Mr. Sipho Nkilie: IDP / Compliance Officer: Ubuntu LM
- Mr. H Greeff: Snr. Manager: Infrastructure, Planning, Development & Housing: Pixley ka Seme DM
- Mr. A Sibeko: LED Manager: Pixley ka Seme DM

Draft Basic Assessment Report Phase

The EA Application for the project was submitted to the DFFE on 24 February 2023. The Draft Basic Assessment Report was submitted to the DFFE on 2 March 2023. Potential stakeholders were notified of the availability of the report and opportunity to register as a stakeholder on the project database and/or comment on the DBAR on 3 March 2023, for a 30 day commenting period which ended on 3 April 2023 (but extended to 8 May 2023 to allow Organs of State more time to comment on the application).

The Draft BAR and Appendices were made available on the EAP's website at

<https://environmentcen.co.za/project-items/400kv-gamma-gridline/> - Downloads from this site is 'data free' for mobile users without data on your phone

A summary of the project and BA process was made available as an audio presentation.

A letter notice was compiled with a summary of the project and BA process, and details of the PPP process. The notice included a link to access the DBAR and appendices electronically from the EAP's website. The notice further indicated that if IAPs have difficulty in accessing the reports or should they wish to discuss the project in person, they should

contact the EAP at the details provided. IAPs on the stakeholder database were notified by the following means (see Appendix 3):

1. Notices were placed in 2 newspapers: *Die Courier* and *Die Burger*
2. Six site notices were placed in areas accessed by the public in the vicinity of the Refined Gamma Corridor
3. Landowners within the Corridor were contacted telephonically by Red Cap during the process of setting up agreements, and were sent a notice of the availability of the DBAR via email and/or post (depending on their preferred form of communication if provided).
4. Landowners surrounding the Corridor were sent a notice of the availability of the DBAR via email and/or post (depending on the available contact details)
5. Electronic copies of the DBAR were provided to the Ward Councillors on a flash drive. The affected wards within the municipalities are:
 - a. Beaufort West LM: Wards 1, 2 and 7
 - b. Ubuntu LM: Ward 3
6. An audio presentation of key aspects of the BA report was done, and posted on the EAP's website.

The notification letter, media notices and site posters were made available in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa.

The following authorities are deemed to be commenting authorities because of the nature of the application. The DFFE also provided a list of authorities from whom comment on the DBAR must be obtained:

1. DFFE: Directorate Biodiversity Planning and Conservation
2. Department of Agriculture, Land Reform & Rural Development;
3. Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation
4. Department of Minerals and Energy
5. Department of Roads and Public Works
6. Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
7. CapeNature
8. Department of Water and Sanitation
9. Western Cape: Breede-Gouritz Catchment Agency
10. Heritage Western Cape
11. South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)
12. South African Civilian Aviation Authority
13. Department of Defence
14. Central Karoo District Municipality
15. Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality
16. Beaufort West Local Municipality
17. Ubuntu Local Municipality

18. Endangered Wildlife Trust
19. SANRAL Holdings SOC Ltd
20. Transnet Holdings SOC
21. Birdlife South Africa.

Archaeological/Cultural Heritage, Visual and Palaeontological Specialist studies have also been done, and submitted to Heritage Western Cape, and on the SAHRIS website; as required by of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999.

A reminder notice to submit comments on the DBAR was sent to stakeholders on 3 April 2023. To obtain comments from the above-mentioned authorities, numerous attempts were made by the EAP by means of email, telephone calls, and WhatsApp/sms messages. The commenting period was extended by a further 30 days. Comments received are included in this report under Appendix 3. Where comments from authorities have not been obtained, evidence of attempts to obtain these are provided (Appendix 2)

Way Forward

The DBAR has was submitted to the DFFE, and all potential stakeholders on 2 March 2023 for a 30 day comment period. A reminder was sent on 3 April 2023, whereafter the comment period was extended by a further 30 days. Comments received have been considered by the EAP and project team, and have been used to finalise the report for submission to the authority for the review and decision making phase. All registered stakeholders have been notified of the submission of the Final BAR to the DFFE, and have an opportunity to view how their comments have been addressed in the report. Stakeholders will be notified once a decision on the application has been issued by the DFFE.

Comments and Response Table

Issue	Stakeholder	Response
DFFE: Integrated Environmental Authorisations It has been noted that the exclusions on the triggered listed activities applied for are not included in the application form and draft BAR. Therefore, you are advised to include such in the amended application form as well as final BAR, all the relevant exclusions related to the listed activities applied for.	Olivia Letalo, DFFE 30/03/2023	Noted – the triggered listed activities relevant to the proposed activities and as applied for, are recorded in full in the BAR and application form, where relevant (i.e. where exclusions are linked to listed activities, these are now listed in full).
The CA has noted the words such as "may, would, likely and as far as possible" have been used in the description of activities applied for (i.e., activity 12, 19 and 27 of LN 1 as well as activity 4 and 18 of LN 3). Please refrain from using such words, since it creates an uncertainty regarding the applicability of the listed activity applied for. In addition, please note that the project description and listed activities are not based on a precautionary approach.	Olivia Letalo, DFFE 30/03/2023	The project description as linked to listed activities has been reworded to remove uncertainty.
It has been noted that activity 27 of LN 1 has been applied for. However, the description of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates to indicated that "it is likely that more than 1ha of indigenous vegetation will be cleared for temporary laydown areas and as the proposed gridline (and associated access track) is a linear activity, it is excluded from this listed activity". It is not clear why activity 27 of LN1 have been included or applied for in the application form. Please clarify?	Olivia Letalo, DFFE 30/03/2023	More than 1ha of indigenous vegetation will be cleared for temporary laydown areas triggering this activity. As the gridline and access roads are linear activities, these components of the development do not trigger this listed activity. The project description as linked to this listed activity has been reworded to provide clarity.
Further to the above, a 300m x 300m expansion to the Gamma Substation (including transformers and other standard substation infrastructure) as described on page 8 of the site verification report is not accounted for in any of the listed activities applied for, considering that there will be clearance of vegetation for the expansion of the substation (that is a non-linear activity). Please ensure that this information is clarified in the final BAR.	Olivia Letalo, DFFE 30/03/2023	Note that although specialists considered and assessed an expansion to the Gamma Substation, this component of the project has been removed from the project description and is no longer being applied for as part of this application for EA. As such, no reference to substation expansion is included in the application form or BAR.
For activity 4 of LN 3, the description of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates to indicated that "access track will be approximately 2-4m wide". Please be reminded that the EIA Regulations listing notice indicate that the road must be wider than 4m. As such, you are requested to indicate and clarify the exact width of the road to be widened to determine the applicability of the aforesaid activity.	Olivia Letalo, DFFE 30/03/2023	This has been clarified at the front of the FBAR. Access tracks will be up to 4.5 m wide. This has been corrected in the Final BAR.
It has been noted that sub-activities for activity 4 and 12 of LN 3 are triggered because the proposed development will be located within Critical Biodiversity Areas	Olivia Letalo, DFFE 30/03/2023	Listing Notice 3, Activity 4 is triggered because the Corridor and access tracks are located outside urban areas in indigenous vegetation in the

<p>(CBA) identified in the bioregional plans has been applied for, therefore, you are requested to indicate if the bio-regional plan has been adopted, resulting in this sub-activity triggered. In addition, you are required to provide written confirmation from the relevant CA on the adopted bioregional plan and refer to it in the description of the activity triggered and applied for.</p>	<p>Western Cape, and within CBAs and ESAs in the NC CBA Map (which is a systematic biodiversity conservation plan).</p> <p>Bioregional Plans have not yet been gazetted for the WC or NC. The DEA&DP have confirmed in writing that they have not adopted the WCBSP as a 'systematic biodiversity conservation plan' referred to in Listing Notice 3 (see comment in this Table from the Department).</p>
	<p>Bioregional Plans have not been adopted for the NC or WC, and as such Listing Notice 3 ,Activity 12 has been removed from the application.</p>
<p>Olivia Letalo, DFFE 30/03/2023</p>	
<p>Ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description. Only activities applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed. In addition, the onus is on the applicant and the EAP to ensure that all the applicable listed activities and sub-activities are included in the application form. Failure to do so may result in unnecessary delays in the processing of the application</p>	<p>If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final BAR, an amended application form must be submitted. Please note that the Department's application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following link https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms.</p> <p>It has been noted that the general site and project information in the draft BAR does not have any indication of a 300m x 300m expansion to the Gamma Substation (including transformers and other standard substation infrastructure) as described on page 8 of the site verification report. Please ensure that the information provided for the development is consistent in all reports submitted with the final BAR. In addition, you are advised to provide the components of the proposed development with the dimensions.</p> <p>In terms of Appendix 1 (3) (1) (h) (i) (iv) (v) (vi) (vii) (viii) and (x) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, you are required to provide details of all the alternatives considered and if no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not considering such as well as concluding statement indicating the preferred alternatives, including preferred location of the activity must be submitted.</p>
	<p>This has been clarified at the front of the Final BAR.</p> <p>Chapter 3 of the BAR provides a comprehensive discussion regarding alternatives considered.</p> <p>The purpose of the project is to create a 400 kV link between the authorised Nuweveld Collector Substation and the 132/400 kV Gamma Substation. As such, in this instance the consideration of activity and location alternatives is not possible, and the only alternatives that are available relate to technology and layout / routes.</p> <p>Noting that the DFFE requires that a pre-negotiated route must be presented and assessed in the final BAR, Section 3.2 provides a discussion of the iterative design process followed to identify this route (essentially, a process</p>

		<p>of screening out less suitable route alternatives during specialist assessment and design).</p> <p>In terms of pylon types / technology, pylons will be built to Eskom specification, and therefore the availability of alternatives is extremely limited.</p> <p>The project has been assessed against the 'No-Go' alternative.</p>	
The cumulative impact assessment for all identified alternatives must be undertaken as per the requirements of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.	Olivia Letalo, DFFE 30/03/2023	<p>Noting that this power line falls within the transmission corridor, you are requested to submit the pre-negotiated route of the powerline located within the aforesaid corridor (the corridor as gazetted by the Minister).</p> <p>The CA has noted that Figure 4 and 5 maps for the proposed development have been included in the draft BAR. Please ensure that the layout maps are submitted with the final BAR and must indicate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final negotiated route of the powerline and its coordinates. • All associated infrastructure (existing and proposed), such as, but not limited to roads and substations, • The location of sensitive environmental features on site, e.g., CBA, wetlands, drainage lines, graves, nests, etc. that will be affected, • Buffer areas of the abovementioned sensitivities; and • All "no-go" areas. <p>The avifaunal assessment has recommended infrastructure exclusion zones must be implemented around all Verreaux's Eagle nests, except nests on existing high voltage lines and 2.5km around all Martial Eagle nests except nests on existing high voltage lines. These exclusion zones must be marked as no-go areas in the development layout map showing the pre-negotiated route.</p>	
		<p>Cumulative impact significance is also summarized in Table 97 of the Final BAR with all other identified impacts.</p> <p>The pre-negotiated route is reflected in Figure 7 of the Final BAR, Figures 47 – 51 of the Final BAR, and EMPr and Appendix 7 of the application form.</p> <p>The pre-negotiated route is reflected in Figures 47 – 51 of the Final BAR, and EMPr and Appendix 7 of the application form – these figures include the pre-negotiated route, co-ordinates of the powerline, and all no-go areas (including but not limited to sensitive features in CBAs, avifaunal exclusion zones, active water channels, graves, nests and buffers where relevant).</p> <p>A copy of the final layout map has been submitted with the final BAR. All available biodiversity information was used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure has been used as far as possible for example when considering access to the corridor. The main equipment and construction yards will be located along the alignment outside no-go areas and identified during micro-siting, or based in one of the surrounding towns or on one of the associated wind farms.</p>	
		<p>Specialist studies comply with the Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on Identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e., "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020, have come into effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols unless proof is provided to demonstrate that the specialist assessments were commissioned prior to</p>	Olivia Letalo, DFFE 30/03/2023

50 days after the promulgation of GN 320 and after promulgation of GN1150 (30 October 2020).			
It is noted that on page 9 of 19 of the screening tool report dated 16 October 2022, the proposed site has low sensitivity on defence theme and civil aviation theme. It has medium sensitivity on agricultural and plant species theme, as well as high sensitivity on animal species theme, and very high sensitivity on aquatic biodiversity theme, archaeological and cultural heritage theme, palaeontology theme as well as terrestrial biodiversity theme.	Olivia Letalo, DFFE 30/03/2023	Noted, and reflected as such in the BAR.	
A site verification report submitted with the draft BAR is hereby noted. You are reminded to include in the final BAR, the site verification as well as motivation for the exclusions of any specialist studies identified by the screening tool.	Olivia Letalo, DFFE 30/03/2023	Table 18 in the BAR lists the 'themes' in the Screening Tool Report, and the sensitivity assigned to each theme. Further, a column is added confirming or disputing the sensitivity rating, with comments from the respective specialists. Table 9 of the BAR lists specialist studies, and indicates whether a site verification report and compliance study, or a full impact assessment has been done. Motivation for the level of specialist assessment for each theme is provided in this table.	Site verification reports are included, where relevant, in Appendix 3 of the BAR (i.e. specialist studies). The reports provide motivation as to why a site verification and compliance statement was done.
		The only three themes where a specialist did not provide a site verification and compliance statement or a specialist study are for RFI, civil aviation and defence themes. These were dealt with by the EAP in Section 6.2.11 and 6.2.12 of the BAR as required by the assessment protocols.	
The protocols require certain specialists' to be registered with SACNNSP. Refer to the relevant protocols in this regard.	Olivia Letalo, DFFE 30/03/2023	Noted, and the relevant professional registration of each specialist is provided under Section 15.2 of the BAR.	
The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference for all the identified specialist studies must include the following:	Olivia Letalo, DFFE 30/03/2023	The criteria are included in all specialist reports. Specialist's mitigation measures are included in Section C of the Generic EMP, and in Chapter 7 of the FBAR. There are no conflicting recommendations or mitigation measures.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A detailed description of the study's methodology; indication of the locations and descriptions of the development footprint, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisation. • Provide a detailed description of all limitations to the studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation will not be allowed. • Please note that the Department considers a 'no-go' area, as an area where no development of any infrastructure is allowed; therefore, no development of associated infrastructure including access roads is allowed in the 'no-go' areas. 		<p>The DFFE's definition of a 'no-go' area is adopted and complied with in the sensitivity assessment approach and no-go map for the development.</p> <p>Declaration forms for all specialist studies are included with the respective specialist report in Appendix 3.</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should the specialist definition of 'no-go' area differ from the Department's definition; this must be clearly indicated. The specialist must also indicate the 'no-go' area's buffer. All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternative and recommendations, and must not recommend further studies to be completed post EA. Should a specialist recommend specific mitigation measures, these must be clearly indicated. Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice. Declaration forms must be provided for all specialist studies to be conducted. 		
<p>It has been noted that one unsigned generic EMPr for the powerline and substation has been submitted with the draft BAR. Therefore, you are advised to submit the following in relation to the generic EMPr:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two generic EMPr, for the powerline and substation. Part B: Sections 2 of the aforesaid generic EMPrs signed by the Applicant. Please ensure that Point 7.1.1 in Part B: Section 2 match the details of the Applicant as contained in the application form and final BAR. If any specific environmental sensitivities/attributes are present on site which require more specific impact management outcomes and impact management actions, not included in the pre-approved generic EMPr template, to manage such impacts, those impact management outcomes and actions must be included in Section C of the generic EMPr. <p>Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the CA with the final BAR. This includes but not limited to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE); Biodiversity Planning and Conservation (BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za); Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP); CapeNature, Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation, Beaufort West and Ubuntu Local Municipalities; Central Karoo and Pixley Ka Seme District Municipalities, Endangered Wildlife Trust; Department of Human Settlement; Water and Sanitation; Department of Agriculture, Land Reform & Rural Development; South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA); SANRAL Holdings SOC Ltd; Department of Minerals and Energy; Department of Roads and Public Works, Transnet Holdings SOC; Birdlife South Africa; and South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA).</p>	Olivia Letalo, DFFE 30/03/2023	All identified stakeholders were consulted and requested to submit comment on the Draft BAR. Copies of correspondence received from stakeholders is included in the PPP report (Appendix 4). Some stakeholders did not submit comments, despite numerous attempts from the EAP to request these. The latter includes telephone calls, emails, and WhatsApp/sms messages. A summary of contact that was made with Organs of State that have not commented is provided in Appendix 2 of the PPP report as evidence.
DFFE: Directorate Biodiversity Planning and Conservation		

<p>It was noted during the review that CBAs and ESAs in the Northern Cape CBA Map and the Western Cape Biodiversity Plan occur throughout the corridor, especially in the central and western parts. This is due to the intact Eastern Upper Karoo vegetation, important water resource protection areas identified as Very High Sensitivity under the Shale Gas SEA, River type and FEPRA River Corridors. The Directorate does not support any development in high sensitive areas that will result in significant residual negative impacts post mitigation measures.</p>	<p>Seoka Lekota, DFFE Biodiversity Conservation, 08/05/2023</p>	<p>The Basic Assessment process and specialist process implemented the mitigation hierarchy and followed an iterative design process to determine the Corridor and gridline route alignment. This was based on specialists identifying no-go areas which are to be avoided and which represent areas with very high environmental sensitivity – including the drivers of ESA and CBA habitat status. Although CBA and ESA areas have been avoided wherever possible, further mitigation is also provided to reduce the significance of impacts in instances where infrastructure is planned within these areas. The terrestrial ecologist rated the significance of impacts of the project on CBAs and ESAs, and ecological process areas within the site, as being of low significance with mitigation.</p>	<p>For context, the gridline route and Corridor are situated within a Strategic Transmission Corridor (STC), specifically delineated by the National Department for the placement of infrastructure of this nature. Furthermore, ESA and CBA areas cover broad portions of land within STCs where complete avoidance by large-scale linear infrastructure is not practical.</p>	<p>Western Cape Government: Department of Agriculture The application is No. 36 in the queue, and comments will be submitted in 90 days.</p> <p>Brandan Layman, WCG Agriculture, 13/04/2023</p> <p>The agricultural specialist assessed that impacts of the project on agricultural resources would be insignificant.</p>
				<p>This Branch offers no objection to the issuing of an Environmental Authorisation in favour of the proposed gridline, provided that this Branch is offered the opportunity to assess the final overhead route and issue the required wayleave approvals in terms of Act 21 of 1940, building restrictions where applicable, and Roads Ordinance 19 of 1976, accesses and construction activities within and across the road reserves and their adjacent building lines.</p>

The following Public Provincial Roads not limited to the only roads that might be used during the construction or operational phases – as already determined during the compilation of the traffic impact assessment, all for which this Branch is the Road Authority, fall within the Gamma Grid Corridor: 1 Trunk Road 16 section 8 (TR01608; R63) 2 Divisional Road 2317 (DR02317) 3 Divisional Road 2405 (DR02405) 4 Minor Road 8881 (OP08881) 5 Minor Road 9225 (OP09225)	Vanessa Stoffels, WCG: Road Planning 04/04/2023	Noted. The following mitigation measure has been added to the EMPr for the development making it a condition of authorization: <u>Retain public access to the following public Provincial Roads:</u> • <u>Trunk Road 16 section 8 (TR01608; R63)</u> • <u>Divisional Road 2317 (DR02317)</u> • <u>Divisional Road 2405 (DR02405)</u> • <u>Minor Road 8881 (OP08881)</u> • <u>Minor Road 9225 (OP09225)</u>
All the abovementioned Provincial Roads' Public accessibility must be retained, which is why they must be evaluated for the purposes of construction, operation and decommissioning.		
This branch will ultimately require: The exact location (in South African grid, kmz and gpx formats) of each pylon	Vanessa Stoffels, WCG: Road Planning 04/04/2023	Noted. The following mitigation measure has been added to the EMPr for the development making it a condition of authorization: <u>Provide the exact location of each pylon to the WCG: Road Planning branch prior to construction</u>
This branch will ultimately require: Indication of all the accesses to each respective farm portion traversed by the Gamma Grid Corridor, including ownership of those portions and application for any change in access to the provincial road network - in line with this Branch's Access Management Guidelines, 2020. It will be required to clearly state which access will serve what purpose (e.g., energy and / or farming).	Vanessa Stoffels, WCG: Road Planning 04/04/2023	Noted. The following mitigation measure has been added to the EMPr for the development making them conditions of authorization: <u>Provide the accesses to each respective farm portion traversed by the Gamma Grid Corridor, including ownership of those portions and intended access use - in line with this Branch's Access Management Guidelines, 2020, to the WCG: Road Planning branch prior to construction</u>
This branch will ultimately require: Wayleave applications, for the third-party service that will be constructed, when building restrictions, building lines and road reserves are affected.	Vanessa Stoffels, WCG: Road Planning 04/04/2023	Noted. The following mitigation measure has been added to the EMPr for the development making it a condition of authorization: <u>Apply for way-leaves to the WCG Roads Planning Branch prior to construction for third party services that will be constructed, if any, when building restrictions, building lines and road reserves are to be affected</u>
This branch will ultimately require: Abnormal load transportation implications, which will require a route clearance report and prior application for any geometric and materials designs for approval before construction. It is recommended to commence with this planning once detail of energy infrastructure and transportation equipment are known.		Noted. The following mitigation measures have been added to the EMPr for the development making them conditions of authorization: • <u>Apply for any geometric and materials designs to the WCG Roads Planning Branch prior to construction and once detail of energy infrastructure and once transportation equipment are known.</u> • <u>Provide a route clearance report for abnormal loads to the WCG Roads Planning Branch prior to construction and once detail of energy infrastructure and once transportation equipment are known.</u>

This branch will ultimately require: A geotechnical and geometric design report, including improvement proposals, must be compiled to ensure that all the roads that will be affected by this gridline during the construction phase are adequately improved and maintained before any other construction activity may commence on any of the affected farm portions. This is to ensure that no more than normal deterioration and additional maintenance costs are experienced by the Road Authority during the construction and operating phases. It will be required that any design affecting any Proclaimed Provincial Road must carry this Branch's Chief Directorate Road Design's approval before implementation thereof may commence.	Vanessa Stoffels, WCG: Road Planning 04/04/2023	Noted. The following mitigation measures have been added to the EMPr for the development making them conditions of authorization: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Provide a geotechnical and geometric design report, including improvement proposals to the WCG Roads Planning Branch prior to constructionApply for the approval of any design affecting any Proclaimed Provincial Road to the WCG Roads Planning Branch Chief Directorate Road Design
This branch will ultimately require: Confirmation that a similar geotechnical proposal (as per paragraph 5.5) will be compiled, and approval obtained prior to commencing with any major upgrade or decommissioning phase; whenever that may be.	Vanessa Stoffels, WCG: Road Planning 04/04/2023	Noted. The following mitigation measure has been added to the EMPr for the development making it a condition of authorization: <u>Provide a geotechnical and geometric design report, including improvement proposals to the WCG Roads Planning Branch prior to any major upgrade or decommissioning</u>
No pylon may be erected less than fifty metres (50m) from the centreline of any proclaimed provincial road	Vanessa Stoffels, WCG: Road Planning 04/04/2023	Noted – this will be achieved. The following mitigation measure has been added to the EMPr for the development making it a condition of authorization: <u>Place all pylons further than 50m from the centreline of all proclaimed provincial roads.</u>
Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning		
Comments submitted are a consolidation of comments from various directorates. The Directorate is satisfied that the mitigation hierarchy has been implemented during the specialist desktop screening process and the basic assessment process. Areas of very high ecological sensitivity within the CBA and ESA networks, areas of very high visual, heritage and avifaunal sensitivity, and areas of high site ecological importance for the optimal, intact Riverine Rabbit and Karoo Dwarf Tortoise habitat have been identified and mapped as 'no-go' areas. Furthermore micro-siting of infrastructure in high-sensitive areas at a detailed design stage (following the granting of an EA), will allow the applicant to largely avoid impacts on sensitive areas by placing infrastructure and roads in the least sensitive areas.	Adri La Meyer, Development Facilitation, 03/04/2023	Correct, and this is the basis used in the Basic Assessment and specialist studies for impact avoidance and mitigation.
A Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme Assessment was compiled by 3Foxes Biodiversity Solutions which notes that no threatened ecosystems are located within the Gamma Corridor. However, mention is not made of the Revised National List of Threatened Ecosystems (November 2022). The Final BAR must make reference to the Red List of Ecosystems (2022).	Adri La Meyer, Development Facilitation, 03/04/2023	The Revised List of Threatened Ecosystems (November 2022) has been checked, and vegetation types within the Gamma Corridor are not listed. This has been clarified in Section 4.2.1. of the FBAR.
Specialist studies refer to the expansion of the Gamma Substation, but no impact assessment of activities related to expansion are included in the BAR. A Generic EMPr for substation infrastructure must also be added.	Adri La Meyer, Development	Note that although specialists considered and assessed an expansion to the Gamma Substation, this component of the project has been removed from the project description and is no longer being applied for as part of this

	Facilitation, 03/04/2023	application for EA. Therefore, impacts that may result from expansion are not included in the BAR, and a Generic EMPr for substations has not been compiled.
		As such no reference to substation expansion is included in the application form or BAR. This has been clarified at the front of the Final BAR.
Activity 12 and 14 of Listing Notice 3 - no systematic biodiversity plans have been adopted by this Department, and no bioregional plans exist for the Western Cape. Activity 12.i.ii and 14.i.ii are not applicable.	Adri La Meyer, Development Facilitation, 03/04/2023	Activity 12 has been removed from the EA application form and the Final BAR. Activities in the Western Cape have been removed from Activity 14, but activities in the Northern Cape remain relevant.
The DBAR does not indicate whether any dangerous goods in containers will be handled or stored at the construction site camp(s). The Generic EMPr indicates that the contractor must ensure that diesel and other liquid fuels, oil, and hydraulic fluid should be stored in appropriate storage tanks or in bowser. The estimated volume of dangerous goods to be handled and/or stored in containers must be indicated as the storage and/or handling thereof may trigger listed activities not applied for.	Adri La Meyer, Development Facilitation, 03/04/2023	It is confirmed that the volume of dangerous goods (fuel and hydrocarbons) that will be stored and/or handled at any one construction site camp will not exceed the threshold in Listing Notice 1 of the EIA Regulations (i.e. 30 cubic metres). Vehicles will re-fuel in towns and small volumes of fuel will be stored on site for generators and small plant.
The Directorate supports that a Stormwater Management Plan must be developed pre-construction phase and should detail the stormwater structures and management interventions that must be installed to manage the increase of surface water flows directly into any natural systems.	Adri La Meyer, Development Facilitation, 03/04/2023	Noted. This requirement is included in the Generic EMPr.
Appendix 4 of the DBAR (PPP Report) notes that a virtual pre-application meeting was held with the DFFE on 2 September 2022, and a virtual pre-application meeting was held with the NC Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development, and Land Reform on 6 September 2022. While not a ‘fatal flaw’ for public participation, this Department should ideally also have been consulted in the pre-application phase.	Adri La Meyer, Development Facilitation, 03/04/2023	Noted and the EAP contacted the Department to confirm if a virtual meeting was required in the extended PPP process. The Department confirmed that this was not necessary.
The Draft BAR and specialist studies included decommissioning phase impacts that were not included in the EMPr. However it is acknowledged that the Generic EMPr does not have a decommissioning component.	Adri La Meyer, Development Facilitation, 03/04/2023	Noted. It is highly unlikely that the powerline will be decommissioned as it will form part of the National Grid.
The following waste management/waste minimization aspects are recommended for consideration in the development proposal, and in the Generic EMPr: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to the waste management measures listed under Section 5.8 of the Generic EMPr, it is recommended that the ECO or contractor implement waste awareness training to all staff, contractors and visitors to ensure that proper waste management and separation of waste occurs. This training should be undertaken prior to site clearing activities and 	Yoneela Makabeni, Directorate Waste Management, 03/04/2023	The suggested mitigation measures have been added under Part C of the Generic EMPr under the heading of ‘Waste Management’

<p>should include a worker induction training session where all aspects of the EMPr are explained to all workers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under the impact management actions for solid and hazardous waste management, measures for waste separation throughout the waste collection process is recommended as it can improve operational efficiencies in terms of costs. As indicated, the central area to be used for waste collection must be clearly demarcated as a waste collection site, which will also ensure that waste minimization takes place with appropriate waste separation bins that are clearly marked. <p>There must be visible signage to prevent any littering and illegal dumping from occurring during the construction and operational phase.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In addition to the mitigation measures listed under Item 5.24 of the Generic EMPr regarding stockpiling and stockpile areas, the use of construction waste generated should be maximized where feasible. The remainder of construction rubble must be sent to an appropriate waste disposal of beneficiation facility. The applicant can source a copy of the Department's Guideline on The Management of Construction and Demolition Waste from this Directorate. It is suggested that any vegetation cleared should be separated and sent to the nearest composting facility. 	<p>All environmental commitments and mitigation measures under the Generic EMPr, Desktop Geotechnical Report and Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment Report should be strictly implemented and adhered to.</p>	<p>Sheehaam Brinkhuis, Directorate Pollution and Chemicals Management, 03/04/2023</p>	<p>Noted, compliance with the EMPr and mitigation measures in specialist reports are listed as suggested Conditions of Authorisation in the Final BAR.</p>
	<p>Temporary construction camps must be situated outside the watercourse and buffer areas. This is particularly important given a higher likelihood of pollution and risk of contamination exists during construction phase of this type of development, with an increased risk of pollution emanating from construction camp and laydown areas.</p> <p>Section 30A of NEMA should be referenced regarding the control of incidents, in the event of a significant spill or leakage of hazardous substances (petrol, diesel etc.). Such incidences should be reported to the relevant Department, including this Directorate.</p>	<p>Sheehaam Brinkhuis, Directorate Pollution and Chemicals Management, 03/04/2023</p>	<p>Noted, this is already included in Part C of the Generic EMPr under the section on Aquatic Biodiversity – 'limit disturbance of sensitive habitats'.</p>
	<p>The applicant is reminded of the 'duty of care' in terms of Section 28 of NEMA. – Every person who causes, may cause, or has caused significant pollution or degradation of the environment must take reasonable measures to prevent such pollution or degradation from occurring, continuing or recurring, or in so far as such harm to the environment is authorized by law, or cannot reasonably be avoided or stopped, to minimize and rectify such pollution and degradation to the environment'.</p>	<p>Sheehaam Brinkhuis, Directorate Pollution and Chemicals Management, 03/04/2023</p>	<p>As above</p>

Cape Nature	According to the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan, the proposed development footprint has CBAs, ESAs and other natural areas over most of the area. The freshwater features include numerous unknown non-perennial rivers that are tributaries of the Kariega and Sout Rivers. These rivers and wetlands form part of the NFEPA River and Wetland corridors.	Megan Simons, Cape Nature, 19/04/2023	Noted. These attributes of the site were identified in the Terrestrial and Aquatic Biodiversity Reports done by Simon Todd and Toni Belcher respectively.
	According to the NBA, the vegetation types for the development area included Eastern Upper Karoo, Gamka Karoo, Roggeveld Shale Renosterveld, Southern Karoo Riviere, and Karoo Hareveld, which are Least Concerned.	Megan Simons, Cape Nature, 19/04/2023	VEGMAP (2018) identifies 3 vegetation types in the Corridor, all of which are part of the Nama Karoo biome – the largest part of the Corridor is within the ‘Eastern Upper Karoo’ vegetation type with scattered sections of ‘Upper Karoo Hareveld’. Parts of the larger drainage features are described as ‘Southern Karoo Riviere’. The vegetation specialist however refined the vegetation description in the Assessment Corridor based on field surveys, and indicated that there are more extensive areas of Upper Karoo Hareveld and riparian vegetation than indicated in VEGMAP.
	The WCBSP has specific guidelines regarding CBA and ESA loss and their sensitivity and conservation objectives. Thus the proposed development must be guided by those objectives to conserve and protect the CBAs and ESAs. Cape Nature maintains minimal habitat loss is acceptable in line with the WCBSP Land Use Guidelines Hand Book, provided the underlying biodiversity objectives and ecological functioning are not compromised.	Megan Simons, Cape Nature, 19/04/2023	The drivers of the status of portions of the Assessment Corridor’s designation as either ESA or CBA have been identified and described by the terrestrial ecologist, and considered in the context of the nature of the development activities and the likely impact on terrestrial biodiversity priority areas (see Table 19 in the BAR). On this basis, areas of very high ecological sensitivity within the CBA and ESA network have been identified as ‘No-Go’ areas by the terrestrial biodiversity specialist. As such, features of significance within CBAs that are sensitive to this low-intensity development would be protected from impact through the detailed sensitivity mapping conducted as part of this study. As a result, and assuming avoidance of No-Go areas, the specialist has found that the area is of low sensitivity to the proposed development type, and that the overall impact of the development within the areas of CBA and ESA is seen as being low and would not compromise the ability to meet CBA and ESA targets elsewhere or significantly compromise the biodiversity value or ecological functioning of the affected CBAs / ESAs. Furthermore, micro-siting of infrastructure in high sensitivity areas at detailed design stage will allow the developer to largely avoid impacts on the underlying biodiversity features (i.e. vegetation and aquatic areas) by placing infrastructure and roads in the least sensitive areas (Todd, 2022).
	Although the vegetation types are Least Threatened, note that any loss to natural habitat should be avoided. Considering that arid habitats could take years to rehabilitate, even from temporary disturbance, and we only consider habitat rehabilitated when comparable level of ecosystem functionality has been proven.	Megan Simons, Cape Nature, 19/04/2023	Noted. As above, the iterative design process of the gridline and Corridor seeks to sensitive areas and disturbance to important natural habitats. The micro-siting process at detailed design phase will further allow for natural habitat within high sensitivity areas to be avoided.

Cape Nature supports the undertaking of final walkdowns before construction commences, and the layouts must be realigned, if necessary, following these assessments.	Megan Simons, Cape Nature, 19/04/2023	Noted, and this is a recommended Condition of Authorisation in the FBAR.
Cape Nature reminds the applicant that a Permit for endangered or protected species listed in Schedule 3 and 4 respectively in terms of the Western Cape Nature Conservation Laws Amendment Act 2000 must be obtained from Cape Nature. This is also to ensure that rescued plant material is accounted for and used in the rehabilitation or relocation process. Cape Nature recommends that a suitable location for search and rescue is determined before removal takes place. The micro-climate must be suitable for the species and the season must be considered to give the plants an adequate chance to establish. Extreme caution must be taken during the removal of plants to ensure they are not damaged in the process. It is important to remove livestock for a period to allow plants to establish.	Megan Simons, Cape Nature, 19/04/2023	Item 5.10 of the Generic EMPr addresses search and rescue, and permit applications. However, this has been expanded on in Part C to include these specific recommendations provided by Cape Nature. Added under 'Terrestrial Ecology', with addition of a management outcome: 'Plant search and rescue exercise done to ensure maximum survival potential'.
The risk assessment found the impact on the aquatic environment would be low. Cape Nature reminds the applicant that the corridor has FEPAs River corridors and that the non-perennial rivers are all natural ESAs. These FEPAs rivers and wetlands are all important in achieving biodiversity targets for riverine ecosystems and must be protected. Impacts must be mitigated and rehabilitated in accordance with a Rehabilitation and Monitoring Plan. The 35 m aquatic buffers are supported.	Megan Simons, Cape Nature, 19/04/2023	Noted. The 35 m buffer areas are mapped as No-Go areas, and the avoidance of No-Go areas is a suggested Condition of Authorisation.
Flooding events can change watercourses within a short period and it must be mitigated in the EMPr. The stormwater system must be inspected annually, but this should also be done after every major rainfall event. The area is highly erodible so extra caution must be taken to mitigate erosion for the duration of the Project. Possible erosion points need to be monitored and rehabilitated when needed. Areas susceptible to erosion must be protected by installing the necessary temporary structures.	Megan Simons, Cape Nature, 19/04/2023	Flooding and erosion protection are addressed in Part C of the Generic EMPr under 'Aquatic Ecology' for design and construction phases. Additional mitigation has been added to the Construction Phase section.
An Alien Species Plant Management Plan must be compiled and included in the EMPr. The eradication and spread of alien species must follow the NEM: Biodiversity Act. The removal of alien plant species must be continuous and should continue beyond operational phase.	Megan Simons, Cape Nature, 19/04/2023	Section 5.10 of the Generic EMPr includes the following management actions for Alien plants – 'Alien invasive vegetation must be removed according to a plan (in line with relevant municipal and provincial procedures, guidelines and recommendations) and disposed of at a recognised waste disposal facility, An Alien Species Management Plan has been added to the EMPr as an Appendix.'
The Gamma Corridor has habitat for Riverine Rabbits. Given the conservation status of the species, we recommend that areas where the species could occur be demarcated as 'No-Go' areas as a precautionary approach. Cape Nature will not support any infrastructure in this habitat.	Megan Simons, Cape Nature, 19/04/2023	Given the IUCN status of the Riverine Rabbit (C2a (i)) and its' estimated population size, the Conservation Importance (CI) of Riverine Rabbit habitat within the Corridor is considered to be High. As there is not a large amount of transformation within the areas of confirmed Riverine Rabbit habitat; optimal habitat is considered to have High Functional Integrity (FI). As the CI and FI are both High, the Biodiversity importance (BI) of optimal Riverine Rabbit habitat within the Corridor is considered to be High as well. These areas are

	<p>considered to have a Medium resilience. Therefore, the overall Site Ecological Importance (SEI) is considered to be High for the optimal, intact, Riverine Rabbit habitat. The implications thereof in terms of the Species Assessment Guidelines for areas of optimal habitat within the Corridor are “<i>Avoidance mitigation wherever possible. Minimisation mitigation – changes to project infrastructure design to limit the amount of habitat impacted; limited development activities of low impact acceptable. Offset mitigation may be required for high impact activities.</i>” Areas within the Corridor with High SEI for Riverine Rabbit have therefore been mapped as ‘No-Go’ areas (Todd, 2022).</p> <p>Specialist Response:</p> <p>“All areas within the Gamma corridor considered by the terrestrial ecologist to have a high likelihood of supporting Riverine Rabbit populations have been designated No-Go areas. Degraded areas, and areas found to have a lower habitat quality and therefore a lower likelihood of supporting Riverine Rabbit habitat were designated to be of high sensitivity by the specialist, where the placement of infrastructure will be avoided. Where placement of infrastructure in these areas cannot be avoided (currently a single pylon located in sub-optimal habitat) this is not expected by the specialist to lead to disruption of intact habitat or to a significant impact on the species in any way. The final placement of this pylon would be verified in the field during the preconstruction walk-through to ensure that it has a minimal impact on the Riverine Rabbit and associated habitat.”</p>	
Tortoise-proof fencing should be considered so as to prevent road mortalities unless suitable underpasses where tortoises can move through will be built.	Megan Simons, Cape Nature, 19/04/2023	The terrestrial ecological I recommended the following – ‘The final design of roads and other infrastructure must consider faunal movement, and must allow fauna to pass over, through or underneath these features as appropriate’.
Cape Nature supports the mitigation measures, and an ECO must be appointed to oversee implementation to protect the remaining ecological services and connectivity.	Megan Simons, Cape Nature, 19/04/2023	Noted, and the appointment of an ECO is a suggested Condition of Approval.

Department of Water and Sanitation	The DBAR has been evaluated by the Office for Section 21 c and i water uses. Section 21 c and i water uses regulate activities that occur as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:100 year floodline or in the absence thereof, activities within 100 m of the edge of a watercourse, or • The delineated riparian habitat, whichever is the greatest • Those within 500 m of a wetland Should the proposed activities trigger any of these activities, a Water Use Authorisation must be obtained from the DWS before commencement.	Marisa Bloem, DWS, 06/04/2023	Noted, and Red Cap will apply for the required WUA prior to commencement.
Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency	The properties indicated in the report fall outside the jurisdiction of the Breede Olifants Catchment Management Agency. They are located in L21B-D Quaternary drainage. Please contact the Department of water and sanitation for comments	Zama Mbununka, BGCM, 23/04/2023	Noted thank you. Comments have been received from the DW/S (see above).
Heritage Western Cape	The matter was discussed at the Heritage Officer Committee meeting on 24 January 2023. The Committee resolved to endorse the application with the following recommendation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very high paleontological sensitivity areas must be avoided • A pre-construction paleontological survey must be done focusing on sensitive area identified by the specialist • The Fossil Chance Finds Procedure must be included in the EMPR • A pre-construction archaeological survey must be done along the full route, including new access roads and construction camps • Sensitive ridges, hills, river valleys, and steep slopes as indicated by the visual specialist, must be avoided. • Existing roads must be used for construction and operation as far as possible • Construction laydown areas must be located in areas of low visual sensitivity as indicated by the visual specialist • All disturbed areas not required in operational phase must be rehabilitated • If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development then work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution 	HWC, 26/02/2023	Noted and these recommendations are all included in the Final BAR.

South African Heritage Resources Agency	<p>Comments provided pertain to the Northern Cape section of the development only.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments must be included in the Final BAR and EMPr: • SAHRA has not objections to the proposed development • Recommendations of the specialists are supported, and must be adhered to. Further specific recommendations are provided by the Department: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The recommended archaeological and paleontological pre-construction surveys must be done by qualified archaeologist and paleontologist, and must be done prior to ground clearance. ○ No ground clearance may occur without comments from SAHRA ○ SAHRA reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions, layout changes, or object to the development based on results of pre-construction surveys ○ If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains, fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development; SAHRA (Natasha Higgitt - 0212028660) must be alerted as per Section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with this section is an offence in terms of Section 51(1)(e) of the NHRA, and item 5 of the Schedule. ○ If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase / Ngqabutho Madida 0123208490) must be alerted immediately as per Section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with this section is an offence in terms of Section 51(1)(e) of the NHRA, and item 5 of the Schedule. ○ See Section 51 of the NHRA regarding offences ○ The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A qualified archaeologist must be appointed to undertake the work in terms of a permit that is applied for. ■ If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a qualified archaeologist or paleontologist (depending on the find) must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resource proves to be of archaeological or paleontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA. ○ The Final BAR and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes. 	Natasha Higgitt, SAHRA, 26/04/2023	Recommendations are added to Part C of the Generic EMPr under 'archaeology' and 'palaeontology'.
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The decision on the EA application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS case application. 		
Civil Aviation Authority		
Kindly submit on the Bulk application, as the Part 139-27 is not active with the current upgrades. In view of Airfields observe on the route between the two positions provided, could you kindly provide a kmz file with an obstacle application to consider and assess towards Aviation operations.	Lizell Stroh, Civil Aviation Authority 12/04/2023	An obstacle application for the line was submitted to the CAA in December 2022 (ref: Hoogland Gamma Line CAA_2022_11_273), and a kmz of the route was supplied once again on the 14/04/2023. No further response was received from the CAA.
SANRAL		
The development may impact on two National Roads – the N12 and N11, as access has to be obtained to the development from the National Roads, or the 400 kV power line has to traverse of the Roads.	S Dyers, SANRAL	<p>Noted. The traffic impact assessment considered access off of these National roads.</p> <p>Please refer to the short letter response from the traffic specialist, Athol Schwarz, relating to access, in Appendix 3 of the PPP Report.</p> <p>An encroachment application has been submitted for the line crossing over the N12, and has been approved (see Appendix 3 to the EA application form).</p> <p>The following mitigation measure has been included in Part C of the EMP:</p> <p><u>Consult SANRAL before any movement of abnormal loads on national roads.</u> <u>In such instances, please forward the Transport Traffic Plan to Garth Julius at juliusg@nra.co.za for approval.</u></p>
Transnet		
The office has no objection to the development, subject to Transnet Freight Rail approval.	M Mukwevho, Transnet, 09/11/2022	<p>Noted</p> <p>Once the final overhead line has been confirmed, and prior to any work being undertaken, a formal application must be submitted to TFR for a wayleave agreement. The plan must include detailed plans of the crossings, listing the WG co-ordinates, and must include any services (if any) that will be crossing the Transnet owned land or infrastructure.</p> <p>The following mitigation measure has been included in Part C of the EMP:</p> <p><u>Submit a formal application to TFR for a wayleave agreement once the final overhead line has been confirmed, and prior to any work being undertaken.</u> <u>The plan must include detailed plans of the crossings, listing the WG co-ordinates, and must include any services (if any) that will be crossing the Transnet owned land or infrastructure.</u></p>

The developer must make sure that Transnet's cadastral boundary beacons are not disturbed or damaged during the construction process. Any damaged beacons must be replaced by a professional land surveyor with the consent of this office.	M Mukwevho, Transnet, 09/11/2022	Noted
No new cables or services may cross Transnet land or infrastructure without consent from TFR.	M Mukwevho, Transnet, 09/11/2022	Noted
Existing boundary fences must be replaced if damaged during construction.	M Mukwevho, Transnet, 09/11/2022	Noted
Endangered Wildlife Trust		
Please send all correspondence to eia@ewt.org.za and remove me from the list.	Lourens Leeuwner, EWT, 3/03/2023	Noted, and sent correspondence to eia@ewt.org.za on 6 March 2023, and a reminder on 4 April 2023. No further correspondence has been received to date.
Mr Louis Andrag		
My company Drivequip Pty Ltd bought the farm RE/176 Murraysburg Rd in December 2021 and transfer took place in Feb 2022 – CH Du Plessis is therefore not the owner entity anymore	Louis Andrag, 2/03/2023	Noted. The stakeholder database has been updated accordingly.
Kathryn Winstanley – G7 Renewable Energies		
Requested that Caryn Clarke with email address eia@g7energies.com be registered as an I&AP for the project. Requested copies of all relevant documents and updates, as well as reply to this email with confirmation of registration	Kathryn Winstanley, 7/03/2023	Registration confirmed, and link to download documents shared.
Simamkele Ntsengwane, African Clean Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd		
Requested a kmz file of the route	Simamkele Ntsengwane, 02/03/2023	Kmz file shared.
Johan van Zyl, JVZ Construction		
Requested that Mr Van Zyl be registered as an IAP	Nicolene Mowzer, 08/03/2023	Registered and shared correspondence and link to DBAR.
Ryan David-Andersen, AMDA Developments (Pty) Ltd		
MDA is developing the 600MW Carissa WEF about 30km south of Beaufort West with Hive so we have considerable interest in the broader area. Requested to be registered as an IAP, and kept updated of any projects in the Beaufort-West area.	R David-Andersen, 09/03/2023	Registered as an IAP and shared a map with the Gamma Corridor and all other known renewable projects within a 30 km radius.

Appendix 1: Stakeholder Database

Authorities and Institutional Stakeholders

Org / Entity / Property	Position	Full name & Surname (title)	PoC	Email
Beaufort West Local Municipality	Land Use Officer	Ashley Mitchell	buildingcontrol@beaufortwestmun.co.za	buildingcontrol@beaufortwestmun.co.za
Beaufort West Local Municipality	Superintendent Electrical Services	Christo de Koker	christo@beaufortwestmun.co.za	christo@beaufortwestmun.co.za
Beaufort West Local Municipality	Head of Infrastructure	Christopher Wright	christopher@beaufortwestmun.co.za	christopher@beaufortwestmun.co.za
Beaufort West Local Municipality	Superintendent Electrical Services	Dons le Roux	dons@beaufortwestmun.co.za	dons@beaufortwestmun.co.za
Beaufort West Local Municipality	Ward Councillor: Ward 7	Jason Mdudumani	imdudumani@gmail.com	imdudumani@gmail.com
Beaufort West Local Municipality	LED Unit Manager	Lewellyn Lakay	lewellyn@beaufortwestmun.co.za	lewellyn@beaufortwestmun.co.za
Beaufort West Local Municipality	Ward Councillor: Ward 2	Josias De Kock Reynolds	siasreynolds@yahoo.com	siasreynolds@yahoo.com
Beaufort West Local Municipality	Ward Councillor: Ward 1	Ralph Skuzza	skuzaralph07@gmail.com	skuzaralph07@gmail.com
Beaufort West Local Municipality	Senior Manager: Corporate Services	Petrus Strumpfer	petrus@beaufortwestmun.co.za	petrus@beaufortwestmun.co.za
Beaufort West Local Municipality	Director Electro-Technical Services	Roelof van Rensburg	roelof@beaufortwestmun.co.za	roelof@beaufortwestmun.co.za
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Nelspoort (between BW & Three Sisters)	Chairperson	??	-
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SNEEUW KRAAL	47	BOOISKRAAL TRUST		
DUIKER KRANSE	RE/45	JACK DAVID ROBERT LINTON		
DUIKER KRANSE	RE/3/45	JACK DAVID ROBERT LINTON		
VLAK FONTEIN	4/207	VAN DER WALTSPoORT TRUST		
VLAK FONTEIN	1/207	WAGENAARSKRAAL TRUST		
EZELSFONTEIN	RE/235	HAMMAN NICOLAAS JOHANNES ID4007285024007		
EZELSFONTEIN	RE/235	HAMMAN NICOLAAS JOHANNES ID4007285024007		
GROOTKLIP	RE/238	HAMMAN NICOLAAS JOHANNES ID4007285024007		
RIETKOOF PLAATEN	RE/239	HAMMAN NICOLAAS JOHANNES ID4007285024007		
GROOTKLIP	RE/238	HAMMAN NICOLAAS JOHANNES ID4007285024007		
WATERVAL	RE/237	HAMMAN NICOLAAS JOHANNES ID4007285024007		
MURRAYSBURG RD	RE/176	C H D U PLESSIS PTY LTD		
TAAYBOSCHFONTEIN	RE/15	DB MARAIS FAMILIE TRUST		
UIT VLUGT FONTEIN	265	ESKOM HOLDINGS LTD		
SCHIETKUL	1/3	ESKOM HOLDINGS LTD		
DOORN KLOOF	RE/224	VINKNES BELEGGINGS PTY LTD 1969/012421/07		
AANGRESEND ABRAMS KRAAL	11	8 MILE INV 434 PTY LTD		

PHASANT KRAAL	1	MARAIS HENDRIK SCHALK ID 6705015103086
KOOK FONTEIN	RE/226	SCHOEMAN FAMILIETRUST NR 3 KLEINFONTEIN BOERDERY TRUST (NO.764/98)
KLEINFONTEIN	RE/93	
SCHIETKUILL	3	ROOKOP TRUST
MORDANT KLAASSENSKRAAL	RE/11/14	KLERK OSWALD GOUS DE KLEINFONTEIN BOERDERY TRUST
UIT VLUGT FONTEIN	1/265	
DRUPFONTEIN	1/208	BRAKVLEI BOERDERY TRUST
BRAKFONTEIN	3/225	SANRAL <i>a</i>
PAARDEBERG	2/49	ABRAHAMSKRAAL TRUST
AASVOGELBERG	1/59	ABRAHAMSKRAAL TRUST
ABRAMS KRAAL	RE/206	ABRAHAMSKRAAL TRUST
DRUPFONTEIN	2/208	ANJALI BELEGGINGS C C (200710005523)
VLAK FONTEIN	3/207	BOETMAR TRUST (128/2005)
GABRIELS BAKEN	2	STEENKAMP PETRUS JOHANNES WILLEM
DUIKER KRANSE	4/45	GANSFONTEIN TRUST
BRAKFONTEIN	1/225	SMOKEY GROVE TRUST
BRAKFONTEIN	1/225	SMOKEY GROVE TRUST
EZELS FONTEIN	2/235	ROUX FRANCOIS DU TOIT
EZELS FONTEIN	3/235	ROUX FRANCOIS DU TOIT
RIETKLOOF PLAATEN	4/235	ROUX FRANCOIS DU TOIT
ANNEX NOBELS FONTEIN	1/239	ROUX FRANCOIS DU TOIT
	RE/234	ROUX FRANCOIS DU TOIT

EZELSFONTEIN	5/235	TRANSNET LTD (199000090006)
EZELSFONTEIN	1/235	TRANSNET LTD (199000090006)
GROOTKLIP	1/238	TRANSNET LTD (199000090006)
BRAKFONTEIN	RE/225	HENTIQ 1329 PTY LTD (NO.98/13257/07)
AASVOGELBERG	4/59	BARNARD WILLIE
AASVOGELBERG	2/59	BARNARD WILLIE
MODDERFONTEIN	3/228	WIAAN BARNARD TRUST
MODDERFONTEIN	4/228	WIAAN BARNARD TRUST
ZWARTKOPJES	1/240	WIAAN BARNARD TRUST
ZWARTKOPJES	2/240	WIAAN BARNARD TRUST

Neighbouring Landowners and Stakeholders

FARM NO.	FARM NAME	OWNER ENTITY	CONTACT / FARMSTEAD	EMAIL ADDRESS
13	BULTFONTEIN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
12	BULTFONTEIN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
1/206	ABRAMSKRAAL	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
1/49	PAARDEBERG	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
RE/50	PAARDEBERG	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
RE/208	DRUPFONTEIN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
5/207	VLAK FONTEIN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
81	SPITS KOP	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
396	FARM 396	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
RE/48	ADJ DRIEKOP	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
RE/176	MURRAYSBURG RD	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	JAN BOOYSENS	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
8/94	ONDER PLAATS	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	JAN BOOYSENS	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
8/94	ONDER PLAATS	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
RE/9/6	SPITSKOP	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
1/61	TAABOSCHFONTEIN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
3/59	AASVOGELBERG	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2/265	UIT VLUGT FONTEIN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
RE/92	BURGERSFONTEIN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
RE/15	TAAYBOSCHFONTEIN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	MORDANT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
4/14	KLAASSENSKRAAL	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

RE/240	ZWARTKOPJES
RE/1/1 5	TAAYBOSCHFONTEIN
3/65	WAAYFONTEIN
RE/241	FARM 241
RE/3/6 5	WAAYFONTEIN
RE/7/6	BRONKERS VALEI
13/14	MORDANT KLAASSENSKRAL
249	STERKFONTEIN
1/234	ANNEX NOBELS FONTEIN
2/205	GROOT FONTEIN
RE/3	SCHIETKUIL
2/235	EZELSFontein
3/248	NOBELSFONTEIN
7/238	GROOTKLIP
5/238	GROOTKLIP
6/238	GROOTKLIP
7/65	WAAYFONTEIN
6/15	TAAYBOSCHFONTEIN
3/15	TAAYBOSCHFONTEIN
7/15	TAAYBOSCHFONTEIN
3/240	ZWARTKOPJES
17/14	MORDANT KLAASSENSKRAL
4/15	TAAYBOSCHFONTEIN
RE/226	KOOK FONTEIN

4/245	KAREE KLOOF	
RE/21	TAAYBOSCHFONTEIN	
5	BLINDEFONTEIN B	
2/211		
9	KLIPGAT	
4/238	GROOTKLIP	
4/248	NOBELSFONTEIN	
1/60	WITKRANS	
5/59	AASVOGELBERG	
RE/59	AASVOGELBERG	
3/10	GANS FONTEIN	
RE/10	GANS FONTEIN	
2/10	GANS FONTEIN	
		Simamkele Ntsengwane – Project Developer
		Kathryn Winstanley
		Johan van Zyl
		Ryan David-Andersen
		Ben Brimble
		Scatec
		Adam Treki
		African Clean Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd (ACED)
		G7 Renewable Energies
		JVZ Construction
		AMDA
		Seriti Green

Appendix 2: Notices

Notices of the availability of the DBAR for comment were sent to all stakeholders in the stakeholder database by means of post/email/telephonic contact. Five posters were placed in towns along the gridline corridor:

- Murraysburg Municipal offices
- At the entrance to the Gamma Substation
- On the Victoria West Municipal notice board
- On a notice board at the Three Sisters Shell Ultra City
- On the Beaufort West Municipality notice board

Notices were placed in the media – *Die Courier* and *Die Burger*.

Copies of the DBAR were provided to ward councillors on a flash drive:

- Ubuntu LM Ward 3 – Soutie Weldon Kock
- Beaufort West LM Ward 1 – Ralph Skuza
- Beaufort West LM Ward 2 – Sias De Kock Reynolds
- Beaufort West LM Ward 7 – Jason Mdudumani

Copies of the notifications that **were sent** regarding the availability of the Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) are inserted below.

Written Notice to Stakeholders

CEN
Integrated Environmental Management Unit
140 Kruger Gardens, Admiralty Way, Summerstrand
Gqeberha
6001
South Africa



Telephone: 041 – 367 4748 **Cellular:** 082 320 3111 / 072 725 6400
Fax: 0865042549 **Email:** steenbok@aerosat.co.za / bclark@telkomsa.net

Reg No: 1996/032402/23

2 March 2023

Dear Authority and/or Institutional Stakeholder,

Proposed Development of the ~110 km, 400 kV Gamma Gridline north of Beaufort West within the Western and Northern Cape Provinces: Notice of Stakeholder Engagement Process and Release of Draft Basic Assessment Report for Stakeholder Comment

DFFE Pre-Application Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2710

Overview:

Red Cap Energy (Red Cap) proposes to develop a new ~110 km long, 400 kV gridline (or power line) extending from the authorised Nuweveld Wind Farm Collector Substation (located north of Beaufort West at 31°51'21.54"S, 22°28'38.05"E) to the Gamma Substation (located at 31°40'49.56"S, 23°24'37.53"E, ~90 km east of the approved Nuweveld Collector Substation).

The project is located within a Strategic Transmission Corridor (STC) specifically identified to accommodate electrical grid infrastructure (as per Government Notice [GN] 113 of 2018), and is intended to improve the functionality of the Eskom grid in the area and expand its capacity to facilitate the development of additional renewable energy projects in the region. Gridline access tracks for construction and maintenance also form components of the project.

The gridline would start and end in the Western Cape (Central Karoo District Municipality and Beaufort West Local Municipality) and portions of the line would traverse land in the Northern Cape (Pixley ka Seme District Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality).

Application Process and Public Participation:

An application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the project has been submitted to the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) as required in terms of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended) promulgated under Section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998)¹. As the project is located in an STC, a Basic Assessment (BA) Process is being conducted to inform the application for EA (as per GN 113 of 2018).

The Draft BA Report is available for a 30-day comment period from **3 March to 3 April 2023**. As a potential Interested and Affected Party, you are invited to register as a stakeholder on the project database, review the report, and provide comments. Registered stakeholders will continue to be notified of the BA process, and comments submitted on the Draft BA Report will be addressed in, and appended to, the Final BA Report that will be submitted to the DFFE for their review during decision making.

¹ The project triggers the following listed activities requiring EA: Listing Notice 1, Activities: 12, 19, 27 and 28; Listing Notice 2, Activity 9; and, Listing Notice 3, Activities: 4, 12, 14 and 18.

The report and appendices can be accessed by the following means:

1. On the EAP's website: <https://environmentcen.co.za/project-items/400kv-gamma-gridline/> - Downloads from this site is 'datafree for mobile users without data on your phone'.
2. Electronic copies will be provided on flash drives to Ward Councillors in the relevant Wards (i.e. Beaufort West LM: Wards 1, 2 and 7; and Ubuntu LM: Ward 3).
3. By contacting the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) at the contact details below

If you are unable to download the reports from the above website, please contact the EAP at the details below to make alternate arrangements.

Comments on the report must please be submitted to the Environmental Assessment Practitioner, **by 3 April 2023**, using the following details:

EAP - CEN IEM Unit – Dr Mike Cohen / Belinda Clark
140 Kruger Gardens, Admiralty Way, Summerstrand, Gqeberha, 6001
Phone (041) 367 4748 / 082 320 3111 / 072 725 6400
Email (preferred): steenbok@aerosat.co.za / bclark@telkomsa.net

Yours sincerely



Belinda Clark

CEN
Integrated Environmental Management Unit
140 Kruger Gardens, Admiralty Way, Summerstrand
Gqeberha
6001
South Africa



Telephone: 041 – 367 4748
Fax: 0865042549

Cellular: 082 320 3111 / 072 725 6400
Email: steenbok@aerosat.co.za / bclark@telkom.co.za

Reg No: 1996/032402/23

2 March 2023

Dear Stakeholder,

Proposed Development of the ~110 km, 400 kV Gamma Gridline north of Beaufort West within the Western and Northern Cape Provinces: Notice of Stakeholder Engagement Process and Release of Draft Basic Assessment Report for Stakeholder Comment

DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2710

Overview:

Red Cap Energy (Red Cap) proposes to develop a new ~110 km long, 400 kV gridline (or power line), extending from the authorised Nuweveld Wind Farm Collector Substation (located north of Beaufort West at 31°51'21.54"S, 22°28'38.05"E) to the Gamma Substation (located at 31°40'49.56"S, 23°24'37.53"E, ~90 km east of the approved Nuweveld Collector Substation).

The project is located within a Strategic Transmission Corridor (STC) specifically identified to accommodate electrical grid infrastructure (as per Government Notice [GN] 113 of 2018), and is intended to improve the functionality of the Eskom grid in the area and expand its capacity to facilitate the development of additional renewable energy projects in the region. Gridline access tracks for construction and maintenance also form components of the project.

The gridline would start in the Western Cape (Central Karoo District Municipality and Beaufort West Local Municipality) and portions of the line would traverse land in the Northern Cape (Pixley ka Seme District Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality).

Application Process and Public Participation:

An application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the project has been submitted to the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) as required in terms of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended) promulgated under Section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998)¹. As the project is located in an STC, a Basic Assessment (BA) Process is being conducted to inform the application for EA (as per GN 113 of 2018).

The Draft BA Report is available for a 30-day comment period from **3 March to 3 April 2023**. As an Interested and Affected Party you are invited to register as a stakeholder on the project database, review the report, and provide comments. Registered stakeholders will continue to be notified of the BA process, and comments submitted on the

¹ The project triggers the following listed activities requiring EA: Listing Notice 1, Activities: 12, 19, 27 and 28; Listing Notice 2, Activity 9; and, Listing Notice 3, Activities: 4, 12, 14 and 18.

Draft BA Report will be addressed in, and appended to, the Final BA Report that will be submitted to the DFFE for their review during decision making.

We request that you also please make this information available to any other persons residing on your property (e.g. staff or tenants).

The report and appendices can be accessed by the following means:

1. On the EAP's website: <https://environmentcen.co.za/project-items/400kv-gamma-gridline/> - Downloads from this site is 'datafree' for mobile users without data on your phone
2. Electronic copies will be provided on flash drives to Ward Councillors in the relevant Wards (i.e. Beaufort West LM: Wards 1, 2 and 7; and Ubuntu LM: Ward 3).
3. By contacting the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) at the contact details below.

If you are unable to download the reports from the above website, please contact the EAP at the details below to make alternate arrangements.

When registering on the project database and submitting comments on the BA Report, please refer to the relevant reference number listed above, and include your name, contact details (specifying your preferred method of notification, e.g. e-mail) to the contact person below, by **3 April 2023**.

EAP - CEN IEM Unit – Dr Mike Cohen / Belinda Clark
43 Rhodes Street, Mount Pleasant, Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth). 6070
Phone (041) 367 4748 / 082 320 3111 / 072 725 6400
Email (preferred): steenbok@aerosat.co.za / bclark@telkomsa.net

Yours sincerely



Belinda Clark

Poster

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS – PROPOSED GAMMA 400 KV GRIDLINE PROJECT KENNISGEWEING VAN PUBLIEKE DEELNAME PROSES – VOORGESTELDE GAMMA 400KV NETWERKLYN PROJEK ISAZISO NGENQUBO YOKUTHATHA INXAXHEBA LWONKE-WONKE – GAMMA 400 KV IPROJEKTHI

Project Description and Location

Red Cape Energy (Red Cap) proposes to develop a new ~110 km long, 400 KV gridline (or power line), extending from the authorised Nieuweveld Wind Farm Collector Substation (located north of Beaufort West at 31°5'12.1" S, 23°28'38.0" E) to the Gamma Substation (located at 31°40'49.5" S, 23°24'37.5" E, ~90 km east of the Nieuweveld Collector Substation). The project is located within a Strategic Transmission Corridor (STC) specifically identified to accommodate electrical grid infrastructure (as per Government Notice [GN] 113 of 2018), and is intended to improve the functionality of the Eskom grid in the area and expand its capacity to facilitate the development of additional renewable energy projects in the region. Gridline access tracks for construction and maintenance also form components of the project. The gridline would start in the Western Cape (Central Karoo District Municipality and Beaufort West Local Municipality) and portions of the line would traverse land in the Northern Cape (Tulbagh ka Seme District Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality).

Projekbeskrywing en Ligging

Red Cape Energy Edm (Bpk) stel voor om 'n nuwe 400 KV netwerklyer, binne 'n gang wat 110km lank en 3 km wyd is, wat strek vanaf die genoemde Nieuweveld Windfarm Substasie (geleë noord van Beaufort West by 31°5'12.1" S, 23°28'38.0" E) tot by die Gamma Substasie (geleë 80 km oos van die Nieuweveld Substasie by 31°40'49.5" S, 23°24'37.5" E) te vervaag. Die projek is geleë binne die Strategiese Transmissiestriggeng spesifiek geïdentifiseer om elektriese reënbaan infrastruktuur te akkommodeer (soos per GN 113 van 2018) en waarvan die doelwitte is om die funksionalsiteit van die Eskom netwerk in die area te verbeter en die kapasiteit vir ontwikkeling van addisionele hernbare energie projekte in die area te vergroot. 'n Toegangspad vir konstruksie en instandhoudings doelendoe vorm ook deel van die projek. Die netwerklyer sal begin en eindig in die Wes-Kaap (Centrale Karoo Distrik Munisipaliteit en Beaufort-Wes Plaaslike Munisipaliteit) en deel van dielyn sal die Noord-Kaap portulek (Tulbagh ka Seme Distrik Munisipaliteit en Ubuntu Plaaslike Munisipaliteit).

Ingcaciso neningqi yeProjekt

Red Cap Energy (Red Cap) planneer ukuhla umntla omntla we grak (okanye intombi yomntla), ukusukela kwekhuluto sopherhi kumbane esaphuyisichweyi. Nieuweveld Windfarm Collector Substasie (31°5'12.1" S, 23°28'38.0" E) ukaya kwekhuluto sopherhi umntla essele silvuna iGamma (esse 31°40'49.5" S, 23°24'37.5" E, hui ~90 km emntla yesikhuluto sopherhi umbane esaphuyisichweyi Nieuweveld). Le projekti bokwe nqaphakathi kufukile yaThutho yeGcinaqoqo-bokule (=>STC) echingqile ukhulungqethi izintla zonceda zonkile. (gnole5 asseksualumele [GA] 113 ka-2018). Kwaye kungs ukuphakala ukusukela kumbane ka-Eskom kula amndende, kwaye kuhawanda amndanda eys. Ukupusukela uphakala kweprojekti zonceda #Hlacykayo ezingqezelwayo kula amndende. Indlela zonkile kweqinile kuhulungqile mukugwes kweko zibumisa amndando ezingqile. Umzila wethungqewiso uya kufaka ekholana Kafarri (Almapata wetihla esikhuluto wethungqile amndando ezingqile). Kwaye kuhawende zonqalo zya kunguqala emthabeni wane Mita Katori (Almapata umntla asenqefile kaSeme kurye nolihlopisa esifungo wene-Umzila).

How to Participate / Hoe om Deel te Neem / Indlela Yokuthatha Inxaxheba

The Draft EA Report is available for a 30-day comment period from 3 March to 3 April 2023. Stakeholders are invited to register on the project database, review the report, and provide comments. The report can be accessed on the EAP's website at <https://envirocomment.co.za/project/items/100kv-gamma-gridline/>. Downloads from this site is 'datafree' for mobile users without data on your phone.

Die Basiese Assessering konsepverdag sal beskikbaar wees vir 'n 30 dae kommentaar tydperk van 3 Maart tot 3 April 2023. Belanghebbende word uitgenooi om te registréer op die projek database, die konsepverdag te herlezen en kommentaar te lewer. Toegang tot die verdragverky word op die Omgewingsassessering se webdienste by: <https://envirocomment.co.za/project/items/100kv-gamma-gridline/> - Dit is gratis om dokumente van hierdie webdienste af te laai vir selfloos gebruikers wat geen data het nie.

Hipole yedA w/Dr Mike Cohen uitvoerende direktori enby 30 zonkakalisa izole ukuusukela ngc3 kuhulungqile ezyekuhuluto ukoya hui-3 ku/Thutho 100kv gamma-gridline ka-2023. Kudzaphazekayo ka kuswengwa ukuba bokuleka wethungqile, kuhulungqile, kwaye kuhawende izole. Ingole kufolusazeka kuhulungqile mukugwes we-EAP ku <https://envirocomment.co.za/project/items/100kv-gamma-gridline/> - Izole ezikuhulungqile kufaka kuswengwa ukuba nac a) solela ingena data.

Environmental Assessment Practitioner: CEN IEM Unit – Dr Mike Cohen / Bellinda Clark
140 Kruger Gardens, Admiralty Way, Summerstrand, George (Port Elizabeth), 6070
Cell: 082 320 3111 / 072 725 6400 Email (preferred): steenboek@aerostat.co.za / bclark@telkom.co.za

Environmental Application Process

The project triggers activities listed in terms of the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 2014 (as amended) – namely Listing Notice 1 activities 12, 18, 27, 28, Listing Notice 2 activity 8 and Listing Notice 3 activities 4, 12, 14 and 18. As such the project requires Environmental Authorisation (EA). An application for EA for the project has been submitted to the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) promulgated under Section 24 of NEMA. As the project is located in an STC, a Basic Assessment (BA) Process is being conducted to inform the application for EA (as per GN 113 of 2018).

Omgewingsassesserings Aansoek Proses

Die projek behels die volgende aktiwiteite wat Omgewingsassessering vereis in terme van die Nasionale Omgewingsbestuurswet en Omgewingsimpakassesserings Regulamtes 2014 (soos gegeeby): Notingekennisgewing 1, Aktiwiteit 12, 18, 27 en 28; Notingekennisgewing 2, Aktiwiteit 8 en Notingekennisgewing 3, Aktiwiteit 4, 12, 14 en 18. Gevolglik vereis die projek 'n Omgewingsassessering. Aansoek vir Omgewingsassessering (OM) vir die projek is ingenieer by die Nasionale Departement van Bome, Visserye en Omgewing (DBV) soos vereis in terme van die Omgewingsimpakassesserings Regulamtes, 2014 (soos gegeeby) in terme van Artikel 24 van NEMA. Conrekte die projek geleit is in: HSTS, sal in Bassiese Assessering Proses gevind word om die aansoek vir OM in te lig (soos per GN 113 van 2018).

Inkubu yesicelo sokusingqongileyo

Iprojek ipolisa imisebenz edwane nqokwengqo yethetho weliawu lokusNgongileyo weliSwu we-107 ka-1998 (NEMA) (Afrikaans yokuwanya temMembeto yokuNqongileyo (EIA) Impago, 2014 (ngengko Bungkisi) – oke kuluhi (Sakse soluthu 1 imisebenz 12, 18, 27, 28, Easso soluthu 2 umsebenz we-8 kuya neSakse soluthu 3 imisebenz 4, 12, 14 no-18. Ngalo indla qopithi kuna Qunyanya hefukuse (EA), huclo seDunya Lokume Bemeko Yendawo seprojekti selesihunyee kwSebe Lesizwe Lamahlafti, Ukuhla kune Nobume Bemeko Yendawo (DFFE), ngengko kufurwa nqokwengqo yele EA ka-2014 (ngengko Angula) ethengqo phantli kueCandela 24 in-NEMA. Ngengko, projekti kwa-STC aphi kufuthya khone wifikuphe yokuwanya olusinkesa (SA) ukuchwa noliso se-EA (ngokwane-GN 113 ka-2018).





KENNISGEWING: BELANGHEBBENDE DEELNAME PROSESS IN TERME VAN DIE OIA REGULASIES (2014 SOOS GEWYSTIG) IN TERME VAN DIE NASIONALE OMGEWINGSBESTUURSWET 107 VAN 1998

Voorgestelde ontwikkeling van die ~110 km, 400 kV Gamma Netwerklyn noord van Beaufort-Wes in die Wes- en Noord-Kaap: Kennisgewing van Belanghebbende Deelname Proses en Vrystelling van die Bassiese Assesseringskonsepverslag vir kommentaar – DFFE vooraansoek verwysings nommer: 2022-08-0023

Red Cape Energy Edms. (Bpk) stel voor om 'n nuwe 110km lange 400 kV netwerklyn, vanaf die gemagtige Nuweveld Windplaas Substasie (geleë noord van Beaufort-Wes by (31°51'21.54"S, 22°28'38.05"E) tot by die Gamma Substasie (geleë 90 km oos van die goedgekeurde Nuweveld Substasie by 31°40'49.56"S, 23°24'37.53"E) te vestig. Die projek beoog om die funksionaliteit van Eskom in die area te verbeter, asook die kapasiteit vir ontwikkeling van addisionele hernubare energie projekte in die area te vergroot. Die toegangspad vir konstruksie en instandhoudings doeleindes vorm ook deel van die projek.

Aansoek vir Omgeweingsmagtiging (OM) vir die projek is ingedien by die Nasionale Departement van Bosbou, Visserye en Omgewing (DBVO) soos veries in terme van die Omgewingsimpakassesserings Regulasies, 2014 (soos gewysig) in terme van NEMA. Die projek behels die volgende aktiwiteite wat Omgeweingsmagtiging veries: Noteringskennisgewing 1, Aktiwitiete: 12, 19, 27 en 28; Noteringskennisgewing 2, Aktiwiteit 9; en Noteringskennisgewing 3, Aktiwitete 4, 12, 14 en 18.

'n Bassiese Assesserings Proses word geloods om die aansoek vir OM in te lig (soos per GN 113 van 2018). Belanghebbendes word uitgenooi om te regstreer op die projek database, die verslag te hersien, en kommentaar te lewer aan die Omgewingsassesserings Konsultant by die kontakbesonderhede hieronder. Slegs geregistreerde belanghebbendes sal voortaan ingelig word van die proses. Die konsepverslag van die Bassiese Assesering sal beskikbaar wees van 3 Maart 2023 tot 3 April 2023 op die webtuiste by <https://environmentcen.co.za/project-items/400kv-gamma-gridline/>, of op versoek by die kontakbesonderhede hieronder. Dit is gratis om dokumente van hierdie webtuiste af te laai vir selfoon gebruikers wat geen data het nie. Elektroniese kopie sal voorsien word aan Raadslede in die onderskeie Wyke.

EAP-CEN IEM Unit – Dr Mike Cohen / Belinda Clark

140 Kruger Gardens, Admiralty Weg, Summerstrand, Gqeberha, 6001

Telefoon 082 320 3111 / 072 725 6400

Epos (verkieslik): steenbok@aerosat.co.za / bclark@telkomsa.net

Gebruik asseblief die bogenoemde verwysingsnommer, met jou naam, kontakbesonderhede, en kommunikasie voorkeure (bv epos), wanneer jy regstreer op die projek database en kommentaar indien teen **3 April 2023**.

777777-DB020323

Evidence of request for comment from state departments

Comments received from state departments are included in Appendix 3. Where comments have not been obtained, the DFFE requires evidence of the EAP attempting to do so. A summary list of state departments consulted by the EAP, and an indication of effort made to obtain comments is given below.

State Department	Comments received	Efforts made to contact stakeholder (where no comment has been received)
DFFE: Directorate Biodiversity Planning and Conservation	Comments received	
DFFE: Integrated Environmental Authorisations	Comments received.	Phoned Annette Stoltz (Land Use Official) on 11 April 2023 – confirmed that the notice was received, and will print the DBAR and provide comment. The Department will respond again for planning in terms of the change in land use application, and the next meeting is in ~2 weeks. Will discuss with others and phone me on 12 April with way forward. No call received. I phoned 12 April – no answer Phoned again on 17 April – subscriber unavailable.
Western Cape Department of Agriculture		Mr B Layman requested a copy of the DBAR on flash drive. Sent 8 March 2023 via courier. Mr Layman responded via email on 13 April 2023 that the Department will respond in 90 days.

Northern Cape Department of Agriculture	Phoned Beanca Botes (PA to Acting HOD) on 11 April 2023. Ms Botes confirmed Mr Fisher (NC Department of Environment and Conservation) is the relevant person to provide comment on behalf of the Department.	
Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation	Mr B Fisher verbally confirmed on 17 April 2023 that he has no comment to add.	<p>Phoned Mamabefu Modipa (PA to Director General) on 11 April 2023 – confirmed notice was received, and the Department will submit comment in 5 working days (from 11 April). No comments received.</p> <p>Sent follow up email on 24 April 2023. No further correspondence received.</p>
Northern Cape Department of Minerals and Energy		<p>Phoned Dr Johnny McKay on 11 April 2023 – not available</p> <p>Phoned admin on 12 April 2023 – indicated I must phone Ms Gill after 12 pm because busy with Director General – phoned back after 12 pm and spoke to admin again - requested I send email to brevti1234@gmail.com – she will forward to Mr Gill and ask her to phone me back.</p> <p>No return call received.</p> <p>Phoned Ms Gill on 17 April – call ended.</p>
Northern Cape Department of Roads and Public Works		
Western Cape Department of Roads and Public Works	Comments received.	
Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	Comments received	

CapeNature	Comments received.	
Department of Water and Sanitation	Comment received.	
Western Cape: Breede-Gouritz Catchment Agency	Confirmed that the Corridor is not within area of jurisdiction. No comments.	
Heritage Western Cape	Comments received	
South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	Comments received	
South African Civilian Aviation Authority	Comments received	
Department of Defence	Mr Van Zyl and Ms Kookman – no comments.	<p>Phoned Gerrit van Zyl – Environmental Health Manager on 11 April 2023 - subscriber unavailable</p> <p>Phoned admin on 12 April 2023 and enquired who is responsible for infrastructure development and environmental matters – transferred to Wesley Strong. Mr Strong confirmed that Mr Van Zyl is the correct person to provide comment on environmental matters.</p>
Central Karoo District Municipality		<p>Phoned Mr Van Zyl on 12 April – no comment from the Local Municipality – transferred to Ms Baba Kookman (Strategic Services at DM)</p> <p>Ms Kookman – verbally confirmed no comments, but the matter has been sent to the environmental officer. Will meet with him and phone me back by end of the day if there are any further comments. No call received.</p> <p>Phoned Ms Kookman again on 17 April – bad signal because travelling. She said she will phone me back. No further phone calls or correspondence received.</p>

Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality	Mr HP Greef (Senior Manager: Infrastructure, Housing, Planning and Development) verbally confirmed on 11 April 2023 – received notification and no comments.	
Beaufort West Local Municipality	Christo de Koker verbally confirmed on 12 April 2023 - no comments from the electrical department.	<p>Phoned the PA to the MM: Valencia Godfrey at 023 414 8100 on 11 April 2023. Confirmed original notification was received. Requested that I speak directly with Christopher Wright (Director Infrastructure) at 0234148140 and Christo de Koker (Electrical Infrastructure) at 0234147500 / 8199. Load shedding prevented calls going through.</p> <p>Phoned Christopher Wright on 12 April – no answer. Spoke to admin – provided cell number.</p> <p>Phoned Christo de Koker on 12 April – no comments from electrical department.</p> <p>Phoned Christopher Wright on cell number on 12 April - no answer, left voicemail</p> <p>Phoned Christopher Wright again on 17 April - could not leave a voice note because mailbox is full.</p>
Ubuntu Local Municipality		<p>Phoned Head of Communications - Nonceba Mkontwana on 11 April 2023: will enquire from Technical Officials and phone me back on 12 April.</p> <p>No call received. Phoned Nonceba again on 12 April: no answer, left voicemail.</p> <p>Phoned Nonceba on 17 April - she spoke with the Technical Officials – they said they would send comment through to the EAP. No comment received as yet.</p> <p>Nonceba said she will follow up with them again and phone me back.</p> <p>No further phone calls or written correspondence received.</p>

Endangered Wildlife Trust	<p>Lourens Leeuwener (Renewable Energy Manager) – confirmed on 3 March 2023 that EIA related queries must be sent to ei@ewt.org.za. Notices of the DBAR were sent to this email address.</p> <p>Phoned Mr Oliver Cowen on 11, 12 and 17 April – not available at any of these dates.</p> <p>No correspondence received.</p>
SANRAL Holdings SOC Ltd	Comments received.
Transnet Holdings SOC	<p>Transnet Freight Rail responded directly to Mr Lance Blaine of Red Cap in November 2022.</p> <p>No comment received in response to the Basic Assessment process to date.</p>
Birdlife South Africa	<p>Phoned Samantha Ralston-Paton on 11 April 2023. No answer - sent an sms</p> <p>Phoned again on 12 April – call declined.</p> <p>Phoned again on 17 April – left voicemail.</p> <p>No correspondence received.</p>

Appendix 3: Copies of Correspondence with stakeholders

Pre-Application Stage

DFFE Pre-Application Virtual Meeting Notes

Pre-Application Meeting: Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project (Reference: 2022-08-0023)

DFFE Virtual Meeting

2 September 2022

10h00

Participants:

- DFFE: Mahlatse Shubane, Makhosi Yeni, Olivia Letlalo, Seoka Lekota
- Red Cap (applicant): Matthew Law (ML), Surina Laurie
- CEN IEM Unit: Belinda Clark (EAP)

Meeting Notes:

- Application and listed activities: make sure clear descriptions are provided of how each of the listed activities included in the application are triggered.
- Specialist studies – The Department does not support development in very high sensitivity areas. Aquatic and terrestrial specialist studies must be clear on why an area/theme is rated as high or very high sensitivity. For example, identify that the area is within a CBA1 or 2, or that there are threatened species etc.
 - ML: explained that all infrastructure will avoid areas of very high sensitivity (i.e. they will be assigned no-go areas).
- The size of the Corridor: ranges from 4 to 5 km in width for the 110 km length. The project includes a 300m x 300m expansion to the Gamma Substation.
- It is anticipated that the footprint of the project will be less than 60 ha.
- The Corridor presented in the presentation splits to the north and south of a sensitive mountain complex on the western side of the Corridor. DFFE advised that it is important that a pre-negotiated route be submitted with the EA Application and Draft BAR. This means that the route cannot be split. Where the Corridor splits, the final report must be clear in terms of the route of the line. It must also be ensured that the Corridor is wide enough to accommodate infrastructure required for the gridline route.
- DFFE advised that it is important that a pre-negotiated route be submitted with the EA Application and Draft BAR.
- The assessment Corridor is within a Strategic Transmission Corridor. The studies must advise on whether it will traverse low, medium, high or very high sensitivity areas. The gazette must then be checked to determine if a Basic Assessment or the Power Line Standard must be used. The DFFE cannot advise on this until the studies have been done. If high sensitivity areas cannot be avoided, a Basic Assessment process will apply to the entire line. This has relevance to the PP process too.
- Generic EMPs for transmission lines and substations must be submitted. The EMPs require a pre-negotiated route to be indicated. The position of pylons must also be provided. It is accepted that there may need to be shifts in the pylon positions post-decision making stage during micro-siting, but these shifts will need to be accommodated within the pre-negotiated route.
- While virtual meetings are indicated, if IAPs request in-person meetings, these will need to be accommodated.
- Caution against only using English and Afrikaans for notifications and the PPP process.
- Reports must be submitted to BCAdmin@dff.e.gov.za for comments from the Biodiversity Department.
- CEN will submit a set of draft meeting notes to the DFFE. Once finalised and accepted, these will be attached with the application.

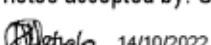
Meeting notes submitted by: Belinda Clark

Signed:



Meeting notes accepted by: Olivia Letlalo

Signed:

 14/10/2022

Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform Virtual Meeting Notes

DENC Meeting: Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project

Virtual Meeting

6 September 2022 at 14:00

Participants:

- NCDENC: B Fisher (BF), E Swart (ES)
- S Todd (ST) (terrestrial ecologist)
- Red Cap: M Law (ML), S Laurie (SL) (applicant)
- CEN IEM Unit: B Clark (BC) (EAP)

Meeting Notes

- NCDENC (BF and ES) to be registered as IAPs. Electronic transmission of reports acceptable.
- The project is not associated with any specific renewable energy generation projects but is a stand-alone project on request from ESKOM to improve the capacity, reliability and efficiency of the grid in the region, and release future potential renewable energy.
- DFFE will be the competent authority.
- CBA maps in terrestrial ecology reports should present consolidated CBA maps for the broader area including the Western Cape and Northern Cape (ST indicated that CBAs do not align across provinces).
- Focus of the study has been on mapping sensitivity features within a CBA. Sensitive areas / features can in most cases be avoided, and where avoidance is not possible the development footprint of the project has been minimised and is relatively small. ST therefore does not believe that an offset is required.
- ES indicated that the small footprint and the requirement for micro-siting / avoiding sensitive environments may serve as motivation for not requiring an offset.
- A single pre-negotiated route will be presented in the BA report.
- ML to send ES Environmental Authorisations for Nuweveld projects.
- Regarding the cumulative impacts of the project and shale gas development in the region, the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy and the Petroleum Agency have confirmed that previous shale gas Exploration Rights in the region have lapsed.

Correspondence on the Draft Basic Assessment Report

DFFE: Integrated Environmental Authorisations



**forestry, fisheries
& the environment**

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447- PRETORIA - 0001- Environment House -473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2710

Enquiries: Olivia Letlalo

Telephone: (012) 399 8815 **E-mail:** oletlalo@dffo.gov.za

Belinda Clark
CEN Integrated Environmental Management Unit
140 Kruger Gardens
Summerstrand
GQEBERHA
6001

Cellphone Number: 072 725 6400
Email Address: bclark@telkomsa.net / steenbok@aerosat.co.za

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Ms Clark

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW ~110KM 400 KV GAMMA GRIDLINE CONNECTION FROM THE AUTHORISED NUWEVELD WIND FARM DEVELOPMENT COLLECTOR SUBSTATION TO THE 132/400 KV GAMMA SUBSTATION IN NORTH OF THE TOWN BEAUFORT WEST WITHIN THE WESTERN AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

The draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the abovementioned application submitted and received by the Competent Authority (CA) on 02 March 2023, refers.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the final BAR:

Listed Activities

- It has been noted that the exclusions on the triggered listed activities applied for are not included in the application form and draft BAR. Therefore, you are advised to include such in the amended application form as well as final BAR, all the relevant exclusions related to the listed activities applied for.
- The CA has noted the words such as "may, would, likely and as far as possible" have been used in the description of activities applied for (i.e., activity 12, 19 and 27 of LN 1 as well as activity 4 and 18 of LN 3). Please refrain from using such word/s, since it creates an uncertainty regarding the applicability of the listed activity applied for. In addition, please note that the project description and listed activities are not based on a precautionary approach.
- It has been noted that activity 27 of LN 1 has been applied for. However, the description of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates to indicated that "*it is likely that more than 1ha of indigenous vegetation will be cleared for temporary laydown areas and as the proposed gridline (and associated access track) is a linear activity, it is excluded from this listed activity*". It is not clear why activity 27 of LN1 have been included or applied for in the application form. Please clarify?
- Further to the above, a 300m x 300m expansion to the Gamma Substation (including transformers and other standard substation infrastructure) as described on page 8 of the site verification report is not accounted for in any of the listed activities applied for, considering that there will be clearance of vegetation for the

LO

expansion of the substation (that is a non-linear activity). Please ensure that this information is clarified in the final BAR.

- For activity 4 of LN 3, the description of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates to indicated that “*access track will be approximately 2-4m wide*”. Please be reminded that the EIA Regulations listing notice indicate that the road must be wider than 4m. As such, you are requested to indicate and clarify the exact width of the road to be widened to determine the applicability of the aforesaid activity.
- It has been noted that sub-activities for activity 4 and 12 of LN 3 are triggered because the proposed development will be located within Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) identified in the bioregional plans has been applied for, therefore, you are requested to indicate if the bio-regional plan has been adopted, resulting in this sub-activity triggered. In addition, you are required to provide written confirmation from the relevant CA on the adopted bioregional plan and refer to it in the description of the activity triggered and applied for.
- Ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description. Only activities applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed. In addition, the onus is on the applicant and the EAP to ensure that all the applicable listed activities and sub-activities are included in the application form. Failure to do so may result in unnecessary delays in the processing of the application.
- If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final BAR, an amended application form must be submitted. Please note that the Department’s application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following link <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>.

Project description

- It has been noted that the general site and project information in the draft BAR does not have any indication of a 300m x 300m expansion to the Gamma Substation (including transformers and other standard substation infrastructure) as described on page 8 of the site verification report. Please ensure that the information provided for the development is consistent in all reports submitted with the final BAR. In addition, you are advised to provide the components of the proposed development with the dimensions.

Alternatives

- In terms of Appendix 1 (3) (1) (h) (i) (iv) (v) (vi) (vii) (viii) and (x) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, you are required to provide details of all the alternatives considered and if no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not considering such as well as concluding statement indicating the preferred alternatives, including preferred location of the activity must be submitted.

Cumulative Assessment

- The cumulative impact assessment for all identified alternatives must be undertaken as per the requirements of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

Layout and sensitivity map

- Noting that this power line falls within the transmission corridor, you are requested to submit the pre-negotiated route of the powerline located within the aforesaid corridor (the corridor as gazette by the Minister).
- The CA has noted that Figure 4 and 5 maps for the proposed development have been included in the draft BAR. Please ensure that the layout maps are submitted with the final BAR and must indicate the following:
 - Final negotiated route of the powerline and its coordinates.
 - All associated infrastructure (existing and proposed), such as, but not limited to roads and substations,
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site, e.g., CBA, wetlands, drainage lines, graves, nests, etc. that will be affected,
 - Buffer areas of the abovementioned sensitivities; and
 - All “no-go” areas.
- The above layout map must have a clear legend with information communicating with that on the map, be overlain with the sensitivity map.

- The avifaunal assessment has recommended infrastructure exclusion zones must be implemented around all Verreaux's Eagle nests, except nests on existing high voltage lines and 2.5km around all Martial Eagle nests except nests on existing high voltage lines. These exclusion zones must be marked as no-go areas in the development layout map showing the pre-negotiated route.

Specialist studies

- It is brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e., "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020, have come into effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols unless proof is provided to demonstrate that the specialist assessments were commissioned prior to 50 days after the promulgation of GN 320 and after promulgation of GN1150 (30 October 2020).
- It is noted that on page 9 of 19 of the screening tool report dated 16 October 2022, the proposed site has low sensitivity on defence theme and civil aviation theme. It has medium sensitivity on agricultural and plant species theme, as well as high sensitivity on animal species theme, and very high sensitivity on aquatic biodiversity theme, archaeological and cultural heritage theme, palaeontology theme as well as terrestrial biodiversity theme.
- A site verification report submitted with the draft BAR is hereby noted. You are reminded to include in the final BAR, the site verification as well as motivation for the exclusions of any specialist studies identified by the screening tool.
- The protocols require certain specialists' to be registered with SACNASP. Refer to the relevant protocols in this regard.
- The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference for all the identified specialist studies must include the following:
 - A detailed description of the study's methodology; indication of the locations and descriptions of the development footprint, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisation.
 - Provide a detailed description of all limitations to the studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation will not be allowed.
 - Please note that the Department considers a 'no-go' area, as an area where no development of any infrastructure is allowed; therefore, no development of associated infrastructure including access roads is allowed in the 'no-go' areas.
 - Should the specialist definition of 'no-go' area differ from the Department's definition; this must be clearly indicated. The specialist must also indicate the 'no-go' area's buffer.
 - All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternative and recommendations, and must not recommend further studies to be completed post EA.
 - Should a specialist recommend specific mitigation measures, these must be clearly indicated.
 - Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defendable reasons; and were necessary, include further expertise advice.
 - Declaration forms must be provided for all specialist studies to be conducted.

Generic Environmental Management Programme (EMPr)

- It has been noted that one unsigned generic EMPr for the powerline and substation has been submitted with the draft BAR. Therefore, you are advised to submit the following in relation to the generic EMPr:
 - Two generic EMPr, for the powerline and substation.
 - Part B: Sections 2 of the aforesaid generic EMPrs signed by the Applicant.
 - Please ensure that Point 7.1.1 in Part B: Section 2 match the details of the Applicant as contained in the application form and final BAR.

- If any specific environmental sensitivities/attributes are present on site which require more specific impact management outcomes and impact management actions, not included in the pre-approved generic EMPr template, to manage such impacts, those impact management outcomes and actions must be included in Section C of the generic EMPr.

Public Participation Process (PPP)

- Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the CA with the final BAR. This includes but not limited to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE): **Biodiversity Planning and Conservation** (BCAdmin@dff.e.gov.za); Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP); CapeNature, Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation, Beaufort West and Ubuntu Local Municipalities; Central Karoo and Pixley Ka Seme District Municipalities, Endangered Wildlife Trust; Department of Human Settlement; Water and Sanitation; Department of Agriculture, Land Reform & Rural Development; South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA); SANRAL Holdings SOC Ltd; Department of Minerals and Energy; Department of Roads and Public Works, Transnet Holdings SOC; Birdlife South Africa; and South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA).
- Furthermore, ensure that all issues raised, and comments received during the circulation of the draft BAR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final BAR.
- Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final BAR. This must indicate that this draft BAR has been subjected to 30 days' public participation process, stating the start and end date of the PPP. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 19(1) (a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that: "*Where basic assessment must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority - (a) a basic assessment report, inclusive of specialist reports, an EMPr, and where applicable a closure plan, which have been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority.*"

Should there be significant changes or new information that has been added to the BAR or EMPr which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process, you are required to comply with Regulation 19(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: "*the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority – (b) a notification in writing that the basic assessment report, inclusive of specialist reports an EMPr, and where applicable, a closure plan, will be submitted within 140 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the basic assessment report or EMPr or, where applicable, a closure plan, which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process contemplated in sub regulation 19(1)(a) and that the revised reports or, EMPr or, where applicable, a closure plan will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days*".

Should you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 19 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your application will lapse.

Chief Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely


Ms Milicent Solomons
Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Signed by: Ms Olivia Letlalo
Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects
Date: 30/03/2023

cc:	Lance Blaine Red Cap Hoogland 1 (Pty) Ltd	Tel: 021 790 1392 Cell: 083 235 6737	E-mail: lance@red-cap.co.za
Gavin Benjamin	Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP)	Tel: 044 805 8633 Cell: 071 624 5237	Email: gavin.benjamin@westerncape.gov.za
Elsabe Swart	Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation	Tel: 053 807 7420	E-mail: elsabeswart.denc@nwpd.gov.za
Ashley Mitchell MJ Penxa (MM)	Beaufort West Local Municipality	Tel: 023 414 8100	E-mail: buildingcontrol@beaufortwestmun.co.za jacksonp@beaufortwestmun.co.za
	Ubuntu Local Municipality	Tel: 053 621 0026	Email: nmkontwana@ubuntu.gov.za

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DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2710

Comments on the draft Basic Assessment Report for proposed construction of a New ~110km 400 kV Gamma Gridline Connection from the authorised Nuweveld Wind Farm Development Collector Substation to the 132/400 kV Gamma Substation in north of the Town Beaufort West within the Western and Northern Cape Provinces



**forestry, fisheries
& the environment**

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001. Environme nt House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, Tel +27 12 328 9000. Fax +27 12 328 1042

Reference: GAMMA 400kV GRIDLINE

Enquiries: Portia Makita

Telephone: +27 12 399 9411/9627 E-mail: pmakita@environment.gov.za

Ms. Belinda Clark
14C Kruger Gardens
Admiralty Way
Summerstrand
Gqeberha
6001

Telephone Number: +27 (41) 367 4748
Email Address: bclark@telkommsa.net

Dear Ms. Clark

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED GAMMA 400KV GRIDLINE PROJECT, NORTHERN & WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the report.

It was noted during the review that Critical Biodiversity Areas & Ecological Support Areas in the Northern Cape CBA map and the Western Cape Biodiversity Plan occur throughout the corridor especially in the central and western parts. This is due to the intact Eastern Upper Karoo vegetation, important water resource protection areas identified as Very High Sensitivity under Shale Gas SEA, River type and FEPA River corridors.

Kindly note that the Directorate does not support any development within highly sensitive areas that will result in significant negative residual impacts post mitigation measures.

NB: The Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA for review and queries should be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@environment.gov.za for attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Seoka Lekota
Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment
Date: 08/05/2023



Bantu pele- putting people first.

Western Cape Government: Department of Agriculture

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Brandon Layman <Brandon.Layman@westerncape.gov.za>

Date: Thu, 13 Apr 2023 at 10:43

Subject: RE: Notice of EA Application and Draft BA Report - Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project

To: Belinda Clark <tikkapox1@gmail.com>

Cc: Cor Van der Walt <Cor.VanderWalt@westerncape.gov.za>

Hi Ms. Clark

With regards your request on the status of your application. Kindly note that your application are number 036 in the queue – see table below. Our office is committed to an estimated turnaround time of 90 days (3 months). In the event of unforeseen circumstances, complexity of applications received, number of site visits required and engagements with relevant stakeholders this time might be extended. We will try our utmost to provide a response within the 90 days.

App number	Applicant	Type of Application	Farm No.	District
036	CEN	Other	Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project	Beaufort West

With many thanks and kind regards

Brandon Layman

Administrative Assistant to:

Cor Van der Walt : LandUse Manager

Department of Agriculture

Provincial Government of the Western Cape

Private Bag X1

1

From: Belinda Clark <tikkapox1@gmail.com>
Sent: 12 April 2023 10:25 AM
To: Brandon Layman <Brandon.Layman@westerncape.gov.za>
Cc: Agriculture HOD <DoA.HOD@westerncape.gov.za>; Anele Speelman <Anele.Speelman@westerncape.gov.za>; Cor Van der Walt <Cor.VanderWalt@westerncape.gov.za>; Agriculture Information <DoA.Info@westerncape.gov.za>; Sidney Babu <Sidney.Babu@westerncape.gov.za>; Anele Speelman <Anele.Speelman@westerncape.gov.za>; info@awk.co.za; Mike Cohen <steenbok@aerosat.co.za>
Subject: Re: Notice of EA Application and Draft BA Report - Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project

Hi Brandon

As requested, here is a follow-up email for comment on the DBAR for the Gamma 400 kV gridline project please.

We would greatly appreciate it if you let us know when the Department will be able to submit comments, noting that the closing date was 3 April.

Many thanks

Belinda

On Mon, 3 Apr 2023 at 11:56, <relay4@ezchat.co.za> wrote:

Dear representatives of the Western Cape Department of Agriculture

Please note the email below regarding the Draft Basic Assessment Report for the proposed Gamma 400 kV Gridline Project. The notice was sent to stakeholders for a 30 day commenting period, which ends today.

It is very important that we include comments from your Department with the Final BAR. It is very important that we include comments from your Department with the Final BAR. Please would you let us know if you will be submitting comments, and if so, when we can expect these?

Many thanks
Belinda

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Belinda Clark <tikkapox1@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, 8 Mar 2023 at 14:32

Subject: Fwd: Store-To-Door Shipment Created: DBP47426997295

To: Brandon Layman <Brandon.Layman@westerncape.gov.za>

Cc: Matthew Law <matthew@red-cap.co.za>, Mike Cohen <steenbok@aerosat.co.za>

Hi Brandon

Please see details above regarding the flash drive that I have just couriered to you via Aramex.

You should receive the parcel within 72 hours.

Thank you

Belinda

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <noreply@aramex.co.za>

Date: Wed, 8 Mar 2023 at 14:10

Subject: Store-To-Door Shipment Created: DBP47426997295

To: <Tikkapox1@gmail.com>



Shipper details

Receiver details

From: Belinda Clark <tikkapox1@gmail.com>
Sent: 07 March 2023 11:24 AM
To: Brandon Layman
Cc: Matthew Law; Mike Cohen
Subject: Re: FW: Notice of EA Application and Draft BA Report - Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project

Hi Brandon

Thank you, we will put it on a flash drive and courier it to you.

Can I please confirm that the correct address to courier the document to is:

Brandon Layman

Department of Agriculture

Provincial Government of the Western Cape

2nd Floor, Main Building, Muldersvlei Road

Eslenburg

Thank you
Belinda

On Tue, 7 Mar 2023 at 08:12, Brandon Layman <Brandon.Layman@westerncape.gov.za> wrote:

Hi Belinda

As explained in the email below:

You have three choices, you provide us with either:

1. Hardcopy
2. Put the application on a USB stick and post or hand delivered to us.
3. Put the application on a CD and post or hand delivered to us.

With many thanks and kind regards

Brandon Layman

Thank you for your email.

Please would you let me know how best I can get a copy of the Draft report to you?

Thanks very much
Belinda

On Fri, 3 Mar 2023 at 07:59, Brandon Layman <Brandon.Layman@westerncape.gov.za> wrote:

Hi Ms. Clark

Please note that this office is bound by the government filing system which is currently in physical file format as approved by the Auditor General.

The transition to electronic filing is slow and must be according to government protocols. The provincial department responsible for our electronic storage/filing etc. is in process to develop that.

As solution to the cost of printing hard copies and lack of electronic filing system on our side (as discussed above) we decided the best option is to give you as consultants the option for a CD or USB as alternative to hard copy.

The main difference between a CD or USB is storage. A hard copy, CD or USB is the "store". Email or we-transfer needs to be printed to be stored physically as we do not have an approved filing system available in the cloud or other network.

CD or USB we can still put on a physical file.

With many thanks and kind regards

Brandon Layman

Administrative Assistant to:

Cor Van der Walt : LandUse Manager

Department of Agriculture

Western Cape Government: Department of Roads and Public Works



Western Cape
Government

Infrastructure
Vanessa Stoffels
Chief Directorate: Road Planning
Vanessa.Stoffels@westerncape.gov.za | Tel: 021 483 4669

Ref: TPW/CFS/RP/LUD/REZ/SUB-01/40 (Job 30222)

CEN
Integrated Environmental Management Unit
140 Kruger Gardens
Admiralty Way
Summerstrand
GQEBERHA
6001

Attention: Ms B Clark

Dear Madam

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 400KV GAMMA GRIDLINE NORTH OF BEAUFORT WEST WITHIN THE WESTERN AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

1. The following refer:
 - 1.1 Athol Schwarz's traffic impact assessment (Revision 0) dated 25 September 2022.
 - 1.2 Your letter with DFFE Pre-Application Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2710 dated 2 March 2023.
2. This Branch offers no objection to the issuing of an Environmental Authorisation in favour of the proposed gridline, provided that this Branch is offered the opportunity to assess the final overhead route and issue the required wayleave approvals in terms of Act 21 of 1940, building restrictions where applicable, and Roads Ordinance 19 of 1976, accesses and construction activities within and across the road reserves and their adjacent building lines.
3. The following Public Provincial Roads not limited to the only roads that might be used during the construction or operational phases – as already determined during the compilation of the traffic impact assessment, all for which this Branch is the Road Authority, fall within the Gamma Grid Corridor:
 - 3.1 Trunk Road 16 section 8 (TR01608; R63)

- 3.2 Divisional Road 2317 (DR02317)
- 3.3 Divisional Road 2405 (DR02405)
- 3.4 Minor Road 8881 (OP08881)
- 3.5 Minor Road 9225 (OP09225)
- 4. All the abovementioned Provincial Roads' Public accessibility must be retained, which is why they must be evaluated for the purposes of construction, operation and decommissioning.
- 5. This Branch, for now, will ultimately require the following:
 - 5.1 The exact location (in South African grid, kmz and gpx formats) of each pylon. Note that no pylon may be erected less than fifty metres (50m) from the centreline of any proclaimed provincial road.
 - 5.2 Indication of all the accesses to each respective farm portion traversed by the Gamma Grid Corridor, including ownership of those portions and application for any change in access to the provincial road network - in line with this Branch's Access Management Guidelines, 2020. It will be required to clearly state which access will serve what purpose (e.g., energy and / or farming).
 - 5.3 Wayleave applications, for the third-party service that will be constructed, when building restrictions, building lines and road reserves are affected.
 - 5.4 Abnormal load transportation implications, which will require a route clearance report and prior application for any geometric and materials designs for approval before construction. It is recommended to commence with this planning once detail of energy infrastructure and transportation equipment are known.
 - 5.5 A geotechnical and geometric design report, including improvement proposals, must be compiled to ensure that all the roads that will be affected by this gridline during the construction phase are adequately improved and maintained before any other construction activity may commence on any of the affected farm portions. This is to ensure that no more than normal deterioration and additional maintenance costs are experienced by the Road Authority during the construction and operating phases. It will be required that any design affecting any Proclaimed Provincial Road must carry this Branch's Chief Directorate Road Design's approval before implementation thereof may commence.

- 5.6 Confirmation that a similar geotechnical proposal (as per paragraph 5.5) will be compiled, and approval obtained prior to commencing with any major upgrade or decommissioning phase; whenever that may be.

Yours Sincerely



SW CARSTENS

For DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE BRANCH

DATE: 4 APRIL 2023

ENDORSEMENTS

1. CEN Integrated Environmental Management Unit

Attention: Ms B Clark (e-mail: bclark@telkomsa.net & steenbok@aerosat.co.za)

2. Central Karoo District Municipality

Attention: Mr A Koopman (e-mail)

3. District Roads Engineer
Oudtshoorn

4. Mr E Burger (e-mail)

5. Mr SW Carstens (e-mail)

Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

- Department's Guideline on the Management of Construction and Demolition Waste from this Directorate.
- 4.1.5. It is suggested that any vegetation cleared should be separated and sent to the nearest municipal or private composting facility.
5. Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management – Ms Shehaam Brinkhuis (Email: Shehaam.Brinkhuis@westerncape.gov.za; Tel: (021) 483 8309);
- 5.1. All environmental commitments and mitigation measures included as part of the Generic EMP (Appendix 5), Desktop Geotechnical Specialist Study (Appendix 3i) and Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment (Appendix 3e) should be strictly implemented and adhered to.
- 5.2. Temporary construction camps must be located outside of the watercourses and associated buffer areas. This is particularly important given that a higher likelihood of pollution and risk of contamination exists during the construction phase for this type of development, with an increased risk of pollution emanating from the construction camp and laydown areas.
- 5.3. Section 30 of the NEMA, 1998 should be referenced regarding the control of incidents. In the event of a significant spill or leakage of hazardous substances (e.g., petrol, diesel, etc.) during the proposed activities, such incident(s) must be reported to the relevant authorities, including reporting to this Directorate.
6. The applicant is reminded of its "duty of care" prescribed in section 28 of the NEMA, 1998 which states that "Every person who causes, has caused or may cause significant pollution or degradation of the environment must take reasonable measures to prevent such pollution or degradation from occurring, continuing or recurring, or, in so far as such harm to the environment is authorised by law or cannot reasonably be avoided or stopped, to minimise and rectify such pollution or degradation of the environment".

The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any or new information received.

Yours sincerely

Thea Jordan

Digitally signed by Thea Jordan
Date: 2023.04.03 14:48:39 +02'00'

pp **HEAD OF DEPARTMENT**
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Letter signed by:

Thea Jordan

Director: Development Facilitation

Date: 3 April 2023

Belinda

From: Belinda Clark <tikkapox1@gmail.com>
Sent: 03 April 2023 03:25 PM
To: Adri La Meyer
Cc: Thea Jordan; Mike Cohen
Subject: Re: FW: Comments on the Draft BAR for the proposed 400kV Gamma Gridline project, Western & Northern Cape Provinces (14/12/16/3/3/1/2710)

Hi Adri

Thanks for confirming no further engagement is required.

We will make sure to notify you once the Final BAR is submitted to the DFFE, and when a decision has been made on the application.

Regards
Belinda

On Mon, 3 Apr 2023 at 15:14, Adri La Meyer <Adri.LaMeyer@westerncape.gov.za> wrote:

From: Adri La Meyer
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 15:07
To: relay4@ezchat.co.za; Thea Jordan <Thea.Jordan@westerncape.gov.za>; steenbok@aerosat.co.za
Subject: RE: Comments on the Draft BAR for the proposed 400kV Gamma Gridline project, Western & Northern Cape Provinces (14/12/16/3/3/1/2710)

Dear Belinda,

Thank you for the quick response to our comments on the Draft BAR.

W.r.t. the comments in para 3.7. – we are satisfied with the contents of the Draft BAR and do not require further engagements with yourself. Thank you however for the opportunity to meet virtually. We are totally snowed under at the moment!

Please could you let us know when the Final BAR will be submitted to the DFFE for a decision?

Kind regards,
Adri

Adri La Meyer

Directorate: Development Facilitation

Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

Western Cape Government

11th Floor, Utilitas Building, 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8000

Tel: +27 (0)21 483 2887

Email: Adri.LaMeyer@westerncape.gov.za

Website: www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp



**Western Cape
Government**
FOR YOU

Be 110% Green. Read from the screen.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we are still operating on a "work-from-home" basis.

Should you not be able to contact the numbers above, please call +27 (0)21 483 4091
between 07:30-16:00.

From: relay4@ezchat.co.za <relay4@ezchat.co.za>

Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 15:01

To: Thea Jordan <Thea.Jordan@westerncape.gov.za>; steenbok@aerosat.co.za

Cc: Adri La Meyer <Adri.LaMeyer@westerncape.gov.za>

Subject: RE: Comments on the Draft BAR for the proposed 400kV Gamma Gridline project, Western & Northern Cape Provinces (14/12/16/3/3/1/2710)

Dear Thea

Thank you very much for the comments submitted by the Western Cape Government: Development Facilitation.

We take note of your comments, and will make sure they are addressed in the Final BAR.

Regarding Item 3.7 of your letter – is the Department satisfied with the contents of the Draft BAR, or would you like an opportunity to further engage on the matter before we submit the Final BAR? Please let us know, and we will try our best to arrange for a virtual engagement in the next week if possible.

Many thanks

Belinda

From: Thea Jordan [<mailto:Thea.Jordan@westerncape.gov.za>]

Sent: 03 April 2023 02:49 PM

To: bclark@telkomsa.net; steenbok@aerosat.co.za

Cc: Adri La Meyer <Adri.LaMeyer@westerncape.gov.za>

Subject: Comments on the Draft BAR for the proposed 400kV Gamma Gridline project, Western & Northern Cape Provinces (14/12/16/3/3/1/2710)

Dear EAP,

Your request for comment refers.

Please find attached this Department's comment in the above regard.

Yours faithfully

Thea Jordan

Pr. PI. (A/1237/2002)

Director: Development Facilitation

Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

Western Cape Government

11th Floor, Utilitas Building, 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8000

Tel: +27 (0)21 483 4093

Email: Thea.Jordan@westerncape.gov.za

Website: www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp



Be 110% Green. Read from the screen.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we are still operating on a "work-from-home" basis.

Should you not be able to contact the numbers above, please call +27 (0)21 483 4091
between 07:30-16:00.

From: Mike Cohen <steenbok@aerosat.co.za>
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2023 17:04
To: Mike Cohen <steenbok@aerosat.co.za>; Belinda <bclark@telkomsa.net>
Subject: Notice of EA Application and Draft BA Report - Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project

Dear State and Parastatal stakeholders

An Application for Environmental Authorisation (14/12/16/3/3/1/2710) for the 'Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project' has been submitted to the Department of Forestry Fisheries and Environment. The Draft Basic Assessment (BA) Report and Appendices are available for a 30 day stakeholder participation period, from 3 March to 3 April 2023. A notification letter is attached to this email.

The Draft BA Report is available on the EAP's website at <https://environmentcen.co.za/project-items/400kv-gamma-gridline/>, or by request at the contact details below. Downloads from this website are 'datafree' for mobile users without data on your phone. Electronic copies will also be provided to Ward Councillors in the relevant Wards. A virtual presentation is also available on the website, which outlines the BA process and pertinent parts of the BA Report.

EAP - CEN IEM Unit – Dr Mike Cohen / Belinda Clark

140 Kruger Gardens, Admiralty Way, Summerstrand, Gqeberha, 6001



LANDSCAPE EAST – CONSERVATION
INTELLIGENCE MANAGEMENT UNIT
postal [REDACTED] Post Bag X09546, George, 6530
physical [REDACTED] 4th Floor, Yves Park Building, York Street, George 6530
website www.capenature.co.za
enquiries Megan Simone
telephone +27 87 067 3060 | fax +27 44 602 5333
email [REDACTED]
reference LE14/2/b/17349/DBA/Infrastructure_Beaufort West
date 19 April 2023

CEN Integrated Environmental Management Unit,
140 Kruger Gardens,
Admiralty Way,
Gqeberha,
6019

Attention: Ms Belinda Clark
By email: bclark@telkommsa.net / steenbok@aerosat.co.za

Dear Ms Belinda Clark

THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED GAMMA 400 KV GRIDLINE PROJECT, BEAUFORT WEST LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WESTERN CAPE.

DEA&DP Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2710

CapeNature would like to thank you for the opportunity to review the above report. Please note that our comments only pertain to the biodiversity related impacts and not to the overall desirability of the application. CapeNature wishes to make the following comments:

According to the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (Pool-Stanvliet et.al. 2017)¹ the proposed development footprint has Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA 1: Terrestrial, Aquatic, River; CBA 2: Terrestrial), Ecological Support Areas (ESA 1: Aquatic² ESA 2), and Other Natural Areas over most of the area. The freshwater features include numerous unknown non-perennial rivers that are tributaries of the Sout and Kariega Rivers. These rivers and wetlands form part of the National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (NFEPA)² River and Wetland corridors.

According to the National Biodiversity Assessment (Skowno et al. 2018)³ the vegetation for the proposed development area is Eastern Upper Karoo, Gamka Karoo, Roggeveld Shale Renosterveld, Southern Karoo Riviere, and Upper Karoo Hardeveld which are Least Concerned (SANBI 2022)⁴.

¹ Pool-Stanvliet, R., Duffell-Canham, A., Pence, G. & Smart, R. 2017. The Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan Handbook. Stellenbosch: CapeNature.

² Nel, J.L., Murray, K.M., Maherry, A.M., Petersen, C.P., Roux, D.J., Driver, A., Hill, L., Van Deventer, H., Funke, N., Swartz, E.R., Smith-Adao, L.B., Mboma, N., Downsborough, L. & Nienaber, S. (2011). Technical Report for the National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas project. WRC Report No. K5/1801.

³ Skowno, A. L., Poole, C. J., Raimondo, D. C., Sink, K. J., Van Deventer, H., Van Niekerk, L., Harris, L. R., Smith-Adao, L. B., Tolley, K. A., Zengyea, T. A., Foden, W. B., Midgley, G. F. and Driver, A. 2019. National Biodiversity Assessment 2018: The status of South Africa's ecosystems and biodiversity. Synthesis Report. Pretoria, South Africa. 214 pp.

⁴ Government of South Africa (2022) South African Red List of Terrestrial Ecosystems: assessment details and ecosystem descriptions. Technical Report #7664, SANBI Pretoria, South Africa.

The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board trading as CapeNature

Board Members: Associate Prof Denver Hendricks (Chairperson), Prof Gavin Maneveldt (Vice Chairperson), Ms Marguerite Loubser, Mr Mervyn Burton, Dr Colin Johnson, Prof Aubrey Redlinghuis, Mr Paul Slack

Following a review of the dBAR CapeNature wishes to make the following comments:

1. The Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (Pool-Stanvliet *et.al.* 2017) has specific guidelines regarding CBA and ESA loss and their sensitivity and conservation objectives. Thus, the proposed development must be guided by those objectives to conserve and protect the CBAs and ESAs (Pool-Stanvliet *et al.* 2017). CapeNature maintains minimal habitat loss is acceptable, in line with the WCSBP Land Use Guidelines Handbook, provided the underlying biodiversity objectives and ecological functioning are not compromised.
2. Although, the vegetation types are Least Threatened (LT), kindly note that any loss to natural habitat should be avoided. Considering that arid habitats could take years to rehabilitate, even from temporary disturbances and we only consider habitat as rehabilitated when comparable level of ecosystem functionality has been proven.
3. CapeNature supports the undertaking of final walkdowns before construction commences, and layouts must be realigned, if necessary, following these assessments.
4. CapeNature reminds the applicant that a plant permit for endangered species or protected species listed in Schedules 3 and 4 respectively, in terms of the Western Cape Nature Conservation Laws Amendment Act, 2000 (Act No. 3 of 2000) must be obtained from CapeNature. This is also to ensure that rescued plant material is accounted for and used in the rehabilitation or relocation process. CapeNature recommends that a suitable location for search-and- rescue be determined prior to plant removal. Furthermore, the micro-climate should also be suitable for the species and the season must be considered to give the plants an adequate chance to re-establish. Extreme caution should be applied during the relocation of the plants to ensure they are not damaged. Furthermore, it is important to exclude livestock for a period to allow the species to re-establish.
5. The risk assessment found the impact on the aquatic environment would be low. CapeNature reminds the applicant the Gamma gridline corridor has FEPA river corridors, and the non-perennial rivers are all natural ESAs. These FEPA wetlands and rivers are important in achieving biodiversity targets for riverine ecosystems and must be protected. Impacts must be mitigated and rehabilitated in accordance with a Rehabilitation and Monitoring Plan. The 35 m aquatic buffers are supported.
6. Flooding events can change watercourses within a short period, and it must be mitigated in the EMPr. The storm water system must be inspected annually, but this should also be done after each "major" rainfall event. The area is highly erodible so extra caution must be taken to mitigate erosion for the duration of the project. Possible erosion points need to be monitored and rehabilitated when needed. Areas susceptible to erosion must be protected by installing the necessary temporary structures.
7. An Alien Plant Species Management Plan must be compiled and included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). The eradication and monitoring of the spread of invasive alien species should follow the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act No.10 of 2004)⁵. The removal of invasive alien plant species must be continuous and should continue beyond the operational phase.

⁵ Government Gazette No. 37885, GN No. R. 598 (2014) National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004) Alien and Invasive Species Regulations, 2014.

The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board trading as CapeNature

Board Members: Associate Prof Denver Hendricks (Chairperson), Prof Gavin Maneveldt (Vice Chairperson), Ms Marguerite Loubser, Mr Mervyn Burton, Dr Colin Johnson, Prof Aubrey Redlinghuis, Mr Paul Slack

8. The Gamma gridline corridor has habitat for riverine rabbits given the conservation status of riverine rabbit, we strongly recommend that areas where these species could occur be demarcated as No-Go areas as a precautionary approach. CapeNature will not support any infrastructure that will be located within riverine rabbit habitat.
9. Tortoise proof fencing should be considered, as to prevent any road mortalities, unless suitable underpasses in which tortoises can walk through will be build.
10. CapeNature supports the recommended mitigation measures, and the ECO must ensure that these mitigation measure proposed by the specialists are implemented to protect the remaining ecological services and connectivity.
11. CapeNature remains concerned that the cumulative impacts of energy facilities, if not properly considered and planned for, could be quite significant. There are a few renewable energy developments planned in the broader region of which some were issued with Environmental Authorisation and other applications are still in progress. It is essential to take a precautionary approach and to ensure that the infrastructure (i.e., roads, power lines, substations, etc.) be positioned outside ecologically sensitive areas. On-going monitoring throughout the various phases of this project is important to assess the impacts of these developments on different species biodiversity and the impact these facilities will have on habitat fragmentation and associated ecological corridors.

CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any additional information that may be received.

Yours sincerely,



Megan Simons
For: Manager (Landscape Conservation Intelligence)



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X6041, Gqeberha, 6000	Tel: 041 501 0717	Enquiries: M. Bloem
E-mail: bloemm@dws.gov.za	Fax 086 537 4689	Ref: Gamma 400 KV

CEN IEM Unit
36 River Road
Walmer
Port Elizabeth
6070

Attention: Dr. B. Clark

NOTICE OF EA APPLICATION AND DRAFT BA REPORT - GAMMA 400 KV GRIDLINE PROJECT, EASTERN CAPE.

This Office acknowledges the receipt of the Draft Basic Assessment Report for the proposed Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project in the email received on 03 April 2023.

The dBAR was evaluated by this Office for Section 21 (c) and (i) water uses in terms of the National Water Act 36 of 1998 (NWA), and upon the evaluation of the document, based on the desktop assessment of the project location, there are watercourses nearby the project site as shown by the location coordinates.

Section 21(c) and (i) water uses regulates activities that occur as follows:

- 1:100-year flood line, in the absence of the 1:100-year flood line, any activities taking place within 100m from the edge of a watercourse, or
- the delineated riparian habitat: whichever is the greatest, and
- those within 500m from the boundary of a wetland.

Should the proposed activity trigger one of the above-mentioned cases, a water use authorisation must be obtained from this Department before the project commences.

Please note that any use of water (as stipulated under Section 21) without authorization is a contravention as per Section 151 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998).

Yours Faithfully

pp.

DIRECTOR: MZIMVUBU - TSITSIKAMMA PROTO CMA
Date: 06 April 2023

Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency

From: Zama Mbunquka <zmbunquka@bgcma.co.za>
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2023 4:30 PM
To: steenbok@aerosat.co.za
Cc: Andiswa Sam <asam@bgcma.co.za>
Subject: 4/10/4/L21D/Gamma 400kv, Beaufort West

Dear Dr Cohen

As per our telephonic conversation. Kindly note that the properties indicated on the report fall outside the jurisdiction of the Breede Olifants Catchment Management Agency.

They are located in L21B-D Quaternary drainage.

Please contact the Department of water and sanitation for comments.

Kind regards

Zama Mbunquka

Heritage Western Cape

Our Ref: HM / CENTRAL KAROO/ BEAUFORT WEST/ GAMMA GRIDLINE CORRIDOR
Case No: 22072913SB0729E
Enquiries: Stephanie Barnardt
E-mail: Stephanie.Barnardt@westerncape.gov.za
Tel: 021 483 5959

Jayson Orton
jayson@asha-consulting.co.za



RESPONSE TO HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: FINAL COMMENT

In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the Western Cape Provincial Gazette 6061, Notice 298 of 2003

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED GAMMA GRIDLINE CORRIDOR, BEAUFORT WEST, SUBMITTED IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(1) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (ACT 25 OF 1999)

The matter above has reference:

This matter was discussed at the Heritage Officer Committee meeting held on 24 January 2023.

FINAL COMMENT

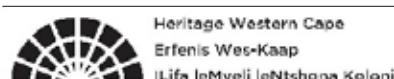
The committee resolved to endorse the HIA as meeting requirements of Section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act for the proposed Gamma Gridline Corridor prepared by Dr. Jayson Orton and ASHA Consultant dated 5 January 2023 with the following recommendations:

1. Very high palaeontological sensitivity areas must be avoided;
2. A pre-construction palaeontological survey must be carried out focusing on sensitive areas as identified by the palaeontologist;
3. The Fossil Chance Finds Procedure must be included in the project EMPr for the Construction Phase;
4. A pre-construction archaeological survey must be carried out along the entire alignment, including new access roads and construction camps;
5. Sensitive ridges, hills, river valleys and steep slopes as indicated by the visual consultants must be avoided;
6. Existing roads must be used for construction and operation as much as possible;
7. Construction laydown areas must be located in areas of low visual sensitivity as identified by the visual consultants;
8. All disturbed areas not required during operation must be rehabilitated; and
9. If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development then work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution however the survey must be completed before construction.

HWC reserves the right to request additional information as required.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the official above and quote the case number.


Waseefa Dhansay
Acting Deputy Director



26 January 2023



www.westerncape.gov.za/cas

Street Address: Protea Assurance Building, Green Market Square, Cape Town, 8000 • **Postal Address:** P.O. Box 1665, Cape Town, 8000
• Tel: +27 (0)21 483 5959 • **E-mail:** ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za

Straatadres: Protea Assuransie gebou, Groenmarkplein, Kaapstad, 8000 • **Posadres:** Posbus 1665, Kaapstad, 8000
• Tel: +27 (0)21 483 5959 • **E-pos:** ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za

Idilesi yendawo: kumgangutho 3, kwisakhiwo iprotea Assurance, Greenmarket Square, ekapa, 8000 • **Idilesi yeposi:** Inombolo yebhokisi yeposi 1665, ekapa, 8000 • **Idombole zomnxeba:** +27 (0)21 483 5959 • **Idilesi ye-imyle:** ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za

South African Heritage Resources Agency

Development of 400kv Gamma Gridline

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 202 8660
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 20789

Date: Wednesday April 26, 2023

Page No: 1

Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(4), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Lance Blaine
Red Cap Hoogland 1 (Pty) Ltd

Red Cap Hoogland 1 (Pty) Ltd (Red Cap) proposes a new 400 kV grid connection from the authorised Nuweveld Wind Farm Development Collector Substation to the 132/400 KV Gamma Substation (~90 km to the east) (the project). The project is intended to expand the capacity of the Eskom grid and improve grid functionality in the area. Gridline access tracks for construction and maintenance also form components of the project. Located in the Western Cape (Central Karoo District Municipality and Beaufort West Local Municipality), portions of the line will traverse land in the Northern Cape (Pixley ka Seme District Municipality and Ubuntu Local Municipality).

CEN Integrate Environmental Management Unit has been appointed by Red Cap Hoogland 1 (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed Gamma 400KV Gridline project located near Three Sisters, Northern Cape Province (DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/1/2710).

A draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include the construction of overhead powerline with a 55m servitude, access roads and tracks and temporary laydown areas. The powerline is estimated to be 110 km long.

A small portion of the proposed powerline is located in the Western Cape. SAHRA does not have jurisdiction to provide comments for development applications located in the Western Cape. This comment pertains to the Northern Cape section of the proposed development only.

Almond, J. E. 2023. Palaeontological Heritage Proposed Gamma 400 kV Gridline Project

The proposed development is underlain by the Teekloof Formation and Late Caenozoic superficial sediments.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- Avoidance of Very High Palaeosensitivity areas identified during the Screening Phase, which includes the slopes of Vaalkop on Farm Leeukloof 43 (red polygon, incorporating a buffer zone, in satellite map



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Figure 6-2), previously identified as a Very High Palaeosensitivity research area for the Hoedemaker Member within the Nuweveld East Wind Farm project area (Almond 2020a) (In contrast, any new High Sensitivity areas identified during the proposed pre-construction walkdown can be effectively mitigated during the Pre-Construction or Construction Phases through professional recording and collection and so need not be avoided);

- A pre-construction walkdown of potentially sensitive sectors of the project footprint - as identified from satellite imagery and the existing fossil database - by a palaeontological specialist. Palaeontological sites of scientific / conservation value should be recorded and, if feasible, collected together with pertinent field data, with recommendations for further mitigation measures – if any are necessary. Micro-siting of grid infrastructure is very unlikely to be required;
- Chance Fossil Finds Protocol is recommended to be implemented.

Orton, J. 2023. Heritage Impact Assessment: Proposed Gamma Gridline Corridor, Western and Northern Cape

A total of 54 heritage resources were identified within the proposed development footprint (Northern Cape section). These include engraved dolerite boulders and stone walled structures of very low heritage significance, stone walled enclosure, engravings and brick ruins of low heritage significance, stone-walled ruins and features, brick structures, historical dump and engraved dolerite boulders of medium heritage significance, and engraved dolerite boulders, farmsteads and burial grounds of high heritage significance.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- Section 5.8 of the HIA includes mitigation measures for heritage resources;
- Table 8 of the HIA includes actions to be included in the EMPr;
- A pre-construction archaeological survey should be carried out along the entire alignment, including new access roads and construction camps;
- Sensitive ridges, hills, river valleys and steep slopes as indicated by the visual consultants must be avoided;
- Existing roads must be used for construction and operation as much as possible;
- Construction laydown areas must be located in areas of low visual sensitivity as identified by the visual consultants;
- All disturbed areas not required during operation must be rehabilitated; and
- If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development then

Development of 400kv Gamma Gridline

Our Ref:



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P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 202 8660
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 20789

Date: Wednesday April 26, 2023

Page No: 3

work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution.

Final Comment

*This comment pertains to the Northern Cape section of the proposed development only.

The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final BAR and EMPr:

- 38(4)a – The SAHRA has no objections to the proposed development;
- 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. Further additional specific conditions are provided for the development;
- The recommended archaeological and palaeontological preconstruction surveys must be conducted by qualified archaeologist and palaeontologist and must be conducted prior to any ground clearance. The reports of the surveys must be submitted to SAHRA for comment prior to any ground clearance. No ground clearance or construction may occur on site without comments from SAHRA;
- SAHRA reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions, layout changes or object to the development based on the results of the preconstruction surveys;
- 38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA (Natasha Higgitt 021 202 8660) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Ngqabutho Madida 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule;
- 38(4)d – See section 51 of the NHRA regarding offences;
- 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists:
 - With reference to the mitigation work noted above, a qualified archaeologist must be appointed to undertake the work in terms of the permit applied for as noted above;

Development of 400kv Gamma Gridline

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Date: Wednesday April 26, 2023
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- If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA;
- The Final BAR and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes;
- The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Natasha Higgitt'.

Natasha Higgitt
Manager: Development Applications Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: [\(DFFE, Ref: \)](https://sahrис.sahra.org.za/node/613695)

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.

Development of 400kv Gamma Gridline

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt

Date: Wednesday April 26, 2023

Tel: 021 202 8660

Page No: 5

Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 20789

3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.

South African Civilian Aviation Authority

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gerald Ehlers <gerald@red-cap.co.za>**

Date: Fri, 14 Apr 2023 at 17:24

Subject: Fwd: Notice of EA Application and Draft BA Report - Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project

To: Lizell Stroh <StrohL@caa.co.za>, Matthew Law <matthew@red-cap.co.za>, <tikkapox1@gmail.com>

Dear Lizell

I hope you are well.

Please take note that is the environmental application for the powerline Red Cap previously submitted to CAA for approval under the reference number below:

- Hoogland Gamma Line CAA_2022_11_273

Kind Regards

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Belinda Clark <tikkapox1@gmail.com>**

Date: Wed, 12 Apr 2023 at 17:50

Subject: Re: Notice of EA Application and Draft BA Report - Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project

To: Lizell Stroh <StrohL@caa.co.za>

Cc: Mike Cohen <steenbok@aerosat.co.za>, obstacles@atns.co.za <obstacles@atns.co.za>

Thanks very much Lizell

We will check and get back to you shortly

Belinda

On Wed, 12 Apr 2023 at 15:47, Lizell Stroh <StrohL@caa.co.za> wrote:

Good day, kindly find extract to the Obstacle Regulation, for your respected information to determine if an application for an Obstacle Approval is required as indicated on the SACAA website.

[SACAA – South African Civil Aviation Authority](#)

[Obstacles – SACAA](#)

Kindly submit on the Bulk application, as the Part 139-27 is not active with the current upgrades.

In view of Airfields observe on the route between the two positions provided, could you kindly provide a kmz file with an obstacle application to consider and assess towards Aviation operations.

Kind regards

Lizell Stroh
Obstacle Inspector
Aerodrome Infrastructure

Tel: 011 545 1232 | Cell: 083 461 6660 | Email: strohl@caa.co.za | <http://www.caa.co.za>

Follow us on    



Reference: 11/2/3-1/9-5 Fax Number: +27 (0) 21 910 1699
Date: 3 April 2023 Direct Line: +27 (0) 12 844 8013
Email: dyverss@nra.co.za Website: www.nra.co.za



BUILDING SOUTH AFRICA
THROUGH BETTER ROADS

Miss B Clark
Integrated Environmental Management
Unit 140 Kruger Gardens
Admiralty Way
Summerstrand
Gqeberha
6001

Email: steenbok@aerosat.co.za / bclark@telkomsa.net

Dear Sir/Madam

NATIONAL ROUTE 1 SECTION 9: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE ~110 KM, 400 KV GAMMA GRIDLINE NORTH OF BEAUFORT WEST WITHIN THE WESTERN AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES: NOTICE OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PROCESS AND RELEASE OF DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR STAKEHOLDER COMMENT

Thank you for submitting the Draft Basic Assessment Report dated 2 March 2023.

It is noted that the proposed development entails a 400kV Gamma Gridline North of Beaufort West within the Western and Northern Cape Province. The development may impact two National Roads namely the N1 & N12, as access has to be obtained to the development from the national road or the 400kV powerline has to traverse over the national road.

In order for SANRAL to make an informed decision/comment on this development the following additional information would be required:

- The km distances where access will be obtained, as per the blue km boards along the national road.
- Photographs of the proposed accesses.
- A line diagram indicating all the accesses within 1km range, of the proposed access.
- An encroachment application must be submitted to SANRAL for crossing the national road. Please see attached encroachment form.

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Email info@sanral.co.za | Visit us at www.sanral.co.za
Directors: Mr T Mhambi (Chairperson), Mr R Demana (CEO), Ms R Buthelezi, Mr R Haswell, Mr C Hlabisa, Mr E Makhubela, Mr T Matosa, Ms N Noxaka | Company Secretary: Ms A Mathew

Reg. No. 1988/009584/30. An agency of the Department of Transport.

- SANRAL must be consulted before any movement of abnormal loads on the national roads. In such an instance you are requested to forward the Transport Traffic Plan to Garth Julius from this office at juliusg@nra.co.za for approval.

Yours Sincerely



Mr. S. Dyers
STATUTORY CONTROL

ID 20913088



STATUTORY CONTROL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM Encroachment for Engineering and Other Services

Please mark with an X in the appropriate box

Service Owner Details (NB SANRAL is not the Service Owner)

Type of Service Owner	Individual	Organisation	
Title (individual only)		Organisation Name:	Contact Person (org. only)
First Name (s)		Surname	
Cell Phone		Email	
Telephone		Faximile	
Postal Address Line 1			
Postal Address Line 2			
Postal Address Line 3			
Postal Code:		City:	Province
Street Address Line 1			
Street Address Line 2			
Street Address Line 3			Postal Code:

Applicant Details

Type of Applicant	Individual	Organisation	Your Reference Number	
Title (individual only)		Organisation Name:	Contact Person (org. only)	
First Name (s)		Surname		
Cell Phone		Email		
Telephone		Faximile		
Postal Address Line 1				
Postal Address Line 2				
Postal Address Line 3				
Postal Code:		City:	Province	
Street Address Line 1				
Street Address Line 2				
Street Address Line 3			Postal Code:	

Agent Details

Title	First Name	Surname	
ID Number		Is the Applicant a Consultant?	Yes
			No

Contractor Details

Title	First Name	Surname	
Telephone		Company Name	

Application Details

Type of Application	For Commercial Use	For Private Use	Not Applicable
Province	Local / Metropolitan Municipality	District Municipality	

Application Description

Stat Approval Sub-category	Bulk	Reticulation	Is the service sleeved		Yes	No	N/A		
Size/Capacity of bulk or reticulation line	.....mm/kV		Size or Capacity units	mm	kV	Service cross sectional area	.....mm ²
Service Details Fully describe type of service and work to be undertaken in the road reserve or building restriction area indicating clearly the location and position related to the base National road marker boards and road reserve boundary. Drawings required: Cross sections and reinstatement drawings at HOR 1 : 500 VERT 1 : 50; detailed layout at 1 : 1000; locality plan 1 : 10 000; and any other specials drawings which the SANRAL may require.									
Route & Section	 (Example – National Roads Marker Boards at 200m intervals)		Route & Section	N...../.....		Between Landmarks/Interchanges			
		Crossing at Kilometre	.....km					
		Parallel from Kilometre	.....km				and	
		Parallel to Kilometre	.....km					
Alignment of applied for encroachment to national road	Crossing	Parallel	Parallel & Crossing	Size of Culvert		Pipe Area			
Purpose of Application	Haul new cable in existing ducts and install new pipes		Install new cable on existing pole route			Install a new service			
	Maintain, repair, replace an existing service		Occupy or perform other operations (specify)			.....		
General Information									
Service Type	Electricity	Events	Gas	Optic Fibre	Other Pipe	Public transport stopping bays			
	Sewer	Storm water	Telecommunications	Telephone	Traffic Law Enforcement Devices	Traffic Monitoring Station			
	Traffic signals	Traffic signs	Water	Weighing station	Other				
Service Nature	Auger under ramp	Crossing overhead	Crossing under/in road	In existing duct	Jacking under road				
Service parallel to National road: Buried	From Marker Board km Point	To Marker Board km point	Within/Outside Boundary	Distance (km) within/ outside Road Reserve Boundary (left/right) North Bound being left	Depth/Height				
Service parallel to National road: Overhead	From Marker Board km Point	To Marker Board km point	Within/Outside Boundary	Distance (km) within/ outside Road Reserve Boundary (left/right) North Bound being left	Size & Type of Service				
Service crossing National road	Route & Section	KM point	Buried/Overhead	Depth/Height	Voltage Size	Distance	Sleeve Size	Structure Area	Encroachment Area

Location of service in Bridge structure	Route & Section	KM Point	Bridge No.	Interchange/ Bridge name

Document Check – has the following been attached?							
Diagram	Yes	No	OFFICIAL USE ONLY	Yes		No	
Letter of Consent	Yes	No	OFFICIAL USE ONLY	Yes		No	
Motivational Covering Letter	Yes	No	OFFICIAL USE ONLY	Yes		No	
Photographs	Yes	No	OFFICIAL USE ONLY	Yes		No	
Plans	Yes	No	OFFICIAL USE ONLY	Yes		No	
Signed Application	Yes	No	OFFICIAL USE ONLY	Yes		No	
Other Documents	Yes	No	OFFICIAL USE ONLY	Yes		No	

DECLARATION BY APPLICANT:

I ACCEPT ALL CONDITIONS IN TERMS OF ANY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SA NATIONAL ROADS AGENCY AND THE APPLICANT IMPOSED UPON THIS APPLICATION.

I AM AUTHORISED TO SIGN ON BEHALF OF THE LAND OWNER

PRINT NAME

SIGNATURE

DATE

COMPLETED FORM TO BE RETURN TO:

REGIONAL MANAGER
SA NATIONAL ROADS AGENCY LTD
PRIVATE BAG X19,
BELLVILLE, 7535

FOR ATTENTION: STATUTORY SECTION

TEL: +27 (0) 21 957 4600
FAX: + 27 (0) 21 910 1699
E-MAIL: wrsstatutorv@nra.co.za

Date: 16 April 2023
Ref No: 54-001 rev 1

To:
Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd
Unit B2, Mainstream Centre
Main Road Hout Bay
7806

Attention: Matthew Law

Dear Matthew

In response to SANRAL's correspondence, reference 11/2/3-1/9-5, dated 3 April 2023. Herewith please find my response.

1. Impact on the National Roads

In SANRAL's correspondence, it is indicated that "the development may impact two National Roads namely the N1 & N12, as access has to be obtained to the development from the national road or the 400Kv powerline has to traverse over the national road."

The proposed Overhead Transmission Line (shown in magenta) is planned to cross the N12 only, and not the N1, as shown in Figure 1. The position of the Overhead Transmission Line (OTL) crossing the N12 (section 5) is indicated by the red ellipse.



Figure 1 - Proposed Grid Connection Layout

The exact position of the crossing will only be finalised during the design phase of the project, but is expected to be between chainage 13.2 and 13.4. Section 5 of the N12 where the proposed Overhead Transmission Line is to cross the N12 is shown in Figure 2.



Figure 2 - Section 5 of N12 where the OTL is to cross the N12

2. Access from the National Roads

In order to construct and inspect the Overhead Transmission Line a track is to be provided. This track will be accessed from the property on which the Overhead Transmission Line is constructed. It is not envisaged to provide any new access points onto the National Roads but to use existing access roads to the properties when passing over the National Road.

Thus, access to the western portion of the Overhead Transmission Line will be via the DR02318, at chainage 10.9 (approximately). The access from the N12 onto the DR02318 is shown in Figure 3.



Figure 3 - N12-DR02318 Intersection

While access to the eastern portion of the Overhead Transmission Line will be via an existing access point, at chainage 16.55 (approximately), as shown in Figure 4.

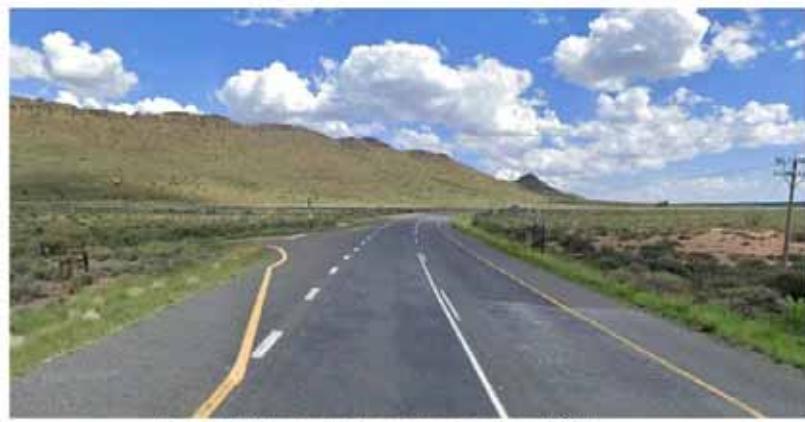
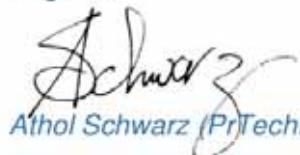


Figure 4 - Access to the eastern portion of OTL

I believe this will satisfy all SANRAL's concerns regards the access routes to the proposed Overhead Transmission Lines.

Should you have any questions regarding the content of this correspondence, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Regards



Athol Schwarz (PrTechEng)

Reference: NC11/1/4-12/5-1 Fax Number: +27 (0) 21 910 1699
Date: 8 November 2022 Direct Line: +27 (0) 21 957 4600
Email: runkelc@nra.co.za Website: www.nra.co.za



e-mail: gerald@red-cap.co.za

Mr G Ehlers
Red Cap Energy (Pty) Ltd
Unit B2 Mainstream Centre
Main Road
HOUBAY
7806

Dear Mr Ehlers

NATIONAL ROUTE 12 SECTION 5: PROPOSED NEW OVERHEAD 400KV POWER LINE CROSSING AT KM 13,45N BETWEEN THREE SISTERS AND VICTORIA WEST FOR HOOGLAND WIND FARM FACILITY TO ESKOM GAMMA MAIN TRANSMISSION SUB STATION: SERVICE OWNER – RED-CAP ENERGY (PTY) LTD

Thank you for your application dated 20 October 2022.

The South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL) approved your application on 8 November 2022 in terms of Section 48 of the South African National Roads Agency Limited and National Roads Act, 1998 (Act 7 of 1998), subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Installation and maintenance of service**
 - 1.1. The overhead line must be installed as detailed on drawing no NUW-GAM-CROSSING-001.
 - 1.2. A vertical clearance of not less than 10,35 m measured from the crown of the national road to the lowest wire shall be observed during all weather conditions.
 - 1.3. No work within the national road shall be executed prior to consultation with the Route Manager concerned, Mr Yusuf James (Cell no: 071 410 8070). Full time site supervision must be provided by the applicant. Contact details of the Resident Engineer must be provided to SANRAL.
 - 1.4. Traffic Accommodation must be in accordance with The South African Roads Traffic Signs Manual (SARTSM) Volume 2 Chapter 13.
 - 1.5. The applicant must provide all the necessary road signs during the execution of the work and he must ensure the safety of all the workers as well as the road users.

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Email info@sanral.co.za | Visit us at www.sanral.co.za

Directors: Mr T Mhambi (Chairperson), Ms L Memenza (CEO), Mr R Haswell, Mr C Hlabisi, Ms L Madlala, Mr E Makhubela, Mr T Matosa, | Company Secretary: Ms A Mathew

Reg. No. 1998/009584/30. An agency of the Department of Transport.

- 1.6 Should it be necessary to close the road temporarily, the public shall be warned well in advance by means of the news media and radio stations.
- 1.7 The Provincial Traffic Officials shall be warned timeously in order that the traffic control and requisite personnel can be made available.
- 1.8 The applicant shall undertake to maintain any tower, pole or overhead wire at all times at his own cost. The applicant shall furthermore take all necessary precautions to ensure the safety of road users during the installation and maintenance periods.
- 1.9 The service owner shall undertake to maintain the cable at all times at his own cost and shall take all necessary precautions to ensure the safety of road users.
- 1.10 All work shall be carried out to the satisfaction of and subject to the requirements of the SANRAL Regional Manager.
- 1.11 The road reserve must be re-instated to the satisfaction of the SANRAL Regional Manager.

2. Costs and indemnity

- 2.1 SANRAL shall not be involved in any expenditure in connection with the installation of the service and shall not be responsible or liable for any financial expenditure or loss in the event of SANRAL ordering the removal or the shifting or the relocation of anything related to this permission as a result of road works.
- 2.2. The applicant indemnifies SANRAL against, and hold it harmless from, any claim or damages which may be instituted or suffered by any person, including legal costs incurred as a result of the installation of the service or any other works erected or established on the site by the applicant, or as a result of any failure by the applicant to comply with any of the conditions contained herein or to maintain properly and render safe anything whatsoever to which this permission relates, or other works, or as a result of any damage to such works, by whomsoever caused, or as a result of the lapsing of the approval, or as a result of any alteration to the national road.
- 2.3. SANRAL shall not be liable for any loss or damage suffered by the applicant as a result of anything which may be done in connection with road construction or road maintenance or by any action whatsoever.

3. Notification of commencement and completion

The applicant shall at least fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the work, advise the SANRAL Regional Manager in writing of the date upon which the work shall be commenced with. The SANRAL Regional Manager shall also be advised in writing of the completion date as soon as possible, but not later than 14 days after completion of the work.

4. Acceptance of conditions

Any action taken by the applicant in terms of this approval shall be regarded as an acceptance of and compliance with the aforementioned conditions including the indemnity.

5. Additional legal requirements

- 5.1 This approval shall bind any successor-in-title to the land to which this approval relates.
- 5.2 This approval does not exempt the applicant from the provisions of any Legislation, or any other Act or Directive.

Yours sincerely

pp R CABLE

REGIONAL MANAGER

cc. Messrs Masibonge Tshiki & Yusuf James - masibonge@tshikiconsulting.co.za & yusuf.james@gmail.com

Mr E Raimond - erik@ekcon.co.za

Mr N Mowzer, SANRAL

N12-5 100KV OH POWER LINE CROSS BETW YKREE SISTERS & VICTORIA WEST

4 November 2022
 Mr. Lance Blaine
 Unit B2 Mainstream Shopping Centre
 Houtbay
 7802

Dear Sir/Madam

**PROPOSED GAMMA 400KV GRIDLINE CROSSING ON THE DE AAR-BEAUFORT WEST RAIL LINE
 BETWEEN BEAUFORT WEST AND DE AAR, IN THE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

Your email dated 3 November 2022 and related correspondence refer.

This office has no objection to the proposal, subject to Transnet Freight Rail approval.
 The proposed crossing will be located along the Beaufort West to De Aar railway line, between Hazel and Nobelsfontein Stations.

Its approximate position has been provisionally noted on our records as detailed below:

LEVEL CROSSING LOCATION DETAILS					
GS Ref	Transnet Land Description	Land Asset No	OD	GPS Coordinates	KM Point
C06769	Portion 1 of Farm Ezelsfontein No 235 Adm Dist VICTORIA WEST	BDE0031C	TFR	31°49'42.21"S, 23° 9'6.12"E	± 170,49

Please note the following:

1. The Environmental authorization process must be initiated and complied with.
2. Once the final route of the overhead line has been confirmed and prior to any work being undertaken, a formal application must be made to TFR for a Wayleave agreement. The application must include detailed plans of the crossings, listing the WG coordinates and must include any additional services (if any) that will be crossing the Transnet owned land or infrastructure.
3. The Developer to ensure that Transnet's cadastral boundary beacons not be disturbed/damaged during the construction process. Any damaged beacons must be replaced by a professional land surveyor with the consent of this office.

Transnet SOC Ltd 138 Ellof Street P.O. Box 72501
 Registration Number Braamfontein Parkview, Johannesburg
 1990/000900/30 JOHANNESBURG South Africa, 2122
 2000

Directors: Dr PS Molefe (Chairperson) PP J Derby* (Group Chief Executive) UN Fikeliqo ME Lelapa DC Matshoga Dr FS Mohamed AP Ramabulane GT Ramphela LL von Zeuner
 NS Dlamini* (Group Chief Financial Officer)

*Executive

Interim Group Company Secretary: Ms S Bopape

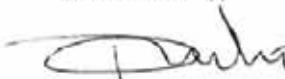
www.transnet.net

"This letterhead contains personal information as defined in the **Protection of Personal Information Act, No. 4 of 2013** (the "Act"). The signatory consents to the processing of his/ her personal information and is obliged to handle other data subject's information in accordance with the requirements of the Act".

TRANSNET HAS A 'ZERO GIFTS' POLICY. NO EMPLOYEE IS ALLOWED TO ACCEPT GIFTS, FAVOURS OR BENEFITS

4. No new cables/services may cross Transnet land/ infrastructure without prior consent from Transnet Freight Rail.
5. Existing boundary fences to be replaced if disturbed during the construction.
6. This office has not been notified of other Wayleaves in the vicinity of the proposed crossing.

Yours sincerely,

 09/11/2022

Muraga Mukwevho
Head of Risk and Safety, Cape Corridor
Transnet Freight Rail

Reference: BDE.31 (C.6769)

Copy to:
Chief Administrative Official: TFR
E: Annelize.Harmse@Transnet.net





Endangered Wildlife Trust

From: Belinda Clark <tikkapox1@gmail.com>
Sent: 06 March 2023 05:19 PM
To: Lourens Leeuwner
Cc: Mike Cohen
Subject: Re: Notice of EA Application and Draft BA Report - Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project

Thank you Lourens, we will do so
Belinda

On Fri, 3 Mar 2023 at 08:46, Lourens Leeuwner <lourensl@cwt.org.za> wrote:

Please send all correspondence to eia@cwt.org.za and remove me from the list

Regards

Lourens Leeuwner

Senior Conservation Manager

Endangered Wildlife Trust

W +27(21) 7994601 | C +27 72 2753111

Email: lourensl@cwt.org.za | Web: www.cwt.org.za | Skype: lourensleeu

Physical Address: Office 31 & 32, CBC building, SANBI, 99 Rhodes drive, Newlands, Cape Town, 7700

Postal Address: Postnet Suite # 027, Postnet Suite 002, Private Bag X08, Wierda Park 0149, Gauteng, South Africa



Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment – BBBEE Level 4 Certificate & 95% Civil Society Organisation

PBO number: 930 001 777

NPO number: 015-502 NPO

IT number: IT 6247

Louis Andrag

From: Belinda Clark <tikkapox1@gmail.com>
Sent: 02 March 2023 03:47 PM
To: Louis Andrag
Cc: Matthew Law; Mike Cohen; Belinda
Subject: Re: Notice of EA Application and Draft BA Report - Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project

Dear Mr Andrag

Thank you very much for bringing this to our attention.

I have updated the stakeholder database accordingly and you will continue to be informed about the project.

Regards
Belinda

On Thu, 2 Mar 2023 at 15:25, Louis Andrag <louis@leggato.co.za> wrote:

Dear Belinda

I just scanned the notice of EA application.

My company Drivequip Pty Ltd bought the farm RE/176 Murraysburg Rd in December 2021 and transfer took place in Feb 2022 – CH Du Plessis is therefore not the owner entity anymore.

MURRAYSBURG RD
AND BARRY

RE/176

CH DU PLESSIS PTY LTD

LOUIS ANDRAG

Regards

Louis



Louis Andrag
Chief Executive Officer
Mobile: +27 02 6000 230

Tel: 021 910 3270

Edward II Building, Edward Street, Bellville, 7530 | P.O. Box 576, Durbanville, 7550 | www.leggato.co.za

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From: Belinda Clark <tikkapox1@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2023 2:48 PM
To: Matthew Law <matthew@red-cap.co.za>; Mike Cohen <steenbok@aerosat.co.za>
Cc: Belinda <bclark@telkom.co.za>
Subject: Notice of EA Application and Draft BA Report - Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project

Dear Stakeholders

An Application for Environmental Authorisation (14/12/16/3/3/1/2710) for the 'Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project' has been submitted to the Department of Forestry Fisheries and Environment. The Draft Basic Assessment (BA) Report and Appendices are available for a 30 day stakeholder participation period, from 3 March to 3 April 2023. A notification letter is attached to this email.

The Draft BA Report is available on the EAP's website at <https://environmentcen.co.za/project-items/400kv-gamma-gridline/>, or by request at the contact details below. Downloads from this website are 'datafree' for mobile users without data on your phone. Electronic copies will also be provided to Ward Councillors in the relevant Wards. A virtual presentation is also available on the website, which outlines the BA process and pertinent parts of the BA Report.

EAP - CEN IEM Unit – Dr Mike Cohen / Belinda Clark

140 Kruger Gardens, Admiralty Way, Summerstrand, Gqeberha, 6001

Phone (041) 367 4748 / 082 320 3111 / 072 725 6400

Email (preferred): steenbok@aerosat.co.za / bclark@telkom.co.za

Please submit your comments, in writing, to the details above by 3 April 2023.

Kathryn Winstanley – G7 Renewable Energies

From: Belinda Clark <tikkapox1@gmail.com>
Sent: 08 March 2023 11:52 AM
To: Kathryn Winstanley
Cc: Caryn Clarke; Colette Alisha Stander; Skye Clarke-McLeod; Belinda; Mike Cohen
Subject: Fwd: I&AP Registration: Red Cap 400kV Gamma Gridline

Hi Kathryn

Apologies for the belated reply.

Thank you for your registration. We have added your details to the stakeholder database, and will keep you updated of the process.

You can access the Draft BAR and Appendices on our website at <https://environmentcen.co.za/project-items/400kv-gamma-gridline/>

Please let us know if you are not able to access the reports, and we will make them available by another means.

Thank you
Belinda

From: Kathryn Winstanley [mailto:kathryn.winstanley@telkom.co.za]
Sent: 07 March 2023 01:21 PM
To: bclark@telkomsa.net; steenbok@aerosat.co.za
Cc: Caryn Clarke <caryn@g7energies.com>; Colette Alisha Stander <colette@g7energies.com>; Skye Clarke-McLeod <skye@g7energies.com>
Subject: RE: I&AP Registration: Red Cap 400kV Gamma Gridline

Hi Belinda,

Hope you are well.

I just wanted to follow up regarding my previous email about I&AP Registration. Would it be possible to register for this project please?

Thank you.

Kind Regards,



Kathryn Winstanley

Environmental Project Developer | M: +27 81 317 7512

From: Kathryn Winstanley
Sent: Friday, 03 March 2023 11:51
To: 'bclark@telkomsa.net' <bclark@telkomsa.net>; 'steenbok@aerosat.co.za' <steenbok@aerosat.co.za>
Cc: Caryn Clarke <caryn@g7energies.com>; Colette Alisha Standen <colette.standen@skygroup.co.za>;
Clarke-McLeod <clarke.mcleod@g7energies.com>
Subject: I&AP Registration: Red Cap 400kV Gamma Gridline

Hi Belinda,

I trust you are well.

Could I please request that **Caryn Clarke** with email address eia@g7energies.com be registered as an I&AP for the proposed Red Cap 400kV Gamma Gridline.

Could you please send through any relevant documents and updates, as well as reply to this email with confirmation of registration.

Thank you very much.

Kind Regards,

Kathryn Winstanley

Environmental Project Developer

M: +27 81 317 7512

T: +27 21 300 0610

G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd
5th Floor, 125 Buitengracht Street
Cape Town 8001, South Africa



Simamkele Ntsengwane

From: Belinda Clark <tikkapox1@gmail.com>
Sent: 07 March 2023 12:33 PM
To: Simamkele Ntsengwane
Cc: Matthew Law; Mike Cohen
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Notice of EA Application and Draft BA Report - Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project
Attachments: Gamma 400kV Grid Routing_230210.kmz

Dear Simamkele

Please find attached the kmz of the pre-negotiated route for the Gamma 400 kV gridline.

All my best,

Belinda

On Fri, 3 Mar 2023 at 08:35, Simamkele Ntsengwane <Simamkele.Ntsengwane@aced.co.za> wrote:

Good Morning Belinda,

Thank you for the notification. Would it be possible to get a kmz file of the route alignment.

Thank you.

Kind Regards

Simamkele Ntsengwane

Land and Environmental Project Manager

African Clean Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd

Tel: +27 (0) 21 670 0439

Cell: +27 (0) 76 225 3548

Email: Simamkele.Ntsengwane@aced.co.za

Web: www.aced.co.za



Johan van Zyl

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Admin@JVZ <admin@jvzconstruction.co.za>
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 2023 at 10:41
Subject: RE: Data Base - Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project
To: Belinda Clark <tikkapox1@gmail.com>

Good day Belinda,

Yes thank you, we have managed to access the Draft BAR and Appendices via the website.

Kind regards,

NICOLENE MOWZER



Tel: (021) 862 1973
Fax: (021) 862 1975
Email: admin@jvzconstruction.co.za

Website – www.jvzconstruction.co.za
PO BOX 347 WELLINGTON 7654

www.jvzconstruction.co.za

From: Belinda Clark <tikkapox1@gmail.com>
Sent: 09 March 2023 10:37 AM

To: Admin@JVZ [mailto:admin@jvz.co.za]
Cc: Johan Boland Invest <johan@bolandinvest.co.za>; Mike Cohen <steenbok@aerosat.co.za>
Subject: Fwd: Data Base - Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project

Hi Nicolene

Thank you, we have added Mr Van Zyl to the stakeholder database and will be sure to keep you both updated of the process.

Please would you confirm that you have managed to access the Draft BAR and Appendices for review? Comments are due on 3 April 2023.

Thank you

Belinda

From: Admin@JVZ [mailto:admin@jvz.co.za]
Sent: 08 March 2023 10:43 AM
To: bclark@telkomsa.net
Cc: 'Johan Boland Invest' <johan@bolandinvest.co.za>
Subject: Data Base - Gamma 400 KV Gridline Project

Good day Belinda,

As telephonically discussed, please would you be so kind as to add Mr. Johan van Zyl to your Project Database.

DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2710

Johan Van Zyl

Contact number [0874596529](tel:0874596529)

Preferred method of notification - Email: johan@bolandinvest.co.za

Kind regards,

NICOLENE MOWZER

Ryan David-Andersen, AMDA

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Ryan David-Andersen <ryan@amdadevelopments.co.za>
Date: Tue, 14 Mar 2023 at 08:22
Subject: RE: Beaufort West Projects - I&AP Registration
To: Belinda Clark <tikkapox1@gmail.com>
Cc: Mike Cohen <steenbok@aerosat.co.za>

That does sound helpful - will check it out thanks Belinda!

From: Belinda Clark <tikkapox1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 14 March 2023 08:18
To: Ryan David-Andersen <ryan@amdadevelopments.co.za>
Cc: Mike Cohen <steenbok@aerosat.co.za>
Subject: Re: Beaufort West Projects - I&AP Registration

Morning Ryan

There is a map in the DBAR showing all alternative energy projects we know of at the moment within a 30 km radius of the Gamma Grid.

Hope that will assist?

Belinda

On Tue, 14 Mar 2023 at 08:02, Ryan David-Andersen <ryan@amdadevelopments.co.za> wrote:

Cool thanks Belinda!

As mentioned please also keep me in the loop regarding any other Beaufort West projects

From: Belinda Clark <tikkapox1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 14 March 2023 07:06
To: Ryan David-Andersen <ryan@amdalevelopments.co.za>
Cc: Mike Cohen <steenbok@aerosat.co.za>
Subject: Fwd: Beaufort West Projects - I&AP Registration

Hello Ryan

Thank you for your registration and interest in the Gamma Gridline BA process.

We have added your details to the project database, and will keep you updated.

Belinda

From: Ryan David-Andersen [mailto:ryan@amdalevelopments.co.za]
Sent: 10 March 2023 11:31 AM
To: Mike Cohen <steenbok@aerosat.co.za>
Cc: Belinda <bclark@telkomsa.net>
Subject: RE: Beaufort West Projects - I&AP Registration

Fantastic thank you Mike and Belinda

From: Mike Cohen <steenbok@aerosat.co.za>
Sent: Friday, 10 March 2023 09:31
To: Ryan David-Andersen <ryan@amdalevelopments.co.za>
Cc: Belinda <bclark@telkomsa.net>
Subject: RE: Beaufort West Projects - I&AP Registration

Dear Ryan

I am sending your email to Belinda who is the EAP the EAP for the Gamma Grid. She will register you as an I&AP and keep informed of the process

Best regards

Mike



From: Ryan David-Andersen <ryan.andersen@amda.co.za>
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 11:24 AM
To: Mike Cohen <steenbok@aerosat.co.za>
Subject: Beaufort West Projects - I&AP Registration

Dear Mike

Please may you add me to the I&AP list for all CEN projects in the vicinity of Beaufort West including the Gamma Grid BAR?

AMDA is developing the 600MW Carissa WEF about 30km south of Beaufort West with Hive so we have considerable interest in the broader area.

Thanks very much

Ryan David-Andersen

Senior Development Manager

AMDA Developments (Pty) Ltd

Mobile: +27 72 678 1523

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1 May 2023