

YOUR ROLE IN THE BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Your role will enhance the applicability and the completeness of the Basic Assessment Process.

Your role in this process is four-fold:

- To ensure that your interests and concerns in the proposed activity are recorded and addressed, you need to register with Nsovo Environmental Consulting (Nsovo) as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP).
- To raise public awareness of activities taking place within your surroundings and to ensure inclusion of any issues, suggestion or comments you may be aware of regarding the proposed activities.
- To provide participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way.
- To utilise opportunities provided to raise issues and provide comments throughout the process.

How to become Involved and Register as an I&AP?

Your participation in this process is valuable and is encouraged, therefore you are invited to register as an interested and affected party or to submit your comments, queries or issues relating to this project, by sending written submission to Nsovo Environmental Consulting through any of the contact details and within the time frame provided.



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BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE TRANSNET 5KM 50KV POWER LINE FROM ESKOM ARIES SUBSTATION TO THE PROPOSED NEW TRANSNET ARIES TRACTION FEEDER SUBSTATION

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT AUGUST 2014



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Please Quote REF: F012A-14 in all correspondence

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The aim of this document is to provide an overview of the proposed project and study area. This document provides information on the Basic Assessment process to be followed prior to the proposed construction of the Transnet 5km 50kV power line from Eskom Aries substation to the proposed new Transnet Aries Traction Feeder Substation as per the National Environmental Management Act ,1998 (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA). This document also indicates how you, as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), can become involved in the Basic Assessment process.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS (PPP)

Public Participation Process (PPP) is any process that involves the public in problem solving and decision-making . This process forms an integral part of the Basic Assessment procedure. The PPP provides people who may be interested in or affected by the proposed project, with an opportunity to make suggestions that may result in enhanced benefits for the project.

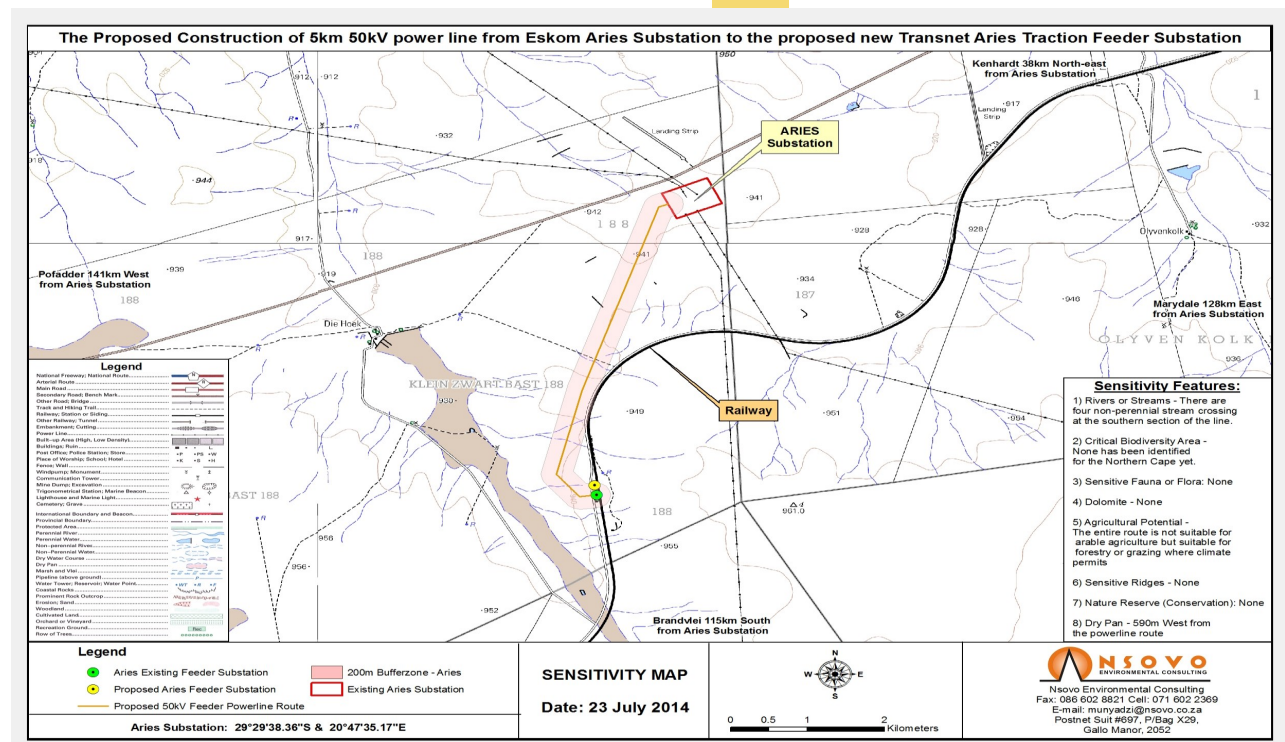
Comments and issues raised during the PPP will be captured, evaluated and included in the Comments and Response Report, which will be incorporated in the Basic Assessment Report and made available for public review.

INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Sishen-Saldanha line, Transnet Freight Rail's (TFR) iron ore export corridor, forms the backbone of the company's growth strategy. As part of the Transnet Orex expansion, TFR will be replacing the 9E Electrical Locomotives and Diesel Locomotives with the new energy efficient 15E Electrical Locomotives. Eskom Holdings SOC Limited (Eskom) was therefore requested by TFR to provide advice and the necessary provisions in this regard. Consequently, to enable TFR to expand their operations without overloading and interruption of supply, Eskom proposes the following:

- Construction of approximately 15km of 50kV power line in parallel to the existing line from Helios substation to the proposed new Transnet Traction Feeder Substation. The new line will have three single phase supplies each rated at 60MVA;
- Installation of a 1x60MVA 400/50kV transformer; and
- Connect in parallel existing 2x40MVA 400/50kV transformers and make them to feed north of the substation.

Although approximately 31m servitude is required for the proposed



power lines, the environmental assessment will earmark a 200m corridor.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR BASIC ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the requirements of the NEMA, Eskom requires approval from the competent authority i.e. the Department of Environmental Affairs in order to undertake the proposed project. The proposed project is listed under GNR 544 (Listing Notice 1) Activity 10(i) as an activity that cannot proceed without approval from the competent authority. Further the proposed project will comply with the requirements of other associated legislation.

NEED AND DESIRABILITY OF THE PROJECT

The proposed project will increase capacity and enable TFR to expand their operations without over loading and interruption of the supply. Further, the proposed replacement of Electrical and Diesel Locomotive to new energy efficient Electrical Locomotives is a commended move that benefits the country at large.

PROJECT LOCALITY

The project site is located on the Farm Klein Zwart Bast 188 (Portions 1,2 and 4) within the jurisdiction of Kai!Garib Local Municipality in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES FOR THE PROJECT

Another key driver towards a successful Basic Assessment process is the thorough identification and investigation of feasible alternatives. The selection of potential alternatives will be informed by input received from the I&APs, authorities as well as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner. Alternatives will be considered and discussed in terms of their practicality and feasibility. It is important to note that the definition of alternatives includes all aspects of the proposed activity including activity alternatives, process alternatives, scheduling alternatives, demand alternatives, design alternatives and the No-go alternative.