

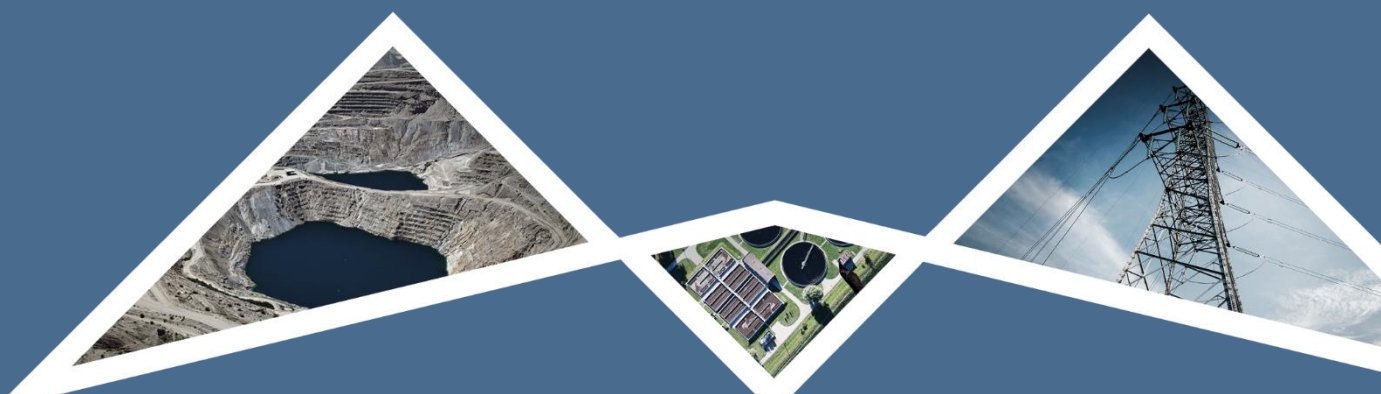


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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT

TETRA4 33KV AND 132KV POWERLINES BAR





DOCUMENT DETAILS

EIMS REFERENCE: 1526
DOCUMENT TITLE: TETRA4 33KV AND 132KV POWERLINES BAR, FREE STATE

DOCUMENT CONTROL

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REVISION AND AMENDMENTS

REVISION DATE:	REV #	DESCRIPTION
2023/02/15	ORIGINAL DOCUMENT	PPR for BAR Review



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Abbreviation List:

DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
DESTEA	Department of Small Business Development, Tourism, and Environmental Affairs
DWS	Department of Water and Sanitation (formerly DWA/DHSWS)
EA	Environmental Authorisation
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
I&AP	Interested and Affected Party
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act
EMPr	Environmental Management Programme
PPP	Public Participation Process
PPR	Public Participation Report



1 INTRODUCTION

Tetra4 (Pty) Ltd (hereafter referred to as the applicant) has appointed Environmental Impact Management Services (Pty) Ltd (EIMS) as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to assist with undertaking the required authorisation processes (including the statutory public participation), and to compile and submit the required documentation in support of application for:

- Environmental Authorisation (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Management Act – NEMA (Act 107 of 1998) - Listed activities:
 - GNR 983 Listing Notice 1: Activity 11
 - GNR 983 Listing Notice 1: Activity 19
 - GNR 985 Listing Notice 3: Activity 14
 - GNR 985 Listing Notice 3: Activity 23
- Water Use Licence (WUL) in accordance with the National Water Act – NWA (Act 36 of 1998) - Listed activities:
 - Section 21 (c) and (i) water uses.

Additional listed activities and/or water uses may be identified during the process.

The applicant wishes to construct a new dedicated overhead powerline as part of the proposed Cluster 2 LNG/LHe Gas Production Plant expansion. A new 132 kV dual loop-in-loop-out powerline of approximately 5.5km in length to the Theseus-Oryx 132 kV Line. The proposed powerline will feed into a new 40 MVA substation at the LNG/LHe Plant. In addition, the applicant also wishes to connect an existing compressor station to the existing 33 kV Beatrix powerline. The 33kV powerline will be approximately 1 km in length.

The proposed 132 kV line is located on, Mond van Doornrivier 38(RE), Kalkoenkrans 225(RE, 1, 2), Annex Glen Ross 562(RE, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5), and would run parallel to the R30 for most of the route. The proposed 33 kV line is located on, Palmietkuil 328(6). The site is approximately 11 km from Virginia at its nearest point.

The reason for this separate application to the Cluster 2 gas application is due to the requirements to hand over the powerline to Eskom on completion of construction.

2 OBJECTIVES OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

South Africa, being one of the countries with the most progressive constitutions, enshrined the public's right to be involved in decisions that may affect them in its Constitution. Section 57(1) of the new Constitution that provides: "*The National Assembly may (b) make rules and orders concerning its business, with due regard to representative and participatory democracy, accountability, transparency and public involvement*". This provision, along with several others gave rise to many new trends in South African legislation. In environmental legislation, the idea of public participation/stakeholder engagement features strongly and especially the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, NEMA) and the recent regulations passed under the auspices of this Act makes very strict provisions for public participation in environmental decision-making.

Public participation can be defined as..."*a process leading to a joint effort by stakeholders, technical specialists, the authorities and the proponent who work together to produce better decisions than if they had acted independently*"¹. From this definition, it can be seen that the input of the public is regarded as very important indeed.

¹ Greyling, T. (1999) Towards Managing Environmental Disputes: Appropriate Public Participation. Prepared for Conference on Environmental Dispute Resolution 10-11 June 1998, Fourways, Gauteng, Manyaka Greyling Meiring (Pty) Ltd, South Africa



The PPP is designed to provide sufficient and accessible information to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) in an objective manner to assist them to:

- During the Basic Assessment Process:
 - Verify that their issues have been recorded;
 - Comment on the findings of the environmental assessments; and
 - Provide relevant local information and knowledge to the environmental assessment.

The PPP is a requirement of several pieces of South African Legislation and aims to ensure that all relevant I&APs are consulted, involved and their opinions are taken into account and a record included in the reports submitted to Authorities. The process ensures that all stakeholders are provided this opportunity as part of a transparent process which allows for a robust and comprehensive environmental study. The PPP for the necessary authorisation required for the proposed Tetra4 Powerlines project needs to be managed sensitively and according to best practises in order to ensure and promote:

- Compliance with international best practice options;
- Compliance with national legislation;
- Establishment and management of relationships with key stakeholder groups; and
- Encouragement of involvement and participation in the environmental study and authorisation/approval process.

As such, the purpose of the PPP and stakeholder engagement process is to:

- Introduce the proposed project and process for the authorisation project;
- Explain the environmental authorisation;
- Determine and record issues, concerns, suggestions, and objections to the project;
- Provide opportunity for input and gathering of local knowledge;
- Establish and formalise lines of communication between the I&APs and the project team;
- Identify all significant issues for the project; and
- Identify possible mitigation measures or environmental management plans to minimise and/or prevent negative environmental impacts and maximise and/or promote positive environmental impacts associated with the project.

This Public Participation Report (PPR) lists all verbal and written issues raised by I&APs and stakeholders from the 30-day initial notification and call to register period from the 10th November 2022 to 15th January 2023. A breakdown of the PPP is given within the remaining sections of this PPR.

2.1 LEGAL COMPLIANCE

The PPP must comply with all environmental legislation that requires public participation as part of an application for authorisation or approval; namely, the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998).

Adherence to the requirements of the above-mentioned Act will allow for an Integrated PPP to be conducted, and in so doing, satisfy the requirements for public participation referenced in the Act. The details of the Integrated PPP are provided below.



3 IDENTIFICATION OF INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES (I&APS)

An initial I&AP database has been compiled from historic projects in the area and Windeed searches to obtain the contact details of the surrounding landowners. The I&APs referred to in the PPR include:

- Pre-identified and registered landowners and surrounding landowners;
- Pre-identified and registered key stakeholders;
- Regulatory authorities;
- Specialist interest groups; and
- All I&APs who responded to the initial notifications and requested to be registered.

Efforts to pre-identify key I&APs involved various avenues such as consultation with the proponent and known landowners within the study area, review of related previously conducted studies, and identification of key interest groups and authorities within the vicinity of the study area and municipality. Refer to **Error! Reference source not found.** for the Key Stakeholder/I&AP Database.

All landowners whose properties are within the study area have been notified about the project via either fax, registered mail, sms and/or email, where contact details are available. Refer to Appendix E 2 for the landowner, key stakeholder, authorities, and I&AP written notifications.

3.1 LIST OF ORGANS OF STATE IDENTIFIED AND NOTIFIED

The following key I&APs, but not limited to, were notified of the proposed project and invited to participate in the public participation process:

- CSIR
- Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd;
- Free State Department of Agriculture & Rural Development
- Free State Department of Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs
- Free State Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
- Free State Department of Police, Roads and Transport
- Free State Department of Public Works and Infrastructure
- Free State Department of Water and Sanitation
- Free State Wetland Forum
- Local Ward Councillor
- Matjhabeng Local Municipality
- Matjhabeng Ratepayers Association
- National Department Of Agriculture, Land Reform And Rural Development
- National Department Of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment
- National Department of Transport
- National Department of Water and Sanitation
- National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)
- National Farmers Union
- National House of Traditional Leaders
- Sedibeng Water
- South African National Biodiversity Institute
- South African National Roads Agency Ltd: Eastern Region
- Transnet SOC Ltd



3.2 LIST OF OTHER KEY I&APS IDENTIFIED AND NOTIFIED

- Directly Affected Landowners;
- Afriforum
- Agri Free State
- Agri South Africa
- Birdlife SA
- Conservation South Africa
- Endangered Wildlife Trust
- Federation for a Sustainable Environment
- Sibanye Gold

4 NOTIFICATION OF INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

This section provides details on the notifications that were distributed as part of the consultation process to date.

4.1 INITIAL NOTIFICATION OF LANDOWNERS AND I&APS

The PPP commenced on the 10th November 2022 with an initial notification and call to register ending on the 12th December 2022. Notification during this initial consultation was given in the manner described below.

4.1.1 REGISTERED LETTERS, FAXES AND EMAILS

Notification letters registered mail in English and Setswana were distributed to pre-identified I&APs through either registered mail, faxes, and/or emails. Please refer to Appendix E 2 for initial notification and proof of initial notification.

The notification documents included the following information:

- List of anticipated activities to be authorised;
- Sufficient detail of the proposed development to enable I&APs to assess/surmise what impact the development will have on them or on the use of their land;
- The purpose of the proposed project;
- Details of the application processes associated with proposed activities;
- Details of the affected properties (including a locality map);
- Details of the South African environmental legislation that must be adhered to;
- Date by which the I&AP must register and send comments through to EIMS;
- Contact details of the EAP.

4.1.2 NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements describing the proposed project and EIA process were placed in the Vista Newspaper (in English, Afrikaans and Sesotho) with adequate circulation in the vicinity of the study area on the 11th November 2022. The newspaper advert and notice included the following information:

- Project name;
- Applicant name;
- Project location;
- Nature of the activity;



- Legislative requirements; and
- Relevant EIMS contact person for the project.

Please refer to Appendix E 1 for proof of adverts and notices placed.

4.1.3 SITE NOTICES

Four(4) A1 Correx site notices (in English, Afrikaans and Sesotho) were placed at 4 locations along the study area on the 10th November 2022. The on-site notices included the following information:

- Project name;
- Applicant name;
- Project location;
- Map of proposed project area;
- Project description;
- Legislative requirements; and
- Relevant EIMS contact person for the project.

Please refer to Appendix E 4 for proof of site notice and site notice distribution.

4.2 SUMMARY OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

The table below provides a summary of the opportunities provided to I&APs for participation in the public participation process to date.

Table 1: Opportunities Provided for Public Participation

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PHASE			
ACTION	DESCRIPTION	PUBLICATION/PLACE	DATE
Initial Public Notification (announcement of project and call to register)	Site Notice Placement	Four (4) Site Notices were place along the study area.	10 November 2022
	Newspaper Advert	Vista Newspaper (English, Afrikaans and SeSotho	11 November 2022
	Notification of landowners, occupiers, and other key I&APs.	Affected landowners, and key I&APs were notified via either fax, registered mail,and/or email, where contact details are available.	11 November 2022

5 NOTIFYING INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES OF THE DECISION

Interested and Affected Parties will be notified via either fax, registered mail, and/or email, where contact details are available of the decision once available including the appeal process should they wish to appeal the decision.



6 RECORD OF ISSUES RAISED

The summary of comments presented in the below are those that have been received and addressed from 10 November 2022 to date.

- I&AP registrations;
- I&AP deregistrations;
- Employment/contractor opportunity seeking;
- Planned development Google Earth (.kmz) file request;
- Confirmation of receipt of email and that it will be forwarded to the Free State Botanical Society branch.

Please refer to Appendix E 3 and Appendix E 6 for comments or issues received.

7 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMENDATIONS

The comments received during the comment and review period were used to inform the compilation of this PPR. This report has been updated for submission to the Free State DESTEA (the competent authority), following the 30-day public review period of the Basic Assessment and associated appendices.



APPENDIX E 1

ADVERT PROOF



APPENDIX E 2

PROOF OF INITIAL NOTIFICATION

Please note that in an effort to protect the personal information of the Registered I&AP's the contact information of the I&APs will not be made publicly available. Should you require access to this document for the purposes of fulfilling your obligations under the NEMA EIA Regulations or other lawful right, please feel free to contact the EIMS Information officer at 011 789 7170 or popia@eims.co.za



APPENDIX E 3

TABLE OF CORRESPONDENCE



APPENDIX E 4

PROOF OF SITE NOTICE PLACEMENT



APPENDIX E 5

INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES DATABASE

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APPENDIX E 6

CORRESPONDENCE DOCUMENT

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