

OCTOBER
2020



BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE 132KV OVERHEAD POWER LINE ASSOCIATED WITH THE HYPERION HYBRID FACILITY (THERMAL FACILITY AND PV FACILITIES), NEAR KATHU

NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE



Hyperion Solar Development (Pty) Ltd is proposing the development of a 132kV overhead power line to connect the authorised Hyperion PV Solar Energy Facility complex and proposed Hybrid Facility (comprising of the proposed thermal dual fuel facility at the authorised Hyperion PV1 and PV2 Solar Energy Facilities) to the national grid via the Kalbas substation. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is approximately 8km long and includes an assessment corridor of 300m wide.

The proposed grid connection infrastructure will be located approximately 22km north of Kathu within the Gamagara Local Municipality which falls within jurisdiction of the John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality, Northern Cape Province, and will cross Portion 1 of the Farm Selsden 464 and Remainder of the Farm Kathu 465 to the Kalbas substation (located on the Remainder of the Farm Kathu 465).

It is the developer's intention to bid the Hyperion hybrid facility (i.e. PV and thermal dual fuel facility together with the associated power line) into the procurement process initiated by the Independent Power Producer Office (IPP Office) for the procurement of up to 2000MW of dispatchable generation capacity from a range of technologies. This allocation is in accordance with the new generation capacity required as specified in the Integrated Resource Plan 2019 and accompanying ministerial determination from the Minister for the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) to which the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) has concurred. The IPP Office has initiated procurement for the 2000MW of capacity under the Risk Mitigation Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (RMIPPPP).

Aim of this background information document

This document aims to provide you, as an interested and/or affected party (I&AP), with:

- » an overview of the proposed 132kV overhead power line.
- » an overview of the Basic Assessment (BA) process and specialist studies being undertaken to assess the 132kV grid connection.
- » details of how you can become involved in the BA process, receive information, or raise issues, which may concern and/or interest you.

Overview of the proposed project

In response to the growing electricity demand and increasing grid constraints (i.e. Load shedding) within South Africa, and the need to promote energy generation and sustainability within the Northern Cape Province, the development of a 132kV overhead power line to connect the authorised Hyperion PV Solar Energy Facility complex and proposed Thermal dual fuel facility to the national grid via the Kalbas substation is proposed.

The power line is proposed between the authorised substation at the Hyperion PV complex and the Kalbas Substation, located on the Remainder of the Farm Kathu 465, approximately 8km south-west of the Hyperion site. A servitude of 33m is required to be secured within the 300m wide corridor identified for assessment (refer to attached map). As far as possible, use will be made of existing access roads for construction and operation of the power line. Where no roads exist, a new access roads of up to 8m in width will be required.



Basic Assessment Process

As per the EIA Regulations published in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No 107 of 1998), the 132kV power line connecting the Hyperion PV SEF complex and Thermal facility to the national grid requires Environmental Authorisation (EA) from the National Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) (in consultation with Northern Cape Environmental Affairs and Nature Conservation (NCEANC). In terms of sections 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No 107 of 1998), as read with the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GNR 324 - 327), a Basic Assessment process is required for the development of the 132kV power line. The application for authorisation is required to be supported by comprehensive, independent environmental studies undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, and relevant specialist protocols.

An BA is an effective planning and decision-making tool. It allows the environmental consequences resulting from the construction and operation of a project to be identified and appropriately managed. It provides the opportunity for the developer to be fore-warned of potential environmental issues and allows for the resolution of the issue(s) reported on in the BA report, as well as opening a dialogue with interested and affected parties.

Savannah Environmental has been appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the required BA process, in order to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the 132kV power line, and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). As part of these environmental studies, I&APs will be actively involved through the public participation process being undertaken by Savannah Environmental.

What are the potential environmental impacts associated with the 132kV power line?

Based on the nature and extent of the proposed project, the nature of the affected area, and experience of the consultants on similar projects, a number of potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project have been identified at this stage. Site-specific social and environmental specialist studies will be undertaken for the identified corridor in order to delineate areas of potential sensitivity, assess impacts associated with the project and make recommendations regarding avoidance, management and mitigation of impacts. Specialist studies will consider the following:

- » Impacts on biodiversity, including ecology, freshwater ecology, fauna and flora.
- » Impacts on avifauna.
- » Impacts on soils and agricultural potential.
- » Impacts on heritage resources, including the archaeology and palaeontology.
- » Impacts on the social environment.
- » Impacts on the visual quality of the area.

The specialist studies will be informed by existing information, field observations and input from the public participation process. As an I&AP, your input is considered as an important part of the process, and we urge your involvement.

Public Participation Process

The sharing of information forms the basis of the public participation process and offers you the opportunity to become actively involved in the BA process from the outset. Comments and inputs from I&APs during the EIA process are encouraged in order to ensure that all potential impacts are considered within the ambit of the study.

The public involvement process aims to ensure that:

- » Information containing all relevant facts in respect of the applications are made available to I&APs for review.
- » Participation by potential I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the applications.
- » Adequate review period is provided for I&APs to comment on the findings of the BA reports.

Your responsibilities as an I&AP

In terms of Section 24J of the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 and the Department of Environmental Affairs Public Participation Guideline 2017, as part of the EIA process, an I&AP has the responsibility to:

- » Provide comment regarding the proposed project with in the specified timeframes;
- » Submit written comment directly to the EAP;
- » Disclose any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which that I&AP may have in the approval or refusal of the applications.

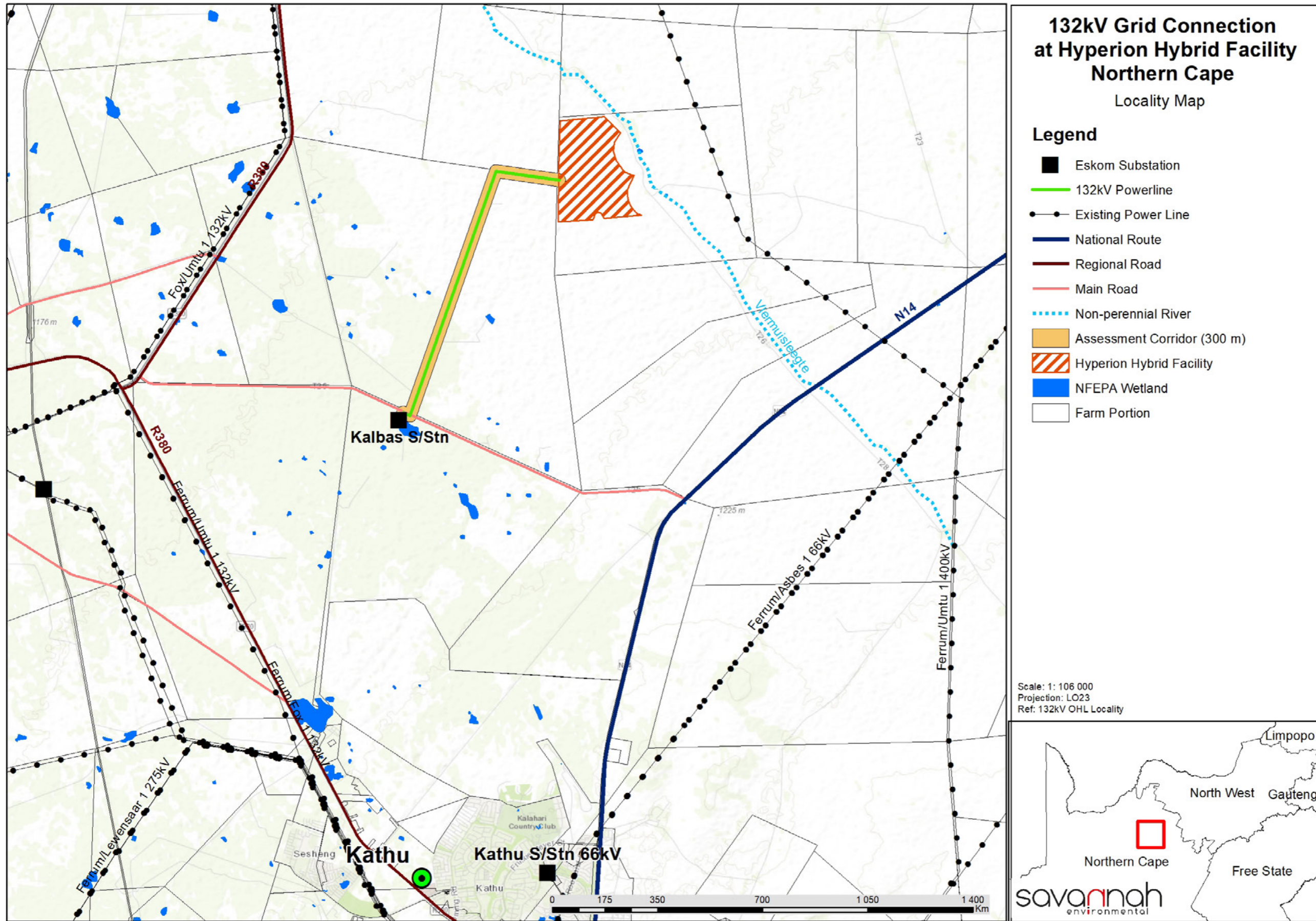
How to become involved

1. By responding (by phone, fax or email) to our invitation for your involvement which has been advertised in local news papers and on site.
2. By returning the attached Reply Form to the relevant contact person.
3. By attending the virtual meetings to be held during the course of the BA process.
4. By contacting the consultants with queries or comments.
5. By reviewing and commenting on the BA reports within the stipulated 30-day review periods.

If you consider yourself an I&AP for the 132kV power line infrastructure for the Hyperion thermal hybrid facility, we urge you to make use of the opportunities created by the public participation process to provide comment or raise those issues and concerns which affect and/or interest you, and about which you would like more information. Your input into this process forms a key element of the EIA process.



Figure 1: Overall locality and layout of the proposed 132kV powerline.





COMMENTS AND QUERIES

Direct all comments, queries or responses to:

Savannah Environmental
Nicolene Venter
P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
Tel: 011 656 3237
Fax: 086 684 0547
Email: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

To view project documentation, visit
www.savannahSA.com



OKTOBER
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BASIESE EVALUERINGSPROSES

**OPRIGTING VAN DIE 132 KV OORHOOFSE KRAGLYN WAT GEPAARD GAAN MET DIE
HYPERION HIBRIEDE AANLEG (TERMIESE AANLEG EN FV-AANLEGTE), NABY KATHU**

NOORD-KAAPPROVINSIE



Hyperion Solar Development (Edms.) Bpk. beoog die ontwikkeling van 'n 132 kV oorhoofse kraglyn om die gemagtigde Hyperion FV-sonkragaanlegkompleks en beoogde Hibriede Aanleg (bestaande uit die beoogde termiese tweeledige brandstofaanleg by die gemagtigde Hyperion FV1- en FV2-sonkragaanleg) met die nasionale kragnet te verbind aan die hand van die Kalbas Substasie. Die beoogde kragnetkonneksie-infrastruktuur is sowat 8 km lank en sluit 'n evalueringskorridor met 'n breedte van 300 m in.

Die beoogde kragnetkonneksie-infrastruktuur sal sowat 22 km noord van Kathu in die Gamagara Plaaslike Munisipaliteit geleë wees, wat in die regsgebied van die John Taolo Gaetsewe Distriksmunisipaliteit, Noord-Kaapprovinsie val, en sal oor Gedeelte 1 van die plaas Selsden 464 en die Restant van die plaas Kathu 465 tot by die Kalbas Substasie (geleë op die Restant van die plaas Kathu 465) loop.

Die ontwikkelaar is van voorneme om die Hyperion hibriede aanleg (d.i. die FV- en termiese tweeledige brandstofaanleg tesame met die verwante kraglyn) in die verkrygingsproses aan te bied wat deur die Kantoor van die Onafhanklike Kragprodusent (KOK) onderneem is vir die verkryging van tot hoogstens 2 000 MW lewerbare kragvermoë uit 'n reeks tegnologieë. Hierdie toewysing is in ooreenstemming met die nuwe benodigde kragopwekkingsvermoë soos gespesifiseer in die Geïntegreerde Hulpbronplan 2019 en meegaande ministeriële bepaling deur die Minister vir die Departement van Minerale Hulpbronne en Energie (DMHE) waarmee die Nasionale Energiereguleerder van Suid-Afrika (Nersa) saamgestem het. Die KOK-kantoor het verkryging vir die 2 000 MW vermoë ingevolge die Risikoversagting Verkrygingsprogram vir Onafhanklike Kragprodusente (RMIPPPP) van stapel gestuur.

Doel van hierdie agtergrondinligtingsdokument

Hierdie dokument stel dit ten doel om u, as 'n belangstellende en/of geaffekteerde party (B&GP), te voorsien van:

- » 'n oorsig van die beoogde 132 kV oorhoofse kraglyn;
- » 'n oorsig van die Basiese Evalueringsproses (BE-proses) en spesialisstudies wat onderneem word om die 132 kV krag netverbinding te evalueer;
- » besonderhede van hoe u betrokke kan raak by die BE-proses, inligting kan ontvang of vraagstukke kan opper wat u dalk kan raak en/of wat vir u van belang kan wees.

Oorsig van die beoogde projek

In antwoord op die groeiende vraag na elektrisiteit en toenemende kragnetbeperkings (d.i. beurtkrag) in Suid-Afrika, en die behoefte om kragopwekking en volhoubaarheid in die Noord-Kaapprovinsie te bevorder, word die ontwikkeling van 'n 132 kV oorhoofse kraglyn om die gemagtigde Hyperion FV-sonkragaanlegkompleks en beoogde Termiese tweeledige brandstofaanleg met die nasionale kragnet te verbind aan die hand van die Kalbas Substasie beoog.

Die kraglyn word beoog tussen die gemagtigde substasie by die Hyperion FV-kompleks en die Kalbas Substasie, wat op die Restant van die plaas Kathu 465, sowat 8 km suidwes van die Hyperionterrein geleë is. 'n Serwituut van 33 m moet in die 300 m-breë korridor wat vir evaluering geïdentifiseer is, bekom word (sien aangehegte kaart). So ver moontlik sal bestaande toegangspaaie vir konstruksie en bedryf van die kraglyn gebruik word. Waar daar nie paaie is nie, sal nuwe toegangspaaie met 'n breedte van hoogstens 8 m nodig wees.



Basiese evalueringsproses

Ingevolge die OIE-regulasies wat kragtens Artikel 24(5) van die Nasionale Wet op Omgewingsbestuur (NEMA, Wet 107 van 1998) gepubliseer is, verg die 132 kV kraglyn wat die Hyperion FV-sonkragaanlegkompleks en Termiese aanleg met die nasionale kragnet verbind, Omgewingsmagtiging (OM) van die Nasionale Departement van Omgewing, Bosbou en Visserye (DEFF) (in oorleg met die Noord-Kaapse Departement van Omgewingsake en Natuurbewaring (NK DENC)). Ingevolge Artikel 24 en 24D van die Nasionale Wet op Omgewingsbestuur (Wet 107 van 1998), saamgelees met die OIE-regulasies, 2014, soos gewysig (Staatskennisgewing R324–R327), moet 'n Basiese Evalueringsproses vir die ontwikkeling van die 132 kV kraglyn onderneem word. Die aansoek om magtiging moet gestaaf word deur omvattende, onafhanklike omgewingstudies wat ingevolge die OIE-regulasies, 2014 (soos gewysig), en tersaaklike spesialisprotokols, onderneem word.

'n BE is 'n doeltreffende beplannings- en besluitnemingswerktuig. Dit bring mee dat die omgewingsverwante gevolge wat voortspruit uit die oprigting en bedryf van 'n projek, vroeg in die beplanningsproses geïdentifiseer en na behore bestuur word. Dit stel die ontwikkelaar in staat om vooraf gewaarsku te wees teen potensiële omgewingsvraagstukke en bied die geleentheid om die vraagstuk(ke) waarvoor verslag gedoen is in die BE-verslag op te los, en ook om dialoog met belangstellende en geïmpakteerde partye te bewerkstellig.

Savannah Environmental is aangestel as die onafhanklike omgewingskonsultant om die vereiste BE-proses te onderneem om alle potensiële omgewingsimpakte met betrekking tot die 132 kV kraglyn te identifiseer en te evalueer, en om gepaste versagtingsmaatreëls in 'n Omgewingsbestuursprogram (OBPr) aan te beveel. As deel van hierdie omgewingstudies sal B&GP's aktief betrokke raak deur die openbare deelnameproses wat deur Savannah Environmental onderneem word.

Wat is die potensiële omgewingsimpakte wat verband hou met die 132 kV kraglyn?

Op grond van die aard en omvang van die beoogde projek, die aard van die geïmpakteerde gebied en ervaring van die konsultante met soortgelyke projekte, is 'n aantal potensiële omgewingsimpakte wat met die beoogde projek verband hou, op hierdie stadium geïdentifiseer. Terreinspesifieke maatskaplike en omgewingspesialisstudies sal vir die geïdentifiseerde korridor onderneem word om gebiede van potensiële sensitiwiteit af te baken, impakte wat met die projek verband hou te evalueer en aanbevelings te maak met betrekking tot vermyding, bestuur en versagting van impakte.

Spesialisstudies sal die volgende oorweeg:

- » Impakte op biodiversiteit, insluitend ekologie, varswaterekologie, fauna en flora;
- » impakte op avifauna;
- » impakte op grondsoorte en landboupotensiaal;
- » impakte op erfenishulpbronne, insluitend argeologie en paleontologie;
- » impakte op die maatskaplike omgewing;
- » impakte op die gebied se visuele gehalte;

Die spesialisstudies sal toegelig word deur bestaande inligting, veldwaarnemings en insette wat uit die openbare deelnameproses voortspruit. As 'n B&GP word u insette as 'n belangrike deel van die proses geag, en ons moedig u aan om betrokke te raak.

Openbare Deelnameproses

Die deel van inligting vorm die grondslag van die openbare deelnameproses en bied u die geleentheid om uit die staanspoor aktief by die BE-proses betrokke te raak. Kommentaar en insette van B&GP's tydens die OIE-proses word aangemoedig ten einde te verseker dat oorweging aan alle potensiële impakte binne die omvang van die studie geskenk word.

Die openbare betrokkenheidsproses poog om te verseker dat:

- » inligting wat al die tersaaklike feite met betrekking tot die aansoek bevat, aan B&GP's beskikbaar gestel word vir insae;
- » deelname deur potensiële B&GP's op so 'n wyse gefasi liteer word dat hulle 'n redelike geleentheid gegee word om kommentaar te lewer oor die aansoek; en
- » 'n toereikende insaetydperk aan B&GP's gebied word om kommentaar te lewer oor die bevindinge van die BE-verslag.

U verantwoordelikhede as 'n B&GP

Ingevolge Artikel 24J van die Nasionale Wet op Omgewingsbestuur, Wet 107 van 1998, en die Departement van Omgewingsake se Openbare Deelnameproses, 2017, as deel van die OIE-proses, het 'n B&GP die verantwoordelikheid om:

- » kommentaar met betrekking tot die beoogde projek in die gespesifiseerde tydsraamwerke te lewer;
- » skriftelike kommentaar regstreeks by die OEP in te dien; en
- » enige regstreekse sake-, finansiële-, persoonlike- of ander belange bekend te maak wat daardie B&GP in die goedkeuring of afkeuring van die aansoek kan hê.

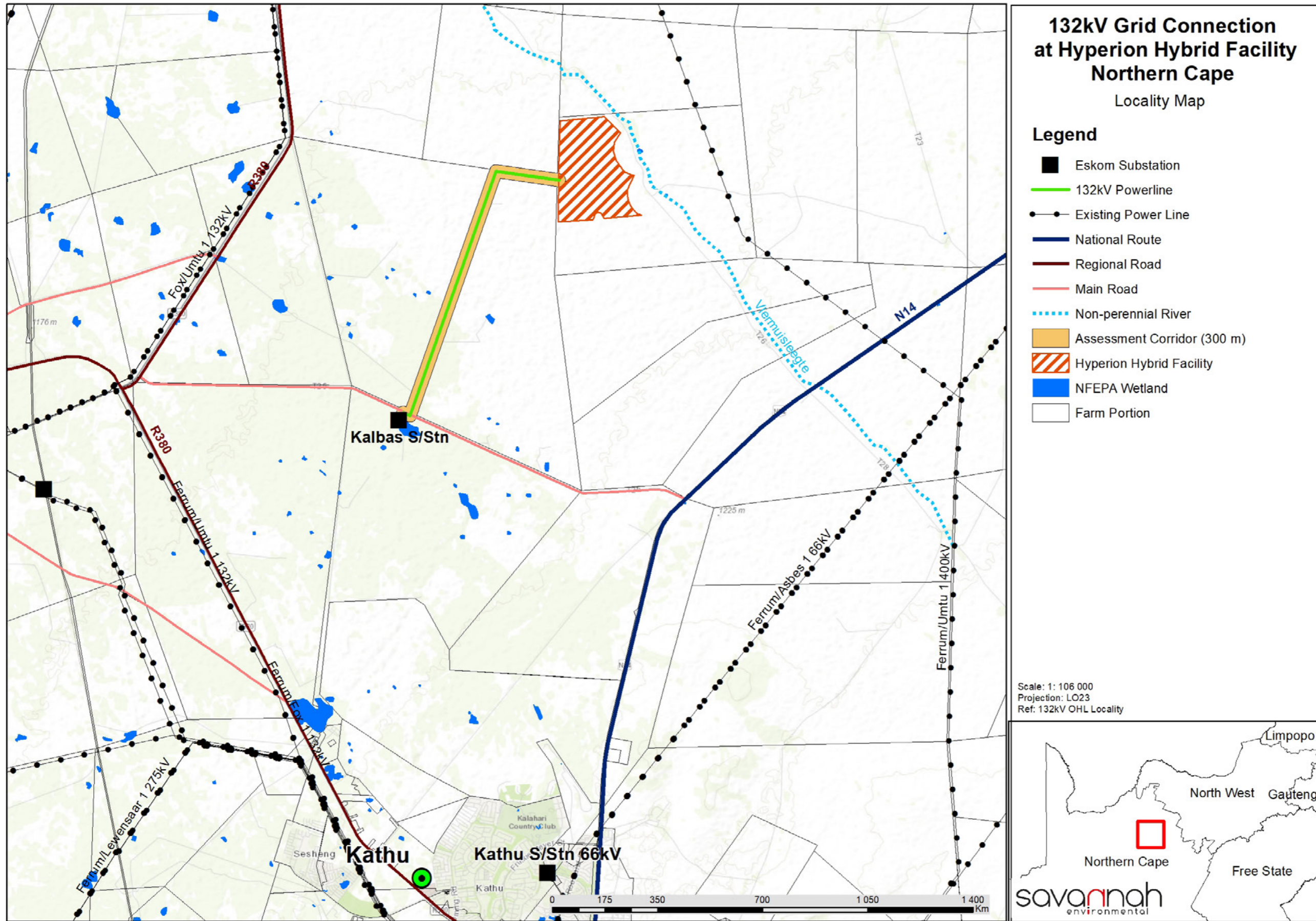
Hoe om betrokke te raak

1. Deur te reageer (telefonies, per faks of per e-pos) op ons uitnodiging vir u betrokkenheid wat in plaaslike koerante en op die terrein geadverteer is.
2. Deur die aangehegte Antwoordvorm aan die tersaaklike kontakpersoon terug te besorg.
3. Deur die virtuele vergaderings by te woon wat tydens die verloop van die BE-proses gehou sal word.
4. Deur die konsultante te kontak met navrae of kommentaar.
5. Deur oorsig oor en kommentaar op die BE-verslae te bied, en wel binne die gestipuleerde 30-dae insaetydperke.

As u self as 'n B&GP vir die 132 kV kraglyninfrastruktuur vir die Hyperion Termiese Hibriede Aanleg ag, moedig ons u aan om gebruik te maak van die geleentheid wat deur die openbare deelnameproses geskep word om kommentaar te lewer of daardie vraagstukke en knelpunte te opper wat u raak en/of waarin u belangstel en waarvoor u meer inligting verlang. U insette in hierdie proses vorm 'n belangrike deel van die OIE-proses.



Figuur 1: Algehele ligging en uitleg van die beoogde 132 kV kraglyn





KOMMENTAAR EN NAVRAE

Rig alle kommentaar, navrae of antwoorde aan:

Savannah Environmental

Nicolene Venter

Posbus 148, Sunninghill, 2157

Tel: 011 656 3237

Faks: 086 684 0547

E-pos: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Besoek

www.savannahSA.com

om projekdokumentasie te besigtig.



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESSES

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE 132KV OVERHEAD POWER LINE ASSOCIATED WITH THE HYPERION HYBRID FACILITY, NEAR KATHU, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

October 2020

Return completed registration and comment form to: **Nicolene Venter** or **Ronald Baloyi** of **Savannah Environmental**

Phone: 011 656 3237 / **Mobile (incl. 'please call me'):** 060 978 8396 / **Fax:** 086 684 0547

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com **Postal Address:** PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157

Your registration as an interested and/or affected party will be applicable for this project only and your contact details provided are protected by the PoPI Act of 2013

Please provide your complete contact details:

Name & Surname:		
Organisation:		
Designation:		
Postal Address:		
Telephone:	Fax:	
Mobile:		
E-mail:		

Would you like to register as an interested and affected party (I&AP)? YES
 (please tick the relevant box) NO

Note: In terms of EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, Regulation 43(1), you are required to register as an I&AP to receive further correspondence regarding the EIA process and comment on the Reports being made available for comments, and to disclose any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which you may have in the approval or refusal of the application (add additional pages if necessary):

Please list your comments regarding the Basic Impact Assessment process (add additional pages if necessary):

Please provide contact details of any other persons who you regard as a potential interested or affected party:

Name & Surname:	
Postal Address:	
Telephone:	
Mobile:	
E-mail:	