

Appendix C9 – Comments and Responses Report

OLIFANTSHOEK 132kV POWER LINE, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT

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The Olifantshoek 132kV Power Line Basic Assessment (BA) Process was announced on Monday, 24 February 2020. The notification letter served to invite Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to register their interest in the project and to submit any comments / queries that they might have. All written comments received during the BA process have been included in the table below.

The Basic Assessment (BA) Report was made available for a 30-day review and comment period from **Thursday, 30 July 2020** until **Monday, 31 August 2020**. The Comments and Responses Report (C&RR) has been updated with comments received during the review and comment period and included in **Appendix C7** of the final Basic Assessment Report.

NOTE:

In terms of Regulation 44(1) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, please note that the comments raised and responses provided at the various Focus Group Meetings held during the 30-day review period of the Basic Assessment Report have not been captured in this Comments and Responses Report. The notes of the meetings are attached as **Appendix C8**.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS / ACRONYMS

APM	Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit	BA	Basic Assessment
BAR	Basic Assessment Report	BGG	Burial Grounds and Graves Unit
C&RR	Comments and Responses Report	DEFF	Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries
DAEARD&LR	Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EMPr	Environmental Management Programme	HMP	Heritage Management Plan
I&APs	Interested and Affected Parties	NR	Nature Reserve
SAHRAH	South African Heritage Resources Agency	SARAO	South African Road Astronomy Observatory
SAHRA	South African Heritage Resources Agency	SANRAL	South African National Roads Agency Ltd

1. COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE BA REPORT

1.1. Organs of State

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
1.	<p>SANRAL has the following comment:</p> <p>The parallel section of the 132kV powerline must be placed 60m away from the road reserve fence.</p> <p>As the N14 is a super route the height of crossing powerline must be at least 9m above ground level at the lowest point.</p> <p>Application for statutory approval must be submitted to SANRAL</p>	<p>Nicole Abrahams Environmental Coordinator: Western Region SANRAL</p> <p>E-mail: 16 August 2020</p>	<p>The comment from SANRAL is acknowledged. The information requirements have been forwarded to the applicant for their consideration. The application for statutory approval will be submitted to SANRAL when the BA process is complete and the DEFF has issued a decision on the project.</p>
2.	<p>The powerline route is proposed within the buffer zone of the Bredenkamp Nature Reserve, where it crosses the Ga-Mogara River (<5km). This is strongly opposed by this department. The proponent should therefor re-assess the line route so that it is located outside of the formally declared protected area's buffer zone (>5km).</p>	<p>Elsabe Swart Scientific Manager: Grade B Research and Development Support Unit DENC</p> <p>Letter: 26 August 2020</p>	<p>Prior to the undertaking of the Basic Assessment process, the applicant undertook a stakeholder meeting on Thursday, 7 November 2019. This meeting was attended by representatives of the Northern Cape DAEARD&LR and DAFF. A copy of the attendance register from the meeting is included in the Final BA Report as Appendix N.</p> <p>The aim of the meeting was to indicate to the officials the location of the grid connection corridor, which was routed outside the Brook and Bredenkamp Nature Reserve based on previous objections received during a process conducted by Savannah Environmental on behalf of Eskom. In this previous process, the grid connection corridor traversed the properties which now comprise the Brooks and Bredenkamp Nature Reserve, which at the time was about to be promulgated by the Northern Cape DAEARD&LR. As a result, Sishen Iron Ore Mine lodged an appeal on the decision of the Department to authorise the power line citing that the power line was traversing</p>

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			<p>an ecologically sensitive area and alternative corridors should be considered. The appeal was upheld by the Minister.</p> <p>Taking the above into consideration and the need for the power line to serve the current power shortages in the Olifantshoek area, a new grid connection corridor which avoids the Brooks and Bredenkamp Nature Reserve and routes along existing linear infrastructure in the area, was identified for assessment. This route is as suggested by EXM Advisory service on behalf of Sishen mine during the previous BA process. This is the route considered within the current process. No objection to this proposed route was raised at the meeting held in November 2019.</p> <p>Following receipt of the comments from the Northern Cape DAEARD&LR on the Basic Assessment Report, the project team engaged with officials from the DAEARD&LR as well as Sishen Iron Ore Mine to obtain specific information on the location of the said nature reserve buffer in relation to the proposed grid connection corridor, as well as details in terms of what development is permitted within this buffer area. Further, a meeting with Mr Dewald Badenhorst at DAEARD&LR (Deputy Director: Protected Areas) was requested but no response has been received to date. No information was available from the Department at the time of finalisation of this report. It has however been indicated by Werner Voigt (KIO SIS Environmental Management), that there is no defined buffer surrounding the nature reserve. The 5km is considered as a guideline. He did not provide an indication regarding any restrictions on development within this area.</p> <p>As the defined boundary of the buffer around the nature reserve and information on what development is permitted within the</p>

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	<p>The Brooks and Bredenkamp Nature Reserves and the impact of the powerline on it were not factored into the specialists' reports. In one instance for example, the specialist mentioned (Ecological Report) that the nearest formal protected area is Witsand NR, which is however not the case. Both the Avifaunal and Ecological specialist should revise their reports and factor in the impact of the line on the Brooks and Bredenkamp Nature Reserves.</p>		<p>buffer is not available, it is not possible for the applicant to re-assess the power line route so that it is located outside of this buffer zone. As the power line follows existing linear infrastructure, and the environmental impacts are considered to be acceptable (as determined through the current Basic Assessment process), and the fact that there is no direct impact on the nature reserve, the reasoning for the DAEARD&LR's objection to the proposed power line within the proposed corridor is unclear.</p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The Ecological Impact Assessment (refer to Appendix D of the Final BA Report) concluded that the proposed Olifantshoek 132kV Power Line will have a limited impact on the habitat in the area due to the narrow linear nature of the development (spreading the impact over various habitat rather than restricting the impact to a large area within a singular habitat type), along with the fact that the proposed grid connection corridor, will for a large extent run parallel to already impact servitudes of existing linear infrastructure.</p> <p>The Avifauna Impact Assessment (refer to Appendix E of the Final BA Report) concluded that the proposed Olifantshoek 132kV Power Line will have a minimal impact on avifauna due to the extensive spatial requirements of the development, with the study area mostly being uniform in habitat composition as well as avifauna composition, with small variations occurring between the different micro-habitats. As a result, the proposed development is unlikely to have any long-term significant impact on avifauna species within the study area. The updates to these reports include a correction regarding the nearest formally protected area to the grid connection corridor.</p>

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	<p>The maps in the Ecological and Avifaunal Reports proof difficult to read, the colours are not very distinct, the maps are too small, the text are too small to read, etc. We advise that the specialists revisit these maps and report content to make it more visually legible and concise.</p>		<p>The maps of both reports have been updated to make them more legible and concise. Refer to Appendix D and Appendix E of the Final BA Report for the updated maps.</p>
	<p>When applying for permits for the removal of protected species, a detailed walk-through report should be submitted with the applications.</p>		<p>The comment is acknowledged. Section 5.10 of the EMPr (refer to Appendix K of the Final BA Report) includes a mitigation measure which requires for relevant permits to be obtained by the applicant prior to the commencement of site clearance activities for the power line from the relevant Provincial and National authorities. Section 8.2 of the EMPr (refer to Appendix K of the Final BA Report) includes a mitigation measures which requires the applicant to submit a walk-through survey report to the Department with the applications for the permits required for the translocation / destruction of listed and protected plant species present within the grid connection corridor as well as the servitude of the Olifantshoek 132kV Power Line.</p>
3.	<p>i. Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and that it can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description. It is noted that you have applied for Activity 14 of listing notice 1 (GN R 983, as amended) which includes the storage of dangerous goods. Please provide a description of the dangerous good involved in this case.</p>	<p>Constance Musemburi Case Officer DEFF Letter: 31 August 2020</p>	<p>All listed activities applied for are relevant for the proposed construction and operation of the Olifantshoek 132kV Power Line. Section 3.5.1 of the Final BA Report has been updated to include a description of the dangerous goods that will be required for the project life cycle of the Olifantshoek 132kV Power Line. Furthermore, an amended Application Form for Environmental Authorisation has been submitted with the Final BA Report to the Department and includes a description of the dangerous goods and substances that will be required for the proposed Olifantshoek 132KV Power Line.</p>
	<p>ii. 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</p>		<p>The Listed Activities applied for in the Application Form do not differ from those mentioned in section 3.5.1 of the Final BA Report, however the description of the applicability of the listed activities applied for with regards to the storage of dangerous goods has</p>

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	<p>downloaded from the following link https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms.</p> <p>iii. The Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) must ensure that an adequate motivation on the applicability of each listed activity that triggers the proposed development is provided. The applicability of each activity against the actual threshold for the proposed development must be verified. The Final BAR must be clear on the total voltage output for the substation.</p> <p>iv. Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the 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, (including comments from this Department's Biodiversity Section), Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final BAR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof of the attempts that were made to obtain comments must be submitted to the Department. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014.</p>		<p>been updated in accordance with the comments submitted by the DEFF (comment above).</p> <p>A description of the applicability of each Listed Activity that is triggered by the proposed development of the Olifantshoek 132kV Power Line is included in section 3.5.1 of the Final BA Report. It must be noted that the substation does not form part of the application for authorisation. This substation was authorised under a previous application process.</p> <p>The C&RR containing all comments received, including those received from the DEFF, and responses provided by the project team, is included in Appendix C9 of the Final BA Report. Meeting minutes for the record of the Focus Group Meetings held are included in the Final BA Report as Appendix C8.</p> <p>A summary of the issues and comments received during the circulation of the BA Report, including those from Organs of State have been addressed in section 3.2.2 of the Final BA Report.</p> <p>The Public Participation Process has been conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended (GNR 326), as well as in accordance with the approved Public Participation Plan. The approved Public Participation Plan is included in the Final BA Report as Appendix C1.</p> <p>The BA Report was made available for a 30-day review and comment period from Thursday, 30 July 2020 until Monday, 31 August 2020. As per the approved Public Participation Plan, the availability of the BA Report was:</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertised in the Kuruman Bulletin on 28 July 2020 (tear sheet included in Appendix C3 of the Final BA Report). • Announced on Kurara FM (98.9 MHz), the local community radio station on 30 July 2020 at the commencement of the 30-day review and comment period. Further Radio Live Read segments were undertaken at Kurara FM as a reminder of the availability of the review and comment period of the BA Report on 6 August 2020, 13 August 2020 and 28 August 2020. A schedule of the Live Read segments has been included in Appendix C3 of the Final BA Report. • A copy of the Radio Live Read recording was sent to the Case Officer on 16 September 2020 and the proof of correspondence has been included in Appendix B of the Final BA Report. • The Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform (previously the DENC), as the commenting authority, and relevant Organs of State were notified that the BA Report can be downloaded from Savannah Environmental's website and could also be sent via other file transfer services (i.e. We Transfer, Dropbox, etc. or on CD), on request.
	<p>v. A Comments and Response (C&R) report must be submitted with the final BAR. The C&R report must incorporate all comments received for this development. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&APs' comments.</p>		<p>The C&RR containing all comments received, including those received from the DEFF, and responses provided by the project team, is included in Appendix C9 of the Final BA Report. Meeting minutes for the record of the Focus Group Meetings held are included in the Final BA Report as Appendix C8.</p>
	<p>vi. Please ensure that a description of all identified alternatives for the proposed activity that are feasible and reasonable, including the advantages and disadvantages that the proposed activity or alternatives will have on the environment and on</p>		<p>Chapter 2 and Section 2.3 of the Final BA Report includes a description of the location, design and technology alternatives considered for the Olifantshoek 132kV Power Line.</p>

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	<p>the community that may be affected by the activity as per Appendix 1 (2) .,3) and 3 (1) (h) (i) of GN R.982 of 2014. Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 1.</p>		
	<p>vii. The final BAR must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.</p>		<p>Chapter 5 of the Final BA Report includes an assessment of the impacts associated with the proposed construction and operation of the Olifantshoek 132kV Power Line (including the impacts anticipated as a result of the Listed Activities applied for) as well as the recommended mitigation measures.</p>
	<p>viii. Cumulative impacts of similar type of developments in the area must form part of the studies that must be assessed as part of the final BAR process.</p>		<p>A cumulative impact assessment of the project together with other power line projects proposed within a radius of 30km from the assessed grid connection corridor of the Olifantshoek 132kV Power Line is included in Chapter 6 of the Final BA Report.</p>
	<p>ix. In terms of Appendix 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, the report must include an undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the correctness of the information provided in the reports; - the inclusion of comments and inputs from stakeholders and I&APs; - the inclusion of inputs and recommendations from the specialist reports where relevant; - any information provided by the EAP to interested and affected parties; and - responses by the EAP to comments or inputs made by interested or affected parties. 		<p>An undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP as required in terms of Appendix 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) is included in the Final BA Report as Appendix L.</p>
	<p>x. In terms of Appendix 1 (3) (1) (a) of the EIA Regulations 2014, the details of</p> <p>(i) the EAP who prepared the report; and</p>		<p>The details of the EAP who prepared the BA Report as well as their expertise as an EAP in undertaking SEIR processes is included in Chapter 1, Section 1.4 of the Final BA Report. In addition,</p>

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	(ii) the expertise of the EAP to carry out Scoping and Environmental Impact assessment procedures; must be submitted.		Appendix A of the Final BA Report includes curricula vitae of the EAP as well as the EIA Project Team.
	xi. You are further reminded that the final BAR to be submitted to this Department must comply with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of BAR in accordance with Appendix 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014.		The Final BA Report submitted to the Department for decision-making complies with Appendix 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).
	xii. Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of the these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7). Please submit a CD together with the final BAR.		The report has been submitted in terms of the timeframes applicable to a Basic Assessment process stipulated within the EIA Regulations. Savannah Environmental has submitted the Final BA Report as per Government Notice 650 dated 05 June 2020, Annexure 2 which stipulates that reports are to be submitted in electronic format via an electronic file transfer mechanism on https://sfiler.environment.gov.za:8443 .
	Please also ensure that the final BAR includes the period for which the Environmental Authorisation is required and the date on which the activity will be concluded as per Appendix 1(3)(1)(q) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.		The period for which the EA is required for the Olifantshoek 132kV Power Line is included in section 7.6 of the Final BA Report.
	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		The project complies with Regulation 19(1)(a), as the Final BA Report has been submitted to the Competent Authority within a period of 90 days of submitting the Application for an Environmental Authorisation. The BA Report, which culminated into the Final BA Report was subject to a Public Participation Process for 30 Days and includes and responds to comments received, including comments from the Competent Authority.

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p>incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority."</p> <p>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 EA 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 (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".</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p>		<p>No significant changes or new information has been included in the Final BA Report submitted to the Competent Authority for decision-making. As a result, compliance of the project with Regulation 19(b) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) is not applicable.</p> <p>It is noted that should the prescribed timeframes in terms of Regulation 19 not be met, the Application for Environmental Authorisation will lapse, and a new Application will have to be lodged.</p> <p>The comment from the Department is acknowledged. The activities associated with the construction and operation of the Olifantshoek 132kV Power Line will not commence until the Minister of DEFF has issued a decision for the proposed project.</p>

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.		The project will therefore be compliant with Section 24F(1)(a) of NEMA (Act No. 107 of 1998) of 1998.
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following recommendation must be considered in the final report: • Pre-construction walk-through of the final power line route/corridor to locate species of conservation concern that can be translocated or avoided must be undertaken prior to the commencement of the construction phase; • Permits from relevant authorities must be obtained prior commencement of any construction activities for the removal or disturbance of any TOPs, Red Data listed or Provincially protected species; • Sensitive habitats in close proximity to the development footprint must be avoided or demarcated as No-Go area i.e. depression wetlands; • A rehabilitation plan that guides planting and seeding with indigenous plants must be developed; and • An Alien and Invasive Plant Management Plan must be developed in order to reduce the establishment and spread of alien plant species within the development footprint. 	<p>Mmatlala Rabothata Case Officer DEFF: Biodiversity Conservation Directorate</p> <p>Letter: 31 August 2020</p>	<p>Section 8.2 of the EMPr (refer to Appendix K of the Final BA Report) includes a condition that requires the Applicant to undertake a pre-construction survey of the final power line prior to the commencement of the construction activities, as well as the submission of permits to the Northern Cape DAEARD&LR for the translocation of species of conservation concern.</p> <p>All areas considered to be of a high environmental sensitive have been considered as no-go areas in the Final BA Report. Section 7.6 of the Final BA Report includes a condition for the Applicant not to infringe on any areas of high environmental sensitivity.</p> <p>The rehabilitation and Alien and Invasive Plant Management Plans for the project will be compiled prior to the undertaking of the construction activities for the project.</p>
5.	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed development; 	<p>Natasha Higgitt Heritage Officer SAHRA and Phillip Hine Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit</p>	<p>The comments from SAHRA are hereby acknowledged.</p>

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. Additional further additional specific conditions are provided for the development as follows: 	SAHRA Letter: 08 September 2020	Section 7.6 of the Final BA Report as well section 8.5 of the EMPr (refer to Appendix K of the Final BA Report) include the recommendations of the specialists which must be adhered to by the Applicant for the project life cycle of the proposed development.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A 30 m buffer must be adhered to around site MRR001. Should this not be possible, a permit in terms of section 34 of the NHRA must be applied from the Northern Cape Provincial Heritage Resources Authority; 		Section 7.6 of the Final BA Report and section 8.5 of the EMPr (refer to Appendix K of the Final BA Report) includes a condition requiring the Applicant to implement the 30m around the site MRR001, as well as the fact that a permit should be applied from the Northern Cape Provincial Heritage Resources Authority should it not be possible to avoid this site.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Heritage Management Plan (HMP) must be developed and provided as part of the EMPr in order to provide details on the management of the heritage resources that will remain in-situ during the construction, operational and decommissioning phases of the project i.e. provision of no-go buffers, protocols for contractors to report any incidents, monitoring reports and schedules. This HMP must be submitted to SAHRA prior to construction 		Section 7.6 of the Final BA Report as well as section 8.5 of the EMPr (refer to Appendix K of the Final BA Report) include the condition for the undertaking of the Heritage Management Plan prior to the commencement of the construction phase of the project.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A site inspection schedule for the proposed palaeontological field scoping visit be included as part of the EMPr and EA conditions. This scoping visit must be conducted by a professional palaeontologist and a report of the results of the visit must be submitted to SAHRA prior to construction commencing for review and comment. No construction may commence without comments from SAHRA in this regard; 		Section 7.6 of the Final BA Report and section 8.5 of the EMPr (refer to Appendix K of the Final BA Report) include a condition for the Applicant to appoint a professional palaeontologist as well as compile a report from the results of the site visit must be submitted to SAHRA for review and comment prior to the commencement of the construction phase.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 		Section 8.5 of the EMPr (refer to Appendix K of the Final BA Report) includes a measure which requires that if any archaeological sites or human burials are found or uncovered,

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	<p>eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM Unit (Natasha Higgitt/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) 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;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="293 517 981 762">• 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Mimi Seetelo 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; <li data-bbox="293 762 981 874">• 38(4)d – See section 51(1) of the NHRA; <li data-bbox="293 874 981 1230">• 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists: i) 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; <li data-bbox="293 1230 981 1369">• As the BAR has been finalised without a Final Comment from SAHRA, this comment must be forwarded directly to the competent authority for their consideration in the decision-making process as per 		<p>construction should cease and these finds must be reported to the APM Unit or the SAHRA BBG Unit.</p> <p>The Applicant has been made aware of the implications should the NHRA (Act No. 25 of 1999) of 1999 be contravened during the project lifecycle.</p> <p>Section 8.5 of the EMPr (refer to Appendix K of the Final BA Report) includes a requirement for the appointment of a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist depending on the nature of the finds as soon as possible.</p> <p>The Final BAR has not been submitted to the DEFF prior to receipt of SAHRA's final comments on the Draft BAR and the Final Comments dated 08 September 2020 is included in the C&RR of the Final BAR.</p>

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p>section 38(8) of the NHRA. Proof of the delivery and receipt thereof must be uploaded to the SAHRIS case for record purposes;</p>		<p>The Final Comments dated 08 September 2020 is included in Appendix C7 of the Final BAR.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Final BAR and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes; 		<p>SAHRA will be notified via SAHRIS, Case ID 15395, that the Final BAR, inclusive of their Final Comments, has been submitted to the DEFF for decision making.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application. 		<p>The Final BAR and update EMPr will be uploaded onto SAHRIS Case ID 15395, and the status will be changed / updated to SUBMITTED.</p> <p>The decision on the EA application will be submitted to SAHRA on the SAHRIS platform within 14 days from issuance by DEFF.</p>

1.2. Key Stakeholders

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
1.	<p>After reviewing the BAR for the proposed Olifantshoek Eskom power line, we acknowledge the fact that Eskom has indicated to take the proposed route (green line) suggested by EXM Advisory service on behalf of Sishen mine, during the appeal process of the previous 2017 BAR.</p> <p>With this in mind we confirm that we do not have any further objections towards the information in the report. I hope the project will run smoothly going forward.</p> <p>Thank you for involving us in the public participation process.</p> <p>Map as included in email is included in Appendix C6 of the final BAR</p>	<p>Hannes Hager Environmental Officer Anglo American (Kumba Mine)</p> <p>E-mail: 02 September 2020</p>	<p>The comment from Anglo American (Kumba Mine) is hereby acknowledged.</p>
2.	<p>Hi Reuben,</p>	<p>Werner Voigt</p>	<p>The comment from Sishen Mine is hereby acknowledged.</p>

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p>See responses in red.</p> <p>Regards</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is not a defined buffer with a specific. The 5km is a guideline. 2. There is no fixed plan to extend that Nature Reserve at this stage. This might change in the future. 3. The power line will be entirely outside the reserve and to the south. We do not foresee that it will impact on the Nature Reserve in this location. 	<p>Section Manger – Land Management</p> <p>Anglo American (Sishen Mine)</p> <p>Email: 09 September 2020</p>	

1.3. Registration and Request for Release Code

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
1.	<p>Our telephone conversation of today 4 August 2020 has reference.</p> <p>Elephant Rock Inn is situated in Olifantshoek within approximately 1km from the electrical substation.</p> <p>We offer accommodation in the form of en-suite air conditioned rooms with tv and bar fridge. We also offer self catering units for those who prefer to cook their own meals and patrons can choose between 3 bedroom (sleeps 8) and 2 bedroom (sleeps 4) units.</p>	<p>Martietjie Elephant Rock Inn</p> <p>E-mail: 05 August 2020</p>	<p>Information provided regarding Elephant Rock Inn services was acknowledged and the information provided has been forwarded to the applicant for reference purposes. Proof of e-mail included in Appendix C6 of the Final BA Report.</p>

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p>All meals are available by prior arrangement and include breakfast/breakfast packs, lunch/lunch packs, and dinner.</p> <p>The property also boasts a pool where guests can relax during the hot summer months as well as braai facilities.</p>		

2. COMMENTS RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE 30-DAY COMMENT AND REVIEW PERIOD OF THE BA REPORT

1.4. Organs of State

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
6.	<p>This serves as a notice of receipt and confirms that your application has been captured in our electronic AgriLand tracking and management system. It is strongly recommended that you use the on-line AgriLand application facility in future.</p> <p>Please use the following reference number in all enquiries: AGRILAND REFERENCE NUMBER: 2020_06_0007</p>	<p>B de Lange pp Director: Land Use and Soil Management</p> <p>Letter: 09 June 2020</p>	<p>The receipt of the BA Report is acknowledged. Future BA Reports within the jurisdiction of the Department will be submitted via the AgriLand Application Facility as recommended in the comments.</p>

1.5. Key Stakeholders

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
3.	<p>Please send me a kml file indicating the proposed powerline corridor / route.</p>	<p>Samantha de la Fontaine Production Scientist Grade A: District Ecologist DENC</p>	<p>The .KML file was submitted via email on 27 February 2020. Proof of e-mail is included in Appendix C5.</p>

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
4.	<p>The high voltage transmission line causes radiated electromagnetic emissions of the magnitude that depends on the characteristics of the conductor itself. Our interest in the project is on the emissions that will be radiated by the proposed line and its impact on the SKA. We, therefore, require detailed specification of the line as well as the vector file showing the line path between the two substations.</p>	<p>E-mail: 27 February 2020</p> <p>Selaelo Matlhane Spectrum and Telecoms Manager SARAO</p> <p>Registration & Comment form: 20 March 2020</p>	<p>The detailed specifications of the power line and the placement of the power line towers within the grid connection corridor assessed as part of the BA process has not been defined at this stage of the process. Placement of the power line infrastructure within the corridor and the final design thereof will only become available following the completion of the BA process and the decision on the Application for Environmental Authorisation.</p> <p>The information requirements have been submitted to the applicant who will further consult SARAO on this matter once the information becomes available.</p>
5.	<p>With reference to your above-mentioned application, I hereby inform you that our Client (Openserve) approves the proposed work indicated on your drawings in terms Section 29 of the Electronic Communications Act 36 of 2005 as amended.</p> <p>Any changes/deviations from the original planning during or prior to construction must immediately be communicated to this office.</p>	<p>Ben Roestof Mvelaphanda Trading On behalf of OpenServe (Telkom Technical service provider)</p> <p>Letter: 04 May 2020</p>	<p>The approval of the proposed development is acknowledged. As requested, the proponent will notify the Open Serve office should there be a change to the proposed grid connection corridor for the proposed development.</p>
6.	<p>Approval is granted, subject to the following conditions, as per attached drawings supplied, Our Client (Openserve)'s infrastructure is affected by this proposal and the route is highlighted in GREEN on attached sketch as accurately as possible. We did our utmost to ensure that we indicate our route as accurate as possible and should you discover any of our cables that is not on the sketch please stop and contact us immediately to arrange a site meeting. In the event that our cables are exposed and damaged/stolen by a third party the damages will be repaired at the</p>		<p>The requirements provided by OpenServe for the approval of the Olifantshoek 132kV Power Line are noted and have been submitted to the applicant for consideration on Tuesday, 28 July. The need to comply with the requirements has been included and covered in Section 8.1 of the EMPr (Appendix K of the BA Report).</p>

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p>customer's account. Please make use of pilot holes in order not too damage our infrastructure. Therefore any damages occurred during construction of work will be repaired at the customer's account.</p>		
7.	<p>As important cables are affected, Mr Vivian Groenewald must be contacted at 054 338 6501/ 081 362 6738 two weeks prior of commencement on construction work. It would be appreciated if this office can be notified within 30 days on completion of construction work. Confirmation is required on completion of construction as per agreed requirements.</p>		
8.	<p>Paragraph 2.4.1 of the Code of Practice stipulates the minimum acceptable horizontal separation between power and the communication lines and where this cannot be met, the design of the power line is also stipulated. This could apply between the attached plans and these requirements should strictly be adhered to.</p>		
9.	<p>In cases where an underground power cable will run parallel with an existing underground communication cable, a separation as great as possible should be maintained with a minimum separation of 600mm. Should the separation be less than 600mm and the power cable are not enclosed in a suitable pipe, a concrete slab must be provided immediately above the power cable for the length of parallelism. If the separation is less than 300mm, additional protection is required by placing concrete slabs between our Client (Openserve) cables/pipes and the power cables.</p>		
10.	<p>Underground Crossings - At the points where our Client (Openserve)'s existing underground</p>		

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p>communication cable will be crossed by an underground cable, the latter should be laid a depth of at least 300mm below the communication cable — normally laid at a depth of 600mm. If the power cable is not enclosed in a suitable pipe, protection in the form of a concrete slab should be provided immediately above the power cable for a minimum of 2 (Two) metres on either side of crossing.</p>		
11.	<p>Calculations have shown that an earth fault on the high voltage Power lines will induce excessive low frequency induction into the Communication lines. As a result of this, the cost to deviate / alter the communication lines to prevent this induction will be for the power provider.</p>		
12.	<p>Aerial Plant - At points of crossing, the overhead power lines should cross above the communications lines in accordance with and clearances stipulated in the Occupational Health and safety Act no 85 of 1993, Machinery regulations 20 — Crossings, and Electrical machinery Regulations 15 — Clearance of Power Lines. If the specifications could not be met, all deviation costs will be for the applicant's account. We also refer to section 25 of Electronic Communication Act 36 of 2005.</p>		
13.	<p>At points of crossing, the overhead power line should cross over the overhead communication lines with a minimum vertical separation of 0.6 meters.</p>		
14.	<p>In order to minimize noise induction into the telecommunication systems, the angle of crossing between the overhead power line and all</p>		

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p>communication lines, should be as near to a right angle as possible — the following deviation from the right angle being permitted at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power voltage of lower than 48 kV - 45 degrees <p>Approved on condition that, should it later be found necessary to deviate the existing communication line due to existing noise interference or any other reason whatsoever, the cost of such remedial action shall be repayable.</p>		
15.	Relocations of our Client's (Openserve) plant will be done at customer's request and will be a repayable project.		
16.	Please notify the office within 21 working days from date of this letter of acceptance and if any alternative proposal is available or if a recoverable work should commence, the liaison officer is Lehlohonolo Roestof at tel. no. 051 — 401 6256 .		
17.	On completion of this project please certify that all requirements as stipulated in this letter have been met. Please note that should any of our Client (Openserve) infrastructure has to be relocated or altered as a result of your activities the cost for such alterations or relocations will be for your account in terms of section 25 of the Electronic Communications Act.		
18.	Should our Client (Openserve) infrastructure be damaged while work is undertaken, kindly call the Toll free number 0800203951 immediately. All of our Client (Openserve) rights remain reserved.		

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p>Mr Vivian Groenewald must be contacted at 054 338 6501/ 081 362 6738 TWO (2) weeks before any commencement of work.</p> <p>Note: The correspondence received included a map indicating OpenServe's overhead cables. Map included in Appendix C5</p>		

1.6. Interested and Affected Parties

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
1.	Power of Attorney to manage and handle all affairs relating to the property.	George Smit Power of Attorney:	Power of Attorney acknowledged, and the documents submitted is included in Appendix C6 of the Final BA Report.
2.	Main concern is the procedure to be followed when entering and exiting the property. Please forward the procedure to e-mail provided.	Landowner Ollie Smith Registration &	Eskom in their landowner specific servitude includes requirements for site access with respective landowners as part of the servitude negotiation process.
3.	The unresolved matter regarding Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd's main transmission power line traversing their property was brought under the project team's attention by e-mail correspondence between the parties.	Comment Form: 05-03-2020	<p>The unresolved matter regarding the Eskom main transmission line falls outside of the scope of this project and should be taken up with the relevant party to be resolved (i.e. Eskom).</p> <p>Email correspondence will be sent to John Geeringh and Wimpie Henning at Eskom to bring the matter to their attention. Proof of correspondence with Eskom regarding this matter has been included in the Final BA Report as Appendix C6.</p>
4.	Only Eskom marked locks to be used on Eskom gates entering and leaving property.	E-mail: 03 April 2020	The requirement is acknowledged and will be communicated to the Contractor by the applicant prior to the undertaking of the construction activities for the power line.
5.	Request that Eskom's procedures regarding locks and the locking of gates be followed.		The requirement is acknowledged and will be communicated to the Contractor by the applicant prior to the undertaking of the construction activities for the power line.
6.	It is believed that the Project Manager appointed for the construction of the power line will contact me before construction commence.		This information has been submitted to the applicant for their consideration.

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
7.	The construction of this proposed powerline must be constructed within the existing servitude.		This requirement is acknowledged. The proposed Olifantshoek 132kV Power Line will require a 31m wide servitude. For the purposes of the BA process, it is too early to confirm within the process whether the power line will be constructed within an existing open servitude or a new servitude application will be lodged with the Surveyor General's Office. This information has however been forwarded to the applicant for their consideration.
8.	Please send us the map in a different format as we cannot open the .KMZ file.	Eureka Croucamp Manager: The Ranch Overnight Chalets E-mail: 03 May 2020	The locality map in .PDF format was submitted via e-mail on 03 March 2020. Proof of e-mail included is in Appendix C6 of the Final BA Report.
9.	Send through all related studies and reports linked to this project.	Werner Voigt Section Manager: Sishen Mine Sishen Mine-Kumba Iron Ore Registration and comment form: 16 March 2020	The I&AP was registered on the project database and received the notification letter via email regarding the availability of the report on the Savannah Environmental Website prior to the commencement of the 30-day review and comment period.

1.7. Registration and Request for Release Code

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
2.	Please register Ollie Smith.	George Smit	Mr Ollie Smith has been registered on the project database as an affected landowner.