

**Tabor 400kV Powerline EIA**

**Visual Impact Assessment - Alternative 1**

**Significance Rating Table**

<b>Construction Phase</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Transformation of the visual quality of the landscape	<b>Nature of impact:</b>	Clearing of vegetation to establish a 55m corridor will result in the transformation of the landscape character, especially in the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves. The same accounts for the Substation area. Visibility of the power line servitude as a "scar" in the landscape will create adverse visual impacts. Construction activity will increase the presence and movement of contractors and construction vehicles in the area, which will have a negative impact on the sense of place, especially in and close to the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves.							
	<b>with</b>	3	2	6	5	55	Medium	-	High
	<b>without</b>	3	2	6	5	55	Medium	-	High
	<b>degree to which impact can be reversed:</b>	The impact can be reversed by avoiding the unnecessary removal of vegetation and minimising the movement of construction workers and equipment, especially close to sensitive viewer locations.							
	<b>degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:</b>	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							
<b>Operational Phase</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Visual exposure to the Powerline Servitude, Conductor Cables and Towers, as well as the Nzhelele Substation.	<b>Nature of impact:</b>	Visual exposure to the power line servitude, conductor cables and towers, as well as infrastructure at the Nzhelele Substation, will create adverse visual impacts, especially in the Soutpansberg and in, or close to private nature reserves. Sensitive viewer locations in close proximity (<500m) are highly vulnerable to exposure of the power line, where visibility result in a negative impact on the sense of place. Night time lighting at the Nzhelele Substation will create light pollution with adverse visual effects of glare and sky glow.							
	<b>with</b>	3	4	6	5	65	High	-	High
	<b>without</b>	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High
	<b>degree to which impact can be reversed:</b>	The impact can be reversed by avoiding the unnecessary removal of vegetation and avoiding proximity to sensitive viewer locations through careful route planning, or by selecting the no-go option.							
	<b>degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:</b>	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							
<b>Decommissioning Phase</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Visual exposure to operations to dismantle and remove of Power Line & Substation Infrastructure	<b>Nature of impact:</b>	Activity within the servitude related to the dismantling and removal of power line infrastructure will not have significant visual impacts. Perceptions relating to the removal of visually intrusive objects might be positive in as far as visual impacts related to the existence of the power line will decrease due to decommissioning.							
	<b>with</b>	3	1	2	3	18	Low	+	High
	<b>without</b>	3	1	4	3	24	Low	+	High
	<b>degree to which impact can be reversed:</b>	Avoid unnecessary disturbance of the natural environment during decommissioning operations							
	<b>degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:</b>	None							
<b>Cumulative Impacts</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Increased visual exposure to Power Line Infrastructure.	<b>Nature of impact:</b>	Cumulative impacts result from the positioning of the new development such that it would give rise to an extended and/or intensified impression of a pre-existing power line in the landscape. It will also occur as an increased perception where power lines are observed from locations from which more than one power line would now be seen in different parts of the landscape. Lastly cumulative impacts arise through an increase in the incidence of sequential perceptions of different power lines through the recurrence of images and impressions of power lines at various points in the landscape and which are continuously encountered when moving through it.							
	<b>with</b>	3	5	0	3	24	Low	-	Low
	<b>without</b>	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High
	<b>degree to which impact can be reversed:</b>	The impact can be reversed by terminating construction activity and removing all construction material. Active rehabilitation of vegetation where it has been cleared, is also required.							
	<b>degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:</b>	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							
<b>No-Go Alternative</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Retaining the visual quality of the landscape	<b>Nature of impact:</b>	Should the project not be implemented, the present quality of the visual landscape will remain as it is.							
	<b>with</b>	3	5	0	5	40	Medium	+	High
	<b>without</b>	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High
	<b>degree to which impact can be reversed:</b>	n/a							

	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	n/a	
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**Tabor 400kV Powerline EIA**

**Visual Impact Assessment - Alternative 1a**

**Significance Rating Table**

<b>Construction Phase</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Transformation of the visual quality of the landscape	Nature of impact:	Clearing of vegetation to establish a 55m corridor will result in the transformation of the landscape character, especially in the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves. Visibility of the servitude as a "scar" in the landscape will create adverse visual impacts							
	with	3	2	6	5	55	Medium	-	High
	without	3	2	6	5	55	Medium	-	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	The impact can be reversed by terminating construction activity and removing all construction material. Active rehabilitation of vegetation where it has been cleared, is also required.							Low
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							High
<b>Operational Phase</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Visual exposure to the Powerline Servitude, Conductor Cables and Towers, as well as the Nzhelele Substation.	Nature of impact:	Visual exposure to the power line servitude, conductor cables and towers, as well as infrastructure at the Nzhelele Substation, will create adverse visual impacts, especially in and close to private nature reserves. Sensitive viewer locations in close proximity (<500m) are highly vulnerable to exposure of the power line, where visibility result in a negative impact on the sense of place. Night time lighting at the Nzhelele Substation will create light pollution with adverse visual effects of glare and sky glow.							
	with	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High
	without	3	4	6	5	65	High	-	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	The impact can be reversed by avoiding the unnecessary removal of vegetation and avoiding proximity to sensitive viewer locations through careful route planning, or by selecting the no-go option.							Low
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							High
<b>Decommissioning Phase</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Visual exposure to operations to dismantle and remove of Power Line & Substation Infrastructure	Nature of impact:	Activity within the servitude related to the dismantling and removal of power line infrastructure will not have significant visual impacts. Perceptions relating to the removal of visually intrusive objects might be positive in as far as visual impacts will be decreased due to decommissioning.							
	with	3	1	2	3	18	Low	+	High
	without	3	1	2	3	18	Low	+	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	Avoid unnecessary disturbance of the natural environment during decommissioning operations							High
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	None							
<b>Cumulative Impacts</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Increased visual exposure to Power Line Infrastructure.	Nature of impact:	Cumulative impacts result from the positioning of the new development such that it would give rise to an extended and/or intensified impression of a pre-existing power line in the landscape. It will also occur as an increased perception where power lines are observed from locations from which more than one power line would now be seen in different parts of the landscape. Lastly cumulative impacts arise through an increase in the incidence of sequential perceptions of different power lines through the recurrence of images and impressions of power lines at various points in the landscape and which are continuously encountered when moving through it.							
	with	3	5	0	3	24	Low	-	Low
	without	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	The impact can be reversed by terminating construction activity and removing all construction material. Active rehabilitation of vegetation where it has been cleared, is also required.							Low
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							High
<b>No-Go Alternative</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Retaining the visual quality of the landscape	Nature of impact:	Should the project not be implemented, the present quality of the visual landscape will remain as it is.							
	with	3	5	0	5	40	Medium	+	High
	without	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	n/a							
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	n/a							

**Tabor 400kV Powerline EIA**

**Visual Impact Assessment - Alternative 1b**

**Significance Rating Table**

<b>Construction Phase</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)		Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence
Transformation of the visual quality of the landscape	Nature of impact:	Clearing of vegetation to establish a 55m corridor will result in the transformation of the landscape character, especially in the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves. Visibility of the servitude as a "scar" in the landscape will create adverse visual impacts.							
	with	3	2	6	5	55	Medium	-	High
	without	3	2	6	5	55	Medium	-	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	The impact can be reversed by terminating construction activity and removing all construction material. Active rehabilitation of vegetation where it has been cleared, is also required.							Low
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soupansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							High
<b>Operational Phase</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)		Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence
Visual exposure to the Powerline Servitude, Conductor Cables and Towers.	Nature of impact:	Visual exposure to the power line servitude, conductor cables and towers will create adverse visual impacts, especially in and close to private nature reserves. Sensitive viewer locations in close proximity (<500m) are highly vulnerable to exposure of the power line, where visibility result in a negative impact on the sense of place.							
	with	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High
	without	3	4	6	5	65	High	-	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	The impact can be reversed by avoiding the unnecessary removal of vegetation and avoiding proximity to sensitive viewer locations through careful route planning, or by selecting the no-go option.							Low
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soupansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							High
<b>Decommissioning Phase</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)		Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence
Visual exposure to operations to dismantle and remove of Power Line & Substation Infrastructure	Nature of impact:	Activity within the servitude related to the dismantling and removal of power line infrastructure will not have significant visual impacts. Perceptions relating to the removal of visually intrusive objects might be positive in as far as visual impacts will be decreased due to decommissioning.							
	with	3	1	2	3	18	Low	+	High
	without	3	1	2	3	18	Low	+	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	Avoid unnecessary disturbance of the natural environment during decommissioning operations							High
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	None							
Access roads	Nature of impact:	None							
	with	3	1	2	3	18	Low	+	High
	without	3	1	2	3	18	Low	+	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	Road reserves must be cleared of all construction material and actively rehabilitated by the introduction of suitable vegetation							High
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	None							
<b>Cumulative Impacts</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)		Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence
Increased visual exposure to Power Line Infrastructure.	Nature of impact:	Cumulative impacts result from the positioning of the new development such that it would give rise to an extended and/or intensified impression of a pre-existing power line in the landscape. It will also occur as an increased perception where power lines are observed from locations from which more than one power line would now be seen in different parts of the landscape. Lastly cumulative impacts arise through an increase in the incidence of sequential perceptions of different power lines through the recurrence of images and impressions of power lines at various points in the landscape and which are continuously encountered when moving through it.							
	with	3	5	0	3	24	Low	-	Low
	without	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	The impact can be reversed by terminating construction activity and removing all construction material. Active rehabilitation of vegetation where it has been cleared, is also required.							Low
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soupansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							High
<b>No-Go Alternative</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)		Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence
	Nature of impact:	Should the project not be implemented, the present quality of the visual landscape will remain as it is.							
	with	3	5	0	5	40	Medium	+	High
	without	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High

Retaining the visual quality of the landscape	degree to which impact can be reversed:	n/a	
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	n/a	

**Tabor 400kV Powerline EIA**

**Visual Impact Assessment - Alternative 2**

**Significance Rating Table**

<b>Construction Phase</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Transformation of the visual quality of the landscape	Nature of impact:	Clearing of vegetation to establish a 55m corridor will result in the transformation of the landscape character, especially in the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves. Visibility of the servitude as a "scar" in the landscape will create adverse visual impacts							
	with	3	2	6	5	55	Medium	-	High
	without	3	2	6	5	55	Medium	-	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	The impact can be reversed by terminating construction activity and removing all construction material. Active rehabilitation of vegetation where it has been cleared, is also required.							Low
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							High
<b>Operational Phase</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Visual exposure to the Powerline Servitude, Conductor Cables and Towers.	Nature of impact:	Visual exposure to the power line servitude, conductor cables and towers will create adverse visual impacts, especially in and close to private nature reserves. Sensitive viewer locations in close proximity (<500m) are highly vulnerable to exposure of the power line, where visibility result in a negative impact on the sense of place.							
	with	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High
	without	3	4	6	5	65	High	-	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	The impact can be reversed by avoiding the unnecessary removal of vegetation and avoiding proximity to sensitive viewer locations through careful route planning, or by selecting the no-go option.							Low
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							High
<b>Decommissioning Phase</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Visual exposure to operations to dismantle and remove of Power Line & Substation Infrastructure	Nature of impact:	Activity within the servitude related to the dismantling and removal of power line infrastructure will not have significant visual impacts. Perceptions relating to the removal of visually intrusive objects might be positive in as far as visual impacts will be decreased due to decommissioning.							
	with	3	1	2	3	18	Low	+	High
	without	3	1	2	3	18	Low	+	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	Avoid unnecessary disturbance of the natural environment during decommissioning operations							High
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	None							
<b>Cumulative Impacts</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Increased visual exposure to Power Line Infrastructure.	Nature of impact:	Cumulative impacts result from the positioning of the new development such that it would give rise to an extended and/or intensified impression of a pre-existing power line in the landscape. It will also occur as an increased perception where power lines are observed from locations from which more than one power line would now be seen in different parts of the landscape. Lastly cumulative impacts arise through an increase in the incidence of sequential perceptions of different power lines through the recurrence of images and impressions of power lines at various points in the landscape and which are continuously encountered when moving through it.							
	with	3	5	0	3	24	Low	-	High
	without	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	The impact can be reversed by terminating construction activity and removing all construction material. Active rehabilitation of vegetation where it has been cleared, is also required.							Low
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							High
<b>No-Go Alternative</b>									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Retaining the visual quality of the landscape	Nature of impact:	Should the project not be implemented, the present quality of the visual landscape will remain as it is.							
	with	3	5	0	5	40	Medium	+	High
	without	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	n/a							
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	n/a							

**Tabor 400kV Powerline EIA**

**Visual Impact Assessment - Alternative 3**

**Significance Rating Table**

Construction Phase									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Transformation of the visual quality of the landscape	Nature of impact:	Clearing of vegetation to establish a 55m corridor will result in the transformation of the landscape character. Construction activity will increase the presence and movement of contractors and construction vehicles, which will create adverse visual impacts and negatively affect the sense of place, especially in or close to private nature reserves.							
	with	3	2	6	5	55	Medium	-	High
	without	3	2	6	5	55	Medium	-	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	The impact can be reversed by terminating construction activity and removing all construction material. Active rehabilitation of vegetation where it has been cleared, is also required.							
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soupansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							
Operational Phase									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Visual exposure to the Powerline Servitude, Conductor Cables and Towers.	Nature of impact:	Visual exposure to the power line servitude, conductor cables and towers will create adverse visual impacts, especially in and close to private nature reserves. Sensitive viewer locations in close proximity (<500m) are highly vulnerable to exposure of the power line, where visibility result in a negative impact on the sense of place.							
	with	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High
	without	3	4	6	5	65	High	-	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	The impact can be reversed by avoiding the unnecessary removal of vegetation and avoiding proximity to sensitive viewer locations through careful route planning, or by selecting the no-go option.							
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soupansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							
Decommissioning Phase									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Visual exposure to operations to dismantle and remove of Power Line & Substation Infrastructure	Nature of impact:	Activity within the servitude related to the dismantling and removal of power line infrastructure will not have significant visual impacts. Perceptions relating to the removal of visually intrusive objects might be positive in as far as visual impacts will be decreased due to decommissioning.							
	with	3	1	2	3	18	Low	+	High
	without	3	1	2	3	18	Low	+	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	Avoid unnecessary disturbance of the natural environment during decommissioning operations							
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	None							
Cumulative Impacts									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Increased visual exposure to Power Line Infrastructure.	Nature of impact:	Cumulative impacts result from the positioning of the new development such that it would give rise to an extended and/or intensified impression of a pre-existing power line in the landscape. It will also occur as an increased perception where power lines are observed from locations from which more than one power line would now be seen in different parts of the landscape. Lastly cumulative impacts arise through an increase in the incidence of sequential perceptions of different power lines through the recurrence of images and impressions of power lines at various points in the landscape and which are continuously encountered when moving through it.							
	with	3	5	0	3	24	Low	-	High
	without	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	The impact can be reversed by terminating construction activity and removing all construction material. Active rehabilitation of vegetation where it has been cleared, is also required.							
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soupansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							
No-Go Alternative									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Retaining the visual quality of the landscape	Nature of impact:	Should the project not be implemented, the present quality of the visual landscape will remain as it is.							
	with	3	5	0	5	40	Medium	+	High
	without	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	n/a							
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	n/a							

**Tabor 400kV Powerline EIA**

**Visual Impact Assessment - Alternative 4**

**Significance Rating Table**

<b>Construction Phase</b>								
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence
Transformation of the visual quality of the landscape	Nature of impact:	Clearing of vegetation to establish a 55m corridor will result in the transformation of the landscape character, especially in the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves. Construction activity will increase the presence and movement of contractors and construction vehicles, which will create adverse visual impacts and negatively affect the sense of place, specifically in the Sand River gorge.						
	with	3	2	6	5	55	Medium	High
	without	3	2	6	5	55	Medium	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	The impact can be reversed by terminating construction activity and removing all construction material. Active rehabilitation of vegetation where it has been cleared, is also required.						
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.						
<b>Operational Phase</b>								
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence
Visual exposure to the Powerline Servitude, Conductor Cables and Towers.	Nature of impact:	Visual exposure to the power line servitude, conductor cables and towers will create adverse visual impacts, especially in and close to private nature reserves. Sensitive viewer locations in close proximity (<500m), specifically in the Sand river gorge, are highly vulnerable to exposure of the power line, where visibility result in a negative impact on the sense of place.						
	with	3	5	6	5	70	High	High
	without	3	4	6	5	65	High	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	The impact can be reversed by avoiding the unnecessary removal of vegetation and avoiding proximity to sensitive viewer locations through careful route planning, or by selecting the no-go option.						
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.						
<b>Decommissioning Phase</b>								
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence
Visual exposure to operations to dismantle and remove of Power Line & Substation Infrastructure	Nature of impact:	Activity within the servitude related to the dismantling and removal of power line infrastructure will not have significant visual impacts. Perceptions relating to the removal of visually intrusive objects might be positive in as far as visual impacts will be decreased due to decommissioning.						
	with	3	1	2	3	18	Low	High
	without	3	1	2	3	18	Low	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	Avoid unnecessary disturbance of the natural environment during decommissioning operations						
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	None						
<b>Cumulative Impacts</b>								
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence
Increased visual exposure to Power Line Infrastructure.	Nature of impact:	Cumulative impacts result from the positioning of the new development such that it would give rise to an extended and/or intensified impression of a pre-existing power line in the landscape. It will also occur as an increased perception where power lines are observed from locations from which more than one power line would now be seen in different parts of the landscape. Lastly cumulative impacts arise through an increase in the incidence of sequential perceptions of different power lines through the recurrence of images and impressions of power lines at various points in the landscape and which are continuously encountered when moving through it.						
	with	3	5	0	3	24	Low	High
	without	3	5	6	5	70	High	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	The impact can be reversed by terminating construction activity and removing all construction material. Active rehabilitation of vegetation where it has been cleared, is also required.						
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soutpansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.						
<b>No-Go Alternative</b>								
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence
Retaining the visual quality of the landscape	Nature of impact:	Should the project not be implemented, the present quality of the visual landscape will remain as it is.						
	with	3	5	0	5	40	Medium	High
	without	3	5	6	5	70	High	High
	degree to which impact can be reversed:	n/a						
	degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:	n/a						



**Tabor 400kV Powerline EIA**

**Visual Impact Assessment - Alternative 5**

**Significance Rating Table**

Construction Phase									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Transformation of the visual quality of the landscape	<b>Nature of impact:</b>	Clearing of vegetation to establish a 55m corridor will result in the transformation of the landscape character. Construction activity will increase the presence and movement of contractors and construction vehicles, which will create adverse visual impacts and negatively affect the sense of place, especially in or close to private nature reserves.							
	<b>with</b>	3	2	6	5	55	Medium	-	High
	<b>without</b>	3	2	6	5	55	Medium	-	High
	<b>degree to which impact can be reversed:</b>	The impact can be reversed by terminating construction activity and removing all construction material. Active rehabilitation of vegetation where it has been cleared, is also required.							
	<b>degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:</b>	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soupansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							
Operational Phase									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Visual exposure to the Powerline Servitude, Conductor Cables and Towers.	<b>Nature of impact:</b>	Visual exposure to the power line servitude, conductor cables and towers will create adverse visual impacts, especially in and close to private nature reserves. Sensitive viewer locations in close proximity (<500m) are highly vulnerable to exposure of the power line, where visibility result in a negative impact on the sense of place.							
	<b>with</b>	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High
	<b>without</b>	3	4	6	5	65	High	-	High
	<b>degree to which impact can be reversed:</b>	The impact can be reversed by avoiding the unnecessary removal of vegetation and avoiding proximity to sensitive viewer locations through careful route planning, or by selecting the no-go option.							
	<b>degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:</b>	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soupansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							
Decommissioning Phase									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Visual exposure to operations to dismantle and remove of Power Line & Substation Infrastructure	<b>Nature of impact:</b>	Activity within the servitude related to the dismantling and removal of power line infrastructure will not have significant visual impacts. Perceptions relating to the removal of visually intrusive objects might be positive in as far as visual impacts will be decreased due to decommissioning.							
	<b>with</b>	3	1	2	3	18	Low	+	High
	<b>without</b>	3	1	2	3	18	Low	+	High
	<b>degree to which impact can be reversed:</b>	Avoid unnecessary disturbance of the natural environment during decommissioning operations							
	<b>degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:</b>	None							
Cumulative Impacts									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Increased visual exposure to Power Line Infrastructure.	<b>Nature of impact:</b>	Cumulative impacts result from the positioning of the new development such that it would give rise to an extended and/or intensified impression of a pre-existing power line in the landscape. It will also occur as an increased perception where power lines are observed from locations from which more than one power line would now be seen in different parts of the landscape. Lastly cumulative impacts arise through an increase in the incidence of sequential perceptions of different power lines through the recurrence of images and impressions of power lines at various points in the landscape and which are continuously encountered when moving through it.							
	<b>with</b>	3	5	0	3	24	Low	-	High
	<b>without</b>	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High
	<b>degree to which impact can be reversed:</b>	The impact can be reversed by terminating construction activity and removing all construction material. Active rehabilitation of vegetation where it has been cleared, is also required.							
	<b>degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:</b>	In areas of high visual quality and where there are no Hv power lines, such as the Soupansberg and private nature reserves, the degree of impact will be very high.							
No-Go Alternative									
Potential Impact	Mitigation	Extent (E)	Duration (D)	Magnitude (M)	Probability (P)	Significance (S=(E+D+M)*P)	Status (+ve or -ve)	Confidence	
Retaining the visual quality of the landscape	<b>Nature of impact:</b>	Should the project not be implemented, the present quality of the visual landscape will remain as it is.							
	<b>with</b>	3	5	0	5	40	Medium	+	High
	<b>without</b>	3	5	6	5	70	High	-	High
	<b>degree to which impact can be reversed:</b>	n/a							
	<b>degree of impact on irreplaceable resources:</b>	n/a							