

# WAG 'N BIETJIE 400KV MTS PROJECT

## Verification of the DFFE Screening Tool Report

Impact Assessment	Motivation for Specialist Input Obtained
<p><b>Agricultural Theme</b>  <i>Classification in terms of the Screening Tool:-</i>  <i>Medium Sensitivity</i></p>	<p>It was confirmed that the agricultural impact and the amount of agricultural land loss resulting from the development is insignificant in the context with the agricultural environment. The affected land has very limited agricultural potential.</p> <p>An <i>Agricultural Compliance Statement</i> was supplied by Mr Johann Lanz and is summarised in Chapter 4 and included under Appendix C(5) of the Basic Assessment Report.</p>
<p><b>Animal Species Assessment</b>  <i>Classification in terms of the Screening Tool:-</i>  <i>Medium Sensitivity</i></p>	<p>A <i>Terrestrial Ecological Assessment</i> was undertaken by Dr David Hoare and is summarised in Chapter 4 and included under Appendix C(1) of the Basic Assessment Report.</p> <p>An <i>Avi-Fauna Impact Study</i> was undertaken by Dr Owen Davies and Ms Ashlin Bodashing from Arcus Consultancy Services and is summarised in Chapter 4 and included under Appendix C(3) of the Basic Assessment Report.</p>
<p><b>Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment</b>  <i>Classification in terms of the Screening Tool:-</i>  <i>Very High Sensitivity</i></p>	<p>An <i>Aquatic Impact Assessment</i> was undertaken by Dr Toni Belcher done and is summarised in Chapter 4 and included under Appendix C(2) of the Basic Assessment Report.</p> <p>Engineering input was obtained as an <i>Engineering Hydrological Assessment and Stormwater Management Plan</i>, also summarised in Chapter 4 and included under Appendix C(6) of the Basic Assessment Report.</p>
<p><b>Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment</b>  <i>Classification in terms of the Screening Tool:-</i>  <i>Low Sensitivity</i></p>	<p>Even though the classification is indicated as a <u>low sensitivity</u>, <i>Heritage and Archaeological Impact Assessments</i> were undertaken by Ms Jenna Lavin (CTS Heritage) because relevant listed activities in terms of the <b>National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)</b> are triggered. The findings of these assessments are summarised in Chapter 4 and included under Appendix C(4) of the Basic Assessment Report.</p>
<p><b>Palaeontology Theme</b>  <i>Classification in terms of the Screening Tool:-</i>  <i>Very High Sensitivity</i></p>	<p>A <i>Palaeontological Impact Assessment</i> was undertaken by Prof Marion Bamford. The findings of her assessment are summarised in Chapter 4 and included under Appendix C(4) of the Basic Assessment Report.</p>
<p><b>Civil Aviation Assessment</b>  <i>Classification in terms of the Screening Tool:-</i>  <i>High Sensitivity</i></p>	<p>The De Aar Military Airport is located 8,6km west of De Aar. The proposed MTS Project grid connection which lies between 9km and 11 km south-east of De Aar will not impact on this facility. The De Aar Airport is situated between 7km and 10 km east of the proposed project and will also not be affected by the proposed project.</p> <p>No specialist input is recommended.</p> <p>Relevant obstacle approval for the towers and pylons will be obtained from the SA Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) during the design phase of the project, prior to commencement of construction.</p>

<p><b>Defence Theme</b>  <i>Classification in terms of the Screening Tool:-</i>  Low Sensitivity</p>	<p>The closest defence facility to the site is the South African Defence Department Ammunition Depot and School of Munitions, De Aar. This is situated 3,8km west of De Aar. The De Aar Military Airport is located 8,6km west of De Aar. The proposed MTS Project grid connection which lies between 9km and 11 km south-east of De Aar will not impact on these facilities.</p> <p>No specialist input is recommended.</p>
<p><b>Plant Species Theme</b>  <i>Classification in terms of the Screening Tool:-</i>  Low Sensitivity</p>	<p>A <i>Terrestrial Ecological Assessment</i> was undertaken by Dr David Hoare and is summarised in Chapter 4 and included under Appendix C(1) of the Basic Assessment Report.</p>
<p><b>Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme</b>  <i>Classification in terms of the Screening Tool:-</i>  Very High Sensitivity</p>	<p>A <i>Terrestrial Ecological Assessment</i> was undertaken by Dr David Hoare and is summarised in Chapter 4 and included under Appendix C(1) of the Basic Assessment Report.</p>
<p><b>Geotechnical Assessment</b></p>	<p>A geotechnical study will be undertaken during the design phase of the project to confirm the geotechnical constraints associated with the site. Appropriate specifications in terms of materials and foundations will then be provided to inform the detail design of the MTS facility. Specific requirements in terms of pylon positions and foundations will also be supplied for both the LiLo and the 132kV powerlines. No obvious significant geotechnical constraints (i.e. dolomite) occur on site.</p> <p>The EAP proposes that a geotechnical study during the EIA stages of the project will not impact on the viability of the project and is therefore not required as part of the studies for Environmental Authorisation.</p>

Based on the DFFE Screening Tool Report, the site verification, specialist input and direct relevant experience from the EAPs, it was concluded that the following specialist studies were required for the project:-

- Terrestrial (Fauna & Flora) Impact Assessment
- Freshwater Impact Assessment
- Bird Impact Assessment
- Heritage & Archaeological Impact Assessment
- Palaeontological Assessment
- An Agricultural Impact Statement

Engineering input required was an Engineering Hydrological Assessment and Stormwater Management Plan.

All recommendations in terms of mitigation and planning form part of the EMP.

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