

## Notice of Basic Assessment Process: Proposed Eskom Kentani-Seagulls 11kV Powerline

May 2012

### INTRODUCTION

Eskom Distribution Division proposes to construct a new 11kV overhead transmission line near Butterworth, Eastern Cape.

The planned 11kV Kentani-Seagulls power line is approximately 621m long and will extend from the MV T-off at the existing LNNJ0012-2 structure near Kentani and extend to the existing LNNJ012-10 structure near Seagulls. A 100kVA transformer with a distribution kiosk will also be installed at the MV terminal structure.

Arcus GIBB has been approached by Eskom to undertake an application for environmental authorisation.

### PROJECT LOCATION:

The power line will extend from Kentani toward Seagulls at the coast of the Mnquma Local Municipality, Eastern Cape.

(Refer to next page for locality map)

### NEED FOR THIS PROJECT

The project is needed in order to:

The power line will strengthen the network as well as improve network reliability.

### LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) Section 24(5) stipulates that "listed activities" require environmental authorization.

The project is likely to trigger the following requirements in Listing Notice No.3 (Government Notice No. 546) which requires environmental authorization by means of a Basic Assessment Process:

- *Activity No 12 "The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetative where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation".*

### STAGES IN BASIC ASSESSMENT

This Basic Assessment study will commence with an application to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) for Environmental Authorisation of the proposed project.

A Public Participation process (detailed below) and reporting on the outcome of the Basic Assessment, then follow.

A Draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) will be compiled which will comprehensively describe the activities and impacts that the project may have on the receiving environment. including specialist reports and details from the PPP process. The Draft BAR and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) will be submitted for a 40 day public comment period.

Subsequent to the review and commenting period, a Final BAR will be compiled for submission to DEA. This will include all public comments and response to issues raised by I&APs.

Should the authorities grant approval via an environmental authorisation, all registered I&APs will be notified accordingly and given the opportunity to appeal against the decision, should they so wish.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Crucial to the Basic Assessment process is the input from Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and hence the public are encouraged to register as I&APs for this project.

The NEMA regulations require that I&APs send comments regarding the proposed project in writing so that a paper trail can be maintained throughout the BA process. Registered I&APs will be kept informed of project progress throughout the BA process.

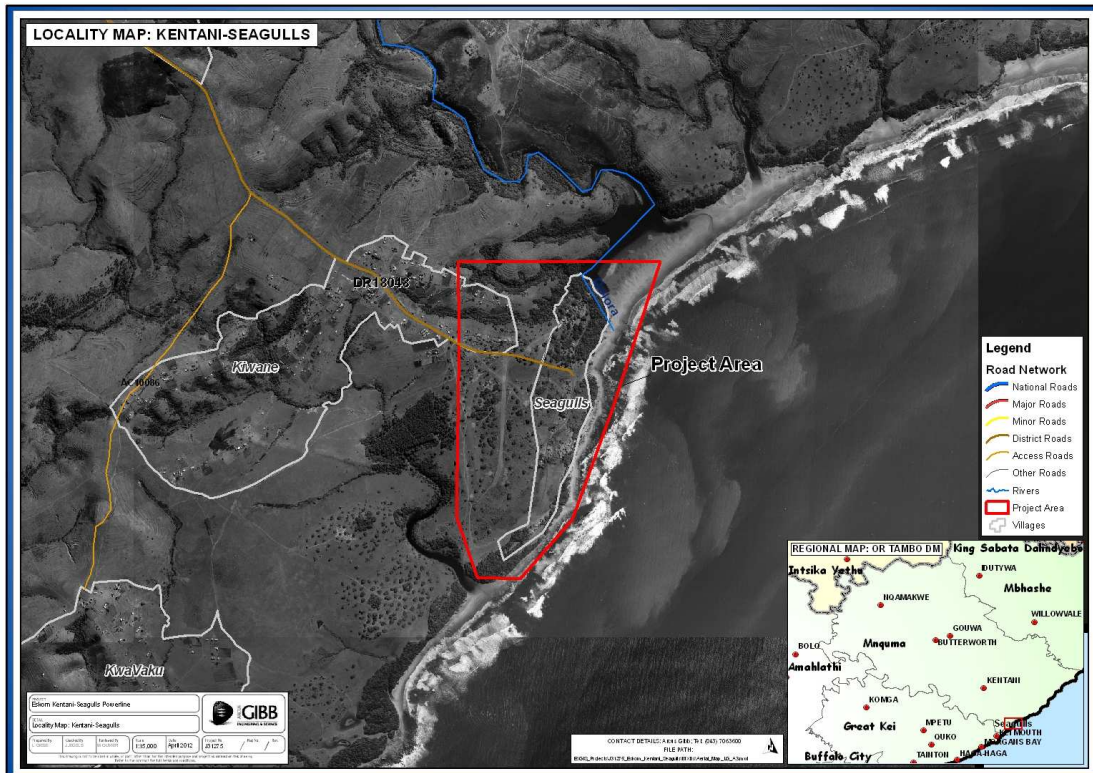


Figure 1: Locality of the proposed alternative sites for the Eskom Kentani-Seagulls power line (preferred site outlined in red)

## WAY FORWARD

Should you wish to express your views regarding this proposed development, please send us your written comments. The names of all registered I&APs, together with the comments received will be incorporated into the Comments and Responses Report and will be submitted to DEA.

Please submit your name, contact information (address, telephone number, e-mail address, postal address) and written comments to the contact person below.

### Contact

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