

Comments and Responses Report

Name	Date comment received	Method of comments submitted	Comments raised	EAP's Responses
Anza Murovhi	07-03-2022	Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the protection of these overhead lines as Necsa has high lightning stikes. In the instance were this is destosn • What is the risk comparison between overhead and underground cables and how is the risk for overhead cables mitigated • In cases of a trip, what is the turnaround time to restore power 	<p>A Regional Lightning Analysis was conducted for the proposed Lomond Safari powerline route for the period of April 2017 to March 2018. The analysis found that the route is located within a high lightning risk vicinity and that the impact of any lightning strike on the power lines could cause major disruptions on the operations of NECSA. It was, however, also concluded that the risk of lightning exposure on short lines, such as the proposed powerline, is minimal. Changing from underground to overhead lines will not negatively affect NECSA's operations and contingency should be discussed with NECSA should one of the lines be lost due to lightning.</p> <p>Eskom employs adequate methods to ensure protection against lightning strikes on overhead lines. The following protection strategies are standard to overhead line designs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. OPGW and Shield Wires b. Line Surge Arrestors c. Improved Footing Resistance

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				The turnaround time in the event of a power trip cannot be determined as this is dependent on the cause of a trip, the extent of the damage and the availability of materials for repair work. This would need to be determined on a case by case basis.
Roel Jansen	08-03-2022	Email	Consideration be given for the pylons to be painted/powder coated or similar, in a brown or green colour to enhance the blending into the environment.	The Applicant has confirmed that the pylons are galvanised during the manufacturing process and are received as such from the manufacturers. Painting of the pylons would increase maintenance requirements due to the paint flaking off (lifting up and peeling away) and requiring re-application of paint with time. Flaking also causes rust. The paint flakes would also enter into the environment, leading to a negative environmental impact as paint often contains oil, lead, iron and/or copper.
Dr. Eurika van Heerden	08-03-2022	Email	Support the project because the existing lines are leaking oil into the environment.	Comment noted.
Laura Brits	18-03-22	Email	Please consider Motozi Lodge as a supplier of Accommodation for visiting contractors. We are located 3km from NECSA gate 3, and	Your comments have been provided to the Applicant for consideration during the construction phase of the proposed project (should Environmental Authorisation be granted by the Competent Authority).

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			<p>We have the facilities to comfortably host Senior Managers / Middle Management / Short Stay / Long Stay / Self Catering / 3 Meals a day.</p> <p>Please would you be so kind as to connect me with the right people, who will be responsible for arranging accommodation for this contract?</p>	
Jenny Smith	29-03-22	Email	I do not have a problem with the proposed as long as it is not an eyesore on the horizon which will affect our view.	Feedback from the Applicant is that the powerline should not be visible from this I&APs property.
Mareme Mathosa	20-04-22	Email	<p>I have perused the report as previously promised. I do not have any objection to its content.</p> <p>One particular thing I have noted is lack of clarity with regard to the possible soil contamination as noted on page 27. How will this possible contamination affect the project if at all?</p>	<p>The section referred to on page 27 of the Basic Assessment Report has been removed from the Report. The dismantling of the existing underground oil-filled power cables does not form part of this current application for the overhead powerline. The future dismantling of the existing underground oil filled power cables will be dealt with as a separate process, should this current application for Environmental Authorisation be successful. Any pollution from the existing underground power cables will be dealt with as a separate</p>

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				process, should any pollution be confirmed.
South African Heritage Resources Agency	14-06-22	Email	<p>The Safari Rural substation is an 88/11kV substation supplying the South African Nuclear Energy Corporation SOC Limited (NECSA). The substation is currently supplied through 2 x 88kV underground oil filled cables from the Lomond Main Transmission Substation (MTS). The cables sometimes lose pressure resulting in a loss of supply to the Safari Rural substation. To address the above situation, Eskom identified the following proposed project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Construction of a 1 x 88kV chickadee powerline of ±2.3km from Lomond MTS to Safari Rural substation. Steel structures will be utilised to build the HV powerline. •Part of the 2 x 88kV underground oil filled cables will be dismantled and sealed off. •The Safari Rural substation will be refurbished by replacing old and redundant equipment. <p>MuTingati Environmental and Projects Pty Ltd has been appointed by Eskom Holdings SOC Limited to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA)</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The requirements from SAHRA have been and will be implemented.</p>

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			<p>Application for the construction of a 1 x 88kV chickade powerline of about 2.3km from Lomond MTS to Safari Rural Substation on Portion 0 of the Farm Weldaba 567 JQ Madibeng Local Municipality, Bojanala Platinum District Municipality, North West Province (DFFE Ref Nr: 2022-02-0005).</p> <p>A Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The scope of work entails the construction of a 1 x 88kV chickade powerline of about 2.3km from Lomond MTS to Safari Rural Substation. Part of the old infrastructure i.e. the 2 x 88kV powerline will be dismantled.</p> <p>MuTingati Environmental and Projects Pty Ltd, Integrated Specialist Solutions and Dr. J.E Durandt have been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EIA process as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(3) and</p>	

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			<p>38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).</p> <p>Desktop studies, drive throughs, and field walking were conducted in order to identify heritage landmarks on and around the development site. It is noted that several heritage impact studies have been undertaken in the larger study area since 2006 and that the current report must be read in line with previous assessments (Kusel 2005, 2006, 2008, 2011, 2012; Pelsler 2007; van Schalkwyk 2007, 2008, 2013, 2014) and others. The general observation of previous assessment is that there is an occurrence of Late Iron Age stone walling sites in the project area. Desktop assessments also show that sites have been previously destroyed or rescued in the face of infrastructure, residential and agricultural developments. This reports also mention the presence of structures older than 60 years and traditional burial sites in the project area but none of these will be affected by the proposed development.</p>	

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			<p>No heritage objects, sites or features were identified during field walking. The following recommendation are made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From a heritage perspective supported by the findings of this study, the proposed Lomond Safari 88kV powerline is feasible. However, the proposed powerline development should be approved to proceed as planned under observations that the development dimensions do not extend beyond the surveyed route. • Should chance archaeological material or human remains be exposed during sub-surface construction work on any section of the proposed servitude work, work should cease on the affected area and the discovery must be reported to the heritage authorities immediately so that an investigation and evaluation of the finds can be made. • Subject to the recommendations made herein and the implementation of the mitigation measures and adoption of the project EMP, there are not significant cultural heritage resources barriers to the proposed development. • A Chance Find Protocol is recommended for inclusion in the 	

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			<p data-bbox="757 336 837 363">EMPr.</p> <p data-bbox="712 416 1279 1378">The study area is underlain by the rocks of the Timeball Hill Formation of the Pretoria Group of the Transvaal Supergroup. It consists of lacustrine and fluvio-deltaic mudrocks with diamictite, conglomerates, quartz, and minor lavas. The Timeball Hill Formation is underlain by shales of the Rooihogte Formation of the Pretoria Group which is exposed to the south of the study area. The Pretoria Group is underlain discordantly by the chert-rich dolomite and chert of the Eccles Formation of the Malmani Supergroup of the Chuniespoort Group of the Transvaal Supergroup. The lacustrine and fluvio-deltaic deposits of the Timeball Hill Formation are considered to have a High Palaeontological Sensitivity. The proposed development will take place in an area that is considered to have a High Palaeontological Sensitivity due the probability of finding stromatolites in this region. The chances of exposing stromatolites during construction are good and for this reason, A Chance Fossil Finds Procedure is included and recommended.</p>	

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			<p>Final Comment</p> <p>The SAHRA's APM Unit has received the draft BAR as part of the Environmental Authorisation process, attached to the BAR are heritage specialist studies. SAHRA supports the recommendation made in the reports by respective specialists and has no objections to the project.</p> <p>SAHRA inserts the following comments 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 expansion; • 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. No further additional specific conditions are provided for the development; • 38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, 	

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			<p>indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM Unit (Elijah Katsetse/Phillip Hine 021 462 4502) 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"> • 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Ngqalabutho Madida 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; • 38(4)d – See section 51(1) of the NHRA; • 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists: 	

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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; • The Final BAR and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes; • The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case. <p>Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.</p>	
Magaliesberg Biosphere	15-06-22	Email	Vulpro have indicated they are aware of it and have been in consultation to ensure	Noted.

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			bird friendly apparatus are installed on the posts. We have no further comments on this application.	
Crocodile River Reserve	17-06-22	Email	<p>Thank you very much for contacting us.</p> <p>We, the Grassland Stewardship Alliance, being the Management Authority for the Crocodile River Reserve, do not have any objections. We would merely like to be kept informed to ensure that due process is followed since we form part of the buffer zone for the Magaliesburg Biosphere.</p>	Noted. The Crocodile River Reserve will be kept informed of the application process, as a Registered Interested and Affected Party for the application.
Cradle Of Humankind World Heritage Site Association	20-06-22	Email	The Cradle Of Humankind World Heritage Site Association has no comment at this time.	Noted.
Department of Water and Sanitation	04-08-22	Email	COMMENTS ON DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION APPLICATION FOR ESKOM LOMOND SAFARI 88kV POWERLINE – NECSA, PORTION 0, WELDABA 567 JQ, MADIBENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY WITH EIA REFERENCE NUMBER: 2022-01-0005	Noted.

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			<p>The Department of Water and Sanitation received a Basic Assessment Report for Eskom Lomond Safari 88kV Powerline on 12 April 2022. The Department has evaluated the document and has the following comments:</p> <p>1) Background It is mentioned on page 22 of the document that Safari Rural Substation is an 88/11kV substation supplying the South African Nuclear Energy Corporation SOC Limited (NECSA). It is also mentioned on the same page that the substation is currently supplied through 2 x 88kV underground oil filled cables from the Lomond Main Transmission Substation (MTS). It is further mentioned on the same page the existing oil filled cables are approximately 4.5m in length. It is further stated that the cables sometimes lose pressure and this results in loss of supply the Safari Rural substation. It is also mentioned on the same page that the cables also seems to be leaking oil and causing</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p>

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			<p>environmental pollution.</p> <p>NECSA requested Eskom to provide a solution to the above situation, in response to the request, Eskom identified the proposed powerline project, to be built by Eskom, in order to supply power to NECSA. It is therefore acknowledged that NECSA is currently on premium supply as it is a National Key Point responsible for undertaking research and development in the field of nuclear energy and related technologies.</p> <p>2) Location of proposed activity It is mentioned in the document that the project site is located in the Madibeng Local Municipality, Bojanala Platinum District Municipality, NorthWest Province. The project location is entirely within the confines of the NECSA Pelindaba property, situated south of the town Hartbeespoort, North west Province.</p> <p>It is also mentioned that the project site</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p>

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			<p>is situated within one of the Gazetted Electricity Grid Infrastructure (EGI) Corridors as per GN 113.It is also mentioned that the property for the proposed project and its associated activities is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property /Land parcel: Portion 0 of the farm Weldaba 567 JQ • 21-digit Surveyor General Code: TOJQ00000000056700000 • Property size: 2 361.6963Ha • Project site GPS coordinates are as follows: Starting point: 25°48.141'S and 27°56.315'E 2: 25°48.183'S and 27°56.137'E 3: 25°48.215'S and 27°56.617'E 4: 25°48.157'S and 27°56.039'E 5: 25°48.089'S and 27°56.052'E End point: 25°48.067'S and 27°56.111'E <p>3) Refurbishment of the system It is mentioned and noted on page 23 to 24 of the document that the following will take place for the project:</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refurbish Transformer 1 bays (Red), Line Bay, Transformer HV and MV bays • Dismantle Transformer 2 bays (Yellow), Line bay, Transformer & MV bays • Repair bund wall around the transformer plinth • Build Oil Holding Dam • Supply of 10KA earths/applicator stick with lock up box • Install an environmental loo at the substation • Replace the existing fence with a palisade fence with sliding gates • Install substation electric wire • Building of a runway (4.5 x 20m) for truck access during delivery of transformer inside the substation • Replace yard stones • Test net mat and repair f necessary • Extend earth mat be 1m (earth mat outside the substation) • Transformer replacement not requires. <p>4) Waste management It is noted on page 23 of the document that waste during construction activities</p>	<p>Currently there is no service level agreement in place as the project is in planning phase. The SLA will be acquired</p>

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			<p>will be removed off site and taken to a licensed landfill site. You are therefore requested to provide the Chief Director with Service Level Agreement between you and the mentioned landfill site (Service Provider).</p> <p>5) Ablution facilities It is mentioned on page 23 of the document that an environmental loo will be installed at the substation. You are therefore required to give details on where the dehydrated and decomposed material will be disposed of. You are also required to provide details on the Service Level Agreement between you and the service provider thereof.</p> <p>6) Water Use Licensing It is mentioned on page 28 of the document that no Water Use Registrations and/or License applications in terms of Chapter 4 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No</p>	<p>prior to the construction phase and provided to the Chief Director.</p> <p>The Enviro loo is a waterless, on site, dry sanitation toilet system that functions without water or chemicals. It operates through a process of dehydration and evaporation which occurs naturally through the use of sun, gravity and wind. No disposal of dehydrated and decomposed material will take place. No SLA will therefore be required. The environmental loo will be installed at the substation to be used by maintenance team after construction when visiting the substation once a month or once in three month.</p> <p>Noted. The applicant will attend to the necessary water use licence and/or registration requirements as a separate process should this application for an Environmental Authorisation be successful.</p>

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			<p>36 of 1998) are included in the scope of work for the EIA process. It is also mentioned on the same page that a meeting has been requested with the National Department of Water and Sanitation to confirm whether any water use registration and/or license applications are required for the proposed powerline project.</p> <p>Please ensure that a Section 21 c & i water use is applied for, for any crossings, diversions and alterations to watercourses, be it a river, its beds and banks and or wetlands.</p> <p>It is also mentioned on page 23 of the document that an Oil Holding Dam will be built at the substation and that constitutes a Section 21 g water use, therefore you need to include it in your water use license application. You are therefore required to identify all Section 21 water uses relevant to the proposed activity and apply for a water use license as failure to do so will result in contravention with section 40 of the</p>	<p>Noted. The applicant will attend to the necessary water use licence and/or registration requirements as a separate process should this application for an Environmental Authorisation be successful.</p> <p>Noted. The applicant will attend to the necessary water use licence and/or registration requirements as a separate process should this application for an Environmental Authorisation be successful.</p>

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			<p>National Water Act.</p> <p>You are also required to provide details pertaining to the supply of water during both construction and operational phases and should there be water abstraction or storage, you will be required to apply for Sections 21 (a) and (b) water uses. Access roads should to the substation should be dust suppressed if they are dirt roads and the source of water for dust suppression should be communicated with the Department prior to any abstraction if it's either a borehole or a river.</p> <p>A pre-application meeting with the Department's Environmental Officer on site to establish all the relevant water uses to be applied for. A water use application can be lodged on the Departmental EWULAAAS portal which is available on our website i.e. www.dws.gov.za.</p> <p>7) Pollution incidents reporting It is mentioned on page 109 of the</p>	<p>Water will be used from the existing municipal water supply to the property. No Section 21(a) or (b) water uses will be required.</p> <p>Access roads to the substation are tarred, existing roads. No dust suppression will therefore be required.</p> <p>Noted. The applicant will attend to the necessary water use licence and/or registration requirements as a separate process should this application for an Environmental Authorisation be successful.</p> <p>Noted. Any pollution will be addressed according to the mitigation measures of the</p>

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			<p>document that pollution of soil and/or groundwater resources due to the potential release of pollutants, such as chemicals, oil, fuel, as well as the release of sewage from toilets. It is also noted on page 114 of the document that the existing underground oil filled cables will no longer be used and any oil leakages and pollution will no longer occur. It is advised that the cables be removed and disposed off at authorised hazardous land fill site as part of rehabilitation Plan when the cables where installed.</p> <p>It is also mentioned on page 110 of the document that soil and /or groundwater resources could be polluted due to mismanagement of waste. You are therefore requested to inform the Department in the event of any pollution of the water resource. Proper management measures must be employed towards the appropriate clean-up of the leaking or spilled substance and its proper disposal in an acceptable manner as required by</p>	<p>Environmental Management Programme.</p> <p>Noted. The dismantling of the existing underground oil-filled power cables does not form part of this current application for the overhead powerline. The future dismantling of the existing underground oil filled power cables will be dealt with as a separate process, should this current application for Environmental Authorisation be successful.</p> <p>The applicant takes note of this.</p>

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			<p>Section 19 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998). If any pollution incident is experienced, the Department must be notified immediately (within 24 hours) as required in terms of section 20 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998).</p> <p>8) Flood-line Your attention is drawn to Regulation 4(b) of regulation 704, dated 04 June 1999 which states that: <i>No person in control of a mine or activity except in relation to a matter contemplated in regulation 10, carry on any underground or opencast mining, prospecting or any other operation or activity under or within the 1:50 year flood-line or within a horizontal distance of 100 metres from any watercourse or estuary, whichever is the greatest.</i></p> <p>9) Wetlands and watercourses It is mentioned on page 91 of the document that a Watercourse Assessment was conducted for the</p>	<p>The application does not relate to any mining activities. This comment is therefore deemed to not be applicable to the proposed powerline development.</p> <p>Noted. The applicant will attend to the necessary water use licence and/or registration requirements as a separate process should this application for an</p>

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			<p>project site by Oasis Environmental Specialists in 2022. It is mentioned on page 92 of the document that wetlands were identified within 500m of the proposed powerline during a desktop assessment. The Department would also like acknowledge that an aquatic assessment, including wetland delineation was done as mentioned on page 34 of the document. You are therefore requested to apply for a Section 21 c & l as indicated under item 8 above.</p> <p>10) Public Participation Please ensure that all the inputs/comments raised during the public participation process are addressed adequately. You are also requested to ensure that all the interested and affected parties are engaged properly and notices are well visible as well as adverts for the proposed project.</p> <p>Please note that these comments do not warrant a water use authorisation. Should you engage in any water use activity, this</p>	<p>Environmental Authorisation be successful.</p> <p>The Aquatic Assessment stated the following: No NFEPA wetlands were identified within 500 m of the proposed powerline during the desktop assessment. The Bench wetlands were confirmed to be drying ponds on the NECSA property.</p> <p>Noted. All inputs/comments received have been included and addressed in the Basic Assessment Report and Comments and Responses Report. Site notices and newspaper advertisements were placed as per the approved Public Participation Plan.</p> <p>Noted.</p>

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			<p>means that you will be contravening the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998). Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact this office at the contact details provided.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>