



## environmental affairs

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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### PER E-MAIL / MAIL

Dear Sir

### COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE PETRUSDAM 88KV SWITCHING STATION, WITHIN RAMOTSHERE MOILA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTH WEST PROVINCE

The draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) dated July 2017 and the application form received by the Department on 26 May 2017, refer.

This Department has the following comments on the abovementioned application:

a) Listed activities

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 downloaded from the following link <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>.

b) Environmental Management Programme (EMPr)

- The final EMPr must include an alien and invasive plant management plan, as well as a storm water management plan;
- The EMPr must not contain any ambiguity. Where applicable, statements containing the word "should" or "may" are to be amended to "must";
- Recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the final BAR must be incorporated as part of the final EMPr.

c) Public Participation Process

The following information must be submitted with the final EIAR:

- Proof of landowner consent;
- A full page of each of the newspapers containing the advertisement, ensuring that the name of the newspaper and date are visible;
- Proof of the fixed Notice boards at the site where the activities to which the application or relates is or is to be undertaken; and any alternative site;
- Comments must be obtained from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) and the provincial heritage authority.
- Copies of original comments received from I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity;
- Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders, including organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity, must be included in the final BAR. Should you be unable to obtain such comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain the comments; and,
- All issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft BAR from 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, and must be incorporated into a Comments and Response Report.

d) Specialist Studies

- Any specialist study to assess the impacts for the activities applied for must be provided in the final BAR;
- Ensure that Specialist Declaration of Interest forms are signed, for all the specialist studies conducted as part of the proposed development, and are submitted together with the final BAR.

e) In addition, the following amendments and additional information are required for the BAR:

- Information on services required on the site, e.g. sewage, refuse removal, water and electricity. Who will supply these services and has an agreement and confirmation of capacity been obtained?
- Wetland delineation (if applicable).

General

You are 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 the basic assessment reports in accordance with Appendix 1 of the 2014 EIA Regulations, as amended.

You are further reminded to comply with regulation 19(1)(a) of the 2014 EIA Regulations, 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 EMP, and where applicable a closure plan, which have been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority"*

Should there be significant changes or new information that has been added to the basic assessment report or EMPr which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process, you would then be required to comply with regulation 19 (b) which states:

*"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".*

Should you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 19 of the 2014 EIA Regulations, as amended, your application will lapse.

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 environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours faithfully



**Mr Sabelo Malaza**

**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations**

**Department of Environmental Affairs**

**Signed by: Ms. Pumeza Skepe-Mgcita**

**Designation: Director (Acting): CIPS & S24G**

**Date: 14/08/2017**

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