

December 13, 2022

Attention: Registered Interested and Affected Party

**NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUANCE FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECT:
LOMOND SAFARI 88KV POWERLINE – DFFE EIA REFERENCE NO.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2552**

This letter serves to inform you, as a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) that the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) has decided to grant Eskom Holdings SOC Limited (the Applicant) with an Environmental Authorisation for their Lomond Safari 88kV Powerline project and its associated activities. The Department has authorised these activities by virtue of the powers delegated to it by the MEC in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended, and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 4 December 2014, as amended. The Department's decision was signed on 2 December 2022 and issued to the Applicant via email on 5 December 2022. The Environmental Authorisation and Reasons for the decision (Annexure 1) are attached to this letter.

In terms of Section 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 4 December 2014, as amended, the Applicant must, in writing and within 14 days of the date of the decision on the Environmental Authorisation application, ensure that all registered I&APs are provided with access to the decision and the reasons for such decision; and that the attention of all registered I&APs is drawn to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against the decision in terms of the National Appeal Regulations, 2014. MuTingati Environmental and Projects is facilitating this process on behalf of the Applicant.

In terms of Chapter 2 of the National Appeal Regulations, 2014, an appeal may be lodged against the decision by the Department to grant an Environmental Authorisation. An Appellant must submit the appeal to the Appeal Administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the Applicant (Eskom Holdings SOC Limited), any registered I&AP and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision for an application for an Environmental Authorisation was sent to the I&APs by the applicant (via the EAP). The deadline for submission of appeals is **24 January 2023**.

An appeal submission must be submitted **in writing** on the prescribed form (Appeal Form) obtainable from the Appeal Administrator and accompanied by-

- (i) a statement setting out the grounds of appeal;
- (ii) supporting documentation which is referred to in the appeal submission; and
- (iii) a statement, including supporting documentation, by the appellant to confirm compliance with regulation 4(1) of the National Appeal Regulations.

Contact information for the Appeal Administrator:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review: Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Via email: appeals@environment.gov.za

By hand: Environment House, 473 Steve Biko, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083

By post: Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 001

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information or if any of the information provided in this letter is unclear.

Environmental Assessment Practitioner for the project

MuTingati Environmental and Projects

Lizette Kloppers

Tel: 061 524 2211

Email: lizette@earthnsky.co.za / lizette.earthnsky@gmail.com

Fax to Email: 086 552 6837

Regards



Lizette Kloppers (Pr. Sci. Nat.)

Environmental Assessment Practitioner

EAPASA Reg No. 2019/767

SACNASP Reg. No. 115453

13 December 2022

Date



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA ·0001· Environment House ·473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia· PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2552

Enquiries: Mr Mahlatse Shubane

Telephone: (012) 399 9417 E-mail: MShubane@dffe.gov.za

Katlego Mlambo
Eskom Holdings SOC Limited
16 Kgwebo Street
Mabe Park
Waterfall East
RUSTENBURG
0321

Telephone: 018 464 6936
Cell phone: 073 138 5668
Email Address: MotlhaKN@eskom.co.za

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Katlego Mlambo

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT NO. 107 OF 1998, AS AMENDED: FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LOMOND SAFARI 88KV POWERLINE TO THE SAFARI RURAL SUBSTATION ON THE FARM WELDABA 567 JQ WITHIN MADIBENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE NORTHWEST PROVINCE

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant authorisation. The Environmental Authorisation (EA) and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within fourteen (14) days of the date of the decision as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, Act No. 3 of 2000, you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, Act No. 4 of 2013 which stipulates that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing, and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuses or compromises your personal information in any way.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998 National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribe the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

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Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@environment.gov.za

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko
Arcadia
Pretoria
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation, or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@environment.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Ms Millicent Solomons
Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment
Date: 02/12/2022.

cc:	Lizette Kloppers	MuTingati Environmental and Projects	Cell: 061 524 2211	E-mail: lizette@earthnsky.co.za / lizette.earthnsky@gmail.com
	Ms Ouma Skhosana	Northwest Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism	Tel: 018 389 5156	E-mail: OSkosana@nwpg.gov.za
	Mr Thapelo Ngwato	Madibeng Local Municipality	Tel: 012 318 9299/9113	E-mail: thapelongwato@madibeng.gov.za



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Environmental Authorisation

In terms of Regulation 25 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended

The construction of the Lomond Safari 88kV powerline to the Safari Rural Substation on Farm Weldaba
567 JQ within Madibeng Local Municipality in the Northwest Province

Bojanala Platinum District Municipality

Authorisation register number:	<i>14/12/16/3/3/1/2552</i>
Last amended:	<i>First issue</i>
Holder of authorisation:	<i>Eskom Holdings SOC Limited</i>
Location of activity:	<i>Farm Weldaba 567 JQ within Madibeng Local Municipality in the Northwest Province</i>

This authorisation does not negate the holder of the authorisation's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.

Decision

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

Non-compliance with a condition of this Environmental Authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

Activities authorised

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, the Department hereby authorises –

ESKOM HOLDINGS SOC LIMITED

with the following contact details –

Katlego Mlambo
16 Kgwebo Street
Mabe Park
Waterfall East
RUSTENBURG
0321

Telephone: 018 464 6936
Cell phone: 073 138 5668
Email Address: MotihaKN@eskom.co.za

to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as “the activity”) indicated in Listing Notice 1 and Listing Notice 3 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended:

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 11 (i):</u></p> <p><i>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity-</i></p> <p><i>(i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts,</i></p> <p><i>excluding the development of bypass infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity where such bypass infrastructure is-</i></p> <p><i>(a) temporarily required to allow for maintenance of existing infrastructure,</i></p> <p><i>(b) 2 kilometres or shorter in length,</i></p> <p><i>(c) within an existing transmission line servitude;</i></p> <p><i>and</i></p> <p><i>(d) will be removed within 18 months of the commencement of development.</i></p>	<p>The construction of a 1 x 88kV chickadee powerline of approximately 2.3km outside urban areas. The powerline will run from the Lomond MTS to the Safari Rural substation (the entire route is situated on the South African Nuclear Energy Corporation (NECSA) property)) and steel monopole structures will be utilised to build the HV powerline.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 19</u></p> <p><i>The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic meters into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand shells, shell grit, pebbles, or rock of more than 10 cubic meters from a watercourse, but excluding where such infilling, depositing, dredging, excavation, removal or moving-</i></p> <p><i>(a) will occur behind a development setback,</i></p> <p><i>(b) is for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan,</i></p>	<p>The construction of a 1 x 88kV Chickadee powerline of approximately 2.3km and 36800 square meters of indigenous vegetation will be cleared of the powerline. The powerline will cross an artificial seasonal wetland system linked to non-perennial channels on the western side of the powerline route. The artificial seasonal wetland system is approximately 270m east of the Safari Rural substation. Along with vegetation clearance will be the removal and moving of soil, sand, pebbles and/or rocks from the artificial seasonal wetland system and more than 10m³ of soil, sand, pebbles and/or rocks will</p>

<p>(c) falls within the ambit of activity 21 in this Notice, in which case that activity applies,</p> <p>(d) occurs within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour; or</p> <p>(e) where such development is related to the development of a port or harbour, in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies.</p>	<p>be removed or moved during construction and as part of the vegetation clearance</p>
<p>Listing Notice 3, Item 12 (h)(iv)(vi)</p> <p><i>The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.</i></p> <p>(h) North-West</p> <p>iv. <i>Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority.</i></p> <p>vi. <i>Areas within a watercourse or wetland; or within 100 metres from the edge of a watercourse or wetland.</i></p>	<p>The construction of a 1 x 88kV chickadee powerline of approximately 2.3km and 36800 square meters of indigenous vegetation will be cleared of the powerline. The powerline will cross an artificial seasonal wetland system linked to non-perennial channels on the western side of the powerline route. The artificial seasonal wetland system is approximately 270m east of the Safari Rural substation. The site is situated within an Aquatic CBA and a Terrestrial CBA (1 and 2).</p>

as described in the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) received 07 October 2022 at:

Farm Weldaba 567 JQ: Portion 0

SG 21 Code: for the proposed powerline and Safari Rural substation to be refurbished																					
T	O	J	Q	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	6	7	0	0	0	0	0

GPS coordinates for the proposed powerline and Safari Rural substation to be refurbished:		
Point Location	Latitude	Longitude
Point 1: Starting point of powerline at Lomond Main Transmission Substation)	25° 48.141'S	27° 56.315'E
Point 2	25° 48.183'S	27° 56.137'E
Midpoint Point 3	25° 48.215'S	27° 56.617'E
Point 4	25° 48.157'S	27° 55.093'E
Point 5	25° 48.089'S	27° 55.052'E
Point 6: End point of powerline at Safari Rural Substation	25° 48.067'S	27° 55.111'E
Lomond Main Transmission Substation	25°48'7.28"S	27°56'21.23"E
Safari Rural Substation	25°48'3.04"S	27°55'6.57"E

- for the construction of the Lomond Safari 88kV powerline to the Safari Rural Substation on farm Weldaba 567 JQ within Madibeng Local Municipality in the Northwest Province, hereafter referred to as "the property".

Project description:

Construction of a 1 x 88kV Chickadee powerline of ±2.3km from Lomond MTS to Safari Rural Substation. Steel monopole structures will be utilised to build the HV powerline. The powerline will transmit 88kV, but will be built according to the 132kV specifications, as is the norm for 88kV powerlines constructed by Eskom. The Applicant has confirmed that all the structures are bird friendly. The span length between the monopole pylons will be between 150m to 250m (distance from one monopole pylon to another). The pylon heights take into consideration safety clearance, slopes, span length, sagging etc. and Eskom standards are used by engineers when designing the power lines. The pylon heights will range between 20m and 24m from the ground to the top of the pylons.

The proposed overhead 88kV power line will be built from Lomond MTS to Safari Rural substation using steel monopole structures and the conductor. The overhead power line will then be connected to the steel column and beam (busbar) where the cable is connected and then the cable will be disconnected leaving the overhead power line as the main source of supply to the substation.

As per Eskom's Vegetation Management and Maintenance within Eskom Land, Servitudes and Rights of Way Standard an area of 8m of vegetation will be cleared on either side of the centre line of the proposed powerline. This includes the part of the powerline that runs through the artificial wetland and non-perennial channels. Grass and shrubs will be managed in line with the specific biome and vegetation type of the site. The clearance and

management of the vegetation of either side of the powerline is required as the vegetation poses a fire risk to the powerline infrastructure and/or to the operation of the powerlines.

The Safari Rural substation will be refurbished by replacing old and redundant equipment. This will ensure that the equipment is up to standard and able to provide a reliable electricity supply to NECSA. A new fence will also be built around the substation to improve security and access control to the substation.

The following Eskom Method Statements will be used during the proposed powerline construction process:

- Assembly and Erection of Towers.
- Stringing and Regulation of Conductors and Earth wires.

Waste generated during the construction activities will be removed off site and taken to a licensed landfill site. Material will be stored at the Safari Rural substation (an already disturbed area) and the temporary construction camp will be off-site. The location of the temporary construction camp will be finalised once the contractor is appointed. The temporary construction camp size would be approximately 30m x 35m (1 050m²).

No new roads will be built. The existing access roads will be used to gain access to the construction areas. Also, the servitude area cleared for the new powerline will be used by the construction contractor to gain access.

Refurbishment of the Safari Rural substation

- Refurbish existing Transformer 1 bays (Red), Line Bay, Transformer HV and MV bays.
- Dismantle existing Transformer 2 bays (Yellow), Line Bay, Transformer HV & MV bays.
- Repair existing bund wall around the transformer plinth.
- Build a new underground Oil Holding/Drainage Dam (sump) for emergency situations, such as an explosion or major failure/fault on the transformer. The transformer has a bund wall for small oil spillages. The bund wall will have a drainage pipe to the proposed oil holding/drainage dam (sump). The dam (sump) will have an oil holding capacity of 25 000 litres (25m³). The dam (sump) will not hold oil under normal circumstances. Oil will only be temporarily collected in the sump should an emergency arise. The dam (sump) will have a submersible pump to enable any collected oil to be pumped out should an emergency arise.
- Supply 3 new sets of 10kA earths/applicator stick with lock up box.
- Install a new environmental look at the substation.
- Install 4 x new 21m lighting/lightning masts.
- Replace the existing fence with a palisade fence with sliding gates.
- Install new substation electric wire.

- Building of a new runway (4,5m (width) x 20m (length)) for truck access during the delivery of the transformer inside the substation.
- Replace existing yard stones with new stones.
- Test existing earth mat and repair if necessary.
- Extend existing earth mat by 1m (earth mat outside the substation). Transformer replacement not required.

Existing underground oil filled cables

The future dismantling of the existing underground oil filled power cables do not form part of this application and will be dealt with as a separate process, should this application be successful.

Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

Scope of authorisation

1. The preferred overhead monopole pylon alternative for the construction of the Lomond Safari 88kV powerline to the Safari Rural Substation on farm Weldaba 567 JQ within Madibeng Local Municipality in the Northwest Province is approved as per the geographic coordinates cited in the table above.
2. Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this Environmental Authorisation, which form part of the Environmental Authorisation and are binding on the holder of the authorisation.
3. The holder of the authorisation is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this Environmental Authorisation. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant, or person rendering a service to the holder of the authorisation.
4. The activities authorised may only be carried out at the property as described above.
5. Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this Environmental Authorisation must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the holder of the authorisation to apply for further Environmental Authorisation in terms of the regulations.
6. The holder of an Environmental Authorisation must apply for an amendment of the Environmental Authorisation with the Competent Authority for any alienation, transfer or change of ownership rights in the property on which the activity is to take place.
7. This activity must commence within a period of ten (10) years from the date of issue of this Environmental Authorisation. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses

and a new application for Environmental Authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.

8. Commencement with one activity listed in terms of this environmental authorisation constitutes commencement of all authorised activities.

Notification of authorisation and right to appeal

9. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this Environmental Authorisation, of the decision to authorise the activity.
10. The notification referred to must –
 - 10.1. specify the date on which the authorisation was issued,
 - 10.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in the National Appeal Regulations, 2014,
 - 10.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation will be furnished on request; and
 - 10.4. give the reasons of the Competent Authority for the decision.

Commencement of the activity

11. The authorised activity shall not commence until the period for the submission of appeals has lapsed as per the National Appeal Regulations, 2014, and no appeal has been lodged against the decision. In terms of Section 43(7), an appeal under Section 43 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended will suspend the Environmental Authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal has been finalised.

Management of the activity

12. The layout map submitted with the final BAR received on 07 October 2022 is approved.
13. The Generic Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) submitted as part of the BAR received on 07 October 2022 is approved and must be implemented and adhered to.
14. The generic EMPr must be implemented and strictly enforced during all phases of the project. It shall be seen as a dynamic document and shall be included in all contract documentation for all phases of the development when approved.

15. Changes to the approved generic EMPr must be submitted in accordance to the EIA Regulations applicable at the time.
16. The Department reserves the right to amend the approved generic EMPr should any impacts that were not anticipated or covered in the BAR be discovered.

Frequency and process of updating the Generic EMPr

17. The EMPr must be updated where the findings of the environmental audit reports, contemplated in Condition 23 below, indicate insufficient mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity, or insufficient levels of compliance with the environmental authorisation or EMPr.
18. The updated EMPr must contain recommendations to rectify the shortcomings identified in the environmental audit report.
19. The updated EMPr must be submitted to the Department for approval together with the environmental audit report, as per Regulation 34 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended. The updated EMPr must have been subjected to a public participation process, which process has been agreed to by the Department, prior to submission of the updated EMPr to the Department for approval.
20. In assessing whether to grant approval of an EMPr which has been updated because of an audit, the Department will consider the processes prescribed in Regulation 35 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended. Prior to approving an amended EMPr, the Department may request such amendments to the EMPr as it deems appropriate to ensure that the EMPr sufficiently provides for avoidance, management and mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity.
21. The holder of the authorisation must apply for an amendment of an EMPr, if such amendment is required before an audit is required. The amendment process is prescribed in Regulation 37 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The holder of the authorisation must request comments on the proposed amendments to the impact management outcomes of the EMPr or amendments to the closure objectives of the closure plan from potentially interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, by using any of the methods provided for in the Act for a period of at least 30 days.

Monitoring

22. The holder of the authorisation must appoint an experienced Environmental Control Officer (ECO) for the construction phase of the development that will have the responsibility to ensure that the mitigation/rehabilitation measures and recommendations referred to in this environmental authorisation are implemented and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the approved EMPr.

- 22.1. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activities.
- 22.2. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
- 22.3. The ECO must keep record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a task schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
- 22.4. The ECO must remain employed until all rehabilitation measures, as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site is ready for operation.

Recording and reporting to the Department

23. All documentation e.g., audit/monitoring/compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to the Department in terms of this environmental authorisation, must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
24. The holder of the environmental authorisation must, for the period during which the environmental authorisation and EMPr remain valid, ensure that project compliance with the conditions of the environmental authorisation and the EMPr are audited, and that the audit reports are submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
25. The frequency of auditing and of submission of the environmental audit reports must be as per the frequency indicated in the EMPr, considering the processes for such auditing as prescribed in Regulation 34 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.
26. The holder of the authorisation must, in addition, submit environmental audit reports to the Department within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e., within 30 days of site handover) and a final environmental audit report within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities.
27. The environmental audit reports must be compiled in accordance with Appendix 7 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended and must indicate the date of the audit, the name of the auditor and the outcome of the audit in terms of compliance with the environmental authorisation conditions as well as the requirements of the approved EMPr.
28. Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on site and made available for inspection to any relevant and competent authority in respect of this development.

Notification to authorities

29. A written notification of commencement must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity. Commencement for the purposes of this condition includes site

preparation. The notice must include a date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence, as well as a reference number.

Operation of the activity

30. A written notification of operation must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity operational phase.

Site closure and decommissioning

31. Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the holder of the authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and Competent Authority at that time.

Specific conditions

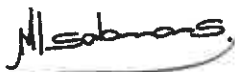
32. The footprint of the development must be limited to the areas required for actual construction works and operational activities. Vegetation clearance must be limited to holes made for the monopole structures supporting the electrical cables.
33. Permits from relevant authorities must be obtained for the removal or disturbance of any TOPs, Red Data listed or provincially protected species prior construction.
34. The managing body of the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site Protected Area must be consulted and any recommendation regarding activities within the PA's buffer zones as stipulated in the PA's EMP, adhered to.
35. The historical vulture restaurant/feeding site on the South African Nuclear Energy Corporation (NECSA) property must remain closed. Dead animals/carcasses found at/close to the Lomond-Safari 88kV power line during routine power line patrols and/or maintenance by Eskom must be removed from the property and donated to VulPro to ensure that the Cape Vultures utilising the study area are fed in a safe environment.
36. No exotic plants must be used for rehabilitation purposes. Only indigenous plants of the area must be utilised.
37. Should any archaeological sites, artefacts, paleontological fossils, or graves be exposed during construction work, work in the immediate vicinity of the find must be stopped, the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) must be informed, and the services of an accredited heritage professional obtained for an assessment of the heritage resources.

38. The entire power line length must be fitted with bird flight diverters, as recommended by the Avifaunal specialist.
39. An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation and must incorporate reduction, recycling, re-use and disposal where appropriate. Any solid waste must be disposed of at a landfill licensed in terms of Section 20 (b) of the National Environment Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act No.59 of 2008).

General

40. A copy of this Environmental Authorisation, the audit and compliance monitoring reports, and the approved EMPr, must be made available for inspection and copying-
 - 40.1. at the site of the authorised activity,
 - 40.2. to anyone on request; and
 - 40.3. where the holder of the Environmental Authorisation has a website, on such publicly accessible website.
41. National government, provincial government, local authorities or committees appointed in terms of the conditions of this authorisation or any other public authority shall not be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder of the authorisation or his/her successor in title in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction be temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance by the holder of the authorisation with the conditions of authorisation as set out in this document or any other subsequent document emanating from these conditions of authorisation.

Date of Environmental Authorisation: 02/12/2022.



Ms Millicent Solomons

Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment

Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

1. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration -

- a) The listed activities as applied for in the amended application form received on 07 October 2022 and email dated 28 November 2022.
- b) The information contained in the BAR received on 07 October 2022.
- c) The comments received from SAHRA, Magaliesberg Biosphere, Crocodile River Reserve, Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site Association, Department of Water and Sanitation, South African Civil Aviation Authority, Northwest Dept of Economic Development, Environment Conservation & Tourism, Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment: Biodiversity Conservation, Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment: IEA and interested and affected parties as included in the BAR dated 07 October 2022.
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the BAR, specialist studies and the generic EMPr.
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the appendices of the BAR received on 07 October 2022.

2. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was taken into account in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues that, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- a) The findings of all the specialist studies conducted and their recommended mitigation measures.
- b) The need for the proposed project which is to ensure reliable electricity supply to NECSA and the elimination of potential environmental pollution using the existing underground oil filled cables.
- c) The BAR received on 07 October 2022 identified all legislations and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the BAR.
- d) The location of the proposed grid connection, which considers environmentally sensitive areas.
- e) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the BAR received on 07 October 2022 and the specialist studies have been adequately indicated.
- f) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken, and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended for public involvement.

3. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings -

- a) The identification and assessment of impacts are detailed in the BAR dated 07 October 2022 and sufficient assessment of the key identified issues and impacts have been completed.
- b) The procedure followed for impact assessment is adequate for the decision-making process.
- c) The proposed mitigation of impacts identified and assessed adequately curtails the identified impacts.
- d) EMPr measures for the pre-construction, construction and rehabilitation phases of the development were proposed and included in the BAR and will be implemented to manage the identified environmental impacts during the construction phase.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the environmental authorisation, the authorised activities will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the authorised activities can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The environmental authorisation is accordingly granted.