

17 October 2017

Dear Stakeholder

**REF: PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE MAHIKENG MAIN TRANSMISSION SUBSTATION AND A 400kV PLUTO-MAHIKENG POWER LINE (DEA Reference Number to be issued)**

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is being undertaken for the proposed new Mahikeng 400kV Main Transmission Substation in the Mahikeng area (near Miga, North West Province), and a 400kV Transmission Powerline between the existing Pluto Main Transmission Substation (near Carletonville, Gauteng Province) and the new Mahikeng Main Transmission Substation and associated infrastructures.

Eskom Holdings Ltd is responsible for the provision of reliable and affordable power to its consumers in South Africa. Electricity generated by Eskom's coal fired power stations cannot be stored and therefore must be used as it is generated. It is, therefore, required that electricity must be efficiently transmitted from the point of generation to the end user.

As mentioned in the attached Background Information Document (BID), it is important to note that this proposed projects forms part of Eskom's Botswana-South Africa (BOSA) Transmission Interconnecting Project. The South African Power Pool (SAPP) is a prominent power pool initiative tasked with coordinating the planning, generation and transmission of electricity on behalf of member states utilities in the South African Development Community (SADC) region. Eskom of South Africa (Eskom) and the Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) will be the beneficiaries of the SAPP Regional project.

Baagi Environmental Consultancy has been appointed by Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd to do an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for this proposed development. The EIA will identify, propose and assess feasible site alternatives for the proposed new Main Transmission Substation (MTS) and feasible corridor/route alternatives for the powerline.

Associated infrastructures may include, but not limited to:

- Access roads to the newly proposed MTS;
- Office (maintenance) at the newly proposed MTS;
- A communication tower at the newly proposed MTS;
- Maintenance roads along the feasible (technical and environmental) power line route; and
- Construction of pylons (towers) – type and locations to be determined after an Environmental Authorisation has been issued;

An EIA must be conducted according to the National Environmental Management Act, (Act No 107 of 1998) and approved by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA).

***Light to Sustainable Development***

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You are invited to register as an Interested and/or Affected Party (I&AP) and to participate in this environmental process by using the registration and comment sheet in the enclosed Background Information Document. Please return the comment sheet at the latest by **Thursday, 16 November 2017** for this initial public notification process, although submissions and public participation will continue throughout the EIA process.

Kindly send your reply to the Public Participation Office via e-mail to [nicolene@imaginativeafrica.co.za](mailto:nicolene@imaginativeafrica.co.za). You are also welcome to contact Imaginative Africa on tel. (012) 662-2843, fax 086 415 5011 or Baagi Environmental Consultancy on tel. (012) 993-0756/7.

Kind regards



**Nicolene Venter**  
**Public Participation Practitioner**