SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE RESETTLEMENT ALONG THE PROPOSED MFOLOZI-MBEWU MULTI CIRCUIT 765KV TRANSMISSION LINE, ZULULAND AND KING CETSHWAYO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, KWAZULU-NATAL

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1 INTRODUCTION

In order to comply with the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998 as amended) (NEMA) and the NEMA EIA Regulations (18 June 2010, as amended), NIA Development Solutions was appointed by Mokgope Consulting to undertake a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) for the proposed Mfolozi-mbewu multi circuit 765kv transmission line.

A social impact assessment (SIA) forms a component of an EIA. Social impacts can be defined as "The consequences to human populations of any public or private actions (these include policies, programmes, plans and/or projects) that alter the ways in which people live, work, play, relate to one another, organise to meet their needs and generally live and cope as members of society. These impacts are felt at various levels, including individual level, family or household level, community, organisation or society level. Some social impacts are felt by the body as a physical reality, while other social impacts are perceptual or emotional." (Vanclay, 2002).

The International Association for Impact Assessment (2003) defines Social Impact Assessment as the process of analysing, monitoring and managing the intended and unintended social consequences, both positive and negative, of planned interventions (policies, programmes, plans, projects) and any social change processes invoked by these interventions.

The primary purpose of SIA is to bring about a more sustainable and equitable biophysical and human environment. SIA therefore plays an important role in enriching the understanding of the social environment and communities affected by a proposed development. The need to address social issues is also a legal requirement.

This SIA forms part of the project scope deliverables for the proposed Mfolozi-Mbewu multi circuit 765kv transmission line. The purpose of the SIA is to provide information regarding the potential impacts that the proposed Mfolozi-mbewu multi circuit 765kv transmission line may have on the social environment of the affected District Municipalities (Zululand and Uthungulu) and their Local Municipalities.This SIA supports and provides critical input into the environmental application in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA). The aim of the SIA is to ensure that the social context is considered and potential impacts affecting the social environment and communities are understood and assessed to ensure informed decisions.

The following subsections set the stage for the SIA by providing basic information on the project background and location, as well as the scope of the subsequent SIA

2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

Increased demand for electricity in the Empangeni-Richards Bay area, lead to the proposed Mfolozi-Mbewu multi circuit 765kv transmission line project. The transmission line will extend from the Umfolozi substation to the Empangeni area, where a new substation (Theta) will also be constructed. The project will be implemented by Eskom Holdings, a State-Owned Company (SOC) Ltd, in South Africa that supplies the nation's electricity. On the 29th of August 2001, Eskom received Environmental Authorisation (EA) (Ref: 12/12/20/881) from the National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) to

construct the 765 kV Transmission line, as part of the Transmission Development Plan (TDP)[1] and expansion programme in Kwazulu-Natal. The transmission line is to be built along a corridor that connects from the proposed new Mbewu substation in King Cetshwayo District Municipality (Previously Uthungulu District Municipality) and to the existing Mfolozi substation near Ulundi in the Zululand District Municipality. The development is part of a number of transmission network reinforcements that will cater for the anticipated demand for electricity and growth over the next 10 years[2], especially, the increase in the demand for electricity in the Empangeni-Richards Bay area[3]. This construction will not only improve services but will benefit local suppliers and boost the construction sector enormously.

Unfortunately, some households as well as the graves associated with the households will have to be relocated to make way for the project. Portions of the transmission line will be within a servitude that cannot be realigned to avoid affected households in some areas due to the terrain and technical constraints. In terms of Eskom's Safety Standards, a power line cannot be built above structures and residential properties for safety reasons – both the power line and human life.

Cross rope suspension towers will be used for most of the route. The tower is approximately 50m high. The average span between towers will be 450 m. Self-supporting strain towers will be used at bend points along the line. An 80m servitude (40 m on either side of the centre line) will be required to accommodate the towers on which the overhead line will be strung. In forestry areas the servitude needs to be wider. The servitude is required to ensure safe construction, maintenance and operation of the line and Eskom will be entitled to unrestricted access. Where 765kV Tx P/ls are constructed in parallel, a minimum separation distance of 80m between centre points is required. The minimum vertical clearance between the line and the ground after construction is 10.4m. The land beneath the overhead lines can continue to be used for some activities by the landowners. No structures or crops higher than 4m will be allowed along the route.

The 400kV Umfolozi Substation is situated just northwest of Ulundi in KZN (28°12'52"S, 31°11'13"E). No additional land acquisition is anticipated at the Umfolozi substation for the proposed line. Subsequent project planning indicates that the actual area required will initially be approximately 36 ha, to be extended to 50 ha later.

The EIA considered that initially only three 400kV bays for incoming lines (from Umfolozi, Invubu and Athene) would be built. The EIA, however, considered a site that would have sufficient capacity to be expanded in phases over time to eventually include three 765kV bays and seven 400kV bays. Reflected in **figure 1.2** is the route of the proposed power line and affected households along the power line route.

[1] Eskom Transmission Development Plan (TDP) 2016-2025
http://www.eskom.co.za/Whatweredoing/TransmissionDevelopmentPlan/Documents/TransDevPlan2016-2025Brochure.pdf
[2] ibid
[3] Eskom, 2010: Environmental Impact Assessment for the Umfolozi-Empangeni 765kV Transmission Power Line and new substation in the Empangeni area: Second Addendum Report (DEAT Ref. No. 12/2/20/881)

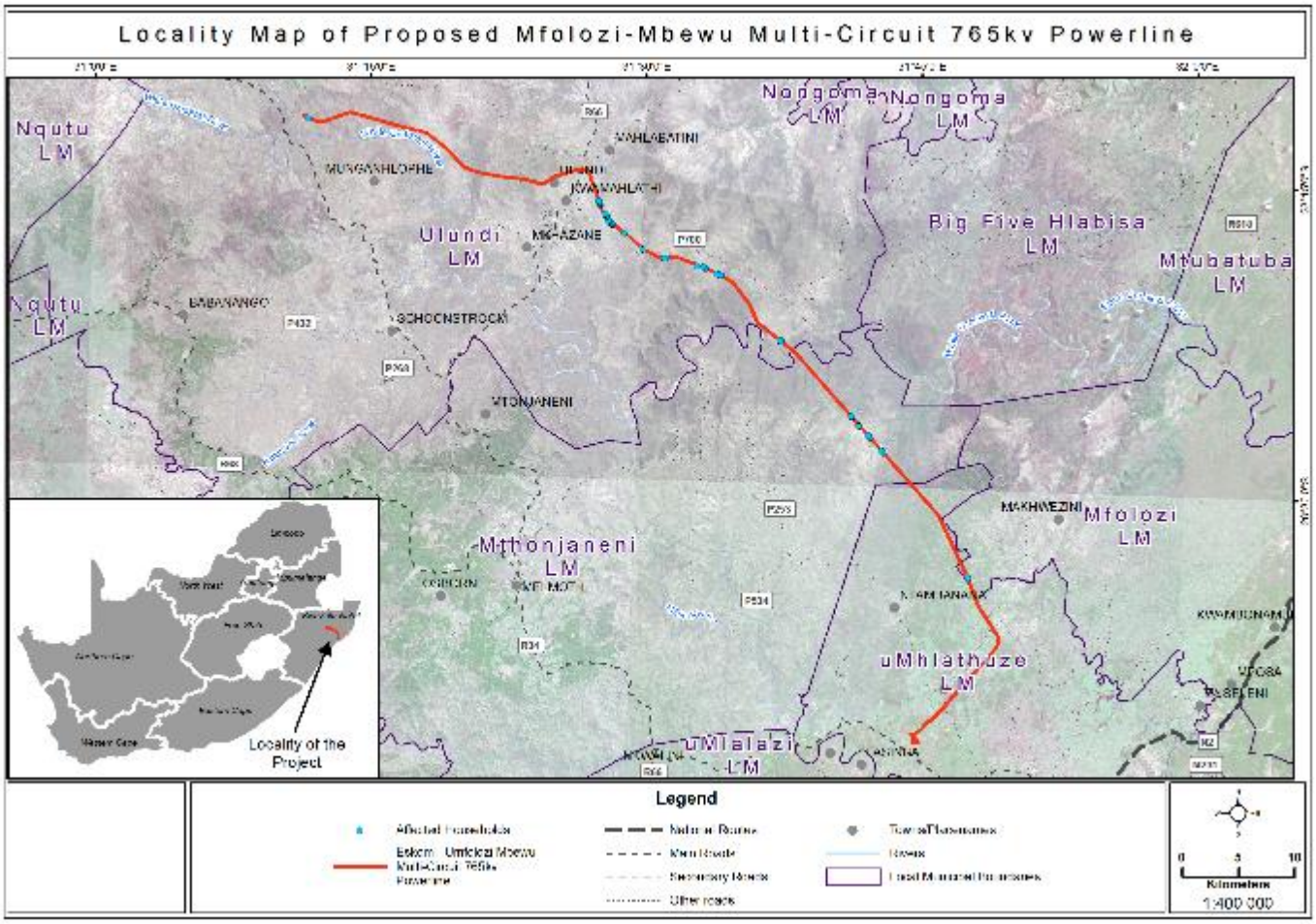

Figure 2.1: Mfolozi-mbewu multi circuit 765kv power line route and affected households.

3 STUDY AREA

The study area falls within the KwaZulu-Natal Province. It covers Zululand and King Cetshwayo District Municipalities (Previously Uthungulu DM) (Figure 1.1). The main towns in the study area include Ulundi, Melmoth and Empangeni. Within the two District Municipalities, 3 local municipalities will be affected. These are Ulundi Local Municipality (located in Zululand DM), Mthonjaneni and uMfolozi Local Municipality (located in King Cetshwayo DM) **(see figure 3.1)**.

Landuse in the study area is dominated by sugar cane and forestry, with some orchards, especially in the south western parts. The central area contains some existing and proposed national and private conservation areas. Dispersed rural settlements are found throughout the northern half of the study area with concentrations of urban development in the vicinity of Empangeni and Ulundi. Significant heritage resources are found in the north-western part of the study area.

There are some wetlands in the study area, situated mainly west of Ulundi in the Emakhosini Ophate Heritage Park as well as smaller confined and localised wetlands occur scattered throughout the study

area. The major dam in the study area is the Goedertrouw Dam (now called Phobane Lake) lies in the west of the study area.

Figure 3.1: Location of Zululand and King Cetshwayo District Municipalities in KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa

4 ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS

The following assumptions and limitations are applicable to this study:

- In order to understand the social environment and to predict impacts, complex systems have to be reduced to simple representations of reality (DEAT, 2002). The experience of impacts is subjective and what one person may see as a negative impact may not be perceived as such by another person

- The study was based on information made available to the author.

- Information generated during the public participation process was not available for review. The information includes minutes of meetings, comments received and information on stakeholders. This information is usually generated as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

process. Social Impact Assessments normally draw heavily from information gathered during the public participation process. The information is important as it provides insight regarding the prevalent concerns, attitudes and perceptions relating to the proposed project. Comments generated from the public participation process are important in informing the baseline, impact identification and impact description. The initial public participation process was undertaken by means of public and focussed meetings with various stakeholders by the EIA team in 2007 (the project report containing the feedback was not available)

- Final Scoping Report for the Proposed project was not available for review.

- Final EIA report concerning the proposed project was not available for review.

- GIS inventory information to be provided by Eskom not made available

- Maps and satellite imagery were not available

- Information from other Specialist Studies conducted as part of the EIA were also not available for review. These studies focus on impacts that have significant, although indirect, social implications. For example, the noise impact assessment focuses more on the level of noise that will be generated as a result of the power line construction and how this will change the ambient noise levels in the area, as opposed to investigating the effect this noise will have on the quality of life for the surrounding land owners and communities. These indirect social implications are important for SIA.

- No economic modelling or analysis was done as part of the SIA. Any data relating to the economic profile of the area was obtained from municipal sources, such as Integrated Development Plans (IDPs) and census data.

- This report only applies to the resettlement of households along the proposed Mfolozi-mbewu multi circuit 765kv power line and will not necessarily be accurate for and applicable to similar activities at other sites.

- A list of affected households and their locations generated from the previous scoping study was not available for reference. The SIA team relied on a list generated by the valuation team during their field visit. Upon approaching affected households, they were also asked to confirm by indicating if they have received notification about being relocated. The ward councillor also provided guidance.

5 REPORT STRUCTURE

1. INTRODUCTION
   - Project background
   - Project description
   - Assumptions and limitations
2. LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND GUIDELINES
3. METHODOLOGY
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5. SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE OF AFFECTED HOUSEHOLDS
6. IMPACT IDENTIFICATION, DESCRIPTION, ASSESSMENT AND MITIGATION
7. CONCLUSION

6 LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND GUIDELINES

This section outlines legislation and international safeguards that are applicable to the proposed project.

6.1 Applicable Legislation

6.1.1 Constitution of the Republic of South Africa Act, 1996 (Act No. 108 of 1996)

The Constitution is the supreme law of South Africa, against which all other laws are measured. It sets out a number of fundamental environmental rights. It also reflects a clear mandate to include social issues in the EIA process. The Bill of Rights in the Constitution states that:
Everyone has the right –

(a) to an environment that is not harmful to their health and wellbeing; and
(b) to have the environment protected, for the benefit of present and future generations, through reasonable legislative and other measures that –
    (i) prevent pollution;
    (ii) promote conservation; and
    (iii) secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and social development.

6.1.2 National Environmental Management Act

The National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) promotes citizens' rights to an environment that is not harmful to their health and wellbeing. This right is closely linked to the Constitution where clause 32 of the Bill of Rights stipulates that current and future generations have a right to a healthy environment. NEMA defines the environment as the natural environment as well as the physical, chemical, aesthetic and cultural properties that influences a person's health and well-being.

NEMA provides the legislative framework for Integrated Environmental Management in South Africa. Section 24 of NEMA states that the potential impact on the environment, *socio-economic conditions* and cultural heritage of activities that require authorisation must be considered, investigated and assessed prior to implementation, in order to give effect to the general objectives of integrated environmental management. Section 2 of NEMA provides a set of principles that apply to the actions of all organs of state that may significantly affect the environment.

The National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA) states that, whereas many inhabitants of South Africa live in an environment that is harmful to their health and well-being, the following (relating to the social environment) are acknowledged.

- Everyone has the right to an environment that is not harmful to his or her health or well-being.
- The State must respect, protect, promote and fulfil the *social*, economic and environmental rights of everyone and strive to meet the basic needs of previously disadvantaged communities.
- Inequality in the distribution of wealth and resources, and the resultant poverty, are among the important causes as well as the results of environmentally harmful practices.
- Sustainable development requires the integration of *social*, economic and environmental factors in the planning, implementation and evaluation of decisions to ensure that development serves present and future generations.
- Everyone has the right to have the environment protected, for the benefit of present and future generations, through reasonable legislative and other measures that -
    - prevent pollution and ecological degradation;
    - promote conservation; and
    - secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and *social* development.

The following principles listed in the NEMA refer directly to the human/social environment.

- Environmental management must place people and their needs at the forefront of its concern, and serve their physical, psychological, developmental, cultural and social interests equitably.
- Development must be socially, environmentally and economically sustainable.
- Environmental justice must be pursued as to not unfairly discriminate unfairly discriminate against any person, particularly vulnerable and disadvantaged persons.
- Equitable access to environmental resources, benefits and services to meet basic human needs and ensure human wellbeing must be pursued.
- Decisions must take into account the interests, needs and values of all interested and affected parties, including all forms of traditional and ordinary knowledge.

- The social, economic and environmental impacts of activities, including disadvantages and benefits, must be considered, assessed and evaluated, and decisions must be appropriate in the light of such consideration and assessment.

6.1.3 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations

According to Regulation 10 (c) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations that were passed in terms of Chapter 5 of NEMA in December 2014 the competent (decision-making) authority is entitled to all information that has or may have the potential of influencing any decision with regard to an application. It can be argued that, since social impacts have the potential of influencing the authority's decision, as much information on potential social impacts as practicably possible should be supplied to the decision-making authority as part of the application (Bezuidenhout, 2009).

The EIA Regulations also prescribe the content of Basic Assessment Reports, Scoping Reports and Environmental Impact Assessment Reports and include features applicable to social impacts, including: A full description of the process followed to reach the proposed preferred alternative (BAR) / activity, site and location (SR) / development footprint (EIR) within the site, including:

- (iv) the environmental attributes associated with the alternatives focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, ***social***, economic, heritage and cultural aspects; and
- (vii) positive and negative impacts that the proposed activity and alternatives will have on the environment ***and on the community that may be affected*** focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, ***social***, economic, heritage and cultural aspects.

6.1.4 Guideline and other documents consulted and adhered to

The following international and local guidelines and standards were adhered to during the process of conducting the SIA:

- Interorganizational Committee on Guidelines and Principles for SIA (2003)
- Social Impact Assessment: Guidance for assessing and managing the social impacts of projects (Vanclay, 2015);
- EIA Regulations, 2014: Appendix 6 – Specialist reports;
- Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Information Series 4: Specialist studies;
- Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Information Series 22: Socio-Economic Impact Assessment;
- Development Bank of Southern Africa's Environmental and Social Safeguard Standards (Safeguard Standard 3: Involuntary Resettlement) (2015);
- The African Development Bank's Involuntary Resettlement Policy (2015); and
- Eskom's Procedures for the Management of Involuntary Resettlement.

Lastly, two lists of social variables as identified by Vanclay (cited in DEAT, 2006) and the Interorganizational Committee on Guidelines and Principles for SIA (2003) respectively, were used to ensure that all potential social impacts of the development were identified and assessed for all four the project stages. The two lists are depicted in **Table 6.1 and 6.2** below.

Table 6.1: Categories of social variables

Health and social well-being	Death; nutrition; actual health and fertility; perceived health; mental health; aspirations for future; autonomy; stigmatization; feelings in relation to the project
Quality of the living environment	Physical quality – exposure to noise, dust, risk, odour, etc.; leisure and recreation opportunities; aesthetic quality; availability of housing; quality of housing; physical and social infrastructure; personal safety and hazard exposure; crime and violence
Economic impacts and material well-being	Workload; standard of living; economic prosperity and resilience; income; property values; employment; replacement cost of environmental functions; economic dependency
Cultural impacts	Change in cultural values; violation of culture; experience of being culturally marginalized; commercial exploitation of culture; loss of local language; loss of natural and cultural heritage
Family and community impacts	Alterations in family structure; obligations to family/ancestors; family violence; social networks – interaction with others in community; community connection – sense of belonging; community cohesion; social differentiation and inequity; social tension and violence
Institutional, legal, political and equity impacts	Capacity of government agency to handle workload generated by project; integrity of government agencies – absence of corruption and competence of agency; legal rights; human rights; participation in decision making; access to legal advice; fairness of distribution of impacts across community
Gender relations	Women's physical integrity – can decide about own body; personal autonomy of women – independence in all aspects; gendered division of labour – income, household, childbearing and rearing of children; access to resources and facilities; political emancipation of women

Source: Vanclay, cited in DEAT, 2006

Table 6.2: ICGP list of social variables

Population change	Population size, density and change; influx and outflow of temporary workers; presence of seasonal (leisure) residents; relocation of individuals or families; racial and ethnic composition and distribution
Community/ Institutional arrangements	Voluntary associations; interest group activity; size and structure of local government; industrial/commercial diversification; employment/income characteristics; local/regional/ national linkages; employment equity of disadvantaged groups; historical experience of change
Political and social resources	Distribution of power and authority; inter-organizational cooperation; conflict between newcomers and long term residents; identification of stakeholders; interested and affected parties; leadership capability and characteristics
Individual and family level impacts	Displacement/relocation concerns; trust in political and social institutions; residential stability; family and friendship networks; density of acquaintanceships; perceptions of risk, health and safety; attitudes towards the proposed action; concerns about social well-being

Community resources	Change in community infrastructure; indigenous populations; changing land use patterns; family and friendship networks; effects on known cultural, historical, sacred and archaeological resources

Source: ICGP, 2003

7 METHODOLODY

The following subsections contain the methodological foundation that informed the SIA; the subsequent research process that was followed in order to identify potential social impacts; as well as relevant assumptions and limitations.

7.1 Methodological Foundation

The SIA methodology was informed by the relevant South African legislative frameworks, guidelines and principles for addressing social issues in Environmental Impact Assessment. The relevant South African legislative frameworks included

- the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and
- the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996).

The guidelines and principles included,

- Inter – organizational Committee on Guidelines and Principles for SIA (2003);
- International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) (2003);
- Social Impact Assessment: Guidance for assessing and managing the social impacts of projects Vanclay, 2015);
- Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Information Series 4: Specialist studies;
- Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Information Series 22: Socio-Economic Impact Assessment.

7.2 Approach

There are two basic research approaches to SIA, namely:

- **The quantitative approach**: This approach aims to measure the social world objectively, to test hypotheses and to predict outcomes. It involves inquiry into a social or human problem, based on a theory composed of variables, measured with numbers, and analysed with statistical procedures, in order to determine whether the predictive generalisations of the theory hold true (Sogunro, 2001:3). The approach essentially underpins the technocratic approach to SIA

- **The qualitative approach**: This approach attempts to identify and provide a more descriptive understanding of the complex social issues that cannot be easily quantified (Sogunro, 2001:3).

The major difference between the two approaches is linked to the collection and analysis of data. In the case of the quantitative approach secondary data, such as statistical census data, is used to provide an indication of the demographic structure of a community. The qualitative approach typically uses data collected from interviews and observations to gain insight into people's social structures and livelihood strategies.

Both qualitative and quantitative methodological approaches were applied in this SIA to obtain and analyse primary and secondary data. A combination of the two approaches provided a rich source of information on the affected households.

7.3 Data Gathering

For the purpose of gathering data required to meet the SIA objectives, there are a number of qualitative and quantitative techniques to choose from. The list of qualitative methods is much broader compared to the list of quantitative methods. As opposed to quantitative techniques, qualitative techniques are used extensively in SIA. The most important quantitative technique used in SIA is the analysis of census data. The data is often used to produce historic and demographic profiles of a community and can be used to provide extensive baseline information.

Using a combination of qualitative and quantitative techniques, primary and secondary data were collected from relevant primary and secondary sources (discussed in more details below). The use of both secondary and primary data allowed for the triangulation of findings.

Baseline information was required in order to develop an appropriate understanding of the social context, identify and assess potential impacts of the planned activities with confidence, develop applicable management measures, and monitor and evaluate changes and impacts after project implementation.

7.3.1 Secondary Data

A review of available documents was undertaken to obtain information regarding the socio-economic conditions in the affected District Municipalities. Obtained information was used to compile a socio-economic baseline profile of the affected areas. The profile includes information on households, communities and land uses in the vicinity of the proposed project site. The baseline information played an important role in developing an appropriate understanding of the social context, identifying and assessing potential impacts of the proposed activities with confidence and developing applicable management measures.

Documents reviewed include the following:

- Integrated Development Plans (IDPs)
- Spatial Development Frameworks
- (SDF) of the affected local and district municipalities
- 2011 National Census Data – Statistics South Africa (extracted from Census 2011 Municipal Report, KwaZulu-Natal, 2012).

- Draft Second Addendum to EIA Report (DEAT Ref. No. 12/2/20/881)

7.3.2 Primary Data

Primary data was collected by means of site visits undertaken in October 2018 and household surveys. Collection of primary data allowed for key issues to be identified and correctly represented in the study. Primary data was also used to compliment secondary data used to compile the socio-economic baseline profile of the affected municipalities. The data was compared against the backdrop of the socio-economic profile of affected District and Local Municipalities. The primary methods used are discussed in more detail below.

- ***Site Visits***

An orientation site visit was undertaken to gain better understanding of the socio-economic context of the affected areas. The site visit was also used to identify affected households as well as meet with relevant community leaders (Chief and ward counsellor) for the purpose of introductions. The introductions involved introducing the SIA team, explaining what the team had come to do and finally requesting for permission to conduct the household surveys.

- ***Household Surveys***

A 'Household Survey' is the process of collecting and analysing data to help understand the general situation and specific characteristics of individual household or all households in the population. During a household survey, field researchers investigate and record facts, observations and experiences from sample households which are representative of all households in the study area. Tools used for collecting data include a series of questions, observation checklists and records of discussions.

For the purpose of this SIA, household surveys were conducted with all available households affected by the proposed Mfolozi-Mbewu multi circuit 765kv transmission line. Due to the significant probing required to understand key issues of the affected households, an interviewer-administered questionnaire was used to conduct the household surveys. The questionnaire was administered by field assistants in the local language by means of face-to-face interviews (**figure 7.1**) with all available affected households.

Figure 7.1: Face-to-face interviews with some of the affected households

The questionnaire was designed to collect both quantitative and qualitative data. The quantitative data was generated through the use of closed-ended questions, while the qualitative data was generated through the use of open-ended questions. The open-ended questions allowed respondents to talk in some depth about the issues raised, using their own words. The line of questioning enabled the interviewer to develop a real sense of the respondent's views and concerns regarding how they will be affected by the proposed Mfolozi-Mbewu multi circuit 765kv transmission line. The interview process increased validity because it gave the interviewer an opportunity to probe for additional information and ask for clarification on any issues raised. On average, 8 – 10 interviewer-administered questionnaires were completed per day.

For each household visited, the team began with an introduction. Each team member was introduced, followed by a brief explanation of the project and then the purpose of the visit. Following the introductions, permission to conduct interviews was requested from household members. The type of questions to be asked were explained to household members. All affected households gave consent for interviews to be conducted. Members of affected households were very welcoming and appreciated being consulted and given the opportunity to raise their concerns. The household members further appreciated being interviewed in their local language. This enabled them to have a clear understanding of the questions being asked and in return, able to express their views, concerns and expectations more effectively.

7.4 Identification of Impacts

A range of issues and potential social impacts of the proposed Mfolozi-Mbewu multi circuit 765kv power line were identified based on information obtained through household surveys conducted for the purposes of the SIA as well as specialist opinion. Additional impact information was obtained through a desktop social baseline.

7.4.1 Impact assessment criteria

The typical impact criteria used in EIA processes (outlined in **table 7.1**) was used to assess impacts. It is important to note that while these criteria provide the assessment process with a degree of consistency in reporting between the different specialist studies, in many cases social impact assessments do not lend themselves to the technocratic mechanistic approach adopted by traditional EIA assessment methods. In other words, these criteria do not always provide the most appropriate way of presenting the findings of a SIA. The assessment of significance must be guided by the comments received from the affected parties themselves together with the professional judgement of the specialist.

Adapting the impact criteria to SIA requires that the assessment be accompanied by a qualitative description of:

- The nature of the impact;
- The affected parties;
- The likely consequences of the intervention on the affected parties; and,
- The social change process and the likely social implications.

It is also important to bear I mind that the interpretation of social impacts is further complicated by the highly personal nature of such impacts. This type of information is difficult to capture in a table that seeks to summarise data. It is therefore recommended that in such a case, the assessment of impacts takes into account:

- Impact equity, with a clear statement indicating who stands to gain and who stands to lose out
- Vulnerable groups, with specific reference to how they will be affected by the proposed project, direct and indirect impacts

Table 7.1: Impact assessment criteria

Extent The physical and spatial scale of the impact.	On Site	Impact occurs on-site.
	Local	Impact occurs within 5km radium of the site.
	Regional	Impact occurs within a 100km radius of the site
	National	The impact could have an effect that expands throughout the country (South Africa). (Will have an impact on a national scale)
	International	Where the impact has international ramifications that extend beyond the boundaries of South Africa. (Will have an impact across international borders).
Duration The lifetime of the impact, that is measured in relation to the lifetime of the proposed development	Short Term	The impact will either disappear with mitigation or will be mitigated through a natural process in a period shorter than that of the construction phase. Short Term (e.g. 0 – 5 years)
	Medium Term	Reversible over time. Lifespan of the project. Medium term (5-15 years).
	Long Term	The impact will cease after the operational life span of the project), Long term (more than 15 years).
	Permanent	No mitigation measure of natural process will reduce the impact after construction.
Intensity Is the impact destructive or benign, does it destroy the impacted social environment, alters it?	Low	Low impact on community, including underrepresented, disadvantaged or vulnerable members of population. Impacts affect the social environment in such a way that cultural and/or social functions and processes are not affected.
	Medium	Medium impact on community, including underrepresented, disadvantaged or vulnerable members of population. Impacts affect the social environment in such a way that cultural and/or social functions and processes are altered.
	High	High impact on community, including underrepresented, disadvantaged or vulnerable members of population. Impacts affect the social environment in such a way that cultural and/or social functions and processes will temporarily or permanently cease.

Probability The likelihood of the impacts actually occurring. The impact may occur for any length of time during the life cycle of the activity, and not at any given time	Improbable	The possibility of the impact occurring is none, due either to the circumstances, design or experience. The chance of this impact occurring is zero (0%).
	Possible (Low probability)	The possibility of the impact occurring is very low, due either to the circumstances, design or experience. The chances of this impact occurring is defined as 25%
	Probable (Medium probability)	There is a possibility that the impact will occur to the extent that provisions must therefore be made. The chances of this impact occurring is defined as 50%.
	Highly Probable (High probability)	It is most likely that the impacts will occur at some stage of the development. Plans must be drawn up before carrying out the activity. The chances of this impact occurring is defined as 75%.
	Definite	The impact will take place regardless of any prevention plans, and only mitigation actions or contingency plans to contain the effect can be relied on. The chance of this impact occurring is defined as 100%.
Acceptability. Establishing acceptability is as important as determining significance. Level of acceptability depends on stakeholders, mainly those directly affected by the proposed project.	Low (Acceptable)	No risk
	Medium (Manageable)	With regulatory controls. With project proponent's commitments.
	High (Unacceptable)	Abandon project in part or in its entirety. Redesign project to remove or avoid impact.

Source: Adapted from the criteria provided by Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, 1998

7.4.2 Criteria for rating impact

Each aspect within an impact description was assigned a series of quantitative criteria. In order to establish a defined base upon which it becomes feasible to make an informed decision, it was necessary to weigh and rank all the identified criteria.

For each impact under scrutiny, a scaled weighting factor was attached to each respective impact. The purpose of assigning such weightings serve to highlight those aspects considered the most critical to the affected households and ensure that each specialist's element of bias is taken into account. The aspects considered to have a relatively high value will score a relatively higher weighting than that which is of lower importance (See **table 7.2** below: Weighting description).

Table 7.2: Rating description

Extent	On-site	1
	Local	2
	Regional	3
	National	4
	International	5
Duration	Short-term	1
	Medium-term	2
	Long-term	3
	Permanent	4
Intensity/severity	Low	1
	Medium	3
	High	5
Acceptability	Low (acceptable)	1
	Medium (manageable)	2
	High (unacceptable)	3
Probability /likelihood	Improbable	1
	Possible	2
	Probable	3
	Highly probable	4
	Definite	5

7.4.3 Determining significance

Determining significance is ultimately a judgement call. Significance determination makes judgments about what is important, desirable or acceptable (Stamps, 1997). It also interprets degrees of importance.

The significance of impacts was determined through a synthesis of the aspects produced in terms of their extent, duration, intensity, acceptability and probability. Using the sum of the evaluated ranking within **Table 7.2**, the overall significance is classified as follows **(table 7.3).**

Table 7.3: Significance Rating

Significance Rating		
Low	Impact is of a low order and therefore likely to have little real effect. In the case of adverse impacts, mitigation is either easily achieved or little will be required, or both. Social, cultural and economic activities of communities can continue unchanged.	**5 -11**
Medium	Impact is real and of importance. It is therefore considered to have a negative impact. Mitigation is required to reduce the negative impacts to acceptable levels. In the case of adverse impacts, mitigation is both feasible and fairly easily possible. Social, cultural and economic activities of communities are changed, but can be continued (albeit in a different form).	**12 - 17**
High	The impact is of major importance. Failure to mitigate, with the objective of reducing the impact to acceptable levels, could render the entire development option or entire project proposal unacceptable. Mitigation is therefore essential. In the case of adverse impacts, there is no possible mitigation that could offset the impact, or mitigation is difficult, expensive, time-consuming or some combination of these. Social, cultural and economic activities of communities are disrupted to such an extent that these come to a halt.	**18 - 23**
No significance	The impact is not substantial and does not require any mitigation action	**<5**

7.4.4 Status/Nature

The status refers to whether an impact will be positive or negative.

7.4.5 Mitigation

The impacts that are generated by the development can be minimised if measures are implemented in order to reduce the impacts.

8 SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE OF AFFECTED DISTRICT AND LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES

This section provides the socio-economic context of the affected District and Local Municipalities. This is important for understanding the context of the communities and people who will be affected by the proposed project.

8.1 Socio-economic Overview of Zululand DM and Afected LM

8.1.1 Overview of Zululand DM and Ulundi LM

Based on the Zululand Integrated Development Plan Review 2018/2019, Zululand District Municipality is located on the northern regions of the KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa (**Figure 1.1**). It covers an area of approximately 14,810 km². Zululand is surrounded by: Amajuba, Gert Sibande in Mpumalanga, the kingdom of Swaziland, uMkhanyakude, uMzinyathi and uThungulu District Municipalities. The district comprises the following five local municipalities: eDumbe, uPhongolo, AbaQulusi, Nongoma and Ulundi. Approximately half of Zululand District is under the jurisdiction of traditional authorities while the remainder is divided between commercially-owned farms and conservation areas.

The south-eastern part of the Municipal Area, a small portion to the central-west and portion in the central-north constitutes Ingonyama Trust Land. It is particularly the Ulundi and Nongoma LMs that have large tracts of Ingonyama Trust Land upon which scattered, relatively low density rural settlement is evident. The remaining areas are mainly used for commercial farming and are in private ownership. Vryheid and Ulundi are the major towns and the seat of Zululand is Ulundi. Vryheid is a commercial and business centre, while Ulundi is an administrative centre with the seat of the District Municipality and a well-equipped airport.

Zululand remains one of the poorest districts in South Africa in part due to its history as a marginalized homeland area. More than 5.2 million people or 49% of KZN's population is considered to be living in poverty. Zululand contributes 602,895 or 11.5% to that figure and has a poverty rate of 65.8%. The majority of Zululand's impoverished population resides in AbaQulisi and Nongona local municipalities.

Ulundi will be the affected Local Municipality in Zululand. Ulundi LM is a major heritage hub located on the southern boundary of the Zululand District Municipality in northeastern KwaZulu-Natal (**figure 4.1**). The Ulundi municipal area is approximately 3,250 km2 in extent and includes the towns and settlements of Ulundi, Nqulwane, Mahlabathini, Babanango, Mpungamhlophe and Ceza as well as the Traditional Authorities of Buthelezi (KwaPhindangene), Buthelezi (Empithimpithini), Mbatha, Mpungose, Ndebele, Ntombela, Mlaba, Zungu, Zulu (KwaNsimbi).

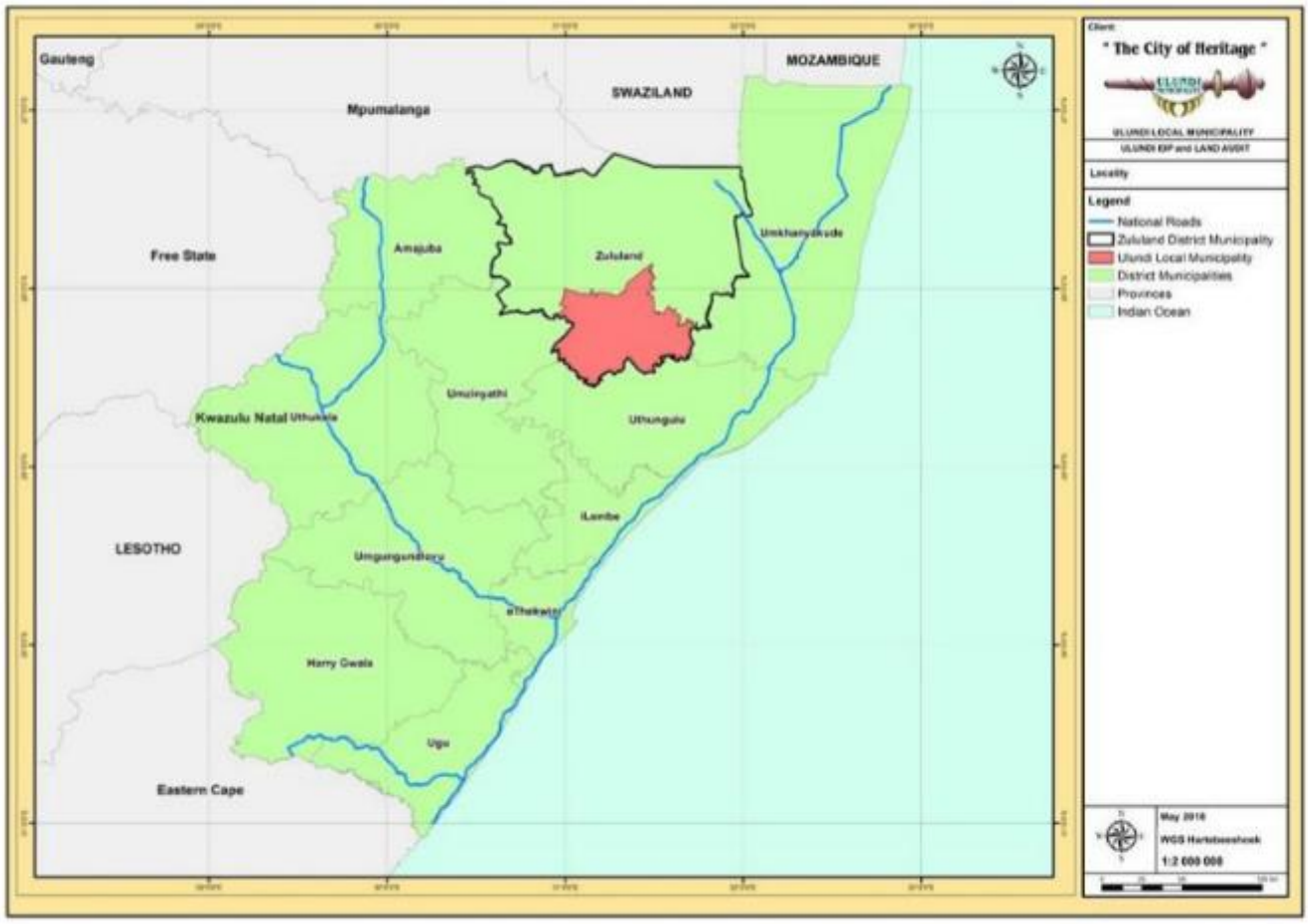


Figure 8.1: Location of Ulundi LM
Source: Ulundi LM IDP 2018

Ulundi LM is predominantly rural and underdeveloped, with very few settlements exhibiting urban characteristics. Approximately half of the LM area consists of commercial farms. The LM supports a substantial agricultural community. The town of Ulundi represents the only urban centre in the Ulundi Local Municipal area and accommodates approximately 40,000 people. The settlement pattern reveals a high population concentration in the town of Ulundi and densely populated peri-urban area surrounding the town and along the main routes R34, R66 and P700.The population distribution pattern coincides with land ownership. People are mainly settled in a low density scattered settlement pattern on the Ingonyama Trust land in the eastern part of the Municipal Area.

The spatial structure of Ulundi LM is characterized by significant natural and man-made structuring elements. These include:

- The White uMfolozi River traversing the Municipality from the higher lying areas in the north-west to the lower lying areas in the south-east;

- The mountainous, higher lying areas in the western part of the Municipality and the lower lying areas in the eastern half of the Municipality;

- The R34 (P47) Main Road from Melmoth to Vryheid, traversing from south-central to north-west through the Municipal Area;

- The R66 (P52) main road linking up with the R34 (P47) main road in the south-central part of the Municipality, traversing through the town of Ulundi to Nongoma town to the east of the Municipal Area;

- Babanango, which developed as a result of the forestry industry;

- The Vryheid to Richards Bay railway line traversing the Ulundi Municipal area from the north-west to the southeast.

8.1.2 Population Profile

As documented in the final IDP review 2018 – 2019, Zululand District has a population of 892,310, accounting for about 7.8% of the total KZN population after UMgungundlovu District [1,100,000] and King Cetshwayo District [980,000]. The population growth rate is said to be similar to that of its neighbouring districts ranging between 1.4% and 1.6%. Between 2011 and 2016, the Zululand growth rate rose from 1.2% to 1.4% which is on par with its neighbouring districts. The Zululand District Municipality contributes 22% to the provinces population with a relatively high young population. Infants (0-14) 38% and youth (15-34) 38% makes up 76% of the district population. 54% of the District population is in the age group 0-19 years. The age distribution in the District is larger for children 0-9 years at 28% and 26% for those aged 10- 19 years. This suggests that the majority of the District's population is still in school.

The population within Ulundi LM is approximately 205 762 as per the 2016 Community Survey. Ulundi LM is the third largest, in population size, within the Zululand District Municipality. The population within Ulundi LM increased from 188 585 in 2011 to 205 762 People in 2016. It contributes approximately 23% to the total district population. Highlighted in **table 4.1** below is a brief summary of the population dynamics within the Zululand District Municipality.

Table 8.1: Population Dynamics within the Zululand District Municipality.

INDICATOR	ZULULAND	ULUNDI	NONGOMA	OPHONGOLO	EDUMBE	ABAQULUSI
Area (km²)	14 810	3250	2182	3239	1943	4185
Population (2016)	892,310	205,762	211,892	143,845	89,615	241,196
Sex ratio (M to F)%	86.3	82.4	83.2	88.5	88.2	86.3
Households	178,516	38,553	36,409	34,667	17,415	51,472
People/Household %	5.1	5.3	5.6	4.4	5	4.8

Urban Households %	19	15	3	14	31	38
Rural Households %	81	85	97	86	69	62
Child (0-14yrs) %	39.5	9.64	10.42	6.38	4.18	9.88
Youth (15-34yrs)	341,909	79,508	81,728	58,066	33,922	95,936
Adults (35-64) %	19.9	7.45	7.14	4.84	3.32	9.10
Unemployed %	31.2	38.3	38.5	26.4	29.9	25.9

Source: Community Survey 2016 (StatsSA)

8.1.3 Gender structure

As depicted in **figure 8.2**, Zululand DM has a slightly higher proportion of females (53%) than the male (47%) proportion. The gender profile within Ulundi LM is dominated by females that constitute 54,83% with males that constitute 45,17% as per the 2016 Community Survey. Generally, the province of KwaZulu-Natal has a marginally higher proportion of females to males.

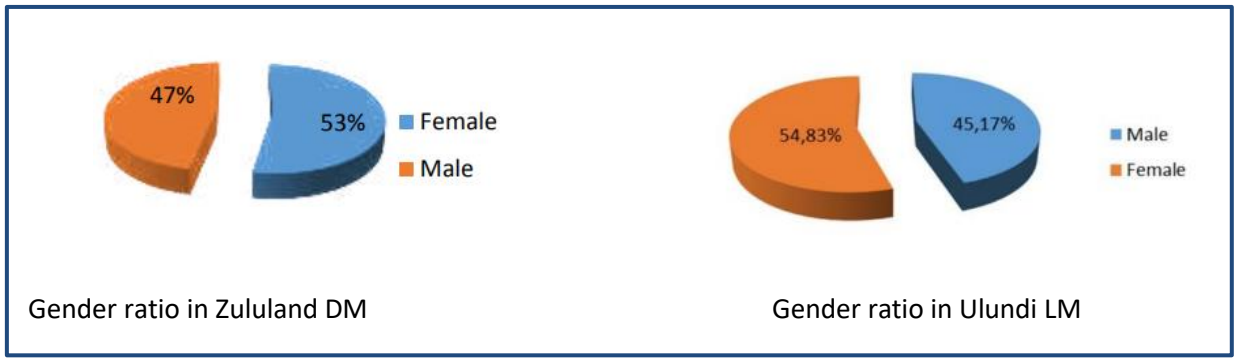


Figure 8.2: Gender ration in Zululand DM and Ulundi LM

8.1.4 Education

The census data shown in **Figure 8.3 and Table 8.2** indicates that there is still a very high incidence of no schooling in the district and a very low incidence of completed higher or tertiary education.

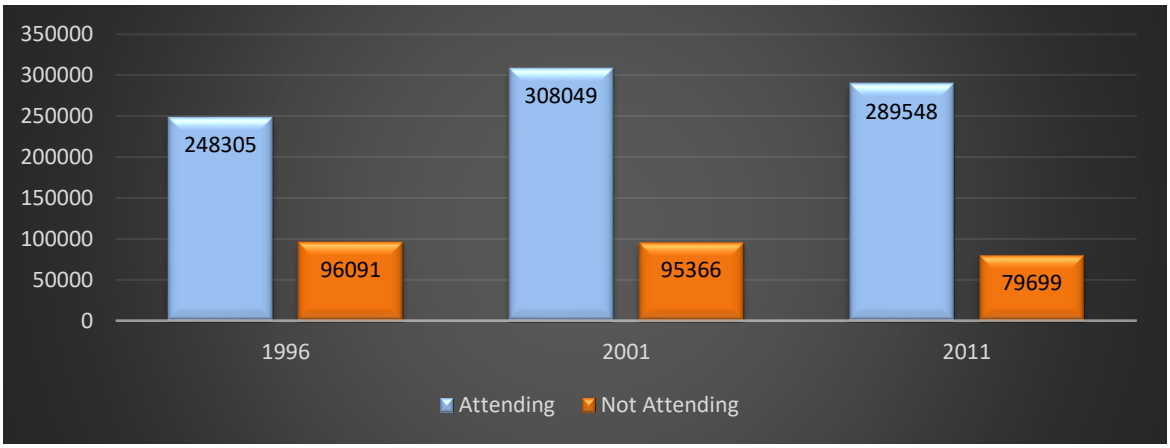


Figure 8.3: School Attendance in Zululand District Municipality

Source: Zululand District Municipality IDP Review, 2018

Table 8.2: Education levels in Zululand District

Education Levels	Number
No Schooling	81 939
Some Primary	237 876
Completed Primary	39 386
Some Secondary	186 587
Grade 12/Standard 10	115 438
Higher	20 954
Unspecified	543
N/A	120 861

Source: Census 2011

8.1.5 Local economy and employment

Zululand District has a lack of large economic investments to boost the local economy. Up to the late 1990s the District's economy was dependent on heavy coal mining. As a result of the open markets on coal mining (and agriculture) the economy of the area has declined. The potential for economic growth in Zululand lies in tourism and agriculture. The former has started to play a larger role in the economy of the area, this by no means fills the gap caused by the closure of mines. The mines had significant forward and backward linkages on all the economic sectors, particularly in Vryheid and surrounding areas.

Good agricultural potential exists in the western highlands and the eDumbe Municipality has very high potential as has most of the Abaqulusi municipality. High potential in the Phongola valley is as a result of irrigation opportunities that have been developed in this area. The deep low altitude river valleys of Pongolo and Mfolozi Rivers provide an excellent opportunity for intensive agricultural production where irrigation is available where sugar cane and out of season vegetables and sub-tropical fruits can be planted. Agricultural potential outside these valleys is limited to stock and game farming.

High unemployment undermines the equitable distribution of income and underpins poverty. At 31%, unemployment in Zululand is unsustainably high and is having the negatively impact of discouraging people from spending the time and money to actively search for jobs. Nongoma and Ulundi Local Municipalities have the highest unemployment rates of 38.5% and 38.3% respectively.

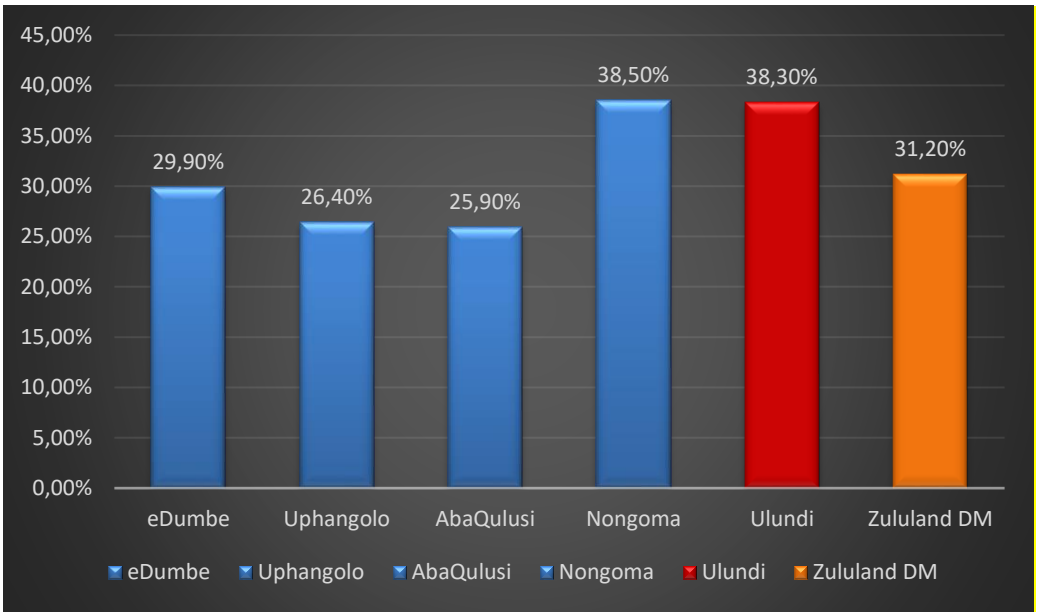


Figure 8.4: Unemployment rate by Local Municipality
Source: Zululand District Municipality IDP Review, 2018

There were about 829,484 people in the district in 2015 with a total labour force of 151 338. Only 159 930 of the people were considered economically active. This indicates that there is a large number of people that are economically inactive in the district, hence the labour force participation rate of 32.9% which indicates that only 33% of the working age population are engaged in actual employment or are actively seeking work.

The table 4.3 below depicts Employment Levels per Local Municipality.

Table 4.3: Employment Levels per Municipality

Indicator	eDumbe	Uphongolo	Abaqulusi	Nongoma	**Ulundi**	**Zululand**
Employment	10 679	11 756	38 473	14 087	19 723	94 717
Unemployment	4 770	7 910	11 938	10 012	11 848	46 477
Economically Active Population	60 184	95 896	165 020	136 603	138 977	596 680
Labour Force Participation	25.7%	20.5%	30.5%	17.6%	22.7%	23.7%
Unemployment Rate	29.9%	26.4%	25.9%	38.5%	38.3%	31.2%

Source: Source: Zululand District Municipality IDP Review, 2018

8.1.6 Overview of other Socio-Economic indicators

The **table 8.3** below provides a summary of other key indicators for the District

Table 8.3: summary of other key indicators for Zululand District

	Zululand DM
Dwelling Type	
Percentage Households that are Informal Dwelling	1.21%
Percentage Households that are Traditional Dwelling	25.03%
Total Percentage Households with Traditional and Informal Dwelling	26.24%
Sources of Water	
Percentage of Population whose sources water is from Boreholes	6.14%
Percentage of Population without piped water schemes	56.43%
Percentage of Population that source water from Service Providers (e.g. Municipalities)	43.57%
Percentage of Population that sources water from Water Tanks	4.47%
Electricity Usage	
Percentage of households that use alternatives to electricity for cooking	45.28%

	Zululand DM
Percentage of households that use alternatives to electricity for cooking, heating or lighting	29.39%
Sanitation	
Percentage Population with flush toilets	17.48%
Percentage Population using pit latrines	45.60%
Percentage of Population with no toilet facilities	21.25%
Percentage of Population with other toilet facilities	15.67%
Refuse	
Percentage of Households with no rubbish disposal	12.49%
Percentage of households with refuse removed by local authority/private company	18.22%

Source: Zululand District Municipality IDP 2018

8.2 King Cetshwayo District Municipality (Previously Uthungula District Municipality)

8.2.1 District Overview[4]

King Cetshwayo District Municipality is a category C municipality and is located in the north eastern region of the KwaZulu-Natal Province on the eastern seaboard of South Africa (**Figure 1.1**). It covers an area of approximately 8213 square kilometres, from the agricultural town of Gungundlovu in the south, to the UMfolozi River in the north and inland to the mountainous beauty of rural Nkandla. The district is a home to five local municipalities: uMhlathuze, uMlalazi, Mthonjaneni, Nkandla, UMfolozi. It has the third highest population (with an estimated 971 135 people) in the province after the eThekwini Metro (Durban) and the uMgungundlovu district (Pietermaritzburg and surrounds).

Generally, King Cetshwayo District has a good climate and an abundance of natural resources although severe drought has affected the District negatively in the past two or so years in terms of agricultural productivity. The available arable land is suitable for large-scale agricultural initiatives, like the current sugar and forestry as well as specialised and intensive agricultural opportunities like natural oils and fruits cultivation. The intrinsic beauty and cultural heritage of the area enhances the opportunities for tourism in the district. The terrain of King Cetshwayo DM varies from the flat coastal belt, to the escarpment 900m above sea level mainly inland,

[4] King Cetshwayo Integrated Development Plan (IDP) 2018/19-2021/22

which drastically increases the cost of provision of piped services especially, water and sanitation.

Some 80% of the population is rural and 53% is aged between 0 and 19 years. Women make up 53% of the population due to migration patterns associated with the province in general and there are large disparities in settlement concentrations. The challenge is to provide basic services such as water and sanitation to these people while stimulating local economic development, job creation and the growth of the small and medium business sector. The need to address poverty is one of the most critical issues.

Mthonjaneni LM will be the most affected by the proposed Mfolozi-mbewu multi circuit 765kv power line. Mthonjaneni Local Municipality is a Category B municipality situated within the northern coastal region of KwaZulu-Natal (**Figure 4.5**), and is part of the King Cetshwayo District. It is approximately 170km north of Durban. It is one of five Local Municipalities in the district. The area relies heavily on agriculture as its primary source of revenue, with sugar cane, timber and cattle farming forming the bulk of activities. There are significant areas of large commercial farms and forestry as well as subsistence agriculture.

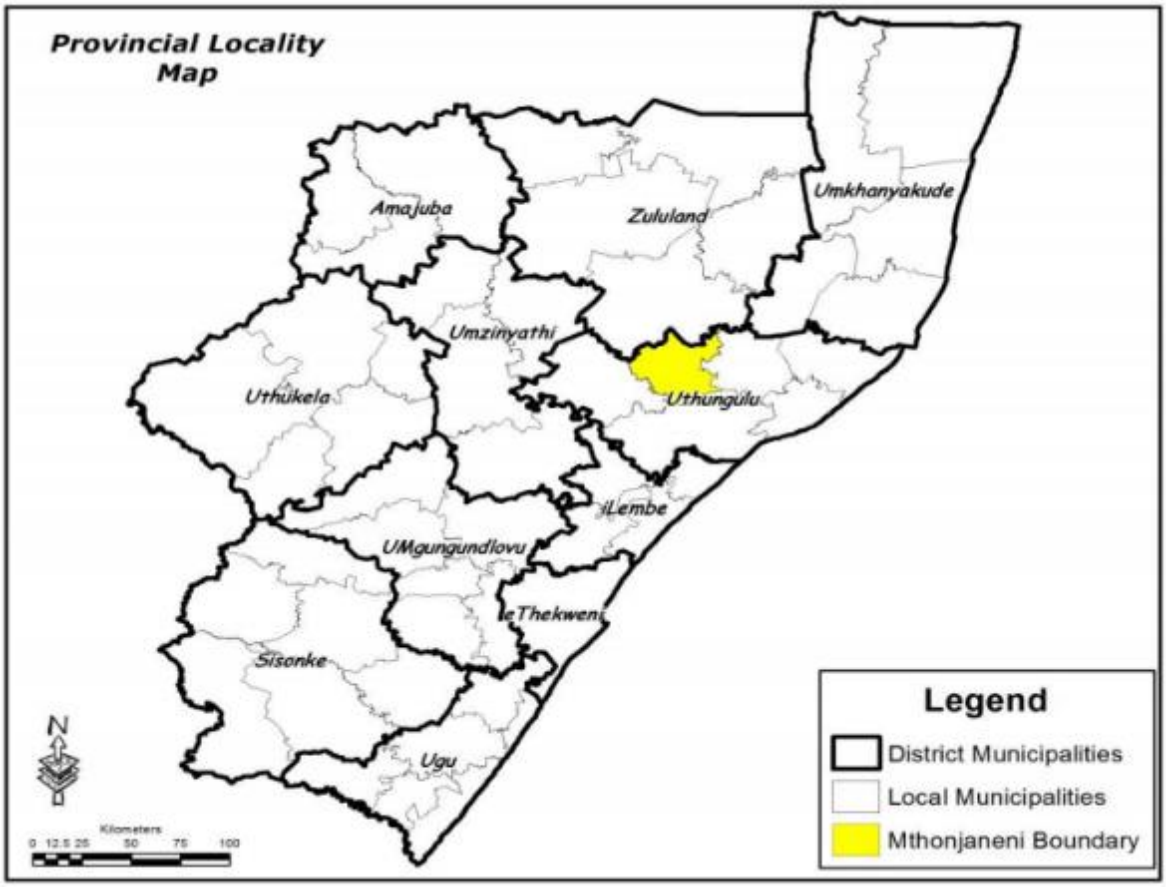


Figure 8.5: Location of Mthonjaneni
Source: Mthonjaneni LM IDP 2017

Only 1 household in uMfolozi will be affected by the proposed project. The uMfolozi Local Municipality is a Category B municipality that also forms part of the King Cetshwayo DM. It is one of the five municipalities that make up the district. It is one of the poor municipalities in the province, with more than 90 % of the population being dependent on subsistence farming for survival. As per 2016 community survey, it has a population of 144 363. The average household size for uMfolozi is 5 persons per household.

8.2.2 Demographics

Table 4.5 highlights the general overview of the population dynamics in King Cetshwayo DM.

Table 8.4: Population dynamics in King Cetshwayo DM

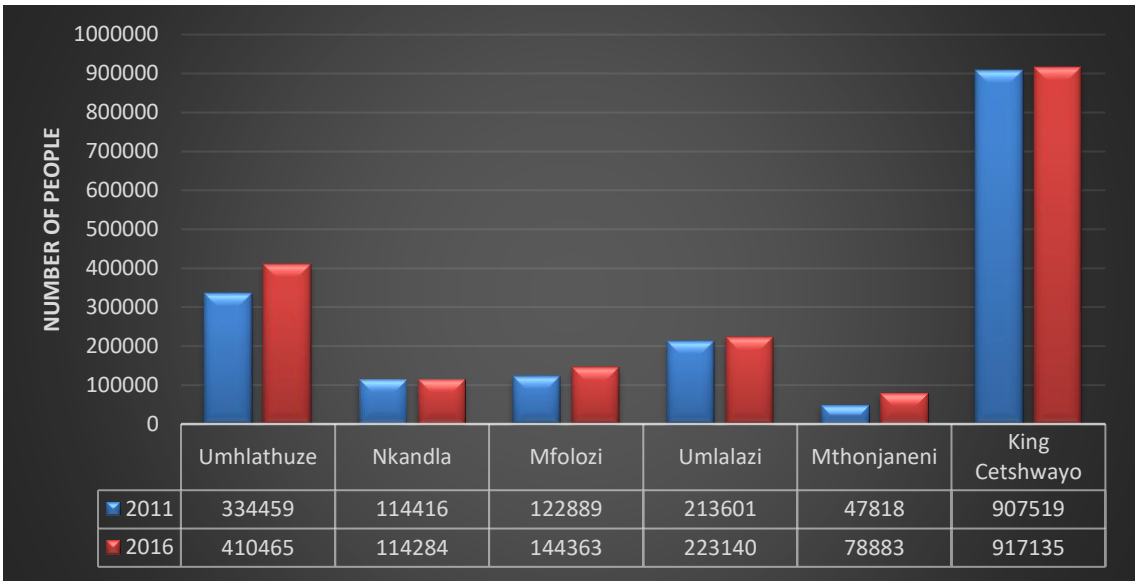
INDICATOR	KING CETSHWAYO MUNICIPALITY
Area	8 213 km²
Population	917 135
Households	225 797
Number of settlements	1 318 (WSDP 2007)
Urban areas	2 major, 3 minor, 4 rural centres
% rural population	80% (162 381 households)
% urban population	20% (40 595 households)
Gender breakdown	Males 459 832
	Females 511 302
Age breakdown	0 – 14 (387 358)
	15 – 34 (345 805)
	35-64 (176 455)
	65 + (61515)
Life expectancy	2006 43.1 years (IDP 2012)
	2011 57.1 years

Source: Stats SA Community Survey 2016

The total population of King Cetshwayo District Municipality is 971 315 according to the Community Survey conducted by Statistics SA in 2016. The population of King Cetshwayo District Municipality reflected in **figure 8.6** presents the population changes over time for the DM and its local municipalities.

According to the latest national census conducted in 2011 a total population of 47 818 people reside in Mthonjaneni. Based on Stats SA Community Survey 2016, this number has increased to 78883 as reflected in **Figure 8.6**. The population increase has been significant. The significant population growth for Mthonjaneni LM is attributed to the demarcation of Ntambanana where four wards were amalgamated into Mthonjaneni. There is also noticeable population growth for Mfolozi LM. From 2011 and 2016 the population grew from 122 889 to 144

363 between. The main contributor to such a swift population growth became the liquidation of the former Ntambanana local municipality.



	Umhlathuze	Nkandla	Mfolozi	Umlalazi	Mthonjaneni	King Cetshwayo
2011	334459	114416	122889	213601	47818	907519
2016	410465	114284	144363	223140	78883	917135

Figure 8.6: Population by District and Local Municipality, 2011 and 2016.
Source: Stats SA Community Survey 2016

King Cetshwayo age profile indicated that the majority of the population, approximately 60%, is between the ages of 15 and 64 with children accounting for about 36% of the population. The elderly only makes up about 4.2% of the population. In addition, more than 50% of the population is younger than 19 years.

8.2.3 Gender Ratio

Figure 8.7 depicts the male: female ratio in King Cetshwayo district for the respective age cohorts. From the age of 0 – 29, the male population is higher than the female population. From the age of 29 and above, the female population outnumbers the male population. This results in the female population becoming significantly higher than the male population – a phenomenon that could be attributed to migration patterns associated with the province in general.

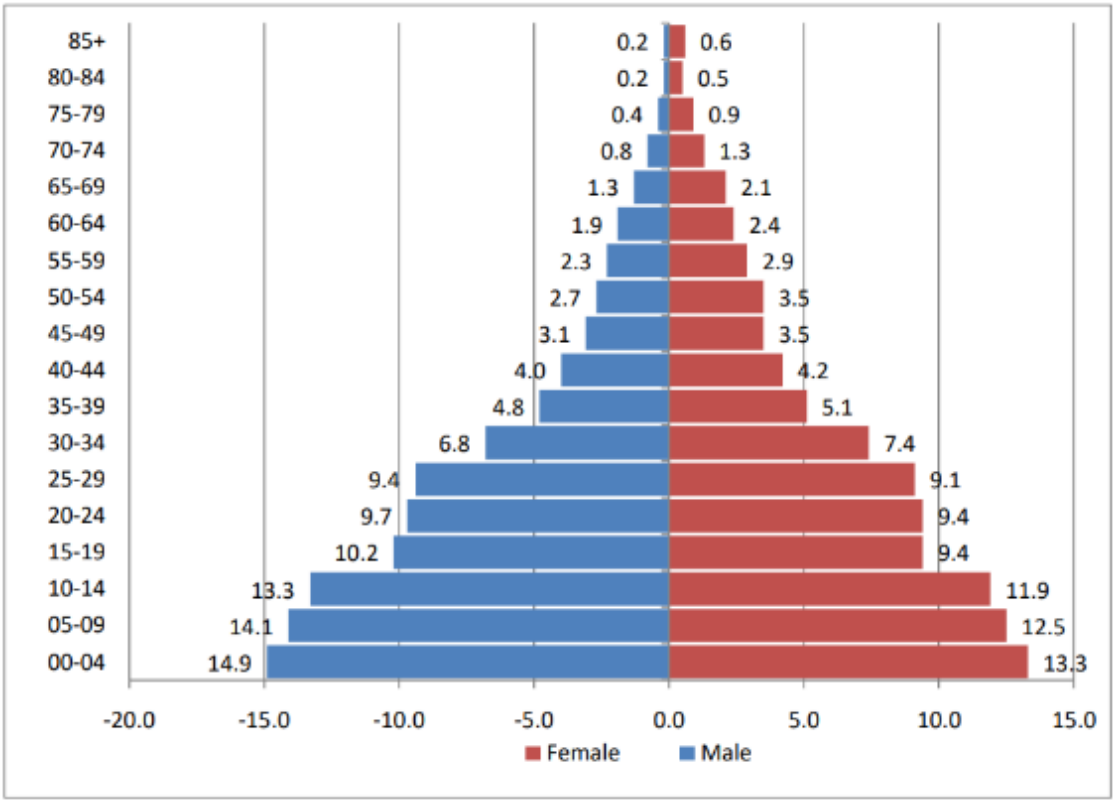


Figure 8.7: ***Gender Composition of King Cetshwayo's Population***
Source: Stats SA Community Survey 2016

In Mthonjaneni LM, there is an overrepresentation of females, with females accounting for 53.8% of the municipal population in 2011, whilst males only accounts for 46.5%. Mfolozi also has more females than males. The Local Municipality is dominated by a relatively young female population (especially between the ages 20 and older).

8.2.4 Education

There has been a decline in the higher education levels of the District Municipality. There appears to be an improved access to primary education, and numbers of learners not attending school dropped significantly (**Table 8.5**).

Table 8.5: School Attendance in King Cetshwayo District Municipality

	No Schooling		Higher Education		Matric		Primary Education	
	2001	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011
Uthungulu	31.6	15.7	5.8	4.2	18.3	29.5	88.3	89.6
Umhlathuze	18.5	7.2	10.9	7.3	27.6	36.9	90.1	91.7

Nkandla	49.8	28.8	2.5	1.7	11.5	21.0	88.7	86.7
Mfolozi	29.6	14.6	2.3	1.2	14.5	30.3	89.3	88.2
Ntambanana	38.0	21.2	1.5	0.8	10.4	23.1	86.4	91.3
Umlalazi	39.2	22.5	3.5	2.9	13.2	22.9	87.0	88.9
Mthonjaneni	37.3	23.3	3.9	2.3	14.7	22.1	85.6	88.9

Source: Census 2011

8.2.5 Local economy and employment

Significant economic centres at the district and provincial levels are Richards Bay and Empangeni. Richards Bay, as a harbour and industrial town, attracts people from surrounding towns, rural settlements and from beyond the district. Empangeni's role as an industrial, commercial and service centre to the settlements of Esikhaleni, Eshowe, Nkandla, and other rural settlements attracts many people to the range of higher order services available in the town.

According to statistics, it is noted that the vast majority of economic performance (41.8%) in the district is vested in uMhlathuze Local Municipality with its primary urban centres being Richards Bay and Empangeni. This area is the third most important in the province of KwaZulu-Natal in terms of economic production and contributes 9.1% of the total GGP and 8.5% of the total employment (formal and informal) in 2010.

King Cetshwayo offers highly favourable agricultural conditions as it has extremely fertile soils, good rainfall and enjoys an excellent, frost-free climate all year round. A wide variety of bio-climatic conditions is on offer across the district, from the mountainous area of Nkandla down to the coastline. The agricultural sector is a dual economy, consisting of commercial agriculture on one hand and traditional agriculture on the other. The commercial agricultural economy is based on the sugar and forestry industries. Traditional agriculture is practiced on most of the tribal lands in the district and has enormous potential for growth with agriculture as a niche area.

8.2.6 Overview of other Socio-Economic indicators

Presented in **table 8.6** is an overview of other Socio-Economic indicators

Table 8.6: Overview of other Socio-Economic indicators

	King Cetshwayo
Employment (between 15 and 64)	
Employed	26.92%
Not economically active	50.08%

	King Cetshwayo
Unemployed	14.31%
Discouraged work-seeker	8.70%
Household Dynamics	
Households	202968
Average household size	4.47
Percentage households involved in agricultural activities	36.90%
Dwelling Type	
Percentage Households that are Informal Dwelling	2.34%
Percentage Households that are Traditional Dwelling	26.79%
Combined Percentage Households that are Traditional and Informal Dwelling	29.13%
Sources of Water	
Percentage of Population that sources water from Boreholes	3.58%
Percentage of Population that do not source water from piped water schemes	36.79%
Percentage of Population that source water from Service Providers (e.g. Municipalities)	63.21%
Percentage of Population that sources water from Water Tanks	7.12%
Electricity Usage	
Percentage of households that use alternatives to electricity for cooking	36.67%
Percentage of households that use alternatives to electricity for cooking, heating or lighting	22.93%
Sanitation	
Percentage Population with flush toilets	23.68%
Percentage Population using pit latrines	43.93%
Percentage of Population with no toilet facilities	13.19%
Percentage of Population with other toilet facilities	19.20%
Refuse	
Percentage of Households with no rubbish disposal	12.74%

	King Cetshwayo
Percentage of households with refuse removed by local authority/private company	23.32%

Source: King Cetshwayo District Municipality IPD 2017

9 SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE OF SURVEYED AFFECTED HOUSEHOLDS

Social and economic characteristics of affected households are described in this section to inform the impact assessment. The social and economic characteristics of affected households described in this section are based on the household surveys conducted in October 2018.

9.1 Affected Households

Aproximatly a total number of 64 households will be affected by the planned relocation. Only 1 household was indentified in Mfolozi LM, 51 households in Ulundi LM and 12 households in Mthonjaneni LM.

Depicted in **table 9.1** are the affected District and Local Municipalities, wards, villages, number of households (include abandoned households) and Ruins.

Table 9.1: District and local municipalities, Wards, affected villages and structures

DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY (DM)	LOCAL MUNICIPALITY (LM)	WARD	AFFECTED VILLAGES	NUMBER OF AFFECTED HOUSEHOLDS/ ABANDONED STRUCTURES/RUINS
Zululand (DM) Rural Households % 81	Ulundi (LM) Rural Households % 85	14	Njomelwane	• 51 Households. • 2 Transnet structures • 1 Chicken community project • 1 grave yard
		24	Nkonjane	
		20	Nhlungwane	
		20	Kwagqikazi	
		20	Esangoyane	
		24	Nhlungwane-Bhongisilwane	
King Cetshwayo (DM) Rural Households % 80	Mthonjaneni (LM) Rural Households % 84	13	Maduma Reserve	• 12 households. • 1 Church
		13	Chibigoje	
		30	Debe	
	uMfolozi	17	Mathunzini Reserve	• 1Household

Of the 51 households that will be affected in Ulundi LM, 6 were completely abandoned and14 had no one available for interview. The total number of households interviewed in Ulundi LM

was 31. Of the 12 households identified in Mthonjaneni LM, 1 was completely abandoned and had no one available for interview. The total number of households interviewed in Mthonjaneni LM was 11. **Table 9.2** below presents abandoned households and households that had no one available for interview. Following the field visit, phone calls were made to reach households that had no one available for interview, two people declined the interview and the rest could not be reached.

Table 9.2: Households not interviewed and abandoned households

	Name and Surname	Local Municipality	Contact Number	Coordinates	Status
1	Jabulani Stanford Zulu	Mthonjaneni	0719317195	S28'27'04.7 E31'42'10.0	Not available for interview
2	Zinhle Bonakele Shezi	Ulundi	076 187 4105	S28'23'08.8 E31'37'43.7	Not available for interview
3	Dudu Regina Bhengu	Ulundi	071 433 7827/ 082 396 5488	S28'23'07.1 E31'37'45'9	Not available for interview
4	Jefrey Mzomuhle Buthelezi	Ulundi	079 851 5339	S28'20'01.6 E31'34'17.7	Not available for interview
5	Innocent Nkosinathi Majola	Ulundi	072 278 3794	S28'19'58.9 E31'34'07.4	Not available for interview
6	Ntaki Rebecca Zungu	Ulundi	082 095 8331	S28'17'41.8 E31'28'16.2	Not available for interview
7	Sbusiso Zulu	Ulundi	073 330 0715	S28'17'37.8 E31'28'10.0	Not available for interview
8	Muhle Martin Mkhize	Ulundi	084 894 7276/ 073 822 6981	S28'17'20.9 E31'28'01.4	Not available for interview
9	Mrs Gumede	Ulundi	No number	S28'16'44.8 E31'27'38.0	Not available for interview
10	Sam B Mbatha	Ulundi	082 715 8722/ 071 973 5812	S28'16'44.2 E31'27'37.4	Not available for interview
11	Lifina & Nduna majola	Ulundi	078 061 1397/ 078 670 5497	S28'17'37.8 E31'28'10.0	Not available for interview
12	Vikimani Christian Mnyandu	Ulundi	0760589082 /076 301 0890	S28'16'41.4 E31'27'36.0	Not available for interview
13	Mduduzi Nxumalo	Ulundi	N/A	S28’19' 41.3 E31’33' 22.3	Not available for interview
14	Qinisani Nxumalo	Ulundi	N/A	S 28’19' 41.3 E 31’33' 22.3	Not available for interview
15	Zandile Mhlongo	Ulundi	N/A	S 28’19' 41.3 E 31’33' 22.3	Not available for interview
16	No name	Ulundi	N/A	S 28’20' 07.5 E 31’34' 19.2	Abandoned
17	No name	Ulundi	N/A	S 28’19' 16.9 E 31’31' 22.0	Abandoned
18	No name	Ulundi	N/A	S 28’17' 41.7 E 31’28' 16.4	Abandoned

19	No name	Ulundi	N/A	S 28’17' 39.4 E 31’28' 14.5	Abandoned
20	No name	Ulundi	N/A	S 28’17' 37.5 E 31’28' 09.6	Abandoned

9.2 Demographic Dynamics of Surveyed Households

Table 9.3 presents the demographic dynamics of surveyed households as discussed in this section.

Table 9.3: Population Dynamics of surveyed households in Ulundi and Mthonjaneni LM

INDICATOR	ULUNDI LM		MTHONJANENI LM		Mfolozi
Number of surveyed households	31		11		1
Gender break down of Household heads	Male: 11 Female: 20		Male: 5 Female: 4		Female household head
Age category of household heads	20 - 30	4	20 - 30	3	Age of household head 76
	31 - 40	3	31 - 40	0	
	41 - 50	7	41 - 50	3	
	51 - 60	8	51 - 60	2	
	61 - 70	2	61 - 70	1	
	71 - 80	2	71 - 80	1	
	81 - 90	1	81 - 90	0	
Highest level of education for Household heads	Grade 12		Grade 10		Grade 6
Average People per Household	9		8		Household size 7
Children below the age of 18	122		26		2
Adults over the age of 18	172		41		5
Total number of people to be affected	294		67		7

- *Only 1 household was surveyed in Mfolozi LM*

9.2.1 Gender Ratio of household heads

In general, the gender ratio of household heads is dominated by females. As highlighted in **figure 5.1** below, a total of 25 surveyed households are headed by women while 15 are headed by men. This is no surprise as the gender profile within the Province of Kwazulu Natal and its District and Local Municipalities is dominated by females. In Ulundi LM the women constitute 54,83% while men constitute 45,17% as per 2016 Community Survey. In Ulundi the statistics further show that the number of female headed-households increased from 54,8% in 2001 to 58.8% in 2011. In Mthonjaneni LM, as per 2011 national population census, women account for

53.8% of the municipal population, while men account for 46.5%. In uMfolozi LM, women constitute 52% and men 48%.

During the survey, it was established that in cases where the household head is male, the male is absent from the home. Given the responsibility of providing financially for the family, most male household heads migrate to major cities in search of job opportunities. The women are then left behind to care for the household. Apart from caring for children and the sick, the women also become responsible for all the heavy outdoor chores while also providing safety to their families.

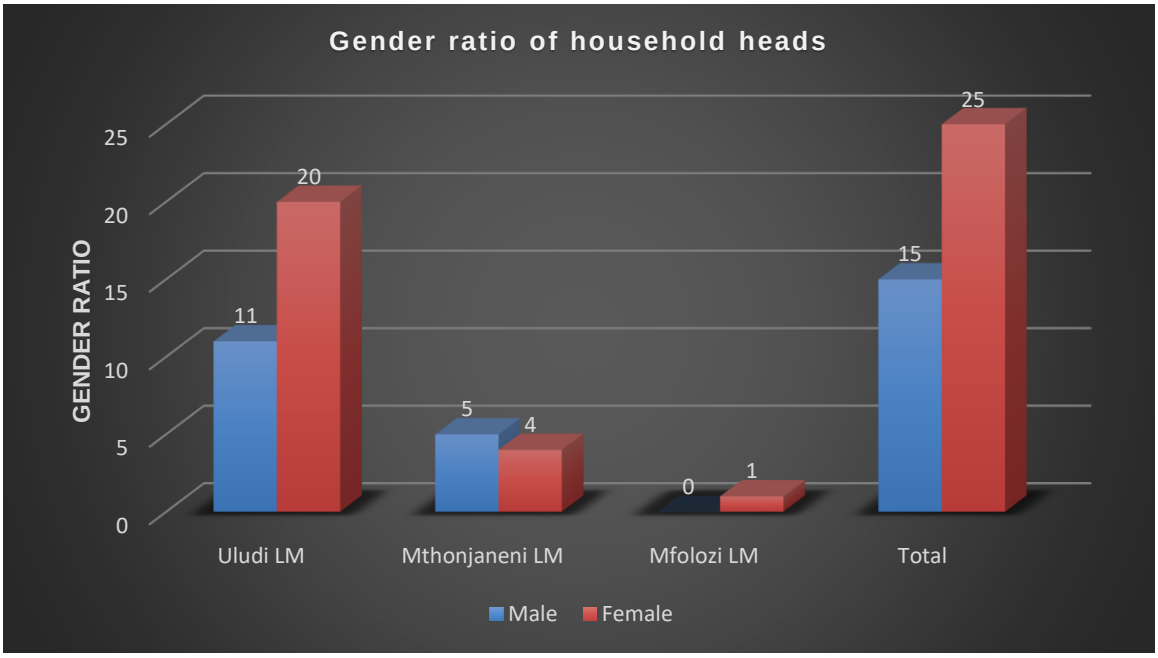


Figure 9.1: Gender ratio of household heads

9.2.2 Age distribution of household-heads

As indicated in **table 9.3**, the age of household-heads varied from 20 to 90 years. The majority of household heads were between the ages of 41 and 60.

9.2.3 Education Level of household-heads.

The highest level of education for majority (8) of household-heads in Ulundi LM is grade 12. A total number of 15 household-heads in Ulundi indicated they had no formal education. In Mthonjaneni LM the highest level of education for household-heads is grade 10. Two household-heads in Mthonjaneni LM reported they had no formal education. The highest level of education for the household-head in Mfolozi is grade 6.

During the household surveys, it was also established that in general, the level of education among affected household members in Uludi, Mthonjaneni and Mfolozi LM is very low. Most surveyed affected households have family members that are educated up to Grade 12 (Matric

level). In comparison to the general DM and LM statistics, the prevalence of low education levels is evident. The figures also indicate that there are still very high incidences of no schooling in the district and local municipalities.

The implication for low levels of education or no education is the impact on the ability of the local population to compete for employment opportunities. In the case of the proposed project, the local population may fail to take advantage of employment opportunities that maybe generated. The project contractors may have to consider non-local labour on the basis that energy construction projects often require skilled labour. This could result in community dissatisfaction and labour unrest.

9.2.4 Average Household size of surveyed households

The average household size of surveyed households in Ulundi LM is 8 while in Mthonjaneni LM it is 9. The affected household (only 1) in Mfolozi has 7 household members. The average household size of affected surveyed households was found to be high. This was mainly attributed to high number of school going children and unemployed youth. As already reflected by the DM and LM statistics, the number of children and youth is very high. This is an indication of a very young population. Among the surveyed households the total population of children under the age of 18 is 122 in Ulundi LM, 26 in Mthonjaneni LM and 2 in Mfolozi.

9.2.5 Population that will be affected as per surveyed households

Figure 9.2 indicates only the identified number of people that will be affected by the planed relocation due to the proposed Mfolozi-mbewu multi circuit 765kv power line project. The figures provided are based purely on surveyed households and therefore households that were not available for interview are not included. In Ulundi LM a total of 294 people from surveyed households will be affected. In Mthonjaneni LM at total of 67 people from surveyed households will be affected and in Mfolozi 7 people from only 1surveyed household will be affected. A total of 368 from 43 surveyed households will be affected. Given that 15 households were not available for interview, the number of affected people would be more than 368.

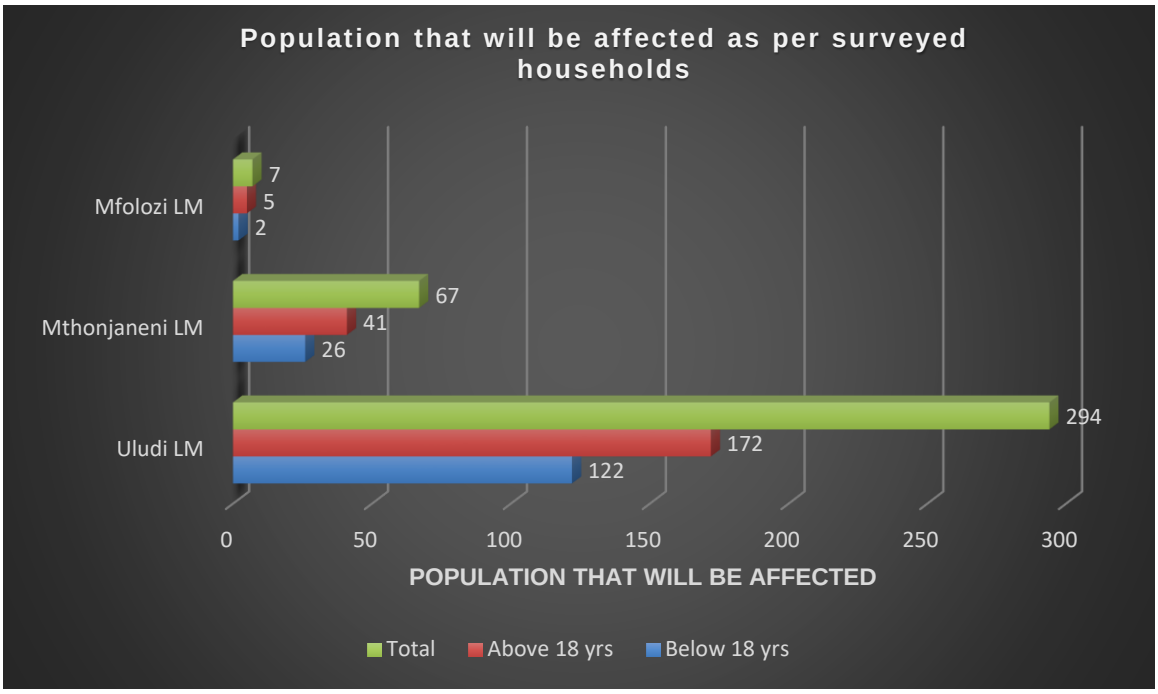


Figure 9.2: Population that will be affected as per household survey

9.3 Summary of key socio-economic indicators of surveyed households

This section presents key socio-economic indicators of surveyed households. These are summarised in **table 9.4 below**.

Table 9.4: Summary of key socio-economic indicators of surveyed households

INDICATOR	ULUNDI LM		MTHONJANENI LM		uMFOLOZI
Employment status of household head	Employed	4	Employed	1	Household head is a pensioner
	Unemployed	27	Unemployed	10	5 unemployed household members
Main sources of income for surveyed household	Casual work	5	Casual work	2	
	Child support grant	0	Child support grant	1	
	Disability grant	6	Disability grant	1	
	Traditional healing	1	Traditional healing	1	
	Monthly salary	9	Monthly salary	3	
	Pension	10	Pension	3	
Average monthly household income	R2000		R2300		
Main household expenditure	Food		Food		
Average number of people employed per surveyed household	1		1		

Average number of people unemployed per surveyed household	5	6	

9.3.1 Employment, Income levels and main source of income for surveyed households

Figure 9.3 depicts the employment status of household heads. There is a high level of unemployment among household-heads of surveyed households. Unemployment levels are known to be very significant across the three local municipalities (Ulundi, Mthonjaneni and uMfolozi). For example, in Ulundi the unemployment profile provides that 49,45% of the population in Ulundi is unemployed and more than half of the population (50, 4%) are dependent on some form of grant and subsidy.

There are several social and economic negative effects a household can experience as a result of unemployment. There are major implications for a household's ability to purchase basic goods and services. It also perpetuates the unpleasant cycle of poverty resulting in dependency. As already noted, many households residing in Ulundi, Mthonjaneni and Mfolozi LM are the poorest of the poor. Having no form of employment worsens the conditions of poverty.

Out of the 43 surveyed households, a total of 38 household-heads noted that they were unemployed (23 female heads and 15 male heads) The majority of unemployed household-heads are women. This indicates high unemployment levels for female-headed households who must take on the extra responsibility of financially providing for the family. This places a heavy burden on the female household heads as they must juggle with care taking responsibilities, indoor household chores, heavy outdoor chores, providing family safety and finding ways to provide financial support.

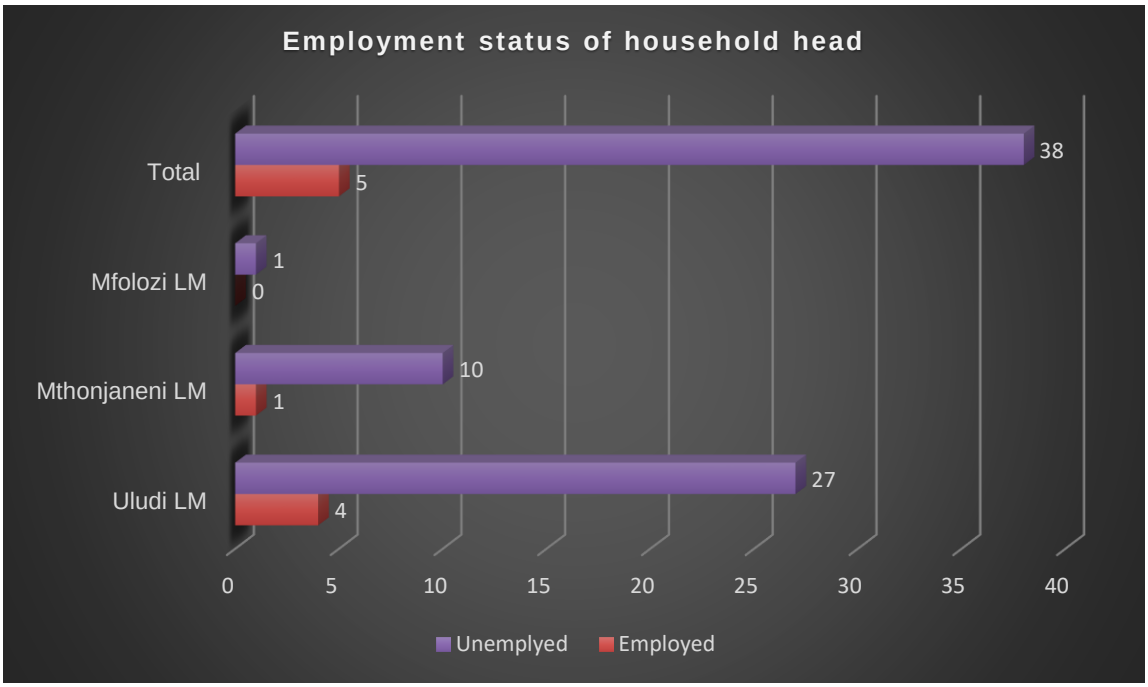


Figure 9.3: Employment status of household head

- ***Household income levels among surveyed households and main source of income***

Based on results generated from surveyed affected households, the average household monthly income in Ulundi LM is R2000 and R2300 Mthonjaneni LM. The monthly household income is generated through combination of income sources such as government grants, remittances and casual work **(see figure 9.4).** The majority (14) of surveyed households depend on pensions as a main source of income. A total of 7 households indicated they depend on casual work as a main source of income. Those that engage in casual work explained that the work comprises of various types of day to day work depending on need/availability. In other words, the work is not regular. The type of casual work described by household members who engage in it includes gardening, domestic work, cleaning in schools and small shops, ploughing on farms and helping with harvest on farms. For example, in one household a casual worker stated the following,

“The causal work I do depends on what is available. Sometimes I go to clean at schools, sometimes I clean in small shops and sometimes I do cleaning in houses in town”.

In another household, a casual worker stated the following;

“I clean gardens and help with ploughing on farms when I am needed”

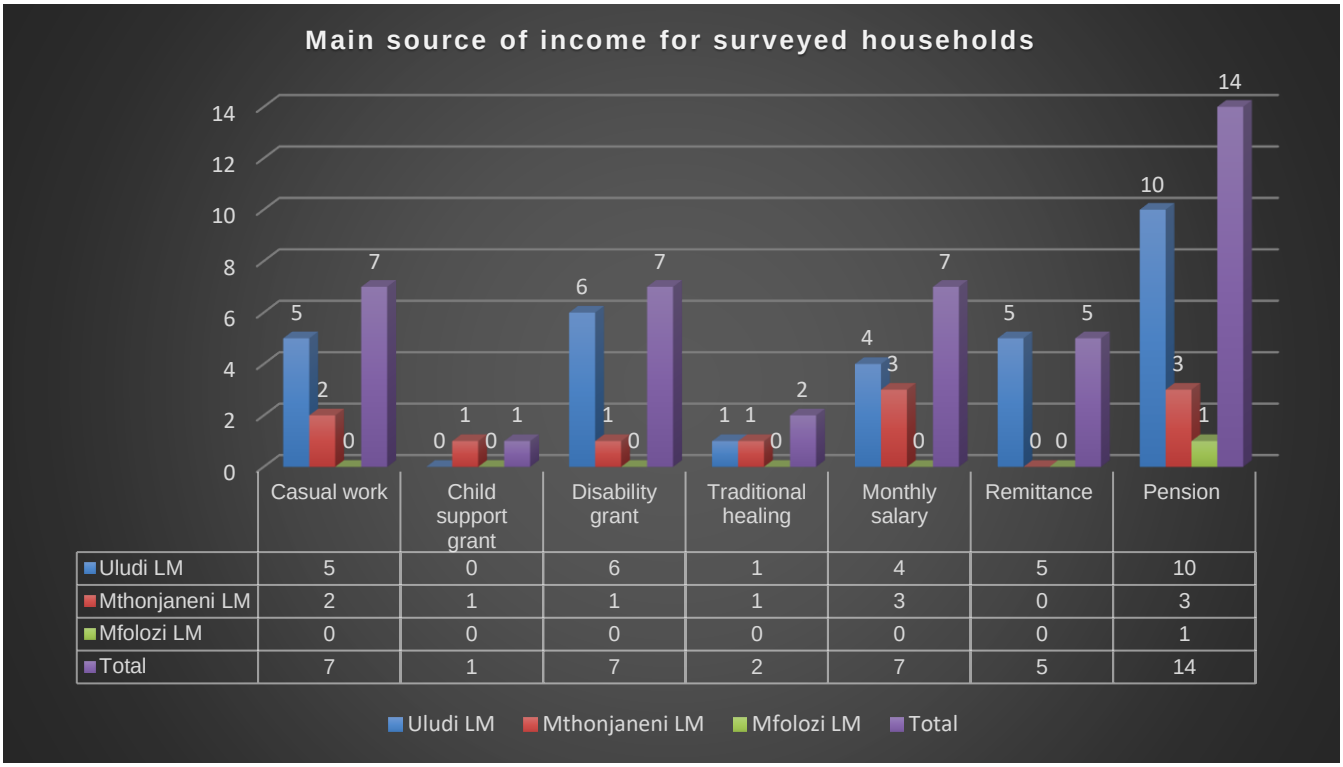


Figure 9.4: Main sources of income for surveyed households

Another 7 households highlighted disability grants as the main source of income, while 7 more indicated receiving a monthly income. This is mainly in cases (5) where the household-head is employed and in another two cases where the household has one working family member. 5 households indicated they get remittances from family members who have relocated to work in cities. In two of the households the members stated that their main source of income is generated from the practice of traditional healing.

The above assessment indicates the intensity of poverty among the surveyed households. There is a clear indication that majority of household members are economically inactive and those that are economically active are low earners. There is a relatively high dependency on government grants such as pensions and disability grants. The age profile of surveyed households which is largely characterized by school going children and unemployed young people, indicates high levels of dependency.

9.3.2 Livelihoods of surveyed households

All surveyed households indicated that they practice subsistence agriculture which includes crop farming and small-scale livestock husbandry. Subsistence agriculture is the most significant livelihood activity that functions as a survival mechanism for all households. Households are either engaged in subsistence crop farming, livestock rearing or both. As highlighted in **figure 5.5,** out of 43 surveyed households, a total of 24 households are engaged in both crop and livestock farming. A total of 4 households are engaged in crop farming. A total of 9 households

are engaged in livestock farming. The 6 households not engaged in any farming activities at the time of the survey indicated that they would have been doing some crop farming. However due to the anticipated relocation they did not grow any crops. They highlighted that earlier in the year they had been informed not to plough their gardens as they may have to leave their crops behind. Various surveyed households noted that they had also been informed not to plough their gardens, however they made a decision to go ahead and plough their as they were not sure when the relocation would take place. They indicated that talks about being relocated have been ongoing for the past 11 years and yet nothing has happened.

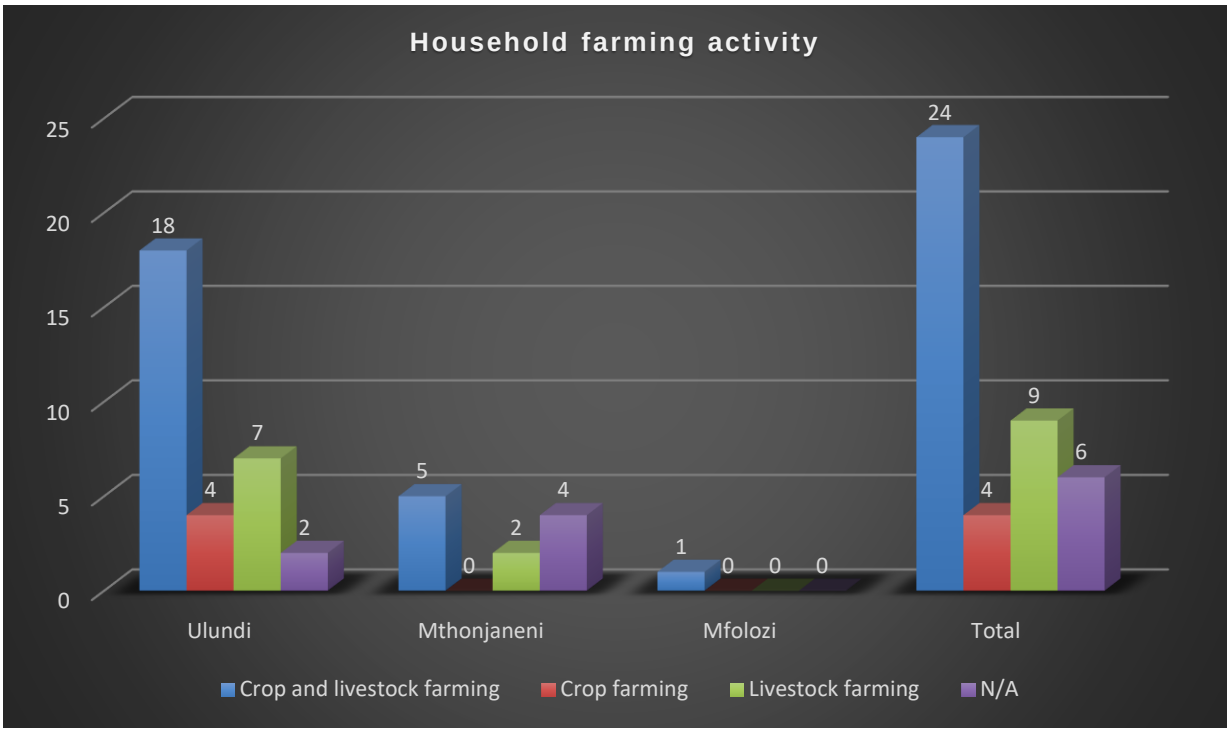


Figure 9.5: Household farming activities

Households engaged in crop farming planted mainly fruit, vegetables and maize. For example, see **figure 9.6 – 9.8**. Households noted that they do no sell any excess crops, instead they share with other households within the community.

Figure 9.6: Crop farming (maize and butternut)

Figure 9.7: Crop farming (Vegetables)

Figure 9.8: Crop farming fruit trees)

Households engaged in livestock farming had cattle, goats and chickens **(see figure 9.9 and table 9.5 for break down)**. Some households had only chickens, some had only cattle, some had only goats, some had a combination of the cattle, chickens and goats, some had cattle and goats while others had goats and chickens. The combination of livestock varied from household to household.

Households indicated that the livestock they keep is used mainly for 3 purposes (food, assets and cultural rituals). The chickens are used mainly for food. They provide eggs and meat. Goats are used for cultural rituals and kept as assets to buffer households in difficult times. Cattle are kept mainly as assets to buffer households in difficult times. Apart from being kept as assets, the cattle also provide milk for household consumption.

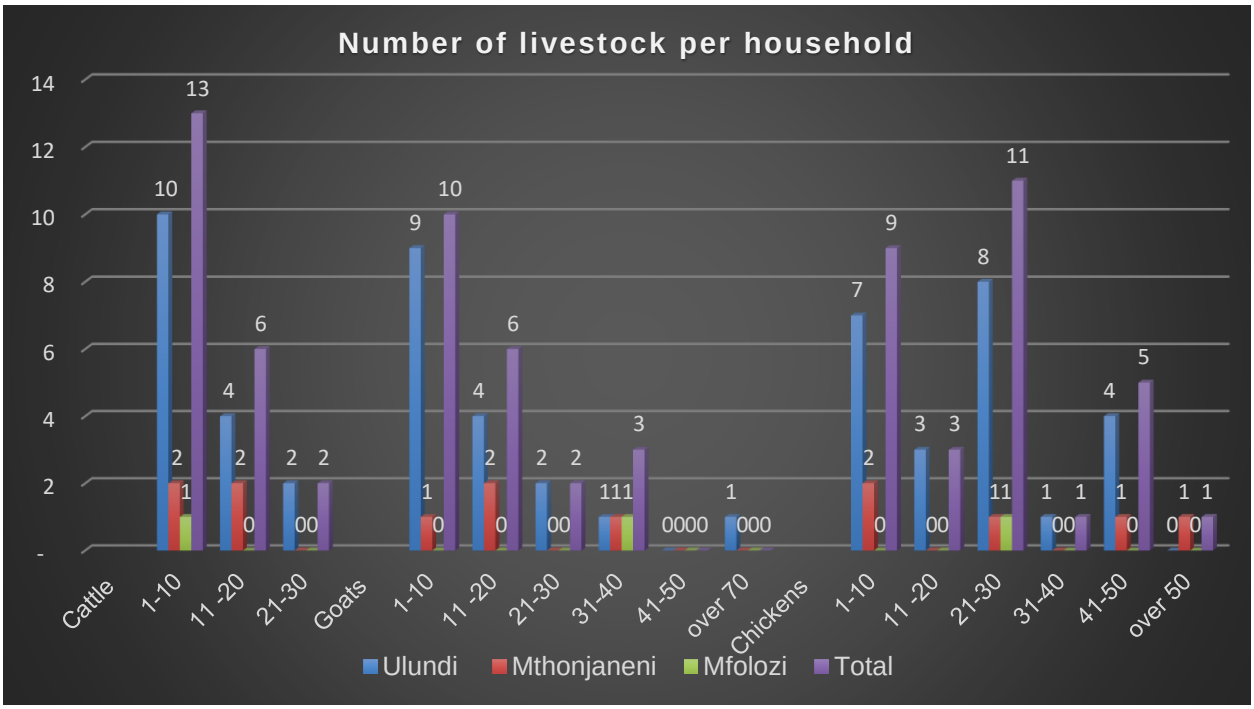


Figure 9.9: Number of livestock per surveyed household

Table 9.5: Number of livestock per surveyed household

Number of livestock per household	Ulundi	Mthonjaneni	Mfolozi	Total
Cattle				
1-10	10	2	1	13
11 -20	4	2	0	6
21-30	2	0	0	2
Goats				
1-10	9	1	0	10
11 -20	4	2	0	6
21-30	2	0	0	2
31-40	1	1	1	3
41-50	0	0	0	0
over 70	1	0	0	0
Chickens				
1-10	7	2	0	9
11 -20	3	0	0	3
21-30	8	1	1	11
31-40	1	0	0	1
41-50	4	1	0	5
over 50	0	1	0	1

9.3.3 Dwelling of surveyed affected households

Housing of surveyed affected households consists predominantly of compounds with multiple structures such as one roomed rondavels, several one roomed flat roofed houses and one big house. Modern architectural design houses were noted in 3 compounds **(See figures figure 9.10 – 9.16**). A total of 42 compounds were identified in the study areas (Ulundi, Mthonjaneni and Mfolozi). Of the 42 identified compounds, 39 had multiple structures. The type of structures in each compound varied (mud structures, brick structures, stone structures, brick and mortar structures in some cases a combination of different types of structures). The proposed resettlement will therefore affect mostly compounds.[5]

Given the poverty levels within the affected local municipalities, the proposed project could positively impact households through compensation packages that comply with the Eskom, IFC and ADB policy. The policy states that relocation must improve the living standards of relocated households.

Figure 9.10: Example of a typical compound with multiple structures

[5] Compound can be defined in terms of 'human settlements' as a" cluster of buildings in an enclosed area, which have a shared or associated purpose, such as the houses of an extended family".

Figure 9.11: Example of a typical compound with multiple structures

Figure 9.12: Compound with multiple brick flat roof houses

Figure 9.13: Brick and mortar houses

Figure 9.14: Mud houses

Figure 9.15: Modern house

Figure 9.16: Modern house on a farm

9.3.4 Condition of Housing

The level of maintenance was used to draw conclusions on the condition of houses in which affected surveyed families resided in (e.g paint work, cracked walls, broken features, unsecured and leaking rooftops etc). Based on field observations, it was concluded that majority (75 %) of

the houses are in a fair or good condition. Few (25%) can be said to have been in a poor condition. These are houses that were poorly maintained with cracked walls, roof tops secured with stones, broken windows, unsecured doors, linking roofs and not painted (**e.g. see figures 9.17 – 9.20**).

Figure 9.17: Example of house in poor condition.

Figure 9.18: Example of house in poor condition.

Figure 9.19: Example of house in poor condition.

Figure 9.20: Example of house in poor condition

It was established that the lack of maintenance is attributed to two main reasons. The first reason being affordability and the second reason not wanting to waste resources due to the anticipated relocation. Some households did not see the need to invest in maintaining homes that are going to be demolished.

9.4 Basic Household Services

Table 5.6 below highlights the basic services received by affected surveyed households.

Table 9.6: Basic services received by affected surveyed households

INDICATOR	ULUNDI LM	MTHONJANENI LM	uMFOLOZI LM	Total
Water access				
Number of households with piped water in the compound	23	0	1	24
Number of households accessing water from community tank	6	6	0	12
Number of households accessing water from dam/river	2	10	0	12
Number of households accessing water from both dam/river and community tank	0	4	0	4
Electricity Usage				
Number of households with electricity	30	7	1	38
Number of households that use electricity as main source of energy for cooking	30	6	1	37
Number of households that use alternatives to electricity for cooking, heating or lighting	1	3	0	4
Sanitation				
Number of households with flush toilets	1	0	0	1
Number of households using pit latrines	29	9	1	39
Number of households with no toilet facilities	2	0	0	2
Number of households with other toilet facilities	0	0	0	0
Refuse				
Number of households with own refuse disposal pit	28	9	1	38
Number of Households with no refuse disposal facilities	3	0	0	3
Number of households with refuse removed by local authority/private company	0	0	0	0

9.4.1 Access to water

Based on results (**Figure 9.21**) generated from surveyed households that will be affected by the planned relocation, majority (23 out of 31 interviewed) of households in Ulundi LM indicated they have piped water in the compound (**e.g figure 9.22**). This is consistent with Uludi's 2018 IDP report which highlights the significant dramatic increase in the supply of piped water. Based on the 2016 census, 25 822 households were said to have access to piped water. It was also highlighted that 11 483 households still had no access to piped water. On the other hand, all

surveyed households in Mthonjaneni LM noted that they rely mostly on river and community tanks for water access. The 2011 census indicate that 19% of households in Mthonjaneni LM receive piped water within their dwelling, 27% receive piped water inside their yard, and a further 20% receive piped water outside their yard. This indicates that approximately only two thirds of the population in the LM receive water to RDP standards. Households accessing water from the river/stream account for 27%. Provision of water services in Mthonjaneni is highlighted as lagging behind in the 2017 IDP. The backlog of water services is said to be substantial affecting 11 535 households.

The only surveyed household in Mfolozi LM indicated water is accessed through piped water in the compound. None of the surveyed households had metered or running water in their houses.

Most households (26 out of 31 surveyed households) in Ulundi highlighted that while they have piped water in the compound, most of the time there is no water. As a result, they have had to invest in Jojo tanks to store rain water **(Figure 9.23).** They also noted that occasionally when water is available in their compounds, they fill up the Jojo tanks. In Mthonjaneni LM only four of the surveyed households had Jojo tanks to store water. Those that do not have Jojo tanks, noted that they were unable to afford them. They make use of buckets or plastic containers to store water. Generally, all surveyed households pointed out that water is a scarce resource and not having it is very stressful.

The above results highlight the unreliability of existing water systems and a need to establish a more sustainable source of water to maintain water supply.

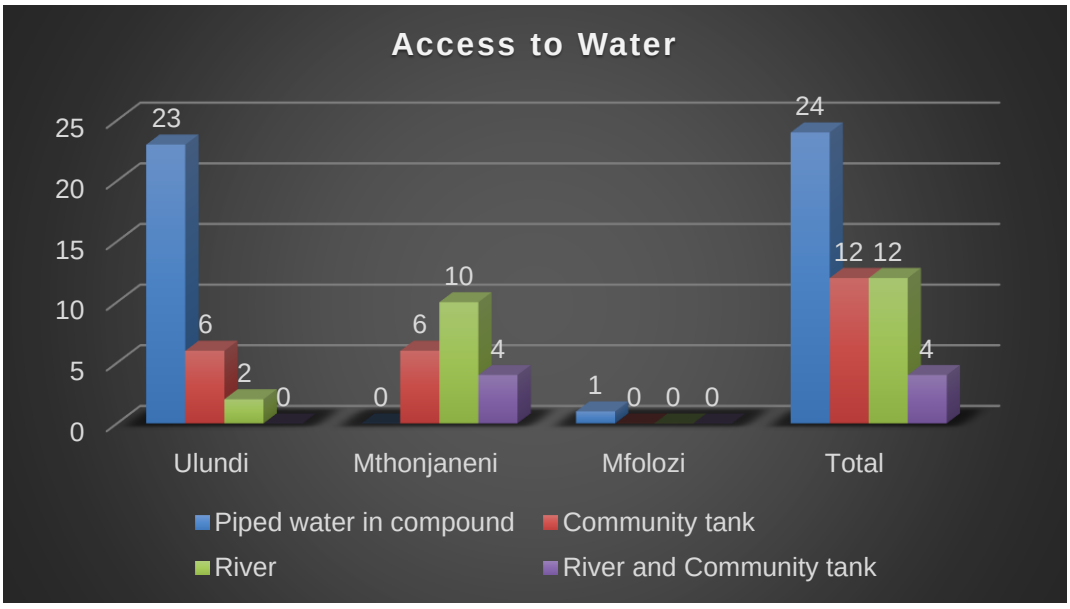


Figure 9.21: Access to water

Figure 9.22: Piped water in compound

Figure 9.23: Jojo tanks used to store water

9.4.2 Access to Sanitation

As highlighted in the **table 9.7** below, only two households indicated that they did not have toilet facilities. When asked the reason for not having toilet facilities, their response was as follows,

Household one: “We have not been able to raise enough money to build a toilet. We are currently using the neighbour’s toilet”.

Household two: “We cannot afford to build our own toilet. When we need the toilet we go to the neighbour”

Both households further added that even if they could raise enough funds, they would not build a toilet as they have been advised not build any more structures due to plans to relocate them.

Table 9.7: Access to Sanitation

INDICATOR	ULUNDI LM	MTHONJANENI LM	uMFOLOZI LM	Total
Number of households with flush toilets	1	0	0	1
Number of households using pit latrines	29	9	1	39
Number of households with no toilet facilities	2	0	0	2
Number of households with other toilet facilities	0	0	0	0

Apart from the two households in Ulundi that indicated not having toilet facilities, the rest of the surveyed households in the affected local municipalities reported that they had access to pit latrines within the home compounds (example **Figure 9.24**). Only one household reported having a flush toilet inside the house.

Figure 9.24: Example of pit latrine.

9.4.3 Access to refuse disposal

All municipalities should afford significant consideration to fulfil their statutory obligation as local government as per Section 24 and Section 156 (in conjunction with Schedule 5B) of the Constitution of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996), which respectively declares the right to human and environmental health; and waste management as a local government competence. Based on the guidelines provided for managing waste, management of waste consists of the collection, transportation and disposal of refuse. Refuse should be collected from residential premises, streets, public open spaces, commercial and industrial premises, hospital and clinic premises, government institutions, schools, community halls, sports grounds, parks and municipal premises by municipalities in accordance with their collection schedule.

According to reviewed IDPs, refuse removal is limited to urban areas in the three affected Local Municipalities (Ulundi, Mthonjaneni and Mfolozi LM). Results generated from the household survey reveal that the service of refuse removal is not available to the affected surveyed households across Ulundi, Mthonjaneni and Mfolozi LM. As a result, affected surveyed households dispose of their own refuse in informal dump sites. To reduce the amount of waste in the informal dump sites, households burn it. In turn this impacts negatively on the sustainability of the environment as burning pollutes the air.

9.4.4 Access to electricity

Presented in **table 9.8** below is access and electricity usage of surveyed affected households. Of the 43 affected surveyed households across Ulundi, Mthojaneni and Mfolozi local municipalities, 38 indicated that they have access to electricity. A total of 37 affected surveyed households indicated that they use electricity for cooking, heating and lighting. A total 4 affected surveyed households indicated they use alternatives to electricity for cooking, heating and lighting. Of the 4 affected households, use paraffin for lighting and wood for cooking and heating.

Table 9.8: Access to electricity

Electricity Access and Usage				
	Ulundi LM	**Mthonjaneni**	**Mfolozi**	**Total**
Number of households with electricity	30	7	1	38
Number of households that use electricity as main source of energy for cooking, heating and lighting	30	6	1	37
Number of households that use alternatives to electricity for cooking, heating or lighting	1	3	0	4

***Resettlement to an area with better service delivery or compensation that allows for a household to provide themselves with better amenities could increase the quality of life of relocated households.*

9.5 Vulnerable Social Groups

This SIA acknowledges that there are vulnerable social groups among the affected surveyed households. In line with the Africa Development Bank (AfDB) these comprise of female-headed households, disabled household members, households where the head is unemployed, households headed by elderly persons (above 65 years) with no means of support, as well as households where family structures are not well defined (polygamous family of extended family). The following vulnerable persons were identified among the surveyed households.

- 8-year-old child who is disabled (unable to walk).
- 22-year-old household member who is mute
- Female household-head and her son who surfer mental illness
- 12-year-old child who is mute
- Female household head who suffered a stroke and is unable to move herself
- Male household head with 3 wives.
- 25-year-old male who suffered from a stroke and affecting his mobility
- 85-year-old household head who has difficulties moving with deteriorating health
- 28-year-old who suffered a stroke and is now paralysed on her right side

- Female household head with heart disease
- 1 Disabled female household head
- 23 unemployed female household-heads (3 over 65 years of age)
- 15 unemployed male household-heads (4 over 65 years of age)

In addition to the above groups, children are also considered as a vulnerable group given that as they are less able to care for themselves.

10 MFOLOZI-MBEWU TRANSMISSION POWER LINE INDUCED DISPLACEMENT AND RESETTLEMENT

Vanclay (2017)[6], defines resettlement as the comprehensive process of planning for and implementing the relocation of people, households and communities from one place to another for some specific reason, together with all associated activities, including: (a) the provision of compensation for lost assets, resources and inconvenience; and (b) the provision of support for livelihood restoration and enhancement, re-establishment of social networks, and for restoring or improving the social functioning of the community, social activities and essential public services. Van Schooten et al. (2003)[7] describes resettlement as the process by which people surrender land for a project and are relocated elsewhere as part of a compensation package.

In the case of the proposed Mfolozi-mbewu multi circuit 765kv transmission power line construction, there are households currently on the project site that will require relocation so as to make way for the transmission line. A total of about 64 households across Ulundi, Mthonjaneni and Mfolozi local municipalities will be displaced and require resettlement. However, only 43 households (accounting for 368 people) were available for interview during the survey. Household members of the surveyed households raised several concerns regarding the relocation. These are presented and discussed in the sections that follow.

Within the framework of a social impact study, resettlement is normally designed and planned as one of the mitigation measures, once the description of the study area and impact analysis are completed. Resettlement should however be fully acknowledged as a specific and very complex type of impact which deserves special attention (Dominique and Pierre 1990)[8]. Besides being an impact in itself, resettlement is also a source of severe social impacts that should be systematically identified, assessed and given special consideration within the framework of social impact studies, whenever a project involves relocation on any scale. Regardless of scale (large or small), resettlement is not something to be taken lightly.

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[6] Vanclay, F., (2017), Project-induced displacement and resettlement: from impoverishment risks to an opportunity for development?, ***Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal***, 35:1, 3-21, DOI: 10.1080/14615517.2017.1278671

[7] Van Schooten, M., Vanclay, F., and Slootweg, R., (2003), Conceptualising social change processes and social impacts, in Becker, H.A., and Vanclay, M., 2003, The International Handbook for Social Impact Assessment, Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing Limited.

[8] Dominique Egré and Pierre Senécal (1990), Resettlement studies and human environment impact assessment of water control Projects: similarities and discrepancies, ***Impact Assessment***, 8:3, 5-18, DOI: 10.1080/07349165.1990.9726051

In this SIA, resettlement is acknowledged as a social impact as well as a source of other social impacts.On the basis that 'land is life' for many people (Wickeri 2011)[9] and that people worldwide have place attachment (a sense of place) to a varying extent (Vanclay 2008)[10], the displacement and disruption of their lives can cause much hurt and hardship. For example, many people are often relocated from villages where their families have lived for generations and developed close ties to their social environment. In a new location displaced individuals, families or communities are exposed to a whole range of health, psychological, economic, social and cultural changes. The impacts are not only felt by those being relocated but also by the host communities. It is important to note that impacts on people will differ due to varying vulnerabilities, capacities, positioning and interests.

In the case of the 43 affected surveyed households across Ulundi, Mthonjaneni and Mfolozi local municipalities, majority (23) of household-heads indicated that they have lived in their current homesteads for over 30 years. In 7 of the surveyed households, household-heads stated that they have lived in their homesteads for more than 50years. Besides the household-heads, it was also established that other household members have lived in their homesteads for more than 50 years. It was noted that most of the homesteads are ancestral homes. Given that the level of attachment is informed by variables such as age and the number of years spent in a particular area, affected households in Ulundi, Mthonjaneni and Mfolozi local municipalities can be expcted to be attached to their homes and what they represent. Relocating them would therefore impact their sense of place[11]. They will no longer be able to regain the sense of place that they are currently attached to. Much more precisely, the affected households will suffer loss of dwellings.

Depending on where the affected households will be relocated, this could also result in breaking up communities with definite patterns of interactions, behavior, and social support. Households may have to form new social structures with the receiving communities. Currently majority (24 out of 43) of the affected surveyed households have no knowledge of where they will be relocated. These comprise of the only affected household in Mfolozi LM, all the 11 surveyed households in Mthonjaneni LM and 12 households in Ulundi. The remaining 19 affected surveyed households (all located in Ulundi) stated that they have identified areas they would prefer to be relocated. They are however not sure if the request to relocate them to their preferred areas will be granted. Having no knowledge and not being sure where affected households will be relocated has resulted in uncertainty.

Given that the livelihoods of affected households in Ulundi, Mthonjaneni and Mfolozi local municipalities are predominantly land-based as revealed by the baseline study, it can also be

[9] Wickeri E. 2011. "Land is Life, Land is Power": landlessness, exclusion, and deprivation in Nepal [Internet]. Crowley Mission Reports. [cited 2016 Oct 20]. Available from: http://ir.lawnet.fordham.edu/crowley_reports/2

[10] Vanclay F. 2008. Place matters. In: Vanclay F, Higgins M, Blackshaw A, editors. Making sense of place. Canberra: National Museum of Australia Press; p. 2–11.

[11] A sense of place and personal memories are part of what makes us human, and therefore to lose places of meaning is to diminish us as humans.

expected that resettlement will disrupt their livelihood activities and lives in general. Households will no longer be able to use the land they currently have available to them for farming activities such as growing fruits trees and vegetables. This nature of loss will be for the lifetime existence of the Mfolozi-mbewu multi circuit 765kv transmission power line.

Having livelihoods disrupted by resettlement, can bring about major turmoil to the affected households, their lives, and to the effective functioning of culture and society. As noted by Hanna et al. 2016[12], even where genuine attempts are made to re-establish the lives and livelihoods of those affected, it can be very difficult, with numerous unintended consequences arising.

Key Mitigation actions

- One of the most critical aspects of the proposed Mfolozi-mbewu multi circuit 765kv transmission line is the need to resettle households that are on the project site. In this regard it is imperative that the project develop a resettlement action plan (RAP) or resettlement policy framework (RPF) in line with international best practice and should go beyond discussions of asset acquisition and compensation.

  According to the Worls Banks best practice principles and International Finance Corporation (IFC) performance Standards 5, such a plan should spell out the following;

  - ✓ Why people need to be resettled
  - ✓ Where people need to be resettled to
  - ✓ Who specifically would be compensated
  - ✓ How they would be compensated
  - ✓ Grievance procedures
  - ✓ Who the responsible agents would be
  - ✓ The timeframe for the resettlement process
  - ✓ The budget/cost estimate
  - ✓ How the resettlement process would be monitored and evaluated (IFC 2002, WB 2001).

- International standards governing how resettlement should be undertaken, what compensation should be provided, and what outcomes are expected should be observed. Resettlement must therefore be conducted in terms of international best practice and accompanied by a comprehensive resettlement action plan to ensure that the resettlement process does not expose affected households to unnecessary risks.

  Based on the World Bank's Revised Policy on Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12) (2006), best practice must ensure that

[12] Hanna P, Vanclay F, Langdon EJ, Arts J. 2016. The importance of cultural aspects in impact assessment and project development: reflections from a case study of a hydroelectric dam in Brazil. Impact Assessment & Project Appraisal. 34:306–318.

- ✓ Involuntary resettlement should be avoided, or minimised where unavoidable.
- ✓ Where resettlement is unavoidable, resettlement plans and activities should be seen and executed as development programmes.
- ✓ Resettled persons should be provided with sufficient investment resources and opportunities to share in project benefits.
- ✓ Displaced persons should be meaningfully consulted, and should participate in the planning and implementation of resettlement programmes.
- ✓ Displaced persons should be compensated, prior to the move, for their losses at full replacement cost[13]
- ✓ Resettled persons should be assisted with the move and provided with support during the transition period.

- Ensure the various rights of project-affected households are respected (e.g basic human rights, legal rights, customary or traditional rights and entitlements).

10.1 Discussion of Identified Key Social Impacts

Presented in this section are key identified impacts attributed to the required resettlement to make way for the proposed Mfolozi-mbewu multi circuit 765kv transmission power line. Identification of the key impacts is based on concerns raised during the household surveys of affected households. It should be noted that the intention of this section is not to detail every comment made during the survey but rather to extract only the most critical items for further consideration or those under which the developer can be expected to make a meaningful difference through the introduction of relevant mitigation strategies. The key identified impacts are discussed under the following emerging themes.

1. **Interruption of Sense of place**
    - Permanent loss of homesteads
    - Marginalization and loss of belongingness

2. **Disruption of livelihoods**
    - Permanent loss of agricultural
    - Permanent loss grazing land
    - Permanent loss of established fruit trees

3. **Disruption of Livestock rearing**
    - Loss of livestock due to disruption of grazing routine

[13] Replacement cost is defined in International Finance Corporation (IFC) performance Standards as being the market value of the asset plus transaction costs, without depreciation being applied. Generally speaking, a project should ensure that there is an effective process of negotiation with affected people and they are presented with a range of options to consider and that are feasible to deliver.

- Establishment of new grazing land and grazing routine
- Rebuilding of enclosures for housing livestock

4. **Psychological impacts**

5. **Violation of human rights**
   - Loss of ability to involve those affected in making decisions
   - Insufficient compensation payment

6. **Disturbance of cultural, spiritual, and religious sites**
   - Ancestral site
   - Rondavels
   - Open Shembe Church
   - Graves and Communal Cemeteries

7. **Employment Opportunities**
   - Anticipated job creation
   - Anticipated inflaw of jobseekers

8. **Disruption of support systems for vulnerable groups**

10.1.1 Disturbance of Sense of place

Permanent loss of homesteads

All surveyed affected households will suffer permanent loss of dwellings. Based on the narratives given during the survey, it was evident that they have invaluable sentimental value attached to their dwellings. Having to leave their homes will therefore generate a host of emotions. Their homes have given them identity, provided them a sense of place and cultural space for many years and personal memories developed. This is part of what makes them human. Their homes are places of meaning. Losing such places of meaning is to diminish their identity and humanity.

Significance rating

Impact description: Interruption of Sense of place							
Impact mitigation	Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Acceptability	Probability	Significance
Without mitigation	Negative	Local (2)	Permanent (4)	High (5)	High (3)	Definite (5)	High 19
With mitigation	Negative	Local (2)	Permanent (4)	Medium (3)	Medium (2)	Definite (5)	Medium 16

Mitigation measures

- ✓ Ensure that there is an effective process of negotiation with affected households and that they are presented with a range of options to consider. These must be feasible to deliver. Reasonable costs of affected households, including support to the poor and illiterate in negotiations, should be covered as part of the compensation.

- ✓ Affected households should be given the opportunity in deciding where to be resettled.

- ✓ Provision must be made to accommodate enough homestead plots for all affected households.

- ✓ New dwellings must be of good quality and superior to those currently occupied by affected households or ensure that affected households are sufficiently compensated with enough funds and well capacitated to manage the build of new dwellings themselves. The new dwelling should meet all the requirements to resume all their livelihood activities. Their lives should be better off than they are currently. This should include improved access to services, a continuation of way of living, sense of place, support structures, good neighbours and friends.

- ✓ All costs related to resettlement must be covered, including removal and re-establishment costs.

- ✓ Ensure that affected households have security of tenure over their new dwellings and land.

- ✓ All affected households must be happy and well settled into their new homes before construction of the proposed Mfolozi-mbewu multi circuit 765kv transmission line begins.

Marginalization and loss of belongingness

All surveyed households expressed concern of losing sense of belonging[14], and hence being isolated in the host communities. Just like the need for food and shelter, a sense of belonging is a natural human need. Feeling of belonging is critical in seeing value in life and in dealing with painful emotions which usually occur during resettlement. Those who are well known and respected in their current communities raised concern of drop in social status[15]. For example, the traditional healers who are well known and respected for their work. The risk of being marginalized resulting in the drop of social status is high in a new community.

[14] Sense of belonging means acceptance as a member or part in a resettlement.
[15] Social status is the honor or prestige attached to one's position in society.

Most (35 out of 43) affected surveyed households raised concern about losing interaction with their current neighbours. They highlighted that over the years, they have built close relationships and connected with their neighbours. They help and support each other. Relocating to a new place would mean losing that connection.

Significance rating

The concern of perceived marginalization and loss of belongingness is difficult to quantify and outside of providing assurances to the affected households. It is difficult to mitigate and as such, assessment has not been carried out. The sentiment should however be taken seriously as it is of a sensitive nature and can result in opposition to the proposed project. It is imperative that channels of communication are established between the proponent and the affected households, via the representative parties to ensure open, transparent and honest dialogue with a view to building relationships of trust from which to address concerns and find solutions.

10.1.2 Disruption of livelihoods

Permanent loss of agricultural

The baseline study revealed that subsistence agriculture is a significant practice in the affected local municipalities. Due to high levels of unemployment, subsistence crop farming functions as a survival mechanism for many households and is critical for food security. Affected surveyed households are worried about losing their current arable land and not being able to get the equivalent at the new location. They asked questions such as, what size of land can we expect? Will we get the same size of land as we currently have? Will we get fertile land to resume farming activities? Are we going to have enough space for vegetable gardens within our compounds? If concerns are ignored, major implications for food security can be expected.

Permanent loss grazing land

As revealed in the baseline study, majority of affected surveyed households are engaged in small-scale livestock farming. Affected surveyed households are concerned about losing grazing land for their livestock. They are worried about not having sufficient grazing land at the new location. They are also worried about the quality of land they might get. They asked whether they will have access to the same size and quality of grazing land as they currently have.

Permanent loss of established fruit trees

As already indicated in the baseline study, households engaged in crop farming grow mainly fruit trees, vegetables and maize. It can be expected that there will be loss of such crops with impact on household food security. Households that have well established fruit trees were unsettled and not happy about the prospect of losing their fruit trees. The fruit trees have taken several years to grow. There is also sentimental value attached to fruit trees given the time invested in growing them.

Surveyed affected households asked about how they would be compensated for their fruit trees. They argued that starting again will involve preparation of land, planting and growing of the trees until they are in production. This will take many years with a significant impact food security. Generally, households pointed out that establishing their gardens to the current conditions took time and hard work. For example, the process of preparing the land which involved removing trees, weeds etc.

Significance rating

Impact description: Disruption of livelihoods							
Impact mitigation	Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Acceptability	Probability	Significance
Without mitigation	Negative	Local (2)	Permanent (4)	High (5)	High (3)	Definite (5)	High 19
With mitigation	Negative	Local (2)	Permanent (4)	Medium (3)	Medium (2)	Definite (5)	Medium 16

Mitigation measures

It must be noted that land is a fundamental livelihood asset. Communities in rural areas are heavily dependent on land for various livelihood activities as highlighted in the baseline study. This makes land a critical resource for the affected households on which their lives depend. Loss of land therefore also results in the loss of their livelihoods. To mitigate against the identified impacts,

- ✓ Ensure the land and human rights of affected households are safeguarded. Given the trauma involved with the resettlement process and the huge disruption to people's lives, being compliant with human rights expectations is necessary to ensure improvement of their well-being.

- ✓ Affected households must receive equivalent or superior quality alternative land. To achieve this, there must be must be fairness and transparency in the negotiation process between the acquiring project proponents and affected households. Negotiations should be based on an open exchange of information. Empty promises must be avoided. If land of equivalent or superior quality can be found, then the restoration or improvement of their livelihoods may be possible.

- ✓ Appropriate measures should ensure that affected households, and particularly the vulnerable, are not disadvantaged. Often affected owners and occupants have less negotiating power, experience and skills compared to the acquiring project proponents.

In the case of affected households where majority are poor with low literacy levels to no literacy, they may be unaware of their rights, and pressured to accept a low offer in order to be able to resettle elsewhere quickly.

- ✓ To balance negotiating power, it is important that the affected households are equipped with sufficient knowledge regarding negotiation procedures and their rights.

- ✓ In cases where women and children may have a great stake in the family home or agricultural land but hold few rights to control what happens to it, they should be assisted to ensure they are not disadvantaged.

- ✓ New land should be prepared (cleared, levelled, and made accessible) for productive levels similar to those of the land from which people will be displaced (preferably, affected people should be paid by the project to do this work).

- ✓ New land should be located in reasonable proximity to land from which affected households will be displaced

- ✓ Contracts given to affected households should be reviewed by an independent body to ensure fairness.

- ✓ Should there be cases where occupants have no recognizable legal right or claim to the land occupied, they must be assisted with resettlement and compensated for assets other than land.

- ✓ Affected households should be assisted in identifying suitable grazing land that is equivalent or of better quality than the current land to ensure continued grazing of their livestock.

- ✓ In case of agronomic differences between the current arable land and the new environment, specialized support should be provided to assist affected households adapt farming strategies.

- ✓ Affected households should be assisted in identifying fertile arable land and supported by a contracted agricultural specialist to ensure they successfully resume subsistence farming and re-establish their gardens. This critical for household food security. Current gardens should be kept to continue providing food for households until the resettlement process has been completed and new gardens established.

- ✓ Compensation must be provided for the value of any productive agricultural activity such as crops and fruit trees. A horticultural specialist should be contracted to provide support.

- ✓ Specific intervention is required where fruit trees are concerned. Specialised support should be provided to replant fruit trees in the new locations.

- ✓ The entire process of land acquisition, compensation, resettlement and re-establishing the livelihoods of affected households should be supervised and monitored to ensure that the gaining project proponent and other involved parties are held accountable for their actions.

10.1.3 Disruption of Livestock rearing

Loss of livestock due to disruption of grazing routine

As noted in the baseline study, livestock rearing is an important livelihood activity for most affected surveyed households. Livestock plays an important role as a safety and provides a substantial share of their food needs. All affected surveyed households with livestock indicated that they are worried about losing their livestock due resettlement. They highlighted that currently their livestock are able to go out and graze on their own and come back home on their own. This is because over the years a routine route has been established to enable the livestock to go and come back. Affected surveyed households fear that resettlement will affect this routine resulting in loss of their livestock.

Establishment of new grazing routine

Affected surveyed households noted that they will have to establish a new grazing routine in the new location. They indicated that the process takes time and the livestock will take time to adjust to their new environment. This also cause some level of distress for the livestock as their familiar sense of place has been disturbed.

Rebuilding of enclosures for housing livestock

All surveyed affected households engaged in livestock rearing had enclosures (Kraals) housing cattle and goats, and structures to house chickens within their compounds. They raised concerns about the loss of kraals and structures housing chickens. They asked whether they will have sufficient space within the new compounds to build new kraals for their livestock and new structures for chickens.

Significance rating

Impact description: **Disruption of livestock rearing**							
Impact mitigation	Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Acceptability	Probability	Significance

Without mitigation	Negative	Local (2)	Permanent (4)	High (5)	High (3)	Definite (5)	High 19
With mitigation	Negative	Local (2)	Medium-term (2)	Medium (3)	Medium (2)	Probable (3)	Medium 12

Mitigation Measures

- ✓ Ensure that any applicable legislation regarding relocation of livestock is reviewed to identify regulatory requirements that may need to be applied.

- ✓ In the process of identifying suitable land for resettlement, ensure that the land is also suitable to accommodate livestock of affected households. The land should meet the needs of livestock.

- ✓ Ensure that all livestock of affected households are transferred to the new location. Contractor(s) should be appointed assist with relocating livestock. Any costs related to transferring livestock to the new location should be covered by the project proponent.

- ✓ Support should be provided to rebuild new enclosures to house the livestock.

- ✓ Livestock provincial specialists or local extension staff should be contracted to provide guidance and support to affected households to ensure that their livestock settles well in the new location as well as help them manage the risk of losing their livestock

10.1.4 Psychological impacts

The prospect of being resettled not only triggered a host of concerns but also a host of feelings/emotions. These were both positive and negative in nature. Majority (19) of affected surveyed households indicated that they were unhappy about being resettled. They expressed feelings of sadness, fear, anger and annoyance as they narrated their concerns. They highlighted that while they are unhappy they would accept to relocate, siting that they did not have much choice in the matter. They were of the view that since they have not been adequately involved in discussions regarding resettlement, it was an indication that their input does not matter, leaving them with no choice.

Several surveyed affected households that indicated being unhappy also expressed anger, distrust and uncertainty, stating that they were sceptical about the relocation since no one has given them an indication of where they will be relocated. They also noted that it has been 11 years since they were informed about being relocated and requested to put their developments on hold. In anticipation of being relocated majority have put building developments on hold. Some household members pointed to unfinished structures in their compounds that have been in that state for the past 11 years.

Some households highlighted that in 2007, they were told not to plough their fields. As a result, some families did not plough their field or plant any crops, impacting temporarily on household food security. This caused a lot of strain and frustration for households that did not plough their fields. They have since ignored that request and continued to plough their gardens. Majority of the affected households struggle financially due to high unemployment levels and hence rely on their gardens to curb hunger.

The very slow process and poor communication has left several households very frustrated and angered. It was reported that some households were frustrated to the point of abandoning their homes and relocating elsewhere. That explains some of the abandoned compounds that were identified during the field visit.

A total of 9 affected surveyed households indicated they were not sure how they feel about relocating. They had mixed feelings and could not pinpoint exactly how they feel. Some affected household members made statements such as,

> *"I am not sure how I feel about moving to a new place. In this house we know we are going to move to a new place. We have not talked about our feelings. Years have passed since we were told we are moving and that has not happened. I don't know what to feel. Do our feelings even matter? Why are you asking? These people do what they want. They don't care".*
>
> *"How would you feel if you were told you need to move your home because of a project?" I can't explain how I feel, I have many questions, maybe you can answer them.*
>
> *"I cannot explain how I feel, but I have questions".*
>
> *"We have not talked about feelings in this house. I can't explain my feeling. I am not sure."*

Based on the above narrative it is clear that affected households are experiencing some degree of stress, anxiety, anger and uncertainty about their future. Inevitably, it is an unsettling experience. Involvement in resettlement decision-making seems to be almost non-existent, indicating violation of human rights.

A total of 15 out of 43 affected surveyed households felt positive about relocating. They expressed feelings of hope and happiness. This was evident in their narratives when asked how they feel about the prospect of being relocated.

> *"moving to a new location will be an opportunity to get better housing and better quality of life".* This view was shared by all 15 households that stated feeling positive about being relocated.
>
> *"There are family members that do not get along in our compound. There is a lot of conflict. Relocating to a new place will allow us to have separate compounds. Not being*

in the same compound will bring peace. We can start new lives" This view was shared by 5 households.

"We hope that by relocating to a new place, we will get better water and electricity services. We always experience load shedding and despite having taps in our compounds, water is only available for a day or two and the remainder of the time we depend on stored water. Some of the stored water is harvested from rain. When piped water is available we fill up our Jojo tanks and other containers." This was a sentiment share by 14 households in Ulundi. 7 of the 14 households further added that they would be happy to relocate to an area called Kwasishwili. Reason being that this particular area always has electricity and water and that the area is also situated next to the main roads as well as not far from town.

Members from the 15 households that indicated feeling positive about relocating to a new place also highlighted that, while they may feel positive, they will not escape the emotions of relocating and leaving their ancestral homes and a familiar area with many years of memories. Examples of statements made by some of the affected household members include,

"When I say I am feeling positive about relocating, it does not take away the emotion losing my ancestral home and leaving the ancestors behind. We have some graves of loved ones in the compound that we cannot take with us. That will be the difficult part of moving to a new place. We will always be connected to this place and we have to come and visit the graves and talk to ancestors."

"*I feel positive about relocating because I believe life will be better. There is too much fighting here. At the same time, I know it will not be easy leaving my homestead. I have grown up here, my children have grown up here. My ancestors are here. Leaving them will not be a good feeling and I know they will not be happy".*

The above sentiments indicate that even though resettlement may generate some positive feelings and present an opporunity for improving lives as would be expected, it provokes significant emotional discomfort. Emotional impacts will definitely occur with high significance.

Significance rating

Impact description: Psychological Impacts							
Impact mitigation	Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Acceptability	Probability	Significance
Without mitigation	Negative	Local (2)	Permanent (4)	High (5)	High (3)	Definite (5)	High 19
With mitigation	Negative	Local (2)	Permanent (4)	Medium (3)	Medium (2)	Highly probable (4)	Medium 15

Key mitigation measures

Emotional impacts are difficult to quantify and mitigate against. They cannot be compensated financially, however, they should be respected and considered at all stages of the resettlement process. Counselling support should therefore be made available before, during and after resettlement for any household members that may need it. This may reduce the impact to medium depending on individuals. If emotional impacts are taken into account, resettlement yield more positive results and outcome. As stated in the NEMA "Environmental management must place people and their needs at the forefront of its concern, and serve their physical, psychological, developmental, cultural and social interests equitably".

10.1.5 Violation of human rights

Loss of ability to involve those affected in making decisions

Loss of ability to involve affected persons in making decisions is a dimension related to violation of human rights.

While affected households were informed about the transmission line project and the need to be resettled, it emerged that they were not adequately educated about their rights. Awareness raising was first carried out in 2007. It is reported that sensitization about the impending Mfolozi-mbewu Transmission Power Line project and the need to resettle affected households did not fully explain what rights they have. They were instructed not proceed with any further developments on their properties as these would be demolished during the resettlement period. A few years went by without communication. In 2010 and 2012 affected households recall having strangers on their properties. They were not informed about what was happening. During this period, they were once again notified that they were going to be resettled but no specific dates were given. The years that followed, communication became very limited. Several members of affected surveyed households repeatedly asked the same questions during the survey. For example,

> *"It has been over 11 years since we were notified about the relocation, when is this relocation going to take place?"*
>
> *"Why are we not told what is happening? We are so tired of being kept waiting."*

Affected surveyed households revealed that they are not involved in the planning of the resettlement. Majority indicated they have no idea where they will be relocating. Some have requested to select preferred resettlement areas and they have not received feedback. The lack of communication and participation in the resettlement process has angered majority of affected surveyed households. The lack of communication and involvement can also be noted in the section above. Ability to involve them in making decisions remains unchanged.

"*The WB policy OP 4.122 states that "Displaced persons should be meaningfully consulted and should have opportunities to participate in planning and implementing resettlement programs".*

Significance rating

Impact description: Loss of ability to involve those affected in making decisions							
Impact mitigation	Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Acceptability	Probability	Significance
Without mitigation	Negative	Local (2)	Permanent (4)	High (5)	High (3)	Definite (5)	High 19
With mitigation	Negative	Local (2)	Long-term (3)	Medium (3)	Medium (2)	Highly probable (4)	Medium 14

Key mitigation measures

- ✓ Affected households must be given the opportunity to actively participate in the resettlement process. Participation in the negotiation of the compensation packages, eligibility requirements, resettlement assistance, suitability of proposed resettlement sites and the proposed timing This is essential if there is to be any possibility of risk management and improvement of lives. There is evidence to suggest that the more people are involved in decisions in relation to how, where, and when they move, the more likely they are able to adapt to the situation and recover from the stress associated with being resettled.

- ✓ Grievance mechanism must be established by project proponents to ensure specific concerns of affected households are addressed. A summary of complaints and the measures taken to resolve concerns must be made public on a regular basis.

- ✓ Consultation with affected households must continue during the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation processes of compensation payment and resettlement.

- ✓ Affected households must be treated as equal parties to a negotiation that is conducted fairly and in a spirit of good faith, informed participation, openness, mutual respect, with the intention to deliver mutual benefits.

- ✓ Women who are the majority of household heads must participate in and influence resettlement, and contribute to the decision-making process.

Inadequate compensation arrangements and monetary compensation

Inadequate compensation arrangements and monetary compensation are known to be one of the main problematic aspects of resettlement practice. It is one of the dimensions related to violation of human rights as this can lead to affected communities becoming worse off. This also affects intended project outcomes.

It is anticipated that monetary compensation made to affected households in Ulundi LM Mthonjaneni and Mfolozi will be utilized for the purposes of re-establishing their livelihoods and improving their lives. If well planned and executed, positive impact to affected households can be expected. Considering the fragile state of the affected surveyed households due to high unemployment levels, poverty, dependency on irregular income and state grant, monetary compensation seems to be attractive for some of the affected surveyed households (19 out of 43) and hence the preferred form of compensation. Some household members were however concerns about,

- ✓ *How the compensation will be structured?*
- ✓ *What arrangements will be in place to ensure timely payment?*
- ✓ *Time frames for delivery as there is concern whether they would get compensated on time.*
- ✓ *How much the cash payment will be received?*
- ✓ *Which household member would receive and manage the cash payment?*
- ✓ *How the amount to be paid is determined?*
- ✓ *Whether the payment will be fair and enough to cover all the costs related to rebuilding their lives.*
- ✓ *What costs the compensation will cover?*
- ✓ *What measures will be in place to prevent fraudulent and corrupt activities?*
- ✓ *What measures will be in place to prevent any conflicts that may arise among families? Receiving large sums of money is highly likely to create many issues for households not used to dealing with such large amounts.*
- ✓ *What measures will be in place to protect them from being taken advantage of?*
- ✓ *What measures will be in place to deal with opportunistic behaviour affected households?*

While some affected surveyed households welcomed monetary compensation, there were affected surveyed households (7 out of 43) who did not welcome monetary compensation. Among the households that welcomed cash payment, there were some individual members who did not welcome monetary compensation. These were mainly elderly household members who feared that compensation in cash could be mismanaged or inadequate, resulting in being homeless and worse off than they are now. Households that did not welcome monetary compensation shared this same view. They preferred having homes ready to move in as the preferred form of compensation. They noted that this would solve a lot of the anticipated problems. There were concerned that receiving a large amount of money could create problems within the households, as they are not used to dealing with large amounts of money. Mismanaged of monetary compensation can be associated with inadequate arrangements required to assist affected households to manage cash payments. Some interviewed household members stated the following,

"*people may think they are rich and begin spending money on unnecessary things and fail to rebuild their lives. I would prefer not to have cash payment but to have a home ready to move in. That will solve a lot of problems".*

"if the money we are going to be given is for re-building our lives and for building new houses, the risk of squandering it is high. We might be left more poor than we are now. We might end up not having homes."

"I can see families fighting about the money and not using it for the right reasons. Families are going break up. Why can't we get homes that are already built on the same size of land we are being moved from? That will be better than getting money which might not be enough to rebuild and which might cause family members to fight. There will be many things to fight about, I can tell you. Even fighting about the size of houses to build and the type of houses. Look at me, I am old and have no energy to deal with all the problems I think will happen. I am worried that these young ones can even run away with money and I will be left without a home. They must give us a homes and we just move in. I hope we will get enough space for the gardens, the chickens, the goats and the cows."

"There is a high risk of families not using the money well and being even more poor. I prefer being moved to a new home that is already built. I hope we will not be moved to land that is smaller. As you can see the size of the land we are on. Can that money really give us back all we have now? The buildings, the Kraals, the gardens, and look at the fruit trees, how will I get those back?"

"What if we get the money and it is not enough to rebuild our homes? What will happen? Where will we get more money from? Are we not going to be homeless?"

"There are going to be serious problems with this money. Which family member will be in charge of the money? Who will make decisions on how to use the money? What kind of new houses we will build? There is going be a lot of fighting?"

"I have had that these Eskom projects of relocating people have left them worse of in serious poverty, how true is it? Should we be worried?"
"I hear families break since money is given to one person who can go and use it for wrong things. What will be done to protect us? I fear being worse off after being forced to leave my home."

"Is Eskom not going to cheat us and we lose everything we have? I do not want to be left homeless."

"How will Eskom deal with disputes over who gets the money?"

Concerns raised by affected household members indicate fears of being worse off. Some affected household members fearing that the money intended to re-establish them in new locations, replace their houses and ensure a viable future could be squandered, leaving them impoverished and destitute.

On the basis of the various concerns raised by affected surveyed households, there was a request by several household members to involve the chiefs and councillors in the discussions and negotiations regarding compensation. They noted that the chiefs and councillors would add value to the discussions and play an important role in ensuring that they get fair compensation. The also felt it would help in getting clarity on the many questions some household members raised.

In general, based on past experiences experts note the monetary compensation is not best practice, even though in most jurisdictions people have a legal right to receive compensation this way. Follow up studies from which lessons should be learned reveal that a major failing of resettlement planning is attributed to inadequacy of compensation arrangements and monetary compensation. Time and again monetary compensation has been found to lead to impoverishment when it is relied upon as the main tool. Often this is because,

- ✓ Available funding is grossly insufficient. It is noted that often developers prefer to provide compensation in monetary terms because this delimits their financial commitment and minimises their risk. However, in most if not all situations where compensation has been paid only in monetary terms, the developers have under-assessed the total amount of compensation that should have been paid. As a consequence, the amount scheduled to be paid per resettled household is too low, placing extra costs on the shoulders of the displaced.

- ✓ This can contribute to adverse social and human rights impacts.

- ✓ There is a vast underestimation of the number of people needing to be compensated or resettled.

- ✓ Compensation amounts provided often do not meet policy requirements due to a range of multidimensional distortions, from distortions in inventorying losses and valuation of lost assets to distortions in conveying payments

- ✓ There is an underestimation of the extent of effort required to resettle households.

- ✓ Compensation is paid to resettled people far too late. In many cases a delay in the payment of compensation creates considerable stress and inconvenience, and generally leads to the affected people incurring additional costs. Where payments are delayed, especially for lengthy periods, when they are finally made they are likely to be inadequate because of the inflation that has taken place in the interim.

- ✓ Compensation tends to be based on an inventory of losses, not on what is needed to re-establish people into viable livelihoods at their new location. Invariably, this lack of consideration of what is needed to get resettled people re-established has led to their being made worse off and, in the worst cases, to their impoverishment.

As plans are made to manage the process of compensation, experts advise that it is important to realise that the true full cost of resettlement is usually very high and frequently far exceeds anticipated costs. The total cost includes not only the direct costs associated with replacement

housing and compensation for disruption, but also includes all the indirect costs incurred by the people being resettled and the host communities, and any other externalities that are created. Studies have shown that unfortunately, many governments and companies do not accept that they are liable for these indirect costs. Hence, an important principle of resettlement stating that compensation payments should be made before the land is taken and people need to be resettled.

Paragraph 9 of IFC PS5 requires that any loss of asset is compensated at full replacement cost, and that assistance to help displaced persons to become re-established is provided.

> *9 "When displacement cannot be avoided, the client will offer displaced communities and persons compensation for loss of assets at full replacement cost and other assistance to help them improve or restore their standards of living or livelihoods, as provided in this Performance Standard. Compensation standards will be transparent and applied consistently to all communities and persons affected by the displacement. Where livelihoods of displaced persons are land-based, or where land is collectively owned, the client will, where feasible, offer the displaced land-based compensation. The client will take possession of acquired land and related assets only after compensation has been made available and, where applicable, resettlement sites and moving allowances have been provided to the displaced persons in addition to compensation. The client will also provide opportunities to displaced communities and persons to derive appropriate development benefits from the project".*

Significance rating

Impact description: Inadequate compensation arrangements and monetary compensation							
Impact mitigation	Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Acceptability	Probability	Significance
Without mitigation	Negative	Local (2)	Permanent (4)	High (5)	High (3)	Highly probable (4)	High 18
With mitigation	Negative	Local (2)	Medium-term (2)	Medium (3)	Medium (2)	Probable (3)	Medium 12

Key mitigation measures

- ✓ The IFC PS5 (any loss of asset is compensated at full replacement cost, and that assistance to help displaced persons to become re-established is provided) must be observed ensuring that affected households are sufficiently compensated and assisted with the relocation process.

- ✓ A compensation assessment must be conducted to ensure fairness

- ✓ Affected household members should be provided with the option to receive cash payment compensation or non-cash payment compensation. In the case of none-cash payment compensation, suitable land to meet all the household requirements to rebuild their lives should be identified. A building contractor should be appointed to build new homes that are superior to the current homes.

- ✓ The compensation process and re-establishment of lives should be fully monitored by external authorities to ensure affected households and the most vulnerable are not left worse off and destitute.

- ✓ A formal grievance procedure should be implemented and communicated to affected households to ensure a fair and transparent process.
- ✓ Determination of appropriate compensation must be guided by clear set out regulations and consistent valuation. The interest in keeping costs as low as possible should not deprive affected households of the fair and adequate compensation required to re-establish their lives.

- ✓ Affected households should be provided with basic training on financial management through financial institutions available in their localities.
- ✓ Affected households should be made aware that a pre- and post-evaluation of their property value is possible.

- ✓ Given the dwelling setup of affected households, there are likely to be cases where a number of family members, including women and children, jointly own the affected property. In such a cases it may not be clear who should receive compensation. Conflicts may therefore arise. To mitigate such a situation, the acquiring project proponent should investigate which family members hold de facto interests in the affected property and will suffer personal losses.

- ✓ Compensation for the affected households should be designed in such a manner that it allows for a reasonably smooth transition for the affected households to settle in their new locations. Rebuilding the lives shall be quite a challenge, thus any assistance they can be offered should really be provided. It is important to premise such compensation on the principle that their new homes and lives should be better than they are currently.

10.1.6 Disturbance of Cultural, Spiritual and religious Sites

People in all cultures usually have places or sacred sites of such deep significance, that disturbance to such places or sites is desecration (Vanclay 2002). Heritage resources of cultural, spiritual and religious significance were identified in the project area during the site visit. These heritage resources comprise of,

- **Ancestral site**

Ancestral site marked with two small stone circles (Figure x and Figure x) were found on one of the affected properties in Ulundi. The property contains several structures of ruins (Figure x) that have been left to stand. The families relocated not far from the site. While they no longer

live on the property, they continue to use the site for traditional ritual. The property owner, who is also a Sangoma, stated that the ancestors still live on the property. The two stone circles represent the area in which the ancestors are seated. It is also the area where family members sit when they come to communicate or pray to the ancestors. Given that the site is connected to cultural beliefs of the family, it is of cultural significance. The family should be allowed to perform rituals related to moving the ancestor's spirits to the location of their new home.

Figure 10.1: 2 Ancestral sites marked with stone circle found on property in Ulundi

Figure 10.2: Structure of Ruins

- **Rondavels**

Rondavels (Figure xx) adorned with horns of either goat or cattle above the entrance were identified in compounds of affected surveyed households across Ulundi, and Mthonjaneni. These are traditional houses where families meet to conduct and carry out their rituals and traditional practices. It is where families communicate with their ancestors. Rondavels are therefore of cultural and spiritual significance.

Figure 10.3: Rondavels

- **Open Shembe Church**

One open Shembe church (Figure xx) with cultural, spiritual and religious significance was found in Mthonjaneni. It is a place of community worship that will be impacted by the proposed project. It will require relocation. The stone building next to the church grounds is used by members of the church community as a hall. A small outdoor toilet is also located on the property. The Pastor Shabangu who looks looks after property highlighted that the church has been part of the community for approximately 20 years.

Figure 10.4: Shembe church

- **Graves and Communal Cemeteries**

Graves within compounds of affected households or next to affected households (30 graves) were identified across Ulundi and Mthonjaneni LM. A total of 11 surveyed households had graves of their loved ones within their compounds. Communal cemeteries were also found in the project area. In Ulundi the community cemetery comprised of approximately 132 while the one in Mthonjaneni comprised of about 100 graves. While the community cemeteries do not fall within the direct path of the transmission line, they are located within the project area and falls within the 500 m zone of influence. Most of the affected households in Ulundi and Mthonjaneni LM indicated that they have loved one buried in the communal cemeteries.

Figure 10.5: Communal cemetery in Ulundi

Figure 10.6: Communal cemetery in Mthonjaneni

The graves and the cemeteries are of cultural significance with a high level of sensitivity. Respondents from all affected surveyed households indicated that the graves must be avoided and allowed to remain where they are. They noted that it is culturally unacceptable to exhume and relocate the dead who were laid to rest. Interviewed household members recommended that the graves should be fenced off and a grave management plan be developed. Respondents of affected households expressed the need to conduct some rituals that will enable them to inform the ancestors about the project and the relocation. Some of the rituals will include

informing the ancestors of the impending relocations as well as notifications to alert them of the new households for continued linkage with those who have departed from this planet.

Significance rating

Impact description: Disturbance of Cultural, Spiritual and religious significance							
Impact mitigation	Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Acceptability	Probability	Significance
Without mitigation	Negative	Local (2)	Permanent (4)	High (5)	High (3)	Definite (5)	High 19
With mitigation	Negative	Local (2)	Permanent (4)	Medium (3)	Medium (2)	Definite (5)	Medium 16

Key Mitigation measures

- It was established that all affected surveyed households subscribe to traditional belief systems. As such, relocation will have to be preceded by ritual ceremonies performed to inform the ancestors of the impending relocations as well as notifications to alert them of the new households for continued linkage.
- Ensure that any component of cultural, spiritual and religious sites forms part of the RAP;
- Ensure the community is included in the decisions regarding the cultural, spiritual and religious sites;
- Ensure that all cultural, spiritual and religious aspects are dealt with to the satisfaction of affected households;
- No graves or burial grounds may be altered in any way without the permission of the families concerned and a permit from heritage authorities in the respective province;
- Ensure that the recommendations provided by the heritage specialist are followed. These are presented in the heritage impact assessment report.

10.1.7 Employment Opportunities

Anticipated job creation

It is clear from the baseline study, that unemployment levels in the three affected local municipalities are high. On this premise there is little doubt that the project area is in desperate need of job creation initiatives. Several members of affected surveyed households enquired about job prospects. They were interested in employment opportunities. While the discussion

regarding employment was not entertained during the survey, it can be noted that the potential for job creation exists. Activities of both resettlement and construction of the proposed Mfolozi-mbewu multi circuit 765kv transmission line have potential to create jobs that require,

- ✓ **Low skilled workers -** these do not necessarily require previous work experience and would be employed to do basic labour such as site clearing, digging of trenches, erecting fences, laying foundations, etc.

- ✓ **Semi-skilled workers -** these include machine operators, drivers, rehabilitation workers, etc. It is expected that some of these positions would be filled by people from the local and district Municipalities

- ✓ **Skilled professionals -** thes would include Engineers, Land Surveyor, Project Manager, Assistant Project Managers etc.

It is envisaged that the following activities will generate employment opportunities.

- ✓ Preparing ground for building Eskom Towers
- ✓ Relocating affected households
- ✓ Construction of new homes for affected households
- ✓ Clearing of servitudes by cutting trees and preparing access roads
- ✓ Transportation of construction material
- ✓ Providing agricultural extension services to affected households
- ✓ Training on financial management for affected households
- ✓ Providing counselling services to affected households
- ✓ Establishment of access roads;
- ✓ Undertake site preparation;
- ✓ Transport of components and construction equipment to site;
- ✓ Establishment of construction equipment camps;

It is recommended that a recruitment policy that takes employment equity of minority groups (disabled people, the youth and women) into consideration (wherever possible) be developed to increase the potential employment advantages of the proposed developments. This would enable maximum use of local labour, hence enhance the magnitude and overall significance of employment creation and employment equity.

Local businesses could also benefit greatly from the proposed developments, through the use of local service providers for a number of development needs. Increased economic activities due to resettlement and new infrastructure will also contribute to an increase in spending. There may also be tender and sub-contractor opportunities for local businesses.

Anticipated inflow of jobseekers

It should be noted that during the construction period for the proposed Mfolozi-mbewu multi circuit 765kv transmission line there is a possibility that of an inflow of temporary workers and jobseekers. This could result in negative social impacts such as,

- ✓ Conflict between locals and 'outsiders' if an outside labour force receives preference;
- ✓ Conflict due to cultural differences and impacts on social networks;
- ✓ Provision of accommodation for temporary workers could be an economic and social burden for the developer and the Local Municipality;
- ✓ Outsiders' that have short-term relationships with local women resulting in unwanted pregnancies and an increase in HIV/AIDS and other STD's;
- ✓ An increase of single-headed households without a main income provider and pressure on social grants;
- ✓ Safety and security issues for the surrounding communities due to an influx of 'jobless' people.

However, with pro-active mitigation and appropriate management of an inflow of temporary workers and jobseekers to the area, the significance of the impact could be addressed.

Significance rating

Impact description: Employment creation							
Impact mitigation	Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Acceptability	Probability	Significance
Without mitigation	Positive	Regional (3)	Short-term (1)	Medium (3)	Low (1)	Highly probable (4)	Medium 12
With mitigation	Positive	Regional (3)	Short-term (1)	Medium (3)	Low (1)	Definite (5)	Medium 13
Impact description: Inflow of temporary workers and jobseekers							

Impact mitigation	Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Acceptability	Probability	Significance
Without mitigation	Negative	Regional (3)	Short-term (1)	Medium (3)	High (3)	Highly probable (4)	Medium 14
With mitigation	Negative	Regional (3)	Short-term (1)	Low (1)	Medium (2)	Highly probable (4)	Medium 11

Key mitigation measures

- Low skilled job opportunities should be afforded to local residents. Preference should be given to workers from the affected local municipal area, followed by people from the district municipality and then the broader Province.

- Payment should comply with applicable Labour Law legislation in terms of minimum wages.

- Where possible labour-intensive methods of construction should be utilised.

- Equal opportunities for employment should be created to ensure that the local female population also has access to these opportunities. Females should be encouraged to apply for positions. Therefore, a policy regarding employment equity of minority groups (women, youth and the disabled) should be formulated and implemented wherever possible.

- Work with affected local municipalities and other relevant structures to compile a database of available workforce, skills requirements, etc., to minimize the number of workers to be brought in from other areas.

- Liaise with affected local municipalities regarding their methods used to advertise for construction workers. Take care not to create unrealistic expectations and communicate the time frames, skills requirements and commencement of the activities clearly to the communities.

- A central labour desk where workers can register should be set up. Only registered workers should be considered for employment. The labour desks should be set up at the most suitable localities within the communities. This process should be done in consultation with a Community Liaison Officer (CLO), Ward Councilors and community representatives. The central labour desk must ensure that the needs of all parties and interests are dealt with fairly and that this occurs within the overall programme and budget of the projects.

- Provide sufficient sanitation and refuse facilities.

- Individuals with the potential to develop their skills should be afforded training opportunities. This entails Establishing a training and skills development programme to facilitate access to

basic skills Training. This would be a key component of the overall employment strategy. The responsibility for implementing the training programme might rest with the contractor in collaboration with the developer. The intention of building skills of local workers is to be able to sustain a level of income through selling their skills either in the labour market or as local contractors.

10.1.8 Disruption of support systems for vulnerable groups

Given the state of poverty and high decency levels of affected surveyed households across Ulundi, Mthonjaneni and Mfolozi local municipalities, it is important to acknowledge that these are highly vulnerable households. This means they have less capacity to cope with, resist and recover from any stressors they may be exposed to during the resettlement process. However, as highlighted in the baseline study, among the affected surveyed households, there are also specific social groups identified as most vulnerable. These comprise of female-headed households, disabled household members, unemployed household heads, households headed by elderly persons with no means of support, as well as households where family structures are not well defined (polygamous family of extended family) and children. Within these vulnerable social groups, the majority being unemployed female household heads and children.

During the household surveys, it was noted that over the years, surveyed affected households have development neighbourhood and familial relationships that have enabled them to establish a social support system that sustains their lives. This kind of interdependence is an important mechanism used to cope with psychological, financial and food security related challenges. The social support system is also used to cope with child rearing challenges. Through neighbourhood and familial mutual help households are able to

- ✓ Share food
- ✓ Request for financial assistance by borrowing from each other
- ✓ Look after each other's children
- ✓ Seek emotional support in difficult and trying times

The social support system is very critical to the lives of the most vulnerable groups. Resettlement threatens to disrupt a social support system that has taken years to develop. It threatens to disorganise a system that provides sense of community and social strength to the vulnerable groups. In a new environment they are likely to have limited access to social support systems that can enable them to cope with stressors in a new environment, as it may take time to be accepted and to build new relationships in host communities. Not having the neighbourhood and familial mutual help to cope with stressors they are likely to be exposed to in a new environment, will heighten their vulnerability and affect them physiologically. Having to build new relationships and develop new patterns of life in an unfamiliar environment may be frustrating and stressful, especially if the host community is not accommodating. This could further impact the ability of vulnerable groups to adjust to the new area. These are important issues that need to be acknowledged and accounted for during the resettlement planning process, to avoid heightening the vulnerability of groups that are already fragile. Their long-term welfare should be considered.

Significance rating

10.1.9 Impact description: Disruption of support systems							
Impact mitigation	Status	Extent	Duration	Intensity	Acceptability	Probability	Significance
Without mitigation	Negative	Local (2)	Permanent (4)	High (5)	High (3)	Definite (5)	High 19
With mitigation	Negative	Local (2)	Permanent (4)	Medium (3)	Medium (2)	Definite (5)	Medium 16

Key mitigation measures

- Ensure their human rights are respected.
- Design assistance measures to effectively involve vulnerable groups in resettlement planning and benefit from development opportunities.
- Allow for time and patience to engage meaningfully with them to understand their needs and how best to support them in meeting those needs during the resettlement process. Relocation assistance must be suited to their needs.
- Women should not be excluded but be allowed equal opportunity to participate in the negotiation of the compensation packages, eligibility requirements, resettlement assistance, suitability of proposed resettlement sites and the proposed timing.
- Provide appropriated support and assistance to enable vulnerable groups to adjust to the new environment.

11 CONCLUSION

Resettlement is a critical aspect of the proposed Mfolozi-mbewu multi circuit 765kv transmission power line. In this regard it is imperative that the project develop, a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP). This should be in line with international best practice and should go beyond discussions of asset acquisition and compensation. It is critical to ensure that the resettlement process does not expose affected households and vulnerable groups to unnecessary risks. The planning and implementation of resettlement should be done with empathy and respect for human rights,

bearing in mind that people's lives will be hugely affected. The magnitude of anticipated impacts and the enormity of it all are such that the resettlement process is likely dominate the lives of the affected households for many years. The potential severity of the various social impacts highlighted in this report, cannot be overemphasized. For example, affected households will no longer be able to utilise the land they currently have for farming activities such as growing fruits trees and vegetables. They will suffer loss of dwellings, sense of place and current social support systems. The nature of such losses will be for a lifetime. They will experience emotional trauma and various inconveniences. Therefore, it is not surprising that the first principle of resettlement is to avoid it all together if possible.

While it can be argued that resettlement has the potential to be an opportunity for development, empirical evidence has shown otherwise. Generally, resettlement in projects has not been given enough attention within projects. It is important to reflect on lessons based on other experiences that have been highlighted throughout this report so as to plan better and ensure transparency and fairness during the negotiation process. Ensure that all the critical social issues are given the attention they deserve and that sufficient resources and time are allocated for the resettlement of affected households.

It is imperative that the project does not fall into the trap of focusing on minimising immediate cost but rather focus and commit to effectively managing the social risks affected households are likely to experience. To decrease the potential for harm and hurt, and to maximise the possibility of better resettlement outcomes, affected households should not be undermined but rather be actively involved and enabled to be effective actors who can negotiate to protect their own interests. Women, children and vulnerable groups must be equally involved and their views considered. The exclusion of women and children is often heightened is cases where they have no legal ownership to compensatory assets. However, it must be noted that beyond compensation of assets, there are a host of other key issues to consider that require the inclusion of women and children. It should be in the interest of the project, that affected households in the long-term feel they negotiated a fair deal.