

**BASIC ASSESSMENT (BA) AND WATER USE LICENCE APPLICATION (WULA)
PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF LOUWSBURG
TELECOMMUNICATION RADIO TOWER WITHIN ABAQULUSI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY,
KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
INVITATION TO COMMENT**

APPLICANT: Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd

BACKGROUND: The proposed construction of Telecommunication Radio Towers is part of a suite of projects collectively known as the Transnet Coal Link Upgrade, various projects were proposed including the Construction of Nzalo and Duma 400kV Main Transmission Stations (MTS) in Kwazulu Natal Province. Eskom is required to provide communication services for the MTSs that would serve as voice, data as well as other telecommunications and ancillary services for Eskom staff and contractors for the Nzalo and Duma Substations. Various Telecommunication Radio Tower Sites have been investigated including the **Proposed Construction of Louwsburg Telecommunication Radio Tower** within AbaQulusi Local Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal Province. The proposed Towers will be located approximately 2km north of the town of Louwsburg in Ward 1 next to the Ithala Game Reserve on the RE of ERF 603 Louwsburg.

LEGISLATION: In terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998), (NEMA, Act 107 of 1998, as amended) and GNR 324 to 327 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, a Basic Assessment Process is required for the environmental authorisation of Listed Activities associated with this project from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE). In terms of Section 21 of the National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998), a Water Use License is required as a result of the project's proximity to watercourses. Envirovolution Consulting (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Eskom as the Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioners to conduct the Basic Assessment and Public Participation Process (PPP) for the proposed development.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW:

The Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) has been prepared and made available for a 30-day public review and comment **from 31 August 2023 to 02 October 2023**. You are invited to review the reports at the following locations:

LOUWSBURG LIBRARY

615 Queen Street, Louwsburg



Should you require access to the electronic copy the reports or to obtain further information and register on the project database, kindly submit your name, contact information and interest in the project to Sheila Bolingo at Tel: 087 898 5000; Fax: 0861 626 222, E-mail: sheila@envirovolution.co.za. **Please submit written comments by Monday, 02 October 2023.**