




ESKOM DISTRIBUTION FREE STATE REGION

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A 132KV DISTRIBUTION POWER LINE BETWEEN TWEESPRUIT SUBSTATION AND THE NEWLY PROPOSED WELROUX SUBSTATION, AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE DRIEDORP AND WEPENER SUBSTATIONS INCLUDING ALL ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, WITHIN THE FREE-STATE PROVINCE

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DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

Contents	Page
1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Overview of the proposed project	2
1.1.1 Proposed Route Alternatives	3
1.1.2 Tower Types	3
1.1.3 Proposed Substations	4
1.2 Brief Description of the Receiving Environment	4
1.3 Project Responsibilities	13
1.3.1 Project manager	14
1.3.2 Environmental Control Officer	14
1.3.3 Contractor	15
1.3.4 Proponent	15
1.3.5 The Environmental Liaison Officer (ELO)	15
1.3.6 Environmental Audits	20
1.4 Layout of Environmental Management Programme	23
1.4.1 Introduction	23
1.4.2 Pre-construction (Site establishment)	23
1.4.3 Construction	23
1.4.4 Operation	24
1.4.5 Decommissioning Phase	24
1.5 Objectives of an EMPr	25
1.5.1 Environmental monitoring	26
1.6 Compliance with the EMPr	26
1.6.1 Method Statements	27
1.6.2 Penalties for non-compliance	27
1.6.3 Training and awareness	28
1.6.3.1 Training of construction workers	28
1.6.3.2 Contractor performance	28
1.7 Applicable Legislation, Development Strategies and Guidelines	29
2 MITIGATION GUIDELINES	30
2.1 Introduction	30
2.2 Pre-Construction Phase	31

2.2.1	Site preparation.....	31
2.2.2	Consultation	37
2.2.3	Site Clearing	38
2.3	Construction Phase	39
2.3.1	Construction Camp	39
2.3.2	Construction traffic and access.....	45
2.3.3	Environmental Education and Training.....	48
2.3.4	Soils and Geology.....	51
2.3.5	Agricultural Impact	55
2.3.6	Erosion Control	57
2.3.7	Water Use and Quality.....	61
2.3.8	Surface and Groundwater.....	63
2.3.9	Waste Management.....	70
2.3.10	Biodiversity	74
2.3.11	Air Quality	79
2.3.12	Noise and Vibrations	81
2.3.13	Energy use	83
2.3.14	Employment.....	83
2.3.15	Occupational Health and Safety.....	86
2.3.16	Security.....	94
2.3.17	Social Environment.....	96
2.3.18	Community Engagement	99
2.3.19	Visual Impact	100
2.3.20	Heritage and Cultural Resources	102
2.4	Operation Phase.....	104
2.4.1	Construction Site Decommissioning	104
2.4.2	Rehabilitation and Maintenance	106
2.4.3	Operation and Maintenance	108
2.4.4	Air Quality	109
2.4.5	Agricultural Impact	110
2.4.6	Biodiversity.....	112
2.4.7	Surface Water	114
2.4.8	Employment	115
2.4.9	Health and Safety	116
2.4.10	Social Environment.....	117
2.4.11	Visual Impact	119
2.5	Decommissioning phase.....	120
2.5.1	On-going Stakeholder involvement.....	120
2.5.2	Community health and safety	121
2.5.3	Waste Management.....	122
2.5.4	Surface and Groundwater.....	122
2.5.5	Biodiversity.....	123
2.5.6	Air Quality	124
2.5.7	Heritage and Cultural Resources.....	124
3	MANAGEMENT PLANS.....	125
3.1	Alien Invasive Management Plan.....	125
3.2	Plant Rescue Protection Plan	126
3.3	Re-Vegetation and Habitat Rehabilitation Plan	127
3.4	Open Space Management Plan	128
3.5	Erosion Management Plan	129
3.6	Traffic Management Plan.....	131
3.7	Storm Water Management Plan	132
4	CONCLUSION.....	134
4.1	Pre-Construction Phase	134

4.2	Construction Phase	134
4.3	Operational Phase.....	135
4.4	Decommissioning Phase.....	135

List of Tables:

Table 1: Summary of findings	6
Table 2: Responsibilities.....	15
Table 3: Environmental Management Responsibilities	18
Table 4: Example of Procedure for Conducting Audits	20
Table 5: Site preparation	31
Table 6: Consultation.....	37
Table 7: Site Clearing	38
Table 8: Construction Camp.....	39
Table 9: Construction Traffic and Access.....	45
Table 10: Environmental Education and Training	48
Table 11: Soils and Geology	51
Table 11: Agricultural Impact.....	55
Table 12: Erosion Control.....	57
Table 13: Water Use and Quality	61
Table 14: Surface and Groundwater	63
Table 15: Waste Management	70
Table 16: Biodiversity	74
Table 17: Air Quality	79
Table 18: Noise and Vibrations	81
Table 19: Energy use	83
Table 20: Employment.....	83
Table 21: Occupational Health and Safety.....	86
Table 22: Security.....	94
Table 23: Social Environment.....	96
Table 24: Community Engagement.....	99
Table 25: Visual Impact	100
Table 26: Heritage and Cultural Resources	102
Table 27: Construction Site Decommissioning.....	104
Table 28: Rehabilitation and Maintenance	106
Table 29: Operation and Maintenance	108
Table 30: Air Quality	109
Table 11: Agricultural Impact.....	110
Table 31: Biodiversity	112
Table 20: Employment.....	115
Table 32: Health and Safety	116
Table 23: Social Environment.....	117

Table 33: Visual Impact	119
Table 34: On-going Stakeholder involvement	120
Table 35: Community health and safety	121
Table 36: Waste Management	122
Table 37: Surface and Groundwater	122
Table 38: Biodiversity	123
Table 39: Air Pollution	124
Table 26: Heritage and Cultural Resources	124
Table 40: Alien Invasive Management Plan	125
Table 41: Plant Rescue Protection Plan	126
Table 42: Re-Vegetation and Habitat Rehabilitation Plan	127
Table 43: Open Space Management Plan	128
Table 44: Erosion Management Plan	129
Table 45: Traffic Management Plan	131
Table 46: Storm Water Management Plan	132

List of Figures

Figure 1: Route Overview Map	5
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Glossary of terms:

Construction Phase: The activities pertaining to the preparation for and the physical construction of the proposed development.

Contractor: Persons/organisations contracted by Eskom to carry out parts of the work for the proposed development.

Decommissioning: Means to take out of active service permanently or dismantle partly or wholly, or closure of a facility to the extent that it cannot be readily re-commissioned.

Engineer (E) / Project Manager (PM): Person/organisation appointed by the Contractor to oversee the work of all consultants, sub-developers, contractors, residents and visitors.

Environment: NEMA defines "environment" as "the surroundings within which humans exist and that are made up of the land, water and atmosphere of the earth; micro-organisms, plant and animal life; any interrelationships among and between them and the physical, chemical aesthetic and cultural properties and conditions that influence human health and well-being".

Environmental Control Officer (ECO): Person/organisation appointed by the Contractor who will provide direction to the Project Manager concerning the activities within the Construction Zone, and who will be responsible for conducting the environmental audit of the project during the construction phase of the project according to the provisions of the Environmental Management Plan.

Environmental Management Programme (EMPr): The EMPr is a detailed plan for the implementation of the mitigation measures to minimise negative environmental impacts during the life-cycle of a project. The EMPr contributes to the preparation of the contract documentation by developing clauses to which the contractor must adhere for the protection of the environment. The EMPr specifies how the construction of the project is to be carried out and includes the actions required for the Post-Construction Phase to ensure that all the environmental impacts are managed for the duration of the project's life-cycle.

Operational Phase (Post Construction): The period following the Construction Phase, during which the proposed development will be operational.

Pre-Construction Phase: The period prior to commencement of the Construction Phase, during which various activities associated with the preparation for the Construction Phase will be undertaken.

Rehabilitation: Rehabilitation is defined as the return of a disturbed area to a state which approximates the state (where possible) which it was in before disruption. Rehabilitation for the purposes of this specification is aimed at post-reinstatement re-vegetation of a disturbed area and the insurance of a stable land surface. Re-vegetation should aim to accelerate the natural

succession processes so that the plant community develops in the desired way, i.e. promote rapid vegetation establishment.

Site Manager: The person, representing the Contractor, responsible for all the Contractor's activities on the site including supervision of the construction staff and activities associated with the Construction Phase. The Site Manager will liaise with the Project Manager in order to ensure that the project is conducted in accordance with the Environmental Management Programme.

Abbreviations:

BA	Basic Assessment
BAR	Basic Assessment Report
C	Contractor
EA	Environmental Authorisation
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
ECO	Environmental Control Officer
ELO	Environmental Liaison Officer
EMPr	Environmental Management Programme
EA	Environmental Authorisation
I&APs	Interested and Affected Parties
kV	Kilovolt
MC	Main Contractor
SO	Safety Officer
PM	Project Manager
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheets

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DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

1 INTRODUCTION

Eskom Distribution Free State Region (hereafter referred to as, Eskom) is proposing the construction of a 132kV double circuit power line from the existing Tweespruit Substation to the new proposed Welroux Substation (hereafter referred to as, the proposed development), Free State Province. The proposed development will also involve the construction of the new Wepener and Driedorp Substations along the proposed power line route. Finally, it is proposed that the Welbedacht Dam and Tweespruit Substations will be refurbished.

This EMPr has been compiled in line with the recommendations from the Basic Assessment (BA) being undertaken for the proposed project, as well as from issues identified by SiVEST Environmental Division. This EMPr will be updated with the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation (if approved), additional recommendations following specialist walk-down assessments and re-submitted to the DEA for final approval prior to the commencement of construction on the project site. Additional details will also be provided by the appointed contractors and engineers once the detailed design has been completed.

1.1 Overview of the proposed project

Eskom is proposing the construction of a 132kV Distribution Power Line between Tweespruit and Welroux Substations, and the proposed construction of the Welroux Substation including all associated infrastructure, within the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality, The Naledi, Mohokare and Mantsopa Local Municipalities, in the Free State Province.

The study area is located within the Free State Province within the Xhariep District Municipality. More specifically however, the proposed power line traverses the three local municipal areas and one metropolitan municipality. These include the Naledi, Mantsopa and Mohokare Local Municipalities and the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality. The proposed power line originates from the existing Tweespruit Substation in the town of Tweespruit and routes southwards towards the newly proposed Welroux Substation, located 6.36km southwest of Babel and 8.27km southeast of Bankkraal. The landscape is predominantly rural in character. Land uses for the greater part of the proposed power line encompass vacant land, agricultural farming activities and conservation area.

The project is for the proposed construction of a 132kV double circuit power line that will be approximately 145km in total length from the existing Tweespruit Substation to the newly proposed construction of the Welroux substation. The proposed power line will consist of four sections of power line that will connect via the existing substations that will be refurbished (Tweespruit and Welbedachtdam Substation) and to the three newly proposed substations (Driedorp, Wepener and Welroux Substations). The power lines therefore are not separate power lines but rather connecting lines between the existing substations that will be refurbished and those that are being proposed along the greater power line network. The registered servitude width will be 31 metres (15.5 metres either side of the centre line). The four sections of power lines include the following:

- Proposed construction of a double circuit 132kV power line from the existing Tweespruit Substation that will be refurbished to the newly proposed Driedorp Substation (approximately 54km in length);
- Proposed construction of a double circuit 132kV power line from newly proposed Driedorp Rural Substation to existing Welbedachtdam Substation that will be refurbished (approximately 41km in length);
- Proposed construction of a 132kV power line from the newly proposed Wepener Substation to the existing Welbedachtdam Substation (approximately 22km in length);
- Proposed construction of the 132kV power line from the Welbedachtdam Substation to newly proposed Welroux Substation (approximately 29km in length).

Additionally, Eskom proposes to refurbish the Tweespruit and Welbedachtdam Substations, construction of a new 88/22/11kV Driedorp Substation with 2x10MVA and 6 feederbays on the Medium Voltage (MV) side and 2 feeder bays on 88kV side (proposed location is next to the existing Driedorp Substation), the construction of a new 88/22/11kV substation at Wepener (2x10MVA),

and a loop in and loop out power line from the existing Tweespruit-Driedorp power line to the new Wepener Substation.

1.1.1 Proposed Route Alternatives

It is proposed that route corridor and locality alternatives will be investigated for the proposed development. Two (2) alternative corridor routes will be proposed for each of the four sections of the proposed power line. The corridors will be 1km wide (500m either side of the centre line). Two (2) alternative locations will be proposed for the new substation. A 500m assessment radius will be investigated for placement of the new proposed substation. The four sections of power line corridors include the following:

- Proposed construction of a double circuit 132kV power line from the existing Tweespruit Substation that will be refurbished to the newly proposed Driedorp Substation (approximately 54km in length);
- Proposed construction of a double circuit 132kV power line from newly proposed Driedorp Rural Substation to existing Welbedachtdam Substation that will be refurbished (approximately 41km in length);
- Proposed construction of a 132kV power line from the newly proposed Wepener Substation to the existing Welbedachtdam Substation (approximately 22km in length);
- Proposed construction of the 132kV power line from the Welbedachtdam Substation to newly proposed Welroux Substation (approximately 29km in length).

1.1.2 Tower Types

The tower types that are used will vary depending on the most appropriate structure, the terrain traversed, ground clearance requirements, geology, etc. the tower types may consist of the following:

- Mono-pole guyed intermediate suspension structures;
- Mono-pole self-supporting intermediate suspension structures;
- Mono-pole angle suspension structures;
- Mono-pole strain structures;
- H-Pole structures; and
- 3 Pole strain structures.

The final tower types that will be used for the proposed 132kV power line will be determined once the routing has been negotiated and a servitude has been secured. The fountain depths will range between 1.5-2m. Spanning lengths between tower structures will be between 225-250m. The tower

type structures will vary in length from 18-24m in height. Finally, a Kingbird conductor is likely to be used.

1.1.3 Proposed Substations

Additionally, Eskom proposes to refurbish the existing Tweespruit and Welbedacht Substations. Three (3) new substation will also be built which includes:

- Construction of the new 88/22/11kV Driedorp Substation with 2x10MVA and 6 feederbays on Medium Voltage (MV) side and 2 feeder bays on the 88kV side;
- Construction of the new 132/11kV 1X10MVA Wepener Substation; and
- Construction of the new 88/22kV 1X10MVA Welroux Substation.

Two (2) alternative substation locations will be proposed for each of the new proposed substations. These include the following:

- Driedorp SS Alternative 1 – Proposed Eastern Driedorp Substation;
- Driedorp SS Alternative 2 – Proposed Western Driedorp Substation;
- Wepener SS Alternative 1 – Proposed Eastern Wepener Substation;
- Wepener SS Alternative 2 – Proposed Western Wepener Substation;
- Welroux SS Alternative 1 – Proposed Northern Welroux Substation; and
- Welroux SS Alternative 2 – Proposed Southern Welroux Substation.

1.2 Brief Description of the Receiving Environment

The study area is located in the Free State Province within the Thabo Mofutsanyane and Xhariep District Municipalities. More specifically however, the proposed power line traverses the three (3) local municipal areas and one metropolitan municipality. These include the Naledi, Mantsopa and Mohokare Local Municipalities and the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality. The proposed power line originates from the town of Tweespruit and routes southwards towards the newly proposed Welroux Substation, located 6.36km southwest of Babe; and 8.27km southeast of Bankkraal. The general study area intersects the N8, R709, R702, R701 and the R26.

Land uses in the area encompass predominantly vacant, cultivated, conservation and residential land. Agricultural activities present mainly comprise of grain and cattle farming. The landscape is predominantly rural in character with few isolated rural farmsteads and settlement areas in the vicinity of the study area.

- Visual;
- Socio-economic.

A summary of the major findings are indicated in the table below:

Table 1: Summary of findings

Environmental Parameter	Summary of major findings	Recommendations
Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Significant parts of the study area consist of cultivated fields, especially in the northern parts. Natural vegetation is in relatively good condition. There are four regional vegetation types occurring in the study area, Eastern Free State Clay Grassland (listed as Vulnerable in the National List of Ecosystems that are Threatened and need of protection (GN1002 of 2011)), Aliwal North Dry Grassland, Besemkaree Koppies Shrubland and Basotho Montane Shrubland. ▪ There are three Declining plant species that could occur in habitats that are present in the study area. One species of protected tree (according to the National Forest Act, 1998) could potentially occur in the study area, and one protected plant species (according to the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004). i) There is one near threatened amphibian and one near threatened reptile species that have a geographical distribution that 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The main recommendation to reduce impacts on natural habitats is to ensure that general mitigation measures are implemented. ▪ Power line Alternative 1 is preferred for the Tweespruit to Driedorp section. ▪ There are no particular preferences for any of the other power line sections. ▪ Driedorp Substation Alternative 2 is preferred. ▪ Welroux Substation Alternative 2 (south) is preferred. ▪ There is no particular preference for the Wepener Substation.

Environmental Parameter	Summary of major findings	Recommendations
	<p>includes the study area. There are six (6) mammal species and twenty three (23) bird species of conservation concern that could potentially occur in the study area. The protected species including, Black Wildebeest, Cape Clawless Otter, Black-footed Cat, the Brown Hyaena, Spotted-necked Otter, Leopard, Cape Fox, Southern African Hedgehog, Giant Bullfrog, Kori Bustard, Ludwig's Bustard, Blue Crane, Martial Eagle, African Marsh Harrier, Southern Bald Ibis, Lesser Kestrel, African Grass Owl, Secretarybird, Black Stork and the Cape Vulture have a likelihood of occurring on site, but are all, except the Southern African Hedgehog, considered to be mobile animals that are unlikely to be significantly affected by the proposed development of the proposed infrastructure .</p>	
Surface Water	<p>Ultimately, it was found that there are a total of two hundred and ninety nine (299) surface water features, comprising of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ One-hundred and fifty-five (155) unchannelled valley-bottom wetlands; ▪ Twenty-eight (28) man-made impoundments; ▪ Fifty-five (55) hillslope seep wetlands; ▪ Three (3) floodplain wetlands; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is highly recommended that the following proposed power line corridors are selected to minimise impacts to surface water resources: ▪ Alternative 2 for the Tweespruit to Driedorp power line section, ▪ Alternative 1 for the Driedorp to Wepener power line section, ▪ Alternative 2 for the Wepener to Welbedachtdam power line section, be used,

Environmental Parameter	Summary of major findings	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ten (10) natural drainage lines, with one (1) artificial drainage line; ▪ Thirty (30) depression wetlands; ▪ Nine (9) channelled valley-bottom wetlands; ▪ Eight (8) rivers, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bokspoortspruit River ○ Caledon River ○ Klein-Leeu River and Furrow ○ Mokopu River ○ Rietspruit River ○ Sandspruit River ○ And three (3) unnamed rivers ▪ Additionally, a total of seven (7) erosion gullies were identified within the proposed development area. ▪ A 100m buffer was applied to the drainage lines, watercourses and associated riparian habitats, and a 50m buffer zone was applied to the wetlands. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No preference was found between Alternative 1 and 2 for the Welbedachtdam to Welroux Power Line section. ▪ Similarly, it is highly recommended that the proposed substation Western Alternative 2 for both the Driedorp and Wepener Substation locations be used, as this will reduce potential impacts on surface water resources to a minimum. No preference was found between Welroux Substation Alternative 1 and 2. ▪ As far as possible, the final proposed power line route and substation locations are to avoid surface water resources. ▪ A final wetland walk-down study is to be conducted once the final power line route has been planned. ▪ Consultation with the Department of Water and Sanitation will be required to determine the need for any authorisations (for example, a General Authorisation) or licenses (for example, a Water Use License) that will be required, once the final tower positions and substation locations have been determined and the wetland walk-down assessment has been undertaken.
Floodlines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The floodlines were determined for ten watercourses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Despite the low impact significance rating of the 1:100 year floods on the

Environmental Parameter	Summary of major findings	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The results showed that larger catchment areas gave rise to larger 1:100 year peak discharge results. Crossings 01 and 04 were found to have the largest 1:100 year peak discharge results (8 096.7 m³/s and 7 254.1 m³/s, respectively) due to their contributing catchment areas being the largest (16 451.4 km² and 13 447.6 km², respectively). The area inundated at these sites was comparatively large as a result of the design flood magnitude. ▪ Crossings 09 and 10 had the smallest contributing catchment areas and, consequently, the lowest 1:100 year peak discharge values. The inundation extents at these two sites were also comparatively large. This was due to the low gradient of the surrounding floodplain at these two sites and the proximity of the crossing sites to the confluence of the Klein-Leeu River and its unnamed tributary. ▪ An evaluation of the specific attributes of the site indicated that the main impact of the assessed floods on the development site would be increased erosion rates. This impact would be greatest during the construction phase and mitigation measures will need to be implemented to reduce the impact severity. 	<p>receiving environment (following the implementation of mitigation measures), cognizance of the extent of the inundation areas should be made when undertaking the development. This includes positioning of the pylons and other associated infrastructure. In so doing, factors such as increased erosion risk during the 1:100 year design flood event will be mitigated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tweespruit_Driedorp Alternative 2 is the preferred option; ▪ Driedorp_Wepener Alternative 1 is the preferred option; ▪ No preference was shown towards the Driedorp_Welbedachtdam and Welbedachtdam_Welroux Alternatives. ▪ No preference was shown for the Driedorp and Welroux Substation Alternatives. ▪ The Wepener Substation Western Alternative 2 was the preferred option.

Environmental Parameter	Summary of major findings	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The impact was rated as medium negative according to the scoring. 	
Agricultural potential and soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agricultural impacts of the proposed development have low significance, and from an agricultural impact perspective the development can therefore proceed. ▪ Furthermore, the differences between route options in terms of their agricultural impact are very slight and agricultural impact is not therefore a significant factor in choosing between different route options. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ None.
Visual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Most of the study area has a natural or pastoral visual character. No visually sensitive receptors were identified. ▪ The study area is not typically valued or utilised for its natural scenic value and therefore a low density of visually sensitive receptors were identified during the fieldwork. ▪ A desktop investigation revealed that several farmsteads are present within the study area which may perceive the power line to be an unwelcome intrusion. ▪ A visual impact analysis revealed that a high and moderate visual impact will be experienced within close proximity to the proposed power line in areas where potentially sensitive farmsteads are present, however most of the study area is classified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tweespruit_Driedorp Alternative 1 and 2 are favourable. ▪ Driedorp_Wepener Alternative 2 is the preferred option. ▪ Driedorp_Welbedachtdam Alternative 1 and 2 are favourable. ▪ Welbedachtdam_Welroux Alternative 1 and 2 are favourable. ▪ Driedorp Substation Alternative 1 and 2 are favourable. ▪ Wepener Substation Alternative 1 is the preferred option. ▪ Welroux Substation Alternative 2 is the preferred option.

Environmental Parameter	Summary of major findings	Recommendations
	into a zone of low or negligible visual impact.	
Heritage	<p>The background research and fieldwork has shown that the Eastern Free State area between Tweespruit, Wepener and the Caledon valley has a rich history spanning a vast timeframe from the Later Stone Age to the South African War. The survey yielded 35 heritage related sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Thirteen cemeteries of which 12 is situated in the study area; ▪ Twenty one (21) historical sites; and ▪ One provincial monument (T 12). 	<p>Cemeteries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adjust the development layout and demarcate site with at least a 20-meter buffer. In the case of T12 this buffer must be made at least 100 meters to keep the development away from the provincial monument. ▪ In the event that the sites cannot be excluded from the development footprint a grave relocation process as described in Section 5 of this reports needs to be implemented. <p>Historical</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adjust Corridors and position of pylons to avoid these structures; ▪ Mitigation in the form of a watching brief and monitoring at these sites during construction if any construction is to take place closer than 100 meters from the site; ▪ All structure will require a destruction permit under Section 34 of the NHRA; ▪ The permit will entail initial documentation of the layout and condition of the structures and its structures with layout sketches and detailed photography, after which the destruction permit can be applied for with the backing of the documentary evidence; ▪ A qualified heritage practitioner must do this documentation. <p>Monument</p>

Environmental Parameter	Summary of major findings	Recommendations
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adjust Corridors and position of pylons to avoid the site; ▪ Mitigation in the form of a watching brief and monitoring at these sites during construction if any construction is to take place closer than 100 meters from the site; ▪ A buffer of at least 200 meters must be kept from the monument. This distance can however be negotiated with the Provincial Heritage Authority – Heritage Free State
<p>Socio-economic</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The power lines have a low impact on the socio-economic structure of the study areas in question. ▪ Similar to the substations, the major concern is in terms of the edge effects of the construction phase: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unauthorised off-road driving or access to various land owners property. - Destruction of property, livestock on farms and/or the surrounding environment. - Disturbance to some land-owners property through construction and maintenance, as well as disturbance to some residents through construction of the Wepener substation and refurbishment of the Tweespruit substation. ▪ The positive impacts will generally be associated with a contribution to an increase in economic activities in the various areas in specific, and the national economy as a whole. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If these activities could be strictly controlled, the mitigation will be highly effective, and the impact of the proposed power lines, irrespective of the alternative will be definitely low in the long-term.

Environmental Parameter	Summary of major findings	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ With regard to the negative effects that are concerned with the proposed development, the major issues associated with the establishment of either of the power line alternatives and the associated infrastructure are the possible implications of having additional people moving in and out of the areas during the construction and maintenance phases. 	

This EMPr has been compiled to ensure good environmental compliance during the construction of the power line and associated infrastructure. The EMPr will be strictly implemented during the construction phase of the project and will be consulted regularly during the lifespan of the project until decommissioning.

1.3 Project Responsibilities

Several professionals will form part of the construction team. The most important from an environmental perspective are the Project Manager, the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) and the contractor.

The Project Manager is responsible for the implementation of the EMPr on the site during the pre-construction and construction phases of the project.

The ECO is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the EMPr during the design, pre-construction and construction phases of the project.

The contractor is responsible for abiding by the mitigation measures of the EMPr which are implemented by the Project Manager during the construction phase.

The contractor is responsible for the implementation of the EMPr during the operational and decommissioning phases of the project. It is unlikely that the proposed substation and power line will be decommissioned.

1.3.1 *Project manager*

The Project Manager is responsible for overall management of the project and EMPr implementation. The following tasks will fall within his / her responsibilities:

- Be aware of the findings and conclusions of the Basic Assessment and the conditions stated within the environmental authorisation (EA).
- Be familiar with the recommendations and mitigation measures of this EMPr, and implement these measures.
- Monitor site activities on a daily basis for compliance.
- Conduct internal audits of the construction site against the EMPr.
- Confine the construction site to the demarcated area.
- Rectify transgressions through the implementation of corrective action.

1.3.2 *Environmental Control Officer*

The Environmental Control Officer is responsible for the implementation of the EMPr during the construction phase and liaison between the Contractor and the Landowners. The ECO will liaise and report to the Contractor, landowners and authorities. The following tasks will fall within his / her responsibilities:

- Be aware of the findings and conclusions of the Basic Assessment and the conditions stated within the environmental authorisation.
- Be familiar with the recommendations and mitigation measures of this EMPr.
- Conduct monthly audits of the construction site according to the EMPr and EA.
- Educate the construction team about the management measures of the EMPr and EA.
- Regular liaison with the construction team and the project leader.
- Recommend corrective action for any environmental non-compliance incidents on the construction site.
- Compile a regular report highlighting any non-compliance issues as well as good compliance with the EMPr.
- All negotiations for any reason shall be between the ECO, the affected parties, and the Contractor. No verbal agreements shall be made. All agreements shall be recorded in writing and all parties shall co-sign the documentation.
- The affected parties shall always be kept informed about any changes to the construction programme should they be involved. If the ECO is not on site the Contractor should keep the affected parties informed. The contact numbers of the Contractor and the ECO shall be made available to the affected parties. This will ensure open channels of communication and prompt response to queries and claims.

1.3.3 Contractor

The contractor is responsible for the implementation and compliance with recommendations and conditions of the EMPr.

- ii) Ensure compliance with the EMPr at all times during construction
- iii) Maintain an environmental register which keeps a record of all incidents which occur on the site during construction. These incidents include:
 - o Public involvement / complaints
 - o Health and safety incidents
 - o Hazardous materials stored on site
 - o Non-compliance incidents

The Contractor shall under no circumstances interfere with the property of landowners or nearby communities.

1.3.4 Proponent

Eskom are the proponent and will be responsible for constructing the power lines and substation. Eskom will assume ultimate responsibility for the project and all activities related to the construction process i.e. non-ompliance, penalties etc.

1.3.5 The Environmental Liaison Officer (ELO)

The ELO will be appointed by the Contractor to implement the EMPr and monitor activities on site on a daily basis. The ELO will be the ECO's representative on the site and will report back on all audit trips. The ELO must report any major incidents immediately to the ECO.

Table 2: Responsibilities

Function	Responsibility
Project Manager (PM) Eskom	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Overall management of project and EMPr implementation
Senior Site Supervisor/ Contract Manager (CM) Eskom	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Oversee site works, liaison with Contractor (ELO), PM and ECO
Environmental Control Officer (ECO) (independent) – Appointed by Eskom	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Implementation of EMPr, and monitoring of compliance with the requirements of the CEMP.

Function	Responsibility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Liaison between Eskom, Contractor and Landowners, including negotiation of access plan. ▪ Maintains close communication with the ELO, and oversees the ELO's environmental control, remediation and rehabilitation actions (including checking that the complaints register and register of environmental incidents are being maintained by the ELO). ▪ Environmental awareness training of the contractor and select main construction staff ▪ Settlement of damage claims and completion of Damage Release Forms ▪ Negotiating and acquiring release forms from affected landowners at the end of the construction period.
Contractor (MC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensures the implementation and compliance with recommendations and conditions of the EMPr as well as the EA; Appoints dedicated person (ELO) to work with ECO
Contractor-appointed Environmental Liaison Officer (ELO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Monitoring of compliance with EMPr, environmental control of site actions, adjusting of environmental quality of works performed by construction staff, remediation and rehabilitation work. ▪ Reports back to the ECO through compilation of regular site inspection reports. ▪ Ensures compliance of construction activities with relevant environmental legislation. ▪ Maintains the complaints register that is kept on-site. ▪ Keeps record of all environmental incidents and ensures that corrective action is taken. ▪ Compiles method statements from the project-specific EMPr. ▪ Environmental awareness training of all staff. ▪ Day-to-day management of landowner requirements and landowner liaison; ensures all landowner special conditions are met.
Environmental Advisor (Eskom)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Environmental advice and internal auditing

- The ELO will be the responsible party for all compliance of this EMPr during the construction phase.
- The monitoring party will be the ECO.

- Method of record keeping will be monthly audits.
- Audit Technique will be the review of records that will be kept on site by the ELO and/ or site inspections.
- Eskom will bear ultimate responsibility.

Table 3: Environmental Management Responsibilities

ITEM	PROJECT COMPONENT AND ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	MONITORING PARTY	AUDIT TECHNIQUE
1.1	PRE-CONSTRUCTION (SITE ESTABLISHMENT)			
1.1.1	Site preparation	MC, ELO	ECO	SITE VISIT
1.1.2	Consultation	MC, ELO	ELO,ECO	SITE VISIT
1.2	CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES			
1.2.1	Site Clearing	MC	ELO,ECO	SITE VISIT
1.2.2	Construction traffic and access	MC, ELO	ECO	SITE VISIT
1.2.3	Construction Camp	MC, ELO	ECO	SITE VISIT
1.2.4	Environmental Education and Training	MC, ELO,ECO	ECO	SITE VISIT
1.2.5	Soils and Geology	MC, ELO	ECO	SITE VISIT
1.2.6	Erosion Control	ELO	ECO	SITE VISIT
1.2.7	Water Use and Quality	ELO	ECO	SITE VISIT
1.2.8	Surface Water and Groundwater	ELO	ECO	RECORDS REVIEW
1.2.9	Waste Management	ELO	ECO	SITE VISIT
1.2.10	Flora	ELO	ECO, Ecologist (When necessary)	SITE VISIT
1.2.11	Fauna	ELO	ECO, Ecologist (When necessary)	RECORDS REVIEW, SITE VISIT
3.1.12	Air Pollution	ELO	ECO	RECORDS REVIEW, SITE VISIT

ITEM	PROJECT COMPONENT AND ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	MONITORING PARTY	AUDIT TECHNIQUE
3.1.13	Noise and Vibrations	ELO	ECO	RECORDS REVIEW, SITE VISIT
3.1.14	Energy use	ELO	ECO	RECORDS REVIEW, SITE VISIT
3.1.15	Agricultural Potential	ELO	ECO	RECORDS REVIEW, SITE VISIT
3.1.16	Employment	ESKOM, MC	ECO	RECORDS REVIEW, SITE VISIT
3.1.17	Occupational Health and Safety	MC, ELO	ECO, Safety Officer	SITE VISIT
3.1.18	Security	MC, ELO	ECO	SITE VISIT
3.1.19	Socio-economic Environment	MC, ELO	ECO	RECORDS REVIEW, SITE VISIT
3.1.20	Community Engagement	ELO	ECO	SITE VISIT
3.1.21	Visual Impact	ELO	ECO	SITE VISIT
4.1	OPERATION ACTIVITIES			
4.1.1	Construction Site Decommissioning	ESKOM		RECORDS REVIEW
4.1.2	Operation and Maintenance			RECORDS REVIEW
4.1.3	Surface and Groundwater	ESKOM		RECORDS REVIEW
4.1.4	Air Quality	ESKOM		RECORDS REVIEW
4.1.5	Noise	ESKOM		
4.1.6	Pollution Control	ESKOM		
4.1.7	Biodiversity	ESKOM, ELO		

ITEM	PROJECT COMPONENT AND ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	MONITORING PARTY	AUDIT TECHNIQUE
4.1.8	Waste Management	ELO		
4.1.9	Health and Safety	ELO, SO		
4.1.10	Visual Impact	ELO		
5.1	DECOMMISSIONING ACTIVITIES			
5.1.1	Ongoing Stakeholder involvement	ELO		SITE VISIT
5.1.2	Community health and safety	ELO		
5.1.3	Waste management	ELO		
5.1.4	Surface and groundwater	ELO		
5.1.5	Biodiversity	ELO		

1.3.6 Environmental Audits

Table 4 below provides an outline of the generic process involved in the auditing process. It briefly describes the activities of the process initially beginning with defining the objectives and scope of the auditing process as well as the responsibilities of the various parties. The procedure for the auditing process is explained through to the production of audit findings and the compliance (or non-compliance) of the audit findings.

The Independent Auditor will undertake the following:

- iv) Conduct audits
- v) Submit audit reports to ECO and relevant authority
- vi) Engage specialist sub consultants when required.

Table 4: Example of Procedure for Conducting Audits

Objective	To ensure that formal audits of the EMPr are scheduled and performed so as to verify compliance with the requirements of the EMPr.
Scope	This procedure describes the sequence of events required to perform a compliance audit

	and the verification of implemented corrective action
Responsibilities	<p>The ECO or a person authorised and appointed by him, is responsible for the maintenance of the Environmental Audit System</p> <p>The ECO is responsible for the scheduling and execution of the audit, as well as the verification of the implementation of corrective action. At his/her discretion, this authority may be delegated to responsible company personnel or to an independent Environmental Auditing Authority to perform the audit on his/her behalf.</p> <p>Auditors shall have no direct responsibility in the area/system being audited. They will be trained in techniques for auditing environmental systems.</p> <p>The head of department (HOD)/supervisor for an area/system to be audited (or a responsible person nominated by him/her) will assist the audit team in the execution of the audit. The HOD will also be responsible for timely corrective actions based on the findings of the audit.</p>
Procedure	
Planning the audit	<p>The ECO or his authorised delegate, shall plan the audit of a particular environmental area or system as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ He shall inform, in writing, the division to be audited of the intention to conduct an audit at least two weeks prior to the audit. This notification should include the audit objective, scope and duration and any assistance required from the division. ▪ On completion of the audit, an audit findings sheet shall be prepared and

	<p>submitted to company senior management as well as to the Department/section, which was audited.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Corrective actions shall be implemented, within eight weeks after the audit, where possible.
Audit External Schedule	The external environmental audits will be scheduled annually.
Audit Check List	Auditing will be performed by collecting evidence for verification through interviews, relevant documentation and observation of activities and conditions. Instances of non-conformity to EMPr criteria should be recorded. An environmental audit checklist can be used as a guide to address all relevant issues.
Audit Compliance	See below.
Audit Findings and Reporting of non-compliances	<p>The audit team shall review all evidence of their audit findings to decide on non-compliance. Audit findings of non-compliance must be documented and supported by evidence in the Audit Findings Report.</p> <p>The non-compliance findings will be communicated to the Project Manager and his representatives during an audit feedback meeting.</p> <p>The person responsible for corrective action, will sign the audit findings report sheet to indicate acceptance and commitment to the required corrective action.</p> <p>Findings identified during auditing not covered in the EMPr should be included and the EMPr updated as and when identified.</p>

1.4 Layout of Environmental Management Programme

1.4.1 Introduction

This EMPr addresses both generic issues as well as specific issues. The generic and specific issues in the EMPr are separated into different phases. Each phase has specific issues unique to that period of the development and operation of the power lines, substations and associated infrastructure. The impact is identified and given a brief description. The phases of the development are then identified as below:

- Pre-construction (Site Establishment)
- Construction (including associated rehabilitation of affected environment)
- Operation Phase
- Decommissioning of substations

This EMPr seeks to manage and keep to a minimum the negative impacts of a development and at the same time, enhance the positive and beneficial impacts.

The EMPr specifies mitigation measures for the following environmental aspects:

1.4.2 Pre-construction (Site establishment)

- Site preparation
- Consultation
- Site clearing

1.4.3 Construction

- Construction Camp
- Construction Traffic and Access
- Environmental Education and Training
- Soils and Geology
- Agricultural Impact
- Erosion Control
- Water Use and Quality
- Surface and Groundwater
- Waste Management

- Biodiversity (Flora, Fauna and Avi-fauna)
- Air Quality
- Noise and Vibrations
- Energy use
- Employment
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Security
- Social Environment
- Community Engagement
- Visual Impact
- Heritage and Cultural Artefacts

1.4.4 Operation

- Construction Site Decommissioning
- Rehabilitation and Maintenance
- Operation and Maintenance
- Air Quality
- Agricultural Impact
- Biodiversity
- Surface Water
- Employment
- Health and Safety
- Social Environment
- Visual Impact

1.4.5 Decommissioning Phase

- Ongoing Stakeholder involvement
- Community health and safety
- Waste Management
- Surface and Groundwater
- Biodiversity
- Air Quality
- Heritage and Cultural Resources

1.5 Objectives of an EMPr

The objectives of this EMPr are to:

- Identify a range of mitigation measures which could reduce and mitigate the potential impacts to minimal or insignificant levels.
- To identify measures that could optimize beneficial impacts.
- To create management structures that address the concerns and complaints of I&APs with regards to the development.
- To establish a method of monitoring and auditing environmental management practices during all phases of development.
- Ensure that the construction and operational phases of the project continues within the principles of Integrated Environmental Management and Environmental Management System (EMS) ISO 14001 Principles.
- Detail specific actions deemed necessary to assist in mitigating the environmental impact of the project.
- Ensure that the safety recommendations are complied with.
- Propose mechanisms for monitoring compliance with the EMPr and reporting thereon.
- Specify time periods within which the measures contemplated in the environmental management plan must be implemented, where appropriate.

The EMPr seeks to highlight the following:

- Avoiding impacts by not performing certain actions.
- Minimising impacts by limiting aspects of an action.
- Rectifying impacts through rehabilitation, restoration, etc of the affected environment.
- Compensating for impacts by providing substitute resources or environments.
- Minimising impacts by optimising processes, structural elements and other design features.
- Provide ongoing monitoring and management of environmental impacts of a development and documenting of any digressions /good performances.

The EMPr is a legally binding document that all parties involved in the project must be made aware of.

1.5.1 Environmental monitoring

A monitoring programme will be implemented for the duration of the construction phase of the project. This programme will include:

- Monthly audits will be conducted by the Environmental Control Officer, which are according to the EMPr and ROD's conditions. These audits can be conducted randomly and do not require prior arrangement with the project manager.
- Compilation of an audit report with a rating of the compliance with the EMPr. This report will be submitted to the relevant authorities.

The ECO shall keep a photographic record of any damage to areas outside the demarcated site area. The date, time of damage, type of damage and reason for the damage shall be recorded in full to ensure the responsible party is held liable. All claims for compensation emanating from damage should be directed to the ECO for appraisal. A register shall be kept of all complaints from the landowner or community (Annexure A). All complaints / claims shall be handled immediately to ensure timeous rectification / payment by the responsible party.

A copy of the EMPr must be kept on site during the construction phase. The EMPr will be made binding on all contractors operating on the site and must be included within the Contractual Clauses. Those responsible for environmental damage must pay the repair costs both to the environment and human health and the preventative measures to reduce or prevent further pollution and/or environmental damage (the polluter pays principle).

1.6 Compliance with the EMPr

The Contractor is deemed not to have complied with the EMPr if:

- Within the boundaries of the site, site extensions and access roads there is evidence of contravention of clauses;
- If environmental damage ensues due to negligence;
- The contractor fails to comply with corrective or other instructions issued by the ECO or Authorities within a specified time; or
- The Contractor fails to respond adequately to complaints from the public.

Eskom is deemed not to have complied with the EMPr if:

- Within the boundaries of the site there is evidence of contravention of clauses;
- If environmental damage ensues due to negligence; or
- They fail to respond adequately to complaints from the public.

1.6.1 Method Statements

It is standard practice that method statements for various construction-related activities be produced by the contractor's Environmental Liaison Officer (ELO). These method statements will outline in detail how various activities should be undertaken so as not to cause any environmental damage / impacts. It is very important that these method statements be signed off by the ECO. Any changes to the method statements that are made during the construction period must be approved by the ECO. Method statements must be kept on site as part of the official environmental documentation.

1.6.2 Penalties for non-compliance

Application of a penalty clause to the contractor will apply for incidents of non-compliance. The penalty imposed will be per incident and will be deducted from the contractor's monthly payment certificate. Unless stated otherwise in the project specification, the penalties imposed per incident or violation will be pre-determined and agreed upon between the Contractor and the ECO. These will vary in amount based upon the severity and/or regularity of the incidence occurring.

The ECO in consultation and with the approval of the Senior Site Supervisor shall issue spot fines if the Contractor infringes specifications of the EMPr and EA. The Contractor shall be advised in writing of the nature of the infringement and the amount of the spot fine. The Contractor shall be liable for the fine and it is his responsibility to recover the fine from the relevant employee. The Contractor (through the Environmental Officer) shall also take the necessary steps (e.g. training) to prevent a recurrence of the infringement. The Contractor is also advised that the imposition of spot fines does not replace any legal proceedings the authorities, landowners and/or members of the public may institute against the Contractor. Spot fines for minor offences shall be between R500.00 and R5 000.00, depending upon the severity of the infringement. The decision on how much to impose will be made by the ECO and will be final. In addition to the spot fine, the Contractor shall be required to make good any damage caused as a result of the infringement at his own expense. A preliminary list of infringements for which spot fines will be imposed is as follows:

- Using areas outside the working areas without permission/accessing "no-go areas";
- Clearing and/or leveling area outside of the working areas;
- Littering of the site and surrounds;
- Burying/burning waste on site and surrounds;
- The undertaking of informal ablutions
- Making fires on site;
- Spillage onto the ground or water bodies of oil, diesel, or any other potential pollutants;

- Picking/damaging plant material, especially that from the residual areas of natural bush on the site;
- Damaging/killing wild or domestic animals/birds;
- Discharging effluent and/or stormwater onto the ground or into surface water;
- Repeated contravention of the specification or failure to comply with instruction

In this context the ECO shall retain records or all fines issued. Monies for the spot fines will be deducted from the Contractors monthly certificate.

The Senior Site Supervisor, on recommendation from the ECO, may also order the Contractor to suspend part or all the works if the Contractor repeatedly causes damage to the environment by not adhering to the EMPr (i.e. more than 3 cases of infringements). The suspension will be enforced until such time as the offending actions, procedure or equipment is corrected. No extension of time will be granted for such delays and all costs will be borne by the Contractor.

1.6.3 Training and awareness

1.6.3.1 Training of construction workers

The Construction Workers must receive basic training in environmental awareness, including the storage and handling of hazardous substances, minimisation of disturbance to sensitive areas, management of waste, and prevention of water pollution. They must be informed of how to recognise historical / archaeological artefacts that may be uncovered. They must also be appraised of the EMPr's requirements.

1.6.3.2 Contractor performance

The Contractor must ensure that the conditions of the EMPr are adhered to. Should the Contractor require clarity on any aspect of the EMPr the Contractor must contact the Environmental Control Officer for advice.

1.7 Applicable Legislation, Development Strategies and Guidelines

The following legislation applies:

- Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Act (Act No. 45 of 1965)
- Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act No 43 of 1983)
- Constitution of South Africa (Act No. 108 of 1996)
- Environment Conservation Act (Act No 73 of 1989)
- Hazardous Substances Act (Act No. 15 of 1973)
- National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) – NEMA
- National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (Act No. 39 of 2004)
- National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act No. 10 of 2004)
- National Forests Act (Act No 84 of 1998)
- National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999)
- National Veld and Forest Fire Act (Act No 101 of 1998)
- National Water Act (Act No 36 of 1998)
- Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act (Act No 9 of 2009)
- Occupational Health and Safety Act (Act No 85 of 1993)
- Protected species – provincial ordinances

2 MITIGATION GUIDELINES

2.1 Introduction

Mitigation guidelines are addressed through four phases namely Pre-construction (Site Establishment) Phase; Construction Phase (and associated rehabilitation of affected environment); Operational Phase (Post-Construction) as well as Decommissioning Phase. Each phase has specific issues unique to that period of the development and operation of the proposed infrastructure. The impact is identified and given a brief description. The four phases of the development are then identified as below:

- Pre-construction
- Construction
- Post Construction
- Decommissioning

2.2 Pre-Construction Phase

2.2.1 Site preparation

Table 5: Site preparation

IMPACT	SITE PREPARATION This section deals with the preparation of the site and actions that need to be implemented before construction commences	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	SITE ESTABLISHMENT	MC, ELO, ECO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>Specialist Investigations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A detailed walk down by the faunal and floral specialist should be undertaken prior to the onset of the construction phase to survey the area in detail for any RDL or protected species to limit the impacts imposed by the proposed development activities at each tower site. 2. Prior to the onset of the construction phase, a thorough search through the approved alignment route and servitude roads (walk-through survey) should be undertaken during the flowering season of known RDL floral species in order to remove and rescue potentially affected species. 3. A walk down by the avifaunal specialist should be undertaken to identify the spans that will require mitigation devices to be installed, once the exact routing is chosen and the tower positions are pegged. 4. A walk down should be undertaken by the heritage specialist prior to finalising the tower positions and commencing with construction. This will be done in 	

IMPACT	SITE PREPARATION This section deals with the preparation of the site and actions that need to be implemented before construction commences	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	SITE ESTABLISHMENT	MC, ELO, ECO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>order to mitigate and manage the impact of the proposed project on any heritage resources.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Detailed geotechnical investigations should be undertaken prior to the construction of the approved substation alternatives. 6. A final walk-through surface water study should be undertaken to identify wetlands that are at risk to damage during the construction process and will require site specific mitigation measures. Once a selected power line route has been determined, it will then be necessary to accurately delineate each wetland along the chosen alignment and include the findings in a wetland final walk-down report. <p>Appoint construction team and suitable manager</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Appoint an Environmental Control Officer and Environmental Liaison Officer. The ELO is appointed on the contractor's behalf while the ECO is appointed on the proponent's behalf. 8. The Contractor must draw up method statements for relevant construction activities. The ECO must approve all of the method statements before they become operational. <p>Site demarcation and compliance</p>	

IMPACT	SITE PREPARATION This section deals with the preparation of the site and actions that need to be implemented before construction commences	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	SITE ESTABLISHMENT	MC, ELO, ECO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>9. Before construction begins, all areas to be developed must be clearly demarcated with fencing or orange construction barrier where applicable and practical.</p> <p>10. Plan fine-scale positioning of pylons, access roads and construction camps to have a minimal disturbance on agricultural activities and agricultural land. Pylons should be positioned on existing boundaries or edges of agricultural units of land wherever possible, so as not to interfere with agricultural activities within a unit.</p> <p>11. All tower positions must be pegged by a qualified surveyor prior to the onset of construction.</p> <p>12. All existing boreholes within the power line alignment have to be identified and surveyed.</p> <p>13. All Construction Camps are to be fenced off in such a manner that unlawful entry is prevented and access is controlled. Signage shall be erected at all access points in compliance with all applicable occupational health and safety requirements. All access points to the Construction Camp should be controlled by a guard or otherwise monitored, to prevent unlawful access.</p> <p>14. The contractor and ECO must ensure compliance with conditions described in the EA.</p> <p>15. All no-go areas on the servitude must be properly fenced off and signage placed prior to the onset of construction. If this is not practical (such as where the area</p>	

IMPACT	SITE PREPARATION This section deals with the preparation of the site and actions that need to be implemented before construction commences	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	SITE ESTABLISHMENT	MC, ELO, ECO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>is too large to fence off), the area should be demarcated with barrier tape and signage should be erected.</p> <p>16. Records of compliance / non-compliance with the conditions of the authorisation must be kept and be available on request.</p> <p>17. Records of all environmental incidents must be maintained and a copy of these records be made available to provincial department on request throughout the project execution.</p> <p>18. Identify suitable landfill, which will accept the type of waste material to be generated.</p> <p>19. Identify suitable site/borrow pit (if applicable) to obtain soil.</p> <p>Labour</p> <p>20. All unskilled labourers should be drawn from the local market and where possible use should be made of local semiskilled and skilled personnel where possible.</p> <p>21. Local suppliers must be used, as far as possible.</p> <p>22. Labour intensive methods must be used where feasibly, cost effective and not time constraining.</p> <p>Training of site staff</p> <p>23. Environmental awareness training for all construction staff must be undertaken by the ELO prior to construction starting.</p>	

IMPACT	SITE PREPARATION This section deals with the preparation of the site and actions that need to be implemented before construction commences	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	SITE ESTABLISHMENT	MC, ELO, ECO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>24. The ECO must undertake training of the contractor and other main contractors (training of other staff is the responsibility of the ELO).</p> <p>25. All stakeholders and key personnel should undergo an archaeological induction course, as part of their overall training. The course should highlight the appropriate communication channels to managers and educate workers with regard to recognising artefacts, features and significant sites.</p> <p>26. Project manager shall ensure that the training and capabilities of the Contractor's site staff are adequate to carry out the designated tasks.</p> <p>27. Staff operating equipment (such as excavators, cranes, etc.) shall be adequately trained and sensitised to any potential hazards associated with their tasks. No operator shall be permitted to operate critical items of mechanical equipment without having been trained by the Contractor and certified competent by the Project Manager.</p> <p>28. No operator shall be permitted to operate critical items of mechanical equipment without having been trained by the Contractor and certified competent by the Project Manager.</p> <p>29. Environmental awareness training for construction staff, concerning the prevention of accidental spillage of hazardous chemicals and oil; pollution of water resources (both surface and groundwater), air pollution and litter control and identification of archaeological artefacts must be undertaken by the ELO.</p>	

IMPACT	SITE PREPARATION This section deals with the preparation of the site and actions that need to be implemented before construction commences	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	SITE ESTABLISHMENT	MC, ELO, ECO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>30. Staff should be educated as to the need to refrain from indiscriminate waste disposal and/or pollution of local soil and water resources and receive the necessary safety training.</p> <p>Scheduling of Construction Process</p> <p>31. It is important that construction activities must be scheduled to take place over the dry winter season when flows are low (June/July/August).</p> <p>Location of the Lay-down Area</p> <p>32. The location of the lay-down area must not be in any of the identified surface water resources or the associated buffer zones. Where possible materials and machinery should be kept within the existing substation areas (Tweespruit/Welbedachtdam) where impacts have already taken place. Should it be necessary, a construction lay-down area can be designated outside of the delineated surface water resources and the associated buffer zone to avoid impacts.</p>	

2.2.2 Consultation

Table 6: Consultation

IMPACT	CONSULTATION This section deals with the public consultation of the site and actions that need to be implemented before construction commences	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	PRE-CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>Consultation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engage in thorough, open, and constructive consultation with any and all land owners. 2. The Landowners shall be informed of the starting date of construction as well as the phases in which the construction shall take place. 3. Provide a mechanism through which information could be exchanged between the project proponent and stakeholders. 4. Surrounding communities must be kept informed, through the identified and agreed consultation channels, of the commencement of construction. 5. Solicit views and concerns from the public and allow them to suggest mitigations and enhancement measures. 	

2.2.3 Site Clearing

Table 7: Site Clearing

IMPACT	SITE CLEARING This section deals with site clearing and actions that need to be implemented before construction commences	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	PRE-CONSTRUCTION	MC
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION/ METHOD STATEMENT	Site clearing <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Site clearing must take place in a phased manner, as and when required. 2. Areas which are not to be constructed on within two months must not be cleared to reduce erosion risks. 3. The area to be cleared must be clearly demarcated and this footprint strictly maintained. 4. Spoil that is removed from the site must be removed to an approved spoil site or a licensed landfill site. 5. The necessary silt fences and erosion control measures must be implemented in areas where these risks are more prevalent. 6. Conduct construction walk down prior to construction to conduct a search and rescue exercise. 7. Demarcation of sensitive areas prior to construction activities starting. 8. In terms of surface water, potential negative impacts are related primarily to vegetation clearing activities in the riparian habitat, wetlands and drainage lines. Mitigation measures should be strictly implemented. 	

2.3 Construction Phase

2.3.1 Construction Camp

Table 8: Construction Camp

IMPACT	CONSTRUCTION CAMP This section deals with construction camp and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC / ELO / ECO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION METHOD STATEMENT	<p>Site of construction camp</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Choice of site for the Contractor's camp requires the Project Manager and ECO's permission and must take into account location of local residents and / or ecologically sensitive areas, including flood zones. A site plan must be submitted to the Project Manager for approval. 2. The size of the construction camp should be minimized (especially where natural vegetation or grassland has had to be cleared for its construction). 3. Adequate parking must be provided for site staff and visitors. The Contractor must attend to drainage of the camp site to avoid standing water and / or sheet erosion. 4. Suitable control measures over the Contractor's yard, plant and material storage to mitigate any visual impact of the construction activity must be implemented. 5. Avoid patches of indigenous vegetation if possible, or place infrastructure as close as possible to boundaries. 	

IMPACT	CONSTRUCTION CAMP This section deals with construction camp and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC / ELO / ECO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>Construction Camp</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. The ECO and Contractor must inspect the Construction Camp site to confirm and note any environmental sensitivity. 7. The construction camp layout plan must be provided to the ECO for approval prior to the construction of the camp. 8. The construction camp must be fenced off and on-site security should be put in place prior to commencing with the construction activities. 9. The Contractor shall supply a wastewater management system that will comply with legal requirements and be acceptable to Eskom if this does not already exist on the site. 10. Site establishment shall take place in an orderly manner and all required amenities shall be installed at camp sites before the main workforce move onto site. 11. All construction equipment must be stored within this construction camp or the farm under lease. 12. All associated oil changes etc (no servicing) must take place within this camp on a sealed surface such as a concrete slab or a similar appropriate surface. 13. An area for the storage of hazardous materials must be established that conforms to the relevant safety requirements and that provides for spillage prevention and containment. 	

IMPACT	CONSTRUCTION CAMP This section deals with construction camp and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC / ELO / ECO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>14. All Construction Camps shall be provided with portable fire extinguishing equipment, in accordance with all relevant legislation and must be readily accessible.</p> <p>15. The Contractor must provide sufficient ablution facilities, in the form of portable / VIP toilets, at the Construction Camps, and shall conform to all relevant health and safety standards and codes. No pit latrines, French drain systems or soak away systems shall be allowed and toilets may not be situated within 100 meters of any surface water body or 1:100 year flood line. A sufficient number of toilets shall be provided to accommodate the number of personnel working in the area.</p> <p>16. The Contractor shall inform all site staff to make use of supplied ablution facilities and under no circumstances shall indiscriminate sanitary activities be allowed.</p> <p>17. No fires will be allowed and the Contractor must make alternative arrangements for heating. LP Gas may be used, provided that all required safety measures are in place. The Contractor shall take specific measures to prevent the spread of veld fires, caused by activities at the campsites. These measures may include appropriate instruction of employees about fire risks and the construction of firebreaks around the site perimeter.</p> <p>18. Compile a rehabilitation programme.</p> <p>19. Compile an Alien Plant Management Plan.</p> <p>20. Undertake regular Biodiversity monitoring.</p>	

IMPACT	CONSTRUCTION CAMP This section deals with construction camp and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC / ELO / ECO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>21. Vegetation clearing should take place in the dry months. Clearing should also be undertaken in a phased manner to reduce the spatial extent at a given time. Additionally, vegetation clearing must be undertaken according to Eskom vegetation clearance standards and policies as and when required.</p> <p>Storage of materials (including hazardous materials)</p> <p>22. Choice of location for storage areas must take into account prevailing winds, distances to water bodies, general onsite topography and water erosion potential of the soil. Impervious surfaces must be provided where necessary.</p> <p>23. Storage areas must be designated, demarcated and fenced if necessary.</p> <p>24. Storage areas should be secure so as to minimize the risk of crime. They should also be safe from access by unauthorised persons i.e. children / animals etc.</p> <p>25. Fire prevention facilities must be present at all storage facilities.</p> <p>26. Proper storage facilities for the storage of oils, grease, fuels, chemicals and any hazardous materials to be used must be provided to prevent the migration of spillage into the ground and groundwater regime around the temporary storage area(s). These pollution prevention measures for storage should include a bund wall high enough to contain at least 110% of any stored volume, and this should be sited away from drainage lines in a site with the approval of the Project Manager. The bund wall must be high enough to contain 110% of the total volume</p>	

IMPACT	CONSTRUCTION CAMP This section deals with construction camp and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC / ELO / ECO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>of the stored hazardous material with an additional allocation for potential stormwater events.</p> <p>27. All fuel storage areas must be bunded to avoid creation of dirty stormwater</p> <p>28. These storage facilities (including any tanks) must be on an impermeable surface that is protected from the ingress of storm water from surrounding areas in order to ensure that accidental spillage does not pollute local soil or water resources.</p> <p>29. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs) shall be readily available on site for all chemicals and hazardous substances to be used on site. Where possible the available, MSDSs should additionally include information on ecological impacts and measures to minimise negative environmental impacts during accidental releases or escapes.</p> <p>30. Storage areas containing hazardous substances / materials must be clearly signposted.</p> <p>31. Staff dealing with these materials / substances must be aware of their potential impacts and follow the appropriate safety measures.</p> <p>32. An approved waste disposal contractor must be employed to remove and recycle waste oil, if practical. The contractor must ensure that its staff is made aware of the health risks associated with any hazardous substances used and has been provided with the appropriate protective clothing/equipment in case of spillages or accidents and have received the necessary training.</p>	

IMPACT	CONSTRUCTION CAMP This section deals with construction camp and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC / ELO / ECO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>33. All excess cement and concrete mixes are to be contained within a bunded area on the construction site prior to disposal off site.</p> <p>34. All major spills as specified in the contractor emergency response procedure of any materials, chemicals, fuels or other potentially hazardous or pollutant substances must be cleaned immediately and the cause of the spill investigated. Preventative measures must be identified and submitted to the ECO for information. Emergency response procedures to be followed and implemented.</p> <p>Drainage of construction camp</p> <p>35. Surface drainage measures must be established in the Construction Camps so as to prevent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ponding of water; ▪ Erosion as a result of accelerated runoff; and, ▪ Uncontrolled discharge of polluted runoff. <p>36. Adequate structures and stormwater management measures must be in place to manage runoff and sediment volumes. Silt fencing, sandbags, erosion control blankets and gabions can be used to prevent erosion in susceptible construction areas.</p>	

2.3.2 Construction traffic and access

Table 9: Construction Traffic and Access

IMPACT	CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC AND ACCESS This section deals with construction traffic and access and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC / ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	Construction traffic <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All equipment moved onto site or off site during a project is subject to the legal requirements as well as Eskom specifications for the transport of such equipment. 2. The Contractor shall meet these safety requirements under all circumstances. All equipment transported shall be clearly labelled as to their potential hazards according to specifications. All the required safety labelling on the containers and trucks used shall be in place. 3. The Contractor shall ensure that all the necessary precautions against damage to the environment and injury to persons are taken in the event of an accident. 4. Construction routes and required access roads must be clearly defined 5. No new access roads to be created through wetlands, watercourses and drainage lines. Existing tracks must be used. 6. Delivery of equipment must be undertaken with the minimum amount of trips to reduce the carbon footprint of these activities. 7. Access of all construction and material delivery vehicles should be strictly controlled, especially during wet weather to avoid compaction and damage to the topsoil structure. 	

IMPACT	CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC AND ACCESS This section deals with construction traffic and access and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC / ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>8. Damping down of the un-surfaced roads must be implemented to reduce dust and nuisance.</p> <p>9. Vehicles and equipment shall be serviced regularly to avoid the contamination of soil from oil and hydraulic fluid leaks etc.</p> <p>10. Servicing must be done in dedicated service areas on site or else off site if no such area exists.</p> <p>11. Oil changes must take place on a concrete platform and or over a drip tray to avoid pollution.</p> <p>12. Soils compacted by construction shall be deep ripped to loosen compacted layers and re-graded to even running levels.</p> <p>13. Any temporary access roads to be rehabilitated prior to contractors leaving the site.</p> <p>Access</p> <p>14. The main routes on the site must be clearly sign posted and printed delivery maps must be issued to all suppliers and Sub-Contractors.</p> <p>15. Planning of access routes to the site for construction purposes shall be done in conjunction with the Contractor and the Landowner. All agreements reached should be documented and no verbal agreements should be made. The Contractor shall clearly mark all access roads. Roads not to be used shall be marked with a "NO ENTRY for construction vehicles" sign.</p>	

IMPACT	CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC AND ACCESS This section deals with construction traffic and access and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC / ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>Road maintenance</p> <p>16. The ECO must establish and agree maintenance responsibilities with the landowner.</p> <p>17. All existing private access roads used for construction purposes, shall be maintained at all times to ensure that the local people have free access to and from their properties.</p> <p>18. Where necessary suitable measures shall be taken to rehabilitate damaged areas.</p> <p>19. Contractors should ensure that access roads are maintained in good condition by attending to potholes, corrugations and storm water damages as soon as these develop.</p> <p>20. If necessary, staff must be employed to clean surfaced roads adjacent to construction sites where materials have spilt.</p> <p>General</p> <p>21. The contractor shall meet safety requirements under all circumstances. All equipment transported shall be clearly labelled as to their potential hazards according to specifications. All the required safety labelling on the containers and trucks used shall be in place.</p> <p>22. The Contractor shall ensure that all the necessary precautions against damage to the environment and injury to persons are taken.</p> <p>23. Care for the safety and security of community members crossing access roads should receive priority at all times.</p>	

IMPACT	CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC AND ACCESS This section deals with construction traffic and access and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC / ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	24. It is not necessary to clear the entire 31m wide servitude of all vegetation for all sections of the power line route. Clearance should be kept to a minimum. 'Only those woody vegetation directly under the line are allowed to be removed and an additional strip of 3 to 6 meters on both sides of the centre line'.	

2.3.3 Environmental Education and Training

Table 10: Environmental Education and Training

IMPACT	ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING This section deals with the environmental training of construction employees.	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC, ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	Environmental training 1. The project manager must appoint an ECO prior to construction. 2. Ensure that all site personnel have a basic level of environmental awareness training. The Contractor must submit a proposal for this training to the ECO for approval. Topics covered should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is meant by "Environment" 	

IMPACT	ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING This section deals with the environmental training of construction employees.	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC, ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why the environment needs to be protected and conserved ▪ How construction activities can impact on the environment ▪ What can be done to mitigate against such impacts ▪ Awareness of emergency and spills response provisions ▪ Social responsibility during construction e.g. being considerate to local residents ▪ Specific mitigation measures stipulated in the EMPr and EA. <p>3. Environmental awareness training for all construction staff must be undertaken by the ELO prior to construction starting.</p> <p>4. The ECO must undertake training of the contractor and other main contractors (training of other staff is the responsibility of the ELO).</p> <p>5. Project manager shall ensure that the training and capabilities of the Contractor's site staff are adequate to carry out the designated tasks.</p> <p>6. It is the Contractor's responsibility to provide the site foreman with no less than 1 hour's environmental training and to ensure that the foreman has sufficient understanding to pass this information onto the construction staff.</p> <p>7. Training should be provided to the staff members in the use of the appropriate fire-fighting equipment. Translators are to be used where necessary.</p> <p>8. Use should be made of environmental awareness posters on site.</p> <p>9. The need for a "clean site" policy also needs to be explained to the workers.</p>	

IMPACT	ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING This section deals with the environmental training of construction employees.	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC, ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>10. Staff operating equipment (such as cranes, etc.) shall be adequately trained and sensitized to any potential hazards associated with their tasks.</p> <p>11. No operator shall be permitted to operate critical items of mechanical equipment without having been trained by the Contractor and certified competent by the Project Manager.</p> <p>12. Environmental awareness training for construction staff, concerning the prevention of accidental spillage of hazardous chemicals and oil; pollution of water resources (both surface and groundwater), air pollution and litter control and identification of archaeological artefacts must be undertaken by the ELO.</p> <p>13. Staff must be educated as to the need to refrain from indiscriminate waste disposal and/or pollution of local soil and water resources and receive the necessary safety training.</p> <p>Monitoring of environmental training</p> <p>14. The Contractor must monitor the performance of construction workers to ensure that the points relayed during their introduction have been properly understood and are being followed. If necessary, the ECO and / or a translator should be called to the site to further explain aspects of environmental or social behaviour that are unclear. Toolbox talks are recommended.</p>	

2.3.4 Soils and Geology

General guidelines for management of soils are provided in **Annexure B**.

Table 11: Soils and Geology

IMPACT	SOILS AND GEOLOGY This section deals with soils and geology and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>General</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minimise disturbance of natural vegetation on the sites. 2. Access routes must ideally be planned on areas less susceptible to erosion/ destabilization/ compaction or appropriate action must be taken to minimise impact, e.g. planning of new access routes along contour lines and minimizing of cutting and filling operations. 3. Rehabilitate soil and vegetation. 4. Implement effective erosion control measures. 5. The ECO shall ensure that all agreements reached with the Landowner are fulfilled, and that such areas be rehabilitated once construction is completed. Should any claim be instituted against Eskom, due to the actions of the Contractor at a batching plant site, Eskom shall hold the Contractor fully responsible for the claim until such time that the Contractor can prove otherwise with the necessary documentation. <p>Use of berms and drainage channels to direct water away from the construction areas where necessary.</p> <p>Topsoil</p>	

IMPACT	SOILS AND GEOLOGY This section deals with soils and geology and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>6. The contractor should, prior to the commencement of earthworks determine the average depth of topsoil, and agree on this with the ECO. Due to the length of the line, this will have to be undertaken in a number of locations due to the likely variability of soils along the route.</p> <p>7. The full depth of topsoil should be stripped from areas affected by construction (substation site and tower positions) and related activities prior to the commencement of major earthworks. This should include the building footprints, working areas and storage areas.</p> <p>8. At any tower and/or substation sites where conventional foundations are installed, the Contractor shall remove the topsoil separately and store it for later use during rehabilitation of such tower sites. During backfilling operations, the Contractor shall take care not to dump the topsoil in the bottom of the foundation and then put spoil on top of that.</p> <p>Soil Stripping</p> <p>9. No soil stripping must take place on areas within the site that the contractor does not require for construction works or areas of retained vegetation.</p> <p>10. Subsoil and overburden in all construction and lay down areas should be stockpiled separately to be returned for backfilling in the correct soil horizon order.</p> <p>11. Construction vehicles must only be allowed to utilize existing tracks or pre-planned access routes.</p> <p>12. Preserve topsoil separate from the subsoils.</p>	

IMPACT	SOILS AND GEOLOGY This section deals with soils and geology and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>Soil Stockpiles</p> <p>13. Stockpiles should not be situated such that they obstruct natural water pathways.</p> <p>14. Stockpiles should not exceed 2m in height unless otherwise permitted by the Engineer.</p> <p>15. If stockpiles are exposed to windy conditions or heavy rain, they should be covered either by vegetation or geofabric, depending on the duration of the project. Stockpiles may further be protected by the construction of berms or low brick walls around their bases.</p> <p>16. Stockpiles should be kept clear of weeds and alien vegetation growth by regular weeding.</p> <p>17. Where contamination of soil is expected, analysis must be done prior to disposal of soil to determine the appropriate disposal route. Proof from an approved waste disposal site where contaminated soils are dumped if and when a spillage / leakage occur should be attained and given to the project manager.</p> <p>Fuel storage</p> <p>18. Topsoil and subsoil to be protected from contamination. This should be monitored on a monthly basis by a visual inspection of diesel/oil spillage and pollution prevention facilities.</p> <p>19. Fuel and material storage must be away from stockpiles.</p>	

IMPACT	SOILS AND GEOLOGY This section deals with soils and geology and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>20. Any storage tanks containing hazardous materials must be placed in bunded containment areas with sealed surfaces. The bund walls must be high enough to contain 110% of the total volume of the stored hazardous material.</p> <p>21. Use and or storage of materials, fuel and chemicals which could potentially leak into the ground must be controlled.</p> <p>22. The Contractor (monitored by the ECO and ELO) should be responsible for ensuring that potentially harmful materials are properly stored in a dry, secure, ventilated environment, with concrete or sealed flooring and a means of preventing unauthorised entry.</p> <p>23. Contaminated wastewater must be managed by the Contractor to ensure existing water resources on the site are not contaminated. All wastewater from general activities in the camp shall be collected and removed from the site for appropriate disposal at a licensed commercial facility.</p> <p>24. An oil holding dam must be installed or the existing one expanded to accommodate for the potential leakage events.</p> <p>Concrete mixing</p> <p>25. The concrete batching plant must be contained within a bunded area.</p> <p>26. Concrete mixing must only take place within designated areas.</p> <p>27. Ready mixed concrete must be utilised where possible.</p> <p>28. If a batching plant is necessary, run-off should be managed effectively to avoid contamination of other areas of the site. Run-off from the batch plant must not be allowed to enter the storm water system.</p>	

IMPACT	SOILS AND GEOLOGY This section deals with soils and geology and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>Washing</p> <p>29. No vehicles transporting concrete to the site may be washed on site.</p> <p>Earthworks</p> <p>30. Soils compacted during construction should be deeply ripped to loosen compacted layers and re-graded to even running levels. Topsoil should be re-spread over landscaped areas.</p> <p>31. If earthworks are required then storm water control and wind screening should be undertaken to prevent soil erosion.</p>	

2.3.5 Agricultural Impact

Table 12: Agricultural Impact

IMPACT	AGRICULTUAL This section deals with agricultural and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/ ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	General	

IMPACT	AGRICULTUAL This section deals with agricultural and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/ ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan the fine-scale positioning of pylons, access roads and construction camps to have minimal disturbance on agricultural activities and agricultural land. Pylons should be positioned on existing boundaries or edges of agricultural units of land wherever possible, so as not to interfere with agricultural activities within a unit. 2. Access routes must ideally be planned on areas less susceptible to erosion/ destabilization/ compaction or appropriate action must be taken to minimise impact, e.g. planning of new access routes along contour lines and minimizing of cutting and filling operations. 3. Plan the fine-scale positioning of pylons, access roads and construction camps to have minimal disturbance on agricultural activities and agricultural land. Pylons should be positioned on existing boundaries or edges of agricultural units of land wherever possible, so as not to interfere with agricultural activities within a unit. Plan the timing of construction not to coincide with important agricultural activities such as planting or harvesting. 4. Minimize road footprint and control vehicle access on roads only. 5. Control dust as per standard construction site practice. <p>Soil erosion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Implement an effective system of run-off control, where it is required, that collects and safely disseminates all potential accumulations of run-off water and thereby prevents potential down slope erosion. This should be in place and maintained during all phases of the development. 	

IMPACT	AGRICULTUAL This section deals with agricultural and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/ ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>7. Maintain where possible all vegetation cover and facilitate re-vegetation of denuded areas throughout the site to stabilize the soil against erosion.</p> <p>Topsoil</p> <p>8. Strip and stockpile topsoil from all areas where soil will be disturbed below surface.</p> <p>9. After cessation of disturbance, re-spread topsoil over the surface.</p> <p>10. Dispose of any sub-surface spoils from excavations where they will not impact on agricultural land (for example use as road surfacing), or where they can be effectively covered with topsoil.</p>	

2.3.6 Erosion Control

Table 13: Erosion Control

IMPACT	EROSION CONTROL This section deals with erosion and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ECO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	1. The use of silt fences and sand bags must be implemented in areas that are susceptible to erosion, if any.	

IMPACT	EROSION CONTROL This section deals with erosion and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ECO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Other erosion control measures that can be implemented are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brush packing with cleared vegetation ▪ Mulch or chip packing ▪ Planting of vegetation ▪ Hydroseeding / hand sowing 3. Sensitive areas need to be identified prior to construction so that the necessary precautions can be implemented. 4. All erosion control mechanisms need to be regularly maintained. 5. Seeding of topsoil and subsoil stockpiles to prevent wind and water erosion of soil surfaces. 6. Retention of vegetation where possible to avoid soil erosion 7. Vegetation clearance should be phased to ensure that the minimum area of soil is exposed to potential erosion at any one time. 8. Re-vegetation of disturbed surfaces should occur immediately after construction activities are completed. This should be done through seeding with indigenous grasses. 9. No impediment to the natural water flow other than approved erosion control works is permitted. 10. To prevent stormwater damage, the increase in stormwater run-off resulting from construction activities must be estimated and the drainage system assessed accordingly. A drainage plan must be submitted to the Engineer for 	

IMPACT	EROSION CONTROL This section deals with erosion and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ECO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>approval and must include the location and design criteria of any temporary stream crossings.</p> <p>11. Implement site drainage and landscaping, to prevent surface ponding, where subsequent ingress into foundations has the potential to cause destabilisation over time.</p> <p>12. Convey all runoff away from the substation and off the site.</p> <p>13. Stockpiles not used in three (3) months after stripping must be seeded to prevent dust and erosion.</p> <p>14. No new access roads to be construction through drainage lines and wetlands. Only existing roads must be used.</p> <p>Run-off</p> <p>15. Culverts should be constructed under roadways that cross the natural flow of water in order to prevent damming.</p> <p>16. Oil traps should be installed to remove the bulk of the oil from the water, which water can then be used on haul roads for dust suppression or as wash down water in the wash bays.</p>	
SITE SPECIFIC MITIGATION MEASURES		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	17. Interact with impacted landowners to discuss where they would ideally like to see the power lines situated on their property to have the least impact on their	

IMPACT	EROSION CONTROL This section deals with erosion and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ECO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>farming practices, the negotiation phase should form part of the final survey / line route selection.</p> <p>18. Attempt to place towers on the edge of existing agricultural areas and span active agricultural fields as far as possible. Following existing roads and utilising the edge of road servitudes is highly recommended due to the existing impacts associated with these areas.</p> <p>19. Ensure adequate compensation is paid to land owners where necessary.</p> <p>20. Employ a low impact routing to avoid / skirt high value agricultural land (e.g. irrigated areas) and important agricultural infrastructure.</p> <p>21. Employ erosion control: Clearing activities should be kept to a minimum. In the unlikely event that heavy rains are expected, activities should be put on hold to reduce the risk of erosion. If additional earthworks are required, any steep or large embankments that are expected to be exposed during the 'rainy' months should be armoured with fascine like structures.</p> <p>22. If earth works are required then storm water control and wind screening should be undertaken to prevent soil erosion.</p>	

2.3.7 Water Use and Quality

Table 14: Water Use and Quality

IMPACT	WATER USE AND QUALITY This section deals with water use and quality and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ECO
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>Water Use</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a sustainable water supply management plan to minimize the impact to natural systems by managing water use, avoiding depletion of aquifers and minimizing impacts to water users. 2. No water must be abstracted from a natural water body unless authorised under a General Authorisation under the National Water Act, or unless authorised by the Department of Water Affairs through a water use licence if such a licence is required. 3. Water must be reused, recycled or treated where possible. 4. Water saving measures must be implemented. 5. Consultation with key stakeholders to understand any conflicting water use demands and the communities' dependency on water resources and conservation requirements within the area. <p>Water Quality</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Discharge to surface water should not result in contaminant concentrations in excess of DWA standards. 7. Efficient oil and grease traps or sumps should be installed and maintained at refuelling facilities, workshops, fuel storage depots, and containment areas and spill kits should be available with emergency response plans. 	Engineer

IMPACT	WATER USE AND QUALITY This section deals with water use and quality and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ECO
	<p>Stormwater</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. The site must be managed in order to prevent pollution of drains, downstream watercourses or groundwater, due to suspended solids and silt or chemical pollutants. 9. Silt fences should be used to prevent any soil entering the stormwater drains. 10. Temporary cut off drains and berms may be required to capture stormwater and promote infiltration. 11. Promote a water saving mind set with construction workers in order to ensure less water wastage. 12. New stormwater construction must be developed strictly according to specifications from engineers in order to ensure efficiency. 13. Hazardous substances must be stored at least 20m from any water bodies on site to avoid pollution. 14. The installation of the stormwater system must take place as soon as possible to attenuate stormwater from the construction phase as well as the operation phase. 15. Earth, stone and rubble is to be properly disposed of, or utilized on site so as not to obstruct natural water path ways over the site. i.e. these materials must not be placed in stormwater channels, drainage lines or rivers. 16. There should be a periodic checking of the site's drainage system to ensure that the water flow is unobstructed. 17. If a batching plant is necessary, run-off should be managed effectively to avoid contamination of other areas of the site. Untreated runoff from the batch plant 	

IMPACT	WATER USE AND QUALITY This section deals with water use and quality and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ECO
	must not be allowed to get into the storm water system or nearby streams, rivers or erosion channels or dongas.	

2.3.8 Surface and Groundwater

Table 15: Surface and Groundwater

IMPACT	SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER This section deals with surface and groundwater and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ECO / Main Contractor
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Site staff shall not be permitted to use any other open water body or natural water source adjacent to or within the designated site for the purposes of bathing, washing of clothing or for any construction or related activities. 2. Municipal water (or another source approved by the ECO) should instead be used for all activities such as washing of equipment or disposal of any type of waste, dust suppression, concrete mixing, compacting, etc. 3. Relevant departments and other emergency services should be contacted in order to deal with spillages and contamination of aquatic environments. 4. Ensure that stream flow can bypass construction site. 	

IMPACT	SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER This section deals with surface and groundwater and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ECO / Main Contractor
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	5. Ensure that contaminants are safely stored and away from construction site. 6. Disturbed surfaces must be kept to a minimum. All surfaces must be rehabilitated with indigenous vegetation, especially grass species, as soon as construction activities are complete. 7. Storm water management must be enforced by monitoring runoff levels. At the start of erosion, accelerated run-off must be diverted away from bare soil.	
SITE SPECIFIC MITIGATION MEASURES		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	Preventing Physical Degradation of wetlands: 8. The surface water resource and the associated buffer zones are to be designated as “highly sensitive” and any impact must be limited to the minimum possible extent where construction is to take place in the wetland only if authorised. 9. Construction workers are only allowed in the servitude area of the proposed power lines and not into the surrounding surface water resource system. The required construction areas in the surface water resource and the associated buffer zones are to be clearly demarcated and no access beyond these areas is to be allowed. 10. A single access route or “Right of Way” (RoW) is to be established to the desired construction area in the wetland or other surface water resources type. The width of the RoW must be limited to the width of the vehicles	

IMPACT	SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER This section deals with surface and groundwater and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ECO / Main Contractor
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>required to enter the surface water resource (no more than a 3m width). An area around the location where the towers will be placed will be required in order for the towers to be erected. This too must be limited to the smallest possible area (no bigger than 20m²) to prevent unnecessary degradation.</p> <p>11. The number and type of permissible vehicles or machinery into or near to the sensitive areas must be limited to the bare minimum. Preferably light vehicles are to be utilised where possible.</p> <p>Preventing Soil and Wetland Contamination:</p> <p>12. All vehicles and machinery are to be checked for oil, fuel or any other fluid leaks before entering the construction areas. All vehicles and machinery must be regularly serviced and maintained before being allowed to enter the construction RoW within the highly sensitive areas. No fuelling, re-fuelling, vehicle and machinery servicing or maintenance is to take place in the sensitive areas. The construction site is to contain sufficient safety measures throughout the construction process. These include, but are not limited to, oil spill kits to be available, fire extinguishers, fuel, oil or hazardous substances storage areas must be bunded to prevent oil or fuel contamination of the ground and/or nearby surface water resource or associated buffer zone.</p>	

IMPACT	SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER This section deals with surface and groundwater and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ECO / Main Contractor
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>13. No hazardous materials are to be stored or brought into the sensitive areas. Should a designated storage area be required, the storage area must be placed at the furthest location from the sensitive areas. Appropriate safety measures as stipulated above must be implemented.</p> <p>Recommendations for human physical degradation of surface water resource fauna:</p> <p>14. Construction workers are not allowed in the surface water resource unless authorised construction in these areas have been granted.</p> <p>15. No animals on the study site are to be hunted, captured, trapped, removed, harmed, killed or eaten. The appointed ECO is to be contacted should any of the above occur to fauna during the construction phase.</p> <p>Recommendations for human physical degradation of surface water resource flora:</p> <p>16. No vegetation is to be damaged or removed unnecessarily in the surface water resource unless it is to be cleared as a result of being within the approved RoW areas during construction or within the servitude of the finalised proposed power line route during the operation phase.</p> <p>17. Where sensitive surface water resource vegetation is identified in the areas that have been approved for construction, the necessary plant</p>	

IMPACT	SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER This section deals with surface and groundwater and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ECO / Main Contractor
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>removal permits are to be obtained prior to any removal, relocation or destruction of such vegetation.</p> <p>18. No “long drop” toilets are allowed in the construction camp or construction areas. Suitable temporary chemical sanitation facilities must be provided. Temporary chemical sanitation facilities must be placed no closer than 100m from any delineated surface water resource. Temporary chemical sanitation facilities must be placed over a bunded or a sealed surface area and adequately maintained to prevent leakage or spillage of sanitary chemicals.</p> <p>Preventing Increased Run-off and Sedimentation Impacting on Surface Water Resources:</p> <p>19. Authorised vegetation clearing in the surface water resource (where required) must take place in a phased manner, only clearing areas that will be constructed on immediately. Vegetation clearing must not take place in areas where construction will only take place in the distant future (several weeks, months, years down the line). Vegetation must not be completely removed and must be undertaken according to standard Eskom vegetation clearance standards and policies. Vegetation clearance must be limited to the RoW only or servitude where applicable.</p> <p>20. An appropriate storm water management plan formulated by a suitably qualified professional must accompany the proposed development to deal</p>	

IMPACT	SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER This section deals with surface and groundwater and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ECO / Main Contractor
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>with increased run-off and potential sedimentation impacts for the construction phase of the proposed development. Adequate structures must be put in place (temporary or permanent where necessary) to handle run-off and sediment volumes. All impacted areas must be adequately sloped to prevent onset of erosion.</p> <p>21. Vegetation rehabilitation in the surface water resources (where required) will need to take place in the impacted areas following construction. The compacted soil and cleared vegetation areas in the RoW must be levelled, or appropriately sloped if on a hillslope and scarified to loosen the soil and allow seeds contained in the natural seed bank to re-establish. Preferably scarification is to take place before the spring and summer rainy season and not in the dry season. A medium term vegetation alien removal and rehabilitation monitoring programme is to be established.</p> <p>Preservation of Surface Water Resources:</p> <p>22. Where any soils are to be removed from surface water resource areas, these are to be stockpiled. Top soil must be stockpiled separately from the sub-soil types. All soil stockpiles from general construction activities in or within 100metres from the delineated surface water resource must be adequately banded by suitable materials. Banding materials can include a three brick layer boundary around the soil stockpile. Alternatively, wooden planks approximately 40-50cm high fixed with pegs can be used. This will</p>	

IMPACT	SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER This section deals with surface and groundwater and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ECO / Main Contractor
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>prevent soil run-off and potential sedimentation pollution (environmental incident) impacts affecting the surface water resource.</p> <p>Infilling of Excavation with Stockpiled Soils:</p> <p>23. As identified above, excavated surface water resource soils are to be used as infill in the locations where towers and/or foundations have been placed where appropriate. The order that the stockpiled soils are backfilled must be specific. The sub-soils are to be in-filled first. The top soil layer is then to be in-filled after on top of the sub-soils so as to reinstate the appropriate soil horizon order. It is recognised that infill of a different grade may be required to infill the excavations of the newly proposed towers in wetlands due to the potential degree of clay content and the instability associated thereof with these soils. This is permissible but only where absolutely necessary. All excess soils are to be removed from the construction areas upon completion construction. Areas that have been impacted by the soil stockpiles must be rehabilitated in accordance with the mitigation measures specified above with regards to vegetation and bank stabilisation rehabilitation procedures.</p>	

2.3.9 Waste Management

Table 16: Waste Management

IMPACT	WASTE MANAGEMENT This section deals with waste management and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>Litter management</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The contractor should take steps to ensure that littering by construction workers does not occur. 2. Refuse bins must be placed at strategic positions to ensure that litter does not accumulate within the construction site. 3. The Contractor shall supply waste collection bins where such is not available and all solid waste collected shall be disposed of at registered/licensed landfill. 4. A housekeeping team should be appointed to regularly maintain the litter and rubble situation on the construction site. 5. If possible and feasible, all waste generated on site must be separated into glass, plastic, paper, metal and wood and recycled. An independent contractor can be appointed to conduct this recycling. 6. In general, any litter must be cleared immediately. 7. Littering by the employees of the Contractor shall not be allowed under any circumstances. The ECO shall monitor the neatness of the work sites as well as the Contractor campsite. 8. Skip waste containers should be maintained on site. These should be kept covered and arrangements made for them to be collected regularly. 	

IMPACT	WASTE MANAGEMENT This section deals with waste management and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>9. All waste must be removed from the site and transported to a landfill site promptly to ensure that it does not attract vermin or produce odours.</p> <p>10. Where a registered waste site is not available close to the construction site, the Contractor shall provide a method statement with regard to waste management.</p> <p>11. A certificate of disposal shall be obtained by the Contractor and kept on file, if relevant.</p> <p>12. Under no circumstances may solid waste be burnt on site.</p> <p>13. All waste must be removed promptly to ensure that it does not attract vermin or produce odours.</p> <p>14. It is important that the contractors (and sub-contractors by implication) and workers must be informed of the facilities and procedures available for the disposal of waste.</p> <p>Hazardous waste</p> <p>15. Any hazardous substances must be stored at least 20m from any of the water bodies on site.</p> <p>16. All waste hazardous materials must be carefully stored as advised by the ECO, and then disposed of off-site at a licensed landfill site, where practical. Incineration may be used where relevant.</p> <p>17. Contaminants must be stored safely to avoid spillage.</p> <p>18. Machinery must be properly maintained to keep oil leaks in check.</p>	

IMPACT	WASTE MANAGEMENT This section deals with waste management and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>19. All necessary precaution measures shall be taken to prevent soil or surface water pollution from hazardous materials used during construction and any spills shall immediately be cleaned up and all affected areas rehabilitated.</p> <p>Sanitation</p> <p>20. Adequate sanitary facilities and ablutions must be provided for construction workers (1 toilet per every 15 workers).</p> <p>21. Staff shall be sensitised to the fact that they should use these facilities at all times. No indiscriminate sanitary activities on site shall be allowed.</p> <p>22. Ablution facilities shall be within 50m from workplaces and not closer than 100m from any natural water bodies or boreholes. There should be enough toilets available to accommodate the workforce (minimum requirement 1: 15 workers). Male and females must be accommodated separately where possible.</p> <p>23. Toilets must be serviced regularly and the ECO must inspect toilets regularly.</p> <p>24. Under no circumstances may open areas, neighbours fences or the surrounding bush be used as a toilet facility.</p> <p>25. The construction of “Long Drop” toilets is forbidden. Toilets connected to the sewage treatment plant or chemical toilets are preferable.</p> <p>26. Potable water must be provided for all construction staff.</p>	

IMPACT	WASTE MANAGEMENT This section deals with waste management and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>Remedial actions</p> <p>27. Depending on the nature and extent of the spill, contaminated soil must be either excavated or treated on-site.</p> <p>28. Excavation of contaminated soil must involve careful removal of soil using appropriate tools/machinery to storage containers until treated or disposed of at a licensed hazardous landfill site.</p> <p>29. The ECO must determine the precise method of treatment for polluted soil. This could involve the application of soil absorbent materials as well as oil-digestive powders to the contaminated soil.</p> <p>30. If a spill occurs on an impermeable surface such as cement or concrete, the surface spill must be contained using oil absorbent material.</p> <p>31. If necessary, oil absorbent sheets or pads must be attached to leaky machinery or infrastructure.</p> <p>32. Materials used for the remediation of petrochemical spills must be used according to product specifications and guidance for use.</p> <p>33. Contaminated remediation materials must be carefully removed from the area of the spill so as to prevent further release of petrochemicals to the environment, and stored in adequate containers until appropriate disposal.</p>	

2.3.10 Biodiversity

Table 17: Biodiversity

IMPACT	BIODIVERSITY (incl Avifauna) This section deals with flora and fauna actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>Existing vegetation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vegetation removal must be limited to the construction corridor. 2. Vegetation clearing on tower sites must be kept to a minimum. 3. Big trees with large root systems shall be cut manually and removed, as the use of a bulldozer will cause major damage to the soil when the root systems are removed. Stumps shall be treated with herbicide. 4. Smaller vegetation can be flattened with a machine, but the blade should be kept above ground level to prevent scalping. Any vegetation cleared on a tower site shall be removed or flattened and not be pushed to form an embankment around the tower. 5. Trees and vegetation not interfering with the statutory clearance to the conductors can be left under the line. Dense vegetation under the line which could cause a fire hazard, particularly in the middle third of the span in the vicinity of the lowest point of the conductors, will be considered as a separate case. 6. Upon completion of the stringing operations and before handover, the servitude must be inspected and all vegetation interfering with the safe operation of the line shall be removed / cut down. 	

IMPACT	BIODIVERSITY (incl Avifauna) This section deals with flora and fauna actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>7. Vegetation to be removed as it becomes necessary rather than removal of all vegetation throughout the site in one step.</p> <p>8. Materials should not be delivered to the site prematurely which could result in additional areas being cleared or affected.</p> <p>9. Tall trees within the servitude must be pruned/ trimmed.</p> <p>Fauna occurring in the study area</p> <p>10. Use of appropriate construction techniques is critical.</p> <p>11. Rehabilitation to be undertaken as soon as possible after construction has been completed.</p> <p>12. No trapping or snaring to fauna on the construction site is allowed.</p> <p>13. No faunal species must be harmed by maintenance staff during any routine maintenance at the development.</p> <p>14. Pits and excavations must be regularly checked for animals that may have fallen in.</p> <p>15. Excavations must be adequately cordoned off where practical to prevent animals from falling in should such excavations be left opened for a period of time.</p> <p>16. Animals occurring on site must be left alone. The ECO must be consulted and before removing any animals obstructing construction activities. The ECO will provide assistance in their removal.</p>	

IMPACT	BIODIVERSITY (incl Avifauna) This section deals with flora and fauna actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>Demarcation of construction and laydown areas</p> <p>17. All plants not interfering with the construction shall be left undisturbed clearly marked and indicated on the site plan.</p> <p>18. The construction area must be well demarcated and no construction activities must be allowed outside of this demarcated footprint.</p> <p>19. Vegetation removal must be phased in order to reduce impact of construction.</p> <p>20. Construction site office and laydown areas must be clearly demarcated and no encroachment must occur beyond demarcated areas.</p> <p>21. Soils must be kept free of petrochemical solutions that may be kept on site during construction. Spillage can result in a loss of soil functionality thus limiting the re-establishment of flora.</p> <p>Utilisation of resources</p> <p>22. Gathering of firewood, fruit, muti plants, or any other natural material onsite or in areas adjacent to the site is prohibited unless with prior approval of the ECO.</p> <p>Exotic vegetation</p> <p>23. All exotic vegetation must be removed from the site (if present).</p> <p>24. Alien vegetation on the site will need to be controlled.</p>	

IMPACT	BIODIVERSITY (incl Avifauna) This section deals with flora and fauna actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>25. The contractor should be responsible for implementing a programme of weed control (particularly in areas where soil has been disturbed); and grassing of any remaining stockpiles to prevent weed invasion.</p> <p>26. The spread of exotic species occurring throughout the site should be controlled. Emergence of alien invasive species must be avoided.</p> <p>Vegetation removal</p> <p>27. Larger established trees should be allowed to remain <i>in situ</i>.</p> <p>28. Herbicide use shall only be allowed according to contract specifications. The application shall be according to set specifications and under supervision of a qualified technician. The possibility of leaching into the surrounding environment shall be properly investigated and only environmentally friendly herbicides shall be used.</p> <p>29. The use of pesticides and herbicides on the site must be discouraged as these impact on important pollinator species of indigenous vegetation.</p>	
SITE SPECIFIC MITIGATION		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>Loss of indigenous natural vegetation:</p> <p>30. Avoid patches of indigenous vegetation if possible, or place infrastructure as close as possible to boundaries.</p> <p>31. Compile a rehabilitation programme.</p> <p>32. Compile an Alien Plant Management Plan.</p>	

IMPACT	BIODIVERSITY (incl Avifauna) This section deals with flora and fauna actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>33. Undertake regular monitoring.</p> <p>Damage to wetlands and riparian habitat:</p> <p>34. Avoid wetland systems, where possible, by spanning them completely.</p> <p>35. Undertake a wetland study to determine the boundaries of wetland systems.</p> <p>36. Prevent erosion impacts on wetland systems.</p> <p>37. Rehabilitate disturbance as quickly as possible.</p> <p>38. Prevent invasion by alien plants.</p> <p>39. Undertake monitoring to evaluate whether further measures would be required to manage impacts.</p> <p>Loss of individuals of protected plants:</p> <p>40. It is a legal requirement to obtain permits for specimens that will be lost. A pre-construction walk-through survey will be required to locate any protected plants. Plants lost to the development can be rescued and planted in appropriate places in surrounding areas. This will reduce the irreplaceable loss of resources as well as the cumulative effect.</p> <p>Loss of individuals of protected trees:</p> <p>41. It is a legal requirement to obtain permits for specimens that will be lost. Trees lost to the development can be cultivated and planted in</p>	

IMPACT	BIODIVERSITY (incl Avifauna) This section deals with flora and fauna actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	appropriate places in surrounding areas. This will reduce the irreplaceable loss of resources as well as the cumulative effect.	

2.3.11 Air Quality

Table 18: Air Quality

IMPACT	AIR QUALITY This table deals with mitigation measures to prevent air pollution	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	Dust control 1. Wheel washing and damping down of un-surfaced and un-vegetated areas must occur in areas close to potential receptors of dust pollution. The ECO and ELO must identify these areas prior to construction starting in that particular area or prior to construction traffic needing to move along un-surfaced roads in certain areas. 2. Vegetation must be retained where possible in order to reduce dust travel.	

IMPACT	AIR QUALITY	RESPONSIBILITY
	<p>This table deals with mitigation measures to prevent air pollution</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Excavations and other clearing activities must only be done during agreed working times and permitting weather conditions to avoid drifting of sand and dust into neighbouring areas. 4. The Contractor shall be responsible for dust control on site to ensure no nuisance is caused to sensitive receptors such as landowners and neighbouring communities. 5. Dust generation must be kept to a minimum and suppressed on access roads and construction areas during dry periods. This can be accomplished by the regular application of water or a biodegradable soil stabilisation agent. 6. Speed limits on un-surfaced roads must not be exceeded. 7. Speed limits for construction vehicles must be clearly signposted and must be monitored by the ELO and ECO. 8. Any complaints or claims emanating from the lack of dust control shall be attended to immediately by the ELO under the supervision of the ECO. 	

2.3.12 Noise and Vibrations

Table 19: Noise and Vibrations

IMPACT	NOISE This section deals with noise and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The construction phase must aim to adhere to the relevant noise regulations and limit noise to within standard working hours in order to reduce disturbance of dwellings in close proximity to the development. 2. Truck traffic should be routed away from noise sensitive areas, where possible. 3. Noise levels must be kept within acceptable limits as recommended by SANS 10103:2003. 4. Noisy operations should be combined so that they occur where possible at the same time. 5. Construction activities are to be contained to reasonable hours during the day and early evening. Night-time activities near noise sensitive areas must not be allowed. 6. Construction workers to wear necessary ear protection gear. 7. Noisy activities should take place during normal working hours (06h00 to 22h00) Monday to Saturday. 8. Noise from labourers must be controlled. 9. Noise suppression measures must be applied to all construction equipment. Construction equipment must be kept in good working order and where appropriate fitted with silencers which are kept in good working order. Should the vehicles or equipment not be in good working order, the contractor may be instructed to remove the offending vehicle or machinery from site. 	

IMPACT	NOISE This section deals with noise and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>10. The contractor must take measures to discourage labourers from loitering in the area and causing noise disturbance. Where possible labour shall be transported to and from the site by the contractor or his Sub-Contractors by the contractors own transport.</p> <p>11. Apply regular and thorough maintenance schedules to equipment and processes. An increase in noise emission levels very often is a sign of the imminent mechanical failure of a machine.</p> <p>12. Should blasting be required, the contractor will need to obtain a blasting permit. Moreover, the contractor must make the public aware of when blasting is to take place as well as the specific times of blasting. Blasting activities must take place at reasonable times and during daily working hours.</p>	

2.3.13 Energy use

Table 20: Energy use

IMPACT	ENERGY USE This section deals with energy use and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Energy saving lighting must be implemented across the board. 2. Minimal lighting, while maintaining health and safety regulations, must be kept on during the night operations. 3. Equipment not in use must be switched off and unplugged to save on unnecessary energy costs and carbon footprint. 	

2.3.14 Employment

Table 21: Employment

IMPACT	EMPLOYMENT This section deals with employment and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	Labour	

IMPACT	EMPLOYMENT This section deals with employment and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The use of labour intensive construction measures should be used where appropriate. 2. Labour must be trained to benefit individuals beyond completion of the project. <p>Recruitment Plan</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. All unskilled labourers should be drawn from the local market i.e. and where possible use should be made of local semi-skilled and skilled personnel. 4. Local suppliers to be used where possible. 5. Ensure adequate advertising in the project community areas, local papers for skilled labour. Adverts will be placed in each area where the public meetings were conducted. 6. Local community leaders as well as the Local Municipalities must be utilised to source labour. 7. The recruitment process must be equitable and transparent. A concerted effort will be made to guard against nepotism and/or any form of favouritism during the process. 8. The informal daily recruitment of workers at the construction camp must be avoided in order to prevent the congregation and loitering of job seekers at the construction camp. 	

IMPACT	EMPLOYMENT This section deals with employment and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	9. The recruitment of skilled labour will follow standard advertising process in national newspapers and interview based selection. 10. Record of official complaints by employees to authorities must be kept i.e. Labour and Social Security (Annexure A for complaints record sheet).	
SITE SPECIFIC MITIGATION		
	11. A positive impact on production can be increased by where feasible, employ local contractors during the construction period and local suppliers to maximise the benefits to the local communities. 12. A positive impact on employment can be increased where feasible, employ local contractors during the construction period and local suppliers to maximise the benefits to the local communities.	

2.3.15 Occupational Health and Safety

Table 22: Occupational Health and Safety

IMPACT	HEALTH AND SAFETY This section deals with health and safety and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/SAFETY OFFICER
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>Worker safety</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safety measures for work procedures must be implemented. 2. First aid kits must be available and accessible on site. 3. A health and safety plan in terms of the Occupational Health and Safety Act (Act No. 85 of 1993) must be drawn up by the Contractor and approved by the ECO to ensure worker safety. 4. Workers should be thoroughly trained in using potentially dangerous equipment. 5. Contractors must ensure that all equipment is maintained in a safe operating condition. 6. A safety officer must be appointed. 7. A record of health and safety incidents must be kept on site. 8. Any health and safety incidents must be reported to the Project Manager immediately. 9. First aid facilities must be available on site at all times and a number of employees trained to carry out first aid procedures. 10. Workers have the right to refuse work in unsafe conditions. 	

IMPACT	HEALTH AND SAFETY This section deals with health and safety and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/SAFETY OFFICER
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>11. The Contractor must take all the necessary precautions against the spreading of disease such as measles, foot and mouth, etc. especially under livestock.</p> <p>12. A record must be kept of drugs administered to construction staff or precautions taken and the time and dates when this was done. This can then be used as evidence in court should any claims be instituted against Eskom or the Contractor.</p> <p>13. The contractor must ensure that all construction workers are well educated about HIV/ AIDS and the risks surrounding this disease. The location of the local clinic where more information and counselling is offered must be indicated to workers.</p> <p>14. Material stockpiles or stacks must be stable and well secured to avoid collapse and possible injury to site workers / local residents.</p> <p>Worker facilities</p> <p>15. Eating areas should be regularly serviced and cleaned to ensure the highest possible standards of hygiene and cleanliness.</p> <p>16. Fires are not to be allowed outside controlled areas.</p> <p>17. Ablution facilities must be well maintained.</p>	

IMPACT	HEALTH AND SAFETY This section deals with health and safety and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/SAFETY OFFICER
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>Hazardous substances</p> <p>18. Working areas should be provided with adequate ventilation and dust/fume extraction systems to ensure that inhalation exposure levels for potentially corrosive, oxidizing, reactive or siliceous substances are maintained and managed at safe levels.</p> <p>19. Eye wash and emergency shower systems should be provided in areas where there exists the possibility of chemical containment of workers and the need for rapid treatment.</p> <p>Electrical Safety and isolation</p> <p>20. Use of electrical safety devices on all final distribution circuits and appropriate testing schedules applied to such safety systems.</p> <p>21. All sources of hazardous energy or hazardous substances should have written procedures for isolation, identifying how the system, plant or equipment can be made and kept safe.</p> <p>Physical Hazards</p> <p>22. Geotechnical safety - All structures must be planned, designed and operated such that the geotechnical risks are appropriately managed.</p>	

IMPACT	HEALTH AND SAFETY This section deals with health and safety and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/SAFETY OFFICER
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>Machine and Equipment</p> <p>23. Use must be made of contrast colouring on equipment/machinery including the provision of reflective markings to enhance visibility.</p> <p>24. Use must be made of moving equipment/machinery equipped with improved operator sight lines.</p> <p>25. Workers must be issued with high visibility clothing.</p> <p>26. Use must be made of reflective markings on structures, traffic junctions, and other areas with a potential for accidents.</p> <p>27. Safety barriers must be installed in high risk locations.</p> <p>Fitness for work</p> <p>28. Shift management systems must minimize risk of fatigue. Establish alcohol and other drug policy for the operation.</p> <p>Travel and remote site health</p> <p>29. Develop programs to prevent both chronic and acute illnesses through appropriate sanitation and vector control systems.</p> <p>30. Food preparation areas should be provided with adequate washing facilities.</p> <p>31. Where food is prepared, food preparation storage and disposal should be reviewed regularly and monitored to minimise risk of illness.</p>	

IMPACT	HEALTH AND SAFETY This section deals with health and safety and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/SAFETY OFFICER
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>Protective gear</p> <p>32. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be made available to all construction staff and must be compulsory. Hard hats and safety shoes must be worn at all times and other PPE worn where necessary i.e. dust masks, ear plugs etc.</p> <p>33. No person is to enter the site without the necessary PPE.</p> <p>Site safety</p> <p>34. The construction camp must remain fenced for the entire construction period.</p> <p>35. Potentially hazardous areas are to be demarcated and clearly marked.</p> <p>36. Adequate warning signs of hazardous working areas must be in place.</p> <p>37. Emergency numbers for local police and fire department etc must be placed in a prominent area.</p> <p>38. Fire fighting equipment must be placed in prominent positions across the site where it is easily accessible. This includes fire extinguishers, a fire blanket as well as a water tank.</p> <p>39. Suitable conspicuous warning signs in English and all other applicable languages must be placed at all entrances to the site.</p> <p>40. All speed limits must be adhered to.</p>	

IMPACT	HEALTH AND SAFETY This section deals with health and safety and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/SAFETY OFFICER
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>Construction equipment safety</p> <p>41. All equipment used for construction must be in good working order with up to date maintenance records.</p> <p>Hazardous Material Storage</p> <p>42. Staff that will be handling hazardous materials must be trained to do so.</p> <p>43. Any hazardous materials (apart from fuel) must be stored within a lockable store with a sealed floor.</p> <p>44. All storage tanks containing hazardous materials must be placed in bunded containment areas with sealed surfaces. The bund walls must be high enough to contain 110% of the total volume of the stored hazardous material. These areas should be roofed to avoid contamination of stormwater.</p> <p>45. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) which contain the necessary information pertaining to a specific hazardous substance must be present for all hazardous materials stored on the site.</p> <p>Procedure in the event of a petrochemical spill</p> <p>46. A spill kit needs to be kept on site to address any unforeseen spillages.</p> <p>47. The individual responsible for or who discovers the petrochemical spill must report the incident to the Project Manager, Contractor or ECO.</p>	

IMPACT	HEALTH AND SAFETY This section deals with health and safety and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/SAFETY OFFICER
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>48. The problem must be assessed and the necessary actions required will be undertaken.</p> <p>49. The immediate response must be to contain the spill.</p> <p>50. The source of the spill must be identified, controlled, treated or removed wherever possible.</p> <p>Fire management</p> <p>51. Fire fighting equipment should be present on site at all times.</p> <p>52. All construction staff must be trained in fire hazard control and fire fighting techniques.</p> <p>53. All flammable substances must be stored in dry areas which do not pose an ignition risk to the said substances.</p> <p>54. No open fires will be allowed on site.</p> <p>55. Smoking may only be conducted in demarcated areas.</p> <p>56. Contact should be made with the local Fire Protection Agency (FPA) if one exists.</p> <p>Safety of surrounding residents</p> <p>57. All I&AP's should be notified in advance of any known potential risks associated with the construction site and the activities on it. Examples of these are:</p>	

IMPACT	HEALTH AND SAFETY This section deals with health and safety and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/SAFETY OFFICER
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Earthworks / earthmoving machinery on steep slopes above houses / infrastructure; ▪ Risk to residence along haulage roads / access routes. <p>Emergency evacuation plan</p> <p>58. Upon completion of the construction phase, an emergency evacuation plan must be drawn up to ensure the safety of the staff and surrounding land users in the case of an emergency.</p> <p>59. All permanent staff must undergo safety training.</p> <p>Maintenance</p> <p>60. The corridor and surrounding areas are to be regularly maintained. A maintenance schedule must be drawn up and records of all maintenance kept.</p>	

2.3.16 Security

Table 23: Security

IMPACT	SECURITY This section deals with security and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC /SAFETY OFFICER
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A security company should be employed to guard the construction site and monitor access. This company should also be utilised for the operation phase. 2. Labour should be transported to and from the site to discourage loitering in adjacent areas and possible increase in crime or disturbance. 3. Unsocial activities such as consumption or illegal selling of alcohol, drug utilisation or selling and prostitution on site shall be prohibited. Any persons found to be engaged in such activities should receive disciplinary or criminal action taken against them. 4. Only pre-approved staff must be permitted to stay within the staff accommodation which will be provided. 5. The site shall be fenced, where necessary to prevent any loss or injury to persons during the construction phase. 6. During periods of temporary site closure, the site should be secured to ensure no access to the site. This applies to the construction camp as well. 7. No alcohol / drugs to be present on site. 8. No firearms allowed on site or in vehicles transporting staff to / from site (unless used by security personnel). 	

IMPACT	SECURITY This section deals with security and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC /SAFETY OFFICER
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>9. No harvesting of firewood from the site or from the business property adjacent to it without prior consent from the ECO.</p> <p>10. Construction staff are to make use of the facilities provided for them, as opposed to ad-hoc alternatives (e.g. fires for cooking, the use of surrounding bush as a toilet facility are forbidden).</p> <p>11. Trespassing on private / commercial properties adjoining the site is forbidden.</p> <p>12. All employees must undergo the necessary safety training and wear the necessary protective clothing.</p> <p>13. The ELO must timeously inform affected landowners where construction is to occur of the onset of the construction process.</p> <p>14. Driving under the influence of alcohol is prohibited.</p> <p>15. The site must be secured in order to reduce the opportunity for criminal activity in the locality of the construction site.</p>	

2.3.17 Social Environment

Table 24: Social Environment

IMPACT	SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT This section deals with social environment and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC / ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All contact with the affected parties shall be courteous at all times. The rights of the affected parties shall be respected at all times. 2. The successful completion of the project depends a lot on the good relations with the landowners. The Contractor's Environmental Liaison Officer will thus be the liaison officer for the entire contract. 3. The ELO shall be available to investigate all problems arising on the work sites concerning the landowners. 4. All negotiations (if required) for any reason shall be conducted between the ECO the landowners and the Contractor (ELO) with the ECO present. 5. No verbal agreements shall be made. All agreements shall be recorded properly and all parties shall co-sign the documentation. 6. The landowners shall always be kept informed by the ELO about any changes to the construction programme should they be affected. 7. The contact numbers of the ELO and the Eskom ECO shall be made available to the landowners. This will ensure open channels of communication and prompt response to queries and claims. 8. A complaints register should be kept on site (A complaints record sheet is provided in annexure A). Details of complaints should be incorporated 	

IMPACT	SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT This section deals with social environment and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC / ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>into the audits as part of the monitoring process. This should be in carbon copy format, with numbered pages. Any missing pages must be accounted for by the Contractor.</p> <p>9. Damage to infrastructure shall not be tolerated and any damage shall be rectified immediately by the Contractor. A record of all damage and remedial actions shall be kept on site.</p> <p>10. All existing private access roads used for construction purposes, shall be maintained at all times to ensure that the local people have free access to and from their properties. Speed limits shall be enforced in such areas and all drivers shall be sensitised to this effect.</p> <p>11. Care must be taken not to damage irrigation equipment, lines, channels and crops, as this could lead to major claims being instituted against Eskom and the Contractor.</p> <p>12. A policy on Contractor Health and Safety for the duration of the construction work on site, must apply, and be monitored.</p> <p>13. A proper security strategy must be in place for site specific crimes.</p>	
SITE SPECIFIC MITIGATION		MC
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	14. Land-owners should be adequately compensated for any unforeseen damage to property or loss of assets such as livestock if it is proven to result from the construction activities.	

IMPACT	SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT This section deals with social environment and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC / ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>15. Limit the movement between the construction site and the point of assembly by providing transportation.</p> <p>16. Negotiate terms and conditions that would guide construction activities on the properties, as well as behaviour and conduct of the construction crew.</p> <p>17. A pre-defined access route to the servitude should be chosen in consultation with the land owner and should be strictly adhered to by all construction vehicles and construction crew; the chosen route should follow the existing roads as far as feasible.</p> <p>18. Site clearance activities should be limited to the minimum required area to minimise potential damages to the environment and property.</p> <p>19. Construction vehicles are to follow a safe speed and should mind animals inhabiting the farms.</p> <p>20. Construction activity should be undertaken only during working hours.</p>	

2.3.18 Community Engagement

Table 25: Community Engagement

IMPACT	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT This section deals with surrounding community and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A communication guideline to be drafted and agreed upon with authority representatives and affected communities. 2. Open and transparent community engagement to be followed as culturally appropriate. 3. Records (written) to be kept of all community engagements (e.g. complaints, resolutions, etc.) 	

2.3.19 Visual Impact

Table 26: Visual Impact

IMPACT	VISUAL This section deals with visual issues and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>General</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Construction activities must not occur at night and lighting should only be erected where absolutely necessary. 2. Construction camps and equipment storage facilities are to be shielded with shade netting. 3. Construction traffic must not deviate from designated routes or access roads. 4. Construction areas are to be kept clean and tidy. 5. Measures must be taken to suppress dust arising from construction activities. 6. Labour being transported to the site must take cognisance of litter and waste concerns. 7. Equipment being transported to the site must be covered with tarpaulins. 8. Topsoil stockpiles must be well managed and seeded when possible if not utilised within three months. 9. It is recommended that equipment be stored discreetly so as not to increase visual impacts. 	

	<p>10. Construction must be conducted in the shortest possible time in order to reduce visual impacts.</p> <p>11. Align the power line as far away from sensitive receptors locations</p> <p>12. Align the power line to run parallel to existing power lines of equal or greater magnitude</p> <p>13. Avoid crossing areas of higher elevation especially ridges, koppies or hills</p> <p>14. Avoid areas of natural wooded vegetation where possible</p>	
SITE SPECIFIC MITIGATION		MC
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>15. Carefully plan to reduce the construction period.</p> <p>16. Locate construction camp and storage areas in zones of low visibility i.e. behind tall trees or in lower lying areas.</p> <p>17. Minimise vegetation clearing and rehabilitate cleared areas as soon as possible.</p> <p>18. Maintain a neat construction site by removing rubble and waste materials regularly.</p> <p>19. Make use of existing gravel access roads where possible.</p> <p>20. Ensure that dust suppression techniques are implemented on all access roads.</p>	

2.3.20 Heritage and Cultural Resources

Table 27: Heritage and Cultural Resources

IMPACT	HERITAGE AND CULTURAL RESOURCES This section deals with heritage and cultural issues as well as actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A responsible archaeologist must be appointed to inspect the operational areas of the site in order to identify any significant material being unearthed, and to make the correct judgment on actions to be taken. 2. A permit in terms of section 34 of the National Heritage Resources Act 1999 (Act 25 of 1999) must be obtained, if any archaeological resources, such as built structures older than 60 years, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds or graves and cultural landscapes, are discovered during the construction phase of the project and which will be damaged, destroyed, altered, or disturbed as a result of the project. 3. A destruction permit will be required under the Section 34 of the NHRA (if applicable). 4. An archaeologist must immediately be appointed should any artefacts be unearthed during construction. 5. Should substantial fossils be uncovered they should be left <i>in situ</i>, safeguarded by the Environmental Control Officer and reported to SAHRA and a professional palaeontologist. 	

	<p>6. A poster reminding workers of the possibility of finding archaeological sites, should be kept on site.</p> <p>7. An archaeological monitoring and feedback strategy must be developed to ensure effective monitoring of the site and to provide feedback reports to the client and SAHRA.</p>	
SITE SPECIFIC MITIGATION		
	<p>Chance finds</p> <p>8. A heritage monitoring program that will identify finds during construction will be able to mitigate the impact on the finds through scientific documentation of finds and provide valuable data on any finds made.</p> <p>Chance finds</p> <p>9. Mitigation measures as recommended with each identified site and,</p> <p>10. A heritage monitoring program that will identify finds during construction will be able to mitigate the impact on the finds through scientific documentation of finds and provide valuable data on any finds made.</p> <p>Chance finds</p> <p>11. Adjust the Corridor layout and demarcate site with at least a 10-meter buffer.</p> <p>12. In the event that the sites cannot be excluded from the Corridor, a pylon placement and a grave relocation process as described in Section 5 of this reports needs to be implemented.</p>	

2.4 Operation Phase

2.4.1 Construction Site Decommissioning

Table 28: Construction Site Decommissioning

IMPACT	CONSTRUCTION SITE DECOMMISSIONING This section deals with the demolishing of the construction camp and the actions that need to be implemented	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	OPERATION	Main contractor / Developer / ECO / ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>Removal of equipment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All structures comprising the construction camp are to be removed from site. 2. The area that previously housed the construction camp is to be checked for spills of substances such as oil etc, and these shall be remediated. 3. All hardened surfaces within the construction camp area should be ripped, all imported materials removed, and the area shall be top soiled and regressed using the guidelines set out in the re-vegetation that forms part of this document. <p>Temporary services</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. The Contractor must arrange the cancellation of all temporary services. 5. A copy of all weigh-bridge certificates from waste disposed are to be presented to the ECO. 	

IMPACT	CONSTRUCTION SITE DECOMMISSIONING This section deals with the demolishing of the construction camp and the actions that need to be implemented	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	OPERATION	Main contractor / Developer / ECO / ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>6. Temporary roads must be closed and access across these, blocked.</p> <p>7. All areas where temporary services were installed are to be rehabilitated to the satisfaction of the ECO.</p> <p>Associated infrastructure</p> <p>8. Surfaces are to be checked for waste products from activities such as concreting or asphaltting and cleared in a manner approved by the Engineer.</p> <p>9. All surfaces hardened due to construction activities are to be ripped and imported material thereon removed.</p> <p>10. All rubble is to be removed from the site to an approved disposal site as approved by the Engineer. Burying of rubble on site is prohibited.</p> <p>11. The site is to be cleared of all litter.</p> <p>12. The Contractor is to check that all watercourses are free from building rubble, spoil materials and waste materials.</p> <p>13. Fences, barriers and demarcations associated with the construction phase are to be removed from the site unless stipulated otherwise by the Engineer.</p> <p>14. All residual stockpiles must be removed to spoil or spread on site as directed by the Engineer.</p>	

IMPACT	CONSTRUCTION SITE DECOMMISSIONING This section deals with the demolishing of the construction camp and the actions that need to be implemented	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	OPERATION	Main contractor / Developer / ECO / ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>15. All leftover building materials must be returned to the depot or removed from the site.</p> <p>16. The Contractor must repair any damage that the construction works has caused to neighbouring properties, specifically, but not limited to, damage caused by poor storm water management.</p> <p>Rehabilitation plan</p> <p>17. Rehabilitate and re-vegetate cleared areas with indigenous plant species.</p>	

2.4.2 Rehabilitation and Maintenance

Table 29: Rehabilitation and Maintenance

IMPACT	REHABILITATION This section deals with the issues relating to rehabilitation after construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	OPERATION	Developer
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	Rehabilitation	

IMPACT	REHABILITATION This section deals with the issues relating to rehabilitation after construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	OPERATION	Developer
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All damaged areas shall be rehabilitated upon completion of the contract 2. A mixture of vegetation seed can be used provided the mixture is carefully selected to ensure the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annual and perennial species are chosen. ▪ Pioneer species are included. ▪ All the species shall not be edible. ▪ Species chosen will grow in the area under natural conditions. ▪ Root systems must have a binding effect on the soil. ▪ The final product should not cause an ecological imbalance in the area. 3. To get the best results in a specific area, it is advisable to consult with a vegetation specialist. Seed distributors can also give valuable advice as to the mixtures and amount of seed necessary to seed a certain area. 4. Re-vegetation of the disturbed site is aimed at approximating as near as possible the natural vegetative conditions prevailing prior to construction. 5. All natural areas impacted during construction must be rehabilitated with locally indigenous grasses typical of the representative botanical unit. 	

IMPACT	REHABILITATION This section deals with the issues relating to rehabilitation after construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	OPERATION	Developer
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<p>6. Rehabilitation must take place in a phased approach as soon as possible.</p> <p>7. Rehabilitation process must make use of species indigenous to the area. Seeds from surrounding seed banks can be used for re-seeding.</p> <p>8. Rehabilitation must be executed in such a manner that surface run-off will not cause erosion of disturbed areas.</p> <p>9. Planting of indigenous tree species in areas not to be cultivated or built on must be encouraged.</p> <p>Maintenance</p> <p>10. The servitude needs to be monitored on a monthly basis for the first year to identify the emergence of alien species and any erosion concerns.</p>	

2.4.3 Operation and Maintenance

Table 30: Operation and Maintenance

IMPACT	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE This section deals with the potential impacts that could result from the operation and maintenance of the line and substation.	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	OPERATION	ESKOM

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>Maintenance</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All applicable standards, legislation, policies and procedures must be adhered to during operation. 2. Regular ground inspection of the servitude must take place to monitor their status. 3. Landowner conditions for accessing the servitude must be adhered to, and all gates must be kept open / closed subject to landowner requirements. 4. Only authorised Eskom personnel must access the servitude and properties that are required to be traversed in order to access the servitude 5. No new roads to be constructed through wetlands and drainage lines. <p>Public awareness</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. The emergency preparedness plan must be ready for implementation at all times should an emergency situation arise. 	

2.4.4 Air Quality

Table 31: Air Quality

IMPACT	AIR POLLUTION This section deals with the issues relating to air pollution during operation	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	OPERATION	Developer

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>Dust management</p> <p>1. Any dirt roads utilised to access the sites must be regularly maintained to ensure that dust levels are controlled.</p> <p>Litter management</p> <p>2. Remove unwanted materials and litter on a regular basis to avoid potential odours.</p>	

2.4.5 Agricultural Impact

Table 32: Agricultural Impact

IMPACT	AGRICULTURAL This section deals with agricultural and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/ ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>General</p> <p>1. Plan the fine-scale positioning of pylons, access roads and construction camps to have minimal disturbance on agricultural activities and agricultural land. Pylons should be positioned on existing boundaries or edges of agricultural units of land wherever possible, so as not to interfere with agricultural activities within a unit. Access routes must ideally be planned on areas less susceptible to erosion/ destabilization/ compaction or appropriate action must be taken to minimise impact, e.g. planning of new access routes along contour lines and minimizing of cutting and filling operations.</p>	

IMPACT	AGRICULTUAL This section deals with agricultural and actions that need to be implemented during construction	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	MC/ ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Plan the fine-scale positioning of pylons, access roads and construction camps to have minimal disturbance on agricultural activities and agricultural land. Pylons should be positioned on existing boundaries or edges of agricultural units of land wherever possible, so as not to interfere with agricultural activities within a unit. Plan the timing of construction not to coincide with important agricultural activities such as planting or harvesting. 3. Minimize road footprint and control vehicle access on roads only. 4. Control dust as per standard construction site practice. <p>Soil erosion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Implement an effective system of run-off control, where it is required, that collects and safely disseminates all potential accumulations of run-off water and thereby prevents potential down slope erosion. This should be in place and maintained during all phases of the development. 6. Maintain where possible all vegetation cover and facilitate re-vegetation of denuded areas throughout the site to stabilize the soil against erosion. 	

2.4.6 Biodiversity

Table 33: Biodiversity

IMPACT	BIODIVERSITY (FAUNA AND FLORA) This section details with the issues relating to biodiversity during operation	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	OPERATION	Developer
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>Vegetation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indigenous vegetation must be maintained and all exotics removed as they appear and disposed of appropriately. 2. Re-vegetation of the disturbed site is aimed at approximating as near as possible the natural vegetative conditions prevailing prior to construction. 3. Vegetative re-establishment shall, as far as possible, make use of indigenous or locally occurring plant varieties within the servitude. 4. Rehabilitation must be executed in such a manner that surface run-off will not cause erosion of disturbed areas during and following rehabilitation. 5. No streams, wetlands or riparian areas outside of agreed access routes must be traversed as part of operational work unless emergency access to the servitude in the areas is required. 6. Herbicides to clear emergent bushy vegetation under the lines must not be used; instead vegetation control must be through mechanical means. No herbicides must be used within 150m of any surface water feature. 	

IMPACT	BIODIVERSITY (FAUNA AND FLORA) This section details with the issues relating to biodiversity during operation	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	OPERATION	Developer
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	Other fauna 7. No faunal species must harmed by maintenance staff during any routine maintenance at the development.	
SITE SPECIFIC MITIGATION		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>Mortality of individuals due to collisions with power lines</p> <p>8. Visibility devices could be placed on overhead powerlines, if necessary. This will reduce the probability slightly. The mitigation measure is therefore not required unless monitoring identifies this as an issue during operation. Routine surveys should be undertaken once construction has been completed in order to identify any further collision hotspot areas. The sections of line within these areas should also be marked. The walk-through survey will also enable the identification of nesting activity within the area of various RDL species.</p> <p>Establishment and spread of declared weeds</p> <p>9. Compile and implement an alien management plan.</p> <p>10. Undertake regular monitoring to detect alien invasions early so that they can be controlled.</p>	

2.4.7 Surface Water

IMPACT	SURFACE WATER This section deals with the issues relating to surface water during operation	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	OPERATION	Developer
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>Minimising vehicle damage to the surface water resource</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is crucial that existing roads are used so that damage is limited. Where new access roads are required in the wetlands or drainage lines and the necessary authorisations and licences are obtained (i.e. water use licence and environmental authorisation), these roads must be limited in extent (i.e. go directly to the desired tower location) and will need to be maintained. 2. If dirt roads are required as the means of access, these will have to be regularly monitored and checked for erosion. Monitoring should be conducted on a weekly to monthly basis. Moreover, after short or long periods of heavy rainfall or after long periods of sustained rainfall the roads will need to be checked for erosion and the necessary rehabilitation measures will need to be employed. 3. Where erosion begins to take place, this must be dealt with immediately to prevent severe erosion damage to the wetland. Should large scale erosion occur, a rehabilitation plan will be required. Input, reporting and recommendations from a suitably qualified wetland specialist must be obtained and implemented to address erosion impacts. 	

	<p>Preventing Avi-fauna Collisions with Power lines</p> <p>4. During the construction phase, it is critical that the stretches of power lines that are within any of the wetlands, riparian habitats or associated buffer zones are fitted with flight deviators or bird anti-collision devices (whichever is more appropriate) to prevent impacts to avi-fauna. The fitment of the devices or deviators must take place on the ground before stringing the power lines takes place. Sufficient insulation must also be fitted to the towers structures in the wetlands, watercourses or associated buffer zones to prevent electrocution. Finally, more bird friendly tower structures as per Eskom's designs can be considered to further mitigate collision and electrocution impacts.</p>	
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2.4.8 Employment

Table 34: Employment

IMPACT	EMPLOYMENT This section deals with employment and actions that need to be implemented during operation	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	OPERATION	MC
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
SITE SPECIFIC MITIGATION		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>13. A positive impact on production can be increased by where feasible, employ local people to maintain the servitude to localise the benefits.</p> <p>14. Residents of the local communities should be considered to maintain the servitude, if feasible.</p>	

IMPACT	EMPLOYMENT This section deals with employment and actions that need to be implemented during operation	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	OPERATION	MC
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
	15. Possible training to local residents to insure maintenance of the power line and local job creation.	

2.4.9 Health and Safety

Table 35: Health and Safety

IMPACT	HEALTH AND SAFETY This section deals with the issues relating to health and safety during operation	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	OPERATION	Developer
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>Emergency evacuation plan</p> <p>1. Upon completion of the construction phase, an emergency evacuation plan must be drawn up to ensure the safety of the staff and surrounding land users in the case of an emergency.</p> <p>Maintenance</p> <p>2. The servitude is to be regularly maintained. A maintenance schedule must be drawn up and records of all maintenance kept.</p>	

IMPACT	HEALTH AND SAFETY This section deals with the issues relating to health and safety during operation	RESPONSIBILITY
	<p>Fire safety</p> <p>3. Firefighting equipment in the form of fire hydrants or fire extinguishers must be available on the substation site. These must be regularly maintained by an appropriate company.</p> <p>Storage and handling of hazardous waste</p> <p>4. A spill kit needs to be kept on site to address any unforeseen spillages.</p> <p>5. Transport of all hazardous substances must be in accordance with the relevant legislation.</p>	

2.4.10 Social Environment

Table 36: Social Environment

IMPACT	SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT This section deals with social environment and actions that need to be implemented during operation	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	OPERATION	MC / ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
SITE SPECIFIC MITIGATION		MC

IMPACT	SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT This section deals with social environment and actions that need to be implemented during operation	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	OPERATION	MC / ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>21. Land-owners should be adequately compensated for any unforeseen damage to property or loss of assets such as livestock if it is proven to result from the construction activities.</p> <p>22. Limit the movement between the construction site and the point of assembly by providing transportation.</p> <p>23. Negotiate terms and conditions that would guide operation activities on the properties, as well as behaviour and conduct of the operation crew.</p> <p>24. A pre-defined access route to the servitude should be chosen in consultation with the land owner and should be strictly adhered to by all maintenance vehicles and crew; the chosen route should follow the existing roads as far as feasible.</p> <p>25. Site clearance activities should be limited to the minimum required area to minimise potential damages to the environment and property.</p> <p>26. Construction vehicles are to follow a safe speed and should mind animals inhabiting the farms.</p> <p>27. Construction activity should be undertaken only during working hours.</p> <p>28. Ensure the periods of maintenance of the servitude are negotiated with the land-owners beforehand to align it with the periods of the lowest tourist activity.</p> <p>29. Maintenance vehicles are to follow a safe speed and should mind animals inhabiting the farms.</p>	

2.4.11 Visual Impact

Table 37: Visual Impact

IMPACT	VISUAL IMPACT This section deals with the issues relating to visual impacts during operation	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	OPERATION	Developer
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<p>General</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Align the power line as far away from sensitive receptor locations as possible. 2. Align the power line to run parallel to existing power lines and/or infrastructure. 3. Avoid crossing areas of higher elevation, especially ridges, koppies or hills. 4. Avoid areas of natural wooded vegetation where possible. 5. Locate the substation as far away from sensitive receptor locations as possible. 	

2.5 Decommissioning phase

Mitigation measures implemented during construction with regards to the construction camp and equipment will remain the same for the decommissioning phase when a construction camp will need to be established again.

2.5.1 On-going Stakeholder involvement

This is the process that is recommended if the substations sites are decommissioned.

Table 38: On-going Stakeholder involvement

IMPACT	ONGOING STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT This section relates to the stakeholder involvement that needs occur during decommissioning	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	DECOMMISSIONING	ESKOM
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community to be notified, as culturally appropriate, timeously of the planned decommissioning, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed decommissioning start date; and • Process to be followed. 2. Recommend that a meeting with community leader(s) be held before decommissioning commence to inform them: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What activities will take place during the decommissioning phase. • How these activities will impact upon the communities and/or their properties. • Regarding the timeframes of scheduled activities 	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Regular interaction between Eskom and community leader(s) during the decommissioning phase 4. A reporting office / channel to be established should community members experience problems with contractors / sub-contractors during the decommissioning phase. 5. A register to be kept of problems reported by community members and the steps taken to address / resolve it. 	
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2.5.2 *Community health and safety*

Table 39: Community health and safety

IMPACT	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY This section deals with the issues relating to health and safety during decommissioning	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	DECOMMISSIONING	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demarcated routes to be established to ensure the safety of communities, especially in terms of road safety and communities to be informed of these demarcated routes. 2. Where dust is generated by trucks passing on gravel roads, dust mitigation to be enforced. 3. Excavated areas to be fenced off and regularly inspected to ensure that humans and animals do not have access to the site. 4. Any infrastructure that would not be decommissioned, must be appropriately locked and/or fenced off to ensure that it does not pose any danger to the community. 	

2.5.3 Waste Management

Table 40: Waste Management

IMPACT	WASTE MANAGEMENT This section deals with the issues relating to waste management during decommissioning	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	DECOMMISSIONING	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	1. All contaminated soils to be removed from the property and to be disposed of as hazardous waste.	

2.5.4 Surface and Groundwater

Table 41: Surface and Groundwater

IMPACT	SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER This section deals with the issues relating to surface and groundwater during decommissioning	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	DECOMMISSIONING	ESKOM
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove of any historically contaminated soil as hazardous waste. 2. Removal of all substances which can result in groundwater (or surface water) contamination. 3. Re-vegetation of exposed soil surfaces to ensure no erosion in these areas. 4. No new access roads through wetlands and rivers. 	

	5. A site-specific post-construction wetland rehabilitation plan compiled by a suitably qualified wetland specialist will be required to rehabilitate and monitor the affected wetlands where construction impacts have been caused.	
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2.5.5 Biodiversity

Table 42: Biodiversity

IMPACT	BIODIVERSITY This section deals with the issues relating to biodiversity during decommissioning	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	DECOMMISSIONING	
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rehabilitation of exposed surfaces with indigenous species, preferably large trees. 2. Adherence to surface and groundwater mitigation measures to prevent secondary impacts on biodiversity. 3. Prevent expansion of the current footprint(s). 4. Retain large trees to keep nesting and roosting habitat. 	

2.5.6 Air Quality

Table 43: Air Pollution

IMPACT	AIR POLLUTION This section deals with the issues relating to air quality during decommissioning	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	DECOMMISSIONING	
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	1. Damping down exposed surfaces regularly to reduce dust emissions. 2. Maintain equipment to reduce exhaust emissions.	

2.5.7 Heritage and Cultural Resources

Table 44: Heritage and Cultural Resources

IMPACT	HERITAGE AND CULTURAL RESOURCES This section deals with heritage and cultural issues as well as actions that need to be implemented during decommissioning	RESPONSIBILITY
PHASE	CONSTRUCTION	ELO
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME		
MITIGATION / METHOD STATEMENT	General 1. A heritage monitoring program that will identify finds during decommissioning will be able to mitigate the impact on the finds through scientific documentation of finds and provide valuable data on any finds made.	

3 MANAGEMENT PLANS

3.1 Alien Invasive Management Plan

Table 45: Alien Invasive Management Plan

ALIEN INVASIVE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME	
MITIGATION MEASURES	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Stockpiles should be kept clear of weeds and alien vegetation growth by regular weeding.2. Alien vegetation and the spread of exotic species on the site will need to be controlled.3. The contractor should be responsible for implementing a programme of weed control (particularly in areas where soil has been disturbed); and grassing of any remaining stockpiles to prevent weed invasion.4. Herbicide use shall only be allowed according to contract specifications. The application shall be according to set specifications and under supervision of a qualified technician. The possibility of leaching into the surrounding environment shall be properly investigated and only environmentally friendly herbicides shall be used.5. The use of pesticides and herbicides on the site must be discouraged as these can impact on important pollinator species of indigenous vegetation.6. Six monthly checks of the area should take place for the emergence of invader species.7. Mitigation measures mentioned for the construction phase above must be implemented for any maintenance of the development that may be undertaken during the operation phase.8. Correct rehabilitation with locally indigenous species.9. Monitoring programme to ensure that rehabilitation efforts are successful to ensure that risks such as erosion, spread of exotic species and the edge effect are avoided.10. Constant maintenance of the area to ensure re-colonisation of floral species.11. Regular removal of alien species which may jeopardise the proliferation of indigenous species.

3.2 Plant Rescue Protection Plan

Table 46: Plant Rescue Protection Plan

PLANT RESCUE PROTECTION PLAN	
MITIGATION MEASURES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vegetation removal must be limited to the wind farm construction site 2. Vegetation to be removed as it becomes necessary rather than removal of all vegetation throughout the site in one step 3. Materials should not be delivered to the site prematurely which could result in additional areas being cleared or affected. 4. No vegetation to be used for firewood. 5. Gathering of firewood, fruit, muti plants, or any other natural material onsite or in areas adjacent to the site is prohibited unless with prior approval of the ECO. 6. Only vegetation within the study area must be removed. 7. Vegetation removal must be phased in order to reduce impact of construction. 8. Construction site office and laydown areas must be clearly demarcated and no encroachment must occur beyond demarcated areas. 9. All natural areas impacted during construction must be rehabilitated with locally indigenous plant species. 10. A buffer zone should be established in areas where construction will not take place to ensure that construction activities do not extend into these areas. 11. Construction areas must be well demarcated and these areas strictly adhered to. 12. The use of pesticides and herbicides in the study area must be discouraged as these impacts on important pollinator species of indigenous vegetation. 13. Soils must be kept free of petrochemical solutions that may be kept on site during construction. Spillage can result in a loss of soil functionality thus limiting the re-establishment of flora. 14. The grid access power line must span rocky areas in order to avoid transformation in these areas. 15. Soil stockpiles must not become contaminated with oil, diesel, petrol, garbage or any other material, which may inhibit the later growth of vegetation in the soil.

3.3 Re-Vegetation and Habitat Rehabilitation Plan

Table 47: Re-Vegetation and Habitat Rehabilitation Plan

RE-VEGETATION AND HABITAT REHABILITATION PLAN	
MITIGATION MEASURES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Re-vegetation should aim to accelerate the natural succession processes so that the plant community develops in the desired way, i.e. promote rapid vegetation establishment 2. Re-vegetation of disturbed surfaces should occur immediately after construction activities are completed. This should be done through seeding with indigenous grasses. 3. All damaged areas shall be rehabilitated upon completion of the contract 4. Re-vegetation of the disturbed site is aimed at approximating as near as possible the natural vegetative conditions prevailing prior to construction. 5. All natural areas impacted during construction must be rehabilitated with locally indigenous species typical of the representative botanical unit. 6. Rehabilitation must take place in a phased approach as soon as possible. 7. Rehabilitation process must make use of species indigenous to the area. Seeds from surrounding seed banks can be used for re-seeding. 8. Rehabilitation must be executed in such a manner that surface run-off will not cause erosion of disturbed areas. 9. Planting of indigenous tree species in areas not to be cultivated or built on must be encouraged. 10. Habitat destruction should be limited to what is absolutely necessary for the construction of the infrastructure, including the construction of new roads. In this respect, the recommendations from the Ecological Specialist Study should be applied strictly. Personnel should be adequately briefed on the need to restrict habitat destruction, and must be restricted to the actual construction area. 11. Monitoring programme to ensure that rehabilitation efforts are successful to ensure that risks such as erosion, spread of exotic species and the edge effect are avoided.

3.4 Open Space Management Plan

Table 48: Open Space Management Plan

OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT PLAN	
MITIGATION MEASURES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A buffer zone should be established in areas where construction will not take place to ensure that construction activities do not extend into these areas. 2. Vehicle movement should be restricted to authorised access roads 3. Before construction begins, all areas to be developed must be clearly demarcated with fencing or orange construction barrier where applicable. 4. All Construction Camps are to be fenced off in such a manner that unlawful entry is prevented and access is controlled. Signage shall be erected at all access points in compliance with all applicable occupational health and safety requirements. All access points to the Construction Camp should be controlled by a guard or otherwise monitored, to prevent unlawful access. 5. The contractor and ECO must ensure compliance with conditions described in the EA. 6. Records of compliance/ non-compliance with the conditions of the authorisation must be kept and be available on request. 7. Records of all environmental incidents must be maintained and a copy of these records be made available to provincial department on request throughout the project execution. 8. Site establishment shall take place in an orderly manner and all required amenities shall be installed at camp sites before the main workforce move onto site. 9. All construction equipment must be stored within this construction camp. 10. An area for the storage of hazardous materials must be established that conforms to the relevant safety requirements and that provides for spillage prevention and containment 11. The Contractor must provide sufficient ablution facilities, in the form of portable / VIP toilets, at the Construction Camps, and shall conform to all relevant health and safety standards and codes. No pit latrines, French drain systems or soak away systems shall be allowed and toilets may not be situated within 100 meters of any surface

	<p>water body or 1:100 year flood line. A sufficient number of toilets shall be provided to accommodate the number of personnel working in the area.</p> <p>12. The Contractor shall inform all site staff to make use of supplied ablution facilities and under no circumstances shall indiscriminate sanitary activities be allowed.</p> <p>13. No fires will be allowed and the Contractor must make alternative arrangements for heating. LP Gas may be used, provided that all required safety measures are in place. The Contractor shall take specific measures to prevent the spread of veld fires, caused by activities at the campsites. These measures may include appropriate instruction of employees about fire risks and the construction of firebreaks around the site perimeter.</p> <p>14. Environmental awareness training for construction staff, concerning the prevention of accidental spillage of hazardous chemicals and oil; pollution of water resources (both surface and groundwater), air pollution and litter control and identification of archaeological artefacts.</p> <p>15. Project manager shall ensure that the training and capabilities of the Contractor's site staff are adequate to carry out the designated tasks.</p> <p>16. Staff should be educated as to the need to refrain from indiscriminate waste disposal and/or pollution of local soil and water resources and receive the necessary safety training.</p> <p>17. Staff must be trained in the hazards and required precautionary measures for dealing with these substances</p>
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3.5 Erosion Management Plan

Table 49: Erosion Management Plan

EROSION MANAGMENT PLAN	
MITIGATION MEASURES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To prevent erosion, material stockpiled for long periods (2 weeks) should be retained in a bermed area. 2. Areas which are not to be constructed on within two months must not be cleared to reduce erosion risks. 3. The area to be cleared must be clearly demarcated and this footprint strictly maintained. 4. Spoil that is removed from the site must be removed to an approved spoil site or a licensed landfill site.

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| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. The necessary silt fences and erosion control measures must be implemented in areas where these risks are more prevalent. 6. Wind screening and stormwater control should be undertaken to prevent soil loss from the site. 7. The use of silt fences and sand bags must be implemented in areas that are susceptible to erosion. 8. Other erosion control measures that can be implemented are as follows: 9. Brush packing with cleared vegetation 10. Mulch or chip packing 11. Planting of vegetation 12. Hydroseeding / hand sowing 13. Sensitive areas need to be identified prior to construction so that the necessary precautions can be implemented. 14. All erosion control mechanisms need to be regularly maintained. 15. Seeding of topsoil and subsoil stockpiles to prevent wind and water erosion of soil surfaces. 16. Retention of vegetation where possible to avoid soil erosion 17. Vegetation clearance should be phased to ensure that the minimum area of soil is exposed to potential erosion at any one time. 18. Re-vegetation of disturbed surfaces should occur immediately after construction activities are completed. This should be done through seeding with indigenous grasses. 19. No impediment to the natural water flow other than approved erosion control works is permitted. 20. To prevent stormwater damage, the increase in stormwater run-off resulting from construction activities must be estimated and the drainage system assessed accordingly. \ 21. Stockpiles not used in three (3) months after stripping must be seeded to prevent dust and erosion. |
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3.6 Traffic Management Plan

Table 50: Traffic Management Plan

TRAFFIC MANAGMENT PLAN	
MITIGATION MEASURES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All vehicles used during the transport of materials and in the construction activities are required to be roadworthy per the National Road Traffic Act (NRTA) and display all pertinent certificates as required. 2. For any vehicles that operate under an exemption permit, a roadworthy certificate may not be required; however the exemption permit will require that the vehicle is fit for operation on public roadways. 3. All vehicles travelling to and from the site shall adhere to all laws imposed by the law enforcement agencies, and shall comply with any requests made by the law enforcement officials. 4. A designated transport coordination manager should be appointed to oversee and manage the traffic safety officers. Additionally, the designated transport coordination manager should inform and keep up-to-date the interested and affected parties of all the activities taking place that may have a direct impact on them. 5. A traffic safety officer shall be nominated to make all the necessary arrangements to maintain the required traffic measures for the duration of the project as outlined in the “Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Works for State Road Authorities,”1998 edition. The safety officer shall liaise daily with the transportation coordination manager to keep them apprised of the state of all the traffic arrangements. 6. All construction vehicles that are entering the site shall also be available via radio or telephone communication to the transport coordination manager. So that in the event of an emergency, all vehicles can be accounted for. 7. All vehicles shall comply with the posted speed limits on public roads as well as the speed limits within the development. It is recommended that once the construction traffic encounters the gravel section of the R34, that the speed be limited to 50km/h. For additional speed limits that are imposed on the construction traffic, refer to the South African Road Traffic Signs Manual (SARTSM), Volume 2, June 1999 for the restrictions. 8. All construction traffic shall comply with the legal load requirements as outlined in the National Road Traffic Act and National Road Traffic Regulations.

	<p>9. Construction traffic entering the site along public roads should be limited to times when peak hour traffic can be avoided. The peak traffic occurs during 7h00 to 8h30, and 16h00 to 17h30. Construction traffic can also be restricted further to avoid travelling on public holidays, long weekends, or at night.</p> <p>10. The South African Road Traffic Signs Manual (SARTSM), Volume 2, June 1999 is to be used for all traffic during the construction activities of the proposed project.</p> <p>11. Signage will be required on the R34 before the proposed access point for the construction area to warn the public of the activities.</p> <p>12. During periods of high construction traffic entering and exiting the site, it is recommended that flagmen help direct the traffic. This will enable the safe movement of construction and public traffic at the entrance and reduce the number of potential conflicts.</p>
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3.7 Storm Water Management Plan

Table 51: Storm Water Management Plan

STORM WATER MANAGMENT PLAN	
MITIGATION MEASURES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stormwater management of the substation should include stormwater channels and chutes so as to minimize erosion at the substation site. 2. Where terraces are required for the substation, additional earth channels above each terrace are proposed to avoid stormwater running down slopes causing possible erosion. 3. Energy dissipaters at the drainage exit points of the substation are recommended to reduce any possible chances of erosion. 4. It is recommended that suitably sized grass lined earth channels are positioned within the proposed road reserves where accidental oil spills and/or stormwater will be attenuated in order to deposit any transported sediments and reduce the flow velocities. 5. The access roads should be graded and shaped with a crossfall towards the high side of the road reserve, allowing stormwater to flow into graded channels adjacent and parallel to each road, and gravitate towards the natural drainage lines i.e. rivers & streams.

	6. Low level causeways should be constructed to reduce any erosion to the roads where required.
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4 CONCLUSION

The environmental and social impacts of the project were spread through the project phases. There were both positive and some negative project impacts identified through the BA. The following briefly describes some of the major impacts and the proposed mitigation measures within each of the project phases.

4.1 Pre-Construction Phase

The first site activities before mobilization of equipment will be a survey, required for final design of the power line and substations. Walk downs by the faunal, floral, avifaunal, heritage and surface water specialists must be undertaken, and be used to inform the final tower locations prior to the finalisation of tower positions as well as substation locations. The avifaunal walk down should identify the spans that will require mitigation devices to be installed, if required. In addition, a floral walk down should be undertaken in the flowering season once the tower positions have been pegged in order to identify any affected RDL floral or protected tree species should be removed and/or rescued. Further detailed geotechnical investigations should be undertaken at the substation locations prior to construction.

There could be negative impacts on land associated with the construction of camps (temporary loss) and storage of construction materials especially if such construction is carried out on agriculturally productive land. Expectations of improvement in livelihood among locals must be addressed through public participation. Construction contracts will include environmental monitoring and management procedures and requirements. These must be in place prior to the commencement of any construction activities.

4.2 Construction Phase

This phase of the activity will have both positive and negative impacts. The positive impacts are some employment opportunities offered to the construction workers and any other labourer who will be hired to provide their services during the construction phase. The negative impacts may include wastes generated, accidents, health and safety, air, dust and noise pollution, vegetation clearance, soil erosion, socio-environmental issues, loss of protected plants and trees, physical degradation of surface water resources, increased surface water run-off and compaction of soil. Most of the negative impacts are minor and temporary. To mitigating negative impacts, the

contractor shall ensure that all staff have adequate protective clothing and are adequately trained. The whole range of mitigation measures are however, outlined in the EMPr in this regard.

4.3 Operational Phase

The proposed project will have minimal negative effects should all mitigation measures be undertaken. Negative effects mainly relate to loss of aesthetic value, vehicle damage to surface water resources, avi-fauna collisions with power lines and loss of habitat as well as nuisance to affected landowners.

4.4 Decommissioning Phase

As with any project, the facilities used in this project will have a lifespan after which they may no longer be cost effective to continue with operation or may degrade and become inoperable. At that time, the project would be decommissioned, and the existing equipment removed and most likely replaced. The mitigation measures highlighted in the construction phase will once again become applicable as the construction of new infrastructure would essentially be associated with similar activities and would likely result in similar impacts.

The disposal of materials from the decommissioned plant is not viewed as high risk. Much of the material would be recyclable (steel structures) or inert (insulators, concrete foundations, etc.). A proportion of these materials would however, need to be disposed of at a formal waste disposal or recycling centre. Alternatively, recyclable steel will be sent to Eskom and recycled for further materials.

Based on the above information, it is unlikely that the project will have many adverse social and environmental impacts. Most adverse impacts will be of a temporary nature during the construction phase and can be managed to acceptable levels with implementation of the recommended mitigation measures for the project such that the overall benefits from the project will greatly outweigh the few adverse impacts. All the negative impacts will either be moderate or lesser in rating and could be easily mitigated. Generally, the proposed power line and substations will result in appreciable benefits to the people in the project area of influence and bring opportunities for development in the area.

Annexure B

MANAGEMENT OF SOILS: GUIDELINES

Topsoil

Source of topsoil

- vii) Topsoil shall be stripped from all areas that are to be utilised during the construction period and where permanent structures and access is required. These areas will include temporary and permanent access roads, construction camps, and lay down areas. Topsoil shall be stripped after clearing of woody vegetation and before excavation or construction commences.
- viii) The topsoil is regarded as the top 300mm of the soil profile irrespective of the fertility appearance, structure, agricultural potential, fertility and composition of the soil.

Topsoil stripping

- ix) Soil shall be stripped to a minimum depth of 150mm and maximum depth of 300mm or to the depth of bedrock where soil is shallower than 300mm. Herbaceous vegetation, overlying grass and other fine organic matter shall not be removed from the stripped soil.
- x) No topsoil which has been stripped shall be buried or in any other way be rendered unsuitable for further use by mixing with spoil or by compaction using machinery.
- xi) Topsoil shall preferably be stripped when it is in a dry condition in order to prevent compaction.

Topsoil stockpiling

- xii) The Consulting Engineer or Environmental Control Officer shall stockpile stripped topsoil in areas, which have been approved. Soil stockpiles may take the form of windrows.
- xiii) To prevent erosion, material stockpiled for long periods (2 weeks) should be retained in a bermed area.
- xiv) Topsoil, mulch and subsoil stockpiles must be placed in higher-lying areas of the site, and must not be positioned within stormwater channels or areas of ponding.
- xv) Topsoil stripped from different soil zones shall be stockpiled separately and clearly identified as such. Under no circumstances shall topsoil obtained from different soil zones be mixed.
- xvi) Soil stockpiles shall not be higher than 2m or stored for a period longer than one year. The slopes of soil stockpiles shall not be steeper than 1 vertical to 2.5 horizontal.
- xvii) No vehicles shall be allowed access onto the stockpiles after they have been placed. Topsoil stockpiles shall be clearly demarcated in order to prevent vehicle access and for later identification when required.
- xviii) Soil stockpiles must not become contaminated with oil, diesel, petrol, garbage or any other material, which may inhibit the later growth of vegetation in the soil.

- xix) After topsoil removal has been completed, the Contractor shall apply soil conservation measures to the stockpiles where and as directed by the Consulting Engineer or Environmental Control Officer. This may include the use of erosion control fabric or grass seeding.

Topsoil replacement

- xx) Topsoil shall be replaced to a minimum depth of 75mm over all areas where it has been stripped and over disused borrow pits, after construction in those areas has ceased. Topsoil placement shall follow as soon as construction in an area has ceased.
- xxi) All areas onto which topsoil is to be spread shall be graded to the approximate original landform with maximum slopes of 1:25 and shall be ripped prior to topsoil placement. The entire area shall be ripped parallel to the contours to a minimum depth of 300mm.
- xxii) Topsoil shall be placed in the same soil zone from which it had been stripped. However, if there is insufficient topsoil available from a particular soil zone to produce the minimum specified depth, topsoil may be brought from other soil zones at the approval of the Consulting Engineer or Environmental Control Officer.
- xxiii) Where topsoil that has been stripped by the Contractor is insufficient to provide the minimum specified depth, the Contractor shall obtain suitable substitute material from other sources at no cost to the employer. The suitability of the substitute material shall be determined by means of soil analyse, which are acceptable to the Consulting Engineer or Environmental Control Officer.
- xxiv) No vehicles shall be allowed access onto or through topsoil after it has been reinstated.
- xxv) After topsoil reinstatement is complete, cleared and stockpiled vegetative matter shall be spread randomly by hand over the top soiled area. The vegetative material must be replaced on the areas from where it has been removed.



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