



## environmental affairs

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA · 0001· Environment House · 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia,· PRETORIA  
Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9372

**DEA Reference:** 14/12/16/3/3/1/1376

**Enquiries:** Mr Jay-Jay Mpelane

**Telephone:** 012-399-9404 **E-mail:** jmpelane@environment.gov.za

Ms Andrea van Gensen  
Eskom Holding SOC Limited  
P.O. Box 606  
**KIMBERLEY**  
8301

Tel number: 053 830 5775  
Email address: vgenseal@eskom.co.za

### **PER EMAIL / MAIL**

Dear Ms Gensen

### **ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998: GN.R.543, 544 AND 546 FOR THE PROPOSED UPGRADING OF THE 66KV NETWORK TO 132KV NETWORK IN HOTAZEL, KURUMAN, AND KATHU IN THE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

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

In terms of Regulation 10(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 (the Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 12 (twelve) days of the date of the Environmental Authorisation, of the Department's decision in respect of your application as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 7 of the Regulations, which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. This procedure is summarised in the attached document. Kindly include a copy of this document with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties.

Should the applicant or any other party wish to appeal any aspect of the decision a notice of intention to appeal must be lodged by all prospective appellants with the Minister, within 20 days of the date of the EA, by means of one of the following methods:

By post: Private Bag X447,  
Pretoria,  
0001; or

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

M-5

If the applicant wishes to lodge an appeal, it must also serve a copy of the notice of intention to appeal on all registered interested and affected parties as well as a notice indicating where, and for what period, the appeal submission will be available for inspection, should you intend to submit an appeal.

Please include the Department (*Attention: Director: Strategic Infrastructure Developments*) in the list of interested and affected parties, notified through your notification letter to interested and affected parties, for record purposes.

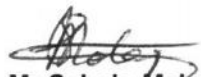
**Appeals must be submitted in writing to:**

Mr Z Hassam, Director: Appeals and Legal Review, of this Department at the above mentioned addresses or fax number. Mr Hassam can also be contacted at:

Telephone number: 012-399-9356  
Email address: AppealsDirectorate@environment.gov.za

The authorised activities must not commence within twenty (20) days of the date of signature of the authorisation. Further, please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, an appeal under Section 43 of that Act will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

Yours sincerely



**Mr Sabelo Malaza**  
**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations**  
**Department of Environmental Affairs**

Date: 6/11/2015

cc:	Dr Mathys Vosloo	Zitholele Consulting (Pty) Ltd	Tel: (011) 207 2060	mathysv@zitholele.co.za
	Mr E Gaeathose	Ga-Segonyana Local Municipality	Tel: 053 712 9300	mtefang@ga-segonyana.gov.za
	Mr Bryan Fisher	Northern Cape: DENC	Tel: 053 807 7303	bfisher@ncpg.gov.za

**APPEALS PROCEDURE IN TERMS OF CHAPTER 7 OF THE NEMA EIA REGULATIONS, 2010 (THE REGULATIONS) AS PER GN R. 543 OF 2010 TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE APPLICANT AND INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES UPON RECEIPT OF NOTIFICATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION (EA)**

APPLICANT	INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES (IAPs)
1. Receive EA from the relevant Competent Authority (the Department of Environmental Affairs [DEA]).	1. Receive EA from Applicant/Consultant.
2. Within 12 days of date of the EA notify all IAPs of the EA and draw their attention to their right to appeal against the EA in terms of Chapter 7 of the Regulations.	2. N/A.
3. If you want to appeal against the EA, submit a notice of intention to appeal within 20 days of the date of the EA with the Minister of Environmental Affairs (the Minister).	3. If you want to appeal against the EA, submit a notice of intention to appeal within 20 days of the date of the EA. with the Minister of Environmental Affairs (the Minister).
4. After having submitted your notice of intention to appeal to the Minister, provide each registered IAP with a copy of the notice of intention to appeal within 10 days of lodging the notice.	4. After having submitted your notice of intention to appeal to the Minister, provide the applicant with a copy of the notice of intention to appeal within 10 days of lodging the notice.
5. The Applicant must also serve on each IAP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a notice indicating where and for what period the appeal submission will be available for inspection.</li> </ul>	5. Appellant must also serve on the Applicant within 10 days of lodging the notice, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a notice indicating where and for what period the appeal submission will be available for inspection by the applicant.</li> </ul>
6. The appeal must be submitted in writing to the Minister within 30 days after the lapsing of the period of 20 days provided for the lodging of the notice of intention to appeal.	6. The appeal must be submitted to the Minister within 30 days after the lapsing of the period of 20 days provided for the lodging of the notice of intention to appeal.
7. Any IAP who received a notice of intention to appeal may submit a responding statement to that appeal to the Minister within 30 days from the date that the appeal submission was lodged with the Minister.	7. An Applicant who received notice of intention to may submit a responding statement to the appeal to the Minister within 30 days from the date that the appeal submission was lodged with the Minister.

**NOTES:**

**1. An appeal must be:-**

- a) submitted in writing;
- b) accompanied by:
  - a statement setting out the grounds of appeal;
  - supporting documentation which is referred to in the appeal; and
  - a statement that the appellant has complied with regulation 62 (2) or (3) together with copies of the notices referred to in regulation 62.



## environmental affairs

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# Environmental Authorisation

In terms of Regulation 36 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010

Proposed upgrading of the 66kV network to 132kV Network in Hotazel, Kuruman and Kathu in the Northern Cape Province

JOHN TAOLO GAETSEWE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

<b>Authorisation register number:</b>	<i>14/12/16/3/3/1/1376</i>
<b>Last amended:</b>	<i>First issue</i>
<b>Holder of authorisation:</b>	<i>Eskom Holdings SOC Limited</i>
<b>Location of activity:</b>	<i>Northern Cape Province: Within the Ga-Segonyana Local Municipality on Wards 3, 5, 9, 10, and 12, Joe Morolong Local Municipality on Ward 2, and Gamagara Local Municipality on Ward 5.</i>

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

## Decision

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

Non-compliance with a condition of this authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and the EIA Regulations, 2010.

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

## Activities authorised

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 the Department hereby authorises –

### **ESKOM HOLDINGS SOC LIMITED**

with the following contact details –

Ms Andrea van Gensen  
Eskom Holding SOC Limited  
P.O. Box 606

### **KIMBERLEY**

8301

Tel number: (053) 830 5775  
Cell number: (082) 482 7579  
Email address: [vgenseal@eskom.co.za](mailto:vgenseal@eskom.co.za)

to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as "the activity") indicated in Listing Notices 1 and 3 (GN R. 544 and 546):

Listed activities	Activity/Project description
<p><u>GN R. 544 Item 10</u></p> <p>The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity -</p> <p>(i) Outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts.</p>	<p>The construction of a 132kV network and two new Substations, Gamohaan and Mothibistad outside an urban area between the Hotazel, Kuruman and Kathu is required.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 544 Item 11</u></p> <p>The construction of:</p> <p>(xi) infrastructure or structures covering 50 square metres or more,</p> <p>Where such construction occurs within a watercourse or within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse.</p>	<p>The proposed power line will fall within the delineated buffer or extend through a watercourse at the Kuruman river near Kuruman.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 544 Item 18</u></p> <p>The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 5 cubic metres from:</p> <p>(i) a watercourse;</p>	<p>The pylons will be placed within 32m of a water course/wetlands, where the power line traverses Kuruman River (just west of Kuruman).</p>
<p><u>GN R. 546 Item 14</u></p> <p>The clearance of an area of 5 hectares or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation,</p> <p><b>(a) In Northern Cape province:</b></p> <p>i. All areas outside urban areas.</p>	<p>The clearing vegetation along servitude will occur and will exceed 1ha in totally. The clearing of vegetation within the working area along the power line corridor will extend over a distance in excess of a 150 kilometres.</p>

as described in the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) dated September 2015 at:

<b>Power line corridor Alternative</b>		
<b>From Hotazel to Eldoret Substation. (preferred Alt 1)</b>	<b>Latitude (S)</b>	<b>Longitude (E)</b>
Starting point of activity	27°12'19.89"S	22°57'30.36"E
End point of the activity	27°13'10.01"S	23°04'59.22"E
<b>From Eldoret Substation to Riries Substation (preferred Alt 3)</b>		
Starting point of activity	27°13'10.01"S	23°04'59.22"E
End point of the activity	27°20'22.05"S	23°10'52.75"E
<b>From Riries Substation to Gamohaam Substation (preferred Alt 1)</b>		
Starting point of activity	27°20'22.05"S	23°10'52.75"E
End point of the activity	27°22'55.45"S	23°21'31.98"E
<b>From Gamohaam Substation to Mothibistad Substation (preferred Alt 1)</b>		
Starting point of activity	27°22'55.45"S	23°21'31.98"E
End point of the activity	27°24'23.81"S	23°28'36.23"E
<b>From Mothibistad Substation to Moffat Substation (preferred Alt 1)</b>		
Starting point of activity	27°24'23.81"S	23°28'36.23"E
End point of the activity	27°28'18.26"S	23°25'39.73"E
<b>From Moffat Substation to Valley Substation (preferred Alt 1)</b>		
Starting point of activity	27°28'18.26"S	23°25'39.73"E
End point of the activity	27°38'30.30"S	23°22'15.99"E
<b>From Valley Substation to Sekgame Switching Station (preferred Alt 4)</b>		
Starting point of activity	27°38'30.30"S	23°22'15.99"E
End point of the activity	27°46'35.74"S	23°03'55.19"E

- for the proposed upgrading of the 66kV network to 132kV network in Hotazel, Kuruman and Kathu within the Ga-Segonyana Local Municipality, Morolong Local Municipality, and Gamagara Local Municipality in the Northern Cape Province, hereafter referred to as "the property".

The proposed project will comprise of the following overarching activities:

- Upgrade of the existing 66 kV network to a 132 kV network between Hotazel Substation and Valley Substation south of Kuruman.

Upgrading will include:

- Construction of a 132kV Eldoret, Riries, Moffat and Valley Substations next to existing 66kV Substations.
- Expansion of the existing Hotazel Substation.
- Construction of a new Gamohaam Substation between Riries Substation and existing Mothibistad Switching Station.
- Construction of a 132kV Mothibistad Substation next to existing Mothibistad Switching Station.
- Construction of 132kV power line between Hotazel Substation and Valley Substation.
- Construction of a new 132kV power line between the Valley Substation to the newly authorised Sekgame Switching Station, just south of Kathu.
- Decommission the existing 66kV network between Hotazel and Valley Substations. This will include decommissioning of:
  - Existing 66kV infrastructure at the Hotazel Substation.
  - Existing 66kV Eldoret, Riries, Asbes, Moffat and Valley Substations.
  - Existing Mothibistad Switching Station.
  - Existing 66kV wooden pole power lines between Hotazel and Valley substations

## **Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation**

### **Scope of authorisation**

1. The proposed upgrading of the 66kV network to 132kV network in Hotazel, Kuruman, and Kathu within the Ga-Segonyana Local Municipality, Morolong Local Municipality, and the Gamagara Local Municipality in the Northern Cape Province is approved.
2. Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this authorisation, which form part of the environmental authorisation and are binding on the holder of the authorisation.
3. The holder of the authorisation is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this environmental authorisation. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the authorisation.



4. The activities authorised must only be carried out at the property as described above.
5. Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this authorisation must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the holder of the authorisation to apply for further authorisation in terms of the regulations.
6. This activity must commence within a period of five (5) years from the date of issue of this authorisation. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.
7. Commencement with one activity listed in terms of this authorisation constitutes commencement of all authorised activities.
8. The holder of an environmental authorisation must notify the competent authority of any alienation, transfer and change of ownership rights in the property on which the activity is to take place.

#### **Notification of authorisation and right to appeal**

9. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 12 (twelve) calendar days of the date of this environmental authorisation, of the decision to authorise the activity.
10. The notification referred to must –
  - 10.1 specify the date on which the authorisation was issued;
  - 10.2 inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in Chapter 7 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010;
  - 10.3 advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation will be furnished on request; and,
  - 10.4 give the reasons of the competent authority for the decision.
11. The holder of the authorisation must publish a notice –
  - 11.1 informing interested and affected parties of the decision;
  - 11.2 informing interested and affected parties where the decision can be accessed; and
  - 11.3 drawing the attention of interested and affected parties to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against this decision in the newspaper(s) contemplated and used in terms of regulation 54(2)(c) and (d) and which newspaper was used for the placing of advertisements as part of the public participation process.

### **Management of the activity**

12. The draft Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) (which contains the Vegetation management standard 2014, Vegetation Management Standard, Eskom Waste Procedure, and Eskom access to farms) dated September 2015 submitted as part of the BAR dated September 2015 for Environmental Authorisation is approved. This EMPr must be implemented and adhered to.

### **Monitoring**

13. The holder of this authorisation must appoint an independent Environmental Control Officer (ECO) with experience or expertise in the field for the construction phase of the development that will have the responsibility to ensure that the mitigation measures and recommendations referred to in this authorisation are implemented and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the EMPr.
14. The ECO must be appointed prior commencement of any authorised activity.
  - 14.1. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring of this Department.
  - 14.2. The ECO must keep records of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a task schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
  - 14.3. The ECO must remain employed until all rehabilitation measures, as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site is ready for operation.
15. Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on site and made available for inspection to any relevant and competent authorities in respect of this development.

### **Recording and reporting to the Department**

16. All documentation e.g. audit/monitoring/compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to the Department in terms of this authorisation, must be submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring at this Department.
17. The applicant must submit an environmental audit report to the Department within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e. within 30 days of site handover) and within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities.
18. The environmental audit report must indicate the date of the audit, the name of the auditor and the outcome of the audit in terms of compliance with the environmental authorisation conditions as well the requirements of the EMPr.

### **Commencement of the activity**

19. The authorised activity must not commence within twenty (20) days of the date of signature of the authorisation.
20. In terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, an appeal under Section 43 of that Act will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

### **Notification to authorities**

21. Fourteen (14) days written notice must be given to the Department that the activity will commence. Commencement for the purposes of this condition includes site preparation. The notice must include a date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence, as well as reference number. This notification period may coincide with the Notice of Intent to Appeal period, within which construction may not commence.

### **Operation of the activity**

22. Fourteen (14) days written notice must be given to the Department that the activity operational phase will commence.

### **Site closure and decommissioning**

23. Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the applicant must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and competent authority at that time.

### **Specific conditions**

24. The applicant must ensure that after the exact positions of the pylons on the preferred route have been determined, a walk-down must be conducted to determine the position of graves along the line.

25. The applicant must ensure that the pylon positions are placed between 50-100 metres away from the graves. Furthermore, the sites must be fenced-off prior to construction to prevent construction vehicles from damaging the features.
26. Should any other historical, cultural, paleontological resources and graves which were not anticipated being found in the course of development of the proposed power line, all construction activities must be suspended and SAHRA must be contacted immediately, so that the find can be investigated and mitigation measures proposed. Furthermore, all heritage features must be demarcated and regarded as No-Go areas before construction commences.
27. Anti-collision devices such as bird flappers must be installed where the power line crosses avifaunal corridors and watercourses.
28. Permits must be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) for the removal of plants listed (protected trees) in the National Forest Act. Copies of the permits must be submitted to the Department for record keeping.
29. The applicant must contact affected land owners/farm managers prior to construction in order to provide sufficient time for them to plan agricultural activities.
30. An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation and must incorporate reduction, recycling and re-use options.
31. Where solid waste is disposed of, such disposal must only occur at a landfill licensed in terms of section 20(b) of the National Environment Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008).

### **General**

32. A copy of this authorisation and the approved EMPr must be kept at the property where the activity will be undertaken. The authorisation and approved EMPr must be produced to any authorised official of the Department who requests to see it and must be made available for inspection by any employee or agent of the holder of the authorisation who works or undertakes work at the property.
33. The holder of the authorisation must notify both the *Director: Strategic Infrastructure Developments* and the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* at the Department, in writing and within 48 (forty eight) hours, if any condition of this authorisation cannot be or is not adhered to. Any notification in terms of this condition must be accompanied by reasons for the non-compliance.
34. National government, provincial government, local authorities or committees appointed in terms of the conditions of this authorisation or any other public authority will not be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the applicant or his successor in title in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction be temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance by the

applicant with the conditions of authorisation as set out in this document or any other subsequent document emanating from these conditions of authorisation.

Date of environmental authorisation: 6/11/2015



Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environmental Affairs

## Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

### 1. Information considered in making the decision

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

- a) The listed activity as applied for in the amended application form received by this Department on 19 October 2015.
- b) The information contained in the BAR dated September 2015.
- c) The comments received from all organs of state, and interested and affected parties as included in the BAR dated September 2015.
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the BAR dated September 2015.
- e) Power line corridor alternatives as assessed and explained on page 32 to 48 of the BAR dated September 2015.
- f) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within Appendix D of the BAR dated September 2015.
- g) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998).

### 2. Key factors considered in making the decision

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

- a) The findings of all the specialist studies conducted and their recommended mitigation measures.
- b) The comments of all organs of state, and registered interested and affected parties and their recommended mitigation measures.
- c) The need for the proposed upgrading of the 66kV network to 132kV network in the Hotazel, Kuruman, and Kathu in the Northern Cape Province.
- d) The BAR dated September 2015 identified all legislation and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the BAR.
- e) A description of the environment that may be affected by the activity and the manner in which the physical, biological, social, economic and cultural aspects of the environment may be affected by the proposed power line were provided.
- f) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the BAR dated September 2015.

- g) The findings of the site visit/inspection conducted on 17 September 2015.
- h) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations, 2010 for public involvement.

### 3. Findings

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

- a) The identification and assessment of impacts are detailed in the BAR dated September 2015 and sufficient assessment of the key identified issues and impacts have been completed.
- b) The procedure followed for impact assessment is adequate for the decision-making process.
- c) The proposed mitigation of impacts identified and assessed adequately limits the identified impacts.
- d) The information contained in the BAR dated September 2015 is accurate and credible.
- e) EMPr measures for the pre-construction, construction and rehabilitation phases of the development were proposed and included in the BAR and will be implemented to manage the identified environmental impacts during the construction process.

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