



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA ·0001· Environment House ·473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia· PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2557

Enquiries: Ms Juliet Mahlangu

Telephone: (012) 399 9320 **E-mail:** JMMahlangu@dfffe.gov.za

Debbie Harding
Eskom Holdings SOC Limited
PO Box 606
KIMBERLY
8301

Telephone Number: (053) 830 5774
Cell Number: (084) 689 5173
Email Address: debbie.harding@eskom.co.za

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Sir/Madam

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT NO. 107 OF 1998, AS AMENDED: FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE CASTLE TO HYDRA TRANSMISSION LINE NEAR DE AAR, 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 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) days of the date of the decision as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, Act No. 3 of 2000, you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful, and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, Act No. 4 of 2013 which stipulate that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing, and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuse or compromise your personal information in any way.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998 National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any

organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@dfre.gov.za

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko
Arcadia
Pretoria
0083

or

By post: Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal 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.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@dfre.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Mr Vusi Skosana
Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: *06 October 2022*

cc:	Mr Dirk Pretorius	EnviroAgri	E-mail: dirk@enviroagri.com
	Mr Brian Fisher	Northern Cape: Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Email: bfisher@ncpg.gov.za
	Mrs Shereave Felix	Emthanjeni Local Municipality	Email: shereavef@emthanjeni.co.za
	Kgabaganyo Matolong	Renosterberg Local Municipality	Email: renosterberg_mun@xsinet.co.za



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Environmental Authorisation

In terms of Regulation 25 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended

The development of the Castle Hydra transmission line near De Aar, Emthanjeni Local Municipality and Renosterberg Local Municipality in the Northern Cape Province

Pixley ka Seme District Municipality

Authorisation register number:	14/12/16/3/3/1/2557
Last amended:	First issue
Holder of authorisation:	<i>Eskom Holdings SOC Limited</i>
Location of activity:	Portion 12 of Farm 165, Vendussie Kuil, Portion 13 of Farm 165, Vendussie Kuil, and Portion 2 of Farm 2, Slingers Hoek, <i>Within</i> Ward 6 of Emthanjeni Local Municipality and Ward 1 of Renosterberg Local Municipality ,Northern Cape Province

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 Environmental Authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, the Department hereby authorises –

ESKOM HOLDINGS SOC LIMITED

(hereafter referred to as the **holder of the authorisation**)

with the following contact details –

Debbie Harding
Eskom Holdings SOC Limited
PO Box 606

KIMBERLY
8301

Tel: (053) 830 5774

Cell: (084) 689 5173

E-mail: debbie.harding@eskom.co.za

to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as "the activity") indicated in Listing Notice 1, Listing Notice 2 and Listing Notice 3 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended:

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 11:</u></p> <p><i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity-</i></p> <p><i>(i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts".</i></p>	<p>The development will be of an Overhead Transmission Line (OHL) of 132kV to 400kV outside an urban area.</p> <p>The capacity will be more than 132 kV but may less than 275 kV.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 12:</u></p> <p><i>The development of –</i></p> <p><i>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 m² or more;</i></p> <p><i>Where such development occurs –</i></p> <p><i>(a) within a watercourse;</i></p> <p><i>(c) if no development setback exists, within 32 m of a water course, measured from the edge of a watercourse;</i></p>	<p>Several drainage lines will be crossed by the proposed construction roads and transmission lines. Several pylon structures will be within 32 m of watercourses. The combined physical footprint will be more than a 100 m²</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 19:</u></p> <p><i>The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 m³ into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles, or rock of more than 10 m³ from a watercourse;</i></p>	<p>Access roads (service tracks) and transmission line pylons (to be avoided as far as possible) will be located within a watercourse (drainage line).</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 28:</u></p> <p><i>Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial, or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes or afforestation on or after 1 April 1998 and where such development:</i></p>	<p>The transmission line will amount to an area of greater than 1 hectare being cleared within an area utilised for agricultural purposes (i.e. outside an urban area).</p>

<p><i>(ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 ha</i></p>	
<p><u>Listing Notice 2, Item 9:</u> <i>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kilovolts or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex.</i></p>	<p>Authorisation is required for an up to 400kV transmission line to connect to the national grid outside an urban area.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 3, Item 04:</u> <i>The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres.</i> <i>g. Northern Cape</i> <i>ii. Outside urban areas:</i> <i>(bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas;</i></p>	<p>Part of the proposed OHL area overlaps with Senqu NPAES area.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 3, Item 14:</u> <i>The development of –</i> <i>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more; where such development occurs—</i> <i>(a) within a watercourse;</i> <i>(c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;</i> <i>(g) Northern Cape</i> <i>ii. Outside urban areas:</i> <i>(bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas.</i></p>	<p>Part of the proposed OHL area overlaps with Senqu NPAES area:</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 3, Item 18:</u> <i>The widening of a road by more than 4 m, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 km.</i> <i>(g) Northern Cape</i> <i>(ii) Outside urban areas:</i> <i>(bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas;</i></p>	<p>Access tracks for the proposed development, which will include extensions of existing farm tracks will be lengthened by more than 1km within 100m from the edge of a watercourse. Existing roads would be used as far as practically possible and feasible. Some of these roads will traverse drainage</p>

<i>(ii) Areas within a watercourse or wetland; or within 100 metres from the edge of a watercourse or wetland.</i>	lines or fall within 100m from the edge of a watercourse or wetland. Part of the proposed OHL area overlaps with Senqu NPAES area.
<p><u>Listing Notice 3, Item 23:</u></p> <p>The expansion of—</p> <p><i>(ii) infrastructure or structures where the physical footprint is expanded by 10 square metres or more; where such expansion occurs—</i></p> <p><i>(a) within a watercourse;</i></p> <p><i>(c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;</i></p> <p><i>(g) Northern Cape</i></p> <p><i>i. Outside urban areas:</i></p> <p><i>(bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas;</i></p>	The expansion of existing infrastructure such as roads that are located in and within 32 m of a watercourse, within the Senqu NPAES area.

as described in the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) dated 16 August 2022 at:

SG 21 Code

C	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	5	0	0	0	1	2
C	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	5	0	0	0	1	3
C	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2

OHL- Section A	Latitude	Longitude
Start Point – (Castel WEF Substation)-A	30°35'41.88"S	24°18'3.21"E
B	30°35'37.96"S	24°17'27.63"E
C	30°35'8.81"S	24°16'40.05"E
End Point- D (De Aar 2 South OHL)	30°35'44.98"S	24°16'14.80"E
OHL- Section B:	Latitude	Longitude
Start Point (Castel OHL): E	30°38'45.90"S	24°11'32.74"E
End Point (De Aar 2 South Substation): F	30°41'39.75"S	24° 6'41.80"E

- for the proposed development of the Castle Hydra transmission line near De Aar, in the Northern Cape Province hereafter referred to as "the property".

The proposed development entails the following infrastructures:

- Transmission line infrastructure
- Pylon Structures
- Pylon Foundations
- Pylon placement and servitudes
- Access and Service Roads
- Temporary laydown areas and site camps

Technical details of the OHL:

Component	Description/ Dimensions
Overhead Powerline (OHL)	<p>132kV to 400kV single- or double-circuit</p> <p>Two sections are being applied for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section A: Extending from the authorised Castle WEF collector substation to the De Aar 2 South OHL. Length \approx3,8km • Section B: Short 200m section branching of from Section A to the De Aar 2 South Switching Station. <p>Total length of the OHL is 4km with the assessed corridor extending to 150m either side of the provided centreline of the OHL as well as start and end point to allow for micro-siting.</p> <p>OHL will be located within a servitude of up to 31-55m wide to be positioned within a 300m wide corridor (a 300m wide corridor assessed as part of this BA to allow micro-siting).</p>
OHL Pylons	<p>Up to 45m in height (most structures will be up to 32m tall, only increasing to up to 45m if it requires crossing existing or planned overhead transmission lines or roads.</p> <p>Monopole (Self-supporting or stayed, for 132kV lines) and/or lattice (for 400kV lines) may be used.</p> <p>Disturbance footprint per pylon of up to 10m by 10m (100m²).</p>
OHL footprint	<p>Length \approx 4km.</p> <p>Construction road / service track (jeep track) width \approx4m (or less).</p>

	<p>OHL footprint $\approx 1,6$ha (4km x 4m), (part of this road will use existing farm roads, roads created for the De Aar 2 South OHL and/or WEF roads).</p> <p>Approximate number of pylons (based on average 150m average between pylons) ≈ 27 Pylon's disturbance footprint $\approx 0,27$ha (27 x 100m²).</p>
Laydown Areas	<p>Temporary laydown area of ≈ 5000m² will be required (authorised Castle WEF Laydown areas to be utilised, no laydowns applied for as part of this application).</p>
Site Access	<p>The existing approved access roads to the Castle WEF substation will be used to access the site.</p>

Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

Scope of authorisation

1. The proposed development of the Castle Hydra transmission line near De Aar, in the Northern Cape Province is approved as per the geographic coordinates cited in the table above.
2. Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this Environmental 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 may only be carried out at the property as described above.
5. Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this Environmental Authorisation must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be affected. 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 Environmental Authorisation in terms of the regulations.

6. The holder of an Environmental Authorisation must apply for an amendment of the Environmental Authorisation with the Competent Authority for any alienation, transfer or change of ownership rights in the property on which the activity is to take place.
7. This activity must commence within a period of ten (10) years from the date of issue of this Environmental 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.
8. Construction must be completed within five (05) years of the commencement of the activity on site.
9. Commencement with one activity listed in terms of this Environmental Authorisation constitutes commencement of all authorised activities.

Notification of authorisation and right to appeal

10. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this Environmental Authorisation, of the decision to authorise the activity.
11. The notification referred to must –
 - 11.1. specify the date on which the authorisation was issued;
 - 11.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in the National Appeal Regulations, 2014;
 - 11.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation will be furnished on request; and
 - 11.4. give the reasons of the Competent Authority for the decision.

Commencement of the activity

12. The authorised activity shall not commence until the period for the submission of appeals has lapsed as per the National Appeal Regulations, 2014, and no appeal has been lodged against the decision. In terms of Section 43(7), an appeal under Section 43 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended 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 has been finalised.

Management of the activity

13. The site layout plans as submitted with the BAR dated 16 August 202 is approved.
14. The Generic EMPr submitted as part of BAR dated 16 August 202 is approved and must be implemented and adhered to.
15. The Generic EMPr must be implemented and strictly enforced during all phases of the project. It shall be seen as a dynamic document and shall be included in all contract documentation for all phases of the development when approved.
16. Changes to the approved Generic EMPr must be submitted in accordance to the EIA Regulations applicable at the time.
17. The Department reserves the right to amend the approved Generic EMPr should any impacts that were not anticipated or covered in the BAR be discovered.

Frequency and process of updating the EMPr

18. The EMPr must be updated where the findings of the environmental audit reports, contemplated in Condition 25 below, indicate insufficient mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity, or insufficient levels of compliance with the environmental authorisation or EMPr.
19. The updated EMPr must contain recommendations to rectify the shortcomings identified in the environmental audit report.
20. The updated EMPr must be submitted to the Department for approval together with the environmental audit report, as per Regulation 34 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended. The updated EMPr must have been subjected to a public participation process, which process has been agreed to by the Department, prior to submission of the updated EMPr to the Department for approval.
21. In assessing whether to grant approval of an EMPr which has been updated as a result of an audit, the Department will consider the processes prescribed in Regulation 35 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended. Prior to approving an amended EMPr, the Department may request such amendments to the EMPr as it deems appropriate to ensure that the EMPr sufficiently provides for avoidance, management and mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity.
22. The holder of the authorisation must apply for an amendment of an EMPr, if such amendment is required before an audit is required. The amendment process is prescribed in Regulation 37 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The holder of the authorisation must request comments on the proposed amendments to the impact management outcomes of the EMPr or amendments to the closure objectives of the closure

plan from potentially interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, by using any of the methods provided for in the Act for a period of at least 30 days.

Monitoring

23. The holder of the authorisation must appoint an experienced Environmental Control Officer (ECO) for the construction phase of the development that will have the responsibility to ensure that the mitigation/rehabilitation measures and recommendations referred to in this environmental authorisation are implemented and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the approved EMPr.
 - 23.1. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activities.
 - 23.2. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
 - 23.3. The ECO must keep record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a task schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
 - 23.4. 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.

Recording and reporting to the Department

24. All documentation e.g. audit/monitoring/compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to the Department in terms of this environmental authorisation, must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
25. The holder of the environmental authorisation must, for the period during which the environmental authorisation and EMPr remain valid, ensure that project compliance with the conditions of the environmental authorisation and the EMPr are audited, and that the audit reports are submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
26. The frequency of auditing and of submission of the environmental audit reports must be as per the frequency indicated in the EMPr, taking into account the processes for such auditing as prescribed in Regulation 34 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.
27. The holder of the authorisation must, in addition, submit environmental audit reports to the Department within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e. within 30 days of site handover) and a final environmental audit report within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities.
28. The environmental audit reports must be compiled in accordance with Appendix 7 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended and 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 as the requirements of the approved EMPr.

29. Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on site and made available for inspection to any relevant and competent authority in respect of this development.

Notification to authorities

30. A written notification of commencement must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity. The notice must include a date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence, as well as a reference number.

Operation of the activity

31. A written notification of operation must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity operational phase.

Site closure and decommissioning

32. Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the holder of the authorisation 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

33. No activities will be allowed to encroach into a water resource without a water use authorisation being in place from the Department of Water and Sanitation.
34. All watercourse crossings must be pegged out using droppers painted blue (top) and wrapped with danger tape.
35. The entire length of powerline must be marked with Eskom approved bird flight diverters (BFDs). The bird flight diverters should be installed on the full span length on the earth wire.
36. Anti-collision devices such as bird flappers must be installed where powerlines cross avifaunal corridors, as recommended by the specialist. The input of an avifaunal specialist must be obtained for the fitting of the

anti-collision devices onto specific sections of the line once the exact positions of the towers have been surveyed and pegged.

37. Should any archaeological sites, artefacts, paleontological fossils or graves be exposed during construction work, work in the immediate vicinity of the find must be stopped, SAHRA must be informed, and the services of an accredited heritage professional obtained for an assessment of the heritage resources must be made
38. Vegetation clearing should occur in a phased manner in accordance with the construction programme to minimise erosion and/or run-off.
39. A permit must be obtained from the relevant nature conservation agency for the removal or destruction of indigenous, protected or endangered plant or animal species and a copy of such permit/s must be submitted to the Department for record keeping.
40. No exotic plants may be used for rehabilitation purposes. Only indigenous plants of the area may be utilised.
41. Vegetation clearing must be kept to an absolute minimum. Mitigation measures as specified in the BAR dated 16 August 2022 must be implemented to reduce the risk of erosion and the invasion of alien species.
42. Construction must include design measures that allow surface and subsurface movement of water along drainage lines so as not to impede natural surface and subsurface flows. Drainage measures must promote the dissipation of storm water run-off.
43. An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation and must incorporate reduction, recycling, re-use and disposal where appropriate. Any solid waste must be disposed of at a landfill licensed in terms of Section 20 (b) of the National Environment Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act No.59 of 2008).

General

44. A copy of this Environmental Authorisation, the audit and compliance monitoring reports, and the approved EMPr, must be made available for inspection and copying-
 - 44.1. at the site of the authorised activity;
 - 44.2. to anyone on request; and
 - 44.3. where the holder of the Environmental Authorisation has a website, on such publicly accessible website.
45. National government, provincial government, local authorities or committees appointed in terms of the conditions of this authorisation or any other public authority shall not be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder of the authorisation or his/her 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 holder of the authorisation 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: 06 October 2022



Mr Vusi Skosana

Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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 activities as applied for in the application form received on 01 June 2022.
- b) The information contained in the BAR dated 16 August 2022.
- c) The Comments received from the following I&APs during the draft period were adequately addressed: ATNS, BirdLife South Africa, CAA, Department of Water and Sanitation, Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reforms and interested and affected parties as included in the BAR dated 16 August 2022.
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the BAR and the EMPr.
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the appendices of the BAR dated 16 August 2022.

2. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was considered 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 need for the proposed project stems from the provision of electricity to the national grid.
- c) The BAR dated 16 August 2022 identified all legislation and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the BAR.
- d) The location of the proposed project
- e) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the BAR dated 16 August 2022 and the specialist studies have been adequately indicated.
- f) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken, and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the BAR Regulations, 2014 as amended 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 16 August 2022 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 information contained in the BAR dated 16 August 2022 is deemed to be accurate and credible.
- d) The findings of the site inspection held on 20 September 2022.
- e) The proposed mitigation of impacts identified and assessed adequately curtails the identified impacts.
- f) 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 phase.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the environmental authorisation, the authorised activities 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 authorised activities can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The environmental authorisation is accordingly granted.



**forestry, fisheries
& the environment**

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447 PRETORIA 0001 Environment House · 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia· PRETORIA
Tel(+ 27 12) 399 9000

Enquiries: Devinagie Bendeman Telephone: 012 399 9337 E-mail: vbendeman@dfpe.gov.za

Mr. Vusi Skosana
Director: IEA: National Integrated Authorisations

Dear Mr. Skosana

**APPOINTMENT AS ACTING CHIEF DIRECTOR: INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATIONS
FOR THE PERIOD 26 SEPTEMBER 2022 UNTIL 14 OCTOBER 2022**

I hereby inform you that I have decided to appoint you as Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorizations, for the period of 26 September 2022 until 14 October 2022 whilst Ms Milicent Solomons is on annual leave.

All the correspondence and other documents that are usually signed by the Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorizations must be signed under Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations during the above-mentioned period.

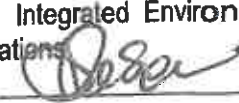
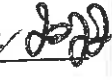
Your appointment in the above acting position remains subject to the provisions of the Public Service Act, 1994 (Proclamation No. 103 of 1994), as amended, the Government Employees Pension Fund Act, 1996 (Proclamation No. 21 of 1996), the regulations promulgated under these Acts and relevant circulars.

In the execution of your duties and the exercising of the powers delegated to you, you will furthermore be subjected to the provisions of the Public Finance Management Act, compliance with the Promotion of Access to Information Act, Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, the Minimum Information Security Standard, Departmental Policies and other applicable legislations with the Republic of South Africa. You are therefore advised to make yourself familiar with the provisions of these legislations and policies and the amendments thereof. (Copies of Departmental policies can be obtained from the Human Resource Office).

Please accept my heartfelt gratitude for all your assistance on behalf of the department.

Yours sincerely

Ms Devinagie Bendeman
Deputy Director-General: RCSM (Regulatory Compliance and
Sector Monitoring)
Date: 23/09/2022

<p>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT I ACCEPT / DO NOT ACCEPT appointment as Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations Signed:  Date: <u>26 September 2022</u> </p>
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