



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1025

Enquiries: Ms Thulisile Nyalunga

Telephone: 012-399-9405 E-mail: tnyalunga@environment.gov.za

Mr David Tunnickliff
Eskom Holdings SOC Limited
P. O. Box 1091
JOHANNESBURG
2000

Tel: (011) 800 5145
Cell: 083 633 1547
E-mail: tunicDA@eskom.co.za

PER E-MAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Tunnickliff

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 107 OF 1998), AS AMENDED (NEMA); GOVERNMENT NOTICES. R982, R983, R984 AND R985, AS AMENDED: PROPOSED 400KV TRANSMISSION POWERLINE STRETCHES BETWEEN THE MAHIKENG AREA IN SOUTH AFRICA AND THE NORTH OF GABORONE IN BOTSWANA

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

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the National Environmental Management Act: the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing within 14 (fourteen) days of the date of this EA, of the Department's 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, 2000 (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, 2013 (Act no. 4 of 2013) which stipulates 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 abuses or compromises your personal information in any way.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (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 prescribe 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:

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

By email: appealsdirector@environment.gov.za;

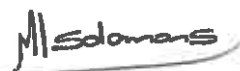
By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko Street
Arcadia
Pretoria
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the NEMA, 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 any activity authorised in the EA 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 appealsdirector@environment.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Ms Millicent Solomons
Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs
Date: 04/01/2018

CC:	Ms D Erasmus	Aurecon South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Tel: 044 805 5428	Email: Diane.Erasmus@aurecongroup.com
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environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Environmental Authorisation

In terms of regulation 25 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014

**400kV transmission powerline between the Mahikeng area in South Africa and
the area immediately north of Gaborone in Botswana**

Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality

Authorisation register number:	14/12/16/3/3/2/1025
Last amended:	<i>First issue</i>
Holder of authorisation:	<i>Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd</i>
Location of activity:	<i>Ramotshere Moiloa and Mahikeng Local Municipalities</i>

This environmental 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, 1998 and the EIA regulations.

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

ESKOM HOLDINGS SOC LIMITED

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

with the following contact details –

Eskom Holdings SOC Limited

Mr David Tunnicliff

P. O. Box 1091

JOHANNESBURG

2000

Tel: (011) 800 5145

Cell: 083 633 1547

E-mail: tunnicDA@eskom.co.za

to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as "the activity") indicated in Listing Notice 2 and 3 (GN R. 984 and R.985), as amended on 07 April 2017:

Activity number	Activity description
<p>GN R. 983 Item 11: <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity –</i> <i>(i) Outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kV or more"</i></p>	<p>The proposed transmission line is a 400 kilovolts line and it may traverse urban areas or industrial complexes between Mafikeng (RSA) and Isang (Botswana).</p>
<p>GN R. 983 Item 12: <i>"The development of –</i> <i>(xii) Infrastructures or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; Where such development occurs –</i> <i>(a) Within a watercourse"</i></p>	<p>The transmission line will traverse numerous water resources.</p>
<p>GN R. 983 Item 14: <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or for the storage and handling, of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 80 cubic metres but not exceeding 500 cubic Metres".</i></p>	<p>The construction phase may include the storage of hydrocarbons in the lay down areas for construction machinery and/or vehicles.</p>
<p>GN R. 983 Item 19: <i>"The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 5 cubic metres from –</i> <i>(i) a watercourse".</i></p>	<p>Due to the length of the proposed transmission line, it will be necessary to cross various watercourses. The need to impact on a watercourse by removing soil, sand, pebbles or rock in order to erect towers may arise.</p>
<p>GN R. 984 Item 9: <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity</i></p>	<p>The project entails the development of a 400kV transmission line from the</p>

<p><i>of 275 kilovolts or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex.</i></p>	<p>Watershed B area close to Mafikeng to the Isang Substation in Botswana. The majority of the corridor will be outside urban areas or industrial complexes.</p>
<p>GN R. 985 Item 4: <i>"The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 30 but not exceeding 80 cubic metres.</i> (h)North West <i>(vi) Areas within a watercourse or wetland, or within 100 metres from the edge of a watercourse or wetland"</i></p>	<p>The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of more than 500 cubic metres.</p>
<p>GN R. 985 Item 12: <i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.</i> (h) North West <i>(vi) Areas within a watercourse or wetland, or within 100 metres from the edge of a watercourse or wetland.</i></p>	<p>Clearance of vegetation within a watercourse or 100m from the edge of a watercourse might be required.</p>
<p>GN R. 985 Item 14: <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> (h) North West <i>(iv) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority;</i></p>	<p>The proposed transmission line will have a footprint of 210 000m (L) X 1000m (W). The line will traverse numerous watercourses. According to the North West Biodiversity Conservation Assessment Report 1 it all falls within two Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA), namely CBA T1 and T2. The proposed corridor is also within 5km of the Madikwe Nature Reserve along the South Africa to Botswana border.</p>

(vi) Areas within 5 kilometres from protected areas identified in terms of NEMPAA or from the core areas of a Biosphere reserve.

as described in the Environmental impact Assessment Report (EIAR) dated March 2018 at:

21 Digit SG Code:

21 SG Code	Farm Name	Portion
T0KP00000000010500000	Vleifontein 105	0
T0KP00000000012800000	Sandbult 128	0
T0KP00000000012600012	Welgevonden 126	12
T0KP00000000012600013	Welgevonden 126	13
T0KP00000000012600004	Welgevonden 126	4
T0JP00000000003400006	Zwartfontein 34	6
T0JP00000000003400007	Zwartfontein 34	7
T0JP00000000000800000	Huyserslaagte 8	0
T0JP00000000003500001	Zandfontein 35	1
T0KP00000000009400000	Abjaterskop 940	0
T0JP00000000003400014	Swartfontein 34	14
T0JP00000000000300003	Draallaagte 3	3
T0JP00000000000200004	Putfontein 2	4
T0KP00000000013200000	Brakfontein 132	0
T0JP00000000000200001	Putfontein 2	1
T0JP00000000000200002	Putfontein 2	2
T0JP00000000000200007	Putfontein 2	7
T0JP00000000003300000	Olifantsfontein 33	0

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T0JP0000000002700000	Olifantsfontein 33	1
T0JP0000000003300003	Olifantsfontein 33	3
T0JP0000000003300001	Draailaagte 3	1
T0JO0000000004100002	Willowpark 41	2
T0KP00000000013100001	Brakfontein 131	1
T0KP00000000013200001	Brakfontein 132	1
T0KP00000000012000003	Droogedal 120	3
T0KP00000000012600008	Welgevonden 126	8
T0JP0000000003300000	Draailaagte 5	0
T0JO0000000004700000	Welbedacht 47	0
T0KP00000000010000000	Slalaagte 100	0
T0KP00000000010000001	Slalaagte 100	1
T0KP00000000012000014	Droogedal 120	14
T0KP00000000012000015	Droogedal 120	15
T0KP00000000012000020	Droogedal 120	20
T0KP0000000007800003	Kopfontein 78	3
T0KP0000000007800003	Kopfontein 78	3
T0KP0000000007800004	Kopfontein 78	4
T0KP0000000007800005	Kopfontein 78	5
T0KP0000000007800008	Kopfontein 78	8
T0JO0000000004000000	Matjesvallei 40	0
T0JO00000000041200000	Mollos 412	0
T0KP00000000012600014	Welgevonden 126	14
T0JO0000000001000001	Witfontein 10	1
T0JO0000000001000003	Witfontein 10	3
T0JO0000000001000004	Witfontein 10	4

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T0JO0000000002100000	-	0
T0JO0000000002200000	-	0
T0JO0000099999900000	-	0
T0JO0000000002200001	-	1
T0JO0000000002200002	-	2
T0JO0000000002200003	-	3
T0JO0000000002200004	-	4
T0JO0000000005500022	Jagersfontein 55	22
T0JO0000000005500012	Jagersfontein 55	12
T0JO00000000039900000	Drumard 399	0
T0JO00000000040100000	Heathfield 401	0
T0JO00000000040000000	Westwood Park 400	0
T0JO0000000005500023	Jagersfontein 55	23
T0JO00000000037700015	Ramatlabama 377	15
T0JO00000000037700015	Ramatlabama 377	15
T0JO00000000037700012	Ramatlabama 377	12
T0JO00000000037700003	Ramatlabama 377	3
T0JO0000000005600002	De Putten 56	2
T0JO0000000005600003	De Putten 56	3
T0JO0000000005600010	De Putten 56	10
T0JO00000000037700013	Ramatlabama 377	13
T0JO00000000037700014	Ramatlabama 377	14
T0JO0000000005500006	Jagersfontein 55	6
T0JO00000000037700011	Ramatlabama 377	11
T0JO0000000005600009	De Putten 56	9
T0JO0000000005600000	De Putten 56	0

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T0JO0000000005800005	Tweffontein 58	5
T0JO0000000004100001	Willowpark 41	1
T0JO0000000005500004	Jagersfontein 55	4
T0JO0000000005500005	Jagersfontein 55	5
T0JO0000000004300000	Stinkhoutboom 43	0
T0JO0000000004100002	Willowpark 41	2
T0JO0000000003700000	Moilos Location 37	0
T0JO0000000003600000	Moilos Suld 36	0
T0JO00000000031000003	Sekai 310	3
T0JO00000000031000004	Sekai 310	4
T0JO00000000031000006	Sekai 310	6
T0JO00000000031000007	Sekai 310	7
T0JO00000000031000009	Sekai 310	9
T0JO00000000031000010	Sekai 310	10
T0JO00000000031000011	Sekai 310	11
T0JO00000000040100004	Heathfield 401	4
T0JO00000000041300000	Moilos 413	0
T0JO00000000040200004	New Park 402	4
T0JO00000000040200005	New Park 402	5
T0JO00000000037700031	Ramatlabama 377	31
T0JO00000000031000000	Sekai 310	0
T0JO00000000031000000	Sekai 310	0
T0JO00000000038900011	-	11

Route C (preferred alternative)	Latitude	Longitude
Start point	25°42' .11.15"S	25°32 '13.48."E
Middle point	25°13' .40.64"S	25°59 '7.17."E
End point	25°42' .11.15"S	26°7 '20.87."E

- for the proposed 400kV transmission powerline of approximately 149km stretching between the Mahikeng area in South Africa and the area immediately north of Gaborone in Botswana, hereafter referred to as "the property".

Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

Scope of authorisation

1. The preferred Route C located in the South African, totalling a distance of approximately 149km powerline, traversing the Mahikeng and Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality, under the jurisdiction of the Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality, in the North West Province is approved as per the geographic coordinates cited at the table reflected on page 9 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 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 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. Commencement with one activity listed in terms of this environmental authorisation constitutes commencement of all authorised activities.

Notification of authorisation and right to appeal

8. 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.

9. The notification referred to must –
- 9.1. specify the date on which the authorisation was issued;
 - 9.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in the National Appeal Regulations, 2014;
 - 9.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation will be furnished on request; and
 - 9.4. give the reasons of the competent authority for the decision.

Commencement of the activity

10. 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, 1998 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

11. The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) submitted as part of the Application for EA must be amended and submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. The recommendations and mitigation measures as per the findings of the walkthrough (Condition 31) and a copy of the final layout of the powerline route (micro siting of towers) must be incorporated into the amended EMPr. Once approved, the EMPr must be implemented and adhered to.

Frequency and process of updating the EMPr

12. The EMPr must be updated where the findings of the environmental audit reports, contemplated in Condition 20 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.

13. The updated EMPr must contain recommendations to rectify the shortcomings identified in the environmental audit report.
14. The updated EMPr must be submitted to the Department for approval together with the environmental audit report, as per Regulation 34 of GN R. 982. 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.
15. 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 GN R.982. 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.
16. The holder of the authorisation may apply for an amendment of an EMPr, if such amendment is required before an audit is required. The holder must notify the Department of its intention to amend the EMPr at least 60 days prior to submitting such amendments to the EMPr to the Department for approval. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department will consider the processes and requirements prescribed in Regulation 37 of GN R. 982.

Monitoring

17. The holder of the authorisation must appoint an experienced independent 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.
- 17.1. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activities.
- 17.2. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department at Directorcompliance@environment.gov.za.
- 17.3. The ECO must keep record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a task schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
- 17.4. 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

18. 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 at Directorcompliance@environment.gov.za.
19. 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 at Directorcompliance@environment.gov.za.
20. 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 GN R. 982.
21. The holder of the authorisation must, in addition, submit an 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.
22. 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.
23. 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

24. A written notification of commencement must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity. 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 a reference number.

Operation of the activity

25. 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

26. 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

27. No commencement of construction or any construction related activities are allowed until valid positive environmental authorisations (EAs) are obtained from the relevant competent authorities for the proposed Mahikeng Substation (Ref No 14/12/16/3/3/2/1051) and the proposed powerline in the north of Gaborone in Botswana.
28. A Water Use Licence must be obtained from the Department of Water and Sanitation for any activities that are likely to impact on water resources in accordance with the National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998).
29. Necessary permits must be obtained from the Department of Forestry and Fisheries for any removal of trees protected under the National Forest Act of 1998.
30. Should any archaeological or cultural heritage resources, including human remains / graves, as defined and protected under the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999, be identified during the construction phase, construction activities within the vicinity of the findings must immediately cease and be reported to the Heritage Resources Authority and should human remains be found on site, the South African Police Service must also be notified.
31. High risk sections of the powerline must be identified by a qualified avifaunal specialist during the construction phase via a walk-through, once the tower positions have been finalized.
32. A detailed walk down must be conducted, by the ecological specialist, before commencement of construction activities, the findings of the walk down must inform the micro-siting of the towers to further reduced the significance of the impacts, i.e. avoid any wetlands (including buffers), span

watercourses and avoid any protected plant species, including protected trees listed in the specialist report.

33. The walk down must be used to inform the search and rescue plan and permit requirements, including the Water Use Licenses (mainly for activities within 500m of a wetland).
34. A walk-through must be performed by the avifaunal specialist to record any large raptor nests that could be impacted by the construction of the proposed powerline. Should any nests be recorded, it must require management of the potential impacts on the breeding birds once construction commences, which would necessitate the involvement of the avifaunal specialist.
35. Careful consideration must be given to selecting suitable access routes to minimise the impact of new tracks or roads, as well as clearing of the final servitude. The process must avoid any impacts on the aquatic environment, coupled to the fact that watercourses (including 32m buffer) and wetlands (including 50m buffer) must be avoided.
36. If powerline markings is required, bird flight diverters must be installed on the full span length on each of the conductors according to the Eskom Guidelines.
37. Light and dark colour devices must be alternated so as to provide contrast against both dark and light backgrounds respectively. These devices must be installed as soon as the conductors are strung.
38. The powerline must be inspected once a year for a minimum of two years by the avifaunal specialist to establish if there is any significant collision mortality, which may require the marking of additional sections. Thereafter the frequency of inspections must be informed by the results of the first two years.
39. Labour must be sourced locally as far as possible during construction and operation of the project. This will minimise the risk of conflict among local residents and newcomers and better relationships for workers housed in temporary housing for construction workers. Furthermore, new construction workers in the area must be urged to refrain from abusing resources and infrastructure of the existing adjacent communities.

General

40. A copy of this environmental authorisation, the audit and compliance monitoring reports, and the approved EMP, must be made available for inspection and copying-
41. at the site of the authorised activity;
42. to anyone on request; and

43. where the holder of the environmental authorisation has a website, on such publicly accessible website.
44. 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: 04 July 2018



Ms Millicent Solomons

**Acting 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 information contained in the EIAr dated March 2018;
- b) The comments received from Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Department of Water and Sanitation, South African Heritage Resources Agency, Department of Rural Environment, Agriculture and Development.
- c) Mitigation measures as proposed in the EIAr dated March 2018 and the EMPr;
- d) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the EIAr dated March 2018; and
- e) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No.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 SAPP has since embarked upon various initiatives to alleviate the current electricity supply constraints and contribute towards energy security of supply in the long run. The Botswana-South Africa (BOSA) Transmission Interconnection Project, is one of the identified and planned initiatives to address the power generation and transmission challenges in the region.
- c) The establishment of the BOSA interconnector provides the opportunity for trade in electricity to better balance the supply/demand requirements of the region and thereby stimulate economic activity.
- d) The EIAr dated March 2018 identified all legislation and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the EIAr dated February 2018.

- e) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the EIAR dated March 2018 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 EIA 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 EIAR dated March 2018 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 curtails the identified impacts.
- d) The information contained in the EIAR dated March 2018 is accurate and credible.
- e) EMPr measures for the pre-construction, construction and rehabilitation phases of the development were proposed and included in the EIAR 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.



environmental affairs

**Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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**Mrs. Milicent Solomons
Director: Strategic Infrastructure Development**

Dear Mrs. Solomons

APPOINTMENT AS ACTING CHIEF DIRECTOR: INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATIONS FOR THE PERIOD 2 JULY 2018 UNTIL 06 JULY 2018

I hereby inform you that I have decided to appoint you as the Acting Chief Director: integrated environmental authorisations for the period 2 July 2018 until 06 July 2018 whilst Mr. Sabelo Malaza 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 this 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



Mr. Ishaam Abader

DDG: LACE

Date: 14/06/2018

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I ACCEPT / DO NOT ACCEPT appointment
as Acting Chief Director: integrated
environmental authorisations

Signed: 

Date: 14/06/2018.