

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
JOB CREATION & LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES			
He commented that the community appreciate that Eskom is consulting the owners of the land before coming up with contractors to the area. He mentioned that some developers also come and talk to the community and make good promises but during construction they normally renege on the commitments made. He advised Eskom to be consistent. Usually problems come when contractors come with outsiders to come and work in the area. Mr Baloyi appealed to Eskom to first consider the local people for employment and for any other economic benefits that might come from the project.	08 February 2017	Mr Baloyi	The comment is noted. Eskom usually give such jobs on tender basis and the contractor who wins the contract is encouraged to employ local people. It is important to note that this type of work requires skilled labour but small jobs might come up in the area where bush clearing is done or on the terrains where digging of foundations requires digging by hand
SAFETY & WELLBEING			
What is the health implication of the presence of a power line close to a residential area? The electromagnetic effect of power lines close to residential area causes cancer. What mitigation measures is Eskom going to put in place if this line is constructed in the Grietjie Nature Reserve?	10 th of February 2017	Grietjie Farm Residence	At this stage, there is no conclusive evidence that power lines generate electromagnetic fields that poses health risk to the environment or animals. Even studies that have been conducted in other countries do not show that power lines are a threat to animals and human beings in terms of magnetic effect.
Who is going to control contractors during the construction period? We are concerned about safety, environment, and potential crime and poaching.	10 th of February 2017	Grietjie Farm Residence	Contractors are expected to submit method statement which indicate how the company is going to address issues that relate to safety, environment and quality. One of the conditions of Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the project is that an Environmental Control Officer must be appointed to

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			monitor the construction process for compliance to EA and construction EMPr.
The Mashishimale CPA is operating a game reserve on its farms and there is a concern about poaching during the construction phase of the project. Now the question is who will manage the construction workers? What are the working hours during the construction phase	08 th of February 2017	Mr Chris Shayi	Eskom appoints an Environmental Control Officer who ensures that there is compliance with the conditions of the Environmental Authorization and EMPr. The appointed contractor is responsible for his construction crew and he is usually expected to present a method statement on how is he going to look after the environmental and safety issues. Usually working hours are during the day.
LAND ISSUES & COMPENSATION			
How does the buffer affect the property owners if they want to build? What about existing structures.	10 th of February 2017	Grietjie Farm Resident	Once a servitude is fixed and construction is completed buffer has no further impact on the placement of the servitude. Buffer is meant to allow for minor deviations of the line prior to construction and after the line has been constructed landowners can build inside the buffer but not in the 55m servitude.
The issue of a 3km buffer is a concern to the community. Eskom is encouraged to consider investigating a smaller buffer. At this stage we are not sure what are the obligations of the community in terms of this 3km buffer and what are the obligations of Eskom? A clear explanation is requested because clarity on the issue of buffer will also help the community to decide if the project is welcomed or objected to.	10 th of February 2017	One of property owners at Grietjie Farm	A wider buffer makes it easy for Eskom and property owners to negotiate a deviation of the line if necessary. Reducing the buffer will limit the possibilities of effecting deviation of the line if there are obstacles to be avoided hence it is not advisable to reduce the currently proposed 3km buffer to a smaller buffer.
It is a concern to us that Eskom as a developer is also the valuer.	08 th of February 2017	Mr Baloyi	Eskom appoints professional independent valuers but landowners are free to appoint their own valuer as long he is qualified to do the job

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TECHNICAL & LINE ROUTING			
Lt Col Davel commented that the army was using three farms in the study area and these farms have been consolidated into a single training area. He mentioned that the training activities conducted will not be friendly to Eskom power lines?	10 th February 2017	Lt col Davel	The comment is noted and will be considered when taking the study process further into the EIA Phase. Currently two alternatives with deviations are being investigated and inputs such as the one from the Defence Force will influence the decision of the EAP in recommending a more viable route for detailed investigation in the EIA Phase. At this stage possibilities are that the EAP might decide to deviate route 2 for the proposed power line (the route going through the army base).
Grietjie Nature Reserve would like to know the exact meaning of a buffer (3km) and what is the legal implication of the buffer zone to the community especially those that have structures and houses in the buffer. What are Eskom's obligations and entitlements, what are the affected landowners' obligations and entitlements.	10 th of February 2017	Mike Joseph	As explained above buffer area is meant to assist Eskom and property owner to agree on where a servitude can be placed. This is especially helpful where there are obstacles to be avoided e.g building structures, landing strips, dams etc.
Eskom is requested to explain why it does not bring the power line from Medupi Power Station instead of Foskor Substation? Both Medupi Power Station and Spencer Substation are in Limpopo province and landowners believe that it will be better to strengthen Spencer Substation by connecting it to Medupi Power Station.	10 th of February 2017	Mike Joseph	The length of powerlines from Foskor substation to Spencer substation is shorter than the length of powerlines that will be needed between Medupi Power Station and Spencer substation. Hence a decision to upgrade Spencer substation using Supply from Foskor substation.
Grietjie community would like to get a technical explanation (in layman's terms) as to how the proposed line would strengthen Spencer (it appears as if Foskor is being strengthened)	10 th of February 2017	Mike Joseph	Foskor substation will be upgraded to a 400kV substation using a 400kv powerline from Merensky substation in Steelpoort. The 400kv Foskor substation will then be able to strengthen Spencer substation.
Eskom is requested to come and explain the position of the 55m power line servitude within the 3km corridor.	10 th of February 2017	One of property owners at Grietjie	The 55m servitude can be placed anywhere within the 3km buffer area. The issue of visual impact will

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The community is concerned about the potential visual impact the power line will have in the area but if the power line is to be constructed in Grietjie, it must be on the northern side of the existing power line.			be addressed by Visual Impact Assessment specialist who will give recommendation on what mitigation measures to implement. Recommended mitigation measures will be included in the EMPr.
Wanted to know if the proposed power line was also going to traverse residential areas or not.	08 th February 2017	Jabulani	The route of the proposed power line is supposed to go through areas where there is no human settlement. Sometimes it does happen that the power line affects some families such that they must be relocated. In such cases Eskom will assist the family that must be relocated by helping them to build a new house somewhere.
Mr Shilote wanted to know if the proposed power line is similar to the one close to R71 road.	08 th February 2017	Mr Shilote	It was explained that the proposed power line is a 400kV power line and that there is no 400kV power line in the area.
Wanted to know if the servitude of the proposed power line is going to be fenced or it will stay open	08 th of February 2017	Mr Chris Shayi	The servitude stays open with access roads for maintenance. Landowners are allowed to continue with their farming activities even within the servitude except that trees of certain heights are not allowed inside the servitude under the power line. Keeping the servitude clean becomes the responsibility of Eskom.
Mr Chris Shayi wanted to know if there are certain sections of this power line that are going to be constructed underground	08 th February 2017	Mr Chris Shayi	No.
PROJECT LIFESPAN & TIMEFRAMES			
How old is Spencer Substation?	10 th of February 2017	Attendee at the focus group meeting in Tzaneen	Spencer was built in June 1999.
Mr Shayi wanted to know as to what will happened during the construction period because they have what is considered to be hunting season and during that time	08 th of February 2017	Mr Chris Shayi	The Mashishimale Traditional Authority and The Mashishimale CPA are encouraged to raise such issues and conditions during the negotiation for

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the Mashishimale CPA would not allow construction activities on their properties.			servitude if the line is authorized for construction through their properties.
CONSULTATION PROCESS			
There was a concern raised about the attendance as the venue was changed in the evening of the 09 th February 2017. Most people might have driven to Giyani? The commentator wanted to know if there were apologies received since the attendance was very low.	10 th of February 2017	Attendee at the focus group meeting in Tzaneen	The Public Participation team explained that the venue was changed by the officials of the district municipality. Efforts were made to phone invited people at 08H00 but some were attending other meetings and other people were not in their offices.
GENERAL			
The municipalities under the Mopani DM are experiencing capacity problems in terms of electricity supply. He wanted to know if the proposal for the development of this project was informed by the challenges phased by the municipalities or what?	10 th February 2017	Attendee at the focus group meeting in Tzaneen	It was confirmed that the project was aimed at addressing all capacity challenges within the Spencer Substation supply zone.
The municipality draws up IDP which tend to give an indication of what development and expansions are planned for the next five years. Eskom is encouraged to study the IDPs of the municipalities when planning such projects because this then tend to assist municipalities in planning with confidence that electricity supply will not be a challenge.	10 th February 2017	Attendee at the focus group meeting in Tzaneen	The comment is noted. Eskom has what is called Transmission Development Plan which in most cases is aligned with the IDPs of municipalities. The new substation coming in this Limpopo East Corridor (Nzhelele Substation) will also help to de-load Spencer substation and ensure reliability of electricity supply in the area.
The Grietjie Nature Reserve wishes to bring to Eskom's attention that an application to the MEC will be submitted to declare the farm Grietjie as a protected area.	10 th of February 2017	Mike Joseph	Comment noted by the study team
Chief Ntsanwisi gave a closing comment by indicating that at this stage the community has no objection to the power line coming to the area. He mentioned that from	08 th February 2017	Ndabezitha Ntsanwisi	Comment noted. The traditional authority will be consulted to negotiate for servitude acquisition if

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<p>the presentation it is clear that a final route has not been decided and the traditional authority considers this as an exercise of letting the community know that there is a project coming in their area. Chief Ntsanwisi indicated that his understanding was that real negotiations about compensation, jobs and other economic conditions will be discussed once the project is authorised and the position of the route is known. [The study team confirmed that this was correct]</p>			<p>the power line is authorised to go through the properties of Majeje TA</p>
<p>There were no questions asked relating to the presentation and explanations given on the proposed project. Mr John Malatji commented that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Modjadji Traditional Authority has established a formula of ensuring that the compensation paid for the land for any project in villages must benefit the local people in that particular village and the administration of the Modjadji Traditional Authority. He mentioned that the method of how the money paid for projects was going to be divided was still going to be communicated to headmen and communities. • Should villagers that are going to be affected by the project ask about compensation, Mr Malatji advised that they must be referred to the traditional office. • Members who attended the meeting were representing the queen and the council and therefore the study team must accept assurance that the message will be 	<p>02nd March 2017</p>	<p>Mr Malatjie</p>	<p>Comments noted by the Team</p>

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<p>disseminated to the different structures of the Modjadji Traditional Authority and the communities in the potentially affected villages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In general, the Modjadji Traditional Authority welcome and accept the project. Issues of compensation will be discussed once the position of the route is determined. 			
<p>Mr Mike Joseph indicated that to him it was not clear how Foskor substation would strengthen Spencer since Foskor was fed from 275kV power lines. There is also EIA process going on for another 275kV power line to Foskor substation</p>	02 nd March 2017	Mr Mike Joseph	<p>Mr Nawa explained that Eskom received an Environmental Authorization (EA) to construct a 275kV power line from Meresnky substation in Steelpoort to Foskor substation. Now Eskom is applying for an amendment of this EA for a 400kV power line. The construction of a 400kV power line from Merensky substation to Foskor substation will then make it possible for Foskor substation to feed Spencer substation with a 400kV power line.</p>
<p>Mr Mike Joseph further raised a concern about the obligations of Eskom versus the obligations of landowners relating to the buffer area for the proposed power line route. He wanted to know what each party can do and cannot do within the buffer zone. Mr Joseph expressed a concern about the width of the buffer (3000m) which means Eskom is free to put the power line anywhere within such a wide buffer in the landowners' farms. He suggested that maybe Eskom should consider reducing the width (size) of the buffer to something like 500m.</p>	02 nd March 2017.	Mr Mike Joseph.	<p>It was explained that a wider buffer will assist Eskom and landowners to easily negotiate a servitude of 55m, especially if there are obstacles on the way of the proposed route. Once the powerline is constructed with a servitude of 55m, the buffer becomes irrelevant. Mr Nawa emphasized that landowners can still practice their agricultural activities under the power lines except planting tall trees.</p>

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			Eskom strictly prohibit the erection of building structures within the servitude.
Landowners raised a concern about the health risk posed by live power lines which generate electromagnetic fields that can cause cancer for animals and human beings. They are also worried that poaching will increase during the construction phase.	02 nd of March 2017	One of the landowner	Eskom has conducted investigation about the magnetic field and the related impacts as a result of a power line traversing a particular area. At this stage, there is no conclusive evidence that power lines generate electromagnetic fields that poses health risk to the environment or animals. Even studies that have been conducted in other countries do not show that power lines are a threat to animals and human beings in terms of magnetic effect. The contractor appointed for the construction of the power line and substation will be expected to submit a method statement which outlines his approach in terms of environmental management. Construction crew will be taken through environmental induction during which issues of environmental management will be explained.
Though landowners do not want the power line through their pristine environment, they understand the need for the strengthening of electricity supply in the area of Phalaborwa-Tzaneen-Giyane. It was suggested that if the other alternative cannot be recommended and the line has to go through Grietjie-Balule-Maseke area, landowners request that the new power line be placed along the existing power line on the northern side of this existing power line.	02 nd of March 2017	landowner	The comment is noted and the project manager (EAP) will consider this request when deciding on the route to be recommended for EIA phase detailed study.
COMMENTS FROM THE REPLY SHEETS			
INTEREST			

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I am a landowner close to the proposed development	01 February 2017	Mr Willem Jacobs (Farm&portion)	Mr Jacobs has been registered in the database and will be furnished with will all information relating to the EIA process for the project.
I am a landowner	24 January 2017	Mr Daniel Gerhardus Landman	As a property owner in the receiving environment your input will be greatly valued
I will not allow any power line through my two farms	31 January 2017	Mr Gray Scarterfield	The feeling expressed by the landowner at this stage is noted. Although the landowner is opposed to the power line going through his property, he is encouraged to participate in the study process so that his input can continue to influence the decision that will be given at the end of the study process.
I am a landowner	25 January 2017	Mr Pie Warren	As a property owner in the receiving environment your input will be greatly valued
The proposed power lines will cross our Brooks 772LT; Breakfast 773; Landraad 774LT and Karsteel 766LT	19 January 2017	Mr Boela Bruwer	Thank you for mentioning your farms that are likely to be affected by the line. You are encouraged to follow the study process and make input where necessary
Prevention of further industrial impact on conservation area	25 January 2017	Mr Rene Heth (Grietjie Nature Reserve ptn.88)	Comment noted. The purpose of EIA is to identify the potential impact of the proposed development and suggest mitigation measures that will reduce or eliminate the impacts. Mr Heth is encouraged to continue to participate in the study process and make input that will assist in minimizing the impact of the project in his area.
The military is managing a training area over which "Foskor-Spencer Route" will stretch, which will impact very badly on the current military use.	19 January 2017	Lt Col Hennie Davel SANDF (Farms Free State, Volstruis and Begin)	Noted. Project manager will be made aware of the military activities taking place in this area and hopefully this will be taken into consideration when recommending a route.
Tourism; aviation and residential	20 January 2017	Mr Paul Venter (Grietjie 76; Balule; Phala Borwa 6KU)	Noted

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Nature conservation	31 January 2017	Ms Karoline Dhooge (Property owner, Grietjie Ptn. 40)	Noted
Conservancy	31 January 2017	Ms Louis Dhooge (Grietjie Ptn 40)	Noted
Citrus Macadomic, cash chop, lucern, horses, wild game	31 January 2017	Mr Pierre Labuschagne (Henley 26 & 5)	Noted
Job creation, skills transfer and community development	25 January 2017	Matlola Harry Malatji (Selwane CPA)	Noted. Project of this nature normally create very limited job opportunities. Any expected support for development in the area can be discussed with Eskom during negotiations.
Livestock farming: Poultry and crop farming	30 January 2017	Mrs Helena Van Niekerk (Grietjie Ptns. 99 & 98 Austnieprins)	Noted
Nature reserve	25 January 2017	Richard Arends (Grietjie Ptn 96)	Noted
POTENTIAL IMPACTS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negative visual impacts Destruction of vegetation and habitat Physical danger to birds 	01 February 2017	Mr Willem Jacobs	Different specialists, including specialists in the field of birds studies; ecologist and visual have been appointed to investigate the potential impact of this development on the receiving environment and recommend mitigation measures so as to reduce the envisaged impacts.
Loss of agricultural land for development	24 January 2017	Mr Daniel Gerhardus Landman	Certain agricultural activities can happen underneath the power line as long as the activities adhere to the minimum distances required by Eskom.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> My farm has lodges and electric cables are underground. My overseas guests do not want 	31 January 2017	Mr Gray Scarterfield	At this stage, the study team is looking at all farms that has got a landing strip and the project manager will be advised to contact Mr Gray.

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<p>to see power lines while going on Game drives. I will lose business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I have tarred runway for my clientele to land and your power lines will cross my runway. I will oppose any power line on my farm 			
I have no objection with the erection of the line as power brings progress	25 January 2017	Mr Pie Warren (Farm Josephine)	Comment noted with appreciation
Influence on the trespassing of the farms potential theft of some wood, cattle, pumps and other infra-structure.	19 January 2017	Mr Boela Bruwer (Portfolio Manager: Land Affairs)	Thank you for mentioning your farms that are likely to be affected by the line. You are encouraged to follow the study process and make input where necessary.
Property value reduction; area safety and aesthetic; negative impact on natural environment and conservation.	25 January 2017	Mr Rene Heth (Grietjie Nature Reserve Ptn. 88)	Specialists studies will address the concerns and mitigation measures will be in the EMPr
The military will be very badly impacted on since our training and type of training will have to be stopped and/or altered.	19 January 2017	Lt Col Hennie Davel: SANDF (Farms Free State, Volstruis and Begin).	Issue addressed above and in the minutes of the meeting.
It is a nature conservancy and power lines will affect the animals (Birds; elephants and all other herbivores) and decline in guests experience and property value	31 January 2017	Ms Karoline Dhooge (Grietjie Ptn. 40)	The PP Team will include Soekie Lubbe in the database and he/she will be contacted to give him/her information regarding the proposed project
Loss of fauna; aesthetic impact; negative impact on tourism; decrease of property value	31 January 2017	Ms Louis Dhooge (Grietjie Ptn 40)	The study team include different specialists that will recommend mitigation measures to reduce the negative impacts of the project on environment.
Negative impact on wildlife and property value	30 January 2017	(Mrs Helena Van Niekerk) Grietjie Ptns. 99 & 98 Austnieprins.	Ecology specialists will recommend mitigation measures that will reduce potential impacts on wildlife.
Health and Safety; Electromagnetic field; property value reduction; Visual impact; Loss of sense of place; impact on fauna, flora and birds	25 January 2017	Richard Arends (Grietjie Ptn 96)	Concerns as expressed by Mr Arends has been addressed above and the study team include

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			specialists in the fields mentioned. These specialists will recommend mitigation measures.
Loss of land due to servitude; Electromagnetic field; property value reduction; Visual impact; loss of sense of place;	25 January 2017	Adrian Hayes (Grietjie Ptn. 80)	Same as above.
COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE COMMENTING PERIOD OF DRAFT SCOPING REPORT			
The participants indicated that the meaning of the rating method and the potential impacts and risk factors that are found in the routes as explained in the report were confusing. The EAP (Brenda) was then requested to explain this so that stakeholders could understand as to which route had more environmental impacts than the other?	24 May 2017	Participant	After some discussions, it was agreed that there is indeed an error in the notes and Ms Makanza undertook to make the necessary corrections and changes in the report.
Participants who represented Selati wanted to know as to why should the line not be placed in an area that is already disturbed by such infrastructure like the road or other power line. They felt it was doing more harm to the environment if the power line is put in a virgin area like along the R526 road.	24 May 2017	Participant	Suggestions as given by stakeholders who resides in the area are welcomed because they provide local knowledge. These proposals will be investigated during the EIA Phase. The purpose of scoping is to gather as many comments and issues of concern as possible so that these can be investigated during the EIA Phase
Stakeholders raised a concern that the power line is going to affect the value of their properties and negatively impact on the tourism business they run on their farms	24 May 2017	Participant	It was explained that once the corridor is approved and the exact position of the power line determined Eskom will then negotiate with each one of the directly affected property to agree on the position of the power line on his property, the conditions of access to the property e.g. gates and the compensation amount to be paid for servitude acquisition. It was indicated that in plotting the

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			power line Eskom try to inflict as minimal impact as possible to the receiving environment.
Once a decision/authorization is given and a person is not happy with the route, is it possible to lodge an appeal	24 May 2017	Participant	Stakeholders that are registered in the database for the project will be notified about the decision and they will be given twenty days to appeal the decision if they do not agree with the decision. Appeal procedures will be communicated to stakeholders
Is this project going to create some jobs for our local people since our understanding and expectations are that when a project of this nature come to our area the community expect to derive some benefits from such projects?	24 May 2017	Participant	Construction of a project of this nature involve highly skilled personnel and Eskom put such projects on tender. The appointed contractor usually come with his own skilled construction crew but Eskom encourages the appointed contractor to employ the locals for those jobs that do not require intensive training. To avoid conflicts the local leadership structures will be asked to help with employment strategy since the power line will traverse several villages.
Ndhuna Mashavele wanted to know if the local municipality has been consulted about this proposed project.	24 May 2017	Ndhuna Mashavele	The response was that a series of meetings were held with both the Mopani District Municipality and Local Municipalities in the district and they are aware of the projects and reports were delivered to them as well for their comments. It was also highlighted that earlier on in the morning on that same day a meeting was held at Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality.
The Royal Family member requested to know if community members affected by the power line will be compensated.	24 May 2017	Royal Family Member (Nyavana TC)	Mr Douglas Mampuru responded that Eskom always try to avoid the power line passing through the settled areas in villages but since the population is growing and the residential sites being increased, if there are families which will be affected, potentially

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			affected families will be consulted and valuations done and thereafter the process of payments will be effected.
Mr Bvuma is concerned that the powerline might cross and affect areas like dams, grazing camps, arable land (people's ploughing fields) . He wanted to know what is going to be done if this proposed power line happens to affect these areas.	24 May 2017	Mr Bvuma	It was explained that the study team involve different specialists who will investigate the possibilities of the power line affecting/crossing such sensitive areas like water bodies (dams) and heritage site. Mitigation measures will then be recommended to minimize the impact. In case of the power line passing through the areas like grazing camps or ploughing fields Eskom will consider the extent of damage or impact and come up with adequate compensation. It is important to highlight that in some cases compensation is paid to the directly affected individual and in other cases it is paid to the traditional authority and used for community projects.
A question was raised on what will happen if the property owner refuses to negotiate with Eskom and does not want a power line over his property.	24 May 2017	Participant	It was explained that there are certain laws and regulations that can be used to force the line through a resisting property owner but Eskom prefers to negotiate with property owners rather than to force the line through legal means.
It was mentioned in the meeting that the Department of Water and Sanitation is planning to build a dam on the Letaba river close to where the two corridors meet. Some attendees advised that this dam is actually outside the study area	24 May 2017	Participants	The possibility of building a dam on the Letaba river is noted but for now it is accepted that this dam is possibly outside the study area. It was also indicated that the report has been submitted the Department of Water and Sanitation and it is hoped that a relevant comment relating to this issue will be received from the department if the dam project is going to be affected

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The meeting agreed that the study team must try to narrow the study to focus on the properties that are going to be directly affected by the power line and Agri-Letaba will help in arranging a meeting with the property owners. In such a meeting Eskom and consultant will be expected to come and present the project and agree with directly affected landowners on modalities of working together. It was stressed that when going to farms the public participation team must follow the correct method of gaining access to farm	24 May 2017	Participants	It is appreciated that Agri-Letaba is willing to help to ensure that potentially affected landowners are consulted about the project.
Mr Joubert also explained that as a tourist destination Selati Game Reserve normally would not want to have a power line through the reserve as this will negatively impact on their business. He stressed that the board understand the need for the project in the region but he appealed to Eskom and the study team to seriously consider the impact the project will have on the business that is conducted by Selati Game Reserve. A comment by Mr Aling that the route/corridor 3 (now called route 2) was totally unaccepted by the Selati Game Reserve as it is on the face of the reserve and this would give an immediate bad impression to visitor. Members of the reserve are strongly opposed to route 3 (now called route 2) but if it there are no other options to be considered, Selati Game reserve request that Eskom and the study team investigate a deviation of route 1 at the "back" of the reserve	25 May 2017	Mr Joubert	The discussions of the meeting are noted and generally the EAP committed to consider making changes that would address the concerns of the Selati Game Reserve. In general the responses were that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialist's studies to be conducted during the EIA Phase will confirm this possibilities of making deviations along route (now called route 1). Ms Makanza also explained that when the report says "preferred" route does not necessarily mean that the route is recommended. It simply indicates which route is preferred by the developer; • [Ms Makanza accepted that she will reconsider the rating method as it seemed to incorrect and the information in the report will be changed accordingly]
Since some members of the Selati Game Reserve had already attended the meeting held in Phalaborwa the previous day and discussed the different options with	25 May 2017		

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<p>the study team Ms Brenda Makanza gave a presentation which was a response to issues and recommendations that were suggested by Selati Game Reserve. As highlighted above issues raised were mainly that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Route 2 which passes close to the entrance of Selati along the road R526 is unacceptable; • A deviation of route 1 wherein a small portion of this deviation will pass behind a koppie/hill such that it is not visible from a distance when one is inside Selati will be considered; • Information from other neighboring landowners who are considered to be informal nature reserves must be confirmed by the study team; • The Selati Game Reserve will give the study team documents that explain the origin of the reserve and the current status of the reserve. Documents that will be given to the EAP will also explain the protected areas around and neighboring to Selati; • It is important to note that Selati is directly affected by route 2 but this route also has visual impact to neighbors of Selati on the southern side. Selati Game Reserve is not just an isolated reserve but it work with other neighboring reserves in terms of research and the protection of biodiversity in the area. • It was suggested that the EAP should re-look at the manner in which she allocate scores when 			

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rating/assessing the two corridors that are under investigation It was concluded that it should be recorded that Selati will consider accepting route 1 with some deviations			
Mr Faan Kruger raised a concern about the attendance and the consultation process being followed. He indicated that he accidentally heard about the project and the meeting from his neighbour and yet his farm is potentially affected	25 May 2017	Mr Faan Kruger	The consultation process being followed and all activities that have been done to contact the property owners were explained. It was later discovered that Mr Kruger's email was incorrectly captured. This has since been rectified and it is believed that going forward Mr Kruger will receive information relating to this project.
Where does the electricity that supply the two substation (Spencer and Foskor) come from and between the two substations which one is supplying the other?	25 May 2017	Participant	Foskor substation receives electricity from Merensky Substation in Steelpoort and it supplies Spencer. Currently Eskom is in the process of getting authorization to construct a 400kV power line between Merensky and Foskor which then will enable Foskor to supply Spencer.
The power line as proposed is going through citrus planting area. Are we allowed to grow orchards under the power line	25 May 2017	Participant	Eskom has standard heights of allowed vegetation under the power line. This question is acknowledged and response will be given in the Final Scoping Report and it will also be communicated to stakeholders.
What impacts will the EMF emanating from the power line have on people living in the area that is traversed by the power line	25 May 2017	Participant	Eskom has conducted several studies in trying to ascertain the impact of a power line as a result of the EMF around the conductors and at this stage there is no conclusive, scientific evidence which shows that power lines have impact on living organisms as a result of the EMF. Safety precautionary measures that are in place is that no dwellings are allowed inside the servitude

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What is the minimum ground clearance allowed for power lines of the magnitude of 400kV?	25 May 2017	Participant	Minimum ground clearance for a 400kV is 8.1m
There is a lot of game farming taking place around Gravelotte. Power lines are going to destroy the aesthetic value of our properties around	25 May 2017	Participant	The study team is aware of the potential impacts of the power line, including the visual impact hence the study team include a visual impact specialist. It is hoped that the visual impact specialist will recommend adequate mitigation measures to address the issue of aesthetic value of the area
My farm is on the market and I am concerned that the potential buyers are going to lose interest if they come to understand that there a power line coming in the area. How long is it going to take before construction begins?	25 May 2017	Participant	Construction is expected to start at the end of 2018.
Some of us have small farms and if you have power line going through your property sometimes it may divide the farm into two smaller unusable portions. This must be taken into consideration when Eskom decide on the final route of the line	25 May 2017	Participant	Point noted with appreciation. The study team noted the comment and it is believed that Eskom will consider this during the negotiation phase and when plotting the route.
COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE AVAILABILITY OF REVISED SCOPING REPORT			
Mr. Pieter Voster wanted to know what timelines are being followed for the study process of the project. He also wanted to know what has changed on the map since the previous meeting.	22 August 2017	Mr Pieter Voster	Ms Brenda Makanza outlined the timeframes and responded that only one deviation has been added on the map.
What will happen if there is a private line available?	22 August 2017	Participants	Eskom responded that it will depend on the height of those lines that are available on that area.
When are you going to tell us when the line is going to be?	22 August 2017	Participant	Brenda outlined that notices will be after Environmental Authorization and also after authorization appeals timeframe.
How high are the pylons and power lines? Will the presence of power lines not interfere with our activities of crop spraying?	22 August 2017	Participant	Eskom responded that the height is usually about 40 m which is too high considering that crop spray

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
			airplane fly about 12m (picked from farmers comment)
Regarding compensation do you have an indication of what Eskom will pay per ha?	22 August 2017	Participant	Eskom responded that it will depend on activities on that area but ensured that it will be an independent value
Farmers commented that they still going to sit down and discuss among themselves and objections will be made if any possible (via use of Maps and Aerial Photos)	22 August 2017	Participant	The comment was noted!
Representatives from the army (Mr Davel) mentioned that they already knew about the project and they attended this meeting to again come and emphasize the objection they have with the powerline going through their properties where military training takes place. Mr Davel stressed that there is very limited farms that are suitable for army exercises and the Department of Defense Force will object to a powerline being constructed in the vicinity of the army camps. He mentioned that should a consent for the construction of the powerline in the area be requested from the defense force he does not have powers to agree or refuse. This will have to be directed to the head office. Representatives from the army also indicated that there might be lot of unexploded ordinances on farms where soldiers use to practice hence if the powerline was to go through the farms that are owned by the army they will have to be scanned for security purposes.	22 August 2017	Colonel Davel	Points raised by the Defense Force Represented are noted and will be considered when making a deciding on the preferred route.

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
Mr Phil Bezuidenhout raised a concern that most of the specialists studies information was already in the Final Scoping Report and he wanted to know what will be the effect of commenting and objecting to the content of the report that is already a final report. He requested that the study team provide the stakeholders with kmz file so that they can use google map to see the position of the powerline on their properties.	22 August 2017	Mr Phil Bezuidenhout	Ms Makanza explained that the study process is still at the initial stage (scoping phase) where the investigation focuses on identifying issues that will be studied in detail during the EIA Phase. She stressed that there is no preferred route at this stage. All routes and deviations will still be investigated during the EIA Phase.
Mr Dusty Joubert commented that he noticed the final scoping report did not have the rating table which caused problems in the draft scoping report. He wanted a confirmation that the scoping report contain desktop study and later on specialists would still visit their farms to assess the situation on the ground.	22 August 2017	Mr Dusty Joubert	Ms Makanza confirmed that detailed studies will be done during the EIA Phase
Landowners wanted to know if the substation in Phalaborwa (Spencer Substation) will be able to supply business, communities and mines and over and above give power to Spencer Substation. They also raised questions about the meaning and the impact of a 55m servitude on their properties.	22 August 2017	Participant	Mr. Nawa explained that Foskor Substation is currently being upgraded and it will receive more power from Merensky Substation in Steelpoort. He mentioned that on the question of 55m servitude that will be registered against their properties landowners can still go on with some of their agricultural activities like grazing and cultivating crops. Eskom will indicate all activities that are prohibited under the power lines but generally these are building structures, irrigation systems and tall plantation trees.
COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT STAKEHOLDERS			
The BID document indicates that as part of the specialist studies a palaeontological and heritage impact assessment will be commissioned. These	22 February 2017	SAHRA	Noted. Specialists Reports to be submitted with the DEIAr.

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
<p>studies must be conducted by suitably qualified palaeontologists and archaeologists respectively.</p> <p>The assessments must take into account the potential visual impacts that may occur on any identified heritage resources, the cumulative impacts by the development and all the requirements set out in the 2007 archaeological minimum standards guidelines and the palaeontological guidelines to impact assessments reports in addition to the requirements of section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).</p> <p>In terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999, heritage resources older than 60 years are protected. They may not be disturbed without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority</p>			
All issues as outlined in the Plan of Study must be adhered to in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report.	1 June 2017	LDEDET	Noted.
<p>Sclerocarya birrea subs. Caffra and Boscia albitrunca are protected under the NFA and should not be removed without a licence. An application to remove the protected trees should be submitted with the total number of trees.</p> <p>As a mitigation measure whenever possible avoiding or minimising the disturbance of protected trees should be prioritised.</p>	26 September 2017	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Noted. To be included in the DEIAr and DEMPr.
For final comments, a full Biodiversity Specialist Study with Vegetation Specialist Study together with Wetland	18 October 2018	DEA: Department of Biodiversity	Noted. Specialists reports to be submitted with the DEIAr.

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
Delineation and Avi-fauna Specialist study must be submitted.			
<p>4(a) As per the Department's comments on the draft dated 05 September 2017, you were informed that comments must be requested from the following Stakeholders:</p> <p>(i) SANParks, in respect of the proximity of the proposed activities to parks such as the Kruger National Park. Proof of submission and receipt of the reports by SANParks has not been provided in the final SR. You are again requested to ensure that SANParks is afforded an opportunity to comment on the reports as per the minimum requirements of Public Participation (PP) stipulated in Regulation 40(1)(b) of the NEMA, EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) and that the comments are submitted to the Department with the final Environmental Impact Assessment report (EIAR).</p>	03/11/2017	DEA	The revised Scoping Report was submitted on the 20 th of September 2017 and no comments have been received. The draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) will be submitted and a follow up made with regards to comments.
<p>(i) The Protected Areas Planning Section within this Department (Environmental Affairs), in respect of the proximity of the proposed activities to parks such as the Kruger National Park. The draft SR was received by the Protected Areas Planning Section on 27 September 2017, however this was post submission of the final SR to the Department for decision-making. As of 27 October 2017, the Protected Areas Planning Section has expressed</p>	03/11/2017	DEA	The revised Scoping Report was submitted on the 20 th of September 2017 and no comments have been received. The draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) will be submitted and a follow up made with regards to comments

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
<p>the need for them to comment on the reports. You are again requested to ensure that the Protected Areas Planning Section is afforded an opportunity to comment on the reports as per minimum requirements of PP stipulated in Regulation 40(1)(b) of NEMA, EIA Regulations,2014 (as amended) and that the comments are submitted to the Department with the final EIAr.</p>			
<p>(ii) The Department of Mineral Resources, as some of the proposed sites are within/near mining areas. The draft SR was received by the Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources on 14 September 2017, however this was eight (8) days prior to submission of the final SR to the Department for decision-making. You are again requested to ensure that the Limpopo Department of Mineral Resources is afforded an opportunity to comment on the reports as per minimum requirements of PP stipulated in Regulation 40(1)(b) of NEMA, EIA Regulations,2014 (as amended) and that the comments are submitted to the Department with the final EIAr.</p>	03/11/2017	DEA	The revised Scoping Report was submitted on the 14 th of September 2017 and no comments have been received. The draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAr) will be submitted and a follow up made with regards to comments
<p>(iii) The Chemicals and Waste Management Section within the Department (Environmental Affairs), if asbestos or any other hazardous substance will be utilised/disturbed during the proposed activities, particularly in respect of the proposed associated infrastructure/structures at the</p>	03/11/2017	DEA	The revised Scoping Report was submitted on the 20 th of September 2017 and no comments have been received. The draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAr) will be submitted and a follow up made with regards to comments

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
<p>Spencer Substation. The draft SR was received by the Chemicals and Waste Management Section on 20 September 2017, however, this was two days prior to the submission of the final SR to the Department for decision-making. You are again requested to ensure that the Chemicals and Waste Management Section is afforded an opportunity to comment on the reports as per minimum requirements of PP stipulated in Regulation 40(1)(b) of NEMA, EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) and that the comments are submitted to the Department with the final EIAr.</p>			
<p>b. You are also requested to ensure that the Sustainability Division (responsible for biodiversity conservation) within Eskom Holdings SOC Limited is afforded an opportunity to comment on the reports as per minimum requirements of PP stipulated in Regulation 40(1) (b) of NEMA, EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) and that the comments are submitted to the Department with the final EIAr.</p>	03/11/2017	DEA	<p>The revised Scoping Report was submitted in August 2017 and no comments have been received. The draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (DEIAr) will be submitted and a follow up made with regards to comments</p>

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
<p>c. Furthermore, comments must be obtained from the Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism and any other authorities mandated in respect of tourism within the province due to the high tourism value of the proposed sites and concerns raised in respect of (but not limited to) the visual impacts of the proposed activities on the tourism industry. Note that should these stakeholders have no comments and /or concerns then this must be confirmed in writing and submitted to the Department with the final EIAr.</p>	03/11/2017	DEA	<p>The report submitted was acknowledged on the 6th of September 2017, however there were no comments.</p>

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
<p>d. The relevance of the following listed activities must be clarified in the final:</p> <p><u>GNR 983: Activity 27</u></p> <p><i>'The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous is required for-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>(i) the undertaking of linear activity; or</i> <i>(ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan"</i> <p>i. In respect of Activity 27 of GNR 983 of the NEMA, EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), the prevalence of indigenous vegetation on site must be confirmed by a suitably qualified specialist (though desktop assessment and ground truthing). The impacts associated with this activity and appropriate mitigation measures must also be addressed in a Biodiversity Impact Assessment, which must be incorporated into the final EIAr.</p>	03/11/2017	DEA	In terms of the indigenous vegetation being cleared at Spencer substation, the Biodiversity Report attached in Appendix E-3 confirms that more than 1 hectare of vegetation will be cleared.

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
<p><u>GNR 985: Activity 12(e)(ii):</u></p> <p><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. In (e) Limpopo: (ii) Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans'</i></p> <p>ii. In respect of activity 12(e)(ii) of GNR 985 of the NEMA, EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), the prevalence of indigenous vegetation on site must be confirmed by a suitably qualified specialist (through desktop assessment and ground truthing). The impacts associated with this activity and appropriate mitigation measures must also be addressed in a Biodiversity Impact Assessment, which must be incorporated into the final EIAr.</p> <p>The Environmental Assessment Practitioner must also verify the applicability of activities such as (but not limited to) Activity 12 and 19 of GNR 983 as well as Activity 14 of GNR 985 of the NEMA, EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) to the proposed project as the proposed route/alignments will cross watercourses. The impacts associated with activities within/near watercourses and appropriate mitigation measures must be addressed in a Hydrological Impact-</p>	03/11/2017	DEA	<p>In terms of the indigenous vegetation being cleared at Spencer substation, the Biodiversity Report attached in Appendix E-3 confirms that more than 300m² hectare of vegetation will be cleared in Critical Biodiversity Areas within nature reserves.</p> <p>Eskom will not construct canals or bridges, they will use the existing infrastructure. Though infilling is anticipated during construction in close proximity to water courses, less than 5m³ is anticipated. A wetland delineation has however been carried out to assess the impact of the development on wetlands.</p>

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
Assessment, which must be incorporated into the final EIAr. Further note that should the proposed project not trigger the listed threshold an assessment will still be required in terms of Section 28 of the NEMA.	03/11/2017	DEA	
e. In addition to the aforementioned the following must be included/addressed in the final EIAr: i. All specialist studies must detail the positive and negative impacts of the proposed project for each phase of the project as each phase presents unique impacts e.g. construction impact: habitat transformation, operational impact: game animal deaths due to clashes with fixed structures.	03/11/2017	DEA	Specialists assessments carried out have detailed the impacts anticipated on the environmental resources.
ii. All specialist studies must rank the proposed corridors and deviations in order of High to Low risk e.g. the Tourism Impact Assessment must rank the proposed corridors and deviations in order of High to Low risk to the tourism value of the area and stipulate the preferred route/alignment.	03/11/2017	DEA	The specialists have ranked all alternatives and have indicated the recommended route.
iii. Proof must be provided that the specialist appointed to compile the Biodiversity Impact Assessment, as indicated in the final SR, has the expertise to undertake both a faunal and floral assessment. If not, a suitably qualified specialist in both faunal and floral assessments must be appointed or separate suitably qualified specialists.	03/11/2017	DEA	Proof has been attached to the specialist's report. See Appendix E-3.

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
iv. The positive environmental, social and economic impacts associated with the proposed project including ways of enhancing these positive impacts must be clearly detailed in the final EIAr.	03/11/2017	DEA	Reference is made to Section 8 of the DEIAr
v. The following statement extracted from page viii of the final SR has reference: <i>“ Power lines can be transmitted by either overhead powerlines or underground powerlines. The advantages and disadvantages for installing either the underground or the overhead powerlines are mainly related to magnetic fields, engineering and costs. The advantages and disadvantages of both types of powerlines were considered and overhead powerlines were preferred hence there will be no further assessment of the underground lines”</i> This statement must be expanded on in the final EIAr in particular the advantages and disadvantages related to magnetic fields, engineering and costs of overhead vs underground powerlines. Estimated costs of the proposed project in respect of overhead vs underground powerlines (for the entire lifecycle of the project i.e. construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning) must also be detailed in the final EIAr. The estimated costs must be well-reasoned and compiled by a suitably qualified industry specialist.	03/11/2017	DEA	Reference is made to Section 4 of the DEIAr

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
5. The Department brings the following to your attention: a) Based on the conditions herein the PoSEIA must be amended subsequently, you may proceed with the EIA process. Also note that the application form for Environmental Authorisation (EA) may need to be amended.	03/11/2017	DEA	Noted.
b) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice.	03/11/2017	DEA	The EAPs recommendations and motivation thereof are given in Section 9 of the DEIAr.
c) Where specialist studies are conducted in-house or by a specialist other than a suitably qualified specialist in the relevant field. Such specialist reports must be peer reviewed by a suitably qualified external specialist in the relevant field. The terms of reference for the peer review must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A CV clearly showing expertise of the peer reviewer • Acceptability of the terms of reference • Is the methodology clearly explained and acceptable • Evaluate the validity of the findings(review data evidence) • Discuss the suitability of the mitigation measures and recommendations • Identify any short comings and mitigation measures to address the short comings; 	03/11/2017	DEA	None of the specialists' studies were conducted in-house.

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the appropriateness of the reference literature; Indicate whether a site-inspection was carried out as part of the peer review; and Indicate whether the article is well written and easy to understand. 			
<p>d) Should there be similar applications in the area, all the specialist assessments must include a cumulative environmental impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts. The cumulative impact assessment must indicate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land. Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist's recommendations, mitigation, measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project. The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development 	03/11/2017	DEA	

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed. 			
e) The Department may undertake a site inspection prior to or upon receipt of the final EIAr.	03/11/2017	DEA	Noted.
f) Should the EIAr fail to adequately comply with any condition of this acceptance letter, any provision of NEMA,EIA Regulation, 2014 (as amended) and/or Annexure A herein, then the project may be refused in accordance with Regulation 24(1)(b) of the NEMA,EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).	03/11/2017	DEA	Noted.
g) The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of Regulation 45 of the NEMA, EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations 43 and 44 with regard to the allowance of a comment period for interested and affected parties on all reports submitted to the competent authority for decision making.	03/11/2017	DEA	Noted.

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
h) You are requested to submit two (02) electronic copies (flash stick/CD/DVD) and two (02) hard copies of the EIAr to the Department as per Regulation 23(1) of the NEMA, EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).	03/11/2017	DEA	Noted.
i) You are hereby reminded that in terms of Section 24F(1)(a) of the NEMA, no person may commence with an activity listed or specified in terms of Section 24(2)(a) of the NEMA unless a positive EA has been granted by this Department for the activity.	03/11/2017	DEA	Noted.
<u>ANNEXURE A:</u> <u>1. Information that must be used in the preparation of the EIAr</u> a. All relevant listed activities applied for must be specific and linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description.	03/11/2017	DEA	All activities being applied for and linked to the listed activities being applied for. Refer to Section 3.2 of the EIA report.
b. The EIAr must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.	03/11/2017	DEA	Impacts have been assessed and mitigation measures have been recommended in Section 8 of the EIAr.
c. The EIAr must provide a description of any identified alternatives for the proposed activity that are feasible and reasonable, including the advantages and disadvantages that the proposed activity or alternatives will have on the environment and on the community that	03/11/2017	DEA	Alternative routes have been described in detail in Section 4 of the EIAr.

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
<p>may be affected by the activity. Alternatively, submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable and feasible alternatives exist.</p>			
<p>d. The EIAr must provide the technical details for the proposed activity in a table format as well as their description and/or dimensions.</p>	03/11/2017	DEA	Technical Details have been given.
<p>e. The EIAr must provide the start, middle and the end point of all linear activities (note that if the linear activity has numerous bend points, coordinates for each and every bend point must be provided).</p>	03/11/2017	DEA	The bends and start, middle and end points of all the alternative routes have been included.
<p>f. The EIAr must provide:</p> <p>i. A clear indication of the envisioned area for the proposed activity i.e. powerlines, transformation yards and all associated infrastructure should be mapped at an appropriate scale.</p> <p>ii. A clear description of all associated infrastructure. This description must include, but not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transformers; • Oil dams; • Access roads; and; 	03/11/2017	DEA	All infrastructure to be constructed is discussed in detail in the EIAr.

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown areas, a guard house and control room. 			
g. The EIA must provide detailed need and desirability for the project and why the specific location/route is desirable.	03/11/2017	DEA	Refer to Section 3.1 of the EIA for the need and desirability.
h. The EIA must provide an indication of the access roads and the associated impacts must be adequately assessed in the EIA.	03/11/2017	DEA	The servitude will be used for assess hence the assessment of impacts for the construction of power lines takes into account the impacts anticipated for the roads.
i. The EIA must provide all comments and responses thereto in the comments and response report.	03/11/2017	DEA	All comments received for the entire duration of the EIA are included in the Comments and Response Report.
j. Information on services required on site e.g. sewage, refuse removal, water and electricity. Who will supply these services and whether an agreement and confirmation of capacity has been obtained. Proof of these agreements must be provided in the EIA.	03/11/2017	DEA	The supply of basic services forms part of the contract between Eskom and the contractor hence the agreements will be acquired by the contractor.
k. The assessment of impacts and the EIA process; and, the requirements of the Public Participation Process (PPP) must be in accordance with Regulation 39 to 44 of the GNR 982 of NEMA, EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended).	03/11/2017	DEA	PP has been undertaken according to Regulation 39 to 44.

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
<p>I. The EIAR must provide a copy of the final site layout map. All available environmental and social information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. access roads. The layout map must indicate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Route/alignment of the powerlines and its associated infrastructure; ii. Permanent laydown area footprint; iii. Access roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible); iv. Wetlands, drainage lines, rivers, stream and water crossing of roads and powerlines indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used. v. The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines that will be affected by the project and its associated infrastructure; vi. Substation(s) and/or transformer(s) sites including their entire footprint; vii. Buffer areas; viii. Buildings including accommodation; and, ix. All "no-go" areas 	03/11/2017	DEA	<p>All information has been provided in the map with the exception of permanent laydown areas. These areas are finalized prior to construction by Eskom's Project Manager, Contractor and Environmental Control Officer. Access roads are also not shown as the servitudes will be used for access.</p>

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
m. An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmentally sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process.	03/11/2017	DEA	Same as above.
n. A map combining the final map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.	03/11/2017	DEA	Same as above.
o. A shapefile of the preferred project layout/alignment must be submitted to this department. The shapefile must be created using the Hartebeesthoek 94 Datum and the data should be in Decimal Degree format using the WGS 84 Spheroid. The shapefile must include at a minimum the following extensions i.e. .shp; .shx; .dbf; .prj; and, .xml (metadata file). If specific symbology was assigned to the file, then the .avl and/or the .lyr file must also be included. Data must be mapped at a scale of 1:10 000 (please specify if an alternative scale was used). The metadata must include a description of the base data used for digitizing	03/11/2017	DEA	All shapefiles and metadata required have been submitted.
COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PHASE			
PUBLIC MEETINGS			
Does the servitude get surveyed before the line is plotted and the position of the pylons is fixed? It is also important for us to know what type of pylons are going to be used for this power line	09/04/2018	Selati Game Reserve	The designer within Eskom will determine the position of the power line within the 3km corridor. Once this is done the negotiator will then go and agree with each property owner about the chosen position on his property. Eskom will also send a

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
			team of specialists to walk the line to ensure that the power line does not negatively impact on the environment and livelihood of the communities in the receiving environment. Usually the key specialists involved in the walk down of the power line are heritage, vegetation and birds
What is the expected date of completing and energizing the power line	09/04/2018	Selati Game Reserve	The expected commissioning date is December 2024
What are the key criteria factors that were considered which resulted in the recommended route	09/04/2018	Selati Game Reserve	The factors included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The eight specialists reports undertaken, i.e., Visual, tourism; agricultural potential; biodiversity; heritage; social impact; avifauna and wetland delineation. ii. The EAP's expertise and knowledge gained from previous projects; iii. Interested and Affected Parties and stakeholders' comments and opinions; iv. Technical viability and v. Mapping
What are timeframes for this project because the report says the design of pylons has not yet been finalised. Can you give us an indication of timelines for the EIA process and for the construction process	09/04/2018	Selati Game Reserve	The comment period will end on the 24 th April 2018 and a decision from the authority is expected somewhere in September 2018. After the issuing of decision (and if it is a positive decision) the process goes through an appeal period in which I &AP can appeal the decision. Eskom indicated that if there are no appeals usually the whole process of negotiation and finalizing the EMPr gets completed in two and a half years. Construction of a power line of this length can be completed in one and a half to two years.

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
Representatives of the Selati Game Reserve commented that at least they are encouraged by the fact that the recommended route is the one going behind the entrance of the reserve, that is, along the R71 and this route only cuts along the edge of the reserve. It was indicated that the recommended route will be presented to the board members. The representatives of the board will go through the report in detail and give written response on the report and on the minutes of the meeting. It was also indicated that there is a possibility that some of the board members who are actually property owners in their own right might want to appeal individually once the decision is issued. A request was made that the study team send shape file of the map showing the recommended route.	09/04/2018	Selati Game Reserve	Comment noted with appreciation. The content of the response that will be received later will be included in the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report and the shape files of maps will be forwarded to Selati Game Reserve. (Shapefiles were forwarded on the 9 th of April 2018)
An explanation of the meaning and implication of the 3km corridor and 55m servitude was requested. Stakeholders wanted to know on which side of the road (R71) the power line was going to be positioned because the 3km corridor is wide.	09/04/2018	Selati River Lodge	Ms Makanza and Eskom representatives explained that the 3km corridor allows Eskom to negotiate easier with properties. They explained that Eskom only wanted 55m servitude through the property of each affected property owner. It was emphasized that the greater part of the power line in the area close to Selati River Lodge will be lying on the northern side of the R71 road. The power line will cross the R71 almost at the end of Selati Game Reserve.
Position the proposed power line in the area closer to the Selati River Lodge.	09/04/2018	Selati River Lodge	Property owners who attended the meeting commented that the idea of minimizing the potential impacts by recommending that the power line be placed along the existing infrastructure (road and power line) is appreciated.

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
Mr Juaan Slabberts indicated that as shown on the map the line goes over his lodge and he will not allow that to happen.	09/04/2018	Mr Juaan Slabberts	The purpose of investigating a 3km corridor and only taking 55m servitude was explained to Mr Deon and it was emphasized that this allows Eskom to negotiate with the property owner on where to place the power line through his property such that the impact gets minimized.
Mr Juaan Slabbert placed it on record that if the power line is constructed through his property, he will not allow access gates for Eskom. If it becomes necessary that Eskom want to gain access to his property it must be with his permission and they must use existing gates.	09/04/2018	Mr Juaan Slabberts	It was advised that such conditions must be raised during the negotiation phase and they must be recorded as part of the signed options and landowner conditions and will be adhered to during construction.
Did the army refuse to allow the power line through their property or to move their base or even to sell their farms to Eskom? Did Eskom approach the army? Maybe Eskom can buy those army farms and resell them after establishing a servitude. Selati Game Reserve will under normal circumstance not want a power line through the reserve but if really the power line cannot be accommodated close to the army then we can consider allowing the power line close to or parallel to the existing infrastructure on the periphery of the reserve but not in front of the entrance to the reserve along the R526 road.	10/04/2018	Gavin	Eskom approach to business is that they are not in the business of buying and selling farms. The option of buying a farm and resell it after establishing a servitude is not considered by Eskom at all. Yes the army has always been part of the registered stakeholders and they participated in the study process during the Scoping Phase. Written comments were received from the army and they objected strongly to the project coming to their properties. In fact one of the reasons why the deviation close to Selati River Lodge came as a result of trying to avoid the army base The EIA studies considered the new deviation that will allow for avoiding the army mainly because this deviation tend to place the line along the existing infrastructure, that is, on an already impacted area. The area close to the army base has limited infrastructure that will amicably coexist with the power line.

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
Are landowners allowed to negotiate with Eskom to put the powerline at a place that will have minimal impact to the activities and operations of the landowner? If this is allowed within the corridor some landowners in the area would like to talk to Eskom and position the power line in a position that will suit the directly affected landowners. The company called Servitude Watch is currently assisting some landowners to agree on giving Eskom the best root.	10/04/2018	Bernard	The purpose of investigating a 3km corridor is to make it easy for Eskom and property owners to negotiate. Power lines can be deviated within the corridor without going back to the authority.
Has all potentially affected landowners been contacted individually to inform them about the possibility of a power line being constructed on their properties	10/04/2018	Constantia Farmers' Association	At this stage the effort is to get all potentially affected landowner. Directly affected landowners will be known after the negotiation for servitude process has been completed
When the construction process is complete and the power line has been energized are landowners allowed to re-plant citrus plant inside the servitude? These trees are about 4m high	10/04/2018	Constantia Farmers' Association	Yes, 400kV towers can be designed up to 37m high and citrus tree can be planted under the power line. The problem will come when you want to do crop spraying using the helicopter.
Landowners will want to know the structure of pylons that are going to be used before finalizing the servitude negotiations. In the past Eskom negotiated for a 55m servitude but when constructing the power line Eskom then used pylons with stays extended to the outside of the servitude, that is they usually result in Eskom taking 75m space	10/04/2018	Constantia Farmers' Association	Eskom will use the cross rope type towers and self-supporting tower which will be used on bends, crossings and where terrain is not good. Eskom pays 100% for the servitude and it's only tower positions which are intruders and this depend on the tower type. Eskom has a building restriction of 10m around the anchors, however, the area under the conductors can still be utilised even if it's paid for by Eskom.
Mr Enslin indicated that he was representing some landowners in the meeting	10/04/2018	Constantia Farmers' Association	Mr Enslin was requested to give the study team the <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • list of property owners he was representing in the meeting; • the comments on the findings and recommendations of the DEIAR. It was

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			<p>agreed that Mr Enslin's comments will be considered to be the comments of property owners he is representing;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> route that will be preferred by the property owners he is representing.
How far can the power line towers be spaced	10/04/2018	Constantia Farmers' Association	They can be spanned to a maximum of 500m.
The study team was requested to make available the list of farms that are directly affected by the recommended route. The Farmers Association will assist in informing the affected landowners about the power line that is going to be constructed through their properties.	10/04/2018	Constantia Farmers' Association	The study team committed to making the maps available. (The maps were send on the 17 th of April 2018).
<p>Two comments relating to the recommended route close to Foskor Substation are that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The whole area along the Olifants area close to Phalaborwa falls under Category 1 of protected biodiversity area because of the sensitivity of the area as confirmed by the study. Within the R40 road the area is considered part of the Greater Kruger ecotourism plan and properties with the Greater Kruger will ultimately become protected areas. Hence it will be good practice to desist from introducing infrastructure like a power line which bring negative impact to pristine environment. The area to the north of R40 for a buffer zone for protected areas is considered a red line for 	11/04/2018	ONGR- GRIETJIE	<p>When we do an EIA we take a look at is the baseline in that environment and also consider all available acts in law relating to environmental issues in that area. We also submit the DEIAR to different government departments that may have a regulation or act that relate to activities in the receiving environment. These departments are then expected to comment on the findings of the report. The lead authority will then look at all inputs made and try to reach a balance in giving a decision</p> <p>The study process also generate mitigation measures that will reduce the impacts of the proposed project on the environment. The recommended mitigation measures get documented in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). If the lead authority approves the project and give environmental authorisation (EA) for the construction of the project, such EA</p>

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preventing foot and mouth disease from impacting on the animals inside the reserve			comes with conditions that are mainly based on the EMPr.
The ONGR is in the process of trying to get the Maseke and the Makhushane to be part of the wild life community. These communities currently have vast portions of land that can contribute to the formation of a bigger reserve. Introducing the power line in the area will be tantamount to dissecting and compromising the envisaged Greater Kruger National Park economy with a power line Placing the power line north of the R40 road might be a better option but this area is where incursions occur especially if there is an infrastructure like road, power line or railway line. The ONGR is strongly opposed to the power line in the area but if no alternative is found the powerline should be placed north of R40, maybe on the edge of the buffer.	11/04/2018	ONGR- GRIETJIE	Comments noted. It should also be noted that it was recommended that where there is existing infrastructure such as the transmission line, then the proposed power line should run parallel that line to minimise habitat fragmentation. The construction of power lines is always accompanied by specialised studies and Environmental management Plans whose purpose is to ensure that the impacts on the environment are minimized.
Putting the new power line parallel to the existing power line is another option that can be an option for consideration. The challenge here will be bush clearing. If the separation between the lines is not more than 50m the community will support the new power line in the area The landowners will also recommend that if the power line is placed in their area, they will not allow new access roads	11/04/2018	ONGR- GRIETJIE	The study team also considered this option and the manner in which the power lines can be Eskom will give an indication of how far the lines can be close to each other and the issue of access gate will be agreed with landowners.
Why does not Eskom upgrade the pylon structure of the existing power line and construct the new power line on top of the existing line	11/04/2018	ONGR- GRIETJIE	This is possible but the risk is once you have a single contingency it becomes a double contingency and this puts the network at risk. The other challenge is power supply during construction of the double

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			circuit or multi circuit power. The existing lines are needed for power supply in the area.
One of the conditions that will be given by the landowners will be that construction must be supervised by their rangers and the construction will be searched when moving in and out of the reserve			Landowners will be given an opportunity to lay down their conditions during the negotiation phase and Eskom will also employ an Environmental Control Officer who will monitor the construction process for compliance to the conditions of the EA and the EMP.
WRITTEN COMMENTS			
The proposed route is viewed as the most favourable and least detrimental to the large areas of pristine bushveld.	16/04/2018	Morokologa Private Reserve	Noted.
Which of our properties are affected and what is the offer on those properties	16/04/2018	Majeje	The issue will be addressed in the meeting scheduled for the 18 th of May 2018.16/04/2018
<p>There is need to mention the impact of the proposed power lines on the citrus plantations in the EIAR?</p> <p>Although poaching is mentioned several times in the specialist and EIA report , there is no real attention to the act and the possible dangers?</p> <p>There is need to also discuss tourist safety and security during the construction phase;</p> <p>The reports mention that 400kV servitude is 55m whilst the cross rope suspension towers needs 75m, this becomes a problem for landowners when they want to fence off the servitude.</p>	19/04/2018	Servitude Watch	All issues were noted and where feasible the report will be revised accordingly. However there is need to note that effective poaching and tourist measures will be defined per landowner as these may differ . The landowner will state their conditions in terms of access to their farms.
In the process of selling property. No objections	23/04/2018	Alta Pedder	Noted

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A request to resend Minutes - When is the next meeting? - Has the route been finalised? - Have land-owners been notified? 	23/04/2018	Mr.Zeni	<p>The last meeting was on the 10th of April 2018 however comments are welcome.</p> <p>The route has not been finalized and landowners affected by the proposed project are constantly informed.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SGR urges Eskom to reinvestigate all possibilities which may include acquiring the military properties since Corridor 1 is a short route which will result in savings on installation costs; - Should deviation 1b be selected, owners should be notified; and - SGR wishes to have an input into the tower design/type selected to ensure that visual impact is minimised. 	24/04/2018	Selati Game Reserve	Eskom submitted a response on the 7 th of May 2017 citing that it is not viable to purchase the land used by the army however all affected landowners have been notified and should an EA be granted they will be involved in the decision on the final alignment and structures.
Owners appreciate that the power line be placed along the existing infrastructure however having the power line constructed in the East-West direction would mean that the stands would be dissected. We would vehemently oppose any proposition that the line be constructed within our properties.	24/04/2018	Selati River Lodge	Comments Noted.
The impact of the proposed power line on chicken and the location of the final line	25/04/2018	C. J. Smith	The farm portions are within the corridor and should DEA approve of the proposed corridor, Eskom will liaise/negotiate with you with regards to the placement of the towers and how the chicken houses can be avoided.
STAKEHOLDERS			
To ensure that all required documentation and aspects are included in the final EIAR	18/04/2018	DEA	Noted.

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Recommend that all the mitigation measures in the specialists' reports and the Environmental Management Programme must be implemented during the project life cycle.	18/04/2018	LDEDET	Noted.
Department of Energy supports the initiative	24/04/2018	DoE	Noted.
Note that if any trees listed in the Government Notice are on your site, you need a licence permit to remove them.	04/05/2018	DAFF	Noted.
<p>Water Use and Water Use Authorisation: No activity should be carried out 500m or 1:100 floodline without a licence or authorisation;</p> <p>Solid Waste Management: The requirements of the Department with respect to solid waste must be strictly enforced and complied with;</p> <p>Sewerage and Wastewater Management</p> <p>Storm-water Management: It is imperative that there is proper management of storm water at the project site. This Department requests a storm-water management plan;</p> <p>Erosion Control: Erosion control measures must be put in place to minimise erosion along the proposed construction areas. Extra precautions must be taken in areas where the soils are deemed highly erodible.</p> <p>Spillages Management: There must be no unacceptable impact on the quality of both surface and</p>	05/04/2018	DWS	Noted and will be incorporated in the report. (Full comments are attached in Appendix F-4D.

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<p>groundwater in the area. If pollution of any surface or groundwater occurs, it must be immediately reported to this Department and the appropriate mitigation measures must be employed. In addition, should the proposed development impact on any groundwater and/or surface water users, then water of equal quality and quantity must be provided to the affected users.</p> <p>General: This Department reserves the right to revise/withdraw these comments and request further information from the applicant should any other information that contradicts the above comes to light.</p>			
<p>Based on the comments made during the Public Participation:</p> <p>Given the type of vegetation being impacted upon and that it is in a CBA, Eskom will need to ensure the route passes as close to other infrastructure (roads, power lines, telephone lines) in the area, to minimise residual impact to biodiversity and ecotourism within the area. Residual impacts to biodiversity can be completely avoided if the line route follows infrastructure already in place.</p> <p>Based on the number of protected trees: There is a risk of Eskom having to complete an offset for DAFF and this must be considered by the specialist following identification of the number of trees identified.</p> <p>Based on the avi-fauna Report: There is a risk to avifauna in general in the area, given the proximity to the White-backed Vulture colony in the Kruger National Park, the vulture restaurants associated with Selati and neighbours and the Cape Vulture colony moving from Blouberg to the region. Eskom will need to</p>	07/05/2018	Sustainability Department	Noted and included in recommendations.

COMMENT	DATE/EVENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
complete mitigation as per the specialists recommendation.			
<p>SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts the HIA and Paleontological Desktop Study report and the recommendations contained therein.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is noted that the identified sites in the HIA have been included in the EMPr, however none of the recommendations from the heritage reports have been added to the EMPr. The EMPr must be amended to include the following <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A final Walk Down, conducted by an archaeologist, must be undertaken before the construction phase. The report must be submitted to SAHRA for commenting prior to construction, and no construction may occur without comments from SAHRA. ii. The Chance Palaeontological Finds procedure must be included in the EMPr, the procedure must be implemented by the ECO; iii. On page 94 of the EMPr, it states that any permits for amending, constructing, disturbing burial grounds and graves must be obtained from LIHRA. This is not the case, LIHRA by law is unable to issue permits pertaining to graves older than 60 years. All permit applications are to be made to the SAHRA Burial Ground and Graves (BGG) Unit. iv. The EIA report was not submitted to the case, along with the rest of the EIA report appendices. The Final EIA report must be submitted to the case once it's available for public review. Once the Record of Decision is issued, it must also be uploaded to the case. 	18 May 2018	SAHRA	<p>Comments were noted and will be included in the report. All comments as specified in the HIA were included in the draft EMPr;</p> <p>As per the e-mail send to the case officer, the Draft EIAR was uploaded to SAHRIS under Research Proposals.</p>