



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1023

Enquiries: Ms Adika Rambally

Telephone: (012) 399 9386 **E-mail:** ARambally@environment.gov.za

Ms Brenda Makanza
DIGES Group
PO Box 7068
MIDRAND
1685

Tel: (011) 312 2878
E-Mail: brendam@diges.co.za

PER E-MAIL / MAIL

Dear Ms Makanza

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A 400KV POWERLINE WITH A LENGTH OF APPROXIMATELY 110KM FROM FOSKOR SUBSTATION TO SPENCER SUBSTATION AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE/STRUCTURES AT SPENCER SUBSTATION (REFERRED TO AS THE LIMPOPO EAST CORRIDOR STRENGTHENING PROJECT) WITHIN THE MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

1. The following has reference:

- 1.1. The application form for Environmental Authorisation ('EA') and the Draft Scoping Report received from DIGES Group by the Department on 08 August 2017.
- 1.2. The acknowledgement of the application form for EA and the Draft Scoping Report issued by the Department on 10 August 2017.

2. The Department has reviewed the aforementioned Draft Scoping Report and provides the following comments:

2.1. Project Scope, Thresholds and Alternatives:

- a. The thresholds associated with each alternative must be clearly specified. The use of words such as 'approximately' to describe thresholds must be avoided.
- b. Each alternative must be clearly described and assessed.
- c. Proof must be provided that the transformer oil, to be stored in the proposed holding dam, falls within the ambit of '*dangerous goods*' as defined in Government Notice Regulation (GNR) 327 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act Number 107 of 1998, as amended (NEMA), Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

2.2. Public Participation Process (PPP):

- a. Comments must be requested from the following Stakeholders:
 - i. The Biodiversity Section within this Department in respect of the clearance of indigenous vegetation and the proposed activities within Critical Biodiversity Areas.
 - ii. SANParks and the Protected Areas Planning Section within this Department in respect of the proximity of the proposed activities to parks, such as the Kruger National Park.
 - iii. The Department of Mineral Resources as some of the proposed sites are within/near mining areas.
 - iv. The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries as some of the proposed sites are currently being utilised for commercial and subsistence agricultural practices.
 - v. The Chemicals and Waste Management Section within this Department 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 Spencer Substation.
 - vi. The project team involved in the EIA process in respect of the 400/275kV transformation at Foskor Substation as the powerline subject to this EIA process will tie into the Foskor Substation.
- b. As per the Mopani District Municipality 2016/2017 Integrated Development Plan referred to on page 81 of the Draft Scoping Report, the most dominant languages are Northern Sotho and Tsonga accounting for 46% and 44% of the total districts population, whilst Afrikaans and English account for 2% and 1.3% respectively. Hence, reasons for the site notices and newspaper advertisements being published in English only must be provided. Measures that were taken to engage with non-English speaking parties must also be provided.
- c. Activity 12 of GNR 324 of the NEMA, EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) has been applied for and is indicated on page 17 of the Draft Scoping Report. However, the activity has been omitted from the listed activities applied for as indicated in the Background Information Document (BID) and on all newspaper advertisements.

2.3. Specialist Studies and Maps:

- a. The specialist study titled '*Electric and Magnetic Fields From Overhead Powerlines-A Summary of Technical and Biological Aspects*' (included as Appendix B4 of the Draft Scoping Report) is dated 18 August 2006. The study must be updated and/or its relevance to date confirmed in writing by a suitably qualified specialist.
- b. Maps must be provided as minimum A3 printouts and the colours utilised in the legend must be clearly distinguishable.

2.4. General:

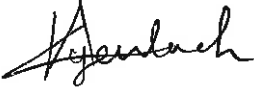
- a. Based on the aforementioned, the relevance of the listed activities applied for must be verified.

3. The Department brings the following to your attention:

- 3.1. The Final Scoping Report is due to be submitted to the Department by 22 September 2017.
- 3.2. In terms of Regulation 45 of GNR 326 of the NEMA, EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) this application for EA will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7).

3.3. 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 being granted by this Department for the activity.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environmental Affairs

Letter signed by: Mr Coenrad Agenbach

Designation: Deputy Director: Strategic Infrastructure Developments

Date: 05/09/2017

CC:	Mr David Tunncliff	Eskom Holdings SOC Limited	E-mail: david.tunncliff@eskom.co.za
	Ms T Ramathavha	Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism	E-mail: RamathavhaT@ledet.gov.za
	Mr Paul van Royen	Ba-Phalaborwa Local Municipality	E-mail: vanroyenp@ba-phalaborwa.gov.za
	Ms Tivane Tsakane	Maruleng Local Municipality	E-mail: tivanit@maruleng.gov.za
	Ms Julie Somanje	Greater Giyani Local Municipality	E-mail: somanjeni@greatergiyani.gov.za
	Ms Maggy Machumeme	Greater Tzaneen Local Municipality	E-mail: maggy.macumeme@tzaneen.gov.za
	Ms Lerato Shukuma	Greater Letaba Local Municipality	E-mail: sukumal@glm.gov.za
	Mr Mudau Tshavheni	Mopani District Municipality	E-mail: mudaun@mopani.gov.za



LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT & TOURISM

Ref No: 12/1/9/CR-M25 Enq: Ms Moyana Tshikani Tel No: (015) 290 7164 Fax No: (015) 295 5015
E-mail: MoyanaTL@ledet.gov.za

DIGES
P O Box 7068
MIDRAND
1685

Attention: Brenda Makanza

Fax: 011 312 7824

**RE: CONSULTATION SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF +/- 110KM
400KV POWER LINE FROM FOSKOR MTS TO SPENCER MTS WITHIN MOPANI DISTRICT
MUNICIPALITY**

1. The request for comments on Scoping Report (SR) for the above proposal received by the Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism ("the Department") on 03 August 2017 refers.
2. Please consider the comments issued by this Department on the consultation SR dated 01 June 2017.

For any queries with regard to this correspondence, please do not hesitate to contact the Department.

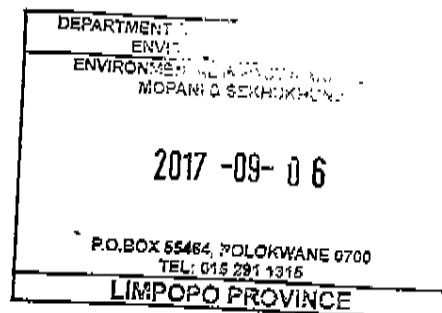
Yours faithfully,


CONTROL ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER GRADE B
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT
DATE: 06 09 2017

Cc: Eskom Holdings SOC LTD

Attention: David Tunnicliff

Fax: 086 602 9704



HEAD OFFICE

20 Hans Van Rensburg Street / 19 Biccard Street, Polokwane, 0700, Private Bag X 9484, Polokwane, 0700
(Switchboard) Tel: +2715 293 8300 Website: www.ledet.gov.za

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LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT & TOURISM

Ref No: 12/1/9/CR-M25 Enq: Ms Ramathavha T Tel No: (015) 290 7164 Fax No: (015) 295 5015
E-mail: RamathavhaT@ledet.gov.za

DIGES
P O Box 7068
MIDRAND
1685

Attention: Brenda Makanza

Fax No: 011 312 7824

RE: CONSULTATION SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF +/- 110KM 400KV POWER LINE FROM FOSKOR MTS TO SPENCER MTS WITHIN MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

1. The Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism ("the Department") received your request for comments on consultation Scoping Report for the above proposal.
2. The Department has reviewed the said report and is satisfied with the level of assessment that has been conducted.
3. The Department recommends that the all the issues as outlined in the Plan of Study for EIA must be adhered to in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report.

For any queries with regard to this correspondence, please do not hesitate to contact the Department.

Yours faithfully,


CONTROL ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER GRADE B
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT

DATE: 01 / 06 / 2017

Cc: Eskom Holdings SOC LTD

Attention: David Tunncliff

Fax: 086 602 9704

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENT & TOURISM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT MOPANI & SEKUKHUNE
2017 -06- 01
P.O.BOX 55484, POLOKWANE 0700 TEL: 015 291 1315
LIMPOPO PROVINCE

HEAD OFFICE

20 Hans van Rensburg Street/ 19 Biccard Street, POLOKWANE, 0699, Private Bag X 9484, POLOKWANE, 0700
(Switchboard) Tel: +27 15 293 8300 Website: www.ledet.gov.za

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an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Nokukhanya Khumalo

Tel: 021 462 4502

Email: nkhumalo@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 10713

Date: Wednesday February 22, 2017

Page No: 1

Response to NID (Notification of Intent to Develop)

In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Mr Henry Nawa

Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd

P.O. Box 1091

Johannesburg

2000

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF +/-110KM, 400KV POWER LINE FROM FOSKOR MAIN TRANSMISSION SUBSTATION TO SPENCER MTS AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AT SPENCER MTS WITHIN MOPANI DISTRICT, LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

DIGES Group has been appointed by Eskom SOC Ltd to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment process for the proposed 400kV power line between Foskop substation in Phalaborwa and Spencer substation near Giyani. A Background Information Document was compiled and submitted to SAHRA via SAHRIS for comments in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 2014 Regulations of the National Environmental Management Act (107 of 1998), as amended (NEMA). The construction will entail the 400kV power line that will be about 120km in length and the proposed servitude of the power line will be 55m wide with the tower height of 30-35m depending on the type of tower frame chosen. The Spencer substation will also be upgraded from a capacity of 2 x 250MVA and 275/132kV transformer to a 1 x 500MVA with a 400/132kV transformer. Three power line route alternatives have been provided spanning across the Greater Letaba Local Municipality to the Ba-Phalaborwa Local Municipality of the Limpopo Province.

The BID document indicates that as part of the specialist studies a palaeontological and heritage impact assessment will be commissioned. These studies must be conducted by suitably qualified palaeontologists and archaeologists respectively.

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).

In terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, no 25 of 1999, heritage resources, including archaeological or palaeontological sites over 100 years old, graves older than 60 years, structures older than 60 years are

Our Ref: 10713



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Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Nokukhanya Khumalo

Tel: 021 462 4502

Email: nkhumalo@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 10713

Date: Wednesday February 22, 2017

Page No: 2

protected. They may not be disturbed without a permit from the relevant heritage resources authority. This means that before such sites are disturbed by development it is incumbent on the developer to ensure that a Heritage Impact Assessment is done. This must include the archaeological component (Phase 1) any other applicable heritage components. Appropriate (Phase 2) mitigation, which involves recording, sampling and dating sites that are to be destroyed, must be done as required.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

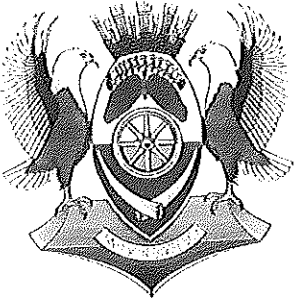
Yours faithfully

Nokukhanya Khumalo
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

John Gribble
Manager: Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit / Acting Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <http://www.sahra.org.za/node/387528>
(DEA, Ref:)



MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

Government Buildings
Main Road
Private Bag X9687
Giyani
0826

Tel: +27 15 811 6300
Fax: +27 15 812 4301
Email: mudaun@mopani.gov.za

Office of the Director
Community Services

Enq : Mudau NR
Ref : 17/1/7
Date : 13 July 2017
To : Diges Group
Att : Calvin Netshaulu
From : Community Services

**SUBJECT : EIA APPLICATION – CONSTRUCTION OF A 400kv
POWERLINE BETWEEN FOSKOR SUBSTATION IN PHALABORWA AND
SPENCER SUBSTATION IN MOHLABANENG.**

1. The above matter refers,
2. It is hereby indicated that as the District Municipality, do not have any objection with the proposed development, hence we recommend that the developer must adhere to all recommendations and conditions once the authorisation is issued.
3. Hoping that you will find the above in order

Regards

Monakedi R
Municipal Manager