
SiVEST Environmental (Pty) Ltd

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Proposed Eskom Thyspunt Transmission Lines Integration Project

MINUTES OF FEEDBACK MEETING

**Held on
Tuesday 14 October 2010
Olivia Hall, Kruisrivier, Uitenhage**

Notes for the draft Minutes prepared by:

Nicolene Venter

Please address any comments to Nicolene Venter or Andrea Gibb at the address provided above.

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FEEDBACK MEETING MINUTES

1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Nicolene Venter, the facilitator, thanked the attendees for attending the Feedback Meeting and provided Liesl Koch the opportunity to present the status of the proposed Thyspunt Transmission Lines Integration Project (TTLIP) to them.

The attendees were requested to identify themselves when raising questions, comments and/or concerns for minute taking purposes.

2 MEETING ATTENDEES

A copy of the attendance record is attached as Annexure A.

3 PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

Liesl Koch informed the attendees that the purpose of the Feedback meeting is:

- To provide a recap of the proposed project
- To provide information regarding the updating of route corridors and substation sites
- Provide an opportunity to seek any further clarity on the proposed project

4 PROJECT OVERVIEW

Liesl Koch gave a brief overview as to why the proposed project is required and did not elaborate in detail as most stakeholders and I&APs have been part of the consultation process to date.

The following key information was presented:

- Why was there a delay in the process?
The EIA process was put on hold towards the end of January 2010 due to financial reasons. Additional funds for the project had to be sourced through Eskom's procurement procedures.
- What is the current status of the project?
 - The environmental specialists are conducting their detailed studies and they are (in alphabetical order)
 - Agricultural potential
 - Avifauna
 - Fauna
 - Flora
 - Geology and geohydrology
 - Heritage

- Socio-economic
- Surface water
- Tourism
- Visual
- Possible routing through Longmore Forest's southern fire break
- Feedback Meetings
- Consultation with I&APs

5 SUMMARY OF EIA PROCESS UNDERWAY

The attendees were informed that through the EIA process various constraints have been identified along the Northern and Southern Corridors, including the proposed new PE Substation site at Fitches corner. Reference was made to a few constraints i.e. Visual, Tourism, Biodiversity, Social, etc in a number of areas where such as, but not limited to:

- St Francis / Jeffrey's Bay Areas
- Longmore Forest
- Baviaanskloof
- KwaNobuhle
- Despatch / Motherwell

A copy of the presentation is attached as Annexure B

6 DISCUSSIONS

A copy of the Discussion document is attached Annexure C.

7 CLOSURE AND THE WAY FORWARD

Nicolene Venter informed the attendees that the following is being planned and the dates mentioned are **preliminary** and could change:

- Series of Feedback Meetings: October 2010
- Specialist Studies: October – November 2010
- DEIR review: Mid January to end February 2011
- Public Meetings and KSW during DEIR review period
- Submit final EIR to DEA: Mid March 2011

Nicolene Venter thanked all present for their attendance and the valuable inputs received at the meeting, attendees were also notified that the meeting would not be the only opportunity to submit comments on the proposed project. At any time throughout the impact phase, I&APs can submit comments and/or concerns.

The meeting closed at 16h30.

Annexure A

ATTENDANCE RECORD

Attendance Record FGM 14th Oct 2010 Olivia Hall, Kruis River 18h00 - 21h00

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Company</u>
Blumenthal, Freek		
Blumenthal, Helgard		
Blumenthal, Jukie		
Byker, Nonka	Specialist	Master Q
Corrigan, Brian	Director	Michael Maughan-Brown Environmental & Planning CC
Hote, Mzwandile	Member	UIT Dev Forum
Louw, Petrus	Landowner: Gedults River	Gedults River 411
Mbtiyo, Bambo	Secretary	UIT Dev Forum
Sahlulo, Tokozile	Member	UIT Dev Forum
Sitoto, MG		

Totals

PRESENTATION

**ESKOM THYSPUNT TRANSMISSION LINES
INTEGRATION PROJECT**

Feedback Meeting

Olivia Hall – Landowners

Thursday 14 October 2010

Consulting Engineers • Project Managers • Environmental Consultants • Town and Regional Planners
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Agenda

- Welcome, Introduction & Apologies
- Recap & Update of route corridors and substation sites
- Discussion session
- Way Forward & Closure

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

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Overview of Project

- Why the delay?
- Where are we now?
- Why is the project necessary?
 - The project is required to integrate electricity to be generated by the proposed Thyspunt Nuclear Power Station.

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Overview of Project

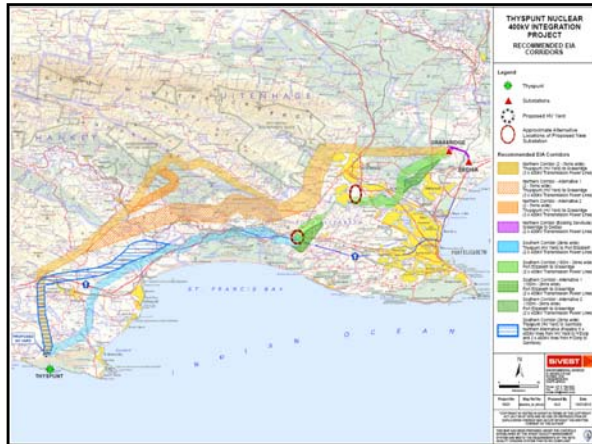
- What does the proposed development entail?
 - The construction of five (5) 400kV Transmission lines.
Two corridors proposed
 - Northern Corridor - 3 lines
 - Southern Corridor 2 lines
 - The proposed corridors will run between the proposed Thyspunt Nuclear Power Station High Voltage Yard to the existing Grassridge and Dedisa substations
 - New PE Tx Substation

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Overview of Project: EIA Phase

- Corridor Constraints i.e. Visual / Tourism / Biodiversity / Social
 - St Francis / Jeffrey's Bay Areas
 - Longmore Forest
 - Baviaanskloof
 - KwaNobuhle
 - Despatch / Motherwell
- Proposed new PE substation

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EIA Studies



- The following studies will be undertaken through to the EIR:
 - Flora
 - Fauna
 - Avifauna (birds)
 - Geology and geohydrology
 - Surface water
 - Agricultural potential
 - Visual
 - Socio-economic
 - Tourism
 - Heritage

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EIA Way Forward - 2010



- Proposed dates:
- Series of Feedback Meetings: October 2010
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 - DEIR review: Mid January to end February 2011
 - Public Meetings and KSW during DEIR review period
 - Submit final EIR to DEA – mid March 2011

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Contact Details



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DISCUSSION DOCUMENT

EIA FOR THE PROPOSED THYSPUNT INTEGRATION PROJECT

DISCUSSION DOCUMENT: FEEDBACK MEETING – OLIVIA HALL, KRUISRIVIER

Tuesday 14 October 2010

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Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
1. Social and Socio-Economic Related Comments		
Commented that any development that could benefit the community is a good initiative and will be supported by the community. The project team was informed that a development that will benefit the community is being proposed and falls within the corridor and enquired whether or not the power line project will affect the development and if so to what extent.	Stanley Mzwandile Chairman: Uitenhage Development Forum	Consultation has been done with the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality. SiVEST are aware of this development. The corridor has been narrowed significantly especially to avoid the Hopewell Conservancy and the associated development. Liesl Koch, SiVEST
Informed the project team that a nature reserve project between St Albans and KwaNobuhle has already been established. A concern was raised in terms of the impact that the power lines could have on the project.		The project team was made aware of the conservancy and planned development and consultation with the landowner / developer had taken place. Nicolene Venter, SiVEST
A request was made to consider another route option as there are concerns regarding the impacts the power lines might have on children, animals (i.e. safety and health) etc. This alternative could run closer to the existing power lines		Request regarding possible alternative routing will be included in the environmental studies. Concern expressed regarding the possible negative impacts on children and animals will be forwarded to the Social and Socio-Economic Specialist. Liesl Koch, SiVEST
2. Route Alignment Related Comments		
Enquired about the previous corridor alternatives as presented during the scoping phase and commented that they were plausible, but are now no longer being considered.	Brian Corrigan Hopewell Conservancy	Comparative assessments were done and it was found that there are major space constraints south of KwaNobuhle but in order to provide a proper response, SiVEST will consult its records. A full register on the changes to the corridor will be included in the EIR and the reasons for elimination included. Liesl Koch, SiVEST
The widening of the Southern Corridor passing Hopewell Conservancy was suggested i.e a 2km strip to the west and a 1km strip to the east.		Requested that suggestions be forwarded to SiVEST in writing. Liesl Koch, SiVEST
3. Substation Sites Related Comments		
Enquired if only one alternative is required as, according to the Scoping Report, the proposed PE substation site was located at Fitches Corner and a second site was not mentioned or investigated at that time. Enquired about the need for a second alternative substation site	Brian Corrigan Hopewell Conservancy	Based on inputs and consultation with possibly affected landowners, including the NMBMM, an alternative suitable site to that of Fitches Corner was identified. Fitches Corner has space constraints in terms of the Eskom Tx power lines coming in and the NMBMM's Dx power lines going out. These will have a substantial impact on the small holdings in the area. Studies are being undertaken currently and a visual 3D modelling will be done to assess the visual impact on

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
		sensitive areas such as Hopewell, Stinkhoutberg etc. Liesl Koch, SiVEST
4. Visual Related Comments		
Enquired if 3D modelling takes into account the number of people who are affected by visual impact e.g. will an area that is sparsely populated have a different weighting than an area that is densely populated?	Brian Corrigan Hopewell Conservancy	3D modelling is subjective. Sensitive receptors have been identified but it also depends on the types of activities. Visual absorption capacity is also taken into account but is difficult to quantify. Dependant on where the area is. It was stated that the Visual Specialist will be requested to provide detailed information during the next round of Public Meetings. Liesl Koch, SiVEST
Informed the project team that the corridor to the south of KwaNobuhle is earmarked for a proposed traditional practices park which has been designed to cater for initiation, growing of medicinal plants and potential tourism business for KwaNobuhle.		Requested that information regarding the location of this proposed traditional park be forwarded to SiVEST so it can be forwarded onto the relevant specialists for assessment. Liesl Koch, SiVEST
5. Communication Comments/ Issues		
Requested that all the key stakeholders be consulted with.	Bambo Mbitiyo Member: Uitenhage Development Forum	Consultation commenced in July 2008 and many stakeholders have been identified and consulted to date. It was pointed out that I&APs also have a responsibility to ensure that they inform the public participation office of any other I&AP and stakeholder that needs to be included in the consultation process. Nicolene Venter, SiVEST
Informed SiVEST that Property Hunt Scheme - east of KwaNobuhle, are building 5000 units as an extension to the community and recommend that the team consult with the developers. Brian to email SiVEST development manager's details.	Brian Corrigan Hopewell Conservancy	Information regarding the proposed extension of KwaNobuhle was received from the NMBMM and has been taken into consideration. It is this proposed development that narrowed the corridor between Hopewell Conservancy and KwaNobuhle. Nicolene Venter, SiVEST
6. General Comments/ Issues		
Expressed his objection to the project as it is not appropriate to construct power lines in close proximity to densely populated areas, impacts on nature, etc	Brian Corrigan Hopewell Conservancy	Objection noted.
Stated that the project is essential for both business and community purposes. Further state that these meetings are technical and local residents do not understand the mapping etc. Suggested that a meeting be held on the ground.	Stanley Mzwandile Chairman: Uitenhage Development Forum	In agreement with suggestion and informed the attendances that community consultation is integral to the public participation process. Information and suggestions as to how the community consultation could be conducted was requested. Nicolene Venter, SiVEST

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
Mentioned that the town was once a garden town and with time, lost what it had. The goal of the UDF is to regain Uitenhage's former glory and heritage to attract more tourists. Stated that the involvement must not hamper economical input but at the same time must not be done at the expense of the environment.	Tokozile Sahlulo Member: Uitenhage Development Forum	Comments noted.
7. Nuclear Power Station Comments/ Issues		
Enquired about the status of the EIA process.	Brian Corrigan Hopewell Conservancy	<p>SiVEST is not involved in the Nuclear-1 Project EIA process. However, it is our understanding that the project is in the impact phase and that a draft EIR has been compiled and distributed for comments. The Consultants have been requested to re-do some of the environmental studies and the report will be put out for another review period.</p> <p>Recommended that attendee register as an I&AP on this project with the environmental consultant, Arcus GIBB.</p> <p>Liesl Koch, SiVEST</p>