# **Appendix 14: Comments**

# REPLY FORM:

# Proposed Emkhiweni Substation and 400kV Line from Emkhiweni Substation to Silimela

(Complete and return to: Kristy Robertson by no later than the 17 May 2018)

Date:	10 APRIL 20.		
Name of Organisation:	RIETFONTEIN	DISTRIK MIDDELBURG	
Name of Interested and Affected Party (IAP):	L.C. DE CLERCO		
Address:	Postal:	Physical:	
	HEUWELS 16 199 POBOX 15223 LYTTELTON 0140		
Tel No:	012 664 2997		
Fax No:	083 268 1222		
E-mail:	L de Clercye@gmail.com		
Registration as an IAP:	YES	NO	
Comments:			
	MIL		





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

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1063
Enquiries: Azrah Essop
Tel: 012 399 8529 E-mail: aessop@environment.gov.za

Kristy Robertson Nemai Consulting P O Box 1673 SUNNINGHILL 2157

**Tei:** 011 781 1730

Email: kristyr@nemai.co.za

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Sir/ Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS) AND SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED EMKHIWENI SUBSTATION AND 400KV LINE FROM EMKHIWENI SUBSTATION TO SILIMELA, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

The Department confirms having received the Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report for the abovementioned project on 13 April 2018. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Please take note of Regulation 40(3) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that potential Interested & Affected Parties, including the Competent Authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in Regulation 40(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, prior to the submission of an application but must be provided an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the Competent Authority.

Note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the time-frames prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted by the Department in terms of Regulation 3(7) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

All documentation delivered to the physical address contained in this form must be delivered during the official Departmental Officer Hours which are available on the Departmental Website (https://www.environment.gov.za/contacts/national\_office). No faxed and e-mailed applications; applications delivered to Security or applications placed in the Departmental Tender Box will be accepted.

Kindly note, that you have not attached **original** signed documentation under **Appendix 8 and 9** of the application form and are required to submit this in **hard copy** to our offices. For future reference, please ensure that the application form is placed at the front of all new applications submitted to the Department and not as an appendix within the document.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.

Yours sincerely

Mr Sabelo Malaza

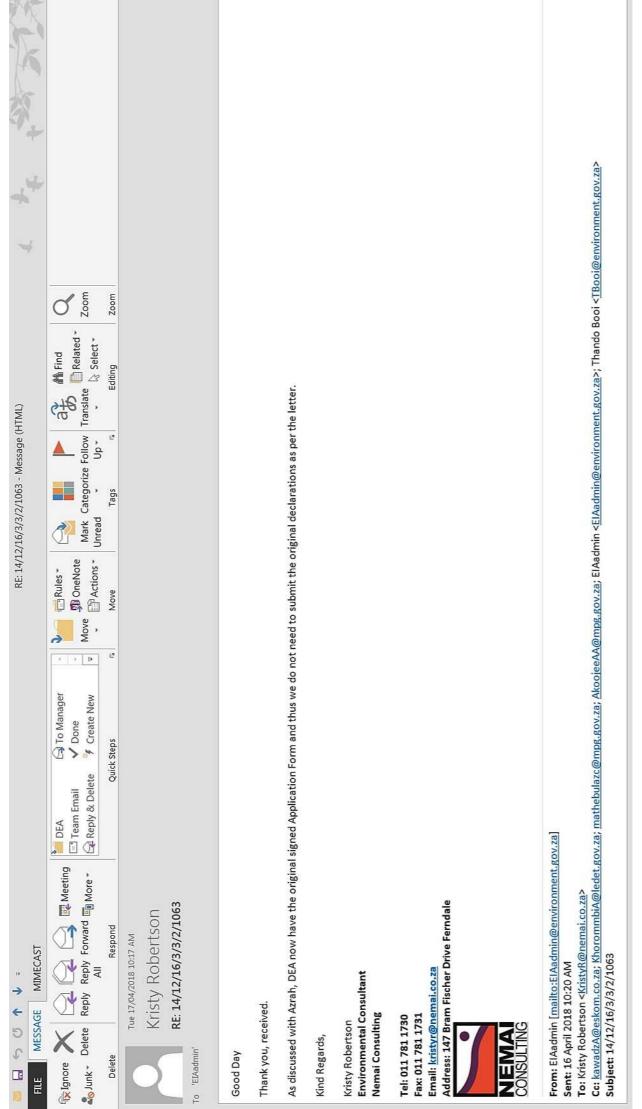
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environmental Affairs Letter signed by: Ms Azrah Essop

Designation: Environmental Officer: ElA Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support

Date: 16 April 2018

CC:	Annah Kawadza	Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd	Email: KawadzA@eskom.co.za
	Aluwani Khorommbi	Limpopo Department of Economic Development . Environment and Tourism	Email: KhorommbiA@ledet.gov.za
	Hon V. R. Shongwe	Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs	Email: mathebulazc@mpg.gov.za / AkoojeeAA@mpg.gov.za





Re: 10643-Emkhiweni Substation and 400kV Line from Emkhiweni Substation to Silimela: Public Review Period of Draft Scoping Report - Message (HTML)

1 1 2

Wed 11/04/2018 11:06 PM

Thabiso Phorotlhoe <tphorotlhoe@emlm.gov.za>

Re: 10643-Emkhiweni Substation and 400kV Line from Emkhiweni Substation to Silimela: Public Review Period of Draft Scoping Report

To Kristy Robertson

Hi Kristy I'm councillor Phorothhoe of ward 12 Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality in Sekhukhune District of Limpopo. Does this involve or concerns me or does it need my response ma'am?

Sent from Huawei MediaPad

----- Original Message

Subject: 10643-Emkhiweni Substation and 400kV Line from Emkhiweni Substation to Silimela: Public Review Period of Draft Scoping Report

From: Kristy Robertson

.: :: ::

# Emkhiweni Substation and 400kV Line from Emkhiweni Substation to Silimela: Public Review Period for Draft Scoping Report

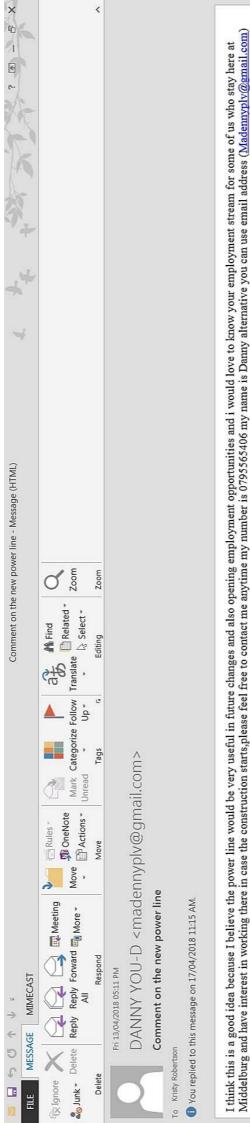
Dear Commenting Authorities

Eskom have proposed a 400kV powerline which runs from the Marble Hall/Wolwekraal area (Limpopo Province) to the Middelburg area (Mpumalanga Province), where the line terminates at the proposed Emkhiweni Substation. Kindly find the attached Background Information Document (BID) for more details on the proposed development currently in its Scoping Phase. Nemai Consulting are undertaking the public participation process for the proposed development as per Government Notice 982 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014, in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998)

The Draft Scoping Report is available for a 30-day public review period from 16 April 2018 to 17 May 2018 (electronic copy available on http://www.nemai.co.za/documents.html). Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs) are encouraged to provide comments. In order to ensure that you are identified as an IAP, please submit your name and contact information by means of e-mail, fax or post as soon as possible to the contact person provided below.

Kind Regards,

Kristy Robertson





Thobekile Zungu <tzungu@environment.gov.za>

Emkhiweni substation and 400kV line from Emkhiweni Substation to Silimela scoping report

To Kristy Robertson

Cc Portia Makitla

¶ You replied to this message on 17/04/2018 11:19 AM.

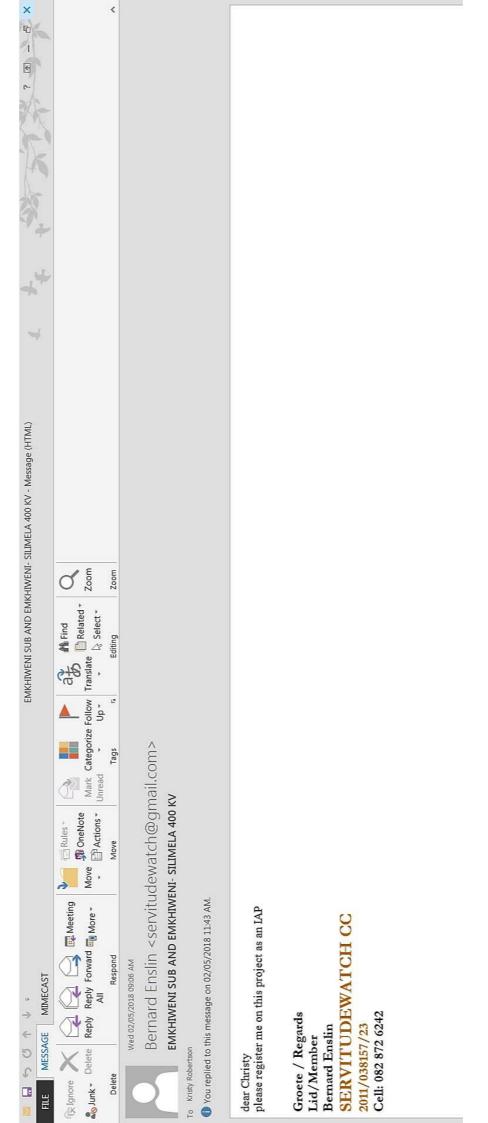
Dear Sir/Madam

You are kindly requested to send an unsecured CD of the draft scoping report (Emkhiweni substation and 400kV line from Emkhiweni substation to Silimela) to DEA: biodiversity and conservation.

Thobekile Zungu Kind regards

'Please consider the environment before you print this email'

This message and any attachments transmitted with it are intended solely for the addressee(s) and may be legally privileged and/or confidential. If you have received this message in error please destroy it and notify the sender. Any unauthorized usage, disclosure, alteration or dissemination is prohibited. The Department of Environmental Affairs accepts no responsibility for any loss whether it be direct, indirect or consequential, arising from information made available and actions resulting there from. The views and opinions expressed in this e-mail message may not necessarily be those of Management.

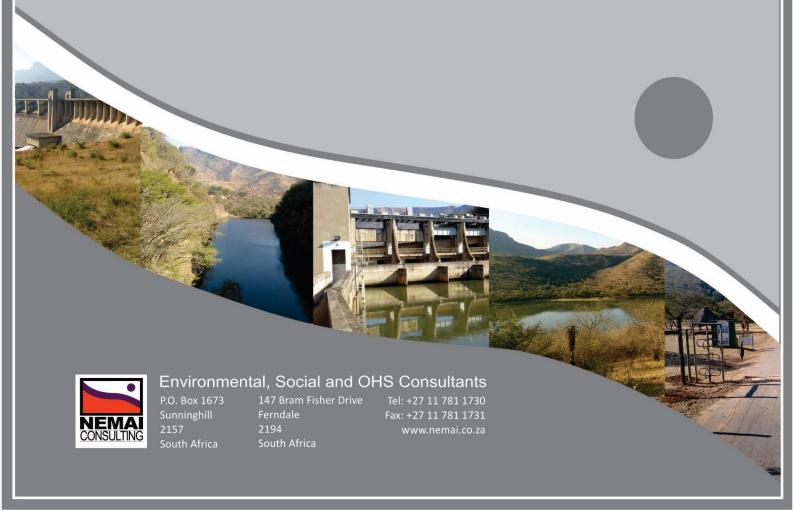


# EMKHIWENI SUBSTATION AND 400KV LINE FROM EMKHIWENI SUBSTATION TO SILIMELA

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT** 

**APRIL 2018** 

PREPARED FOR: ESKOM HOLDINGS SOC (PTY) LTD



# 1 Purpose of the Background Information Document

The purpose of the Background Information Document (BID) is as follows:

- 1. It serves to provide an overview of the proposed Emkhiweni Substation and 400kV Line from Emkhiweni Substation to Silimela;
- 2. It provides an outline of the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process that will be undertaken for the project; and
- 3. It grants the opportunity to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party (IAP) and allows for comments to be made on the proposed project (refer to attached Reply Form).

The purpose of the EIA is to identify and evaluate potential impacts, to recommend measures to avoid or reduce negative impacts and to enhance positive impacts.

# 2 PROJECT OVERVIEW

# 2.1 Project Background

Nemai Consulting was appointed by Eskom in 2009 to undertake the EIA as part of the 2006 EIA Regulations for the following projects:

- 1. Construction of the Rockdale B Substation (now referred to as Emkhiweni Substation), with 2x500MVA 400/132kV transformers; and
- 2. Construction of the Rockdale B to Wolwekraal 400kV line (now referred to as the Emkhiweni Substation to Silimela 400kV line).

The projects were authorised in May 2011 (Emkhiweni Substation) and July 2011 (Emkhiweni-Silimela 400kV line). Eskom has decided to proceed with the construction of Emkhiweni-Silimela 400kV line (which is approximately 80kms) however the previous Record of Decision (RoD) has lapsed. Therefore Nemai Consulting are undertaking a new application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) as part of the 2014 EIA Regulations, as amended (07 April 2017). Eskom was not able to proceed with construction within the ROD timeframes as a result of the lack of funding for the project.

The proposed project is associated with the transmission network and its associated substations in the Mpumalanga and Limpopo Provinces.

# 2.2 **Project Location**

The proposed activity entails the construction of a 400kV power line from the Middelburg area in the south to the Marble Hall/Wolwekraal area in the north. The proposed line originates at the Wolwekraal Substation, which is situated approximately 13km to the southeast of Marble Hall (Limpopo Province)



on the Farm Loskop Noord No. 12 JS and runs south-eastwards. The line terminates at the proposed Emkhiweni Substation within Mpumalanga. Refer to **Figures 1** and **2** for locality maps. The proposed development falls within the Steve Tshwete Local Municipality (LM), Elias Motsoaledi LM and Ephraim Mogale LM.



Figure 1: Locality map



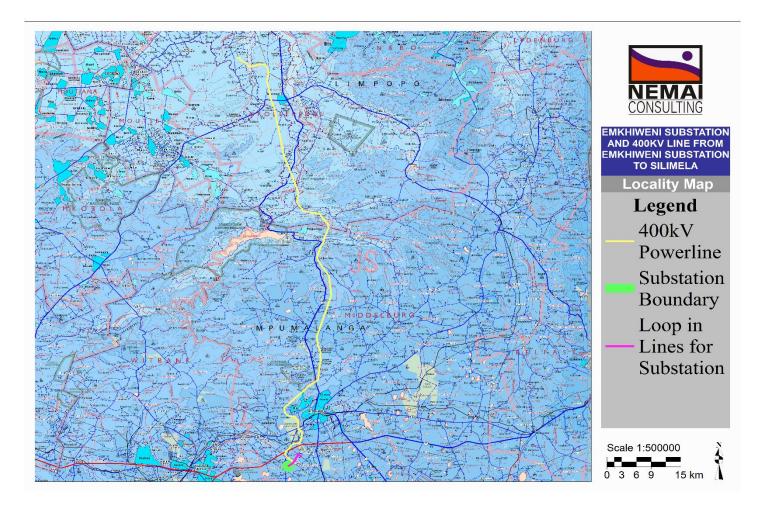


Figure 2: 1:250 000 Topographical map



April 2018 Page 3

# 3 ENVIRONMENTAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

# 3.1 Scoping and EIA Process

Eskom Holdings SOC (Pty) Ltd has appointed Nemai Consulting as the Independent Environmental Consultant to conduct the Scoping and EIA Process for the proposed Emkhiweni Substation and 400kV Line from Emkhiweni Substation to Silimela.

The proposed project requires environmental authorisation in terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014 (as amended) that were promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) from the Competent Authority, i.e. the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA). Activities listed in Government Notice (GN) No. R. 983, GN No. R. 984 and GN No. R. 985 of the 2014 EIA Regulations, as amended (07 April 2017) are associated with the proposed development, which therefore triggers a Scoping and EIA Process.

The Scoping Report will contain details of the assessment conducted and include all comments from IAPs. A draft copy of the Scoping Report will be made available for public review, prior to finalisation and submission to DEA. Only <u>registered</u> IAPs will continue to be notified of the Scoping and EIA process.

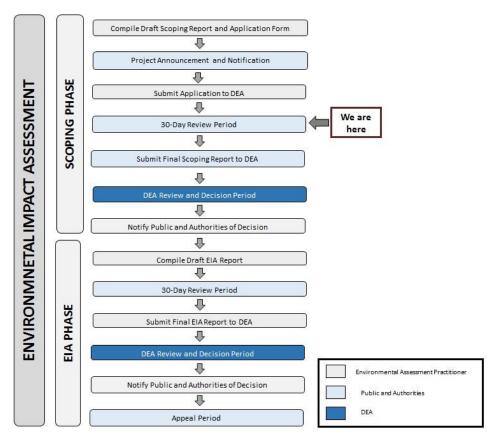


Figure 3: Scoping and EIA Process



April 2018 Page 4

# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A Public Participation Process will be conducted in terms of Chapter 6 of GN No. 982 of the 2014 EIA Regulations, as amended (07 April 2017) of the NEMA.

The Public Participation Process will involve the following:

- 1. Site notices will be erected at prominent points in and around the study area;
- 2. BIDs will be distributed to potential IAPs;

Tel:

- 3. Notices regarding the project will be e-mailed or faxed to the councillors in the area and possible stakeholders (including authorities and state departments); and
- 4. Notices will be placed in regional and local newspapers.

IAPs are encouraged to participate in the process in order for concerns to be addressed and included in the Scoping Report. This notice serves to notify all IAPs of the proposed development. IAPs are to review and comment on the draft documents which will be lodged at the following places for review from 16 April 2018 to 17 May 2018:

Table 1: Location of the Draft Scoping Report for Public Review

No.	Location	Address	Telephone No.
1.	Eastdene Public Library	Verdoorn St, Middelburg, 1050	013 249 7275
2.	Groblersdal Public Library	2 Grobler Street, Legolaneng, Groblersdal, Limpopo	013 262 3056

Please complete the Reply Form at the end of the document and submit it to the consultant below at Nemai Consulting:



**Contact Person:** Kristy Robertson

(011) 781 1730 Fax: (011) 781 1731

Email: kristyr@nemai.co.za

PO Box 1673, Sunninghill, 2157

All comments (issues and concerns) will be incorporated into a Comments and Responses Report which will be included in the Final Scoping Report to be submitted to DEA.



April 2018 Page 5

# REPLY FORM:

# Proposed Emkhiweni Substation and 400kV Line from Emkhiweni Substation to Silimela

(Complete and return to: Kristy Robertson by no later than the 17 May 2018)

Date:	2018/05/02		
Name of Organisation:			
	servitudewatch cc		
Name of Interested and Affected Party (IAP):	Bernard Enslin		
Address:	Postal: Physical:		
		436 Theuns v Niekerk str Wierda Park Centurion 0157	
Tel No:	0828726242		
Fax No:			
E-mail:	servitudewatch@gmail.com		
Registration as an IAP:	YES NO		
	X		
Comments:			
Thank you for acce	epting me-		





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

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1063
Enquiries: Mr Thando Booi
Telephone: (012) 399 9387 E-mail: TBooi@environment.gov.za

Kristy Robertson Nemai Consulting P. O. Box 1673 SUNNINGHILL 2157

Telephone Number: (011) 781 1730 Email Address: kristyr@nemai.co.za

PER E-MAIL / MAIL

Dear Ms Robertson

# COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR PROPOSED EMKHIWENI SUBSTATION AND 400KV LINE FROM EMKHIWENI SUBSTATION TO SILIMELA, MPUMLANGA PROVINCE

The application form and draft Scoping Report (SR) dated April 2018, received by this Department on 13 April 2018 refers.

This Department has the following comments on the abovementioned application:

# Alternatives

- Please 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 may be affected by the activity as per Appendix 2, (2) (1) (h) (i-xi), of GN R.982 of 2014, as amended.
- Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist as per the requirements of Appendix 2, (2) (1) (h) (x).
- Please provide coordinates of both the preferred power line route alternative as well as proposed other alternatives route in degrees, minutes and seconds from the start of the activity, midpoint and the end point of the activity.

# Impacts Assessment

This Department requests the EAP to familiarise themselves with the requirements of Appendix 2 of GNR 982 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) and ensure that the final SR submitted to this Department for consideration meets the requirements in terms of identifying, assessing and providing mitigation measures of the impacts on the alternatives and preferred site.

## Maps

# A3 Layout map

A detailed site layout must be prepared incorporating all the alternatives (preferred and other proposed alternatives). It must be attached as Appendix 3 of the final Scoping Report (FSR). The site or route plans must indicate the following:

- the property boundaries and numbers of all the properties within 50 metres of the site:
- the current land use as well as the land use zoning of the site and the properties adjoining the site;
- the exact position of each listed activity applied for (including alternatives);
- o a legend explaining the content on the map; and
- a north arrow.

It has been noted that the proposed substation and power lines were authorized in 2011, however, the Environmental Authorisation (EA) lapsed. Therefore, you are requested to show the approved route and substation location on the map, taking into consideration areas where there will be deviation from the approved route.

# A3 Sensitivity Map

The layout/route plan as indicated above must be overlain with a sensitivity map that indicates all the sensitive areas associated with the site, including, but not limited to:

- watercourses;
- o the 1:100 year flood line (where available or where it is required by Department of Water and Sanitation : DWS);
- o ridges;
- o cultural and historical features;
- o areas with indigenous vegetation (even if it is degraded or infested with alien species);
- critical biodiversity areas;
- o build up areas; and
- No-go areas (if anv).

The sensitivity map must not only overlay the sensitivity of the preferred site, however; must also include all the identified alternatives and the existing infrastructure.

# Public Participation Process

- Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the SR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final SR.
- O Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final SR, should you be unable to obtain comments, proof of the attempts that were made to obtain comments must be submitted to the Department.
- The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

# General Comments

You are further reminded that the final SR to be submitted to this Department must comply with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of Scoping reports in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the amended EIA Regulations, 2014.

Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations 2014, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of the these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7).

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours faithfully

Mr Sabelo Malaza

**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations** 

**Department of Environmental Affairs** 

Signed by: Ms Olivia Letlalo

Designation: Control Environmental Officer: Strategic Infrastructure Developments

Date: 09 05 2018

CC:	Annah Kawadza	Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd	Tel: (011) 800 4057	Email: KawadzA@eskom.co.za
00.	Ms Aluwani Khorommbi	Limpopo (LEDET)	Tel: (015) 293 8300	Email: KhorommbiA@ledet.gov.za
	Hon V.R. Shongwe	Mpumalanga (DARDLEA)	Tel: (013) 766 6074	Email:mathebulazc@mpg.gov.za
	B Khenisa	Steve Tshwete Local Municipality	Tel: (013) 249 7000	mmoffice@stlm.gov.za
	T Mthombeni	Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality	Tel: (013) 326 3056	tmthombeni@emllm.gov.za
	Mr C Badenhorst	Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality	Tel: (013) 261 8480	cbadenhorst@emogalelm.gov.za



Building 5, No. 7 Government Boulevard, Riverside Park, Extension 2, Moombela, 1200 Mpumalanga Province, P.O. Box 1243, Mbombela, 1200 Tel. 013 766 5242, Fax: 013 766 6253/5591

Departement van Kultuur, Sport & Rekreasie

Litiko Letemasiko, Letemidialo Netakukhibika uMnyango wamaSiko, zemiDlalo nokuziThabisa

Enq: Ms L.L Mokoena

013 766 5196

DCSR 11/4/4/2/1/4

Nemail Consulting Po Box 1673 Sunninghill 2157

RE: Draft scoping report Emkhiweni substation and 400Kv line from Emkhiweni substation to Silimela

We acknowledge and note the receipt of your scoping report regarding eMakhazeni substation and 400kv line from Emkhiweni substation to Silimela Mpumalanga Province.

The MHRA reserves the comments on the above until the receipt of a comprehensive Environment Assessment report which will include the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA).

Assessments reports must be uploaded on www.sahra.org.za/sahris for comments.

I thank you.

Regards

B.T MODUKA

**CULTURAL HERITAGE OFFICER: MHRA** 

MPUMALANGA HERITAGE RESOURCE AUTHORITY

MPUMALANGA
THE PLACE OF THE RISING SUN



# DEPARTMENT: AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Directorate: Land Use and Soil Management PO Box 3620, POLOKWANE, 0700. 89 Biccard Str

Tel: 015 287 9946/0. Fax: 015 297 7993 E-Mail: StevenK@nda.agric.za Enq: Nkopodi Kgobalale. Ref: Loskop Noord 12 JS

18 April 2018

The Manager **Nemai Consulting** P.O. Box 1673 SUNNINGHILL 2157

FOR ATTENTION : Kristy Robertson

COMMENTS ON CONSTRUCTION OF 400KV POWER LINE FROM MIDDLEBURG AREA IN THE SOUTH TO THE MARBLE HALL/WOLWEKRAAL AREA IN THE NORTH, THIRTEEN KILOMETRES TO THE SOUTH-EAST OF MARBLE HALL (LIMPOPO PROVINCE) ON THE FARM LOSKOP NOORD 12 JS, SITUATED IN EPHRAIM MOGALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY.

This refers to your letter with project number 106743.

The proposed project should adhere to the regulations of Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act 43 of 1983, (CARA) with special attention to the following:

- (1) Regulation 7: Utilization and Protection of vleis, marshes, water sponges and water courses.
- Except on authority of a written permission by the executive officer, no land user shall:-
- (a) drain or cultivate any vlei, marsh or water sponge or a portion thereof on his farm unit or
- (b) cultivate any land on his farm unit within the flood area of a water course or within 10 metres horizontally outside the flood area of a water course.
- (2) Regulation 8: Regulating of the flow pattern of run-off water.
  - No land user shall in any manner whatsoever divert any run-off water from a water course on his farm unit to any other water course, except on authority of a written permission by the

The applicant's should also note that High and medium potential agricultural soils should be identified and no disturbance on those soils should occur without written permission from this office.

The directorate has no objection against the proposed project on the above mentioned farm provided the above stated conditions and other provisions of the regulations of the Act are adhered to.

Yours truly.



Wayne Hector <WHector@environment.gov.za>

RE: 10643-Emkhiweni Substation and 400kV Line from Emkhiweni Substation to Silimela: Public Review Period of Draft Scoping Report

To Kristy Robertson

• You forwarded this message on 11/04/2018 07:36 AM.

Dear Kristy

Please remove me from your I&AP list. Your PPP will form part of your report which you will submit to the Department for comments and decision-making, therefore you don't have to send these emails to the Department.

Regards

Wayne

From: Kristy Robertson [mailto:KristyR@nemai.co.za]

Sent: 10 April 2018 05:27 PM

Subject: 10643-Emkhiweni Substation and 400kV Line from Emkhiweni Substation to Silimela: Public Review Period of Draft Scoping Report

# Emkhiweni Substation and 400kV Line from Emkhiweni Substation to Silimela: Public Review Period for Draft Scoping Report

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