

ANNEXURE N

Second revision of BID and associated notification letters



NINHAM SHAND
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11 August 2006
Dear Sir/ Madam

Email: enviro@shands.co.za

**PROPOSED COAL-FIRED POWER STATION AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE
WITBANK GEOGRAPHICAL AREA :**

Invitation to Participate and Background Information Document

Your property has been identified as on or near one of two possible locations for a proposed new coal-fired power station in the Witbank geographical area. This proposed activity requires authorisation from the national environmental authority, viz. the national Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) via the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process outlined in Regulation 1183, under Section 26 of the Environment Conservation Act (73 of 1989). Eskom has appointed Ninham Shand Consulting Services as independent Environmental Assessment Practitioners, to assist them in complying with these legal requirements.

As a potentially directly affected landowner we wish to provide you with background information and to invite you to register on our database and to raise any issues or concerns regarding this proposed project.

Project Background

Eskom's Integrated Strategic Electricity Planning (ISEP) process, which has been informed and guided by national policies and plans such as the White Paper on Energy, Integrated Energy Policy and the National Integrated Resource Plan (NIRP), has identified long-term options regarding both the supply and demand sides of electricity provision in South Africa. The latest NIRP and ISEP plan (October 2005) have identified the need for increased electricity supply in South Africa.

As part of the increased electricity supply plan, Eskom is considering a coal-fired power station and associated infrastructure in the vicinity of Witbank on the boundary between Mpumalanga and Gauteng provinces.

Background Information Document

Please find attached the Background Information Document (BID) which describes the proposed project and the associated EIA process. The BID is also available in Pedi and Zulu on request. We ask that you complete the attached Response Form and return it to us as soon as possible¹.

Public Meetings

We will be hosting open days and public meetings in the area in early September 2006. The purpose of these meetings is to provide an opportunity for interested and affected parties to familiarise themselves with the proposed project, to present the initial findings of the Scoping Phase of the EIA and to provide an opportunity for interested parties to raise issues or concerns. Details of the meetings and a copy of the Executive Summary of the Draft Scoping Report will be sent to registered parties in late August.

Please do not hesitate to contact Lindiwe Gaika or Karen Shippey at tel: (021) 481 2501 or email lindiwe.gaika@shands.co.za should you require further information. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

NINHAM SHAND

LINDIWE GAIKA

Public Participation Co-ordinator



KAREN SHIPPEY

Public Participation Task Leader
PrSciNat, Cert. Env. Ass. Practitioner

¹ Should you specifically wish to be removed from our database and not receive any further correspondence about this project, please indicate this on the Response Form.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT:
PROPOSED COAL-FIRED POWER STATION AND ASSOCIATED
INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE WITBANK AREA**

AUGUST 2006

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

VERSION 3



Background

Eskom applies an Integrated Strategic Electricity Planning (ISEP) process to identify long-term options regarding both the supply and demand sides of electricity provision in South Africa. Eskom's ISEP is informed and guided by national policies and plans such as the White Paper on Energy, Integrated Energy Policy and the National Integrated Resource Plan (NIRP).

The latest ISEP (October 2005) has identified the need for increased electricity supply by the year 2010, while peaking generation is being attended to in the shorter term. The National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) is the regulatory authority responsible for the electricity supply industry in South Africa¹. In its National Integrated Resource Plan (NIRP), the NERSA has determined that, while various alternative and renewable electricity generation options should be continually investigated, coal should still provide the main fuel source in South Africa. Accordingly, coal-fired power stations will be required for generation capacity expansion during the next 20 years.

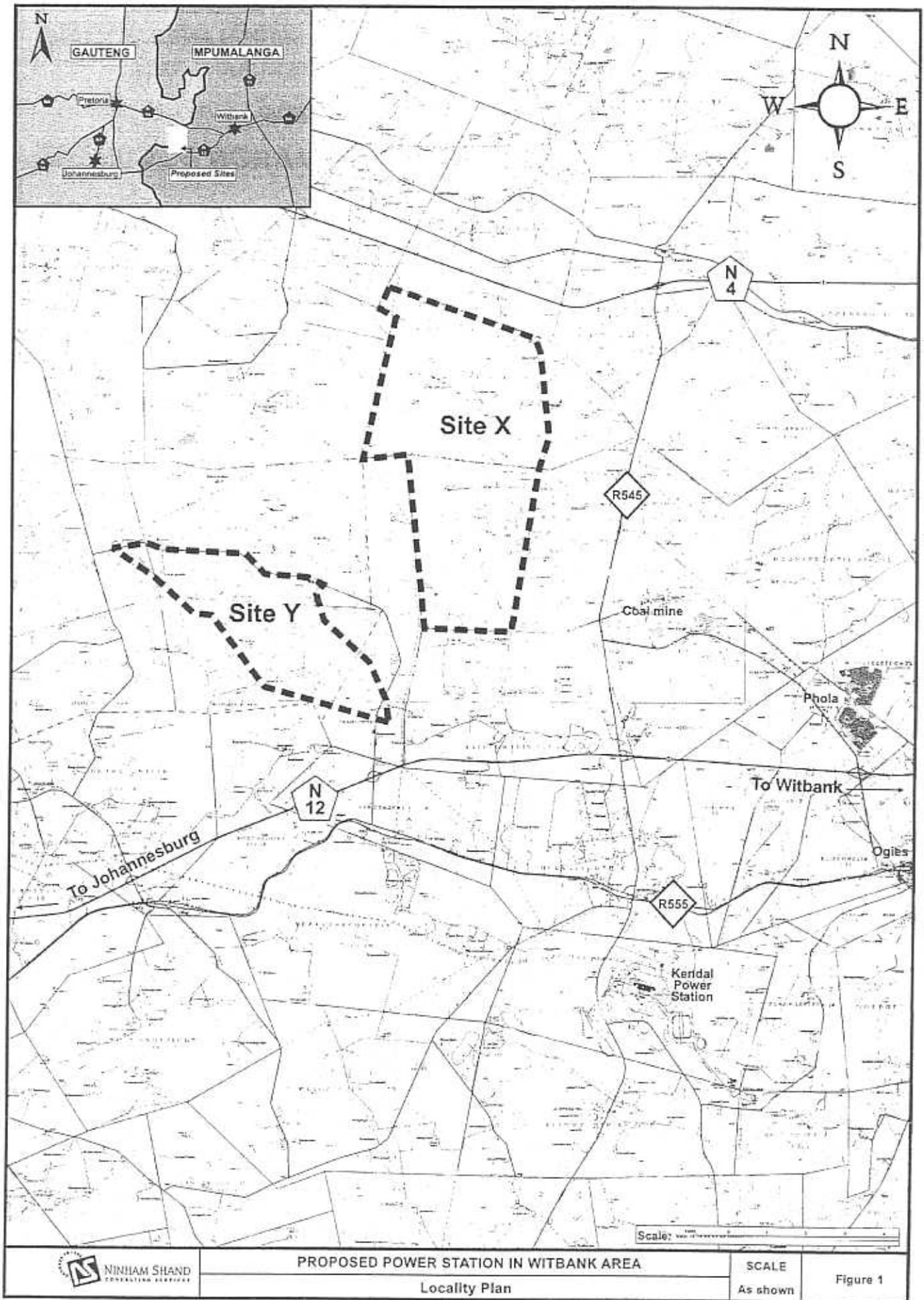
As part of the increased electricity supply plan, Eskom is considering constructing a coal-fired power station in the Witbank geographical area. There are two sites (both lie between the N4 and N12 freeways, west of the R545) that have been identified and are being investigated in the vicinity of the existing Kendal Power Station (Please refer to Figure 1). The proposed power station is one of three similar coal-fired power stations being considered by Eskom. The other proposed new coal-fired power stations for which studies are being undertaken are located in the Lephalale area in Limpopo Province and the northern Free State region respectively.

Ninham Shand Consulting Services has been appointed by Eskom to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the activities relating to this proposed coal-fired power station and associated infrastructure.

The purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to:

- Provide a background to, and description of, the proposed project;
- Describe the EIA process, particularly in terms of the opportunities for public participation (please refer to **Figure 2**); and
- Invite Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to register as participants in the process and to raise any issues or concerns they may have regarding the project.

¹ The National Energy Regulator of South Africa was established in terms of the Electricity Act, No. 41 of 1987, as amended by the Electricity Amendment Acts of 1994 and 1995.



PROPOSED POWER STATION IN WITBANK AREA

Locality Plan

SCALE

As shown

Figure 1

The proposed project

The proposed project comprises the following:

- The construction of a 5 400 megawatt (MW) greenfield, coal-fired power station in the area to the west of Witbank.
- The construction and operation of associated infrastructure, such as a high-voltage yard², water treatment and supply facilities, ash management systems, coal transportation, storage and handling facilities, service roads etc.

The extent of the site required for such a power station and associated infrastructure is approximately 2 500 ha, although the structures themselves would only occupy a small portion thereof. The most environmentally appropriate technology is being considered for the proposed power station, e.g. direct dry cooling for heat dissipation and appropriate air pollution abatement to minimize air pollution.

Legal requirements and EIA process

Regulation 1182, promulgated in terms of the Environment Conservation Act (ECA) (No 73 of 1989), identifies certain activities, which "could have a substantial detrimental effect on the environment". These scheduled activities require environmental authorisation from the competent environmental authority. With reference to the schedule, the "construction, erection and upgrading of facilities for commercial electricity generation with an output of at least 10 megawatts and infrastructure for bulk supply" are such listed activities.

The proposed project may entail various other actions that would also be construed as scheduled activities in terms of Regulation 1182 and thus require authorisation. These include the:

- "construction, erection or upgrading:
 - with regard to any substance which is dangerous or hazardous and is controlled by national legislation
 - roads, railways, airfields and associated structures
 - structures associated with communication networks, including masts, towers and reflector dishes
 - schemes for the abstraction or utilisation of ground or surface water for bulk supply purposes
 - sewerage treatment plants and associated infrastructure"
- "change of land use from:
 - agricultural or zoned undetermined use or an equivalent zoning to any other land use"
- "disposal of waste as defined in Section 20 of the Act"
- "scheduled processes listed in the Second Schedule of the Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Act No. 45 of 1965"
- "canals and channels, including structures causing disturbance to the flow of water in a river bed, and water transfer schemes between water catchments and impoundments".

Accordingly, the proposed coal-fired power station and associated infrastructure require authorisation from the competent environmental authority via the EIA process outlined in Regulation 1183 of the ECA. This EIA process is summarised in **Figure 2**.

² Note that the transmission lines required to link the new power station to the national grid are the subject of a separate EIA process.

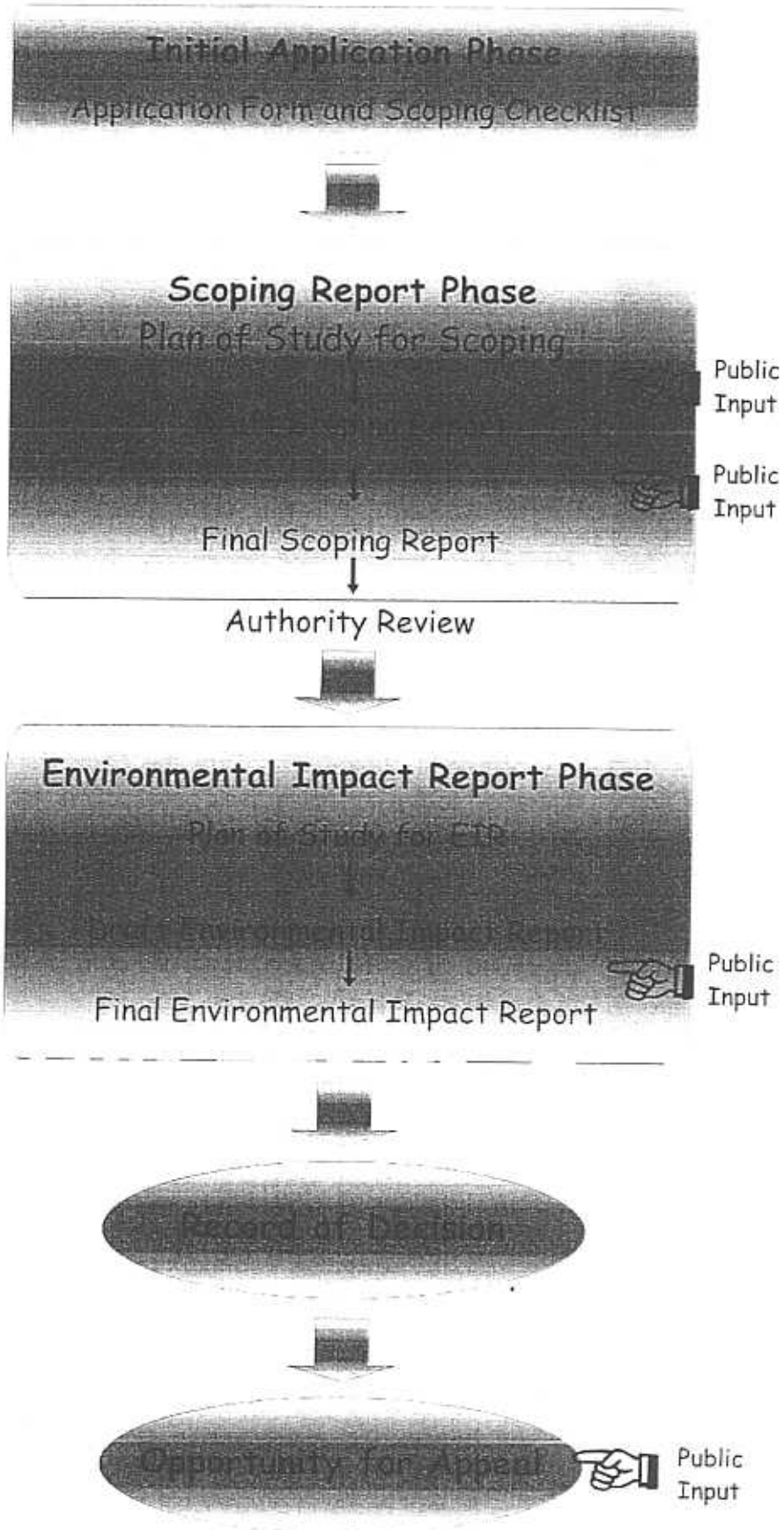


Figure 2: Environmental Impact assessment Process

The EIA process consists of a Scoping Report Phase and an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Phase. The purpose of the Scoping Report Phase is to identify and describe potential positive and negative environmental impacts on both social and biophysical aspects associated with the proposed project. Public participation forms an integral component of both the Scoping and EIR Phases.

The purpose of the EIR Phase is to comprehensively investigate and assess those impacts identified in the Scoping Report. To date, the following specialist studies have been identified as being necessary:

Table 1: Identified specialist studies required during the EIA

Specialist study	Specialist undertaking the work
Air quality impacts	AirShed Planning Professionals
Noise impacts	Jongens Keet Associates
Visual impacts	Strategic Environmental Focus
Impacts on terrestrial fauna and flora	Makecha Development Association
Aquatic ecosystem impacts	Ecosun
Groundwater impacts	Groundwater Consulting Services
Risk assessment	Ilitha Riskom
Archaeological impacts	Northern Flagship Institution
Impacts on agricultural potential	University of the Free State
Traffic impacts	Ninham Shand
Geotechnical investigations	Ninham Shand
Socio-economic impacts	Urban-Econ
Planning implications	Seaton Thomson and Associates

Provision has also been made by Ninham Shand for a review of the entire process by a recognized review consultancy, Mark Wood Environmental Consultants.

This project has been informed by various strategic-level investigations (including the White Paper on the Energy Policy of the Republic of South Africa, NIRP and Eskom's ISEP) and a site selection process³ undertaken by Ninham Shand. The site selection process applied a multiple criteria decision analysis tool to select two alternative sites to be assessed in the EIA process. The two alternative sites, Site X and Site Y, selected are illustrated in **Figure 1**, and are described as follows:

- **Site X** – The site lies between the N4 and N12 freeways. It is situated west of the R545 near the western perimeter of the coal field which served the old Wilge power station. The land is currently used for crop production and grazing.
- **Site Y** – The site is situated north of the N12 and lies slightly south west of Site X. The land is currently used for crop production.

This EIA process as well as the site selection process will be reviewed by Mark Wood, a recognised strategic and review consultant in the energy sector. The Site Selection Report and Mark Wood's external review of the Scoping Report will be

³ Please refer to page 8 for a detailed explanation of how the site selection process evolved

included as annexures to the Scoping Report. The approval of the Scoping Report by the environmental authorities would therefore indicate acceptance of the need for and justification of the project and the issues identified during the Scoping phase.

The various project level alternatives will be described in the Draft Scoping Report.

Public Participation

A four week comment period is provided for each of the iterations with the public. The following phases will comprise the public participation component of the EIA:

Phase 1

The primary purpose of this phase is to present the motivation for the proposed project and elicit issues and comments that I&APs (the public and key stakeholders) may have. Phase 1 comprises the following steps.

- Notification of affected landowners and key stakeholders
- Advertising the project in local, regional and national newspapers, inviting registration of I&APs and eliciting initial comment;
- Making this BID available to identified I&APs; and
- Undertaking initial consultation with key stakeholders (viz. affected landowners, local authorities etc.).

Phase 2

The primary purpose of Phase 2 is to present the draft Scoping Report to I&APs, to show how their comments to date have been incorporated into the report and to elicit any additional issues of concern and/ or comment. Phase 2 comprises the following steps:

- Incorporating public comment received into the Draft Scoping Report, as an Issues Trail;
- Lodging the Draft Scoping Report on the Eskom project website and in public libraries/ municipal offices/ or other appropriate venues; and
- Holding public meetings to present the Draft Scoping Report. Newspaper notices will be used to publicise meetings. All registered I&APs will be notified of the meetings and lodging of the report and be provided with copies of the Executive Summary by mail.

Phase 3

Phase 3 is aimed at presenting the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to I&APs. This phase comprises:

- Lodging the draft EIR in public libraries/ municipal offices/ identified appropriate venues and on the Eskom project website;
- Holding public meetings to present the Draft EIR. All registered I&APs will be notified of the meetings and lodging of the report and be provided with copies of the Executive Summary by mail;
- Finalising the EIR by incorporating all public comment received into an updated Issues Trail; and
- Notifying registered I&APs of the outcome of the EIA process.

Phase 4

This is the 30 day appeal period, during which I&APs have the opportunity to appeal against the Record of Decision (ROD) issued by the environmental authority. The appeal period commences as soon as the ROD is issued.

You have been identified as an I&AP due to your possible interest in the project, through your involvement in previous environmental studies, or as a result of your response to the press adverts. Should you wish to raise any issues of concern regarding the proposed project, please complete the attached Response Form and return it to Ninham Shand by fax or by using the postage paid envelope provided.

If you wish to receive further information and invitations to meetings please register yourself as an I&AP, by contacting the following people.

Lindiwe Gaika
 Tel: (021) 481 2508
 lindiwe.gaika@shands.co.za

OR Karen Shippey
 Tel: (021) 481 2502
 karen.shippey@shands.co.za

Fax: (021) 424 5588

Postal Address: Ninham Shand,
 P.O Box 1347
 Cape Town
 8000



NOTE: Extended Site Selection Process History

When the EIA was commissioned in early 2006, two sites were selected for investigation. The original site selection process was intended to serve as the starting point for the EIA, and was subjected to independent review. Subsequent to review it was jointly agreed between Eskom and Ninham Shand that it would be of value to re-evaluate the site selection process. It is believed that this process would enhance the EIA and would ensure that a robust and thorough site selection process forms the basis of the EIA. This process, undertaken in July 2006, lead to the identification of two completely new sites for investigation in the EIA process. (This BID reflects these new sites: Site X and Site Y) Thus, the original sites (Site A and Site B) previously identified, were excluded from further investigation. A detailed explanation of the site selection process that was undertaken will be provided in the Draft Scoping Report which will be made available for public comment in late August 2006.

Version 3 (August 2006)

11 Augustus 2006
Geagte Heer/Dame

**VOORGESTELDE STEENKOOL –AANGEDREWE KRAGSENTRALE EN AANVERWANTE INFRASTRUKTUUR
IN DIE WITBANK GEOGRAFIESE GEBIED:
Uitnodiging tot deelname en agtergrond inligtingsdokument**

U eiendom is geïdentifiseer as deel van of naby die moontlike gebiede vir die voorgestelde kragentrale in die Witbank area. Sodanige aktiwiteite benodig goedkeuring van die Nasionale omgewings gesag naamlik die Departement van Omgewingsake En Toerisme (DEAT) op grond van omgewings assessering proses soos omskryf in Regulasie 1183 onder seksie 26 van die Ongewinsbewaringswet (73 van 1989). Ninham Shand Konsultasiedienste is deur Eskom aangestel om hulle te assisteer om te sorg dat alle aktiwiteite aan die wetlike vereistes voldoen.

Aangesien u moontlik direk gaan word deur alle aktiwiteite voorsien ons u graag van alle inligting en nooi u uit om te registreer op ons data basis en u in staat te stel om enige kommer of sake rakende die projek te opper.

Projek Agtergrond

Eskom maak gebruik van 'n Geïntegreerde Elektriesiteitsbeplanningsproses (oftewel ISEP) na aanleiding van die Engelse benaming (*Integrated Strategic Electricity Planning*) om die lang termyn – opsies vir beide voorsiening en aanvraag na elektrisiteit in Suid-Afrika te identifiseer. Hierdie strategie was volgens die riglyne van verskeie dokumente soos die Witskrif oor Energie, Geïntegreerde Energie Beleid en Nasionale Geïntegreerde Hulpbronplan (oftewel NIRP na aanleiding van van die Engelse benaming: (*National Integrated Resource Plan*). Die mees onlangse ISEP plan (Oktober 2005) identifiseer die behoefte aan 'n verhoogde aanvraag na elektrisiteit in die jaar 2010.

As deel in 'n plan om elektrisiteitvoorsiening te verhoog, beplan Eskom om 'n steenkool-aangedrewe kragentrale in die omgewing van Witbank op die grens tussen Mpumalanga en Gauteng.

Agtergrond Inligtingsdokument

Aangeheg vind asseblief 'n agtergrond inligtingsdokument wat die hele proses verduidelik as ook die gepaardgaande assosieerde omgewings impak studies. Hierdie dokument is ook Pedi en Zulu op versoek beskikbaar. Voltooi asseblief die aangehegte vorm en stuur dit terug so gou as moontlik¹.

Openbare Vergaderings

Daar sal verskeie ope dae sowel as openbare vergaderings in die gebied so vroeg soos September 2006 gehou word. Hierdie vergaderings en ope dae het dit ten doel om u die geleentheid te bied vir geïnteresseerde en persone wat geraak gaan word om vertrouwd te raak met die projek. Die aanvanklike bevindinge van die IEA sal ook bekend gemaak word sodat bekommernisse aangeprekk kan word. Besonderhede van vergaderings sal aan geregistreerde persone teen die einde van Augustus voorsien word.

Moet asseblief nie huiwer om Lindwe Gaika of Karen Shippey by telefoon nommer 021 481 2501 of e-pos lindiwe.gaika@shands.co.za te kontak indien u verdere inligting verlang. On sien daarna uit om van u te hoor.


LINDIWE GAIKA
Koordineerder


KAREN SHIPPEY
Projek leier

¹ As u spesifiek geen verdere belangstelling in hierdie projek het nie, dui dit asseblief aan op die aangehegte antwoordblad en ons sal u naam van die lys van geregistreeerde belanghebbende en geaffekteerde partye afhaal.
I:\ENV\PROJECTS\401281-Kendal North EIA\R130-Public participation\Letters to I&APs\Letter re new sites- August 2006\Final\AFR-LET110806 to new Landowners re BID_Final.doc

**VOORGESTELDE STEENKOOI-AANGEDREWE KRAGSENTRALE EN
AANVERWANTE INFRASTRUKTUUR IN DIE OMGEWING VANWITBANK,
MPUMALANGA**

AUGUSTUS 2006

AGTERGROND INLIGTINGSDOKUMENT



Agtergrond

Eskom maak gebruik van 'n Geïntegreerde Elektrisiteitsbeplanningsproses (oftewel ISEP na aanleiding van die Engelse benaming: *Integrated Strategic Electricity Planning*) om die langtermyn-opsies vir beide die voorsiening van en aanvraag na elektrisiteit in Suid-Afrika te identifiseer. Eskom se ISEP word deur nasionale beleid en planne soos die Wit Papier oor Energie, Geïntegreerde Energie Beleid en die Nasionale Geïntegreerde Hulpbronplan (NIRP) ingelig en gelei.

Die mees onlangse ISEP-plan (Oktober 2005) identifiseer die behoefte aan 'n verhoogte aanvraag na elektrisiteit teen die jaar 2010, terwyl piekaanvrae op die korttermyn aandag geniet. Die Nasionale Energiereguleerder (NERSA) van Suid-Afrika is die regulerende owerheid wat verantwoordelik is vir die elektrisiteitsvoorsieningsnywerheid in Suid-Afrika¹. As deel van sy Nasionale Geïntegreerde Hulpbronplan (oftewel NIRP na aanleiding van die Engelse benaming: *National Integrated Resource Plan*), is die NERSA van mening dat steenkool nog steeds die vernaamste bron van brandstof in Suid-Afrika is, terwyl verskeie alternatiewe en hernubare opsies vir die opwekking van elektrisiteit deurlopend ondersoek moet word. Om hierdie rede sal steenkool-aangedrewe kragentrales nog vir die volgende 20 jaar aangewend word om die elektrisiteitskapasiteit te verhoog.

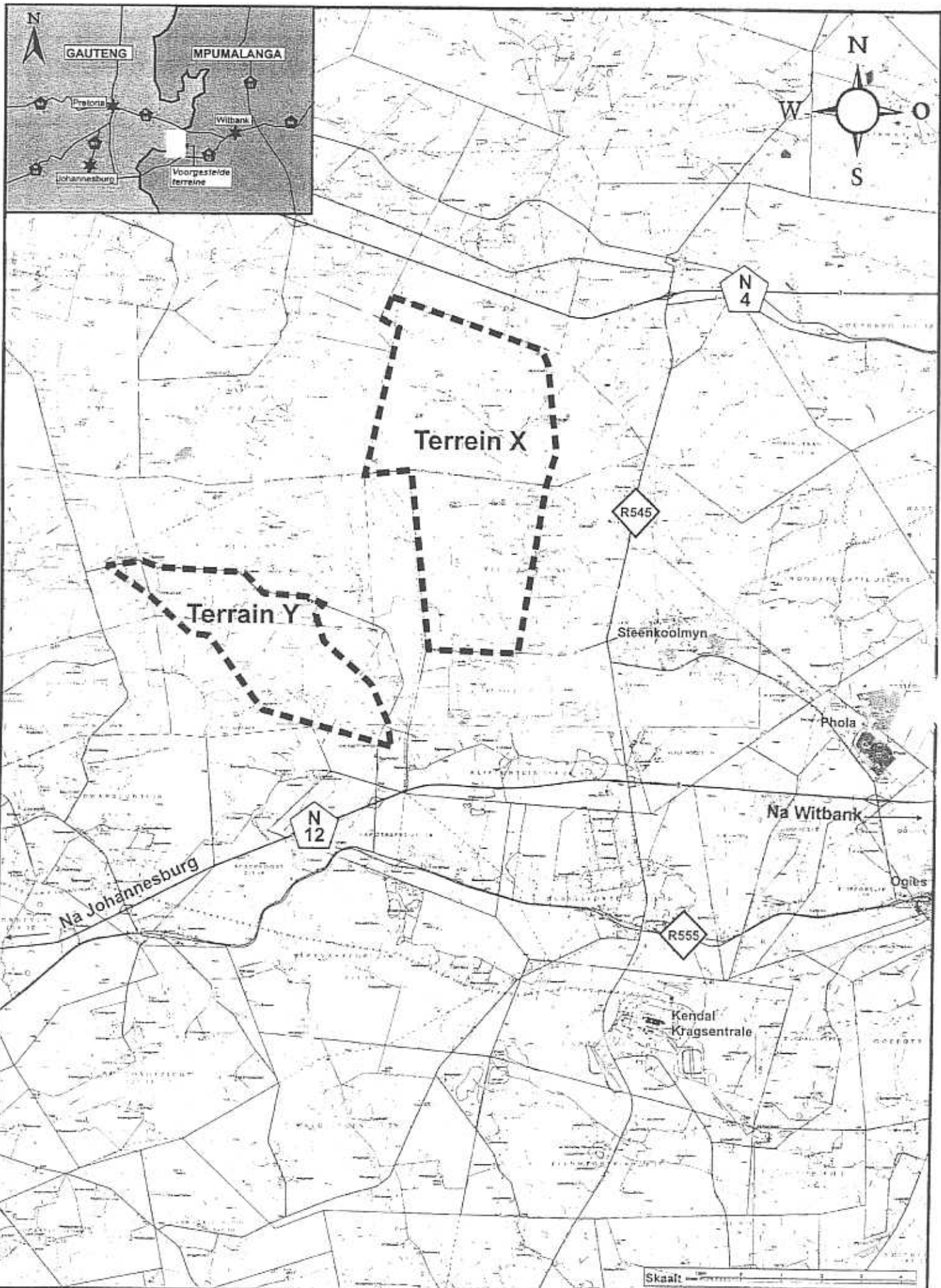
As deel van 'n plan om elektrisiteitsvoorsiening te verhoog, beplan Eskom om 'n steenkool-aangedrewe kragentrale in die omgewing van Witbank in Mpumalanga op te rig. Twee terreine (beide tussen die N4 en N12 deurpaaie, wes van die R545) word tans in die omgewing van die bestaande Kendal kragentrale ondersoek. (Sien asb figuur 1). Die voorgestelde kragentrale is een van drie soortgelyke steenkool-aangedrewe kragentrales wat tans deur Eskom oorweeg word. Die ander nuwe voorgestelde steenkool-aangedrewe kragentrales wat tans ondersoek word, is in die omgewing van Lephalale in Limpopo Provinsie en in die Noord-Vrystaatstreek geleë.

Ninham Shand Konsultantdienste is deur Eskom aangestel om die Omgewingsinvloedbepalingsproses (OIB) vir daardie aktiwiteite wat deel vorm van die voorgestelde steenkool-aangedrewe kragentrale en verbonde infrastruktuur.

Die doel van hierdie Agtergrond Inligtingsdokument is om:

- Agtergrond tot en 'n beskrywing van die voorgestelde projek te gee;
- Die OIB-proses te omskryf, veral met betrekking tot die geleenthede vir openbare deelname (verwys na **Figuur 2**); en
- Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Partye (B&GPe) uit te nooi om as deelnemers tot die proses te registreer en enige kwessies en besware wat hulle met die projek mag hê, te opper.

¹ Die Nasionale Energiereguleerder van Suid-Afrika is gestig in terme van die Wet op Elektrisiteitsvoorsiening, Wet Nr 41 van 1987, soos gewysig deur die Wysigingswette op Elektrisiteit van 1994 en 1995.



Die voorgestelde projek

Die voorgestelde projek bestaan uit die volgende aspekte:

- Die konstruksie van 'n 5 400 megawatt (MW) nuwe steenkool-aangedrewe kragentrale in die omgewing ten weste van Witbank.
- Die konstruksie en bedryf van aanverwante infrastruktuur, soos 'n hoëspannings-werf²; watersuiwerings- en -voorsiëningstelsels; beheerstelsels vir as; fasiliteite vir die vervoer, berging en hantering van steenkool; dienstepaaië ens.

'n Terrein van ongeveer 2 500 ha word vir die kragentrale en aanverwante infrastruktuur benodig, alhoewel die strukture self slegs 'n klein gedeelte daarvan sal beslaan. Die mees omgewings-toepaslike tegnologie word vir die kragentrale voorgeskryf, soos direkte droë-afkoeling vir hitte-kwytraking en geskikte lugbesoedeling maatreeklings om lugbesoedeling te verminder.

Wetlike vereistes en die OIB-proses

Regulasie 1182, afgekondig in terme van die Wet op Omgewingsbewing (Wet Nr 73 van 1989) identifiseer sekere geskeduleerde aktiwiteite wat 'n "aansienlike nadelige uitwerking op die omgewing" kan hê. Hierdie aktiwiteite vereis 'n magtiging van 'n bevoegde omgewingsowerheid.

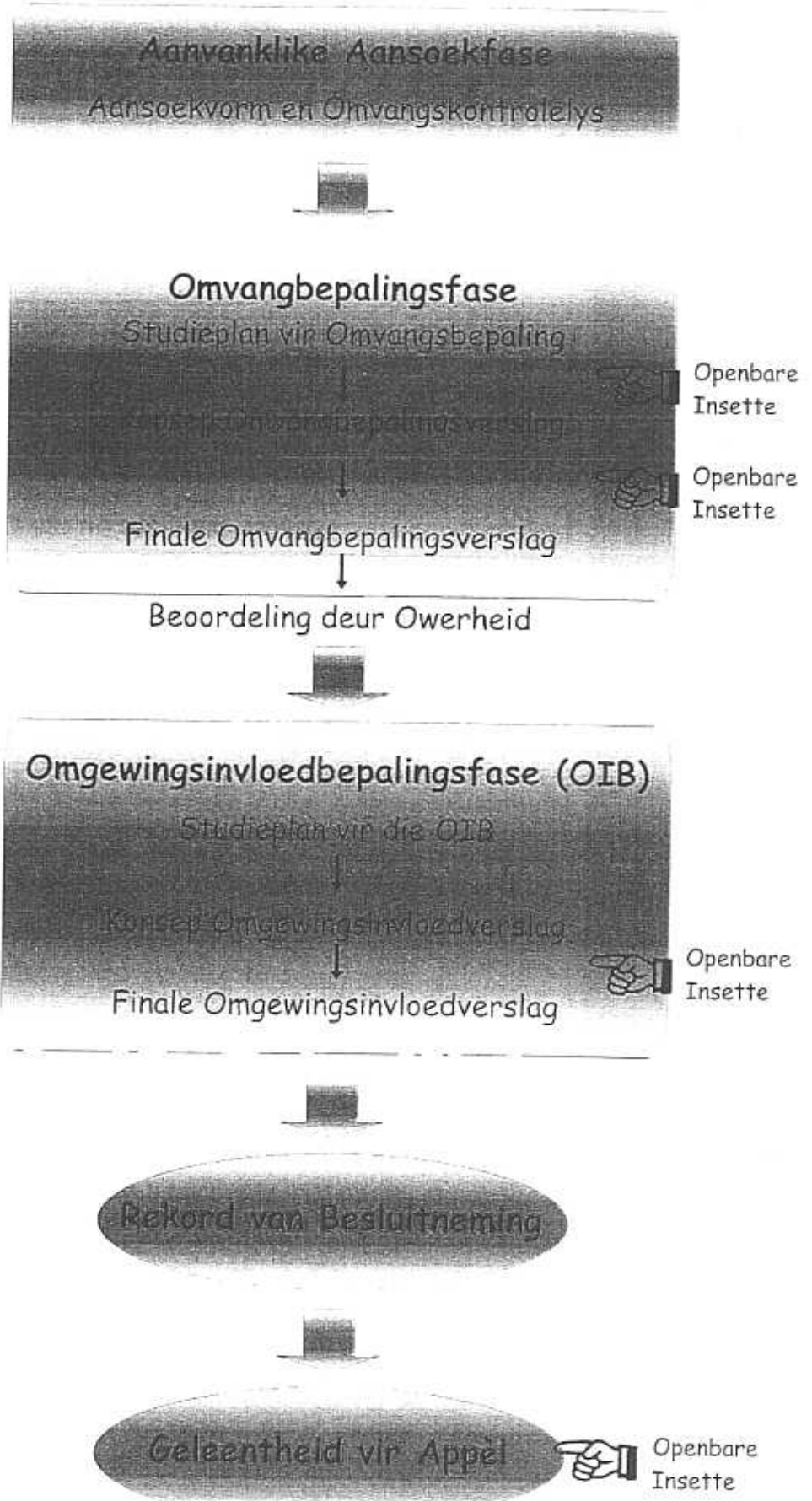
Die "konstruksie, oprigting en opgradering van fasiliteite vir die opwekking van kommersiële elektrisiteit van ten minste 10 megawatt en die infrastruktuur vir grootmaatvoorsiëning" is so 'n geskeduleerde aktiwiteit.

Verskeie ander aksies, wat as geskeduleerde aktiwiteite in terme van Regulasie 1182 beskou word, mag ook as deel van die voorgestelde projek uitgevoer word en daarom magtigings vereis. Hierdie sluit in die:

- "konstruksie, oprigting of opgradering van:
 - enige gevaarlike en gevaarhoudende stowwe wat deur nasionale wetgewing beheer word
 - paaie, spoorweë, vliegvelds en aanverwante strukture
 - strukture wat verband hou met kommunikasienetwerke, wat maste, torings en reflektorskottels insluit
 - skemas vir die onttrekking of benutting van grondwater- of oppervlaktewater vir doeleindes van grootmaatvoorsiëning
 - riolsuiweringswerke en aanverwante infrastruktuur"
- "verandering in grondgebruik van:
 - landbou of gesoneerde onbepaalde gebruik of 'n soortgelyke sonering na enige ander grondgebruik."
- "wegdoen van afval soos gedefinieer in Artikel 20 van die Wet.
- "geskeduleerde prosesse soos gelys in die Wet op die Voorkoming van Lugbesoedeling, Artikel 45 van 1965".
- "kanale en waterlope, met inbegrip van omleidings van die normale vloei van water in 'n rivierbedding en wateroorplasingsskemas tussen wateropvanggebiede en opdamnings".

Die voorgestelde steenkool-aangedrewe kragentrale en aanverwante infrastruktuur verg dus magtiging van die bevoegde omgewingsowerheid na aanleiding van 'n OIB-proses soos voorgeskryf in Regulasie 1183 van die Wet op Omgewingsbewing. Die OIB-proses word in **Figuur 2** uiteengesit.

² Neem kennis dat die transmissielyns wat die nuwe kragentrale met die sentrale netwerk sal verbind, as 'n afsonderlike OIB-proses hanteer sal word.



Figuur 2: Omgewingsinvloedbepalingsproses

Die OIB-proses bestaan uit twee fases, naamlik die samestelling van 'n Omvangbepalingsverslag en 'n Omgewingsinvloedverslag (OIV). Die doel van die Omvangbepalingsverslag is om die moontlike positiewe en negatiewe omgewingsfaktore beide maatskaplik en biofisies rakende die voorgestelde projek, Openbare deelname vorm 'n belangrike komponent van beide die Omvangbepalingsverslag en OIV Fases.

Die doel van die Omgewingsinvloedverslag is om daardie impakte wat in die Omvangbepalingsverslag geïdentifiseer is, meer indringend te ondersoek. Die volgende spesialis-studies is reeds as noodsaaklik geïdentifiseer:

Tabel 1: Geïdentifiseerde spesialisstudies wat tydens die OIB-proses aandag moet geniet

Spesialisstudie	Spesialiste wat ondersoekesal hanteer
Invoed op kwaliteit van lug	AirShed Planning Professionals
Geraasfaktore	Jongens Keet Genote
Visuele impakte	Strategic Environmental Focus
Impak op plaaslike fauna en flora	Makecha Development Association
Impak op akwatiese ekosisteem	Ecosun
Impak op grondwater	Groundwater Consulting Services
Risikobepaling	Ilitha Riskom
Argeologiese impakte	Northern Flagship Institution
Impak op landboupotensiaal	Universiteit Vrystaat
Verkeersimpakte	Ninham Shand
Geotegniese ondersoeke	Ninham Shand
Sosio-ekonomiese impakte	Urban-Econ
Bepanningfaktore	Seaton Thomson & Genote

Daar is ook voorsiening gemaak dat die hele proses deur 'n erkende konsultantmaatskappy, Mark Wood Environmental Consultants, nagegaan word.

Die projek is gebaseer op verskeie ondersoeke wat deur Eskom gedoen is, naamlik die ISEP op nasionale vlak en plaaslike terreinverkenningsondersoeke. Die terreinondersoeke is deur Eskom uitgevoer en vyf moontlike terreine is geïdentifiseer. 'n Rangorde is aan elke terrein toegeken en twee terreine is vir verdere ondersoek geselekteer. Op hierdie wyse is die twee terreine geïdentifiseer wat deel van die OIB-proses sal vorm. Die algemene ligging van die twee alternatiewe terreine, gemerk "X" en "Y" word op **Figuur 1** aangedui. Die terreine word kortliks as volg beskryf:

- **Terrein X** – Die terrein is op of binne die algemene gebied van die voormalige Wilge Kragentrale, naby die oostelike grens van die aangrensende steenkoolveld, geleë. Die grond word tans vir die verbouing van gesaaides en weiveld benut.
- **Terrein Y** – Die terrein lê tussen die Kendal Kragentrale en die N12 snelweg, ten suide van die hoof-steenkoolveld. Die grond word tans vir die verbouing van gesaaides benut.

Die keuse van die terreine sal as deel van die OIB-proses hersien word. Hierdie beoordeling sal deur Mark Wood Consultants, 'n erkende strategiese en

beoordelingskonsultant in die energiebedryf, gedoen word. Eskom se verslag oor die identifisering van die terreine, sowel as die beoordelingsverslag, sal deel van die Omvangbepalingsverslag vorm. Indien die Omvangbepalingsverslag deur die omgewingsowerhede goedgekeur word, sal dit 'n aanduiding wees dat die behoefte aan en die regverdiging van die projek en punte geïdentifiseer deur die Omgewingsinvloedverslag.

Die onderskeie alternatiewe vir elke vlak van die projek sal in die Konsep Omvangbepalingsverslag opgeneem word.

Openbare Deelname

Na afloop van elke rondte openbare deelname sal die publiek vier weke tyd gegun word om kommentaar te lewer. Die volgende komponente is deel van die OIB se openbare deelnameproses:

Fase 1

Die hoofdoel van hierdie fase is om die motivering vir die voorgestelde projek te verduidelik en B&GPe te versoek om enige kwessies of probleme wat daar mag wees, te identifiseer. Fase 1 bestaan uit die volgende stappe:

- 'n Kennisgewing aan alle grondeienaars wat geraak word, asook alle sleutelrolspelers
- 'n Advertensie oor die projek in plaaslike, streeks- en nasionale koerante, met die versoek dat B&GPe registreer en kommentaar lewer;
- Die beskikbaarstelling van 'n agtergrond inligtingsdokument aan B&GPe;
- Gesprekke met sleutelrolspelers, naamlik geaffekteerde grondeienaars, plaaslike owerhede ens; en
- Die hou van 'n openbare vergadering vir sleutelrolspelers en die algemene publiek.

Fase 2

Die primêre doel van Fase 2 is om die Konsep Omvangbepalingsverslag aan B&GPe voor te lê, om aan te toon dat hulle kommentaar tot op datum in aanmerking geneem is, om verdere kommentaar te verkry en/of nog kommentaar of knelpunte te identifiseer. Fase 2 bestaan uit die volgende stappe:

- Insluiting van die openbare kommentaar in die Konsep Omvangbepalingsverslag (in die vorm van 'n Lys van Kwessies wat opgevolg moet word);
- Besikbaarstelling van die Konsep Omvangbepalingsverslag op Eskom se projek-webwerf, asook by openbare biblioteke / munisipale kantore en ander geskikte plekke; en
- Die hou van 'n tweede openbare vergadering om die konsep Omvangbepalingsverslag voor te lê. Die openbare vergaderings sal in koerante geadverteer word. Alle geregistreerde B&GPe sal van die vergadering en die indiening van die verslag in kennis gestel word, asook 'n Uitvoerende Opsomming ontvang.

Fase 3

Fase 3 is daarop gemik om die Verslag oor die Omgewingsinvloedbepaling (OIB) aan B&GPe voor te lê. Dit sluit in:

- Besikbaarstelling van die Konsep OIB-verslag in openbare biblioteke / munisipale kantore / ander geskikte plekke en op Eskom se projekwebwerf;
- Die hou van 'n finale openbare vergadering om die konsepverslag van die OIB voor te lê. Alle geregistreerde B&GPe sal van die vergadering en die indiening van die verslag in kennis gestel word, asook 'n Uitvoerende Opsomming ontvang;
- Finalisering van die OIB-verslag waarby alle openbare kommentaar ingesluit is as deel van die opgedateerde Lys van Kwessies is; en
- B&GPe in te lig oor die uitslag van die OIB-proses.

Fase 4

Daar is 'n periode van 30 dae waarbinne B&GP'e appél kan aanteken teen die Rekord van Besluitneming (RvB) wat deur die omgewingsowerheid uitgereik word. Hierdie periode van appél begin sodra die RvB uitgereik is.

As gevolg van u betrokkenheid by vorige omgewingsprosesse, of as gevolg van u antwoord op die kennisgewings in die koerante, is u as 'n B&GP wat 'n moontlike belang by die projek mag hê, geïdentifiseer. Indien daar enige kwessies of aspekte is wat u met betrekking tot die projek wil noem, word u versoek om die aangehegte Antwoordblad in te vul en dit aan Ninham Shand terug te stuur deur van die ingeslote koevert gebruik te maak, of dit te faks.

Indien u verdere inligting oor die projek en uitnodigings na vergaderings wil ontvang, word u versoek om uself as 'n B&GP te registreer deur in verbinding te tree met:

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NOTA: GESKIEDENIS VAN UITGEBREIDE TERREIN VERSKIESINGSPROSES

Toe die OIB vroeg in 2006 gelas is, is twee terreine gekies vir ondersoek. Die oorspronklike terrein verkiesingsproses se doel was om te dien as die uitgangspunt vir die OIB en dit was onderhewig aan onafhanklike beoordeling. Na hierdie beoordeling het beide Eskom en Ninham Shand saamgestem dat 'n herbeoordelings van die terrein verkiesingsproses waarde sou hê. Daar word geglo dat hierdie proses die OIB grootliks sal versterk en dat 'n gesonde en deeglike terrein verkiesing die basis vorm van die OIB. Hierdie proses, geneem in Julie 2006, lei tot die identifisering van twee heeltemal nuwe terreine vir ondersoek in die IOB proses. (Hierdie BOD weerspieël die nuwe terreine: Terrein X en Terrein Y). Die oorspronklike terreine (Terraïn A en Terraïn B) wat voorheen geïdentifiseer was, is dus uitgesluit van verdere ondersoek. 'n Uitvoerige verduideliking van die terrein verkiesingsproses wat onderneem is, sal in die konsep omvangsbepalingsverslag voorsien word en wat aan die publiek beskikbaar sal wees vir kommentaar laat in Augustus 2006.