

ANNEXURE R

Letter to newly identified landowners



NINHAM SHAND
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15 September 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.

We have experienced extreme difficulty in identifying the landowners concerned and although we have communicated with most, we have appointed a conveyancer to assist us with confirming the few outstanding landowners. We have only recently received your contact details and apologise for the delay in communicating with you. 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 by 26 September 2006.¹

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
Pr/SaNat. 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.

15 September 2006
Geagte Heer/Dame

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**VOORGESTELDE STEENKOOL-AANGEDREWE KRAGSENTRALE EN AANVERWANTE
INFRASTRUKTUUR IN DIE WITBANK GEOGRAFIESE GEBIED:
Uitnodiging tot Deelname en Agtergrond Inligtingsdokument**

U eiendom is geïdentifiseer om binne of naby aan die twee moontlike terreine vir 'n voorgestelde kragentrale in die omgewing van Witbank geleë te wees. Volgens die proses vir 'n Omgewingsinvloedbepaling (OIB), soos omskryf in Regulasie 1183 onder artikel 26 van die Wet op Omgewingsbewaring (Wet Nr 73 van 1989), benodig sodanige aktiwiteite 'n magtiging vanaf die nasionale omgewingsowerheid, die Departement van Omgewingsake en Toerisme (DEAT). Ninham Shand Konsultantdienste is deur Eskom as die onafhanklike Omgewingspraktisyn aangestel om te verseker dat alle wetlike verpligtinge nagekom word.

Ons het heelwat probleme gehad om die alle betrokke grondeienaars op te spoor. Alhoewel ons reeds met meeste in verbinding getree het, moes ons 'n akteprokureur aanstel om inligting oor die oorblywende grondeienaars te bekom. Ons het u besonderhede dus eers onlangs ontvang en vra dus om verskoning vir die feit dat ons nou eers met u in verbinding tree. Aangesien u direk deur die projek geraak word, wil ons u graag van 'n agtergrond inligtingsdokument voorsien en uitnooi om as 'n belanghebbende en geaffekteerde party te registreer, asook om enige kwessies of probleme wat u met die projek mag hê, aan ons deur te gee.

Agtergrond tot die Projek

Eskom se Geïntegreerde Elektrisiteitsbeplanningsproses (oftewel ISEP na aanleiding van die Engelse benaming: *Integrated Strategic Electricity Planning*) is gebaseer op die riglyne van verskeie dokumente soos die Witskrif op Energie, die Geïntegreerde Energiebeleid en Nasionale Geïntegreerde Hulpbronplan (oftewel NIRP na aanleiding van van die Engelse benaming: *National Integrated Resource Plan*). Hierdie proses ondersoek die lang termyn-opsies vir beide die voorsiening van en aanvraag na elektrisiteit in Suid-Afrika. Die mees onlangse ISEP plan (Oktober 2005) identifiseer die behoefte aan 'n verhoogde aanvraag na elektrisiteit teen die jaar 2010.

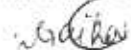
As deel van die plan om elektrisiteitsvoorsiening te verhoog, beplan Eskom om 'n steenkool-aangedrewe kragentrale in die omgewing van Witbank, op die grens tussen Mpumalanga en Gauteng, op te rig.

Agtergrond Inligtingsdokument

'n Agtergrond inligtingsdokument waarin die hele proses, asook die gepaardgaande OIB-proses verduidelik word, word vir u inligting hierby aangeheg. Die dokument is ook in Pedi en Zulu beskikbaar. Voltooi asseblief die aangehegte antwoordvorm en stuur dit terug om ons teen 26 September 2006 te bereik¹.

Moet asseblief nie huiwer om met Lindwe Gaika of Karen Shippey by tel: (021) 481-2501 of e-pos lindiwe.gaika@shands.co.za in verbinding te tree indien u meer inligting verlang. Ons sal graag van u wil hoor.

Die Uwe
NINHAM SHAND



LINDIWE GAIKA

Fasiliteerder: Openbare Deelname



KAREN SHIPPEY
Spasiteer: Openbare Deelname

¹ Indien u geen verdere korrespondensie wil ontvang nie en van ons databasis verwyder wil word, word u versoek om dit duidelik op die antwoordblad aan te dui.