



environment & tourism

Department
Environmental Affairs and Tourism
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag 2447, Pretoria, 0001 - Future Building, 318 Pretorius Street, Pretoria, 0002. Tel: (+27 12) 310 3881 Fax: (+27 12) 320 3882

Ref: 12/12/2005
Tel: (012) 310 3880 Fax: (012) 320 7539 e-mail: dmr@deat.gov.za
Enquiries: DWJ Smit

Ms D Herbst
Environmental Manager, Generation Division
PO Box 1081
JOHANNESBURG
2000

Dear Ms Deirdre Herbst

PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW COAL-FIRED POWER STATION NEAR LEPHALALE IN LIMPOPO PROVINCE.

The Scoping Report for the proposed development of the proposed new coal-fired Power Station dated November 2005 refers.

This Department and the Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, have evaluated the Scoping Report and are satisfied that it complies with the requirements as stipulated in GN No. R. 1183 section 5(2).

By virtue of the power delegated to me in terms of section 33(1) of the Environment Conservation Act, 1989 (Act No. 73 of 1989) I hereby, in terms of section 8(3)(b) of GN No. R. 1183 accept the Scoping Report and request you to further follow the prescribed EIA process by submitting a Plan of Study for the Environmental Impact Assessment.

Please note that the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) must include the following:

- A more detailed description of the process used to determine the choice of Lephalale, the alternatives studied and the assessment criteria as background to the project and explanation of the need and justification for the project.
- A visual presentation of the proposed plant and footprint of the station as this is of great importance in terms of the socio-economic impacts associated with the proposed development and the final placement of the station and associated infrastructure.
- Detail on the water study that is currently underway from the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry. The proponent must obtain all relevant information from the DWAF for incorporation into the EIR. The water study must also include a study on the current groundwater pollution as already present in the study area, and possible future pollution of the groundwater, and recommend measures for control, mitigation and improvement of the water quality as applicable.
- All specialist studies as recommended by the Scoping Report should be completed as part of the EIA phase for incorporation into the EIR.

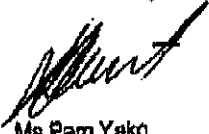
Muhaho we zwa Mupo na Vhwindelamagango • LITiko le TsekozdZawo nkhuluVakasha - lebe lemiChibi yokuPigonglanya nonhambulo
Mozawulo ya Timhaka & Moango - Department: Dngowino en Tourism - Lechobis le Tikhoho le Khatshadi - LeFapho le Tikhologo le Bojanala
Kgato ya Tikhologo le Boisi • UmNyengo wezabhuDuloko nkhuluVakasha - UmNyengo Wazamvulo NkhuluKASHA

Isatko Pale - putting people first

Recommendations:

- This department is of the opinion that by limiting the study to only two alternative sites, it might have serious consequences for the project should any of the two sites be found unsuitable for development at a late stage in the EIA process. It is therefore recommended that at least one more site be added to the final assessment.
- The option of ashing back to the pit should be explored further as an alternative option.

Yours sincerely



Ms Pam Yako
Director - General
Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism
Letter signed by: D W J Smit
Designation: Acting Deputy Director, Env. Impact Mngt
Date: 21/02/2006