

APPENDIX A – Criteria against which the impacts of the proposed power line are evaluated – Kudu Juno 400KV

CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION OF ELEMENTS THAT ARE CENTRAL TO EACH ISSUE.
Conservation Status	<p>A Red Data species is classified as one of the following according to Barnes <i>et al</i> (2000):</p> <p>Critically endangered Species faces an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild</p> <p>Endangered Species faces a very high risk of extinction in the wild</p> <p>Vulnerable Species faces a high risk of extinction in the wild</p> <p>Near-threatened Species is close to or likely to become vulnerable in the near future</p>
Nature of impact	<p>Collision This is a direct impact that occurs when a bird flies into or collides with the overhead conductors or earth wires of a power line</p> <p>Electrocution This is a direct impact that occurs when a bird touches either two live phases, or one live phase and an earthed object simultaneously</p> <p>Habitat destruction This is an indirect impact, whereby construction and/or maintenance of the power line destroys or degrades a particular birds habitat</p> <p>Disturbance This is an indirect impact, whereby construction and/or maintenance activities disturb the bird, particularly during breeding season</p> <p>Nesting This is appositive impact, whereby the power line may provide nesting substrate to certain species</p>
General susceptibility	<p>High The species is known to be frequently impacted on</p> <p>Medium The species is known to be impacted on</p> <p>Low The species is known to be infrequently impacted on</p> <p>Unknown It is unknown whether the species is impacted on</p>
Probability	<p>Improbable The possibility of the impact occurring is very low, due either to the circumstances, design or experience.</p> <p>Probable There is a possibility that the impact will occur to the extent that provisions must therefore be made.</p> <p>Highly probable It is most likely that the impacts will occur at some stage of the development. Plans must be drawn up to mitigate the activity before the activity commences.</p> <p>Definite The impact will take place regardless of any prevention plans.</p>
Scale	<p>Local The impacted area extends only as far as the activity itself, e.g. a footprint</p> <p>Site The impact could affect the whole, or a measurable portion of the site.</p> <p>Off site The impact could affect the area surrounding the development, including the neighbouring properties.</p>

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	<p>Regional The impact would affect the broader region (e.g. neighbouring towns) beyond the boundaries of the adjacent properties.</p>
Expected Locality	This is a description of the specific locality that the impact is likely to occur at.
Duration	<p>Short term The impact will either disappear with mitigation or will be mitigated through a natural process in a period shorter than 2 years.</p> <p>Medium term The impact will last up to the end of the construction phase, where after it will be entirely negated.</p> <p>Long term The impact will continue for the entire operational lifetime of the development, but will be mitigated by direct human action or by natural processes thereafter.</p> <p>Permanent This is the only class of impact that will be non-transitory. Such impacts are regarded to be irreversible, irrespective of what mitigation is applied.</p>
Intensity or Severity	<p>Low The impact alters the environment in such a way that the natural processes or functions can continue with virtually no affect.</p> <p>Medium The affected environment is altered, but functions and processes continue, albeit in a modified way.</p> <p>High Functions or processes of the affected environment are disturbed to the extent where they cease completely.</p>
Significance – without mitigation	<p>No significance The impact will be mitigated to the point where it is regarded to be insubstantial.</p> <p>Low The impact will be mitigated to the point where it is of limited importance.</p> <p>Medium Notwithstanding the successful implementation of the mitigation measures, the impact will remain of significance. However, taken within the overall context of the project, such a persistent impact does not constitute a fatal flaw</p> <p>High Mitigation of the impact is not possible on a cost-effective basis. The impact continues to be of great importance, and, taken within the overall context of the project, is considered to be a fatal flaw in the project proposal</p>
Significance – with mitigation	<p>No significance The impact will be mitigated to the point where it is regarded to be insubstantial.</p> <p>Low The impact will be mitigated to the point where it is of limited importance.</p> <p>Medium Notwithstanding the successful implementation of the mitigation measures, the impact will remain of significance. However, taken within the overall context of the project, such a persistent impact does not constitute a fatal flaw</p> <p>High Mitigation of the impact is not possible on a cost-effective basis. The impact continues to be of great importance, and, taken within the overall context of the project, is considered to be a fatal flaw in the project proposal</p>
Confidence	Low

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The prediction is made in the absence of key information. There is a high degree of uncertainty associated with the prediction of the impact.

Medium

The majority of the necessary information for predicting the impact was available. There is some uncertainty associated with the prediction of the impact.

High

Virtually all the necessary information for predicting the impact was available, with exception of insignificant pieces of information that would not materially affect the outcome of the prediction.

Definite

All necessary information was available for the prediction of the impact. There is no uncertainty associated with the prediction of the impact.

(Adapted from Guideline Document, EIA Regulations, Implementation of sections 21, 22 and 26 of the Environment Conservation Act, April 1998, DEAT & guideline supplied by Strategic Environmental Focus as part of the terms of reference for this project)