

11. TOURISM

11.1. Introduction

SiVEST Selatile Moloi was appointed to undertake a Tourism Impact Assessment for the proposed power station which Eskom are planning to construct and operate.

This EIA report follows from the Scoping Report completed in 2005. The issues identified in this report are examined in more detail in the following report. As part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and in the light of the land uses surrounding the proposed site, it is important that the impact on the existing and future tourism industry is assessed.

The report provides a detailed impact analysis of the proposed impacts and issues of the proposed development specifically related to the preferred site for the proposed development.

The purpose of this report is to evaluate the impact that the preferred site will have on the tourism industry in the area.

11.2. Methodology

Information was gathered about the tourism industry in the area of the development area using the following methods:

- Site visit
- Ad hoc interviews with various tourism facility operators in the area
- Interviews with key stakeholders such as the Lephalale Municipality, tourism facility operators in the immediate area of the existing power station
- Interviews with other consultants who have worked on tourism related projects in the area
- Internet research
- Personal knowledge and application
- Reference to other specialist reports as part of the EIA team.

11.2.1. Assumptions and Limitations

This report is not aimed at providing exhaustive tourism statistics for the Lephalale area. Rather, this report is aimed at providing the EIA team with sufficient information to meaningfully inform the proposed development of a power station and ancillary facilities through the minimisation of negative environmental impacts, and optimisation of positive environmental impacts on the tourism industry in the area.

11.3. Background

11.3.1. Relevant Acts and Policies

- *The White Paper on the Development and Promotion of Tourism in South Africa, 1996*

The White Paper provides a broad framework to guide the development, planning and management of tourism in South Africa. The context is set through a discussion on the potential and economic role of tourism in the country and the identification of constraints that hinder the realisation of this potential. Some of the key constraints relate to inadequate funding, limited community integration, inadequate education and training, poor environmental management, lack of infrastructure, increased levels of crime, and a lack of national, provincial and local tourism structures.

Identifying tourism as an engine for economic growth, the White Paper builds a rationale and sets a clear vision for responsible tourism development. The vision is supported by a set of guiding principles for responsible tourism development and is underpinned by economic, social and environmental objectives.

To achieve the vision, the following key performance areas for tourism development are sighted in the White Paper:

- * a safe and stable tourism environment.
- * involvement of local communities and previously neglected groups.
- * sustainable environmental management practices.
- * creating a globally competitive tourism industry.
- * ensuring innovative development that meet visitor requirements.
- * focus on product development and diversity.
- * effective training, capacity building and awareness promotion.
- * aggressive and creative marketing and promotion.
- * strong economic linkages with other economic sectors.
- * appropriate institutional structures.
- * appropriate support infrastructure.

The White Paper goes further by recommending the formulation of a range of key policies and frameworks that will facilitate the role of tourism as an economic driver.

Areas where further policy development is required include:

- * safety and security.
- * education and training.
- * access to finance.
- * investment incentives.

- * foreign investment.
- * environmental management.
- * product development.
- * cultural resource management.
- * transportation - air and ground.
- * infrastructure.
- * marketing and promotion.
- * product quality and standards.
- * regional co-operation.
- * youth development.

In addition to its recommendations on specific policy development that will smooth the progress of tourism development, the White Paper broadly defines the roles to be played by various stakeholders involved in tourism, and provides a framework for institutional arrangements for tourism in South Africa.

Although the White Paper was developed at national level, it provides an overarching framework to guide tourism development across South Africa. In this respect it allows for the alignment of National, Provincial and Local tourism development to ensure "that everyone pulls in the same direction". The White Paper does not address specific requirements on Provincial or Local level, nor does it provide the required strategic direction. Provincial and Local governments therefore need to align to, and take guidance from the National White Paper when developing their own tourism development strategies as it pertains to the specific dynamics present.

- *Institutional Guidelines for Public Sector Tourism Development and Promotion in South Africa, 1999*
The Inter-provincial Technical Committee of MINMEC (a joint forum of ministers responsible for tourism matters) compiled the Institutional Guidelines, published by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) in 1999. It seeks to formulate the institutional system and mechanisms to facilitate synergy in the management of tourism between the various tiers of government. The document further provides clarity on the roles, responsibilities and allocation of funding at National, Provincial and Local Government level to inform intergovernmental co-ordination on matters regarding tourism.

It is recognised in the institutional guidelines that historical development trends, macro conditions, constitutional dispensation and existing tourism structures differ at the various levels of government. Three models of institutional structures have therefore been proposed to accommodate the relevant circumstances at each level. These include:

- * differentiated model.
- * mainstream model.
- * independent model.

One set of guidelines is proposed to ensure effective monitoring and control regardless of the model followed.

Specific guidelines and conditions with regards to the roles and responsibilities at each level of government are provided. The issues addressed and the respective guidelines in terms of the roles and responsibilities of the Lephalale Municipality at local level include the following:

- * introduction of tourism legislation – alignment of local by-laws and regulations with national and provincial tourism policy.
- * establishing international relations and agreements – reaching agreements with cities/local authorities in other countries, with the knowledge of national and provincial government.
- * international tourism marketing and promotion activities – exposure of local areas within the framework of national marketing strategies and aligned to such.
- * domestic tourism marketing activities – develop domestic marketing strategies in line with provincial marketing framework.
- * provision of tourism infrastructure – providing local infrastructure taking cognisance of provincial tourism strategies.
- * setting of tourism standards – annual inspection, certification and registration of tourism establishments.
- * promoting tourism awareness – plan and implement programmes to improve tourism awareness within local authority in line with national and provincial campaigns.
- * tourism training – assist in the implementation and promotion of national and provincial training programmes.
- * establishing tourism incentives, investment and financing programmes – provide advice and assistance to emerging entrepreneurs in coordination with provincial investment framework.
- * tourism information management – provide appropriate information as input to national and provincial systems.
- * domestic tourism information dissemination – establish local tourism information offices.
- * tourist guiding training – work in collaboration with provincial authorities to ensure representative curriculum content.
- * tourism development – lead tourism development in the area of consultation with provincial authorities.
- * tourism safety and security – establish local tourism safety programmes in collaboration with local business, SAPS and communities.

- *The Tourism Act, 1993*

The objective of the Tourism Act is to make provision for the promotion of tourism to and in the Republic; the further regulation and rationalisation of the tourism industry; measures aimed at the maintenance and enhancement of the standards of facilities and services hired out or made available to tourists; and the co-ordination and rationalization, as far as practicable, of the activities of persons who are active in the tourism industry; with a view to the said matters to establish a board with legal personality which shall be competent and obliged to exercise, perform and carry out certain powers, functions and duties; to authorise the Minister to establish a grading and classification scheme in respect of accommodation establishments, the membership of which shall be voluntary; to authorize the Minister to establish schemes for prescribed sectors of the tourism industry, the membership of which shall be voluntary; to make provision for the registration of tourist guides; to prohibit any person to act for gain as a tourist guide unless he has been registered as a tourist guide in terms of the Act; to authorise the Minister to make regulations; and to provide for matters connected therewith.

The Act prompted the establishment of the South African Tourism Board which acts as the juristic person with regards to this Act.

The object of the board shall be, with due regard to the sustainability of environmental resources, to promote tourism by encouraging persons to undertake travels to and in the Republic, and with a view thereto:

- * to take measures in order to ensure that services which are rendered and facilities which are made available to tourists comply with the highest attainable standards.
- * to manage information and conduct research relating to tourism.
- * to advise the Minister on tourism policy, either of its own volition or when requested to do so by the Minister.

11.3.2. Implications for Development

The proposed development has a number of restrictions, regulations and guidelines that apply to both the construction and operation phases. From a tourism perspective, the Environment Conservation Act (ECA), and more specifically National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), enforce a holistic view of the development through a thorough investigation of all aspects of the environment including tourism as one of the socio-economic imperatives in the area surrounding the proposed development site.

According to the Biodiversity Act (Act No. 10 of 2004), the proposed development must take cognisance of the biodiversity of the area to be developed with special

focus on protected species, alien species and sensitive ecosystems. The development must also be carried out in a way that will ensure that the utilisation of biodiversity is managed in an ecologically sustainable way.

The White Paper on Promotion and Development of Tourism in South Africa, provides guidelines and motivation to the tourism industry which relate specifically to sustainable development and environmental management practices.

The promotion of the tourism industry through the creation of linkages to other economic sectors is probably the most important aspect of the paper. In the case of the proposed power station development, the promotion of linkages between the mining and power generation sector, and the tourism sector should be highlighted through this report. The Tourism Act of 1993 endorses the promotion of tourism in South Africa and established the South African Tourism Board which is responsible for aiding tourism development in an area like Lephale and aiding communities in linking commercial practices with tourism.

11.3.3. Tourism in South Africa

The World Travel and Tourism Council (2003) calculated that South Africa's travel and tourism system generated R108 billion of economic activity (total demand) in 2002. The industry is reported to have had the following *direct* impacts:

- 492 700 jobs are maintained through this economic system, representing 3 per cent of total employment.
- R 31.1 billion of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), equivalent to 3 per cent of the total GDP.

However, since the travel and tourism system touches upon all sectors of the economy, its real impact is far greater. South Africa's travel and tourism economy *directly* and *indirectly* accounts for:

- 1 148 000 jobs, representing 6.9 per cent of total employment.
- R 72.5 billion of GDP, equivalent to 7.1 per cent of total GDP.
- R 42.8 billion of exports, services and merchandise or 12.5 per cent of total exports.
- R 17.1 billion of Capital Investment, or 10.3 per cent of total investment.
- R 920 million of Government Expenditure, or a 0.5 per cent share.

Moreover, the World Travel and Tourism Council argues that over the next ten years South Africa's travel and tourism system is expected to achieve annualised real growth of:

- 5.1 per cent in travel and tourism GDP, R 84.8 billion in 2012 for the industry directly and up to R194.3 billion for the travel and tourism economy overall (this figure includes direct and indirect expenditure).
- 3.3 per cent in travel and tourism employment to 679 200 jobs directly in the industry and 3.1 per cent to 1 555 300 jobs in the travel and tourism economy overall.
- 4.8 per cent in total travel and tourism demand to R 288.5 billion.
- 4.7 per cent in visitor exports, rising to R 86.2 billion.
- 5.2 per cent in terms of capital investment, increasing to R47 billion.
- 1.6 per cent in terms of government expenditure to R1.8 billion.

The tourism industry thus represents an important economic sector in South Africa, which requires attention and effort to strengthen the products, as well as linkages to other economic sectors.

- *International Tourists*
Tourism South Africa (2004) state that the vast majority (55%) of the international tourists to South Africa are from our immediate neighbours. The majority of the remainder (31%) of the international tourists are mostly from United Kingdom, Germany and the USA. In the case of African tourists, the main reasons for visiting the country relate to business travel with holiday or leisure tourism taking in a secondary position. However, in the case of overseas visitors the purpose of visitation is the reverse, with the overriding emphasis on leisure travel.

11.3.4. Tourism in Limpopo Province

The Limpopo Province attracted 3% of foreign tourists to the country in 2003 with 58% of these being for leisure purposes, and only 13% being for business (Strisa, 2004). The vast majority of foreign air travel tourists to the province (70%) travel to the Kruger Park, with none being registered as visiting Lephalale.

Limpopo Province accounted for 6% of foreign tourists in 2004 (SA Tourism, 2004), which relates to the lowest proportion of tourists visiting a province, with the exception of Northern Cape which only captured 3% of the foreign tourists. No details for 2004 were available for domestic visitors.

South African Tourism (2004) state that Limpopo Province received 9.4% of the domestic tourists in 2003, with the province being the 5th most popular province. Most of these trips were from within the province itself. These trips appear to be seasonal, with most of the trips being generated in December.

11.3.5. Tourism in and around Lephalale

- *Tourism Trends and Land Use*

The tourism industry in the Lephalale area is relatively new and is currently in a rapid growth phase (Johan Erasmus, *pers comm.*). The rapid growth is resulting in significant land use changes in and around the town of Lephalale. It has been identified that the three pillars of the economy of the Lephalale Municipality are:

- * Mining and power generation.
- * Agriculture (cattle, citrus, tobacco).
- * Tourism (hunting, ecotourism, business).

Traditionally, the land uses in the area were agricultural (cattle) and mining (coal). Mr Johan Erasmus of the Lephalale Municipality (*pers. comm.*), indicated that 14 years ago, there were in the region of 120 000 head of cattle in the Lephalale Municipality area. This number has shrunk drastically to 20 000 presently. This is likely to indicate a change from an agricultural-based to an ecotourism and hunting-based land use.

Studies referred to in the Tourism Plan for Lephalale (Lorimer & Assoc., 2002) indicate significantly higher stocking rates with wild ungulates when compared to cattle, sheep and goats. The low rainfall and poor grazing experienced by some farmers may be a driving factor for the change from cattle to game farming.

The perceived growth of tourism in this area is relative to the growth of tourism throughout the country, and indeed the Limpopo Province.

Research undertaken by Dr Hendrik Nel and Mr Johan Erasmus (Lephalale Tourism, 2004) showed that over 73% of all visitors to the area are leisure tourists (this includes hunting and ecotourism). Business tourism makes up over 20% of the visitors, and over 6% are holiday makers passing through the area. This research also showed that while tourism currently only represents around 2.2% of GDP of the Lephalale area, the contribution to the tertiary sector of the economy was 30.2%. The enormous contribution of the power station and mine to the local economy explains this skew. Furthermore it is noted that although foreign tourists only make up 31% of the tourists to the area, they contribute over 46% to the tourism income. Limpopo visitors and Lephalale residents both contribute less than 2% of the tourism income, with visitors from the rest of South Africa contributing 52% of the tourism economy, but making up 67% of the total visitors. This once again highlights the economic importance of the foreign tourism to the area.

The most significant numbers of tourists to the area (also based on contribution to the economy) have been broken down into the following groups:

- * Business
 - * Leisure
 - Hunting
 - Ecotourism
 - * Passing through
- *Tourism Supply*

The estimated number of beds in the area at the end of 2004 was over 3000 (Strisa, 2004). Most of these beds are available in lodges (1022) and chalets (1009), followed by guesthouses (553) and farmhouses (231). Hotels (113) and motels (89) also have significant numbers of beds. Permanent tents (145) and tent stands (129) are less numerous, with a mere 12 beds in bush camps.

Lodges, chalets and other 'bush' accommodation supply the hunting and ecotourism markets, while the hotels, motels and guest houses supply the business tourism markets. It is interesting to note that while lodges and chalets have the highest number of beds, they have relatively low occupancies and short stay durations. The highest occupancy rates are noted in the hotels, motels and guest lodges. Research undertaken by SiVEST Selatile Moloi has shown that these constant and high occupancy rates (sometimes up to 80% or more averaged over a year) are due to the constant stream of business people to the area. These business tourists are primarily visiting the power station and mine for work purposes.

Lodges and other 'bush' accommodation, are primarily occupied by hunters. The hunting season is at its peak during the winter, which is when occupancies in lodges are highest, usually around 80%.

- *Tourism Demand*

Tourism demand in the area relates primarily to the outdoor and wildlife aspects with 74% of all tourists visiting the Lephalale area for these reasons (Lephalale Tourism, 2004). The importance of business tourism cannot be underestimated, however. The occupancy rates for hotels and motels are unusually high (65% and 80% respectively).

These occupancies do not show seasonal variation and appear to reflect the high numbers of business tourists staying in these facilities. The main industries in the area are mining, power generation and retail. Business tourism makes up a far less percentage of tourists visiting the area, but the

length of stay is notably higher than leisure tourists which make up the vast majority of the tourists to the area.

In summary, the tourism demand in terms of tourism numbers appears to be primarily from leisure tourism, but occupancy rates are on average below 50% on an annual basis. This occupancy is highly seasonal. The business tourism reflects lower numbers, but longer stays and high, constant occupancy rates of between 60% and 80%.

Recently, there have been no tours to the existing power station, whereas weekly tours were previously available. The potential for these tours to take place is certainly there, but the Communications Officer at the power station explained that these groups need to be screened for security purposes before being allowed to make a booking. The majority of tours around Matimba Power Station are primarily for educational purposes for schools. No further details were available on the frequency, or size of these tours.

- *Business Tourism*

This type of tourism reflects the tourist who visits an area purely to do business. Any other tourism activities such as sight-seeing or game viewing for example, are secondary. Limpopo visitors are the most important for business tourism as they make up 34.5% of tourists in the area, while business visitors from the rest of South Africa make up 26.3% of tourists, with 7% being foreign and 5% being from Lephalale itself (Lephalale Tourism, 2004). Therefore, most of these tourists come from within South Africa, with less than 10% coming from outside the country.

Business tourists stay primarily in hotels and motels. The occupancy rates for hotels and motels are unusually high (65% and 80% respectively). These occupancies are also unusually aseasonal. The main industries in the area are mining, power and retail. Many of the institutions interviewed stated that most business tourists were linked to the power station, mining and other retail. It was also stated that the shut down periods at the power station usually corresponded with 100% occupancy at some tourism establishments. Government departments such as the Department of Education also provided good business for some hotels.

Business tourism makes up a far less percentage of reasons for visiting the area, but the length of stay is notably higher than leisure tourists which make up the vast majority of the tourists to the area. Unfortunately no information was available on the percentage contribution of this form of tourism to the local economy.

- *Leisure Tourism*

Leisure tourism is important to the future of the tourism market in the Lephalale area. This type of tourism accounts for the majority of the tourists to the area (Lephalale Tourism, 2004). Almost 90% of foreign tourists are visiting the area for leisure purposes, with this being represented by 55.2% of Limpopo tourists, 66.1% of visitors from the rest of South Africa, and 95% of visitors from within Lephalale.

Leisure tourism is made up of a number of subgroupings, which include ecotourism and hunting, but also include other activities such as sport (golf), visiting restaurants and water sports. These activities have been grouped into broad groups of ecotourism (game viewing, photographic safaris, family holidays on game farms etc) and hunting. These tourists generally spend their time in the game reserves and lodges in the area, but visitors from the local area are also noted as visiting the area for sporting purposes and visiting restaurants. While this study has not expressly focussed on sporting and restaurants (as they represent very low percentages of reasons for visiting the area), it is interesting to note that 40% (by far the majority) of leisure tourists from the Lephalale area cite visiting restaurants as being their primary activity. No information was available of the contribution these tourists make to the economy.

- * *Ecotourism*

Ecotourism or photographic safaris (as opposed to hunting) is a relatively new industry in the area. It is noted that 20% of foreign leisure tourists visiting the area, visit the area for this reason, with approximately 60% of Limpopo leisure visitors, just over 60% of leisure visitors from the rest of South Africa, and approximately 20% of Lephalale leisure visitors being in the area of this reason. While many hunting lodges also offer ecotourism opportunities, these activities often cannot occur within the same space at the same time. From the distinct drop off of occupancies at lodges and other bush accommodation during summer, the importance of increasing occupancy through ecotourism during the hunting low season is seen to be important.

- * *Hunting*

Hunting (as a form of leisure tourism) is an important sector of the area's tourism industry. For lodges and other bush accommodation, this appears to be their main source of tourists. In fact, this sector makes up over 88% of the foreign leisure tourists to the area, over 11% of Limpopo leisure visitors, 21% of leisure visitors from the rest of South Africa, and less than 2% of leisure visitors from Lephalale. This industry is certainly the mainstay of leisure tourism in the area, and it is expected to grow substantially over the next few years.

- *Passing Through*

The location of Lephale on a major route between Gauteng and Botswana means that it is subject to a proportion of tourism which visits the area only consequentially. This form of tourism comprises just over 3% of foreign tourists to the area, 7.5% of Limpopo visitors, 66% of visitors from the rest of South Africa and does not apply to those from the Lephale area. Various sectors of the tourism industry (for example hotels, motels and restaurants) will certainly benefit from this strategic benefit. This form of tourism is considered small and is therefore not considered further in this scoping study.

11.3.6. Future tourism in and around Lephale

The projected tourism growth in the Lephale area should be considered when planning any significant development. The importance of the tourism industry to the economy of the area is likely to continue to grow into the future. This is likely to be related to the hunting and ecotourism industries, but could also be linked to any expansion of the industrial operations and the related business tourism. The existing importance of the business tourism sector, and its strong links to the mine and power station are also viewed as important.

The Lephale area has been described from a tourism perspective by Lorimer and Associates (2002). The main groupings of tourism attraction areas are listed below:

- A sporting centre (Lephale town)
- An events venue (Lephale town)
- Game watching
 - * D’Nyala Nature Reserve
 - * Ferroland Private Game Reserve
 - * Mokolo Nature Reserve and adjoining areas
 - * Lapalala Wilderness and adjoining areas
 - * Marakele National Park, Welgevonden Game Reserve and adjoining areas
 - * Wonderkop Reserve and adjoining areas
 - * All areas along the Limpopo River

While these may have been identified as tourism attraction areas, the opinion is that only the “game watching” areas would potentially be affected by the proposed development.

The challenge faced by the tourism industry in the area is to increase leisure tourism / ecotourism visitors in the summer seasons. This would primarily relate to ecotourism rather than hunting. The various marketing strategies done by the

Municipality reflect this as a primary objective. There is also potential to increase tourism in the area through tours to the power station(s) and/or the mine.

11.4. Findings of Site Selection Process

The result of the Scoping Report, and based on the findings of all the specialist reports, was that the preferred farms were Naauwontkomen and Eenzaamheid. For the purposes of this EIA Tourism Impact Study, we have examined these two farms only.

As identified in the scoping report, the proposed power station is anticipated to result in the following impacts which could possibly relate to the tourism industry:

- Visual Impact
- Noise Pollution
- Air Pollution
- Groundwater Pollution
- Surface Water Pollution
- Soil Pollution
- Increased business visits to the area
- Land Use

While we have not examined specifically the holistic effects of environmental impacts described above, we have related them to the tourism industry. These impacts are considered in relation to the following types of tourism which are common in the study area:

- Leisure
 - ❖ hunting
 - ❖ ecotourism
- Business

11.5. Evaluation of Impacts Relating to the Tourism Industry

SiVEST Selatile Moloi has identified 4 major impacts that are likely to result from the development of the proposed power station and ancillary facilities:

- Visual Impact
- Noise Impact
- Land Use
- Corporate Demand

11.5.1. Visual Impact Relative to Tourism

- Construction Phase

IMPACT	VISUAL IMPACT This table assesses the impacts related to visual impact.
Temporal Scale	Short Term
Spatial Scale	Localised
Severity / Beneficial	Slight
Significance	Low
Risk / Likelihood	May occur
Degree Of Confidence	Probable
Discussion	<p>The visual impact is likely to have a negative effect mostly on the nearby existing tourism facilities.</p> <p>The visual impact of construction vehicles on the roads, and construction related facilities will be increased and may detract to a small degree from the tourism experience.</p>
Mitigation Measures	The recommendations made in the Visual Impact Assessment should be implemented.

- Operation Phase

IMPACT	VISUAL IMPACT This table assesses the impacts related to visual impact.
Temporal Scale	Permanent
Spatial Scale	Localised
Severity / Beneficial	Moderately severe
Significance	Low
Risk / Likelihood	May occur
Degree Of Confidence	Probable

IMPACT	VISUAL IMPACT This table assesses the impacts related to visual impact.
Discussion	<p>The proposed development will be seen from up to 20km away, especially from elevated areas, and areas close by.</p> <p>The lighting will be seen from even further, and more obviously at night.</p> <p>The location and placement of these lights could potentially be the most significant negative impact at night.</p>
Mitigation Measures	<p>The fact that the proposed power station will be located in close proximity to the existing power station, means that the cumulative impact will be relatively low - this is the main mitigation factor, which was agreed as a result of the Scoping Report.</p> <p>The mitigation measures recommended by the Visual Impact Specialist will suffice for the tourism section.</p> <p>All lighting should be inward and downward pointing.</p>

11.5.2. Noise Impact Relative to Tourism

- *Construction Phase*

IMPACT	NOISE IMPACT This table assesses the impacts related to noise impact.
Temporal Scale	Short term
Spatial Scale	Localised
Severity / Beneficial	Moderately severe
Significance	Moderate
Risk / Likelihood	Will definitely occur
Degree Of Confidence	Definite
Discussion	<p>Construction activities, by their very nature are noisy, especially for a development of this scale.</p> <p>Tourism facilities close to the proposed development are likely to be subject to higher noise levels than those further away.</p>

IMPACT	NOISE IMPACT This table assesses the impacts related to noise impact.
Mitigation Measures	<p>Mitigation measures as recommended by the Noise Impact Specialist will suffice.</p> <p>The placement of the proposed development in close proximity is the most effective mitigation measure.</p>

- *Operation Phase*

IMPACT	NOISE IMPACT This table assesses the impacts related to noise impact.
Temporal Scale	Permanent
Spatial Scale	Localised
Severity / Beneficial	Severe
Significance	Moderate
Risk / Likelihood	May occur
Degree Of Confidence	Probable
Discussion	<p>Noise Impact will be an issue to surrounding land users within a 6km radius.</p> <p>This radius includes a number of tourism operators, but the issue of cumulative impact will likely make the difference in noise from ambient conditions imperceptible.</p>
Mitigation Measures	The recommendations of the Noise Impact Specialist would suffice.

11.5.3. Land Use Relative to Tourism

- *Construction Phase*

IMPACT	LAND USE This table assesses the impacts related to the various land uses surrounding the preferred site.
Temporal Scale	Short term
Spatial Scale	Localised
Severity / Beneficial	Moderately severe
Significance	Low
Risk / Likelihood	May occur
Degree Of Confidence	Definite
Discussion	<p>The various land uses surrounding the proposed development sites are dominated by cattle farming to the immediate south, hunting and ecotourism to the immediate north and residential to the east. Mixed cattle farming and hunting occurs to the west of the existing power station.</p> <p>There are existing tourism-related land uses currently taking place on land that is being considered for site alternatives, these are listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eenzaamheid – cattle/game farming • Naauwonkomen – Grootegeluk (Ferroland) – game farm and hunting area <p>Since development is taking place on at least one of the sites where game farming and hunting presently occurs, there will be a significant and immediate negative impact on that tourism activity.</p> <p>There are no tourism activities that operate, or depend exclusively on the sites put forward as preferred sites.</p>
Mitigation Measures	The existing game currently on the site should be carefully moved off prior to any site clearing so as not to negatively impact negatively on the tourism feasibility related to these animals (both for game viewing and hunting)

- *Operation Phase*

IMPACT	LAND USE This table assesses the impacts related to the various land uses surrounding the preferred site.
Temporal Scale	Permanent
Spatial Scale	Localised
Severity / Beneficial	Moderately severe
Significance	High
Risk / Likelihood	Will definitely occur
Degree Of Confidence	Definite
Discussion	<p>The various land uses surrounding the proposed development sites are dominated by cattle farming to the immediate south, hunting and ecotourism to the immediate north and residential to the east. Mixed cattle farming and hunting occurs to the west of the existing power station.</p> <p>There are existing tourism-related land uses currently taking place on land that is being considered for site alternatives, these are listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eenzaamheid – cattle/game farming • Naauwonkomen – Grootegeeluk (Ferroland) – game farm and hunting area <p>Since development is taking place on at least one of the sites where game farming and hunting presently occurs, there will be a significant and immediate negative impact on that tourism activity.</p> <p>There are no tourism activities that operate, or depend exclusively on the sites put forward as preferred sites.</p>
Mitigation Measures	<p>Discussions between Kumba Resources and Eskom should be initiated with regards to the loss of hunting/game breeding land as a result of the development.</p> <p>This should be agreed with the farm manager.</p> <p>It was discussed that potentially farms to the south west of the current reserve could be available for such purposes.</p>

11.5.4. Corporate Demand

- *Construction Phase*

IMPACT	CORPORATE DEMANDS This table assesses the impacts related to the corporate demands of the s surrounding areas.
Temporal Scale	Short term
Spatial Scale	Localised
Severity / Beneficial	Very beneficial
Significance	Very high
Risk / Likelihood	May occur
Degree Of Confidence	Probable
Discussion	<p>Corporate demand describes the demand for business tourism accommodation in the area. This impact is likely to be positive and will be the fastest growth area of tourism should the development proceed.</p> <p>The increased influx of business tourists during construction (short term) will create an increased demand for accommodation to cater for this market.</p> <p>Linked to this corporate demand, it could also be argued that exposure of the area not only as a business destination, but the possibility of repeat visits for leisure purposes (by business tourists with their families for example) would be a secondary spin-off of the increased business tourism.</p> <p>Negative impacts could also be related to the construction phase. These relate mainly to safety and security concerns as a result of increased construction workers who will potentially temporarily move into the area. Concerns relate to the current low level of crime which could increase. The impact of this on the tourism industry is difficult to quantify, but is noted here as a concern to be mitigated.</p>

IMPACT	CORPORATE DEMANDS This table assesses the impacts related to the corporate demands of the s surrounding areas.
Mitigation Measures	<p>The mitigation measures all relate to the marketing of the tourism operations in the area.</p> <p>Eskom has an opportunity to provide a significant thrust for the development of the tourism accommodation in the area through promoting tourism accommodation and other tourism attractions in the area to all parties involved with the construction phase of the proposed development.</p> <p>This promotion should take place in conjunction with the Local Municipality who are very active in the coordination of tourism in Lephalale.</p> <p>Close coordination with South African Police Service and contractors to avoid any increase in crime related issues.</p>

- *Operation Phase*

IMPACT	CORPORATE DEMANDS This table assesses the impacts related to the corporate demands of the s surrounding areas.
Temporal Scale	Permanent
Spatial Scale	Localised
Severity / Beneficial	Beneficial
Significance	High
Risk / Likelihood	May occur
Degree Of Confidence	Probable
Discussion	<p>Corporate demand describes the demand for business tourism accommodation in the area. This impact is likely to be positive and will be the fastest growth area of tourism should the development proceed.</p> <p>The increased influx of business tourists during operation (long term) will create an increased demand for accommodation to cater for this market.</p> <p>Linked to this corporate demand, it could also be argued that exposure of the area not only as a business destination, but the possibility of repeat visits for leisure purposes (by business tourists with their families for example) would be a secondary spin-off of the increased business tourism.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">IMPACT</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CORPORATE DEMANDS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">This table assesses the impacts related to the corporate demands of the s surrounding areas.</p>
<p>Mitigation Measures</p>	<p>The mitigation measures all relate to the marketing of the tourism operations in the area.</p> <p>Eskom has an opportunity to provide a significant thrust for the development of the tourism accommodation in the area through promoting tourism accommodation and other tourism attractions in the area to all parties involved with the operation phase of the proposed development.</p> <p>This promotion should take place in conjunction with the Local Municipality who are very active in the coordination of tourism in Lephalale.</p>

11.6. Conclusions

The EIA Report has assessed the predicted impacts of various aspects of the proposed power station and its ancillary activities. The loss of hunting and game breeding areas will have a short-term negative impact on the operations of the Ferroland reserve which depends on game breeding and hunting for income through this form of tourism. This could be mitigated if other land is made available for these land uses. Other negative impacts relate to the perception of many tourism operators that there could be an increase in crime due to the increased numbers of construction workers during the construction phase. Many of these workers could be migrant and an "unknown quantity" in terms of crime.

The highly positive significant impact of the influx of business tourism to the area during the construction and operation phases will outweigh the negative impacts on the immediate ecotourism and hunting facilities. It is important to note that the cumulative impact of the proposed power station is considered low and is certainly not 'twice the impact'. The mitigation measures, together with the positive impacts will promote the area as a tourism destination while on business.

The tourism industry in the Lephalale area is currently in a growth phase, largely as a result of the changing rural land uses from agriculture to game farming/hunting/ecotourism. The increase in the importance of industry (which generates "direct" business tourism and "indirect" leisure tourism) in the area has also been a driving factor ensuring high occupancies at a number of the tourism accommodation facilities in the urban areas of Lephalale.

In general, it is anticipated that the proposed power station development would create more business for the urban accommodation in the area, but would be marginal in its positive impact on the rural accommodation which is not in the

immediate location of the power station. However, the increased presence of business tourists in the area, would create opportunities for the rural accommodation (lodges etc) and increase the chance that these business tourists could return at a later stage with their families as leisure tourists.

Concerns of tourism accommodation operators related to possible increases in crime during the construction phase in particular. While unrelated to this particular project, other concerns related to the repeated power cuts that affected many of these establishments. Some land owners and tourism accommodation operators are concerned with issues related to the existing power station and mine. These issues include visual and noise impact, as well as concerns relating to trees dying and fences rusting in the vicinity of the power station. These impacts, while real and significant for landowners adjacent to the power station, do not seem to be reflected by other tourism operators further from the power station.

11.7. Recommendations

It is our opinion that the proposed power station development will not adversely affect the existing overall tourism industry in the area. In contrast, we have found that it is likely to in fact increase tourism numbers to the area (albeit in the form of business tourism) as well as increasing the profile of the area as a unique ecotourism area. Our recommendations specific to the tourism industry are as follows:

- It is recommended that the discussions are initiated between Eskom and Kumba Resources with regards to the loss of land that will be experienced by the Ferroland reserve.
- Visual impact of power station to be reduced as advised by the Visual Impact Specialist and in this report
- Noise impact of power station to be reduced as advised by the Noise Impact Specialist and in this report
- The existing ecotourism venues in Lephale should be marketed and that a variety of local tourism accommodation venues are marketed and promoted to business tourists visiting the existing and new power station. It is recommended that a committee could be set up and that the Local municipality and Eskom participate in this committee.
- Close liaison between Eskom, the contractors and the South African Police Service to control potential crime increases during construction.