

BRAAMHOEK TRANSMISSION POWER LINE AND SUB-STATION INTEGRATION

ANNEXURE 5:

Focus Group Meetings

Emnambithi/Ladysmith Local Municipality

Ladysmith & District Farmers Association

Estcourt Farmers Association (Meeting with Mr Ralfe)

Besters farmers Association

Environmental Impact Assessments

BRAAMHOEK TRANSMISSION POWER LINE AND SUB-STATION INTEGRATION

CONSTRUCTION AND UPGRADE OF ACCESS ROADS

For the Eskom Braamhoek Pumped Storage Scheme

**MEETING TO DISCUSS THE FINDINGS OF DRAFT SCOPING
REPORTS**

**Proceedings of meeting between Emnambithi/Ladysmith Local Municipality and
Council, Eskom (Transmission and Generation) PBA International (SA), Braamhoek
Consultants Joint Venture and ACER (Africa) Environmental Management
Consultants**

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MURCHISON STREET, LADYSMITH

**6 MAY 2005
13H00 – 14H30**

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1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Councillor R Reddy welcomed all present and thanked them for attending the meeting. He requested all present to introduce themselves, the organisations they represent and state their role in the project.

A moment's silence was observed for the recent passing of the Mayor and Municipal Manager of Emnambithi/Ladysmith Local Municipality.

Councillor Reddy asked for comments or amendments on previous minutes distributed recently for meetings held to discuss the projects. No changes were proposed and the minutes were accepted.

2. ATTENDANCE

Attendance was as follows:

NAME	POSITION/PORTFOLIO	ORGANISATION
Coert Venter	Client Office Manager (Pumped Storage)	Eskom
Frans Louwinger	CED	Eskom Enterprises
Ntombi Malinga	Stakeholder Management	Eskom Generation
Desiree Siwela	Communication	Eskom Generation
Tony Stott	Senior Manager – Stakeholder Management	Eskom Generation
Carol Streaton	Environmental Practitioner	Eskom Transmission
Mamokete Mafumo	Environmental Officer	Eskom Transmission
Pieter Steenkamp	Negotiator	Eskom Transmission
Tobile Bokwe	Senior Environmental Advisor	Eskom Generation
Gladys Kubheka	Chairperson	Brakwal & Besters Residents Association – Ward 13
Alfred Mbatha	Safety and Security – Van Reenen	Emnambithi Local Municipality – Ward 13
Sam Hadebe	Chairperson	Van Reenen – Ward 13
James Luthuli	Team Leader	Van Reenen Development Committee
Cynthia Motha	Technical Assistant	Emnambithi Local Municipality
Peter Opperman	BEE	Emnambithi Local Municipality
Angela Ngoato	Project Manager	Eskom Development Foundation
Ken Gordon	Chairman	Wildlife & Environment Society of SA
Ash Sompersadh	Borough Engineer	Emnambithi Local Municipality
Ganas A Pillay	Deputy Town Secretary	Emnambithi Local Municipality
Thandi R Ndlovu	Deputy President	Emnambithi Chamber of Business
Hilda Ntuli	Member	Ezakeni Ward Committee
NT Buthelezi	Councillor	Emnambithi Local Municipality
TE Mazibuko	Councillor	Emnambithi Local Municipality
Bertie le Roux	Local Economic Development Manager	Emnambithi Local Municipality
Louis van Wyk	Chief Town Planner	Emnambithi Local Municipality
R Niemand	Councillor	Emnambithi Local Municipality
N Sigasa	Councillor	Emnambithi Local Municipality
RG Reddy	Councillor	Emnambithi Local Municipality
YE Seedat	Engineering Assistant - Planning	Emnambithi Local Municipality
Jose Magasela	Chairperson Ward 13	Emnambithi Local Municipality
Jaana-Maria Ball	Team Leader: Environmental	Braamhoek Consultants Joint Venture
Dave Montgomery	Project Leader: Roads	Braamhoek Consultants Joint Venture

NAME	POSITION/PORTFOLIO	ORGANISATION
Robert Gibson	Project Manager	Braamhoek Consultants Joint Venture
Moses Mahlangu	Lead Consultant: Transmission Integration	Margen Industrial Services
Stuart Dunsmore	Project Leader: Transmission Integration	PBA International (SA)
Debbie McKirdy	Public Participation Consultant	ACER (Africa) Env. Management Consultants
Bongi Shinga	Public Participation Consultant	ACER (Africa) Env. Management Consultants

An attendance register with signatures is provided in Appendix A.

3. BACKGROUND AND APPROACH TO THE MEETING

A Public Meeting was held on 6 May 2005 at 09h30 in Ladysmith at the Ladysmith Royal Hotel. During consultation with the Emnambithi/Ladysmith Local Municipality, it was suggested that a separate meeting be held with the Municipality representatives, Councillors and various Development Committees to discuss the findings of the Draft Scoping Reports.

4. OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

Councillor Reddy indicated that the primary objective of the meeting is to enable all parties involved to understand and recognise the involvement of the Emnambithi/Ladysmith Local Municipality in the proposed Braamhoek project and its various components. He stressed that the socio-economic component of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is important for the Emnambithi/Ladysmith Local Municipality.

In addition, he indicated that the Emnambithi/Ladysmith Local Municipality is committed to the following:

- Getting communities to participate in projects.
- Ensuring that decisions taken reflect the demographics of the land.
- Local Economic Development.
- Poverty alleviation.
- Improve quality of life and/or social upliftment.

He stated that the Municipality believes that the project will be a success, i.e. a win-win project for both the Municipality and Eskom. The Municipality will ensure that they provide support and assistance to the Project Team where possible. He thanked the Project Team and Eskom for the ongoing communication as the EIA process and planning progresses.

5. TRANSMISSION POWER LINE AND SUB-STATION INTEGRATION EIAs: MAIN FINDINGS OF THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORTS

Mr Stuart Dunsmore (EIA Project Leader, PBA International) presented the main findings of the Draft Scoping Reports.

- Findings of Substation DSR.
- Findings of Turn-in DSR.
- Findings of Transmission Power Line DSR.

The summary of the information presented is provided in Appendix B. Section 7 below summarises key points that were raised and discussed after Mr Dunsmore's presentation.

6. CONSTRUCTION AND UPGRADE OF ACCESS ROADS EIA: MAIN FINDINGS OF THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORTS

Ms Jaana-Maria Ball (EIA Consultant, Braamhoek Consultants Joint Venture) presented the main findings of the Draft Scoping Report. The following components were outlined:

- External access roads.
- Internal access roads.
- Internal site access roads.

The summary of the information presented is provided in Appendix B. Section 7 below summarises key points that were raised and discussed after Ms Ball's presentation.

7. DISCUSSION

This section summarises key points that were discussed:

Comments/Concerns/Issues	Response
Eskom needs to deal with issues associated with relocation well in advance and in close consultation with the Emnambithi/Ladysmith Municipality.	Noted.
How many permanent employees are expected at the Braamhoek Pumped Storage Scheme (BPSS)?	Approximately 35 permanent after construction
Where will permanent employees for the BPSS be situated? Will they stay in Van Reenen, Ladysmith, etc?	No special accommodation arrangements will be made for people working on the BPSS, they will be expected to find their own housing or accommodation.
How is Eskom going to deal with sourcing of labour and materials locally? Discussions should be held between the Emnambithi Chamber of Business, Emnambithi Local Municipality and Eskom regarding Eskom's procurement policy.	The contract documents will specify that the lead contractors must use local sub-contractors where possible. Eskom will liaise with Emnambithi Municipality on the availability of local skills and service providers.
Most people living in the Zaaifontein area have a large number of cattle. Will Eskom consider alternative arrangements in terms of accommodating the capacity of cattle farming in the Zaaifontein area since the area will be narrowed due to the proposed development? What is going to happen?	Zaaifontein will not be significantly affected by the development of the BPSS, and Eskom will consider leasing the land for grazing after construction.
Eskom needs to be aware of the change of ownership on a number of farms within the study area.	Noted.
There are housing developments planned in the Besters area. Cllr Reddy requested Mr Pillay will need to liaise with the Department of Housing in this regard and feedback to the Project Team.	Noted.
The Development Committees were keen to understand how Eskom is planning to undertake the relocation process should it be necessary.	Mr Tony Stott indicated that Eskom would employ social consultants who understand the language of the area, the way people live, etc. No decisions have been made regarding relocation, however Eskom is looking at the best solution possible.

Comments/Concerns/Issues	Response
Mr Bertie le Roux requested some clarity on the status of the project in terms of the Local Chamber of Commerce getting businesses on the tender list.	This will be done in the near future and would be a separate process. All relevant parties will be contacted once the process has been initiated.
The Emnambithi/Ladysmith Local Municipality recommended that Councillors Buthelezi and Gasa be part of the team that will deal with the relocation of graves.	Noted.

8. CONCLUDING REMARKS

Councillor Reddy stressed that all issues were crucial to the EIA process. He asked that all present submit comments to the public participation office. Councillor Reddy thanked all present for their input and participation in the process and closed the meeting.

APPENDIX A: ATTENDANCE REGISTER

A scanned version of the Attendance Register is available on request.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

■ **ESKOM BRAAMHOEK TRANSMISSION POWERLINE AND SUB-STATION INTEGRATION**

(EIAs: 12/12/20/672; 12/12/20/673; 12/12/20/674)




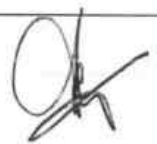
■ **CONSTRUCTION AND UPGRADE OF ACCESS ROADS (EIA A24/16/3/110)**








For the Eskom Braamhoek Pumped Storage Scheme



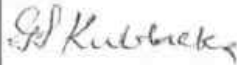
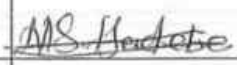

EMNAMBITHI/LADYSMITH LOCAL MUNICIPALITY MEETING: EMNAMBITHI/LADYSMITH MUNICIPAL OFFICES

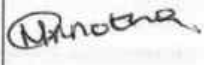


06 MAY 2005 AT 13H00

FOCUS MEETING TO DISCUSS THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT

Title	Full Name	Position	Organisation	Postal Address	Telephone, Fax, Cell and EMail address	Signature
MR	THAMSAQA ERNEST MAZIBUKO	COUNCILLOR	EMNAMBITHI/LADYSMITH MUNICIPALITY	P.O. Box 2787 LADYSMITH 3370	T: F: 036-6311346 C: EMail:	
MR	NDUNA THEOPHILUS BUTHELEZI	COUNCILLOR	EMNAMBITHI/LADYSMITH MUNICIPALITY	P.Bag 9948 LADYSMITH 3370	T: F: C: 0814978739 EMail:	
MRS	Aida Muli	Observer	—	Box 2607 Ladysmith	T: F: C: 076 159 1423 EMail:	
MRS	Thandi Ndlovu	CHAMBER OF BUSINESS	EMNAMBITHI CHAMBER OF BUSINESS		T: F: C: EMail:	
MR	GANAS PILAY	DEPUTY TOWN SECRETARY	EMNAMBITHI/LADYSMITH MUNICIPALITY	P.O. Box 29	T: 036-6372231 F: 036-6311400 C: 0828021617 EMail:	

Title	Full Name	Position	Organisation	Postal Address	Telephone, Fax, Cell and Email address	Signature
Mrs	SORINA MAGSAY	Comm Clerk	Elh. Mun	Box 29 Ladyark	T: 036 637 2231 F: 036 631 1400 C: 0836327079 Email: sorina@elhic.net	
MR	Coert Venter	Client Office Manager (Pumped Storage)	ESKOM	PO Box 3487 Tjopsvalley 7536	T: 021 914 3111 F: 021 914 3121 C: 082 566 5053 Email: coert.venter@ eskom.co.za	
Mr	Frans Louwinger	Eskom. Corporate Specialist (Hydro)	Eskom	Megawatt Park Sunninghill P.O. Box 1091 Sandton. Jhb 2000	T: 011 800 4949 F: 011 500 4522 C: 082 461 4801 Email: frans.louwinger@ eskom.co.za	
Ms	Ntombikanina Malinga	Eskom Gx Stakeholder Management	Eskom	MWP - JHB (Sunninghill)	T: 011 800 2249 F: - C: 082 929 7996 Email: MalingaN@eskom	
Ms	Desiree Swela	ESKOM Gx Communication	Eskom	MWP- JHB	T: - F: - C: 072 442 3135 Email: desiree.swela@eskom.co.za	
Mr	TONY STOTT	Senior Mgr Generation Stakeholder Management	Eskom	P. o. Box 1091 Johannesburg 2000	T: 011 800 2004 F: 011 800 2782 C: 083 655 2004 Email: tony.stott@eskom.co.za	
M.S.	CAROL STREATOR.	TR ESKOM ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER	ESKOM.	4	T: 011 - 800 - 5411 F: 011 - 800 - 3917 C: 083 653 1545 Email: carol.streator@ eskom.co.za	

Title	Full Name	Position	Organisation	Postal Address	Telephone, Fax, Cell and EMail address	Signature
Mr.	Pieter Steenkamp	Land Rights Negotiator	Eskom Tx.	Box 1091 JHB. 2000	T: 011-800 5818 F: 011-800 3917 C: EMail: P.Steenkamp@ eston.co.za	
Mr	Jose Maseela	Chairperson -Ward 13	Ward 13	P.O. Box 419 Lansdowne 3370	T: N/A F: N/A C: 0733366718 EMail: -	
Miss	Gudys Kurbucke	Chairperson Brakwal + BESTERS	Ward 13	Brakwal School P.O. Box 42 BESTERS 3371	T: N/A F: N/A C: 0836241975 EMail:	
MR	alfred mabatha	CHAIRPERSON SECURITY VAN REENEN	Ward 13	BOJL 20	T: F: C: EMail: -	A.M.
MR	SAMUEL HADEBE.	Chairperson VAN REENEN	WARD 13	Box 233 VRN 3372	T: - F: - C: 076 140 6315 EMail: -	
MR	Luthuli	Van Reenen	WARD 13	P.O. Box 33 Van Reenen 3372	T: F: C: 073-5162430 EMail:	
					T: F: C: EMail: MUNICIPAL	

Title	Full Name	Position	Organisation	Postal Address	Telephone, Fax, Cell and EMail address	Signature
Miss	Ntombifuthi Cynthia Molwa	Technical Assistant	EMNAMBITHI / LADYSMITH Municipality (Electricity Dept)	P.O. BOX 56 LADYSMITH 3370	T: 036 637 6905 F: 036 637 2592 C: 072 622 8130 Email: lced@inetcom .co.za	
Mr.	Ken Gordon	Chairman	CTO WESSA	PO Box 333 Lr	T: 6311854 F: 6314344 C: 0824781925 Email: kengordon@telkomsa.net	
Mr	A. SAMPSON	borough engineer EMNAMBITHI	Municipality	Box 119	T: 036-6376800 F: 6373150 C: 0828094538 Email: LADYSMITH@IN18K09 .CO.ZA	
					T: F: C: Email:	
					T: F: C: Email:	
					T: F: C: Email:	
					T: F: C: Email:	

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

MEETING: Braamhoek Development

DATE: 6 May 2005

VENUE: Council Chamber

NAME	ORGANISATION	DESIGNATION	ADDRESS	TEL/CEL	FAX	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Debbie McKirdy	ACER	PPP	Box 503, Mtshini	082 4585309	035 3402232	debbie.mckirdy@acer.co.za
Coert Venter	ESKOM	Client Office (Pumped Storage)		021 914 3111	021 914 3121	coert.venter@eskom.co.za
Frans Louwinger	Eskom	Eskom (CED)	PO Box 1091 JHB 2000	011 800 4949	011 800 4522	frans.louwinger@eskom.co.za
Ntombi Malinga	Eskom	Gx SIH ✓	MWP - JHB	011 800 2249	-	Malinga@eskom.co.za
Desiree Swela	ESKOM	CX COMMUNICATION	MWP - JHB	011 800 4213	011 800 3442	desiree.swela@eskom.co.za
TONY STOTT	ESKOM	Senior MGR	PO Box 1091 JOHANNESBURG	011 800 2007	011 800 2782	tony.stott@eskom.co.za
CAROL STRETON	ESKOM	ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTITIONER	"	011 800-5411	011 800-3917	carol.streton@eskom.co.za
Pieter Steenkamp	ESKOM-Tx	Negotiator	MWP JHB	011-800 5812	011-800 3971	P.Steenkamp@eskom.co.za
Jose Muzala	Ward 13	Chair (Ward 13)	Box 417	0723366798	-	-
Gladys Kutheke	Ward 13	Chair Bakwal	Box 42 BERTERSBURG 3571	0836241975	-	-
Allen Mbatia	WARD 13	SAFETY SECURITY	Box 20	-	-	-
SAM. HADEBE	WARD 13	Chair VRN	Box 233 VRN 3372	0761406315	-	-
Scame Shitani	WARD 13	TEAM LEAD	Box 33 Van Keulen	073-5162430	-	F.C. munfali
Cynthia Maza	EMNAMBITHI MUNC	Technical Advisor	P.O. Box 56 Ladysmith	036 637 6905	036 637 2592	-
PETER OPPERMAN	EMNAMBITHI	BEE		0824908720	11	iced@intekom.co.za
Moses Mahlangu	Margen	Consultant	P.O. Box 12822 Lematsfontein	0828549538	013-699 0917	delno@telkomsa.net
ANGELA NGOETO	ESKOM Development Foundation	Project Manager	Box 1091 SANATON JHB 2000	011 800 6197 082 5520481	011 800 2340	angela.ngoeto@eskom.co.za

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

MEETING: Braamhoke Development

DATE: 06/05/05

VENUE:

NAME	ORGANISATION	DESIGNATION	ADDRESS	TEL/CEL	FAX	E-MAIL ADDRESS
M. Mafumo	ESKOM	Environmental Officer	P.O. Box 1094 JHB 2000	011 800 82621 0836 785790	011 800 3977	memokete@intelflin@eskom.co.za
R. GORDON	WESSA / CTO		Box 333 LADYSMITH	6311 854	631 4344	Ken Gordon@telkomsa.net
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G. A. VILLAY	EMNAMBITHI / CTO	DEP. SECRETARY	P.O. Box 29	036-6372231	036-6311400	VALUATION@LANTIC.NET
T. R. M. LOVY	EMNAMBITHI / CTO	DEP. PRESIDENT	P.O. Box 3883 LADYSMITH	072 836 3396	637 011	---
H. M. M. M. M.	Mand. Council	Isakhele	Box 2607 JHB	016 159 1423	---	---
N. T. BUTHELEZI	COUNCILLOR	EMNAMBITHI Municipality	P/Bag 9948 LADYSMITH 3370	082 497 8739	N/A	N/A
T. E. MARIANKA	E/K MUNICIPALITY	COUNCILLOR	P.O. Box 2787, JHB	052 809 3487	036-6311346	N/A
D. Montgomery	Braamhoke CV	Project Leader	P.O. Box 18436 JHB	082 773 9315	011 883 6789	davem@essi.co.za
TOBIE BOKWE	ESKOM	SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISOR	P.O. Box 1091, JHB 2000	011 800 2303 082 828 1777	011 800 5140	BokweT@eskom.co.za
R. GIBSON	BC JV	PROJECT MANAGER	359 RIVONIA BLVD RIVONIA, P.O. Box 2700	011 519 4740 072 155 8343	011 519 4727	rgibson@gibb.co.za
B. LE ROUX	MUNICIPALITY	LED MANAGER	Box 119 LADYSMITH	036 637 2092 082 809 4587	036 637 2092	bertuel@lantic.net
L. S. VAN WYK	"	CTP	"	082 907 4397	036 637 2092	lvwyk@lantic.net
R. NIEMAND	L/S EMNAMBITHI	CLERK	Box 119 LADYSMITH	082 497 8743	036 6311198	rienus@xsinet.co.za
N. SPASSA	EMNAMBITHI LOCAL	CLERK	Box 2549 LADYSMITH	082 809 4032	---	---
R. G. REDDY	COUNCIL	COUNCILLOR	Box 101	082 497 8728	---	---
Y. E. SEEDAT	ELECTRICITY DEPT.	ENG. ASSISTANT	P.O. Box 56 LADYSMITH	0836 313804	036-6372592	Lead@intekom.co.za

BRAAMHOEK TRANSMISSION INTEGRATION ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Notes on Meeting with Mr Alf Lees, Landowner 6 May 2005, Offices of Mr Lees, Ladysmith

Present:

Mr Alf Lees Landowner and Secretary of the Ladysmith & District Farmers Assoc.
Mr Moses Mahlangu Margen Industrial Services, Lead EIA Consultant
Ms Bongji Shinga ACER (Africa), Public Consultation Consultant
Mr Stuart Dunsmore PBA International (SA), EIA Consultant, Project Manager

1. Mr Lees is a landowner on the Western Route, and is also Secretary of the Ladysmith and Districts Farmers Association (Ladysmith FA).
2. As part of the consultation process, a meeting had been arranged with the Ladysmith FA to present and discuss the Draft Scoping Report, but was then cancelled. The basis for the cancellation is set out in a letter dated 03 May 2005, and Mr Lees confirmed that the Ladysmith FA has formally withdrawn from any further participation in the EIA process.
3. In the above letter, it was stated that the members of the Ladysmith FA do not understand the detail and full implications of the EIA process. Hence today's meeting was arranged to explain the process in more detail.
4. Stuart Dunsmore explained that unless additional environmental issues were raised by stakeholders, the EIA study would be finalized with the issue of the Final Scoping Report within the next week or so. It was noted that the comment period closes on the 10th May. However, should Mr Lees send any comment in by the 11th, they would be included in the final report.
5. SD confirmed a statement made in the letter of the 03 May 2005 that the Scoping Report should record that the Ladysmith FA has withdrawn from the consultation process. In fact, a section of the Draft Scoping Report has specifically dealt with the issues raised by the Ladysmith FA, and in particular the description of Eskom as being a 'bad neighbour'.
6. The section in question was tabled, and a copy of the Draft Scoping Report was left with Mr Lees. (This was in addition to the hard copy of the report sent to the Ladysmith FA when the report was published)
7. The Draft Scoping Report also sets out the position adopted by the EIA consultant on consideration of the issues raised by the Ladysmith FA. In summary, the issues are seen to be of a maintenance and operational nature that should be addressed by Eskom outside of the EIA process. However, the EIA assumes that the developer (Eskom) will act responsibly in the construction and operation of the development, and it would be important to see that Eskom views the issues raised by the Ladysmith FA in a serious light and seeks to address them. In our opinion, Eskom is taking action in this regard; though this is expected to continue for some time after the EIA process is complete.
8. The Department of Environment Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) will consider the Final Report for environmental authorisation and produce a Record of Decision (RoD). The public will be notified and a 30 day window of appeal is given. Should anyone wish to appeal against the proposed development (assuming it is a positive decision), they should then submit a formal appeal to the Minister (details will be given in the notice).

9. DEAT will consider any appeals and will decide on the way forward. Additional investigations may be required. DEAT will then make a final decision, and should this still be in support of the proposed development, Eskom will begin negotiations with individual landowners for the widening of the servitude.
10. Once a positive RoD is awarded and the servitude agreements are in place, Eskom may begin construction. Construction will need to comply with any conditions set out in the RoD, and typically these are drawn from the EIA report (i.e. the Final Scoping Report). Eskom is also expected to appoint a full time environmental officer for the site work. Landowners can report any problems to the environmental officer.
11. Should landowners feel that Eskom is not carrying out the construction in accordance with the conditions of the RoD, they may contact the government officials (DEAT or DAEA) who should visit the site. Any serious environmental damage may result in DEAT calling the construction process to a halt.
12. The national office of Eskom Transmission (i.e. Megawatt Park) remains responsible for the EIA process, the negotiation process and construction. Only once the landowners have signed to say that they are satisfied that construction is complete and that any rehabilitation or cleanup has been done, can Eskom Transmission hand over to the Regional office.
13. It is understood that the new line will be transmitting electricity before this final stage.
14. The above indicates the main stages where landowners may interact with the process.
15. It is the opinion of the EIA consultants that DEAT will consider all environmental issues in the authorisation process, but should separate them from current operational and maintenance issues raised by landowners. However, it is expected that DEAT will monitor progress between Eskom and the landowners.
16. Mr Lees stated that the problems with Eskom have been long standing, but that landowners feel powerless in trying to get themselves heard. In addition to the matters raised in previous correspondence, Mr Lees noted that Eskom Transmission had asked all landowners to agree to Eskom using the power lines for fibre optic cables, and had promised payment as part of the changes to the servitude agreement. This was done in 2002, and payment is still outstanding.
17. Mr Lees also stated that he had no comfort that the DAEA would be monitoring the construction of the line as they were understaffed and were ineffective in addressing other environmental issues he had reported to them.

Distribution:

All attendees

Mr Pieter Steenkamp – Eskom Transmission

The contents of these notes will appear in the Final Scoping Report.

BRAAMHOEK TRANSMISSION INTEGRATION ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Notes on Meeting at the Farm Doornkop 6 May 2005

Present:

Mr N Ralfe	Landowner
Mrs L Ralfe	Landowner
Mr J Ralfe	Manager
Mr Moses Mahlangu	Margen Industrial Services, Lead EIA Consultant
Ms Bongji Shinga	ACER (Africa), Public Consultation Consultant
Mr Stuart Dunsmore	PBA International (SA), EIA Consultant, Project Manager
Ms Carol Streaton	Eskom Transmission
Ms Mamokete Mafumo	Eskom Transmission
Mr Pieter Steenkamp	Eskom Transmission
Mr Christo Badenhorst	Eskom Transmission

1. Mr Ralfe is a landowner on the Western Route, and is a member of the Estcourt Farmers Association (Estcourt FA).
2. Mr Ralfe complained that he was only informed of the meeting that morning. He had tried to get his neighbours to attend, but that they were already committed to other engagements. The consultants said they had been trying to set up a meeting through the Estcourt FA, but that this had proved difficult. Last minute arrangements were made when it was learned that the planned meeting with the Estcourt FA would not be taking place.
3. Mr Ralfe had managed to get written comment from adjacent affected landowners and handed these over at the meeting.
4. Mrs Ralfe stated that they had only received the notice of the Draft Scoping Report three days ago, but agreed they do not visit their post box on a regular basis (it can sometimes be two weeks between visits). BS confirmed the letters were sent out by registered post on the 06th April 2005.
5. Stuart Dunsmore described the study process to date and the relevant sections of the Draft Scoping Report.
6. Mr Ralfe stated he was both very disappointed and very angry that the decision had been made to follow the western route. He already has the Majuba-Venus #2 line crossing his property and raised a number of concerns regarding this line, including:
 - He was left to clean up after the construction of the power line, including litter, bolts and nuts, wooden boxes with metal strapping and wire. His cattle often got caught up in wire for some time after the construction of the line.
 - He is required to maintain the servitude.
 - He is required to manage fires that are started by Eskom contractors during maintenance. He has caught contractors making fires for cooking.
 - He has had one incident where a cow has been killed by lightning when standing next to a tower. He said it was clear the animal had been burnt down one side of its body. He had not reported the incident and was unaware he could claim for this.
 - He had another cow killed by a distribution line that had come down. Despite calling Eskom on a number of occasions to warn them of the danger (the pole had rotten and collapsed at the base), he got no response until the animal got killed.

7. Mr Ralfe felt he had done his nation a service by accepting the Majuba-Venus #2 line across his property. However, he has discovered that a relationship with Eskom is not a good one and he and his family do not believe they should be subjected to another line across their land.
8. Furthermore, when he had asked Eskom for an extension to a local 11kV line for power supply to a new borehole on his farm, he was eventually informed it would be expensive and that he had to wait more than a year before Eskom would get round to doing it. Mr Ralfe sees that there is little support from the Eskom organisation even if one allows one of their lines to cross ones land.
9. SD explained the process that would be followed from here, including:
 - The comment period closes on the 10th May.
 - The Final Scoping Report will be compiled and submitted shortly thereafter.
 - The Department of Environmental Affairs & Tourism (DEAT) will consider the report and will announce their decision in the form of a Record of Decision (RoD).
 - The RoD will be advertised and all registered stakeholders (including Mr Ralfe) will be notified.
 - A 30-day appeal period will start from the date of the RoD. Any party wishing to appeal against the decision will need to submit such an appeal to DEAT.
 - DEAT will consider any appeals and will decide on the way forward. Should this still be in support of the proposed development, Eskom will begin negotiations with individual landowners for the widening of the servitude.
10. Once a positive RoD is awarded and the servitude agreements are in place, Eskom may begin construction. Construction will need to comply with any conditions set out in the RoD, and typically these are drawn from the EIA report (i.e. the Final Scoping Report). Eskom is also expected to appoint a full time environmental officer for the site work. Landowners can report any problems to the environmental officer.
11. Should landowners feel that Eskom is not carrying out the construction in accordance with the conditions of the RoD, they may contact the government officials (DEAT or DAEA) who should visit the site. Any serious environmental damage may result in DEAT calling the construction process to a halt.
12. The national office of Eskom Transmission (i.e. Megawatt Park) remains responsible for the EIA process, the negotiation process and construction. Only once the landowners have signed to say that they are satisfied that construction is complete and that any rehabilitation or cleanup has been done, can Eskom Transmission hand over to the Regional office.
13. Items 8 to 11 above indicate the main stages where landowners may interact with the process.
14. The meeting was terminated with Mr & Mrs Ralfe repeating that they were extremely disappointed with the decision to route the line across their land, and that they did not want the line under any circumstances.
15. Mr Ralfe also handed over written comments on the proposed new power line. These will be included in the database of correspondence that will be submitted to DEAT with the Final Scoping Report.



Distribution

All attendees

The contents of these notes will appear in the Final Scoping Report.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS
ESKOM BRAAMHOEK TRANSMISSION POWERLINE AND SUB-STATION INTEGRATION
 (EIAs: 12/12/20/672; 12/12/20/673; 12/12/20/674)
 For the Eskom Braamhoek Pumped Storage Scheme

ESTCOURT FARMERS ASSOCIATION MEETING: ESTCOURT FARMERS ASSOCIATION HALL
06 MAY 2005 AT 16H30
FOCUS GROUP MEETING TO DISCUSS THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT

Title	Full Name	Position	Organisation	Postal Address	Telephone, Fax, Cell and EMail address	Signature
MR	JAMES H. RAUPE	MANAGER / SON	DOORNKOP FARM	P.O. Box 63 ESTCOURT	T: 0364222609 F: AS ABOVE C: EMail:	
MR	NIGEL W. RAUPE	OWNER	"	"	T: F: C: EMail:	
MRS	L. RAUPE	WIFE	"	"	T: F: C: EMail:	
					T: F: C: EMail:	
					T: F: C: EMail:	

E-MAIL CORRESPONDENCE WITH BESTERS FARMERS ASSOCIATION

From: Stuart Dunsmore (EIA Consultant)

To: Mr Roland Henderson (recent Chairman of the Besters Farmers Assoc.)

From: Stuart Dunsmore @pbai [stuart@pbai.co.za]

Sent: 16 May 2005 03:53 PM

To: calyx@mweb.co.za

Cc: Pieter Steenkamp; Frans Louwinger; Carol Streaton; Mamokete Mafumo;

Bongi Shinga; Moses Mahlangu

Subject: 271 - Braamhoek: Comment from Besters Farmers Association (BFA)

Importance: High

Dear Roland

Thanks very much for your input this afternoon. I have made a few notes of the relevant points as a record.

1. You see the fire hazard as a very serious issue in your area, and it will affect both the Turn-in and the new Braamhoek-Venus 400kV line. It sometimes takes the combined efforts of the entire district to put a fire out. Besters Farmers Association wants to be sure that Eskom will take this matter very seriously for any new route in the area. Given the uncertainties in fire fighting and servitude management responsibilities between Eskom and the landowners, BFA wish to have a clear written agreement with Eskom on these matters.

2. The BFA are also concerned about increased fire risk during the construction phase, and the agreement will need to address this phase.

3. Eskom guidelines for servitude and vegetation management make it clear that Eskom must consider landowner requirements in their servitude maintenance plans. I suggest that the BFA contact Mr Jorge Correia, Regional Line Manager for the Eskom Transmission Regional Office (tel: 031-7105111), and arrange to meet with him to have the matter attended to.

4. I also suggest you keep Mr Pieter Steenkamp (Eskom Transmission Megawatt Park) informed of these matters, and copy him all communications with Eskom regarding servitude maintenance. His contact details are: Tel:011-8005818, e-mail SteenkPA@eskom.co.za

5. Will Eskom appoint an Environmental Control Officer (ECO) for the construction of the lines? I believe so. They have already appointed one for the Pumped Storage Scheme. Eskom should inform all landowners of the construction timeframes (when these are known) and should also inform you of the name and contact details of the ECO. This is now being done on other Transmission line construction sites. If you do not get any details, contact either of the two persons above.

6. The BFA need to liaise with Eskom regarding the relocation of farm labourers such that a common approach is adopted between the Eskom plans and other land restitution programmes in the area. I suggest you speak to Mr Frans Louwinger in this regard. He is the Eskom Project Manager for the design and construction of the Braamhoek Pumped Storage Scheme and may direct you to the right person dealing with this. His details are: Tel: 011-8004949, e-mail: frans.louwinger@eskom.co.za

I trust the above is a fair reflection of our discussions. They will be entered into our Final Scoping report as a record.

Again, many thanks for your input.

regards

stuart dunsmore

PBA International (SA)

Engineering and Environmental Consultants

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stuart@pbai.co.za

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