

# **ESKOM KUDU INTEGRATION PROJECT**

## **ORANJEMOND TO VREDENDAL**

**AUTHORITY DISCUSSION  
MEETING**

**5 MAY 2006**




Eskom



Eskom



# AGENDA

- **Opening and welcome**
  - **Attendance and apologies**
  - **Purpose of the meeting**
  - **Confirmation of the agenda**
  - **Background to the project**
  - **Feedback on the public participation process**
  - **Feedback on the findings of the scoping report**
  - **Way forward**
  - **General**
  - **Closure**
- 



# **PURPOSE OF THE MEETING**

- **Present the findings of the Scoping Report to authorities to facilitate the review process**
- **Discuss the findings with authorities**
- **Proactively identify areas of concern**
- **Determine the way forward**





# **BACKGROUND TO PROJECT**

**If Eskom Transmission is to honour its commitment to meet the increasing needs of end users, it has to establish and expand its infrastructure of Generation capacity, Transmission lines and Substations on an ongoing basis.**



# BACKGROUND TO PROJECT

## NAMPOWER

- Power supplied mostly by Eskom, but supply is not guaranteed
- Access to Kudu gas field
- Plans to construct power station at Oranjemund of initial 800MW
- Requires about 200MW to secure their own supply
- Nampower has offered the balance to Eskom for integration into the SA National Grid
- Plans to construct two 400kV lines to Oranjemond substation near Alexander Bay



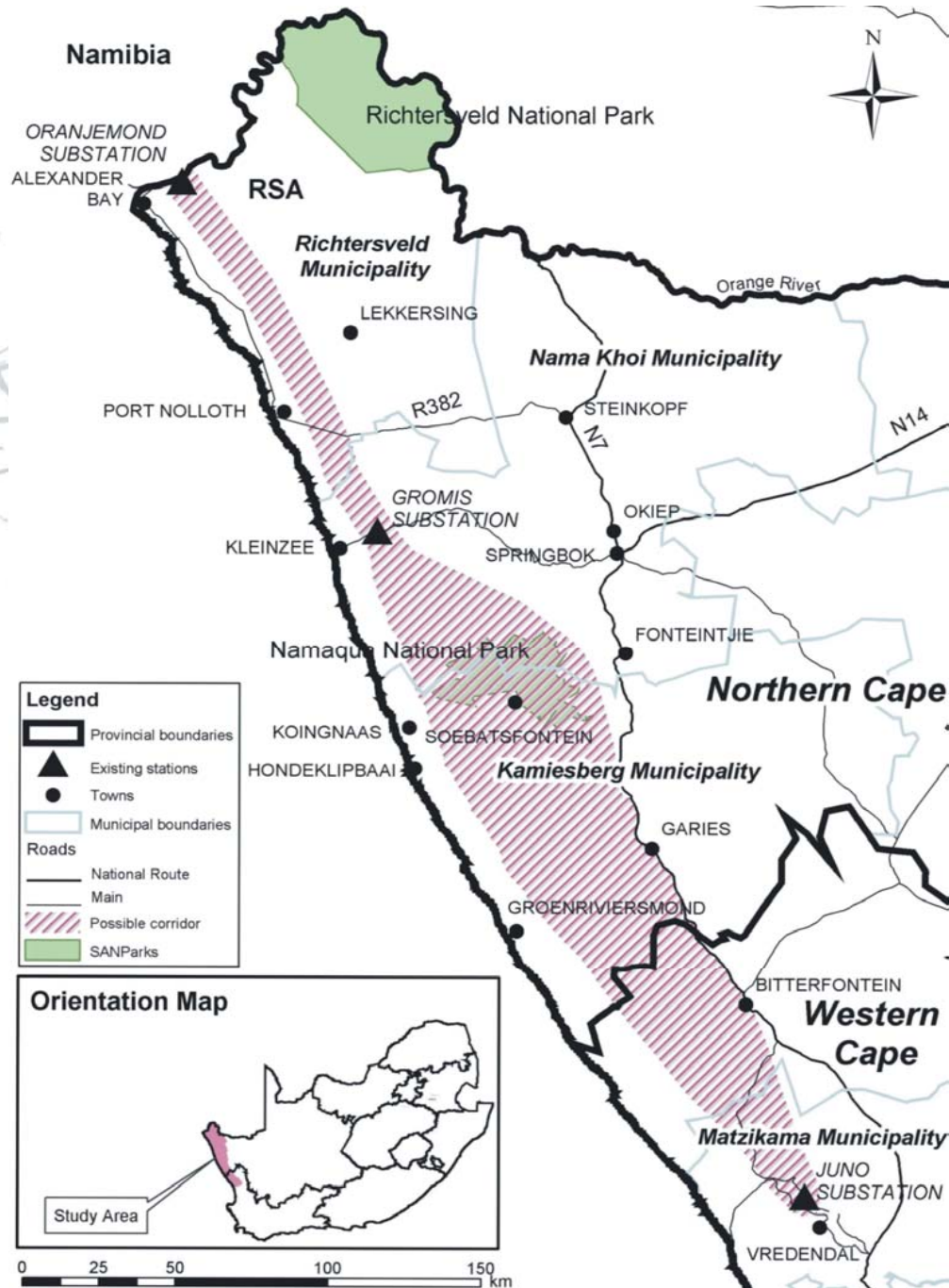
# BACKGROUND TO PROJECT

## ESKOM

- Plans to connect two lines to the SA Grid
- 1 x 400kV bypassing Oranjemond substation down to Juno substation near Vredendal
- 1 x 400Kv connection at Oranjemond substation that will be operated at 220kV
- This second connector may be upgraded to 400kV in future if the power station expands



# STUDY AREA



# BACKGROUND TO PROJECT NEED FOR THE POWER LINE

- **Existing Transmission lines to Cape from Mpumalanga:**
  - heavily loaded
  - approaching full capacity
- **Transmission lines must be reinforced to:**
  - supply the increased demand from the natural load growth
  - fulfill requirements from NamPower
- **Definite need for additional capacity in the region**
- **Eskom and Nampower need to:**
  - provide transmission lines to integrate the new power source
  - maximise the use of the new power station by providing a reliable integrated network



# **PROCESS TO BE FOLLOWED...**

- 1. Identify various alternatives to accomplish the said objective**
- 2. Delineate study area**
- 3. Investigate feasibility of each alternative in terms of the physical, biological and social environments**
- 4. Determine which is the most feasible alternative**
- 5. Secure a servitude for the transmission line**



# ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS TO DATE

- **Project registration with DEAT/DTEC/DEA&DP:**

24 May 2005

- **Submit Plan of Study for Scoping:**

June 2005

- **Public participation process:**

January 2006 to March 2006

BID, newspaper advertisements, site notices, letters to I&APs, Public Open Days and meetings and key stakeholder meetings



# **FEEDBACK OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS: KEY STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS:**

- **Dates:**
  - 7 February 2006: Port Nolloth
  - 9 February 2006: Garies
  - 7 March 2006: Kamieskroon / Vanrhynsdorp
- **Findings:**
  - Identification of alternative routes
  - Avoid very sensitive areas:
    - Hardeveld section of the Knersvlakte
    - Kamiesberge





# **FEEDBACK OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS: PUBLIC OPEN DAY MEETINGS**

- Dates:
  - 7 February 2006: Port Nolloth
  - 9 February 2006: Garies
- Issues raised:
  - Job creation
  - Power supply to Namakwaland residents
  - Sensitivity of the vegetation



# FEEDBACK OF THE SCOPING REPORT:

## ➤ Key issues 1: Physical & biological environment

- Visual impacts
- Floral impacts
- Impacts on Arable land
- Impacts on Fauna
- Impacts on Heritage resources

## ➤ Key issue 2: Social environment

- Tourism





# 1: VISUAL IMPACTS

- **Flat relief of area**
- **Low-growing vegetation**
- **Tower design**
- **Incompatible scale of pylons versus that of the landscape**
- **High visibility**
- **Transects visual assets eg. dunes, ridges, rivers**

*Specialist: Mader van den Berg (SEF)*



# 1: IMPACTS ON VEGETATION

- **Damage caused by construction vehicles**
- **Footprint of pylons**
- **Vegetation clearing for the servitude**
- **Compaction of soils**
- **Increased erosion due to maintenance of transmission lines**

*Specialist: Nick Helme (Nick Helme Botanical Surveys)*





# 1: IMPACTS ON ARABLE LAND

- **Vegetation clearing for the servitude**
- **Soil compaction**
- **Footprint of pylons**
- **Access road**

*Specialist: Jan Lamprecht (University of Stellenbosch)*





# 1: IMPACT ON FAUNA

- **Potential bird collisions**
- **Destruction and/or disturbance of habitats**
- **Disturbance of possible sensitive areas**
- **Location and establishment of construction camps**
- **Activities of the construction and maintenance crews**

*Specialist: Jon Smallie (Endangered Wildlife Trust)*





# 1: IMPACT ON HERITAGE RESOURCES

- **Graveyards**
- **Structures older than 60 years**
- **Battlefields**

*Specialist: Tim Hart (University of Cape Town)*



## **2: SOCIAL AND TOURISM IMPACT**

- **Visual impact on tourists viewing annual blooms of desert ephemerals**
- **Game farms and nature reserves**
- **Other tourist destinations**
- **Alteration of character of landscape**
- **Spreading of diseases**
- **Increased social problems**

*Specialist: Ilse Aucamp (SEF)*



# WAY FORWARD...

- **Submission of Final Scoping Report and Plan of Study for EIA on 16 May**
- **Approval by 31 May 2006**
- **Notify I&APs of approval of PoSEIA by 2 June**
- **Submission of draft EIR on 19 July**
- **EIA discussion meeting with authorities 1 August**

