



## environmental affairs

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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DEA Reference: 12/12/20/1586

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Mr Josiah Zungu  
Eskom Holdings SOC Limited  
P.O Box 1567  
NELSPRUIT  
1200

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### PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Zungu

### AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION: PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE 132/11kV SIYALU SUBSTATION WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 37KM 132kV CHICKADEE LINE FROM GROOTHOUT SUBSTATION TO 132/11kV SIYALU SUBSTATION AS WELL AS A 15KM CHICKADEE LINE FROM KIEPERSOL SUBSTATION TO SIYALU 132/11kV SUBSTATION, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the above application by this Department on 17 January 2011 and your application for amendment to the EA received by this Department on 29 January 2016 and the Basic Assessment report compiled as part of the original environmental impact assessment process received on 26 August 2015, refers.

Based on a review of the reasons and motivation; including maps included in "Appendix 1" of the BAR dated 21 August 2015 requesting an amendment to the abovementioned environmental authorisation please note the following:

- This Department noted that the request for amendments to the Environmental Authorisation dated 17 January 2011 is based on the fact that, "**Condition 1**" of the EA does not clearly indicate the exact authorised route. The condition states "*the activities alternatives approved are alternative 1 which involves upgrading of the existing 22kV Emmit Substation to a 132/11kV. This substation is located along the Emmit dirt road, on portion 5 of the Farm Emmit 4-JU*".
- Furthermore, "**Condition 6**" of the EA dated 17 January 2011 does not clearly state a precise date for the commencement of construction. The condition states "*this activity must commence within a period of **three (5) years** from the date of issue. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken. Commencement with one activity listed in terms of this authorisation constitutes commencement of all authorised activities*".

MS

This Department, in terms of Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, has decided to **amend** the EA dated 17 January 2011 as follows:

**Amendment 1:** Condition 1 of the abovementioned EA is amended:

**From:**

The activities alternatives approved are Alternative 1 which involves upgrading of the existing 22kV Emmit Substation to a 132/11kV. This substation is located along the Emmit dirt road, on portion 5 of the Farm Emmit 4-JU.

**To:**

The preferred option, Route 1 from the existing Kiepersol Substation to the proposed Siyalu Substation and Route 1 from the proposed Siyalu Substation to the existing Groothout Substation are approved.

**Amendment 2:**

The EA dated 17 January 2011 is being extended by an additional three (03) years from the date of its expiry. The EA is now extended to 17 January 2019. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.

This letter must be read in conjunction with the EA dated 17 January 2011.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (the Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) days of the date of the Department's decision in respect of the amendment made as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of Government Notice No. R.993, which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed.

An appellant must submit an appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the competent authority.

By post: Private Bag X447,  
Pretoria,  
0001; or

By hand: Environment House  
473 Steve Biko Road,  
ARCADIA

**Appeals must be submitted in writing to:**

Mr Z Hassam, Director: Appeals and Legal Review, of this Department at the above mentioned addresses. Mr Hassam can also be contacted at:

Tel: (012) 399 9356

Email: [Appealsdirector@environment.gov.za](mailto:Appealsdirector@environment.gov.za)

For guidance on appeals submitted to the Minister in terms of NEMA and the SEMAs, please find a copy of the guideline on the administration of appeals on the Department's website: ([https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal\\_authorisations](https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations)).

Kindly include a copy of this document with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties.

Yours faithfully



**Mr Sabelo Malaza**  
**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations**  
**Department of Environmental Affairs**

**Date:** *22/03/2016*

CC:	Mr Hosea Mkgahla	Wandima Environmental Services	Tel: (013) 752 5452	Email: hosea@wandima.co.za
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