



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA ·0001· Environment House ·473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia· PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2616

Enquiries: Mr Lunga Dlova

Telephone: (012) 399 8524 E-mail: LDlova@dffe.gov.za

Ms Betty Ndlovu
Eskom Holdings SOC Limited
PO Box 223
WITBANK
1035

Telephone Number: +27 (013) 693 4469
Cell phone Number: +27 (083) 596 6068
Email Address: NgobenBT@eskom.co.za

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Ms Ndlovu

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT NO. 107 OF 1998, AS AMENDED: FOR THE ESKOM KUDU – ELDERS 132kV POWER LINE AND ELDERS SUBSTATION IN THE JURISDICTION OF STEVE TSHWETE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY (NKANGALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY) AND IN GOVAN MBEKI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY (GERT SIBANDE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY), WITHIN THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCE.

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant authorisation. The Environmental Authorisation (EA) and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

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

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, Act No. 3 of 2000, you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, Act No. 4 of 2013 which stipulate that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuse or compromise your personal information in any way.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998 National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the 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 registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@dffe.gov.za;

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko
Arcadia
Pretoria
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@dffe.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Ms Millicent Solomons
Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: 29/03/2023.

cc:	Ria Pretorius	Setala Environmental (Pty) Ltd	Email: ria@setalaenvironmental.co.za
	Dineo Tswai	Nkangala District Municipality	Email: dtswai@mpg.gov.za
	Sindiswe Mbuyane	Gert Sibande District Municipality	Email: mbuyanesb@gmail.com



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Environmental Authorisation

In terms of Regulation 25 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended

The Eskom Kudu – Elders 132kV power line and Elders Substation in the jurisdiction of Steve Tshwete Local Municipality (Nkangala District Municipality) and in Govan Mbeki Local Municipality (Gert Sibande District Municipality), within the Mpumalanga Province

Authorisation register number	14/12/16/3/3/1/2616
Last amended	First issue
Holder of authorisation	Eskom Holdings SOC Limited
Location of activity	Komati Power Station 56-IS Remainder; Broodsneyersplaats 25-IS Portions RE/11, 39, 38 RE/7; Geluk 26-IS Portions RE/7, 27; Goedehoop 46-IS R/3, Portions 8, 2, Re, 4; Kleinfontein 49-IS Portions 10, RE/4, 12, 8; in the jurisdiction of Steve Tshwete Local Municipality (Nkangala District Municipality) and Schoonvlei 52-IS Portion 2, Middelkraal 50-IS 8, R/3 in Govan Mbeki Local Municipality (Gert Sibande District Municipality), Mpumalanga Province.

This authorisation does not negate the holder of the authorisation's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.

Decision

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this environmental authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

Non-compliance with a condition of this environmental authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, as amended and the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

Activities authorised

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, the Department hereby authorises –

ESKOM HOLDINGS SOC LIMITED

(hereafter referred to as the **holder of the authorisation**)

with the following contact details –

Ms Betty Ndlovu
Eskom Holdings SOC Limited
PO Box 223
WITBANK
1035

Telephone Number: +27 (013) 693 4469
Cell phone Number: +27 (083) 596 6068
Email Address: NgobenBT@eskom.co.za

to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as "the activity") indicated in Listing Notice 1 and Listing Notice 3 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended:

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 11:</u></p> <p><i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity—</i></p> <p><i>(i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts"</i></p>	<p>Construct a ± 26km Kingbird overhead 132kV line outside an urban area from Kudu Substation (at Komati Power Station) to the proposed Elders substation.</p> <p>Construct 132/11kV 2x20MVA Elders Substation.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 19:</u></p> <p><i>"The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse."</i></p>	<p>Construct Power line structures / monopole steel poles within 32 meters of a waterbody along the 132kV feeder line and excavate more than 10 cubic metres of soil and rock from a watercourse.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 3, Item 4:</u></p> <p><i>The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13, 5 metres.</i></p> <p><i>Mpumalanga</i></p> <p><i>i. Outside urban areas:</i></p> <p><i>(bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas;</i></p> <p><i>(ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans.</i></p>	<p>Access roads of wider than 4 metres to construct the power line in</p> <p>(bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas and</p> <p>(ee) Critical biodiversity areas will be required.</p>

as described in the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) dated November 2022 at:

The proposed Kudu-Elders 132kV power line is approximately 26km in length. The existing Kudu Substation is situated on the property of the Komati Power Station, attached as **Annexure 2** on this EA.

Coordinates:

Point	Latitude	Longitude
Existing Kudu Substation:	26° 5'37.81"S	29°28'30.19"E
Proposed Elders Substation:	26°13'57.96"S	29°27'53.17"E
Komati Power Station:	26° 5'25.85"S	29°28'20.48"E

Preferred Route 3	Latitude	Longitude	Length
Starting Point at Elders substation	26° 13'57.96"S	29°27'53.17"E	26,920 km.
Middle Point:	26° 17'39.04"S	29°40'40.18"E	
End Point at Kudu Substation site:	26° 5'37.81"S	29°28'30.19"E	

Temporal Laydown Area at Elders Substation	Latitude	Longitude
Approximate Centre of Site	26°13'58.39"S	29°27'55.75"E

21 Digit SG Code - Kudu-Elders Route 3:

Property	Portion	SG code
Komati 56-IS	R	T0IS00000000005600000
Broodsneyersplaats 25-IS	RE/11	T0IS00000000002500011
Broodsneyersplaats 25-IS	RE/7	T0IS00000000002500007
Geluk 26-IS	RE/7	T0IS00000000002600007
Goedehoop 46-IS	R/3	T0IS00000000004600003
Goedehoop 46-IS	8	T0IS00000000004600008
Goedehoop 46-IS	2	T0IS00000000004600002
Goedehoop 46-IS	R	T0IS00000000004600000
Goedehoop 46-IS	4	T0IS00000000004600004
Kleinfontein 49-IS	10	T0IS00000000004900010
Kleinfontein 49-IS	R/4	T0IS00000000004900004
Kleinfontein 49-IS	12	T0IS00000000004900012

Kleinfontein 49-IS	8	T0IS00000000004600004
Kleinfontein 49-IS	R/3	T0IS00000000005000003
Schoonvlei 52-IS	2	T0IS00000000005200002

- for the Eskom Kudu – Elders 132kV power line and Elders Substation in the jurisdiction of Steve Tshwete Local Municipality (Nkangala District Municipality) and in Govan Mbeki Local Municipality (Gert Sibande District Municipality), within the Mpumalanga Province, hereafter referred to as “the property”.

High Level Scope of Work:

- Install high security perimeter fence.
- Build the substation platform as per the civil designs.
- Install the substation earth mat, construct all equipment foundations, and construct a runway.
- Build the transformer oil holding dam with main holes and the transformer plinth.
- Install substation crusher stones.
- Build the substation control room and install control plant panels.
- Install control plant LV cables.
- Install a 2 x 132 kV Busbar using 120mm x 4 mm AL Tubes and one 132 kV Bus-Section Double Isolators.
- Install 6 x 132 kV busbar VTs
- Install one 132 kV Line Bay with a 132 kV breaker, 2 x 132 kV Isolators (one with 132 kV surge arrestors) and 3 sets of 132 kV CTs.
- Install 2 x 20 MVA 132/11kV Transformers.
- Install 2 x 22 kV 1250 A 25 kA Transformer Combo breakers, Install 2 x 11 kV VTs, Install 2 x 22 kV 2500 A 25 kA Isolators, install 2 x 11 kV/400 V (360 earth fault restriction) NECRT, install 2 x 11 kV Cable end supports.

Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

Scope of authorisation

1. The Eskom Kudu – Elders 132kV power line and Elders Substation in the jurisdiction of Steve Tshwete Local Municipality (Nkangala District Municipality) and in Govan Mbeki Local Municipality (Gert Sibande District Municipality), within the Mpumalanga Province, as described above is hereby approved.
2. Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this environmental authorisation, which form part of the environmental authorisation and are binding on the holder of the authorisation.
3. The holder of the authorisation is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this environmental authorisation. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the authorisation.
4. The activities authorised may only be carried out at the property as described above.
5. Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this environmental authorisation must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the holder of the authorisation to apply for further environmental authorisation in terms of the regulations.
6. The holder of an environmental authorisation must apply for an amendment of the environmental authorisation with the competent authority for any alienation, transfer or change of ownership rights in the property on which the activity is to take place.
7. This activity must commence within a period of ten (10) years from the date of issue of this environmental authorisation. 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.
8. Construction must be completed within five (5) years of the commencement of the activity on site.
9. Commencement with one activity listed in terms of this environmental authorisation constitutes commencement of all authorised activities.

Notification of authorisation and right to appeal

10. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this Environmental Authorisation, of the decision to authorise the activity.
11. The notification referred to must –
 - 11.1. specify the date on which the authorisation was issued;
 - 11.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in the National Appeal Regulations, 2014;
 - 11.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation will be furnished on request; and
 - 11.4. give the reasons of the Competent Authority for the decision.

Commencement of the activity

12. The authorised activity shall not commence until the period for the submission of appeals has lapsed as per the National Appeal Regulations, 2014, and no appeal has been lodged against the decision. In terms of Section 43(7), an appeal under Section 43 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended will suspend the Environmental Authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal has been finalised.

Management of the activity

13. A final site layout plan for the Eskom Kudu – Elders 132kV power line and Elders Substation, as determined by the detailed engineering phase and walk-through of the powerline route and pylon structures, and all mitigation measures as dictated by the final site layout plan, must be submitted to the Department for approval prior to construction. A copy of the final site layout map must be made available for comments to registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final development layout map must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g., roads. The layout map must indicate the following:

- 13.1. The position of the substation (indicating the Independent Power Producer's Section and Eskom's section, if applicable);
- 13.2. The final delineation of the centreline of the power line within the approved corridor;
- 13.3. The specific position of the pylon structures and foundation footprints;
- 13.4. All existing infrastructure on the site, especially roads;
- 13.5. All heritage/palaeontology sites identified as significant;
- 13.6. All associated infrastructure within the assessed study area, including the service road, the expanded sections of the existing roads and bridges, O&M buildings, including the dangerous goods facility, and temporary laydown areas. The dimensions of the structures must be indicated;
- 13.7. All sensitive environmental features that will be affected by the transmission power line;
- 13.8. All watercourse areas (inclusive of buffers); and
- 13.9. All "no-go" and buffer areas.
14. Part C (Site Specific Environmental Attributes) of the generic Environmental Management Programmes (EMPrs) Powerline and the substation and all associated infrastructure, submitted as Appendix 8 of the BAR dated November 2022, is not approved. Part C of the respective EMPr's must be amended to include measures as dictated by the final site lay-out map and micro-siting, and the provisions of this environmental authorisation. Part C of the generic EMPrs must be made available for comments to registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the generic EMPrs must be submitted to the Department for written approval of Part C prior to commencement of the activity. Part C of the generic EMPrs must be amended to include the following:
 - 14.1. The requirements and conditions of this environmental authorisation;
 - 14.2. Measures as dictated by the final site lay-out map and micro-siting;
 - 14.3. All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the BAR and the specialist reports as included in the final BAR dated November 2022;
 - 14.4. All recommendations and mitigation measures to be implemented;
 - 14.5. An aquatic Rehabilitation and Monitoring plan, particularly for watercourse features that will be infilled and / or excavated;
 - 14.6. A stormwater management plan; and
 - 14.7. The final site layout map.
15. The EMPrs must be implemented and adhered to. They shall be seen as dynamic documents and shall be included in all contract documentation for the development.

16. Changes to the approved EMPs must be submitted in accordance to the EIA Regulations applicable at the time.
17. The Department reserves the right to amend the approved EMPs, should any impacts that were not anticipated or covered in the BAR be discovered.

Frequency and process of updating the EMP

18. The EMP must be updated where the findings of the environmental audit reports, contemplated in Condition 29 below, indicate insufficient mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity, or insufficient levels of compliance with the environmental authorisation or EMP.
19. The updated EMP must contain recommendations to rectify the shortcomings identified in the environmental audit report.
20. The updated EMP must be submitted to the Department for approval together with the environmental audit report, as per Regulation 34 of GN R. 982. The updated EMP must have been subjected to a public participation process, which process has been agreed to by the Department, prior to submission of the updated EMP to the Department for approval.
21. In assessing whether to grant approval of an EMP which has been updated as a result of an audit, the Department will consider the processes prescribed in Regulation 35 of GN R.982 as amended. Prior to approving an amended EMP, the Department may request such amendments to the EMP as it deems appropriate to ensure that the EMP sufficiently provides for avoidance, management and mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity.
22. The holder of the authorisation may apply for an amendment of an EMP, if such amendment is required before an audit is required. The amendment process is prescribed in Regulation 37 of GN R.982, as amended. The holder of the authorisation must request comments on the proposed amendments to the impact management outcomes of the EMP or amendments to the closure objectives of the closure plan from potentially interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, by using any of the methods provided for in the Act for a period of at least 30 days.

Monitoring

23. The holder of the authorisation must appoint an experienced Environmental Control Officer (ECO) for the construction phase of the development that will have the responsibility to ensure that the mitigation/rehabilitation measures and recommendations referred to in this environmental authorisation are implemented and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the approved EMPr.
24. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activities.
25. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring of the Department.
26. The ECO must keep record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a task schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
27. The ECO must remain employed until all rehabilitation measures, as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site is ready for operation.

Recording and reporting to the Department

28. All documentation e.g. audit/monitoring/compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to the Department in terms of this environmental authorisation, must be submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring of the Department.
29. The holder of the environmental authorisation must, for the period during which the environmental authorisation and EMPr remain valid, ensure that project compliance with the conditions of the environmental authorisation and the EMPr are audited, and that the audit reports are submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring of the Department.
30. The frequency of auditing and of submission of the environmental audit reports must be as per the frequency indicated in the EMPr, taking into account the processes for such auditing as prescribed in Regulation 34 of GN R. 982, as amended.
31. The holder of the authorisation must, in addition, submit environmental audit reports to the Department within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e. within 30 days of site handover) and a final environmental audit report within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities.
32. The environmental audit reports must be compiled in accordance with Appendix 7 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, and must indicate the date of the audit, the name of the auditor and the outcome of the audit in terms of compliance with the environmental authorisation conditions as well as the requirements of the approved EMPr.

33. Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on site and made available for inspection to any relevant and competent authority in respect of this development.

Notification to authorities

34. A written notification of commencement must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity. Commencement for the purposes of this condition includes site preparation. The notice must include a date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence, as well as a reference number.

Operation of the activity

35. A written notification of operation must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity operational phase.

Site closure and decommissioning

36. Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the holder of the authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and competent authority at that time.

Specific conditions

37. A 50m wide buffer zone, from the edge of riverbanks, stream banks, and temporary wetland zones have been demarcated and no pylons / poles are allowed to be erected within these buffer zones, unless absolutely necessary
38. Anti-collision devices such as bird flappers must be installed where power lines cross avifaunal corridors, as recommended by the Ecological specialist. The input of an avifaunal specialist must be obtained for the fitting of the anti-collision devices onto specific sections of the line once the exact positions of the towers have been surveyed and pegged.
39. Bird perches must be placed on top of all steel-mono poles. On H-poles spikes must be installed along the horizontal to deter birds from perching or nesting on these beams / structures.

40. A pre-construction walk-through of the development footprint of all infrastructure for species of conservation concern that would be affected and that can be translocated must be undertaken by an ecologist prior to the commencement of the construction phase. Permits from the relevant national and provincial authorities must be obtained before the individuals are disturbed.
41. The footprint of the development must be limited to the areas required for actual construction works and operational activities.
42. Areas outside of the footprint, including sensitive areas and buffer areas, must be clearly demarcated (using fencing and appropriate signage) before construction commences and must be regarded as "no-go" areas.
43. An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation and must incorporate reduction, recycling and re-use options where appropriate. Where solid waste is disposed of, such disposal shall only occur at a landfill licensed in terms of section 20(b) of the National Environment Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008).
44. Should any archaeological sites, artefacts, paleontological fossils or graves be exposed during construction work, work in the immediate vicinity of the find must be stopped, the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) must be informed and the services of an accredited heritage professional obtained for an assessment of the heritage resources. You may contact SAHRA APM Unit for further details: (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Phillip Hine 021 202 8654).
45. Any unmarked human burials are uncovered and the archaeologist called in to inspect the finds and/or the police find them to be heritage graves, then mitigation may be necessary and the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit must be contacted for processes to follow (Thingahangwi Tshivase/Ngqalabutho Madida 012 320 8490).
46. All declared aliens must be identified and managed in accordance with the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983). There should be an alien species monitoring and eradication program to prevent encroachment of these problem plants for the duration of the operation.

General

47. The recommendations of the EAP in the BAR dated November 2022 and the specialist studies attached must be adhered to. In the event of any conflicting mitigation measures and conditions of the Environmental Authorisation, the specific condition of this Environmental Authorisation will take preference.
48. A copy of this environmental authorisation, the audit and compliance monitoring reports, and the approved EMPr, must be made available for inspection and copying-
- 48.1. at the site of the authorised activity;
 - 48.2. to anyone on request; and
 - 48.3. where the holder of the environmental authorisation has a website, on such publicly accessible website.
49. National government, provincial government, local authorities or committees appointed in terms of the conditions of this authorisation or any other public authority shall not be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder of the authorisation or his/her successor in title in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction be temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance by the holder of the authorisation with the conditions of authorisation as set out in this document or any other subsequent document emanating from these conditions of authorisation.

Date of environmental authorisation: 29/03/2023



Ms Millicent Solomons

Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

1. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration -

- a) The listed activities as applied for in the application form received on 29 April 2022.
- b) The information contained in the BAR dated November 2022.
- c) The comments received from interested and affected parties as included in the BAR dated November 2022
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the BAR and the EMPs dated November 2022
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the appendices of the BAR dated November 2022.

2. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was taken into account in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- a) The findings of all the specialist studies conducted and their recommended mitigation measures.
- b) The BAR dated November 2022 identified all legislations and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the BAR.
- c) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the BAR dated November 2022 and the specialist studies have been adequately indicated.
- d) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken, and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended for public involvement.

3. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings -

- a) The identification and assessment of impacts are detailed in the BAR dated November 2022 and sufficient assessment of the key identified issues and impacts have been completed.
- b) The procedure followed for impact assessment is adequate for the decision-making process.
- c) The information contained in the BAR dated November 2022 is deemed to be accurate and credible.
- d) The proposed mitigation of impacts identified and assessed adequately curtails the identified impacts.

- e) EMPr measures for the pre-construction, construction and rehabilitation phases of the development were proposed and included in the BAR dated November 2022 and will be implemented to manage the identified environmental impacts during the construction phase.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the environmental authorisation, the authorised activities will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the authorised activities can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The environmental authorisation is accordingly granted.





forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 Pretoria 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, 0002 Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: +86 625 1042

Enquiries: Devinagie Bendeman Telephone: 012 399 9337 E-mail: vbendeman@dfre.gov.za

Ms. Milicent Solomons
Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects

Dear Ms. Solomons

APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF DIRECTOR: INTERGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATIONS (ACTING), FROM 01 MARCH UNTIL 31 MARCH 2023

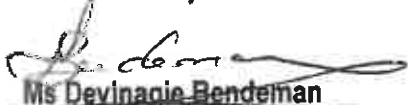
I hereby inform you that I have decided to appoint you as Acting Chief Director: Intergrated Environmental Authorisations from 01 March until 31 March 2023.

All correspondence and other documents that are usually signed by the Chief Director: Intergrated Environmental Authorisations during must be signed under Acting Chief Director: Intergrated Environmental Authorisations during the above-mentioned period.

Your appointment in the above acting position remains subject to the provisions of the Public Service Act, 1994 (Proclamation No. 103 of 1994), as amended, the Government Employees Pension Fund Act, 1996 (Proclamation No. 21 of 1998), the regulations promulgated under these Acts and relevant circulars.

In the execution of your duties and the exercising of the powers delegated to you, you will furthermore be subjected to the provisions of the Public Finance Management Act, compliance with the promotion of Access to Information Act, Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, the Minimum Information Security Standards, Departmental Policies and other applicable legislations with the Republic of South Africa. You are therefore advised to make yourself familiar with the provisions of the legislations and policies and the amendments thereof. (Copies of departmental policies can be obtained from the Human Resource Office).

Yours Sincerely


Ms. Devinagie Bendeman

Deputy Director-General: Regulatory Compliance and Sector Monitoring


Date: 22 February 2023



Batho pele- putting people first

The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I ~~DO NOT~~ ACCEPT
appointment as Acting Chief Director:
Intergrated Environmental Authorisations
Signed: 

Date: 27/02/2023