

MOSSEL BAY OCGT EIA: Final Scoping Report, June 2005: ANNEXURE 7: ISSUES TRAIL

No.	Individual	Organisation	Question, Issue or Concern	Reference	Action/ Response
1	Quintus Muller	Landowner	Prefers transmission lines to be aligned along the R327.	First meeting with landowners, 24-Feb-05	Noted. The alignment of transmission lines will be presented and assessed as alternatives. The preferred alignment will emerge as a result of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.
2	Cornelius Muller	Landowner	Would like the construction phase of the transmission lines to be as short as possible.	First meeting with landowners, 24-Feb-05	Noted.
3	Hanalie de Villiers	Landowner	Is concerned about the visual & noise impact of the power plant.	First meeting with landowners, 24-Feb-05	Noted. Visual and noise impacts will be assessed in the Environmental Impact Report by the relevant specialist.
			Would the power plant be in keeping with the Mossel Bay Structure Plan?	First meeting with landowners, 24-Feb-05	According to the Mossel Bay Chief Town Planner, the site falls within the Mossel bay Urban Edge and is zoned "Industrial".
			Would the electromagnetic fields (EMFs) affect livestock?	First meeting with landowners, 24-Feb-05	There is no proven relationship between EMFs and human or animal health. Stipulated clearances will be maintained.
4	Ignatius Muller	Landowner	Aligning the transmission lines adjacent to the R327 would make access to them easier and would consolidate impacts	First meeting with landowners, 24-Feb-05	Noted.
5	Francois Naude	DEA&DP	Upgrade at Proteus substation would require authorisation.	First authority meeting, 24-Feb-05	The proposed project does not include upgrades at Proteus substation.
			Consolidating impacts is preferred, i.e. the power plant should be as close to the PetroSA facility as possible	First authority meeting 24-Feb-05	Noted.
			Eskom's site screening study should be vetted by the environmental team in order to validate its results.	First authority meeting 24-Feb-05	Noted. This has been done. There are not believed to be fatal flaws in the report.
			Water supply is a major issue of concern.	First authority meeting 24-Feb-05	Noted. This will be addressed as part of the EIA process.
			If the site is zoned "Agriculture", the department of Agriculture would need to be contacted.	First authority meeting 24-Feb-05	According to the Mossel Bay Chief Town Planner, the site falls within the Mossel bay Urban Edge and is zoned "Industrial".

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5	Francois Naude	DEA&DP	The Gouritz Initiative should be contacted.	First authority meeting 24-Feb-05	This has been done. Mr Ivan Donian from the Gouritz Initiative has been included as a key stakeholder for this project.
			Heritage Western Cape must be notified.	First authority meeting 24-Feb-05	Noted. This will be undertaken as a matter of course. No authorisation is necessary, however Heritage Western Cape will be included as a commenting authority.
			Documents in the public domain must be clear on the low number of jobs being created.	First authority meeting 24-Feb-05	Noted. This will be done.
			The visual assessment should take tourist activities along the R327 into account.	Second authority meeting 11-Mar-05	Noted. This will be done.
6	Tonia Schonken	Mossel Bay Environmental Partnership	Will PetroSA still be functioning in 2007?	Key stakeholder meeting 03-May-05	This falls outside the scope of this EIA. Even if PetroSA is decommissioned, the facility to receive gas/ liquid fuel would remain to service the proposed power plant.
			Is the supply of natural gas into the future assured?	Key stakeholder meeting 03-May-05	The proposed power plant can operate on gas or fuel.
			Will water supply be available if needed?	Key stakeholder meeting 03-May-05	The issue of water supply is noted as a concern. Should the plant be able to meet air emission regulations without implementing NOx abatement measures, the power plant would not require large quantities of water. This issue will be assessed in detail in the EIR.
			Specialist botanical, avifaunal, air quality, noise studies are necessary.	Key stakeholder meeting 03-May-05	Noted. This will be done.
			The visual impact assessment must consider light pollution.	Key stakeholder meeting 03-May-05	Noted. This will be done.
			Alien control would be required after brush clearing for the transmission lines.	Key stakeholder meeting 03-May-05	Noted.
			What impacts would the proposed power plant have on the Blinde River?	Key stakeholder meeting 03-May-05	There is unlikely to be any impacts at all as the site does not drain into the Blinde River.

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7	Carel Steyn	PetroSA	Neighbouring ostrich farmers would be affected by the sirens.	Public meeting 03-May-05	Noted. Noise levels will be assessed and implications discussed in the EIR.
8	T M Hector	Mossel Bay Artisan Association	What percentage of the skilled work on this project will be done by local labour?	Public meeting 03-May-05	The issue of local labour will be addressed in the EIR.
			What scope of craft would be available for SMME?	Public meeting 03-May-05	The issue of local labour will be addressed in the EIR.
9	Cornelius Muller	Landowner	He will not sell land for the servitude at market value.	Public meeting 03-May-05	Noted. Servitude negotiations will be handled as per Eskom's standard procedure.
			The construction or transmission lines has too many problems for landowners	Public meeting 03-May-05	Noted.
			Even though he negotiated a servitude corridor with Eskom, the Contractor who constructed the lines worked outside of the agreed area. All attempts to contact Eskom's Clerk of Works failed.	Public meeting 03-May-05	Noted. This concern has been conveyed to the relevant personnel.
			He still hasn't been paid for the previous servitude through his land. The transmission lines were completed almost two years ago.	Public meeting 03-May-05	Noted. This issue falls outside the scope of this EIA and will be addressed by Eskom separately.
10	Charl de Villiers	Botanical Society of SA	Avoid habitat loss in the following ecosystems: Albertinia Sand Fynbos, Mossel Bay Shale Renosterveld/ Herbetsdale Renoster Thicket and Swellendam Silcrete Fynbos. Where it cannot be avoided, suitable equivalent land should be identified and demarcated for dedicated conservation	Fax 22-Apr-05	Noted. The specialist botanical assessment will take cognisance of these ecosystems and possible impacts on them.
			Planning should seek to promote functional connectivity and reduce fragmentation of habitat by appropriate restorative actions.	Fax 22-Apr-05	Noted. Strategic plans and policies already exist and fall outside the scope of this EIA process. However, impacts on habitats (including fragmentation and connectivity impacts) will be discussed in the EIR.
			Use attached Terms of Reference (ToR), in consultation with the CapeNature regional ecologist and respective biodiversity specialists, as a guideline for drafting the ToR for the biodiversity specialist study.	Fax 22-Apr-05	Noted. Cognisance has been taken off this in drafting the ToR for the specialist botanist.

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10	Charl de Villiers	Botanical Society of SA	The biodiversity assessment should reflect a co-ordinated approach in assessing botanical and avifaunal impacts and should be presented as an integrated impact statement on biodiversity pattern and process in the eastern coastal management sector of the Gouritz corridor.	Fax 22-Apr-05	Proper integration of relevant information is an objective of sound EIA practice.
			Where relevant and possible, conservation gains should be emphasized	E-mail 22-Apr-05	Noted.
			Consult with the Gouritz Corridor initiative and CapeNature's regional ecologist regarding linking the proposed project to the goals and objectives of the Gouritz Corridor Initiative, the Cape Action for People and the Environment programme, and the STEP project.	E-mail 22-Apr-05	Noted. Ivan Donian has been included as a key stakeholder and represents the Gouritz Initiative and CapeNature.
			All environmental reports must explicitly describe the water requirements of the proposed OCGT. If water is a significant operating component, it must be stated how water is to be supplied and managed and how the sustainability of the supply against broader municipal needs is to be assured.	Fax 22-Apr-05	Noted. This will be done.

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10	Charl de Villiers	Botanical Society of SA	All reports must demonstrate how the proponent intends to comply with the following NEMA principles (Section 2 of NEMA 107 of 1998): Avoid, minimise or remedy disturbance of ecosystems and loss of biodiversity; Avoid degradation of the environment; Avoid jeopardising ecosystem integrity; Pursue the best practicable environmental option by means of IEM; Protect the environment as the people's common heritage; Control and minimise environmental damage; and Pay specific attention to management and planning procedures pertaining to sensitive, vulnerable, highly dynamic or stressed ecosystems. This can be demonstrated by means of a statement of compliance - summary of measures, cross-referenced to NEMA principles, that will be adopted to avoid, minimise and remedy disturbance of ecosystem and loss of biodiversity.	Fax 22-Apr-05	Noted. The NEMA principles are a major informant in sound EIA practice.
11	Sam Ralston	WESSA	Concerned that not enough is being done to promote more energy efficient technologies.	E-mail 16-May-05	Noted. However, attention to such macro and strategic energy issues is outside the brief for this EIA.
			Unconvinced that the proposed OCGT power plant is in line with international and national agreements and policy that require South Africa to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and shift to renewable energy resources.	E-mail 16-May-05	Noted. The air quality assessment would investigate emissions and South African legislative requirements.
			The Draft Provincial Spatial Development Framework policy states that 25% of all energy produced in the Western Cape must come from renewable sources by 2020. How will the proposed power plant contribute to achieving this goal?	E-mail 16-May-05	The proposed plant is not intended to attempt to meet this goal. The proposed power plant is the only feasible option available to Eskom to meet projected electricity demand by 2007.

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11	Sam Ralston	WESSA	Is (and if so, how is) the proposed power plant connected to PetroSA's Western Cape Gas Development project? Is the feasibility of the proposed power plant dependent on the PetroSA gas pipeline being built?	E-mail 16-May-05	At present the proposed power plant is unrelated to the Western Cape Gas Development. The OCGT plant will be fuelled by kerosene from PetroSA. In future, however, should gas be made available via the gas pipeline, the power plant could be fuelled by gas. The proposed power plant is not dependent on the gas pipeline being built.
			Are the two OCGT power plants proposed in the Western Cape intended to replace the proposed PetroSA Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Power Plant?	E-mail 16-May-05	No. The proposed OCGT power plants are intended to provide peaking capacity only.
			It would be useful to have an idea of the "big picture", i.e. what power plants are being planned where? A more strategic approach is needed to determine the best way forward with regard to energy supply in the Western Cape. Thus, cumulative impacts can be better understood, and the most sustainable solution pursued.	E-mail 16-May-05	Eskom's proposals are in line with South African legislation, regulations and policies. In addition, Eskom applies a strategic electricity planning process to the issue of energy supply in South Africa. Strategic considerations will be acknowledged in the Scoping Report and Environmental Impact Report.
12	Johan du Preez	SusDev Solutions	The location map in the BID gives the erroneous impression that the proposed OCGT power plant lies 13 km from residential areas. This isn't true as Dana Bay and Kwanonqaba are located across the N2 a few kilometres away.	E-mail 17-May-05	The purpose of the map in the BID was to give readers an idea of the location of the proposed power plant in relation to surrounding areas. It shows that the town centre of Mossel Bay lies 13 km to the east. It is not intended to indicate where residential areas are located.
			Eskom's policy of exporting electricity to neighbouring countries has resulted in electricity shortages. This policy should be revised.	E-mail 17-May-05	Noted. However, Eskom's strategic policies are beyond the scope of this EIA process.
			Does Eskom's export policy imply that the "man in the street" sponsors some of the huge profits of energy intensive multinational companies?	E-mail 17-May-05	The question is based on an assumption that is outside the scope of this EIA process.
			Does Eskom's export policy imply that the government/ Eskom is not serious about the Kyoto Protocol?	E-mail 17-May-05	No. The air quality investigation will shed light on the extent and implications of emissions.

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12	Johan du Preez	SusDev Solutions	Eskom's strategic investigation should include an assessment of the proposed technology on local environments/ communities.	E-mail 17-May-05	Assessing the impacts of the proposed OCGT power plant on the environment and local communities is the purpose of this EIA process. This process will also seek to minimise negative impacts and, where possible, enhance positive impacts.
			The cumulative impacts of PetroSA and the proposed plant must be assessed.	E-mail 17-May-05	Noted. The EIR will include a section on cumulative impacts.
			As PetroSA and the proposed OCGT power plant would share a site, both PetroSA and the power plant must adhere to Eskom's corporate governance and environmental management performance value systems.	E-mail 17-May-05	Eskom intends purchasing the land from PetroSA for their proposed OCGT power plant. Although they will be located next to each other, the OCGT power plant is entirely separate from the PetroSA facility. PetroSA is not accountable in any way to Eskom's environmental policies or governance.
			The current EIA process should include an audit of PetroSA's current environmental management/ public participation performance in order to draw up an environmental management plan for the integrated activities/ sites of the proposed OCGT plant and PetroSA.	E-mail 17-May-05	Eskom is responsible for the EIA as it relates to their proposed project. Eskom is not responsible for PetroSA's activities in any way or form. Therefore, assessing PetroSA's environmental management systems or public participation performance is beyond the scope of this EIA.
			The EIA should indicate what Eskom's future plans for the site are. Is the proposed project the first step to a Pebble Bed Nuclear Reactor?	E-mail 17-May-05	Noted. However, nuclear energy generation requires entirely different technology. The existence of an OCGT power plant could thus not in itself be a precursor to a pebble bed reactor.
			PetroSA's gas reserves are running out. How will it be able to provide fuel in the future without changing its core business and hence its impacts	E-mail 17-May-05	Noted. Future fuel sources for the proposed power plant have been considered as part of Eskom's strategic planning. The development of future gas sources, or liquid fuel from other existing or new sources, could fuel the proposed power plant in the long term. The proposed plant would continue to function even if PetroSA were to be decommissioned, as the facilities to pipe in fuel would remain.

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12	Johan du Preez	SusDev Solutions	Water consumption is of concern.	E-mail 17-May-05	Noted. This concern has been captured in the Scoping Report and will be addressed in the EIR.
			The socio-economic assessment should consider the impact on tourism and land values in the vicinity of the plant.	E-mail 17-May-05	Noted. This will be attended to in the EIR.
			Noise from PetroSA is already an issue. What will the cumulative impacts of PetroSA and the proposed OCGT power plant be on nearby communities.	E-mail 17-May-05	Noted. This will be attended to in the EIR.
			The OCGT EIA should consider suitable environmental performance monitoring and public participation programme during operation of the proposed power plant.	E-mail 17-May-05	Noted. The operational phase of the OCGT power plant will be addressed generically in the Environmental Management Plan to be developed for the construction phase of the project.
13	Mr O T Badenhorst	Tuinroete Agri Beperk	What is the precise alignment of the transmission lines?	E-mail 18-May-05	The range of alternative alignments will be assessed during the EIA process. Thereafter, based on the outcomes of the EIA process, Eskom will select their preferred alignment.
			What are the possible impacts of the transmission lines on the environment (e.g. electromagnetic fields)	E-mail 18-May-05	These impacts have been identified as far as possible during the Scoping Phase and captured in the Scoping Report. Significant impacts will be assessed and presented during the EIR Phase.
Students from the University of the Western Cape (UWC), Geography Department, submitted comments during the Scoping Phase as an academic exercise. Their supervisor has indicated that they need not be registered as I&APs as they are unlikely to remain involved for the remainder of the EIA process. However, key issues and concerns raised by the students are presented in this issues trail.					
14	Student	UWC: Geography Dept.	There is a concern about loss of agricultural land as an impact on farming activity.	E-mail 18-May-05	Noted. The Department of Agriculture will be approached as a commenting authority.
			Will local labour be employed?	E-mail 18-May-05	Noted. To be addressed in the EIR.
			The impacts of emissions must be investigated (including health risks to local communities).	E-mail 18-May-05	Noted. To be addressed in the EIR.
			A safety issue regarding the pipeline was raised (viz. the possibility of explosions).	E-mail 18-May-05	Noted. To be addressed in the EIR.
			Impacts on vegetation need to be addressed.	E-mail	Noted. To be addressed in the EIR.

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14	Student	UWC: Geography Dept.	Impacts on avifauna need to be addressed.	E-mail 18-May-05	Noted. To be addressed in the EIR.
			Visual impacts of the proposed transmission lines and OCGT power plant need to be addressed.	E-mail 18-May-05	Noted. To be addressed in the EIR.
			Given the current water shortages, the issue of water supply needs to be investigated thoroughly.	E-mail 18-May-05	Noted. To be addressed in the EIR.
			Noise impacts need to be addressed.	E-mail 18-May-05	Noted. To be addressed in the EIR.
			Impacts of the pipeline need to be addressed.	E-mail 18-May-05	Noted. To be addressed in the EIR.
			Construction phase activities should take cognisance of all water courses.	E-mail 18-May-05	Noted. To be addressed in the EIR.
			Will people be evicted to accommodate the proposed power plant?	E-mail 18-May-05	There is no indication at this time that people will be displaced as a result of the proposed project.
			Concern was expressed about groundwater contamination should the fuel supply pipeline leak.	E-mail 18-May-05	Noted. To be addressed in the EIR.
			Concern was expressed about the economic viability of the proposed project. Will the electricity be affordable to the public? Is it economically viable to construct the power plant for short term purposes?	E-mail 18-May-05	Noted. However, affordability of electricity is outside the brief for this EIA and the proposed project is not for short-term purposes.
			Long term options to meet electricity demand should be investigated.	E-mail 18-May-05	Noted. The strategic level of electricity planning is acknowledged in the documentation underpinning this EIA.
			Will the OCGT power plant eventually start to operate 24 hours a day?	E-mail 18-May-05	No. The plant in question is essentially for peaking purposes.

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The following comments were received in response to the release of the Draft Scoping Report and its presentation at a Public Meeting on 13 June 2005.					
15	Christiaan	October Tradings	Has no objection to the proposed transmission lines as long as local communities can be involved during the construction phase.	Second Public Meeting 13-Jun-05	Noted. Eskom has indicated a commitment to social development. Local contractors and labour will be identified to be skilled and utilised through the life of the project. The manner in which local labour is engaged will be undertaken as a separate drive by Eskom. The detailed process will be described in the EIR.
16	Lester Jansen	Siyaqala BEE Business Forum	What is the duration of the construction phase?	Second Public Meeting 13-Jun-05	Approximately 18 months.
			In terms of the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, what are the employment and contracting opportunities during construction?	Second Public Meeting 13-Jun-05	Noted. Eskom has indicated a commitment to social development. Local contractors and labour will be identified to be skilled and utilised through the life of the project. The manner in which local labour is engaged will be undertaken as a separate drive by Eskom. The detailed process will be described in the EIR.
			Will there be future electricity incentives for investors in collaboration with local and provincial government.	Second Public Meeting 13-Jun-05	While incentives can be investigated, it should be noted that tariffs are determined by the National Electricity Regulator.
17	Monde Mpumela	Siyaqala BEE Business Forum	Economic benefits to the local community and SMME/ BEE participation pre- and post-construction must be clarified.	Fax 14-Jun-05	Noted. Eskom has indicated a commitment to social development. Local contractors and labour will be identified to be skilled and utilised through the life of the project. The manner in which local labour is engaged will be undertaken as a separate drive by Eskom. The socio-economic study will be described in the EIR.
17	Monde Mpumela	Siyaqala BEE Business Forum	The social benefits of job creation, training and skills transfer needs to be determined	Fax 14-Jun-05	Noted. Eskom has indicated a commitment to social development. Local contractors and labour will be identified to be skilled and utilised through the life of the project. The manner in which local labour is engaged will be undertaken as a separate drive by Eskom. The socio-economic study will be described in the EIR.

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			What positions are designated to be filled by locals?	Fax 14-Jun-05	Noted. Eskom has indicated a commitment to social development. Local contractors and labour will be identified to be skilled and utilised through the life of the project. The manner in which local labour is engaged will be undertaken as a separate drive by Eskom. The socio-economic study will be described in the EIR.
			A skills audit must be undertaken.	Fax 14-Jun-05	Noted. Eskom has indicated a commitment to social development. While a formal audit will not be undertaken, local contractors and labour will be identified to be skilled and utilised through the life of the project. The manner in which local labour is engaged will be undertaken as a separate drive by Eskom.
18	Lester Jansen and Monde Mpumela	Siyaqala BEE Business Forum	The economic impact study should determine the number and category of positions that will be filled by locals.	Fax 22-Jun-05	Eskom has indicated a commitment to social development. Local contractors and labour will be identified to be skilled and utilised through the life of the project. The manner in which local labour is engaged will be undertaken as a separate drive by Eskom. The socio-economic study will be described in the EIR.
18	Lester Jansen and Monde Mpumela	Siyaqala BEE Business Forum	The skills audit must determine the availability of skills that may be required for the proposed project so as to determine the level of local employment that may be possible. A database of local skill is available from the Mossel Bay Municipality	Fax 22-Jun-05	Noted. Eskom has indicated a commitment to social development. While a formal audit will not be undertaken, local contractors and labour will be identified to be skilled and utilised through the life of the project. The manner in which local labour is engaged will be undertaken as a separate drive by Eskom. Usually the transmission line contractor approaches the local municipality to assist with the recruitment of local skills.

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			The social impact assessment should consider applying labour intensive construction practices.	Fax 22-Jun-05	Noted. Where feasible (from a time and economic perspective), labour intensive construction practices will be considered. Eskom has indicated a commitment to social development. Local contractors and labour will be identified to be skilled and utilised through the life of the project. The manner in which local labour is engaged will be undertaken as a separate drive by Eskom. The socio-economic study will be described in the EIR.
			The social impact assessment must include a recruitment strategy that comprises (i) a "local policy" to maximise employment opportunities taking into account the existing legislation and policies on professional procurement; and (ii) the communication strategy that will clarify the preference given to locals; (iii) the procedures to be followed by applicants and employers e.g. procedures for advertising jobs, for applying, and for notifying successful or unsuccessful candidates.	Fax 22-Jun-05	Eskom has indicated a commitment to social development. Local contractors and labour will be identified to be skilled and utilised through the life of the project. The manner in which local labour is engaged will be undertaken as a separate drive by Eskom. Eskom has indicated that at least 50% of the workforce would be sourced from local communities. The socio-economic study will be described in the EIR.
18	Lester Jansen and Monde Mpumela	Siyaqala BEE Business Forum	The social impact assessment must describe the training and skills development proposals associated with the pre-construction, construction and post-construction phases of the project. This must include (i) the number of people to be trained; (ii) the status of training (accredited or not); and (iii) the qualifications that will be obtained.	Fax 22-Jun-05	Noted. However, as indicated above, there aren't large-scale employment opportunities associated with this project. Wherever possible, local labour will be utilised. Details regarding the number of local people, their training and possible qualifications that may be obtained will be presented in the EIR. The type of skills required include batch plant operators, ready mix truck drivers and skilled steel assembly workers. Unskilled work includes assistance with the pre-assembly of towers and general civil works.

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			The social impact assessment must include recommendations regarding support in assisting temporary employees to access employment opportunities after construction is complete e.g. through liaising with local business organisations and community organisations.	Fax 22-Jun-05	As indicated above, the manner in which local labour is engaged will be undertaken as a separate drive by Eskom. The detailed process will be described in the EIR.
			Procurement requirements (importing services) must be described together with an analysis of whether these are available locally. The preferred areas from which the developer intends to procure services must be defined. Specific attention must be paid to the potential to procure goods and services from SMMEs, particularly those owned by HDIs and women.	Fax 22-Jun-05	There are a handful of South African transmission line construction contractors registered on Eskom's vendor list. It is possible that international contractors would be invited to tender. Regardless of what contractor is hired, at least 50% of the workforce would be local labour. The manner in which local labour is engaged will be undertaken as a separate drive by Eskom.
			Undertake a complete economic assessment of the proposed project including information on job creation, procurement, multipliers, business modules, based on at least a 10 year horizon. An economic model must be based on primary research in the Western Cape and should quantify the direct employment and revenue that will be created by the various components of the project.	Fax 22-Jun-05	A socio-economic impact assessment of the proposed project will be undertaken in the EIR phase. The results of the socio-economic study will be presented in the EIR. The scale of the proposed project is relatively small and it is not intended to provide an economic boost to the area. Hence a micro-economic study, as is suggested here, is not believed to be appropriate.
18	Lester Jansen and Monde Mpumela	Siyaqala BEE Business Forum	The projection of economic benefits to local communities should be based on local economic research and conditions.	Fax 22-Jun-05	Noted.
			Where economic benefits to communities are the sole or major motivating factor for the project, all relevant economic modelling information must be provided.	Fax 22-Jun-05	It must be noted that the major motivating factor for the project is the need to generate electricity to meet projected shortages in 2007. Wherever possible, economic benefits to local communities will be enhanced.
			The basis on which job creation projections are made must be provided.	Fax 22-Jun-05	Noted.

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			Job creation must be determined and reported per component of the project. This must include data on permanent and temporary jobs and on the number of jobs per category (artisans, skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled).	Fax 22-Jun-05	Noted. Job creation will be discussed in the socio-economic impact assessment and presented in the EIR. However, as the scale of the proposed project is relatively small and it is not intended to provide an economic boost to the area, a micro-economic study, as is suggested here, is not believed to be appropriate.
			The estimated rand value per service that will be procured from the local area must be provided.	Fax 22-Jun-05	As discussed above, the scale of the proposed project, and the reason for it being proposed, suggests that a micro-economic study is not necessary.
			The model or approach to be applied to facilitate Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment, with supporting information, must be provided in the economic impact assessment. Supporting information must include signed commitments from these BEE partners or participants.	Fax 22-Jun-05	Eskom's BEE policy will be presented in the EIR for public review.
			All sustainable development design parameters that are stated as having been incorporated into the design of the OCGT power plant must be included in the economic/ financial feasibility study.	Fax 22-Jun-05	Sustainability design parameters as described in the project documentation to date have been costed as a matter of course in the determination of financial feasibility.
19	Olivia Andrew	EarthLife Africa	What amount of carbon emissions would the proposed power plant produce? Will there be limits imposed and will it be continuously monitored?	Letter received 20-Jun-05	Carbon emissions are anticipated to be low and will be determined by the air quality specialist study. Emissions will be monitored on a regular basis as part of the normal operation of the plant.
			What is the life expectancy of the plant?	Letter received 20-Jun-05	Approximately 25 years.
			What are the rehabilitation measures?	Letter received 20-Jun-05	Rehabilitation will be identified in the EIR phase and reflected in the Environmental Management Plan.

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			Are there any guidelines for employing local communities?	Letter received 20-Jun-05	Eskom has indicated a commitment to social development. Local contractors and labour will be identified to be skilled and utilised through the life of the project. The manner in which local labour is engaged will be undertaken as a separate drive by Eskom.
20	G J Oberholster	Residents Association of Dana Bay Conservancy	The proposed power plant will compound the noise and odour impacts of PetroSA.	Fax 17-Jun-05	The proposed plant would generate noise. Noise impacts will be assessed in detail and the results presented in the EIR. It is unlikely that the proposed plant would emit any malodours. Odour impacts will be assessed by the air quality specialist study.
			The decision to locate the power plant adjacent to PetroSA was taken without any public participation. Consequently the current EIA process has little or no value.	Fax 17-Jun-05	Eskom undertook a site screening study to determine the most appropriate (from a technical, logistical and financial perspective) location for the plant. The methodology and results of the screening study were reviewed by the environmental team and a review consultant. Therefore, while the site screening did not include a public participation component, the results are not believed to be fatally flawed.
			There is a concern that the proposed power plant could be expanded to a nuclear power station in the future.	Fax 17-Jun-05	Nuclear energy generation requires entirely different technology. The existence of an OCGT power plant could thus not in itself be a precursor to a nuclear power station.
20	G J Oberholster	Residents Association of Dana Bay Conservancy	The power plant has no benefits specifically for the residents of Mossel Bay.	Fax 17-Jun-05	Although limited employment opportunities would be a direct benefit to local residents, it should be recognised that the proposed power plant is designed to strengthen the national electricity grid.
			Mossel Bay's electricity demand is 3% of the proposed capacity of the plant. Therefore the electricity generated by the plant is intended to benefit other regions, while the negative impacts of, and risks imposed by, the plant will be felt by Mossel Bay.	Fax 17-Jun-05	Electricity generation plants are not always located where there is a need for electricity, but rather where it makes sound technical and financial sense to locate them. For example, Mossel Bay might receive electricity generated from coal-fired power plants in Mpumalanga.

No.	Individual	Organisation	Question, Issue or Concern	Reference	Action/ Response
			Tourism and associated businesses would be negatively impacted upon. Tourism promotes development in the region, hence the power plant will negatively impact on growth and development of Mossel Bay and the region. The impact of the power plant on tourism has not been addressed in the Draft Scoping Report. The plant would add to the negative impact that PetroSA has on tourism. Mrs J Marais, Mossel Bay Tourism Bureau can be contacted in this regard.	Fax 17-Jun-05	Noted. The impact of the proposed power plant on tourism will be assessed in the socio-economic impact assessment and will be presented in the EIR.
			The power plant would be dependent on PetroSA for fuel, making PetroSA an integral part of the proposed project. Hence the EIA should include an assessment of the impacts of PetroSA.	Fax 17-Jun-05	An assessment of PetroSA falls outside the scope of this EIA. This EIA process will investigate the potential impacts of the proposed power plant and attempt to address only those issues of concern related to the power plant.
			The impact of the power plant on the market value of adjacent properties has not been addressed in the Draft Scoping Report. Properties were bought with the intention to develop in the future. People did not know about the proposed power plant. Who is going to compensate people for the loss in property value?	Fax 17-Jun-05	This concern will be addressed as part of the socio-economic impact assessment to be undertaken in the EIR phase. The plant is proposed to be constructed on land that has for some time been zoned for industrial use. Residential properties adjacent to industrial areas will, as a matter of course, have a lower market value.
20	G J Oberholster	Residents Association of Dana Bay Conservancy	The location of the plant needs to be reconsidered. The plant should be located in an area (e.g Coega in Port Elizabeth, where electricity demand is high) so as to reduce the amount of energy lost through transmission.	Fax 17-Jun-05	The location of the plant was determined using technical, financial and biophysical criteria, including load variances, land and fuel availability and costs, timing, a growing demand, high variances between peak and off peak capacities and the supply of fuel.

No.	Individual	Organisation	Question, Issue or Concern	Reference	Action/ Response
			If the power plant can't be moved so far, a site adjacent to the Proteus substation should be investigated.	Fax 17-Jun-05	The possibility of locating the power plant adjacent to the existing Proteus substation site was investigated and the Proteus site was found to have relatively undisturbed natural vegetation (comprising Strandveld Dune Thicket, Renosterveld and Sand Plain Fynbos), exhibiting fairly high levels of species diversity and endemism. From a biological point of view, a site at Proteus substation is not desirable. From a technical perspective, the site does not have a large enough flat surface to accommodate the proposed OCGT power plant.
			A study should be undertaken to determine the impacts of PetroSA's tank farm, harbour activities, sea outfall pipeline and to determine their compliance with international best practice. An environmental management plan should be developed in conjunction with local residents.	Fax 17-Jun-05	As indicated above, an EIA of PetroSA falls outside the scope of this EIA process.
			The best gas turbine technology should be used so as to limit emissions (noise and air pollution). Emissions must meet the strictest international standards.	Fax 17-Jun-05	Noted. The turbine technology selected will, as a minimum, meet South African standards and guidelines. This will be investigated by the air quality specialist study.
			For a radius of 1 500 m, the maximum noise levels must not exceed the strict levels designated for a residential area with no ambient noise.	Fax 17-Jun-05	The noise assessment commissioned as a specialist study for this EIA will determine the statutory parameters relevant to this project.
20	G J Oberholster	Residents Association of Dana Bay Conservancy	An impact study and management plan, which must include affected parties and the Dana Bay Residents Association, must be developed for the construction phase of the proposed plant.	Fax 17-Jun-05	Noted. A construction phase Environmental Management Plan (EMP) will be developed and be available for review by the public in the EIR.
			An overarching environmental management plan must be developed, in association with affected parties, for the power plant and PetroSA.	Fax 17-Jun-05	Guidelines for the operation of the power plant will be developed. However, the operation of PetroSA falls outside the scope of this EIA process.

No.	Individual	Organisation	Question, Issue or Concern	Reference	Action/ Response
21	Charl de Villers	Botanical Society of South Africa	Project planning should seek to promote functional connectivity and reduce fragmentation by restorative actions. With reference to the first round of comments, what are the strategic plans and policies in place and why do they fall outside this EIA process?	Fax 20-Jun-05	It must be noted that the area in question is mainly farmland. The only area with remnants of indigenous vegetation is in the drainage lines along the westernmost transmission line route alternative. Functional connectivity and fragmentation will be addressed as part of the botanical assessment. Please refer to Section 1.1 of the Scoping Report which discusses the strategic policies and plans. These policies and plans discuss the electricity supply, demand and generation context within South Africa and hence, the strategic planning has already occurred. On a project level, planning will indeed attempt to promote functional connectivity, where such connections exist.
			The Sub-tropical Thicket ecosystem Planning Project, the STEP Megaconservancy Network and the Gouritz Initiative must be recognised as key conceptual, policy and planning informants in this environmental process.	Fax 20-Jun-05	They are indeed informants in this process and will be taken into account during the botanical assessment.
			The section on flora should be rewritten to reflect best current understanding of terrestrial biodiversity pattern and process in the Gouritz-Mossel Bay region, threats to its persistence and strategies and plans for conservation.	Fax 20-Jun-05	Noted. This section will be bolstered in the EIR. However, it must be noted that the study site is far removed from a pristine condition. The area is characterised by cultivated and grazing land. The botanical assessment will investigate biodiversity patterns and processes.
21	Charl de Villers	Botanical Society of South Africa	Pay attention to the type and status of threatened vegetation, the ecological processes that maintain these ecosystems and to the identification of locally extant habitats that would represent the spatial surrogates for these ecological processes.	Fax 20-Jun-05	Noted. The botanical assessment will investigate these issues.

No.	Individual	Organisation	Question, Issue or Concern	Reference	Action/ Response
			The proposed terms of reference for the biodiversity assessment are inadequate. They should emphasise the identification, assessment and evaluation of potential impacts of the various project alternatives on the structural and functional aspects of biodiversity.	Fax 20-Jun-05	The proposed terms of reference were developed taking into account BotSoc's recommendations. The ToR for the botanist includes an assessment of the significance of impacts of the various project alternatives on botanical/biodiversity patterns and processes.
			The terms of reference should explicitly refer to regional conservation priorities identified by the STEP project and Gouritz Initiative, and integrate project-related impacts in terms of the threats and/or opportunities they present in terms of such conservation priorities.	Fax 20-Jun-05	While not specifically referred to in the ToR, the STEP project and the Gouritz Initiative will inform the botanical assessment.
			The terms of reference for the biodiversity specialist should be submitted to the CapeNature regional ecologist for comment prior to finalisation in the Plan of Study for EIR.	Fax 20-Jun-05	Ivan Donian of CapeNature's Gouritz Initiative is a registered I&AP and has been notified of the release of the Draft Scoping Report and been issued with the report summary, which includes a list of the scoped issues and specialist studies. To date CapeNature has not raised any issues of concern.
			BotSoc's recommended terms of reference for the consideration of biodiversity in environmental assessment and decision-making should be referred to.	Fax 20-Jun-05	Noted. This has been done.
22	Gilbert Muller	Landowner (Arum Valley)	Raises ostriches in each camp on farm. Breeding pairs and hatchlings cannot be disturbed between June and February.	Fax 23-Jun-05	Noted. If necessary, specific measures to manage such impacts would be incorporated in the EMP and negotiated with the landowner.
22	Gilbert Muller	Landowner (Arum Valley)	Sheep can also not be disturbed during lambing, which occurs throughout the year.	Fax 23-Jun-05	Noted. If necessary, specific measures to manage such impacts would be incorporated in the EMP and negotiated with the landowner.
			Concerned that gates will be left open.	Fax 23-Jun-05	Strict control over gates would be enforced.
			Concerned that transmission towers will restrict grain farming activities, e.g. ploughing, planting, harvesting etc.	Fax 23-Jun-05	Noted. The degree to which such activities would be hampered by the proposed project will be addressed in detail in the EIR.

No.	Individual	Organisation	Question, Issue or Concern	Reference	Action/ Response
			Concerned about pollution and noise, particularly air pollution. Are guarantees in place that water resources, plants and animals will not be affected and who is responsible?	Fax 23-Jun-05	Noted. Guarantees should be seen in the context of the strict statutory requirements for the operation of the power plant, as well as the on-going opportunity for independent monitoring of environmental performance. Specialist studies will investigate these issues.
			Expects a thoroughly considered EIA that also addresses operational phase impacts on agricultural activities.	Fax 23-Jun-05	Agreed. This will be documented in the EMPs for construction and operation.
23	Johan du Preez	SusDev Consultants	The Eskom site screening study is fatally flawed. It is a "justification process" that followed after the site had been selected.	Fax 23-Jun-05	The methodology and results of the screening study were reviewed by the environmental team and a review consultant. The results are not believed to be fatally flawed.
			The site selection process does not comply with the good corporate governance model adopted by government and Eskom. It is inconceivable that the environmental team and DEAT have approved the findings of the study.	Fax 23-Jun-05	The environmental authorities have not approved the findings of the study but will be informed by the review undertaken. They will be the final arbiter in this regard.
			A superficial approach was followed in the screening study.	Fax 23-Jun-05	Noted.
			Key socio-economic activities in the area include real estate development, building construction, domestic and international tourism and "the sense of place" is not mentioned in the screening study.	Fax 23-Jun-05	These socio-economic issues were addressed in the screening study (pages 23-26 & 28) and will also be independently addressed in the EIR.
23	Johan du Preez	SusDev Consultants	The site screening did not include for consultation with the thousands of residents located within a few kilometers of the site.	Fax 23-Jun-05	Acknowledged. Whether this is a fatal flaw in the process in its entirety will be decided by the environmental authorities.
			No cognisance was taken of the spatial development framework of the Town Council of Mossel Bay that indicate future residential growth nodes towards the PetroSA site.	Fax 23-Jun-05	The EIA <i>per se</i> has certainly taken the IDP-derived SDF into account, specifically the Growth Management Framework for Mossel Bay.

No.	Individual	Organisation	Question, Issue or Concern	Reference	Action/ Response
			The screening study describes the PetroSA site as highly visible, noisy and industrial. It also states that the current noise and air quality levels are quite high (<i>sic</i>). Based on these untested assumptions and without considering the thousands of adjacent residents, the negative impacts are considered to be regional and having a low significance. The power plant with four monstrous turbines, 30 - 60 m high cooling towers, twin 30 - 40 m high transmission lines and polluted air emission rates would dominate most of the impacts associated with the site. Therefore the negative physical impact should be rated local with a high significance.	Fax 23-Jun-05	Noted. An assessment of visibility, noise and air quality at the proposed site will be examined in detail in the project-level EIA. Should the impacts be so significant as to preclude the project from going ahead, this will be reflected in the EIR.
			Because Mossel Bay is considered to be the gateway to the Garden Route, the sense of place category should be rated local and regional with a high significance.	Fax 23-Jun-05	Noted. An assessment of the sense of place will be examined in detail in the project-level EIA.
			The screening study emphasises the unique vegetation, the largely undeveloped area and sense of place of the area adjacent to Proteus substation. Contrary to the screening study, a cursory visit to Proteus indicates that the vegetation is confined to a narrow strip between the southernmost fence and the R327 and somewhat west of the facility. The vegetation surrounding the rest of the substation is of no significance.	Fax 23-Jun-05	Specialist Information indicates that the vegetation surrounding Proteus substation is ecologically significant (Nick Helme, <i>pers. comm.</i>).
23	Johan du Preez	SusDev Consultants	Several huge (30 - 40 m high) transmission lines cross the countryside before entering and exiting the substation, with its huge transformers and other equipment. The sense of place is that of a heavily industrialised area.	Fax 23-Jun-05	The area surrounding Proteus substation is not zoned industrial or considered to be industrial in nature.
			Only a few people would be affected by an OCGT plant located at Proteus substation.	Fax 23-Jun-05	Opinion noted.

No.	Individual	Organisation	Question, Issue or Concern	Reference	Action/ Response
			The comparative assessment exercise conducted to determine the most suitable site is seriously flawed. Locating the power plant at Proteus does away with the transmission lines and would require two pipelines (water and kerosene) at ground level. The comparative environmental impacts (or footprints) of these two options have been omitted and should be included in the site selection process. A 10 m wide pipeline corridor will have a relatively friendly environmental footprint compared to the visually intrusive transmission lines needing a 55 m servitude each, separated by 400 m. This was excluded from the comparative assessment used in the site selection process.	Fax 23-Jun-05	The methodology and results of the screening study were reviewed by the environmental team and a review consultant. The results are not believed to be fatally flawed. Note that the total servitude width for the two proposed transmission lines would be approximately 85 m. The installation of underground pipes would require extensive earthworks and consequent habitat destruction.
			Switching to pipes would generate considerable project savings.	Fax 23-Jun-05	Eskom has indicated that due diligence is applied in their management of financial responsibilities.
			It is clear that should the above-mentioned issues be factored into the comparative assessment exercise, the power plant would be located at Proteus.	Fax 23-Jun-05	The location of the plant was determined using technical, financial and biophysical criteria, including the issues as mentioned.
23	Johan du Preez	SusDev Consultants	Heavy industrial development like the OCGT power plant is not aligned with the sustainable development model of Mossel Bay. PetroSA was a mistake and did not undergo an EIA. Therefore it should not be used as an argument to perpetuate a legacy of poor decisions.	Fax 23-Jun-05	The location of proposed power plant is in alignment with Mossel Bay's Growth Management Framework. The implications of the sustainable model mentioned will be investigated. Furthermore the EIA process allows for informed decision-making to prevent the perpetuation of poor decisions.
			Given the hazardous nature of the operations at PetroSA and the OCGT power plant, a shared site will increase the risks associated with the occurrence of catastrophic events. The EIA should assess these risks.	Fax 23-Jun-05	A risk assessment will be undertaken for the proposed power plant and fuel supply pipeline. As indicated above, investigations with respect to PetroSA falls outside the scope of this EIA. Any queries relating to PetroSA should be addressed directly to PetroSA.

No.	Individual	Organisation	Question, Issue or Concern	Reference	Action/ Response
			The decision to site the OCGT power plant at PetroSA should be reconsidered.	Fax 23-Jun-05	The location of the plant was determined using technical, financial and biophysical criteria and is not deemed to have any fatal flaws.
			The scope of the EIA does not include for the potential impacts of sourcing kiloliters of fuel and possibly water. "Upstream" and "downstream" activities of the development needs to be considered.	Fax 23-Jun-05	Fuel and water use will indeed be addressed in the EIR, as will secondary and consequential impacts, as far as possible.
			PetroSA will have to make major process changes to its product mix to meet the power plant's fuel requirements. From a legal perspective this would be subject to an EIA. This EIA should be broadened to capture the impacts caused by the change in operating activities at PetroSA.	Fax 23-Jun-05	PetroSA has indicated that process changes will not be required in order to meet the power plant's fuel requirements. However, should this become necessary PetroSA would need to comply with the relevant legislation.
			The size and operating parameters for the power plant must be finalised in time for the assessment stage. The parameters decided should be used for the impact assessment and included in the operating manual of the plant.	Fax 23-Jun-05	Agreed.
23	Johan du Preez	SusDev Consultants	All assessments must be based on the maximum operating capacity of the turbines.	Fax 23-Jun-05	This plant is designed for peaking capacity with a maximum load factor of 15% per annum (an average of approximately 4 hours per day) and therefore will be assessed accordingly.
			Ensure that the best available technology and sound dampening methodologies are used to prevent any increase in noise levels at a distance of 1.5 km from the plant.	Fax 23-Jun-05	The noise assessment commissioned as a specialist study for this EIA will determine the statutory parameters relevant to this project.
			Use the best available technology and dry low emission turbines to limit NOx so as to not place undue pressure on water resources in the region.	Fax 23-Jun-05	The issue of water supply has been noted as a concern. Should the plant be able to meet air emission regulations without implementing wet NOx abatement measures, the power plant would not require large quantities of water. This issue will be assessed in detail in the EIR.

No.	Individual	Organisation	Question, Issue or Concern	Reference	Action/ Response
			Water emanating from air pollution control will have to be treated.	Fax 23-Jun-05	Agreed and to be dealt with in the EIR.
			It is incorrect to fix the height of the towers at 30 m before the dispersion modeling exercise has been completed. The site screening exercise refers to towers of 40 - 60 m high, which seems more realistic.	Fax 23-Jun-05	Agreed and to be dealt with in the EIR, by the air quality specialist.
			The visual impact of the plant at PetroSA would have a significant negative impact on tourism, a key driver for the sustainable development of Mossel Bay.	Fax 23-Jun-05	The visual impact of the proposed power plant is being assessed as a specialist study, to inform the EIR.
24	Sam Ralston	WESSA	A wider range of alternatives should be considered in the EIA. Environmental issues seem to be a secondary consideration in the site screening study. Environmental and health issues should be of primary or at least equal concern in identifying suitable sites. Consequently, this does not appear to be a suitable means of addressing the issue of alternatives.	Fax 24-Jun-05	Alternative sites were investigated in the screening study. Environmental concerns formed a component of the screening study. A more detailed environmental impact assessment will be undertaken in the EIA process for the proposed site.
24	Sam Ralston	WESSA	Dismissing the "no go" alternative is not supported. Should the project not go ahead, Eskom will find another solution (e.g. find another site or implement management interventions).	Fax 24-Jun-05	The "no go" alternative has not been dismissed, it is simply not being evaluated at the same level of comparative detail as the project alternatives are. The "no go" alternative would be exercised as a result of the environmental authorities issuing a negative record of decision, i.e. the need to meet increased electricity demand will be addressed at a national, strategic level.
			The full range of technology alternatives must be addressed in the EIA to find the most environmentally sound solution.	Fax 24-Jun-05	The screening study specifically deals with peaking generation technologies and in this respect is comprehensive.

No.	Individual	Organisation	Question, Issue or Concern	Reference	Action/ Response
			A range of operating scenarios must be considered in the EIA, including worst case/ disasters, technology failure, full-time operation, 8 hour operation and peak operation.	Fax 24-Jun-05	In considering the EIR, the environmental authorities will determine whether the range of operating scenarios addressed in the EIR is sufficiently wide. This plant is designed for peaking capacity with a maximum load factor of 15% per annum (an average of approximately 4 hours per day) and therefore will be assessed accordingly.
			Because the plant can operate using different fuels, including diesel oil, the impacts of using alternative fuels should be considered in the EIA.	Fax 24-Jun-05	Agreed. This will be addressed as part of the EIR. The fuels that could be used are kerosene-type products, natural gas and diesel.
			There is inconsistency with regard to the height of the stacks. The screening report refers to a height of 40 - 60 m high while the Draft Scoping Report states that the stacks will only be 30 m high. This would have implications in terms of air quality and needs to be clarified.	Fax 24-Jun-05	The optimum stack height will be determined by the air quality assessment.
24	Sam Ralston	WESSA	While they recognise that there is a transition period towards implementing greener technology, WESSA does not support the building of new infrastructure that produces greenhouses gases and uses non-renewable resources. WESSA would be interested in a comparison of the emissions between coal-fired and OCGT plants. If OCGT is cleaner, would it be possible to operate it for longer periods of time and replace some of the energy (and impacts) that come from coal-powered plants?	Fax 24-Jun-05	With respect to a comparison between coal-fired and OCGT power plants, this has been addressed in the screening study. The specific emissions of the OCGT plant will be assessed in the EIR Phase to allow a more detailed comparison. The average cost of generation from coal is approximately R95/Megawatt hour (MWh) as opposed to the cost of the proposed plant which has been assessed to be R2500/MWh, hence the lower proposed load factor for the proposed OCGT power plant.
			Given their proximity, the cumulative air quality impacts of PetroSA and the OCGT plant must be assessed.	Fax 24-Jun-05	The air quality specialist will assess the impacts with respect to the ambient air quality.
			The impacts of heat emission on local climate must be assessed.	Fax 24-Jun-05	A comment in this regard will be made by the air pollution specialist.

No.	Individual	Organisation	Question, Issue or Concern	Reference	Action/ Response
			The source of water and its impacts must be considered. Would it be possible to use waste water in some of the processes that demand water?	Fax 24-Jun-05	The issue of water supply has been noted as a concern. Should the plant be able to meet air emission regulations without implementing NOx abatement measures, the power plant would not require large quantities of water. This issue will be assessed in detail in the EIR.
			What method will be used to demineralise water? How much energy is used for this? The disposal of resultant waste needs to be addressed in the EIR.	Fax 24-Jun-05	These issues will be assessed in detail in the EIR.
			Exactly how effluent and wastes will be disposed off must be explicit in the EIR. It must be specified exactly what will be produced, how much of it, how it will be disposed off, and what the impacts of this will be? Alternative means of managing this waste must be explored e.g. can it be used by other industries?	Fax 24-Jun-05	These issues will be assessed in detail in the EIR.
24	Sam Ralston	WESSA	Health and safety of local residents must be considered, especially considering the hazardous substances stored on site. Will there be an evacuation plan?	Fax 24-Jun-05	In terms of the scale of potential risks associated with the power plant, a residential evacuation plan is not deemed necessary. Health and safety are issues that will be addressed in the EIR.
			Is there a risk of soil and groundwater contamination?	Fax 24-Jun-05	This issue will be assessed in detail in the EIR.
			The source of technology and building materials , and the source of fuel and its impacts, warrants consideration.	Fax 24-Jun-05	The source of technology and building materials will not be assessed as part of this EIA. However, Eskom ensures that their suppliers are compliant with the relevant quality and environmental standards. The source, transport, storage and use of the kerosene fuel for the power plant will be dealt with in detail in the EIR.
			Will the proposed plant necessitate the upgrade of other facilities (e.g. transmission lines and substations)?	Fax 24-Jun-05	Not according to the information presently in hand.

No.	Individual	Organisation	Question, Issue or Concern	Reference	Action/ Response
			WESSA is concerned about the long term sustainability of the project and would be interested in an assessment of the financial feasibility of the entire project.	Fax 24-Jun-05	Eskom has undertaken a full feasibility study, which indicates that the project is economically viable.
			What is the OCGT's expected lifespan?	Fax 24-Jun-05	Approximately 25 years.
			How long are the natural gas reserves expected to last for?	Fax 24-Jun-05	The life of the plant is not dependent on the gas reserves currently supplying PetroSA.
			If the project is dependent on the import of fuel, how stable is the global price? If fuel runs out or becomes uneconomical, will the power plant use some other source of fuel?	Fax 24-Jun-05	Although global fuel prices do have a bearing on the cost of operation, the project viability is not dependent on the stability of the global fuel price. If liquid fuel becomes unavailable, natural gas can be used to fuel the plant.
			A lot of energy is needed to run the plant, from acquiring fuel, purifying water and starting the turbines. It would be interesting to see an energy budget to determine exactly how much energy is used in this process versus how much is actually produced.	Fax 24-Jun-05	As far as electricity is concerned, approximately 1kW is required for each 100kW produced.
24	Sam Ralston	WESSA	Every effort must be made to consult, and if necessary, capacitate nearby residents to take part in the process.	Fax 24-Jun-05	Agreed. This is being undertaken as part of the public participation process.
			The proposed development will have negative impacts on environmental sustainability. WESSA suggests that if the project goes ahead, Eskom should investigate opportunities to mitigate against any "externalities". For example, the huge demands on stretched water resources could be compensated for through helping make water conservation measures accessible to poor communities.	Fax 24-Jun-05	Noted. This proposal will be forwarded to the proponent for consideration and will be addressed in the EIR.

No.	Individual	Organisation	Question, Issue or Concern	Reference	Action/ Response
			<p>Reaching targets for renewable energy production set in the Draft Provincial Spatial Development Framework could be assisted through installing or subsidising solar panels on low cost housing. Impacts of green-house emissions could be reduced by implementing appropriate greening projects. These interventions should be directly linked to the project.</p>	<p>Fax 24-Jun-05</p>	<p>Although not related directly to the project in question, Eskom does apply considerable effort in developing and applying renewable energy technologies and off-grid supply.</p>