

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED NUCLEAR POWER STATION (‘NUCLEAR 1’) AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE

Conservation Off-set Guideline Document -
Duynefontein.

August 2015



On behalf of: Eskom Holdings Ltd



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and Terms of Reference

GIBB was requested by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) to consider a conservation off-set for the Duynefontein site. The DEA has however not yet confirmed as to what extent the conservation off-set should be considered or the nature of a report detailing this consideration. GIBB therefore proposes the approach detailed below as a starting point to identify a suitable off-set site.

Identification of off-set areas is fraught with complication. It is a long-term process to identify a site(s) in an appropriate ecosystem that is large enough and where the landowner is willing to sell at market-related prices. Therefore, GIBB will request a selected group of specialists to produce criteria for identification of a suitable offset conservation site based on their knowledge of the Duynefontein site and taking into consideration the DEA&DP Provincial Guidelines on Biodiversity Off-sets (2011).

The terms of reference are therefore for the specialist to:

- To produce criteria for identification of a suitable off-set conservation site based on their knowledge of the Duynefontein site and taking into consideration the DEA&DP Provincial Guidelines on Biodiversity Off-sets (2011); and
- Identify criteria in terms of (but not necessarily limited to) the following:
 - Size of the offset site;
 - Location;
 - Ecosystems represented on the site;
 - Habitat quality/ integrity; and
 - State of alien plant invasion.