



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

APPLICATION FORM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

	(For official use only)
File Reference Number:	
NEAS Reference Number:	DEA/EIA/
Date Received:	

Application for authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), (the Act) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 the Regulations)

PROJECT TITLE

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE GOURIKWA TO BLANCO 400KV TRANSMISSION LINE, AND SUBSTATION UPGRADE

Indicate if the **DRAFT** report accompanies the application

Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

Kindly note that:

1. This application form is current as of 1 April 2016. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ascertain whether subsequent versions of the form have been published or produced by the competent authority.
2. The application must be typed within the spaces provided in the form. The sizes of the spaces provided are not necessarily indicative of the amount of information to be provided. Spaces are provided in tabular format and will extend automatically when each space is filled with typing.
3. Where applicable **black out** the boxes that are not applicable in the form.
4. The use of the phrase "not applicable" in the form must be done with circumspection. Should it be done in respect of material information required by the competent authority for assessing the application, it may result in the rejection of the application as provided for in the Regulations.
5. This application must be handed in at the offices of the relevant competent authority as determined by the Act and Regulations.
6. No faxed or e-mailed applications will be accepted. An electronic copy of the signed application form must be submitted together with two hardcopies (one of which must contain the original signatures).
7. Unless protected by law, all information filled in on this application form will become public information on receipt by the competent authority. Any interested and affected party should and shall be provided with the information contained in this application on request, during any stage of the application process.

8. Should a specialist report or report on a specialised process be submitted at any stage for any part of this application, the terms of reference for such report and declaration of interest of the specialist must also be submitted.
9. Proof of payment must accompany this application. The application will not be processed without proof of payment unless one of the exclusions provided for the Fee Regulations (Fees for consideration and processing of applications for environmental authorisations and amendments thereto Government Notice No.141, published on 28 February 2014) is applicable AND such information in section 1 of this application form has been confirmed by this Department.

Departmental Details

The application must be addressed to the Chief Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations at:

Postal address:

Department of Environmental Affairs
Attention: Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Physical address:

Department of Environmental Affairs
Attention: Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Environment House
473 Steve Biko Road
Arcadia
Pretoria

Queries must be addressed to the contact below:

Tel: 012 399 9372
E-mail: EIAAdmin@environment.gov.za

Please note that this form must be copied to the relevant provincial environmental department/s.

View the Department's website at <http://www.environment.gov.za/> for the latest version of the documents.

1. **PROOF OF PAYMENT**

Applicants are required to tick the appropriate box below to indicate that either proof of payment is attached or that, in the applicant's view, an exclusion applies. Proof and a motivation for exclusions must be attached to this application form in **Appendix 1**.

Proof of payment attached as **Appendix 1**

Exclusion applies

An applicant is excluded from paying fees if:

The activity is a community based project funded by a government grant; or
The applicant is an organ of state.

TYPE OF EXCLUSION	Tick where applicable. Proper motivation must be attached to the application
The activity is a community based project funded by a government grant	
The applicant is an organ of state	✓

FEE AMOUNT	Fee
Application for an environmental authorisation for which basic assessment is required in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations	R2 000
Application for an environmental authorisation, for which S&EIR is required in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations	R10 000

Department of Environmental Affairs' details for the payment of application fees:

<p>Payment Enquiries: Tel: 012 399 9119 Email: eiafee@environment.gov.za</p> <p>Banking details: ABSA Bank Branch code: 632005 Account number: 1044 2400 72 Current account Reference number : Reference number to be provided in the specific format indicating centre point coordinates of site in decimal degrees to 5 or 6 decimal places: latitude/longitude eg. -33.918861/18.423300</p> <p>Proof of payment must accompany the application form: Indicate reference number below.</p> <p>Tax exemption status: Status: Tax exempted</p> <p>Reference number:</p>
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2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Please provide a **detailed** description of the project.

Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd (Transmission) has appointed Envirolution Consulting (Pty) Ltd to undertake the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the proposed construction of a 400kV Transmission Power line from the Gourikwa Substation to the (Blanco)Narina Substation and the associated upgrades of these Substations (**DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/921¹**). The study area falls within the boundaries of the Eden District Municipality, in the Western Cape Province, with the nearest Municipalities being Mossel Bay Local Municipality and George Metropolitan Municipality. Refer to Figure 1 for an overview of the study area.

Alternative 1: This corridor exits Gourikwa Substation in a north easterly direction and follows the R327 for approximately 8 km. It turns east and cuts across the mixed agricultural and natural landscape type, passing through the most eastern part of the Gondwana Private Game Reserve. It maintains a north-eastern direction, nearing the mountainous terrain of the Outeniqua Mountains, until reaching the Narina Substation (Alternative 5 was approved by DEA on 1 September 2016). The Blanco site is approximately 3-4 km west of the city of George and the very picturesque Outeniqua Pass (N9).

Alternative 2: This corridor starts in the same direction as Alternative 1 but turns east just south of the Gondwana Private Game Reserve. It follows an easterly direction, crossing the Hartebeeskuil Dam before turning north east as it reaches the R328 between Hartenbos and Brandwacht. It passes south of Bottlierskop Private Game Reserve and crosses Wolwedans Dam before turning north and reaching the Narina Substation site.

Alternative 3: This corridor is a variation of Alternative 2 and exits the Gourikwa Substation in an easterly direction. It brushes past the western outskirts of Hartenbos before turning north and joining Alternative 2. A corridor of 2km in width was assessed for each route alternative.

Site alternatives for the upgrade of the **substations** of Gourikwa MTS and Blanco (Narina) Substation will not be assessed in this EIA process since the Gourikwa substation already exists and infrastructure will only be upgraded within the existing footprint to accommodate the additional line connections. NB: The (Blanco) Narina Substation formed part of a separate project (DEA REF NO: 14/12/16/3/3/2/424).

^{1 1} **NB:** This application (DEA ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/921) has lapsed as the FEIR was not submitted in the prescribed timeframes it is therefore anticipated that a new reference number will be allocated to this project.

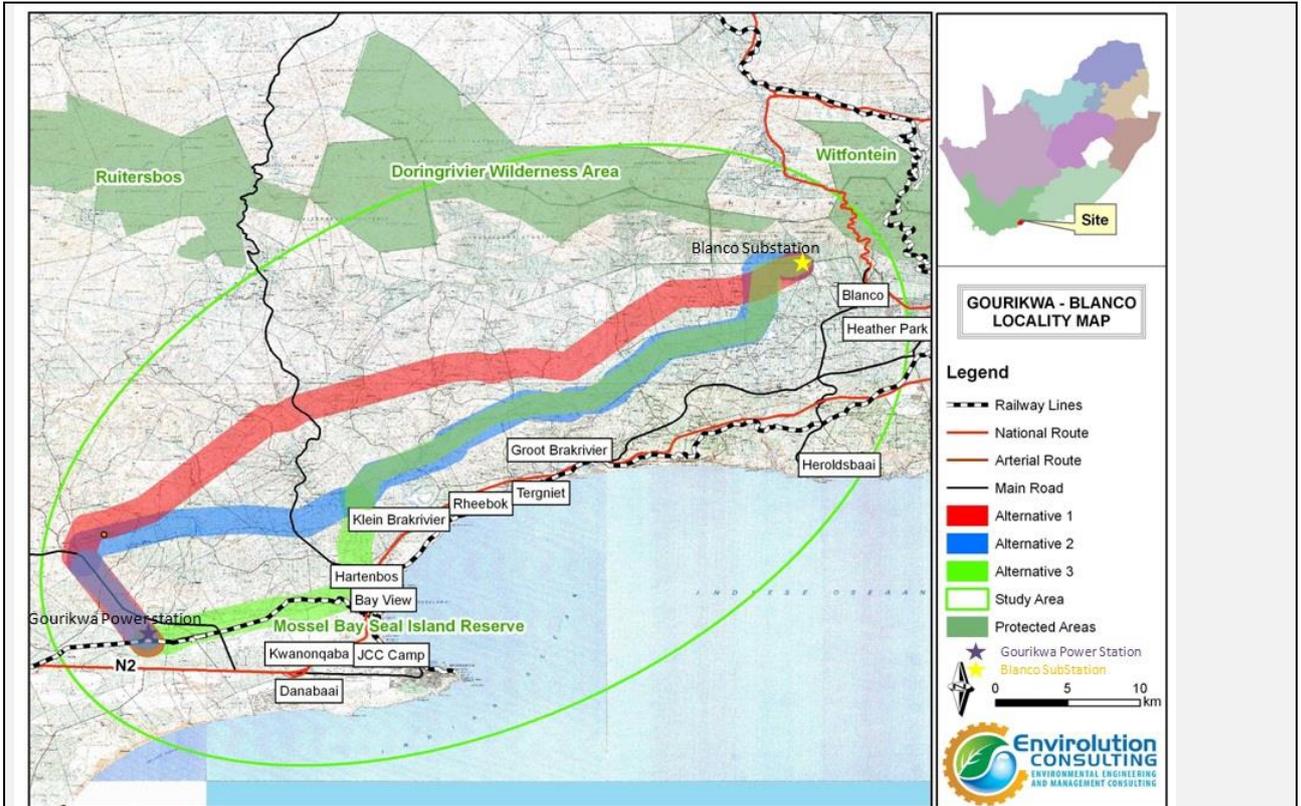


Figure 1: Locality map for the proposed Gourikwa to Blanco (Narina) 400kV Power line and Substations upgrade

The proposed 400kV transmission power line from the Gourikwa Substation to the Blanco Substation forms part of the power corridors that will connect generation pools to one another and to the major load centres in the country. This backbone and regional power corridor network structure will allow the increasing system demand to be supplied and the power from new power stations to be integrated more efficiently into the transmission network and distributed where required, both under system-healthy and system-contingency conditions.

*NB: A separate application will be submitted for the construction of the 400kV Transmission power line from the Gourikwa Substation at Mossel Bay to the Blanco (Narina) Substation at George, and that **impact assessment will be presented in a separate report.***

Does the project form part of any of the Strategic Infrastructure Projects (SIPs) as described in the National Development Plan, 2011?	YES X	NO
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If YES, please indicate which SIPs are applicable in **Appendix 2**. You are also required to provide confirmation of SIP applications from the relevant sector representative which must be attached in **Appendix 2**

Please indicate which sector the project falls under by crossing out the relevant block in the table below:

Table 1			
Green economy + "Green" and energy-saving industries		Greenfield transformation to urban or industrial form (including mining)	
Infrastructure – electricity (generation, transmission & distribution)	✓	Biodiversity or sensitive area related activities	

Oil and gas		Mining value chain	
Biofuels		Potential of metal fabrication capital & transport equipment – arising from large public investments	
Nuclear		Boat building	
Basic services (local government) – electricity and electrification		Manufacturing – automotive products and components, and medium and heavy commercial vehicles	
Basic services (local government) – area lighting		Manufacturing – plastics, pharmaceuticals and chemicals	
Infrastructure – transport (ports, rail and road)		Manufacturing – clothing textiles, footwear and leather	
Basic services (local government access roads)		Forestry, paper, pulp and furniture	
Basic services (local government) – public transport		Business process servicing	
Infrastructure – water (bulk and reticulation)		Advanced materials	
Basic services (local government) – sanitation		Aerospace	
Basic services (local government) – waste management		Basic services (local government) – education	
Basic services (local government) water		Basic services (local government) – health	
Agricultural value chain + agro-processing (linked to food security and food pricing imperatives)		Basic services (local government) - housing	
Infrastructure – information and communication technology		Basic services (local government) security of tenure	
Tourism + strengthening linkages between cultural industries and tourism		Other	
Basic services (local government) – public open spaces and recreational facilities			

Table 2

Does the listed activity/ies applied for form part of a larger project which is not a listed activity itself e.g. a road that is a listed activity that is needed to access a drilling site where the drilling does not constitute a listed activity.	YES	NO ✓
If indicated yes above, please provide a brief description on how the activity/ies relate to the larger project that forms part there of: N/A		

3. GENERAL INFORMATION

Applicant name:	Eskom Holdings SOC Limited
Registration number (if applicant is a company)	2002/015527/30
Trading name (if any)	Eskom Holdings SOC Limited

Responsible person name (If the applicant is a company):	Ms Martina Phiri Eskom Group Capital: Land Development and Management		
Applicant/ Responsible person ID number:	Ms Martina Phiri		
Responsible position, e.g. Director, CEO, etc.:	Programme Manager: Western & Southern Grid Strengthening		
Physical address:	Megawatt Park, Maxwell drive, Sunninghill, Sandton.		
Postal address:	P.O Box 1091, Johannesburg		
Postal code:	2001	Cell:	082 468 2137
Telephone:	(011) 800 3550	Fax:	(011) 801 3917
E-mail:	Martina.Phiri@eskom.co.za	BBBEE status	SOC

Provincial Authority:	Provincial Government of the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning		
Contact person:	Mnr. Marek Kedzieja & Me. Tania de Waal		
Postal address:	Private Bag X9086 Cape Town (Utilitas Building, 1 Dorp Street)		
Postal code:	8000	Cell:	082 374 8353
Telephone:	021 – 483 4525 021 – 483 4360	Fax:	021 483 3016
E-mail:	mkedzie@pgwc.gov.za and daniel.lambrechts@westerncape.gov.za <i>Mnr Niel Lambrechts (George Branch) 044 - 8058600</i>		

Local municipality	See Appendix 3		
Contact person:			
Postal address:			
Postal code:		Cell:	
Telephone:		Fax:	
E-mail:			

In instances where there is more than one local authority involved, please attach a list of those local authorities with their contact details as **Appendix 3**.

Landowner:	See Appendix 4		
Contact person:			
Postal address:			
Postal code:		Cell:	
Telephone:		Fax:	
E-mail:			

In instances where there is more than one landowner, please attach a list of those landowners with their contact details as **Appendix 4**. If the applicant is not the owner or person in control of the land, proof of notice to the landowner or person in control of the land on which the activity is to be undertaken must be submitted in **Appendix 4**.

Identified Competent Authority to consider the application:	National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)
Reason(s) in terms of S 24C of NEMA 1998 as amended	Eskom is a State Owned Company (SOC) and therefore will apply to the National Department of Environmental Affairs.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER (EAP) INFORMATION

EAP company name:	Envirolution Consulting (Pty) Ltd		
B-BBEE	Contribution level (indicate 1 to 8 or non-compliant)	Level 1	Percentage Procurement recognition
Professional affiliation/registration:	South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP) Reg. No. 400049/12		
Contact person:	Karthigesan Govender		
Company:	Envirolution Consulting (Pty) Ltd		
Physical address:	Vista Place Suite 1a & 2 No 52 Cnr Vorster Avenue & Glen Avenue Glenanda		
Postal address:	P.O.Box 1898		
Postal code:	2157	Cell:	0834198905
Telephone:	0861 44 44 99	Fax:	0861 44 44 99
E-mail:	gesan@envirolution.co.za		

The appointed EAP must meet the requirements of Regulation 13 of GN R.982, dated December 2014. The declaration of independence of the EAP and undertaking under oath or affirmation that all the information submitted or to be submitted for the purposes of the application is true and correct must be submitted as **Appendix 9**.

5. SITE DESCRIPTION

Provide a detailed description of the site involved in the application.

Province	Western Cape Province
District Municipality	Eden District Municipality
Local Municipality	Mossel Bay Local Municipality & George Local Municipality
Ward number(s)	
Nearest town(s)	Mossel Bay, Kklein Brak, Groot Brak, George
Farm name(s) and number(s)	See Appendix 4
Portion number(s)	See Appendix 4

SG 21 Digit Code(s) **See Appendix 5**

(If there are more than 4, please attach a list with rest of the codes as **Appendix 5**) **SEE ATTACHED**

1	2	3	4	5															

Are there any other applications for Environmental Authorisation on the same property?	YES	NO
If YES, please indicate the following:		
Competent Authority		
Reference Number		
Project Name		

Please provide details of the steps taken to ascertain this information:

6. ACTIVITIES TO BE AUTHORISED

For an application for authorisation that involves more than one listed activity that, together, make up one development proposal, all the listed activities pertaining to this application must be indicated.

Detailed description of listed activities associated with the project	
Listed activity as described in GN R 983, 984 and 985	Description of project activity that triggers listed activity
GR 983 Listing Notice 1 (12): The development of (xii) infrastructure or structures covering 50 square metres or more Where such construction occurs- (c) if no development setback line, within a watercourse or within 32 metres of a watercourse, measures from the edge of a watercourse,	The proposed power line pylons may impede upon watercourses or pylon structures situated within 32 metres of a watercourse.
GR 983 Listing Notice 1 (19): The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 5 cubic metres from- i.) a watercourse	The power line may require the removal or infilling of material more than 5 cubic metres from a watercourse.
GR 983 Listing Notice 1 (24): The development of- ii) a road with a reserve wider than 13,5 meters, or where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 metres	The project entails the development of temporary access roads of approximately 6m wide to allow vehicles to access the areas of construction. These roads will be required in areas where the alignment will not follow the existing roads and servitudes where access will be possible without new roads.
GR 983 Listing Notice 1 (47): The expansion of facilities for the transmission and distribution of electricity where the expanded capacity will exceed 275 kilovolts and the development footprint will increase.	Please find attached Blanco-Droërvier application form
GR. 984 Listing notice 2 (9): The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275kV or more , outside an urban area or industrial complex	The project entails the development of infrastructure for transmission and distribution of electricity (with a capacity of 275kV, of which sections will be located outside the urban areas)
GR 984 Listing Notice 2 (15): The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation	The clearing of more than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation may be undertaken during construction of the power line.
GR 984 Listing Notice 3 (3): The development of masts or towers of any material or type used for telecommunication broadcasting or radio transmission purposes where the mast or tower- (a) is to be placed on a site not previously used for this purpose; and (b) will exceed 15 metres in height	Masts for telecommunication will be constructed at existing and proposed sub-stations. These masts are required to receive communication from surrounding towers.

<p>(f) In Western Cape: i. All areas outside urban areas; or ii. Areas designated for conservation use in Spatial Development Frameworks adopted by the competent authority, or zoned for a conservation purpose, within urban areas.</p>	
<p>GR 985 Listing notice 3 (4): The development of a road wider than 4 meters with a reserve less than 13,5 meters.</p> <p>(f) In Western Cape (i) Areas outside urban areas; (aa) Areas containing indigenous vegetation (ii) Areas in urban areas; (cc) areas zoned for conservation use (dd) Areas designated for conservation use in Spatial Development Frameworks adopted by the competent authority</p>	<p>The project entails the development of temporary access roads of approximately 6m wide to allow vehicles to access the areas of construction. These roads will be required in areas where the alignment will not follow the existing roads and servitudes where access will be possible without new roads.</p>
<p>GR 985 Listing Notice 3 (12): The clearance of an area of 300 sqm or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management</p> <p>(a) In Western Cape provinces:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Within any critically endangered or endangered where such clearance of ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or indigenous vegetation is prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that is required for maintenance has been identified as critically endangered in the purposes undertaken in National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004; ii. Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional management plan. iii. Within the littoral active zone or 100 metres inland from high water mark of the sea or an estuarine functional zone, whichever distance is the greater, excluding where such removal will occur behind the development setback line on erven in urban areas; or iv. On land, where, at the time of the coming into effect of this Notice or thereafter such land was zoned open space, conservation or had an equivalent zoning. 	<p>The project will require the clearance of more than 300 sqm of indigenous vegetation between Mossel Bay and George. Sections of the lines will be located in areas of Fynbos vegetation n land that is zoned open space. Private Game Ranches are located on the corridors that are proposed for the infrastructure, where conservation is practised.</p>
<p>GR 985 Listing Notice 3 (14): The development of: (xii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more. within a watercourse;</p> <p>(f) In Western Cape i. Areas outside urban areas; (aa) Areas containing indigenous vegetation ii. Areas in urban areas; (cc) areas zoned for conservation use (dd) Areas designated for conservation use in Spatial Development Frameworks adopted by the competent authority</p>	<p>There is drainage lines on the proposed study are which will be impacted by the proposed infrastructures within an area defined as a CBA.</p>

Please note that any authorisation that may result from this application will only cover activities specifically applied for. Co-ordinate points indicating the location of each listed activity must be provided with the relevant report (i.e. either BAR or EIR).

Please provide a project map indicating any sensitive areas (e.g. critical biodiversity area, World Heritage Site, etc.) overlaid by the study area in **Appendix 6**.

A project schedule, indicating the different phases and timelines of the project, must be attached as **Appendix 7**.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Provide details of the public participation process proposed for the application as required by Regulation 41(2) of GN R .982, dated December 2014.

Interested and Affected Parties, including surrounding and affected landowners, Provincial, National and Local Governments Departments were involved during the Public Participation Process (PPP). The summary of the PPP that commenced in March 2015, and continued up to date is summarised as follows:

- Written notice was given to owner or person in control of land via registered mail or hand delivery, if the applicant is not the owner or person in control of the land the occupiers of the site where the line is planned and to owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the line is to be erected and to any alternative sites where the line is to be erected. The PPP practitioner visited landowners between March 2015 and May 2015. During the Review period of the DEIA Report, focus group meetings were held at potential risk areas (19-23 September 2016).
- Flyers were distributed to I&APs accompanied by a Background Information document (BID). A registration form with map was distributed. (Knock and drop) from March 2015 to end May 2015
- A Newspaper advertisement was placed in The Herald (Eastern cape) on 8 April 2015, "Die Courier " (Western Cape) on 2 April 2015 & Sunday Times (National) on 29 March 2015 requesting Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to register, and submit their comments.
- Site notices were displayed within the boundaries of the study area from 5 March 2015.
- A pre-assumed institutional I &APs database was developed. The database was expanded through networking and fieldwork throughout the process. Background Information Document (BID) and registration form were compiled and forwarded to I&APs registered on the database. These documents were also distributed at various venues along the route.
- Municipal councillors of the wards in which project alternatives are situated, and the other known organisations that represent the community in the area were informed of the project. This was done by means of invitations to attend the public meetings, where information regarding the project was presented, and opportunity was given for all to raise their concerns. The municipalities with jurisdiction in the project area include the Municipality of Beaufort West, Uniondale, George, and the Eden District Municipality.
- Organs of state and other parties that were informed have included Cape Nature, the Eastern Cape DEADP, the Department of Water Affairs and Sanitation, the Western Cape and Eastern Cape Heritage Agencies. The latter departments have received Notifications of Intend to Develop (NIDs).
- Members of the Public Participation Team did site visits from March 2015 to end May 2015, and the technical team visited certain areas in August 2016. Focus group meetings were held

with the local councillors and various stakeholder groups to discuss the proposed project. These meetings were documented. The PPP and project team will visit the area for focus group meetings again during the public review period for the EIA draft report (September 2016)

- Comments/ issues during the registration period, during the Scoping and EIA phases were captured into a Comment and Response Report (CRR). All registered I&APs were afforded an opportunity to scrutinise the draft SR documents for a review period of 30 days plus additional time to incorporate the Public Holidays (April) and December Holidays (2015). Dates and venues of the availability of the report were communicated to registered IAPs by means of e-mail and SMS. I&APs were notified of the comment period and given an update of the process. The link to the website (and/or Dropbox) was given on which the Draft Scoping Report and Appendices were made available for download. Comments and issues received during the above mentioned commenting period were to the Final Scoping Report (FSR). Issues and comments raised during registration period (from notification of the project), during the public review period of the Draft Scoping Report and to date were included in the DEIA report

The way forward: Because the current application has lapsed, the following PPP will be conducted

- Notification letter will be sent to I&APs informing them of the lapsing of the application,
- A notification letter will be sent to registered I&APs, landowners, stakeholders and organs of state to inform them of the availability of the Draft Scoping and EIA Reports
- DEA decision on Environmental Authorisation:
- The registered I&APs, stakeholders and organs of state will be notified of the Department's decision.

8. OTHER AUTHORISATIONS REQUIRED

LEGISLATION	AUTHORISATION REQUIRED		APPLICATION SUBMITTED	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
SEMAs				
National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act	YES	NO	YES	NO
National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act	YES	NO	YES	NO
National Environmental Management: Integrated Coastal Management Act	YES	NO	YES	NO
National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act	YES	NO	YES	NO
National Environmental Management: Waste Act	YES	NO	YES	NO
National legislation				
Mineral Petroleum Development Resources Act	YES	NO	YES	NO
National Water Act	YES	NO	YES	NO
National Heritage Resources Act *NID has been submitted	YES	NO	YES	NO
Others: Please specify	YES	NO	YES	NO

If authorisation is necessary in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, please contact the Department for guidance on the **Integrated Permitting System**.

9. LIST OF APPENDICES

		SUBMITTED	
		YES	NO
Appendix 1	Proof of Payment (not applicable – Eskom is a SOC)	YES	NO
Appendix 2	Strategic Infrastructure Projects	YES	N/A
Appendix 3	List of Local Municipalities (with contact details)	YES	N/A
Appendix 4	List of land owners (with contact details) and proof of notification of land owners.	YES	NO
Appendix 5	List of SGIDs	YES	N/A

Appendix 6	Project map	YES	NO
Appendix 7	Project schedule	YES	N/A
Appendix 8	Declaration of Applicant	YES	NO
Appendix 9	Declaration of EAP	YES	NO