

**COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT - DSR PHASE**

**Proposed “Aggeneis-Paulputs” 400kV Transmission Powerline & Substations Upgrades, Northern Cape Province  
DEA REF: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1012**

I&AP	Comments, Concerns & Queries	Response
<b>STAKEHOLDERS</b>		
<p>Ms Jacoline Mans, Chief Forester Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries E-mail: JacolineMa@daff.gov.za Tel: 054 338 5909</p>	<p><b>Date: 05.01.17</b></p> <p>COMMENTS ON DRAFT SCOPING REPORT</p> <p>The Department would like to get a hardcopy of the Fauna and flora Specialist impact Assessment Report, Once available.</p> <p>The Draft Scoping Report mentioned that NFA listed protected tree species may occur in the study site. The powerline should avoid large, slow growing protected tree species as far as possible.</p> <p>A site sensitivity map should be developed to avoid sensitive environmental areas with high diversity plant species and/or areas with high density protected trees.</p> <p>Impacts on provincially protected and specially protected plant species must be assessed. Please take note of species listed under the Northern Cape Nature Conservation Act, 9 of 2009(NCNCA).</p> <p>The Proposed powerline is said to traverse Critical Biodiversity Areas, as well as Ecological Support Areas, thus it is crucial that comments be obtained from Nature Conservation.</p> <p>Impact on vegetation and plants of special concern may be significant. The servitude width of 55 m over a distance of 98 km may result in the loss of 539 ha of natural indigenous plant species.</p>	<p><b>EAP:</b> The hard copies of the requested specialist reports will be couriered to Ms J Mans during the Draft EIR phase.</p> <p><b>EAP:</b> This recommendation will be included in the EMPr.</p> <p><b>EAP:</b> We will request for the map from the Vegetation Specialist.</p> <p><b>EAP:</b> This will be brought to the attention of the Vegetation Specialist.</p> <p><b>EAP:</b> We will make a follow up on comments from DENC.</p> <p>The Vegetation Specialist will provide us with mitigation measures to this significant impact.</p>

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	<p>Page 50 of the Draft Scoping Report stated that Aloe dichotoma could occur within the proposed corridors. Please take note of the Moratorium in place in the Northern Cape, prohibiting the removal or relocation of Quiver tree from the wild.</p>	<p><b>EAP:</b> This will be brought to the attention of the Vegetation Specialist. Furthermore, we will state in the EMPr that removal or relocation of Quiver tree from the wild is prohibited.</p>
<p>Ms Nicole Abrahams,  Environmental Coordinator, SANRAL  E-mail: AbrahamsN@nra.co.za  Cell: 0622158945</p>	<p><b>Date: 23.01.17</b></p> <p>The South African National Roads Agency SOC Limited (SANRAL) has received information regarding the above proposed projects relating to the establishment of a 400 KV transmission powerline and substation upgrade. The following comments should be noted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If abnormal loads have to be transported by road to the proposed site, a permit has to be obtained from the provincial government.</li> <li>b. SANRAL requires detail plans for approval of any alteration or upgrading measures that are required at any access - intersection with N14 National Road. The plans must be produced by an ECSA registered consulting engineer. All cost associated with road alteration or upgrading will be for the applicants account.</li> <li>c. Access information - Kilometre distance nearest to the access (see attached form, on which you can see the blue marker boards every 200m along the National Road). The status of the access – gravel or surfaced roads, with or without turning lanes.</li> <li>d. If services need to be constructed parallel within 60m measured from the road reserve fence, over or under the national road, (in this case the N14) the service owner must apply for a written permission from SANRAL, before any work may be carried out. Attached please find an application form for the proposed encroachment.</li> <li>e. Transport plan</li> <li>f. SANRAL must be consulted before the transport of</li> </ol>	<p><b>EAP:</b> Thank you for your comments. The comments have been brought to Eskom’s attention.</p> <p>Please note that Eskom would have to complete the application form prior to construction phase after the project has been granted Environmental Authorisation.</p> <p><b>Eskom:</b> Eskom acknowledges the comments by SANRAL and states that it will abide by any requirements as noted by SANRAL prior to the construction phase of the project.</p>

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	abnormal loads commence on national roads. Please forward Transport Traffic Plan to Mr Garth Julius from this office at juliusg@nra.co.za	
<p>Ms O Ndzumo</p> <p>Case Officer DENC, Northern Cape</p> <p>E-mail: onyndzumo@ gmail.com</p> <p>Tel: 027 718 8800</p>	<p><b>Date: 23.01.17</b></p> <p>The Department of Environment and Nature Conservation confirmed having received the Draft Scoping Report. See letter provided in Annexure K of the Scoping Report.</p>	<p><b>EAP:</b> A follow up for comments was made. See email correspondence in Annexure F of the Scoping Report.</p>
<p>Enquiries: Ms Azrah Essop DEA E-mail: aessop@envir onment.gov.za</p> <p>Tel: 012 399 8529</p>	<p><b>Date: 27.01.17</b></p> <p>The Department of Environment Affairs confirmed having received the Draft Scoping Report. See letter provided in Annexure K of the Scoping Report.</p>	<p><b>EAP:</b> A follow up for comments was made. See email correspondence in Annexure F of the Scoping Report.</p>
<b>INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES</b>		
<p>Mr Pieter van der Heever</p> <p>Landowner, Farm Koups Leegte 58,</p>	<p><b>Date: 15.08.16</b></p> <p>I trust that a proper EIA will be done.</p>	<p><b>EAP:</b> Thank you for your comments Mr van der Heever. The EIA process will comply to the EIA 2014 Regulations. This also implies that all concerns of the I&amp;APs shall be taken into consideration with regards to the proposed project. Furthermore I&amp;APs shall be updated on the progress of the EIA process.</p>

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<p>E-mail: pjwitsand@worldonline.co.za</p> <p>Cell: 082 779 4039</p>		
<p>Siphelele Dunga</p> <p>Biotherm Energy</p> <p>E-mail: sdunga@biothermenergy.com</p> <p>Tel: 011 367 4600</p>	<p><b>Date: 16.08.16</b></p> <p>How will the corridors affect the proposed renewable energy facilities in the area?</p> <p>Engage with the developers of the renewable energy facilities in the area as the corridors may traverse their proposed facilities.</p>	<p><b>EAP:</b> Thank you for your comments and concerns. If there are any developments or future developments in the area, Eskom should be made aware of them at this stage of the EIA process prior to construction phase. Consequently, Eskom would engage with the developers to agree where the proposed corridors may be deviated to avoid clashes with the affected developments. Please note that the developers of the renewable energy facilities have also been included in the I&amp;APs database.</p>
<p>AJA van Niekerk Family Trust Farm Aroams 57 RD</p> <p>E-mail: jhbprok@lantic.net</p> <p>Cell: 082 808 9132</p>	<p><b>Date: 23.08.16</b></p> <p>Main Street 957 (RF) Proprietary Limited(the “Project Company”), for the <b>Aggeneys Solar Energy Facility</b> (the “Project”),received a copy of the background information document (“BID”) and invitation to register and comment for the proposed Aggeneis – Paulputs 400kV Transmission Powerline on 16 August 2016 via email.</p> <p>The Project is located – 6KM north-east of Aggeneys town on portion 1 of the Farm Aroams 57 RD. The Project was awarded Preferred Bidder status under Round Four of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producers Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) being implemented by the Department of Energy.</p>	<p><b>EAP:</b> The area of concern is illustrated in the map portion below (Full map is provided in Annexure C of the Scoping Report).</p> <p>The map shows that “Aggeneys Solar Energy Facility” (white area) is affected by approximately 0.6km of the 2km Corridor 2 (red corridor). Therefore, in order to avoid the development, Eskom would have to consider routing the powerline more towards the eastern section of the corridors, preferably within Corridor 1 (blue corridor). The final powerline route would require a servitude width of approximately 55m, which will not affect Aggeneys Solar Energy Facility.</p>

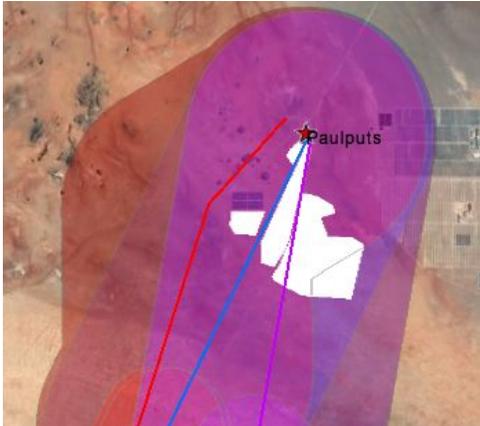
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	<p>After review the BID it was confirmed that proposed Routed 1 and 2, traverse over the project site. During engagements with Eskom regarding the Project, it was indicated that the EIA that had been completed for the new 220kV powerline avoided the Project. It was expected that upgrade EIA for the 400vV powerline route would follow this same route.</p> <p>During the EIA and design phase of the project, the Project Company has ensured that sufficient servitude areas associated with the Aggeneis/Gamsberg 66kV Powerline and the Aggeneis/Paulputs 220kV Powerline have been excluded from the Project site area. There has been no additional servitude considered for a new powerline on the Project site.</p> <p>The Project Company therefore objects to the proposed Routes 1 and 2 unless the Project site is completely avoided. As the Project is a Preferred Bidder Project and is targeted to commence with construction in the fourth quarter of 2016, there can be no adjustments to the Project site and therefore no new infrastructure can be permitted over the Project site.</p>	
<p>Trustee: SF van Heever Farm Konkoonsies 91 E-mail: jhbprok@lantic.net Cell: 082 388 8396</p>	<p><b>Date: 23.08.16</b></p> <p>Ramizone (RF) Proprietary Limited (the “Project Company”), for the Konkoonsies II PV Solar Energy Facility ( the “Project”), received a copy of the background information document (“BID”) and invitation to register and comment for the proposed Aggeneis-Paulputs 400kV Transmission Power Line on 16 August 2016 via email.</p> <p>The Project is located – 30KM north-east of Pofadder town on portion 6 of the Farm Konkoonsies 91. The Project was awarded Preferred Bidder status under Round Four of the Renewable Energy Independent Power producers Procurement Programme</p>	<p><b>EAP:</b> The area of concern is illustrated in the map portion below (Full map is provided in Annexure C of the Scoping Report).</p> <p>The map shows that “Konkoonsies II PV Solar Energy Facility” (white area) is affected by the proposed corridors towards Paulputs substation.</p> <p>Please note that at the initial stage of the draft scoping phase the corridors close to Paulputs substation were 2km in width.</p> <p>Eskom had a meeting with the developers to discuss ways to avoid clashes with Konkoonsies II PV Solar Energy Facility. It was decided that the corridors towards Paulputs substation be</p>

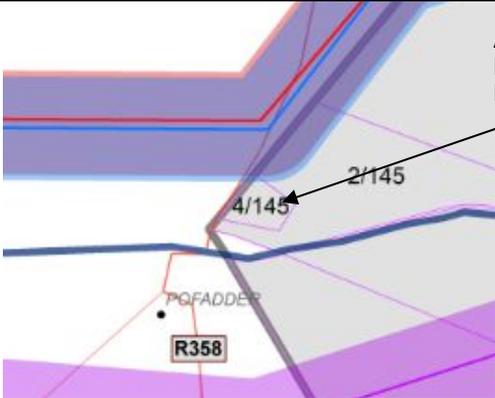
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	<p>(REI PPP) being implemented by the Department of Energy.</p> <p>After reviewing the BID, it has been confirmed that all proposed route corridors traverse over the Project site (please refer to Annexure A). During the EIA and design phase of the Project, the Project Company ensured that sufficient servitude areas associated with existing Aggeneis/Paulputs 220kV powerline has been excluded from the Project site area.</p> <p>During discussions with Eskom regarding the Project’s grid connection, Eskom was advised by the Project Company that the Project was a Preferred Bidder Project and that the Project design had been approved. The Project Company, however, agreed to reserve as much servitude area along the existing Aggeneis/Paulputs 220kV powerline for the proposed powerline (at this point it was a new 220kV powerline). The Project Company managed to reserve 35m in addition to the existing servitude of 47m, therefore a total of 82m has been reserved along the existing Eskom servitude.</p> <p>The Project Company therefore objects to all of the proposed routes unless the Project site is completely avoided. As the Project is a Preferred Bidder Project and is targeted to commence with construction in the fourth quarter of 2016, there can be no further adjustments to the Project site.</p>	<p>expanded to 4km corridor width. This would allow more space within the corridor to avoid the proposed Solar developments close to Paulputs.</p>  <p><b>Eskom:</b> Eskom met with Biotherm Energy Pty (Ltd) on 14 December 2016 to discuss the possible alternative line routes around the Project Site as there were space constraints with the proposed 2km wide corridors. It was agreed that the corridors toward the Project Site be widened to 4km in order to allow for more options in effecting a line route to be finalised, depending on the corridor to be authorised by the Department of Environmental Affairs.</p>
<p>Rudolf Neimoller Persele (Pty) Ltd Farm Pofadder East 145</p>	<p><b>Date: 23.08.16</b></p> <p>The effect of this project on ecotourism specifically on my property and in general.</p> <p>Investigations by experts in the field of ecotourism and regional floral and fauna.</p>	<p><b>EAP:</b> Thank you for your comments. The map portion below shows that the property is slightly on the border line of Corridor 1 (blue corridor). It will be brought to Eskom’s attention to position the powerline within the 2km corridor, should Corridor 1 be chosen as the final route for construction. The specialist studies would be conducted within the 2km corridor.</p>

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<p>E-mail: luise@pofadde rtourism.co.za</p> <p>Cell: 082 702 0774</p>		 <p>Affected Property: Farm Pofadder East 145 PTN 4</p>
<p>Gerrit van der Heever</p> <p>E-mail: achab@kingsl eymail.co.za</p> <p>Cell: 082 806 0856</p>	<p><b>Date: 23.08.16</b></p> <p>I suggest for alternative routes.</p>	<p><b>EAP:</b> Thank you for your comments. I presume you mean the alternative route to deviate Corridor 3 which affects your property. Please note that at the later stage of the Draft Scoping Phase, Eskom proposed Deviation 3A (Map is provided in Annexure C of the Scoping Report) which was a suggested route by the I&amp;APs at the public meeting held at Pofadder on 26.10.2016.</p>