

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR ESKOM'S
NORTHERN KWAZULU-NATAL STRENGTHENING PROJECT**

SCOPING PHASE

**RECORD OF MEETING WITH
MPEMBENI TRADITIONAL COUNCIL**

(15 SEPTEMBER 2016)

OUTLINE

These minutes provide a record of meeting held with **Mpembeni Traditional Council**.

For the benefit of all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), a list of all community meetings held is provided hereunder. For ease of reference, a separate record for each meeting has been prepared.

These meetings were conducted as part of the Public Participation Process, which was designed to provide sufficient and accessible information to all I&APs during the Scoping Phase.

NO	MEETING WITH	VENUE	DATE
1	Makhasa Traditional Council	Makhasa Tribal Court (Hluhluwe)	12 Sept 2016
2	Nibela Traditional Council	Nibela Tribal Court (Hluhluwe)	13 Sept 2016
3	AbakwaHlabisa Traditional Council	AbakwaHlabisa Tribal Court (Hlabisa)	14 Sept 2016
4	Mdletshe Traditional Council	Mdletshe Tribal Court (Hlabisa)	14 Sept 2016
5	Mpembeni Traditional Council	Mpembeni Tribal Court (Hlabisa)	15 Sept 2016
6	Myeni/Ntsinde Traditional Council	Myeni Tribal Court (Obonjeni)	20 Sept 2016
7	Ngwenya/Ntsinde Traditional Council	Ngwenya Tribal Court (Mkuze)	20 Sept 2016
8	Ndlangamandla Traditional Council	Ndlangamandla Tribal Court (Pongola)	21 Sept 2016
9	Sibiya Traditional Council	Sibiya Tribal Court (Pongola)	22 Sept 2016
10	Msibi Traditional Council	Msibi Tribal Court (Emgulatshani)	23 Sept 2016
11	Simelane Traditional Council	Simelane Tribal Court (Pongola)	26 Sept 2016
12	Gumbi Traditional Council	Gumbi Tribal Court (Pongola)	27 Sept 2016
13	Emgazini Traditional Council	Emgazini Tribal Court (Pongola)	28 Sept 2016
14	Ntshangase Traditional Council	Ntshangase Tribal Court (Pongola)	29 Sept 2016
15	Mavuso Traditional Council	Mavuso Tribal Court (Pongola)	03 Oct 2016
16	Klwana Traditional Council	Klwana Tribal Court (Piet Retief)	03 Oct 2016
17	Msiyane Traditional Council	Msiyane Tribal Court (Louwsberg)	04 Oct 2016
18	Empangisweni Traditional Council	Empangisweni Tribal Court (Langkraans)	05 Oct 2016
19	Khambi Traditional Council	Khambi Tribal Court (Gluckstadt)	06 Oct 2016
20	Emathongeni Traditional Council	Emathongeni Tribal Court (Vryheid)	07 Oct 2016
21	Hlahlindlela Traditional Council	Hlahlindlela Tribal Court (Swart Umfolozi)	12 Oct 2016
22	Othaka Traditional Council	Othaka Tribal Court (Nqutu)	12 Oct 2016
23	Mandlakazi Traditional Council	Mandlakazi Tribal Court (Emondlo)	13 Oct 2016
24	Usuthu Traditional Council	Usuthu Tribal Court (Nongoma)	13 Oct 2016
25	Dlamini Traditional Council	Dlamini Tribal Court (Nongoma)	18 Oct 2016
26	Ndlela Traditional Council	Ndlela Tribal Court (Paulpietersberg)	18 Oct 2016
27	Bhovungane Traditional Council	Bhovungane Tribal Court (Paulpietersburg)	19 Oct 2016
28	Mthethwa Traditional Council	Mthethwa Tribal Court (Paulpietersburg)	20 Oct 2016
29	Mpukunyoni Traditional Council	Mpukunyoni Tribal Court (Paulpietersburg)	21 Oct 2016
30	Usuthu Traditional Council	Usuthu Tribal Court (Mtubatuba)	25 Oct 2016
31	Gumbi Traditional Council	Gumbi Tribal Court (Nongoma)	26 Oct 2016
32	Mandlakazi Traditional Council	Mandlakazi Tribal Court (Pongola)	28 Oct 2016

Table 1: List of traditional council and community meetings held during Scoping Phase

Please note the following:

- In some instances, and where possible, two sessions of community meetings were held in one day. First session held at 10h00 and the second session held at 14h00.
- Two sessions were held with Gumbi Traditional Council. The first and second session were held on 27 September 2016 and 26 October 2016 respectively.
- The first meeting with Usuthu Traditional Council scheduled for 13 October 2016 was cancelled due to inaccessibility to the area and bad weather. A repeat meeting was successfully held on 25 October 2016.
- The first meeting with Mandlakazi Traditional Council scheduled for 13 October 2016 was cancelled due to bad weather and lack of representation. The second meeting was successfully held on 28 October 2016.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OUTLINE.....	2
1. ATTENDANCE.....	5
1.1 ATTENDANCE – MPEMBENI TRADITIONAL COUNCIL.....	5
1.2 ATTENDANCE – ESKOM HOLDINGS SOC LIMITED	5
1.3 ATTENDANCE – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TEAM	5
2. FORMAT OF THE MEETING	5
3. INFORMATION CIRCULATED.....	5
4. OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETINGS	5
5. CONTENT OF THE PRESENTATION	6
6. SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS	6
7. COMMENTS RAISED AND DISCUSSED.....	6
8. NEXT STEPS IN THE EIA PROCESS	7
9. CLOSURE.....	7
ANNEXURE A: ATTENDANCE LIST AND REGISTERS	8

1. ATTENDANCE

1.1 Attendance – Mpembeni Traditional Council

Annexure A provides a list of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) who attended the meeting.

1.2 Attendance – Eskom Holdings SOC Limited

The following representative was in attendance:

Name	Position/Role
Mr Gugu Mvelase	Eskom Network Planning

1.3 Attendance – Public Participation Team

The following representatives were in attendance:

Name	Organisation	Position/Role
Ms Bongji Shinga	Wakhiwe SES	Public Participation Team Leader
Ms Lungelo Chamane	Wakhiwe SES	Public Participation Officer
Mr Sibusiso Khaba	Wakhiwe SES	Community Liaison Officer

2. FORMAT OF THE MEETING

All protocols at the Mpembeni Traditional Council were observed. The meeting was opened with a prayer.

All information was presented in isiZulu and all proceedings were conducted in isiZulu.

3. INFORMATION CIRCULATED

Information and handouts distributed at the meeting included the following:

- Attendance Register.
- Background Information Document (isiZulu version).
- Comment Sheet (isiZulu version).
- Map showing the project study area and proposed corridors.

4. OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETINGS

The primary objectives of the meeting were as follows:

- Introduce the proposed Eskom Northern KZN Strengthening Project to the community and initiate discussions as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.
- Outline the environmental authorisation process that will be followed in undertaking the EIA process.
- Provide an opportunity for stakeholders to provide input in the EIA process; and

- Advise on the ongoing public consultation process, identification of issues and next phases in the process.

5. CONTENT OF THE PRESENTATION

The following information was presented at the meeting:

- Background and description of the project.
- The need and motivation of the project.
- The description of the EIA process.
- The description of the Public Participation Process.
- The study area and proposed alternative corridors and substation.
- The locality of the communities in relation to the proposed corridors.
- Submission of comments, project timeframes and future phases of the EIA.

6. SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS

All comments raised and discussed were recorded at the meeting including responses provided. In instances where responses were not readily available, comments were noted for passing on to the relevant officials.

Due to the remoteness of most rural areas, an alternative method for submission of comments was provided to the community. Community members were advised to submit any additional comments to the Secretary of the Traditional Council, who will thereafter liaise with the Public Participation Office for collection.

7. COMMENTS RAISED AND DISCUSSED

This section presents a summary of comments raised and discussed at the meeting.

No	Name & Surname	Question/Comment	Response and Action
1	Cllr Mthembu	The electrification process has been initiated by Eskom at Mngqobokazi ward. Will the proposed Eskom Northern KZN Strengthening project interfere with the electrification process at Mngqobokazi?	This proposed project will not interrupt existing processes. Those wards are being supplied from the capacity available from existing substations. The proposed project will strengthen and improve the reliability of supply.
2	Induna Mhlongo	I concur with community members who have expressed that electricity supply at Mpembeni is unstable and often disconnected for days. We are therefore appreciative of Eskom's proposal which seeks to strengthen the power of electricity.	Induna Mhlongo's comments were noted with thanks.

No	Name & Surname	Question/Comment	Response and Action
3	Mr Ndwandwe	The unreliable power supply in the area results in food rotting in the fridges and money being wasted.	Mr Ndwandwe's comments regarding impacts associated with unstable power supply were noted. These comments affirm the need to improve the reliability of supply in the northern KZN areas.
4	Mr Manqele	When the community received an invitation to the meeting, they expected Eskom to address issues relating to the installations of meter boxes in households and electricity connections. Some community members assumed that the meeting will afford them an opportunity to register for household electricity connections. However, we understand the purpose of the Eskom Northern KZN Strengthening Project.	The EIA team acknowledged that although there is appreciation of what the proposed project seeks to achieve, it is evident that there are immediate issues which mostly relate to electrification.

8. NEXT STEPS IN THE EIA PROCESS

The following information was outlined as part of the way forward:

- All members of the public will be advised of the availability of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) and Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for public review.
- Communication with Mpebeni Traditional Council will continue for the duration of the EIA.
- All traditional councils will be informed whether they are or not affected by the preferred corridor when environmental authorisation has been issued by the Department of Environmental Affairs.

9. CLOSURE

The Public Participation Team thanked all participants and closed the meeting.

Refreshments were served afterwards.

ANNEXURE A: ATTENDANCE LIST AND REGISTERS

Copies of attendance registers are provided as Appendix E of the Draft Scoping Report and can be requested from Ms Lungelo Chamane, Email: lungelo@wakhive.co.za, Tel: 079 116 5703

No	Title	Name	Surname	Organisation	Position	Contact Number	Address	Code
1		P	Buthelezi	Mpembeni TC	Community member	076 750 6537	Hlabisa	3937
2		T	Buthelezi	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 622 5599	Hlabisa	3937
3	Ms	Lindiwe	Buthelezi	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 255 5346	Hlabisa	3937
4		T	Buthelezi	Mpembeni TC	Community member	079 561 9892	Hlabisa	3937
5		S	Buthelezi	Mpembeni TC	Community member	079 799 4728	Hlabisa	3937
6		TN	Gumede	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 488 3226	Hlabisa	3937
7		DJ	Hlabisa	Mpembeni TC	Inkosi	071 916 6009	PO Box 4002, Hlabisa	3937
8		M	Hlabisa	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 241 4091	Hlabisa	3937
9		W	Hlabisa	Mpembeni TC	Community member	079 719 2399	Hlabisa	3937
10		N	Hlabisa	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 658 1236	Hlabisa	3937
11		BL	Manqe	Mpembeni TC	Secretary	061 705 0210	PO Box 4001, Hlabisa	3937
12		MN	Manqe	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 045 3793	Hlabisa	3937
13		NN	Manqe	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 938 7379	Hlabisa	3937
14		T	Manqe	Mpembeni TC	Community member	084 650 5193	Hlabisa	3937
15		B	Masango	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 763 6893	Hlabisa	3937
16		I	Mbatha	Mpembeni TC	Community member	079 272 5292	Hlabisa	3937
17		W	Mdletshe	Mpembeni TC	Community member	079 656 4917	Hlabisa	3937
18		M	Mhlongo	Mpembeni TC	Community member	082 585 2958	Hlabisa	3937
19		F	Mhlongo	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 490 9463	Hlabisa	3937
20		R	Mhlongo	Mpembeni TC	Community member	079 367 6839	Hlabisa	3937
21		J	Mhlongo	Mpembeni TC	Community member	076 889 9456	Hlabisa	3937
22		P	Mhlongo	Mpembeni TC	Community member	076 540 0500	Hlabisa	3937
23		S	Mhlongo	Mpembeni TC	Community member	060 763 8303	Hlabisa	3937
24		N	Mhlongo	Mpembeni TC	Community member	079 290 8954	Hlabisa	3937
25		N	Mhlongu	Mpembeni TC	Community member	079 262 9781	Hlabisa	3937
26		T	Mkhwanazi	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 706 5629	Hlabisa	3937
27		M	Mngomezulu	Mpembeni TC	Community member	079 197 3887	PO Box 11, Hlabisa	3937
28		BB	Mngomezulu	Mpembeni TC	Community member	079 246 1671	PO Box 4013, Hlabisa	3937
29		CG	Mngomezulu	Mpembeni TC	Community member	076 944 2178	Hlabisa	3937
30		BJ	Mpanza	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 371 4902	Hlabisa	3937
31	Ms	Bonisiwe	Mpanza	Mpembeni TC	Community member	076 608 1750	Hlabisa	3937
32		BB	Mpanza	Mpembeni TC	Community member	071 550 1569	Hlabisa	3937
33		S	Msimang	Mpembeni TC	Community member	076 808 3842	Hlabisa	3937
34		MR	Mthembu	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 360 3406	PO Box 11, Hlabisa	3937
35		PS	Ndebele	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 622 2599	Hlabisa	3937
36	Ms	Nontobeko	Ndebele	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 228 2175	Hlabisa	3937
37		SP	Ndebele	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 752 1120	Hlabisa	3937
38		T	Ndlanzi	Mpembeni TC	Community member	079 555 1625	Hlabisa	3937
39		NP	Ndlovu	Mpembeni TC	Community member	073 050 6446	Hlabisa	3937
40		K	Ndwandwe	Mpembeni TC	Community member	076 933 8010	Hlabisa	3937
41		D	Nkwanyana	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 021 1976	Hlabisa	3937
42		N	Nsele	Mpembeni TC	Community member	079 129 9658	Hlabisa	3937

No	Title	Name	Surname	Organisation	Position	Contact Number	Address	Code
43		B	Ntombela	Mpembeni TC	Community member	079 812 0214	Hlabisa	3937
44		K	Ntshaba	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 536 6596	Hlabisa	3937
45		B	Ntshangase	Mpembeni TC	Community member	071 386 1351	Hlabisa	3937
46		S	Nxumalo	Mpembeni TC	Community member	060 626 8427	Hlabisa	3937
47		S	Nxumalo	Mpembeni TC	Community member		Hlabisa	3937
48		LJ	Sithole	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 426 1773	Hlabisa	3937
49		I	Vilakazi	Mpembeni TC	Community member		Hlabisa	3937
50		M	Vilakazi	Mpembeni TC	Community member	079 365 6436	Hlabisa	3937
51		N	Zulu	Mpembeni TC	Community member	072 490 9463	Hlabisa	3937
52	Mr	Phakamani	Zungu	Mpembeni TC	Community member	076 091 4696	Hlabisa	3937
53		N	Zungu	Mpembeni TC	Community member		Hlabisa	3937