

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The aim of this document is to provide an overview of the proposed project and study area; to provide information of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process to be followed prior to the development of the proposed substation and associated infrastructure as per the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998); and indicate how you, as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), can become involved in the EIA process.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS (PPP)

Public Participation Process (PPP) is any process that involves the public in problem solving or decision-making and forms an integral part of the BA process. The PPP provides I&APs with an opportunity to comment and/or make suggestions on the proposed project. The PPP will be undertaken in terms of Chapter 6, Regulation 39 through 44 of the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of April 2017.

NEED AND DESIRABILITY

Tubatse is a municipality located in the Southern part of Limpopo Province and economic activities in the area are primarily mining due to the large deposit of precious minerals in the area. Subsequently, according to the load forecast for the area, the load growth between 2013 and 2030 is expected to accelerate due to further developments in ferrous chrome and platinum mining in the study area. Other developments in the rise include housing, business and other infrastructure in the area which will also demand electricity supply. The transmission network capacity is therefore not sufficient to cater for forecasted future load growth.

Consequently the proposed 400kV powerline forms part of the bigger strengthening plans to meet future demand, strengthen and enhance network reliability.

PROPOSED PROJECT

Eskom Holdings SOC Limited proposes the development of a 170km 1 X 400kV Maputha-Witkop the powerline and associated infrastructure as part of Tubatse Network Strengthening. All three proposed corridors are 2km wide and they move south Westward from the existing Witkop substation to Maphutha Substation.

LOCALITY

The proposed development will traverse various farms and villages within the jurisdiction of the Sekhukhune District Municipality in Limpopo Province as depicted on the locality map below. The affected Local Municipalities will include Makuduthamaga, Fetakgomo, Greater Tubatse, Lepele Nkumpi and Polokwane.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR BA

In accordance with the requirements of the NEMA, Eskom requires approval from the Competent Authority i.e. the Department of Environmental Affairs in order to undertake the proposed project. The proposed project triggers listed activities under Government Notice R325 (Listing Notice 2) of April 2017.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES FOR THE PROJECT

A key driver towards a successful EIA process is the thorough identification and investigation of feasible alternatives. The selection of potential alternatives will be informed by input received from the I&APs, Authorities as well as the EAP. Alternatives will be considered and discussed in terms of their practicality and feasibility. It is important to note that the definition of alternatives includes all aspects of the proposed activity including, activity alternatives, process alternatives, scheduling alternatives, demand alternatives; design alternatives and the No-go alternative.

Site Alternatives that have been proposed are indicated on the map included herewith.

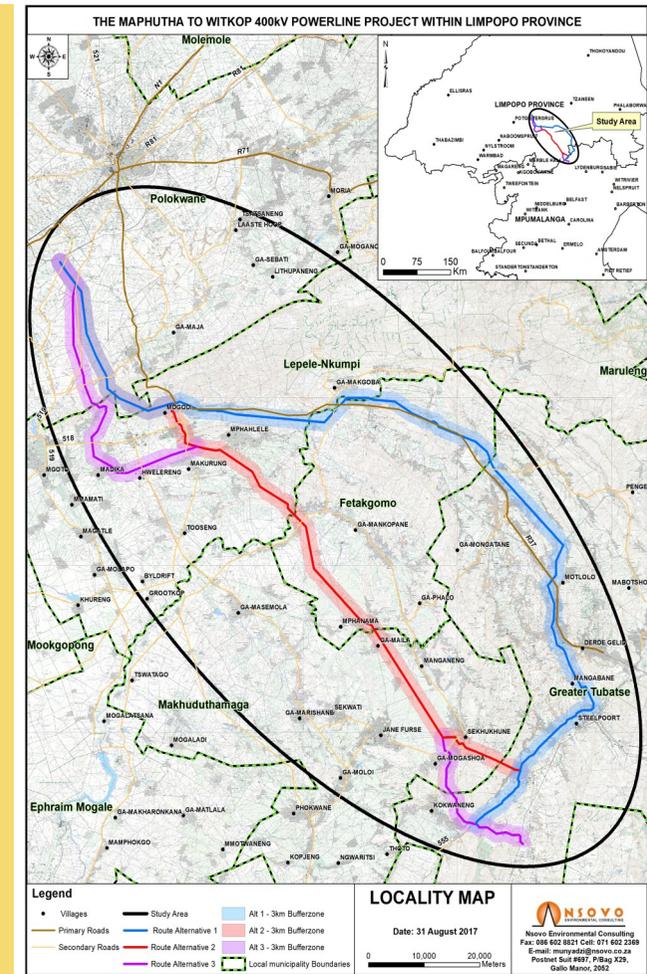


Figure 1: Locality Map of the proposed study area.