
5 DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

5.1 Activity to be undertaken

Eskom propose to construct a new 400 kV overhead power line which by-passes the current Duvha Power Station, located near Middelburg in Mpumalanga. The study area in which the alternatives were selected is within the 10 km radius surrounding the current Duvha Power Station and each of the alternative 400 kV power lines will be not exceed 10 kms in length.

5.2 Location

The Bravo Integration Project will span the provinces of Gauteng and Mpumalanga, stretching from Secunda, Ogies and Middelburg in Mpumalanga, to Bronkhorstspuit, Midrand and Kyalami in Gauteng. The Bravo 5 site is located east of Emahlahleni, in the vicinity of the Duvha Power Station.

The proposed routes are located in a 10 km radius of the current Duvha Power Station. A list of the farms that the alternative routes intersect is attached to this report as Appendix C. For the location of proposed routes refer to Figure 4.

5.3 Description of the Development Activities

5.3.1 The Pre-Construction Phase

Appointment of Contractor

After a tendering process, Eskom will appoint the construction contractor. The anticipated appointment date is mid-2011.

Construction Schedule

The primary milestones for the construction of the Duvha by-pass power line are described in Table 7 below.

TABLE 7: CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE FOR THE BRAVO-LULAMISA 150 KM POWER LINE.

MILESTONES	DATE
Appointment of Construction Contractor	May 2011
Pegging of bend tower by a Transmission surveyor	June 2011
Site preparation and clearance for contractor's camp	June 2011
Erection of camp sites for the Contractors' workforce	June 2011
Vegetation clearing to facilitate access, construction and the safe operation of the lines	June 2011
Establishing of access roads on the servitude where required as per design	June 2011

MILESTONES	DATE
parameters in TRMSCAAC1 rev 3	
Pegging of tower positions for construction by the contractor	July 2011
Transportation of equipment, materials and personnel to site and stores	July 2011
Installation of foundations for the towers	July 2011
Tower assembly and erection	December 2011
Conductor stringing and regulation	March 2012
Environmental Rehabilitation	March 2012
Taking over the line from the contractor for commissioning	April 2012

5.3.2 The Construction Phase

If a positive Environmental Authorisation is obtained, the construction of the transmission power lines will be undertaken over a period of 11 - 12 months. The construction phase of the development will involve the following aspects:

- Pegging of bend tower by a Transmission surveyor;
- Site preparation and clearance for contractor's camp;
- Erection of camp sites for the Contractors' workforce;
- Servitude gate installation to facilitate access to the servitude;
- Vegetation clearing to facilitate access, construction and the safe operation of the lines;
- Establishing of access roads on the servitude where required as per design parameters in TRMSCAAC1 rev 3 (See Appendix T);
- Pegging of tower positions for construction by the contractor;
- Transportation of equipment, materials and personnel to site and stores;
- Installation of foundations for the towers;
- Tower assembly and erection;
- Conductor stringing and regulation; and
- Taking over the line from the contractor for commissioning.

Pegging of bend tower by a Transmission surveyor

A transmission surveyor will be required to pin-point all the bend tower positions with the aid of a Geographical Positioning System (GPS). This may take place during site clearance or prior to site clearance.

Site preparation and clearance for contractor's camp

An area will be cleared for the siting of a contractor's camp. This area will be chosen to have the least environmental impacts which are easily mitigated and will be rehabilitated as per the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) requirements post construction.

Erection of camp sites for the Contractors' workforce

The contractor's camp will be fenced and the contractor will maintain in good order all fencing for the duration of the construction activities. Site establishment shall take place in an orderly manner and all amenities shall be installed at Camp sites before the main workforce move onto site.

Servitude gate installation to facilitate access to the servitude

A servitude gate will be installed to ensure secure access to the site. This gate must be maintained throughout the construction phase in a working order in accordance with the EMP by the contractor.

Vegetation clearing to facilitate access, construction and the safe operation of the line

Vegetation must be cleared to facilitate access, construction and safe operation of the line. Where indigenous vegetation has been removed it must be replanted so as to minimise impacts to the environment. Search and rescue activities may be required for any endangered species if found on site during clearing.

Establishing of access roads on the servitude where required as per design parameters in TRMSCAAC1 rev 3 (See Appendix T);

All access roads on the servitude must be in accordance to Transmission Specifications – Transmission Line and Towers and Line Construction (TRMSCAA1) (See Appendix U);

Pegging of tower positions for construction by the contractor

All in-line towers must be pin-pointed with the aid of a Geographical Positioning System (GPS). This may take place during the pegging of the bend tower either by the contractor or the transmission surveyor.

Transportation of equipment, materials and personnel to site and stores

All transportation must be in accordance with the EMP (see Section 11).

Installation of foundations for the towers

Foundations will be approximately 1.5 m x 1.5 m each. The number of foundations will be dependent on the type of tower chosen. The installation of the foundations must take place under supervised conditions.

Tower assembly and erection

All towers will be assembled simultaneously in stages, that is, bottom structures will be assembled for all towers in the first phase (phase1), middle structures for all towers will be assembled simultaneously in the second phase (phase 2) and so on.

Conductor stringing and regulation

Stringing will be undertaken in accordance with Eskom's stringing procedure.

Taking over the line from the contractor for commissioning

Transmission engineers will take over the line from the contractor on the completion of construction.

5.3.3 Rehabilitation Phase

The rehabilitation phase of the development will involve the following aspects:

- Rehabilitation of disturbed areas; and
- Signing off of all Landowners upon completion of the construction and rehabilitation.

Rehabilitation of disturbed areas

Once construction of the power line is completed rehabilitation of affected areas will be undertaken to obtain the following objectives:

- 1.) A sustainable topographic profile, tied into the adjacent vegetation in such a manner that erosion is controlled.
- 2.) A sustainable vegetation layer, free of alien invasive species.
- 3.) A litter free environment where all construction waste has been suitably removed to a licensed facility.
- 4.) All power lines will be constructed to the highest standards such that residual impacts are controlled to their maximum extent.

Signing off of all Landowners upon completion of the construction and rehabilitation

Once rehabilitation has been completed, sign off will be obtained from all landowners affected.

5.3.4 The Commissioning and Operational Phase

The decommissioning and operational phase of the development will involve the following aspects:

- Final inspection of the line, commissioning and hand over to the Grid Line and Servitude Manager for operation.
- Handing over and taking over of the servitude by the Grid Environmental Manager.
- Operation and maintenance of the line by the Grid.

Final inspection of the line, commissioning and hand over to the Grid Line and Servitude Manager for operation.

Final inspection of the line will be carried out by the Grid line and servitude manager.

Handing over and taking over of the servitude by the Grid Environmental Manager.

The site file will be handed over by the servitude manager to grid environmental manager

Operation and maintenance of the line by the Grid.

Bi-annual maintenance checks will be undertaken by Transmission by means of helicopter and on land to ensure that the lines are fully operational. In the event that a problem is identified Transmission will be instructed to undertake maintenance on the power lines, however depending on the severity of the problem Transmission may appoint a contractor.

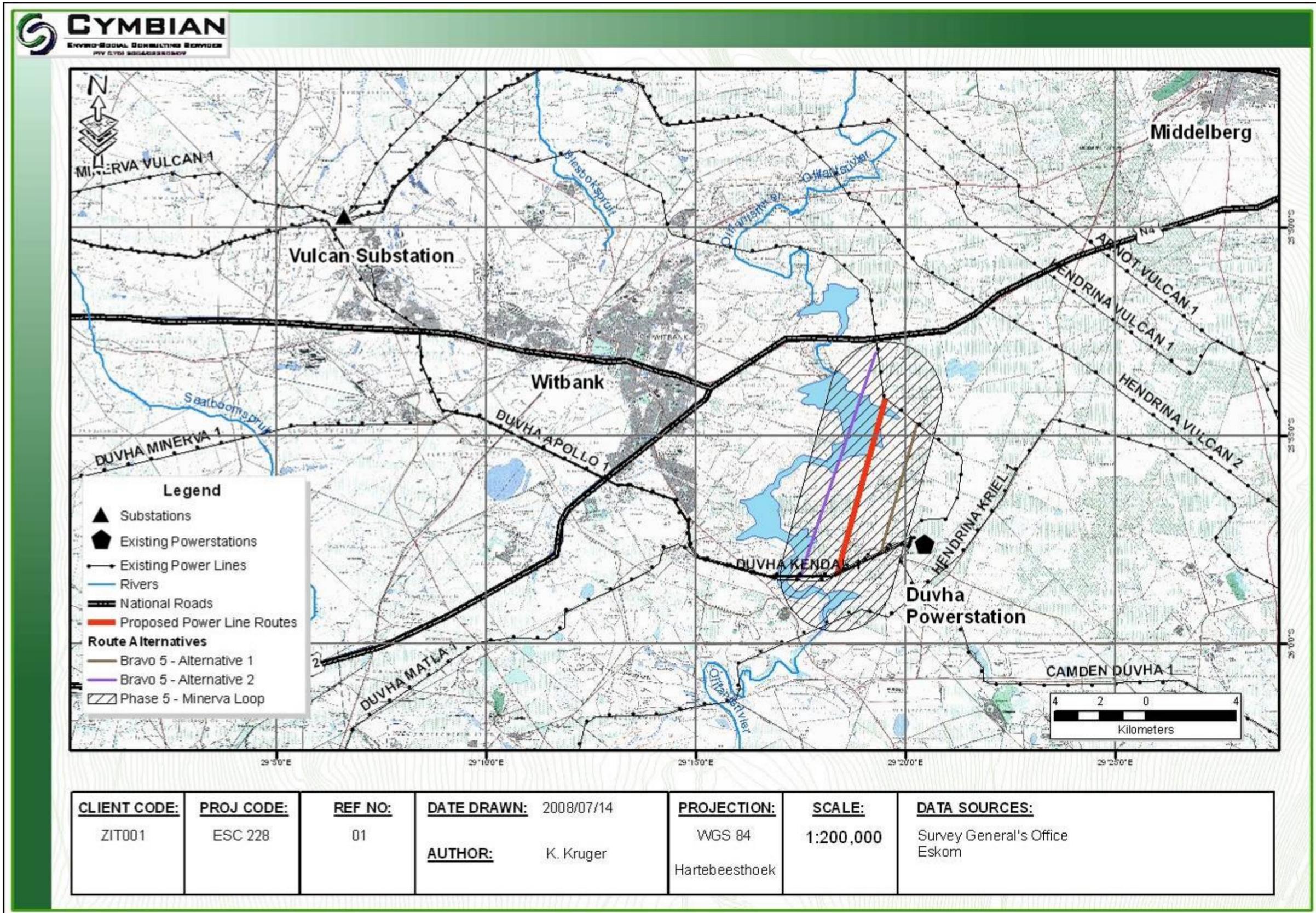


FIGURE 4: PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE ROUTES FOR THE DUVHA BY-PASS LINE.