

ISSUES AND RESPONSE REPORT:

EIA FOR THE PROPOSED FOSKOR-MERENSKY 275±130KM POWERLINE AND ASSOCIATED SUBSTATIONS WORKS



GENERAL ISSUES AND RESPONSE DURING THE EIA PHASE

Comments	Response
Clarity was requested on how Acornhoek features in this whole project as the proposed line is between Merensky substation in Steelpoort and Foskor substation in Phalaborwa and Acornhoek is way out of the alignment. As a result thereof stakeholders around Acornhoek do not understand why this project involves the Acornhoek substation.	Due to the fact that Foskor and Acornhoek substation supply electricity to the same area and are working as a ring feed for the area, if one substation is being upgraded then the other must also be upgraded.
To what year is Eskom projecting the reliability of these substations without undergoing any upgrading again?	It is projected that the completion of the substation upgrade will be in the year 2017.
Is it not possible for the existing line to carry an additional line so that the whole system becomes a double circuit?	It is not feasible as the existing line is not designed for additional circuits.
One of the attendees raised a concern that during the first round of public meetings it was said that this line is needed for Phalaborwa mine, and they were now taken aback as it is said that the line is for the benefit of all communities in the area. A question was asked on whether the communities in those areas that are traversed by the line can tap into this line and the response was that this will not be allowed. A question was then posed as to how these communities going to benefit from this line?	The communities, businesses and industries supplied from Foskor and Acornhoek will benefit directly from the improved reliability of supply, according to the reliability criteria set by the National Energy Regulators of South Africa (NERSA). Further to this other communities may benefit indirectly at a macro-economic level. Limited short-term benefits (vending and unskilled-labour opportunity) are possible during construction phase. It was further clarified that the Scoping report addressed the benefits of the

	project at all levels and that the proposed project is not only for the mine.
<p>Landowners that are potentially affected by this line are not happy that they accidentally came to hear about the project and the related public meetings. Most landowners missed the opportunity of making an input in this study during the scoping phase because the consultation process was poor. It is therefore our feeling that things are done privately because it is known that the power line project is going to have a negative impact on the ecotourism business in the area. There are about 220 lodges that fall under Kruger National Park that will close down if this project is allowed.</p> <p>The area around Hoedspruit is known for the oldest conservancy in Mpumalanga.</p>	<p>The public participation process was done according to the requirements of the Act. Advertisement were placed in different newspaper and different languages to ensure reach to all concerned, further notices were placed at distinct conspicuous places along the route and within communities. Letters were also sent to land owners and key stakeholders in the area and notices were distributed to farms that could be accessed. To ensure that the affected parties are informed effort was made to discuss with Sanparks and they agreed that they would send to the farm owners in their database as well as to the Kruger National Park.</p> <p>Representatives from the farming communities indicated that they represented group of landowners and this was welcomed. It was further agreed that the representatives would become the primary point of contact as and when required.</p>
<p>It was proposed that Electricity sourced from Cabora Basa on the north or electricity supply around Phalaborwa can be strengthened by connecting to the proposed power generating plant that is proposed for construction south of Zimbabwe as it is rumored that the Chinese government is going to build a power station in Zimbabwe.</p>	<p>The said Power Station Project is a mere concept at this stage, so it can't be considered as a solution to short-term and medium-term issues. The 2nd Foskor-Merensky line remains the best solution to reinforce the Phalaborwa area.</p>
<p>Concerns were raised with regards to Eskom appointing private contractors to do unsupervised bush clearing. These contractors do not care about the environment and they cut plants without taking into consideration the importance of different plant species in the area. Landowners requested the contact details for the Eskom official who is responsible for servitude management section.</p>	<p>The concern was forwarded to the responsible persons who responded accordingly.</p> <p>We have the Contractors meeting on the monthly basis to ensure that there is a consistence practices within the Servitudes Management process including the use of the PERMIT from Department of</p>

	<p>Environmental Affairs. The concerns may be the experience of the past before a contractor forum was established, however any concerns in this regards can be directed to the following Senior Advisors if need be with a copy to Lines & Servitudes Manager Lufuno Kwindi (079511 2893)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lephalale and Rusternburg CLN is Senior Advisor Johan de Beer (0834140130) • Polokwane CLN Edward Cronje Senior Advisor (0836565933)
<p>The specialist who investigated the visual impact of the power line recommended that the line be placed along the road and seemingly this recommendation is ignored. We would like to submit that alternative 5 as recommended by the visual impact specialist be investigated and the findings must be communicated to landowners. Sentiments were echoed that the landowners are more inclined to agree with the specialist that the power line close to the road will not have big impact like when it was introduced to a new area.</p>	<p>Alternative 5 was assessed in detail and was recommended as the preferred route.</p>
<p>We also want to see the findings of the EMF studies conducted by Eskom for the effect of powerlines on living organisms because it is said that the presence of power line in an area result in high occurrence of cancer to animals.</p>	<p>The EMF study was made available and finding were discussed at the public meeting.</p>
<p>Was economic impact assessment conducted for this project to compare the extent to which the project will impact on ecotourism and mines?</p>	<p>A detailed Ecotourism and Social Impact Assessment report was undertaken.</p>
<p>There is a stretch of the power line of about 10km which will be on highly sensitive area for visual impact and economic impact. Eskom is requested to consider making this section of the line a double circuit line. If this is not possible landowners will want to see the report of the assessment</p>	<p>Double Circuit configuration can be considered. GP (through Line Engineering Services, and other Dept.) can form final opinion on whether D/C line would be suitable in a specific area, once the specific stretch of land has been specified.</p>

conducted regarding this arrangements.	
Landowners are concerned that the EAP rate poaching on rhinos as low when this is such a sensitive national issue in our country.	The EAP requested that the concerned stakeholder revisit the report with the need to understand. The safety and security of both black and white rhinos was rated high not as alleged.
This project will have long term negative economic impact on jobs created by environment and short term positive economic impacts coming from the construction side of the project. This is similar to mining activities which create short term economic benefits and when the resources are depleted the mine closes and jobs are lost as opposed to Ecotourism which creates long term sustainable jobs.	Power lines normally supplies electricity for long time and electricity unlike mining will always be used for other purposes like domestic use. There are few instances in this age and time where power lines are decommissioned or stands idling without being used instead are being refurbished to prolong their lifespan.
Landowners are concerned that electricity needs for rural communities is now used as justification for the need of this power line and yet it is clear that the line is needed for Phalaborwa mine. The important question to ask is what will happen if the mine was to close tomorrow? The rural community around Phalaborwa-Hoedspruit will not increase and as a result Eskom will then seat with surplus electricity. The landowners are of the view that there is no need for the second line. Building this line is a risky economic exercise because the local mines can close any time.	This line is required for general/natural growth in the in greater area of Phalaborwa (supplied by Foskor and Acornhoek subs). It is not for one customer. Eskom has to provide a predetermined level of reliability to every Transmission supply point.
Eskom power lines affect the area and the environment as giraffes get electrocuted by the small low-hanging power lines.	The small low-hanging lines are distribution lines. Longer poles can be used as and when necessary.
Eskom is advised to consider the issue of working hours during construction. Landowners will allow construction workers on their properties only between 10h00 and 15h00. This suggest that line 1 and 5 are better options with less interference with construction workers.	Normal working hours are between 08h00 and 17h00; however, working times can always be negotiated with the landowner.

<p>Due to the new being constructed parallel to the existing line, Eskom is going to take more land and hence affect the size of the agricultural fields. I&Aps asked if Eskom was prepared to compensate the communities that are going to be affected in this way?</p>	<p>Eskom negotiates for the servitude with each affected landowner and compensation is paid according to the size of the land taken after evaluations are conducted.</p>
<p>Communities understand the issue of compensation but the feeling is that normally compensation is not relative to what is on the land. It was suggested that Eskom consider paying a monthly or annual fee.</p>	<p>Eskom employs independent valuers to determine the value of the affected property as per Eskom guidelines and country laws. It should be noted that Eskom does not buy land per se but the servitude rights. Resettlement is a possibility, but only as the last option. This also takes in to account landowners' agreement conditions.</p>
<p>What will be the empowerment benefits i.e. skills transfer and use of local labor, for youth community in this project?</p>	<p>Eskom uses a tender system and the selected contractor is only advised to use local skills and labor. There are also corporate social responsibilities that are procured by Eskom and local / affected residents could submit request for such assistance. Locals can also benefit from economic spin offs such as small business activities within the area.</p>
<p>Will Eskom send inspectors to oversee the construction so as to avoid unnecessary destruction to the plants and areas such as burial grounds?</p>	<p>During the construction phase of the project Eskom will employ an Environmental Control Officer to ensure that guidelines as stipulated in the authorization, EMPr and communal agreements are adhered to.</p>
<p>How far should the power line be from the residential house / structures?</p>	<p>The servitude is 47m wide and the construction of dwellings is not allowed within the servitude. Normally it is recommended that other structures are erected 10m away from the servitude.</p>
<p>Are the local people not going to experience power shortage as a result of this new line? If the project is intended to draw electricity from Merensky Substation to Foskor Substation and we also have a growth in the development of new mines around the area of Steelpoort-Burgersfort area we think this will affect the reliability of electricity supply in the Greater</p>	<p>Merensky Substation has enough capacity to handle the demand. To add on to this there is a new supply of electricity to the Greater Tubatse Local Municipality by way of Duvha-Leseding power line. There is also a new substation called Senakangwedi which is going to be constructed in the area to ensure reliability of electricity supply.</p>

Tubatse LM area.	
<p>The Greater Tubatse Local Municipality is already having electrification backlog. The construction of a power line through villages that are without electricity may be resisted by such communities.</p>	<p>It was cautioned that the project should not be allowed to unnecessarily raise communities' expectations. The municipality has its local electrification plans that are subject to local IDP, priority projects, and related guidelines.</p> <p>It was further advised that each community through its local governance and leadership may formalize the issue of electrification of houses and forward it to Eskom.</p>
<p>The proposed project will negatively impact the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual impact • Flora and Fauna • Noise • Land use • Bird population • Waste • Soil erosion • Water pollution 	<p>With regard to the impacts he outlined, specialist has been appointed in order for them to give recommendations regarding the impact mentioned. i.e Visual study, Avifauna study, Ecology study have been undertaken to assess how they can mitigate such impacts. Furthermore, a EIA and EMP addressed all the issues he raised comprehensively.</p>
<p>Has Eskom considered No to request for electricity.</p>	<p>Eskom has a mandate to power the country. It is Eskom's responsibility to ensure that power supply reaches everyone including the marginalized communities; therefore, they cannot refuse to perform their duty.</p>
<p>Access control will be an issue as we have no established access point nearby and cannot allow uncontrolled access from the busy R40 into the Reserve. This is especially relevant in the light of the poaching of rhino and general increase of crime in the area.</p>	<p>Access control will be arranged with the affected landowners. Eskom will be responsible for paying everything. Additionally the services of professional hunters will be sourced to be with the construction team all the time to ensure safety.</p>

APPENDIX A: RECORD OF CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM I&APS

Date	Details of Interested and Affected Party	Issues Raised by I&Aps	Response by EAP
COMMENTS ON DRAFT EIA REPORT			
EMAIL CONVERSATION BEFORE THE REVIEW PERIOD			
23/04/2012	Albert Zinn Blyde Olifants Conservancy	<p>He requested a CD with the draft scoping report and also needed to know which English newspaper was used to advertise the proposed project.</p> <p>He further stated that the Blyde Olifants Conservancy (BOC) is 17000ha big and route 1 and 2 will transverse through the BOC and especially in route 2 which is at the northern banks of the Olifants River and that section is currently on application as a Nature Reserve and the whole of the BOC is a Raptor Conservancy and is sensitive to its biodiversity.</p> <p>His other concerns were the fatality on the birds that are caused by the powerlines within the BOC property and he fears that should the department authorize any route other than route 4, this will have a major impact in their property.</p>	<p>The Draft Scoping Report was sent to him electronically. He was further informed that the report was available on both Eskom AND Nsovo website.</p> <p>The comment was noted. Consideration was given to sensitive areas as advised by the Specialist.</p> <p>An Avifaunal specialist study was commissioned to assess the extent of the impacts and propose mitigation measures.</p>

		He also requested to be kept abreast with the project proceedings and also requested to be notified as soon as the new public meeting dates are known.	Albert Zinn representing BOC was kept in the loop throughout the process. He attended all the meetings and sent comments accordingly.
28/04/2012	Rene Miller Wiekus Du Toit Attorneys	<p>They are representing Canyon Sands Investment Pty Ltd who are the landowners of the following farmlands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 2 of Farm Cambridge 184 KT • Portion 3 of Farm Cambridge 184 KT • Remaining extent of Portion 184 KT. <p>The aforementioned farms will be impacted by the new proposed development and they wish to object because no letter or notice was given to their client regarding the EIA process of the proposed development.</p> <p>Below are reasons for objections: Eskom Holdings Ltd does not have any right to extent any activity within the Canyon Sand Investment Pty Ltd property;</p>	<p>Canon Sands was registered as an interested and affected party.</p> <p>It was further highlighted that the public participation process was as per the requirements of the NEMA. Advertisements were placed on four different Newspaper in different languages, notices were placed at conspicuous area including libraries and municipalities, notices were distributed to landowners. The same procedure was done when inviting the public to the meeting as well as informing them of the report.</p> <p>The South African legislation allows for a process of this nature to enable developers to develop where possible.</p>
19/07/2012	Ross Kettles Greater Makalali Private Game Reserve	Requested to be enlightened regarding the project progress as he represents a group of landowners that will be negatively impacted by the proposed project.	Nsovo responded the queries by requesting the I&AP's contact details as well as the details of the group you represent.

			<p>Furthermore, he was assured that the public participation is still on going, and was also assured that he can still register as an I&AP.</p> <p>He was also forwarded the Scoping report that was submitted in March and was promised to be kept abreast with the project proceedings.</p>
20/07/2012	Ross Kettles Greater Makalali Private Game Reserve	He sent his contact details and also mentioned that the group that he represents is called the Greater Makalali Private Game Reserve. He further mentioned that he has forwarded Nsovo's email to the affected landowners in order for them to contact Nsovo for more information regarding the proposed project.	Nsovo acknowledged all information brought to their attention.
20/07/2012	Keith Lancefield Stoman (Pty) Ltd	<p>He requested to be registered an an I&AP as he represents the Stoman (Pty)Ltd and his the owner of farms Lamula 162KT, Manantji 166KT R/E and Selati 143KT ptn. 10. He further requested to be kept abreast with the project proceedings.</p> <p>He wished to object the proposed project as they will be negatively impacted by the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual impact 	<p>Nsovo registered them as I&AP's and promised to keep them abreast with the project proceedings. Furthermore. He was afforded an opportunity to attend the public meetings and comment on the reports.</p> <p>With regard to the impacts he outlined, specialist has been appointed in order for them to give recommendations regarding the</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flora and Fauna • Noise • Land use • Bird population • Waste • Soil erosion • Water pollution 	<p>impact mentioned. i.e Visual study, Avifauna study, Ecology study have been undertaken to assess how they can mitigate such impacts. Furthermore, a EIA and EMP addressed all the issues he raised comprehensively.</p>
20/07/2012	John Job Makhutswi River Game Farms (Pty) Ltd	<p>He requested to be registered as an I&AP as his the landowner in part of the Makhutswi River Game Farms that forms part of the Greater Makalali Private Game Farms and he also requested to be kept abreast with the project proceedings.</p>	<p>Nsovo registered him as an I&AP and promised to keep him abreast with the project proceedings. Furthermore, he was promised to be afforded an opportunity to attend a public meeting to be held in September.</p> <p>He was invited to the meeting and he responded stating his unavailability.</p>
21/07/2012	Hugh Lewis Zelpy 1695 Pty Ltd	<p>He requested to be registered as an I&AP and to be kept abreast with the project proceedings.</p>	<p>Nsovo registered him and he was kept abreast with the project proceedings</p>
27/07/2012	Ross Kettles The Greater Makalali Private Game Reserve	<p>He emailed a formal letter highlighting their issues and comments regarding the proposed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The GMPGR hosts several species of endangered wildlife, including white rhinoceros, lion, cheetah, brown hyena. We are concerned that the construction process 	<p>Nsovo acknowledged receipt of his letter. Nsovo highlighted that they are well aware of the concerns as well as rhino poaching. The</p>

		<p>will expose us to increased poaching as well as being stressful and disruptive to our wildlife population. As it is, rhino poaching is rife in our district.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are in the advanced stages of acquiring black rhino. Our partners in this venture (Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife) are very strict about access to third parties, and the construction of this power line could derail all our hard work and result in us not acquiring black rhino. • The GMPGR hosts several tourism based businesses. The power line will have a serious visual impact on the reserve and will detract from the wilderness experience we offer our clientele. • The commercial ventures on the GMPGR already have to deal with strong opposition in the market place and a struggling tourism industry. They certainly cannot afford another factor that can negatively affect their businesses. The vast majority, over 90%, of the tourists and other visitors to the GMPGR come from overseas and represent a valuable source of foreign exchange income to the Country. Huge power lines across the 	<p>issue has been highlighted in the report and the extent of the impact has been assessed. Further mitigation measures have been proposed.</p> <p>Visual Impacts was assessed comprehensively with the assistance of a specialist. Her recommendations have been taken into consideration and have been included in the reports.</p> <p>An ecotourism specialist study was commissioned as the impact on tourism was considered to be significant. His recommendations have been taken into consideration and have been included in the reports.</p>
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		<p>GMPGR will definitely affect this circumstance negatively.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The loss of income to the tourist lodges will affect the constitutional rights of the owners and could result in job losses. • • The planned route (Route 4) will be within sight of 5 tourist camps on the GMPGR. <p>He further gave a list of key Interested and Affected Parties within the GMPGR.</p>	<p>Once authorization has been granted, a walk down with the specialist will be undertaken to identify areas of high sensitivity within the 3km buffer wherein mitigation measures will be proposed accordingly.</p> <p>The listed I&As were included in the database.</p>
23/07/2012	Stephanie Cliff Seedcracker Environmental Consulting cc	<p>He sent an email questing to register the McCormick Family from Pidwa Lodge on the database and also requested to register an objection of the power line that will be running along the privately owned farm.</p> <p>He further requested a focus group meeting with Nsovo and ESKOM project manager, to discuss the proposed alternative routes.</p>	<p>The I&As were registered according following which they were kept abreast with the project proceedings.</p> <p>Nsovo responded that meetings would be arranged accordingly with all affected parties including focus group meetings. An invitation as well as the Draft EIR was sent directly to their email and no response was received.</p>

07/09/2012	Steve Topham Phuzamoya	<p>He requested a Hardcopy of Draft EIAR as he was having problems downloading.</p> <p>He highlighted that the proposed project would have a definite impact on his game reserve. He suggested that engineers look at other alternatives such as doubling up the existing line instead of creating another unsightly structure.</p> <p>He suggested that landowners experiencing a massive drop in property be compensated in the form of no electricity bill for life. He emphasized the need for compensation.</p> <p>Further suggested that underground cables be used instead so as to reduce the associated impacts.</p> <p>Requested clarity on EMF.</p> <p>Highlighted that the proposed route 5 does not sit well with him in that it would mean that he would have a line in the middle of his property and another one along the tar road.</p>	The report was delivered to him.
19/09/2012	Dr Albert Zinn	<p>He thanked Nsovo for the invitation to the PPP in Maruleng on the 19th September 2012.</p> <p>He highlighted that the project came as a surprise</p>	The undertaking of the PPP was as per the

		<p>and he believes that despite being legally acceptable, once off notification in the Beelds, Sowetan and two local papers is unacceptable.</p> <p>Asked if power line is a solution to the problem. He further asked if Eskom has explored alternative green forms of power generation such as hydro –electric, renewable solar or wind?</p> <p>Has Eskom considered NO to the request for power?</p> <p>Does the rhino horn accompany the copper to the Far East as a bonus?</p> <p>He commended the public participation meeting stating that it was conducted in an orderly manner. He believed that the recommended route one was sold to the stakeholders concerned and further complained about the hefty EIA report.</p> <p>He commented on the long term effect of exposure to electro-magnetic fields. Highlighted that they already have a power line crossing human settlements</p>	<p>requirements of the Act. Nsovo acknowledge that they accept that whatever was done was legally acceptable.</p> <p>Several alternatives were considered and grid was assessed to be the best option. Further various routes are been considered as part of this process.</p> <p>Eskom has a mandate to power the country. It is Eskom’s responsibility to ensure that power supply reaches everyone including the marginalized communities; therefore, they cannot refuse to perform their duty.</p> <p>Comment noted. No comment.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Specialist EMF Report is attached to the report.</p>
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		<p>influencing the behavior of game and avifauna. Asked if there is sufficient evidence that no health hazards exist now or for future generation. Highlighting that it would be folly to ignore the matter.</p> <p>Asked what effects the presences of powerlines have on property values. Highlighted the need for one-on-one negotiation with the landowners.</p> <p>In conclusion BOC highlighted that they are not in favour of any further development and would oppose the movement of labour in their properties.</p> <p>Recommended that Eskom consider using Cabora Bassa power or another source of generation.</p>	<p>Negotiations will be done once the final route has been authorized.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>The said Power Station Project is a mere concept at this stage, so it can't be considered as a solution to short-term and medium-term issues. The 2nd Foskor-Merensky line remains the best solution to reinforce the Phalaborwa area.</p>
27/09/2012	Craig Ferguson Balule Nature Reserve	<p>He sent an email with an attached letter. Their objection and comments were in line with the preferred route and the newly proposed alternative 5 route.</p> <p>This line will pass within 500m of an established lodge on the Olifants River that caters to international and local tourists. The lines will cross their traversing</p>	

		<p>area on which they conduct game drives and will this render areas of their properties no go areas. This will impact on their future viability as game lodges and result in loss of employment for a number of people. The short term gains in temporary employment will be offset by the long term losses to the industry.</p> <p>Access control will be an issue as we have no established access point nearby and cannot allow uncontrolled access from the busy R40 into the Reserve. This is especially relevant in the light of the poaching of rhino and general increase of crime in the area.</p> <p>The route passes through a region that has now been gazetted a Protected Area in terms of the National Environmental Management; Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act No.57 of 2003).</p> <p>The route passes through an area of prime Black Rhino Habitat, home to a number of these endangered animals.</p>	<p>Access control will be arranged with the affected landowners. Eskom will be responsible for paying everything. Additionally the services of professional hunters will be sourced to be with the construction team all the time to ensure safety.</p> <p>During the Scoping phase the sensitivity of the area was noted and highlighted, following which a Specialist Ecologist was appointed to advise accordingly. The specialist report which also acknowledged the sensitivity of the area highlighted and red flagged no go areas and areas that need to be left intact. Further the specialist proposed mitigation measures to reduce the potential impact on the protected areas.</p>
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04/10/2012	Thys Kritzinger Karongwe Private	He requested to be registered as an I&AP and to be kept abreast with the project proceedings as the	He was registered accordingly.

	Game Reserve	<p>public meeting notification did not reach him.</p> <p>He further enquired about Alternative 4, if it was the preferred route.</p>	Nsovo responded that alternative 4 is not the preferred alternative due to the sensitivities associated with it.
19/10/2012	Tracy Petersen SANPark: Kruger National Park	<p>Tracy emailed a letter with comments regarding the draft EIR and stated that the Kruger National Parks (KNP) has no objection with regard to the proposed project by might just pose a negative visual impact on the KNP based on the view-shed analysis that was undertaken. However, the draft EIR highlighted that the preferred route will be 9km away from the border of the park and therefore does not pose any risk visually.</p> <p>She further requested to be kept abreast with the project proceeding especially the Final Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and the Final Impact Assessment Report in order to ensure all the risk and associated mitigation measures are identified including the mitigation of electrocution of birds in particular the Cape Vultures at the breeding sites in the Blyde River area.</p>	Her comments were noted and the EIR was made available for her to make further comments as requested.

COMMENTS FOLLOWING THE FOCUS GROUP MEETING AND REVIEW OF THE FINAL EIR

05/11/2012	Craig Ferguson Balule Nature Reserve	Sent a formal letter seeking clarification with regard to a follow-up meeting that was announced at the public meeting in Maruleng Municipality on the 19 th September 2012. He further said the meeting was for Nsovo and Eskom to further elaborate on the newly proposed alternative 5.	Nsovo responded that the meeting invitations would be sent out shortly and highlighted that it took slightly longer to assess route 5 as the specialist also had to do their part.
12/11/2012	Dr Albert Zinn Blyde-Olifants Conservancy	<p>Thanked Nsovo for inviting them to the second Public Participation meeting in November 2012. Added that an application for Nature reserve status for the portion of the BOC North of the Olifants River is currently being processed by the Limpopo Government.</p> <p>BOC highlighted that they are aware of the mining interest in the area as well as the need for job creation. Added that the presentation indicated that the need for extra energy would extend the life of Phalaborwa Mine and that its necessary for the needs of the local population.</p> <p>BOC further stated that Eskom owes the landowners in the eastern Limpopo a reasonable explanation as to why another power line needs to transvers one of the most pristine areas in the country. A third party (Nsovo) should not be required to convey or mediate</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>The communities, businesses and industries supplied from Foskor and Acornhoek will benefit directly from the improved reliability of supply, according to the reliability criteria set by the National Energy Regulators of South Africa (NERSA).</p> <p>Further to this other communities may benefit indirectly at a macro-economic level. Limited short-term benefits (vending and unskilled-labour opportunity) are possible during construction phase.</p>

		<p>this information.</p> <p>BOC further recommended Alternative 5 stating that it's their preferred option as it may have the least impact given that on most farms the area adjacent to the tar road that it will follow is already cleared of for security purposes. Added that it may even be possible to fence the area off thus reducing the need for Eskom personnel to have access to private land both during construction and maintenance.</p> <p>BOC added that in the case of smaller farms another line with the associated bush clearance will have fragmenting effect on property substantially reducing its value.</p> <p>Suggested that a serious consideration be given to doubling up the power line such that the present line cannot be moved</p>	<p>It was further clarified that the Scoping report addressed the benefits of the project at all levels and that the proposed project is not only for the mine.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Mitigations measures will be put in place to reduce such impacts.</p> <p>Double Circuit configuration can be considered. GP (through Line Engineering Services, and other Dept.) can form final opinion on whether D/C line would be suitable in a specific area, once the specific stretch of land has been specified.</p>
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13/01/13	Craig Spencer	<p>Thanked Nsovo for the correspondence i.e. the Final Draft EIR for comment. He requested clarity on whether route five as depicted on the maps was a stand-alone and the same route that was discussed at the meeting.</p>	<p>MR clarified Craig stating that the map on pg 56 of the report depicts route 5 as proposed, which is a new corridor with a 3km buffer.</p>
03/02/13	Craig Spencer	<p>Thanked Nsovo and stated that the response sent on the 17th January 2013 answered his question. He added that OWGR support the recommendation of the report to pursue Route 5 as the best solution.</p>	<p>Nsovo acknowledged receipt of his email.</p>