

**APPENDIX O:
SOCIAL ISSUES TRAIL**

ISSUES TRAIL

The following table provides a summary of the comments, concerns, issues and suggestions noted during the public participation process followed for the Environmental Impact Assessment undertaken for the proposed Matimba-Witkop No 2 400 kV Transmission line in 2002.

Table 1: Comments, concerns, issues and suggestions noted during the public participation process followed for the Environmental Impact Assessment undertaken for the proposed Matimba-Witkop No 2 400 kV Transmission line in 2002: Environmental Scoping Phase

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
<i>General environmental impacts</i>			
The sandstone formations are an important natural asset.	Representative of the Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism (Polokwane)	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geotechnical studies • Land use and planning • Tourism studies • Visual impact assessment
The Moepel Farms area is a sensitive section and it was characterised as a high fire risk area due to cultural activities and lightning.	Representative of the Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism (Polokwane)	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fauna and flora studies • Land use and planning • Social impact assessment
How long will the coal reserves at the Matimba Powerstation last?	Property owner	There are enough reserves for another 60 to 100 years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for additional transmission capacity
It was asked what would happen if the coal reserves at the Matimba Power Station were depleted.	I&AP	The long-term plans were to obtain hydro-energy from the Congo. Eskom was also investigating other methods of power generation (e.g. the proposed Pebblebed Modular Nuclear technology, gas and wind).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for additional transmission capacity

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
Visual Impacts			
The existing line that crosses various farms already has a negative visual impact.	Property owners	A visual impact assessment of the proposed new line is included within the environmental studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual impact assessment • Social impact assessment
The proposed project would disturb the aesthetic quality of the area.	Chairperson of the Marken Farmers Union	A visual impact assessment of the proposed new line is included within the environmental studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual impact assessment • Social impact assessment
What will the proposed line look like, and what visual impact would it have?	I&AP	Cross-rope suspension towers will be used on the new line, where possible. These suspension towers will consist of two sections resembling aluminium ladders. The cables (cross ropes) will be strung between these vertical steel legs, and the conductors hung from these cross-ropes. Due to the weight of the towers and less steel used, these towers tend to blend in with the environment, and have less visual impacts than the previous type of towers used. Self-supporting towers would only be used on a bend.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual impact assessment • Social impact assessment
Would the towers be closer to each other in mountainous areas?	Member of the Waterberg Biosphere	It depended on the specifics of the topography, but those towers would not necessarily be closer to each other than	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual impact assessment

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
		those in other sections along the route.	
Foreign and local hunters do not want to catch sight of the power lines as these have a negative impact on the character of the area.	Chairperson of the Transvaal Agricultural Union	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural potential studies • Fauna and flora • Land use • Social impact assessment • Tourism studies • Visual impact assessment
Impact on Vegetation			
Farmers go to great lengths to conserve the environment by undertaking bush clearings and planting of indigenous trees.	Owner of the farm Alkantrant	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fauna and flora studies • Eskom Management Guidelines
What would the size of the area be where the vegetation would be removed?	Representative of the Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism (Polokwane)	Eskom's has a new approach to managing the servitude. They currently do not clear the entire servitude area in order to limit any negative visual impacts. Eskom's new policy proposes that problem plants be removed without destabilising the soil. In some cases, plants are also used to screen any open areas surrounding the power lines. Eskom adhere to the guidelines dealing with protected species, unless these plants pose a risk to the power line. In such cases Eskom deal with these protected species within the limits of the law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fauna and flora studies • Eskom Management Guidelines • Environmental Management Plan

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
Archaeological Impacts			
The impact on archaeological artefacts in the mountainous area should be investigated in detail as some valuable artefacts have been found in the mountains	Representative of the Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism (Polokwane)	An archaeological study is included within the environmental studies for this project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archaeological/Cultural/Historical studies
Impact on eco-tourism activities and game farming			
The eco-tourism environment will be negatively affected if another line was to be erected.	Owner of the farm Weltevreden	An assessment of potential impacts on tourism potential is to be included within the EIA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social impact assessment • Tourism studies
The majority of the farms in the Lephalale-Marken district are equipped with infrastructure for game hunting and eco-tourism related activities. These activities are aimed at foreign tourists. A lot of money has been spent on purchasing game and the extension of existing infrastructure for this purpose. The proposed project would negatively affect future plans in this regard.	Owner of the farm Weltevreden	An assessment of potential impacts on tourism potential is to be included within the EIA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social impact assessment • Tourism studies
The eco-tourism industry and game farming in the Limpopo Province have increased significantly in the last couple of years and these would be negatively affected by the construction of an additional line.	Chairperson of the Transvaal Agricultural Union	An assessment of potential impacts on tourism potential is to be included within the EIA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social impact assessment • Tourism studies

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
<i>Impact on livestock and wildlife</i>			
Concerns were raised to where the Transmission lines would be erected as it could have a negative impact on an endangered breeding project in the Marken area.	Owner of Twiga Wildlife Sanctuary	Potential impacts on fauna will be assessed within the environmental studies for this project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fauna studies
Game will be placed under severe stress during the construction phase.	Owner of the farm Weltevreden	Potential impacts on fauna will be assessed within the environmental studies for this project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fauna studies
The power lines would have a negative impact on wildlife in general	I&APs	Potential impacts on fauna will be assessed within the environmental studies for this project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fauna studies
The power lines have a negative impact on the animals especially when they graze underneath these lines in damp conditions.	Chairperson of the Transvaal Agricultural Union	Potential impacts on fauna (domestic and wildlife) will be assessed within the environmental studies for this project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fauna studies
<i>Route alignment</i>			
They are prepared to accept new lines next to the old existing lines, but they have a problem with a new route	Owner of Twiga Wildlife Sanctuary	Alternative alignments will be assessed within the environmental studies for this project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessment, including Social impact assessment
To ensure conservation of the area, the cables should be constructed underground (e.g. Agrilek constructed underground cables on game farms in Mpumalanga).	Owner of the farm Weltevreden	The environmental disturbance of such construction has far more negative impacts on the environment than the existing proposal, as the ground works require an area of approximately the same size as that of a two-lane highway.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessment, including Social impact assessment

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
		The cost involved does not make it economically viable and the management of an underground system is also more challenging.	
It was proposed that the required cables should be constructed underneath the ground.	Member of the TAU	The environmental disturbance of such construction has far more negative impacts on the environment than the existing proposal, as the ground works require an area of approximately the same size as that of a two-lane highway. The cost involved does not make it economically viable and the management of an underground system is also more challenging.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessment, including Social impact assessment
It was proposed that the existing line should be upgraded.	Member of the TAU	This would not be possible due to practical and economical reasons. An additional line would be required.	-
The construction of an additional transmission line across the various farms is not negotiable.	Property owner of farm Alkantrant & other property owners	Comment noted.	-
The proposed route alignment to the south of the existing line on the farm Alkantrant (as was indicated during the meeting held on 4 December 2001) is not acceptable.	Owner of the farm Alkantrant	Comment noted.	-

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
The construction of another transmission line on the farm Bergsig is undesirable.	Owner of the farm Bergsig (Bouvest CC)	Comment noted.	-
Farmers do not want the power line on their properties, especially on the game farms.	Members of the TAU (Lephalale area)	Comment noted.	-
Why is an underground system not considered?	Regional Manager of the Transvaal Agricultural Union	An underground system is more expensive (20 times) than the construction of power lines. The management of such a system is problematic and over long distances power lines are more successful. In addition, the underground system would have severe environmental impacts as the excavations extend over a wide area (approximately the same size as for a double lane road).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessment, including Social impact assessment
How far from the existing line could the proposed line be located?	Member of the Waterberg Biosphere	The centre of the proposed new power line would be approximately 34 to 36 metres from the centre of the existing line.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessment, including Social impact assessment
It was suggested that the power line be constructed in an area outside the boundaries of the Waterberg Biosphere.	Member of Waterberg Biosphere	A straight line was the most economically feasible option for Eskom as it cost between R500 000 and R1 million per kilometre to construct the line. Eskom would look at alternative alignments, but	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessment, including Social impact assessment

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
		they had to take the cost into account otherwise the line would not be feasible	
The area through the mountains in the region of the Masebe Nature Reserve could be problematic as there was no space for a second line.	Representative of the Provincial Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism	Alternative alignments will be assessed within the environmental studies for the project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessment, including Social impact assessment
It was suggested that the line follow a route around the Masebe Nature Reserve along the Marken road to join the existing line. It should not pass through the Moepel Farms as this area was identified as one of the core areas of the Waterberg Biosphere which would be developed to the benefit of the local communities	Representative of the Provincial Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism	Alternative alignments will be assessed within the environmental studies for the project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessment, including Social impact assessment
Where would the power lines be constructed?	Chairperson of the Waterberg Nature Conservancy	The proposed route through the area was adjacent the existing route. This was only a proposal and Eskom therefore requires the inputs of the role-players in order to determine the final route alignment. The inputs of the independent specialist studies will also be considered before the route alignment can be finalised.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessment, including Social impact assessment
Was the route alignment of the existing line practical at the time of construction?	Chairperson of the Waterberg Nature Conservancy	Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) were not undertaken when this line was built (1970's), but at that stage it was the	-

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
		best route.	
The existing line already had an impact on the mountainous areas. It was unsure whether the features of the mountains would be able to accommodate an additional power line. Due to the archaeological importance of that area one must look at alternatives around the escarpment.	Representative of the Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism (Polokwane)	Alternative alignments will be assessed within the environmental studies for the project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental impact assessment, including Social impact assessment
It was suggested that additional power should be transmitted via the power line in the vicinity of Roedtan and Groblersdal as there were already two lines in this area.	I&AP	That would not be possible, as the proposed power line was needed to improve the reliability of the electrical supply to consumers in the Polokwane and Mogolakwa areas. The capacity of the power station from where the power was generated and the dependability of that station also had to be taken into account.	-
Capacity of the Transmission line			
Is the existing line also a 400 kV line?	I&AP	The existing line is a 400 kV line, and the towers for the proposed line would therefore be approximately the same height as those of the existing line.	-
Eskom should investigate the possibility of constructing one power line with added capacity in order to accommodate the additional power needs. This line should be constructed as a substitute to the	I&AP	If Eskom would have to demolish the one line and replace it with another, the area would have a power shortage for approximately 18 months. This is	-

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
existing power line and the existing line would therefore have to be removed.		practically and economically not feasible.	
Why can the existing line not be demolished and be replaced by another line with more capacity?	Chairperson of the Transvaal Agricultural Union	If Eskom would have to demolish the one line and replace it with another, the area would have a power shortage for approximately 18 months. This is practically and economically not feasible.	-
It was suggested that a 750 kV Transmission line be erected to ensure that another line would not be necessary in future.	I&AP	The towers for a 750 kV line are higher (55 m) than those for a 400 kV line. A line with more capacity would therefore have a greater visual impact and at this stage there is no need for a line with that capacity.	-
It was asked whether the existing line could not just have more cables.	I&AP	When Eskom investigated the need for an additional power line, they have looked at the capacity of the existing line. This line, however, was at full capacity and Eskom could not transmit more electricity through that line.	-
Power generation, transmission and distribution			
Why is there a greater need for power in the Polokwane area? Can it be attributed to nominal growth or to the needs of a specific organisation?	Regional Manager of the Transvaal Agricultural Union	Power from the Matimba Substation near Lephalale is transmitted to the west rand via Rustenburg, but power is also transmitted to the Polokwane area. There is a need to upgrade the entire network in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need for additional transmission capacity

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
		the Polokwane area, although the various mining activities also require additional power.	
Can the additional power be sourced from the Cabora Bassa Dam scheme?	I&AP	This option would still not address the reliability of the power supply.	-
It is economically not feasible to channel all the power to one substation. It would result in more power failures in the event of the transformer not functioning properly.	I&AP	Comment noted.	-
Where did the Polokwane area previously received its power from?	I&AP	Power has previously been transmitted from Warmbaths and Lydenburg to the Polokwane area. These lines, however, have a limited capacity and run at full capacity at the moment. There is therefore the need for an additional power supply and the Matimba and Witkop substations will be able to handle the additional power supply.	-
How often does Eskom experience problems with the existing line?	I&AP	In the year 2000 there was approximately 48 power failures due to the interaction with birds and approximately 26 failures due to veld fires. Sickle bush were also burned and the flames led to some problems with the power fields.	-

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Would local communities receive power from these power lines?	<p>I&APs attending the meeting held with the Tribal Authorities of the western region</p> <p>I&APs attending the meeting held with the Tribal Authorities of the central region</p>	Local communities would not directly receive power from these transmission lines. Eskom’s Distribution Division provides electricity for local supply.	-
Why do the communities experience power cuts without warning from Eskom?	I&AP attending the meeting held with the Tribal Authorities of the western region	Power failures are attributed to numerous factors. The Distribution Division of Eskom should address these issues.	-
Are any additional substations planned?	Property owner	Eskom is investigating the possibility of hydro-electrical schemes from the Congo River. At this stage there are therefore no plans for the construction of new substations as Matimba still have sufficient reserves. Eskom also uses the “dry-cooling” system that uses limited amounts of coal.	-

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
<i>Management and maintenance</i>			
Eskom is currently not maintaining the area underneath the existing line.	Owner of the farm Weltevreden	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessment
It is unacceptable that unknown individuals enter the farms without consent. Eskom workers do that on a continuous basis.	Owner of the farm Alkantrant	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessment, including Social impact assessment
The farmers are currently experiencing problems with the existing line and are therefore not in favour of an additional line.	Chairperson of the Transvaal Agricultural Union	Comment noted.	-
The farmers experience numerous problems with the existing transmission line, although Eskom indicated that they follow sound business and management principles.	Chairperson of the Transvaal Agricultural Union	Comment noted.	-
The farmers do not want to suffer economic losses due to need for the construction of an additional power line because of power failures caused by veld fires. These fires should therefore be properly managed.	Chairperson of the Transvaal Agricultural Union	The additional line would not only be built because of power failures caused by veld fires. It is necessary to add additional power to the network and to ensure a more reliable power supply system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessment, including Social impact assessment
Do the management guidelines of Eskom only apply to lines of 400 kV?	Member of Waterberg Biosphere	The specific management guidelines that were discussed were applied for 400 kV lines, but Eskom has guidelines for each division e.g. distribution lines.	-

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
<i>Future developments</i>			
The Marken area could form part of the Waterberg Biosphere Reserve in future.	Owner of Twiga Wildlife Sanctuary Property owners	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land use studies • Tourism studies
Some game farmers in the Marken area are in the process of forming a conservancy of several thousands of hectares aiming to promote tourism and creating employment opportunities.	Owner of Twiga Wildlife Sanctuary	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land use studies • Tourism studies
The impact of the proposed project on the east-west corridor development in the Limpopo Province should be taken into account	I&AP	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land use studies • Tourism studies
The Waterberg Biosphere aimed to enhance the scenic beauty of the Waterberg environment as it was a national treasure and the members of the Biosphere therefore, did not support another power line crossing the area.	Member of Waterberg Nature Conservancy	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessment, including Social impact assessment
The new power line should ideally follow the route of the existing line. The Moepel Farms and the Masebe Nature Reserve are to be developed as community driven eco tourism projects. If the proposed power line should cross these areas it could have a negative impact on the projects and on investment opportunities for the local communities.	Members of the Waterberg Biosphere	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessment, including Social impact assessment

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
<i>Financial and economic impacts</i>			
An additional transmission line will result in the devaluation of the property values.	Owner of the farm Weltevreden	Eskom will negotiate with the landowner for the final location of the Transmission line tower. Compensation will be given for the servitude.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiation process • Land use studies
Property values are linked to the aesthetic value of the area. The proposed transmission line would therefore have a negative economic impact on the property values.	Chairperson of the Marken Farmers Union	Eskom will negotiate with the landowner for the final location of the Transmission line tower. Compensation will be given for the servitude.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiation process • Land use studies
Farmers have spent huge sums of money on upgrading and changing their farming activities to cater for game farming and related accommodation facilities. An additional line crossing their properties would have a negative economic impact on the eco-tourism related activities.	Owner of the farm Alkantrant	Eskom will negotiate with the landowner for the final location of the Transmission line tower. Compensation will be given for the servitude.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiation process • Tourism studies • Land use studies
In the event that an additional line is constructed, farmers would have to be compensated for the negative impact on the natural beauty of the area, as well as for the unwanted intrusion on the properties during the construction phase and for maintenance purposes.	Owner of the farm Alkantrant	Eskom will negotiate with the landowner for the final location of the Transmission line tower. Compensation will be given for the servitude.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiation process • Land use studies
An additional transmission line would result in a decrease in the property values of about 50 to 60%.	Chairperson of the Transvaal Agricultural Union	Eskom will negotiate with the landowner for the final location of the Transmission line tower. Compensation will be given	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiation process • Land use studies

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
		for the servitude.	
The existing property owners would not be satisfied with compensation for the servitude only. Eskom would have to compensate them for the total value of the property.	Chairperson of the Transvaal Agricultural Union	Eskom will negotiate with the landowner for the final location of the Transmission line tower. Compensation will be given for the servitude.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiation process • Land use studies
The specialists should investigate the devaluation of the farms as a result of the additional transmission lines.	I&AP	Eskom will negotiate with the landowner for the final location of the Transmission line tower. Compensation will be given for the servitude.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiation process • Land use studies
What are the options in terms of the construction of the new line?	Owner of the farm Alkantrant	The construction cost per kilometre is approximately R1 million. If the new transmission line is one third longer than the existing line, it is not economically feasible to build the line. Eskom would therefore explore the shortest, most economically feasible route, as they are not subsidised by the state.	-
It is accepted and understood that additional power is necessary, but the farmers should not be abused by improper compensation.	Chairperson of the Transvaal Agricultural Union	Eskom will negotiate with the landowner for the final location of the Transmission line tower. Compensation will be given for the servitude.	-
How would the topography of the area influence the construction costs.	Chairperson of the Waterberg Nature Conservancy	The detailed costs for the construction were determined by the construction crew and the availability of access roads. The construction of additional access roads	-

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
		was an expensive exercise in itself. At problematic areas they could make use of a helicopter to undertake some of the construction activities, but that increased the cost substantially. Bends and distances also had to be taken into account. The construction of a straight line on an undulating landscape would be the most economical option.	
It was asked what the compensation process entailed.	I&AP	Eskom usually paid the market value based on the findings of an independent evaluator. The finalisation of the compensation amount, however, had to be determined in consultation with the property owner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiation process
Would the landowners who are affected be compensated?	I&AP attending the meeting held with the Tribal Authorities of the western and central regions	Those that are affected that have the title deed would be compensated for their land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiation process
Impact on housing facilities			
The proposed route alignment would cut through the existing accommodation facilities of the farm workers of the farm Alkantrant and would therefore have to be rebuilt.	Owner of the farm Alkantrant	Eskom will negotiate with the landowner for the final location of the Transmission line tower. Compensation will be given for the servitude.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land use studies • Social impact assessment

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
What would happen to people with property within the Eskom servitude?	I&APs attending the meeting held with the Tribal Authorities of the central region	Should a property be located within the proposed servitude, Eskom will undertake a negotiation process with the affected people. Their properties would be evaluated and they would be compensated accordingly. It should also be investigated whether these houses are situated underneath the power line, as this might require relocation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land use studies • Social impact assessment
Safety and security			
Safety and security is a source of concern, especially during the construction phase, when there would be a lot of construction worker movement on the various farms. The farmers will not have any control over these "trespassers".	Owner of the farm Weltevreden	Comment noted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land use studies • Social impact assessment
Is the risk of fire lower when dealing with lower voltage lines?	Member of Waterberg Biosphere	The fire risk did not only depend on the voltage, but also on the fire risk index and the veld management in the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climatology studies
Timeframes			
It was asked what the timeframes were for constructing a new line.	I&AP	There had to be a lead-time of approximately six to eight years before it was operational, as the EIA process first had to be completed, followed by negotiations with the property owners	-

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
		and construction of the line	
It was asked what the anticipated lifespan of the new power line would be to generate sufficient power and to fulfil the growing need of the area.	I&AP	This was difficult to determine, as it depended on the economic activity in the area and the population growth, but at this stage it was estimated to be sufficient for another 40 to 50 years.	-
Public participation and communication			
Communication with the farmers must be channelled through the Transvaal Agricultural Union (TAU).	Chairperson of the Transvaal Agricultural Union	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public participation process
Consultation with farmers must take place via the TAU and correspondence with the landowners must be done through the TAU.	Chairperson of the Transvaal Agricultural Union	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public participation process
The TAU must be recognised as an Interested and Affected Party.	Chairperson of the Transvaal Agricultural Union	The TAU has been registered as an Interested and Affected Party.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public participation process
The advertisements placed in the newspapers were inappropriate because no map was included.	I&AP	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public participation process
More information regarding the proposed Overysse development should be supplied to the I&APs.	I&AP	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public participation process
It was suggested that the South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA) be involved in the process.	I&AP	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public participation process • Archaeological/Cultural/Historical studies
The Tribal Authorities of the western region requested a map of the area to enable them to	Tribal Authorities of western region	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public participation process

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investigate possible alternative routes.	I&APs attending the meeting held with the Tribal Authorities of the central region		
Eskom's Distribution Division should be invited to attend the meetings.	I&APs attending the meeting held with the Tribal Authorities of the western region I&APs attending the meeting held with the Tribal Authorities of the central region	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public participation process • Eskom Distribution Division
General			
The proposed development must have the minimum negative impact on the community and farmers.	Chairperson of the Marken Farmers Union	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessment, including social impact assessment
The transmission line will have an impact on the property owners, the value of the properties and the environment.	Chairperson of the Marken Farmers Union	Comment noted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessment
The existing line is a nuisance.	Owner of the farm Alkantrant	Comment noted.	-
The farmers would not accept an additional line and could revert to legal action.	Chairperson of the Transvaal Agricultural	Comment noted.	-

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response	Proposed Studies/Additional Inputs to Address the Issue/ Impact
	Union		
Would the communities adjacent to the affected areas be empowered through this project?	I&APs attending the meeting held with the Tribal Authorities of the central region	Although the construction of a power line is considered a "high risk" procedure, some opportunities such as digging holes for foundations may exist. This will however depend on whether the contractors would require local people from the local communities to undertake these activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental impact assessment
Would Eskom subsidise the Chiefs in terms of electricity usage?	I&APs attending the meeting held with the Tribal Authorities of the central region	Eskom's Distribution Division should explore this issue.	-

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Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response
<i>Environmental Impacts</i>		
The Masebe Nature Reserve and Moepel farms have been earmarked for conservation related development purposes due to its biodiversity conservation, topography aspects, water catchment importance, tourism potential, location etc.	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	Comment noted
The importance of the Moepel farms as a water catchment area cannot be underestimated. The lack of water in rural areas is evident.	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	Potential impacts on surface water will be assessed within the EIA.
The impact on the Mogalakwena River area must be investigated.	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	Potential impacts on surface water will be assessed within the EIA.
There is already an existing power line on the property and a second line would have a negative impact on the scenic beauty and ecology. It would also disturb the tranquillity of the area.	Property owner of the farm Halbosrust Portion 1.	Potential impacts on tourism and aesthetic quality of the local area will be assessed within the EIA.
The Waterberg Biosphere, Moepel farms, Bakenberg area etc. are unique with beautiful surroundings and with important conservation features. It is believed that within the policy framework of Eskom and its commitment to the environment a solution is possible that will not only enhance	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	Comment noted.

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sustainable development, but will also secure the natural status of the area as recognised by UNESCO.		
Visual Impact		
The area suggested for the new line in the Polokwane area (surrounding the Witkop Substation) is unsuitable and will have a negative visual impact.	Chairperson of Eerstegoud Farmers Union & Property owner of Farm Hollandsdrift Portions 7, 18 and 22.	A detailed visual assessment will be undertaken within the EIA in order to determine the significance of potential visual impacts.
The visual impact of the proposed line will have a negative impact on the tourists.	Property owner of the farm Goedgedacht 461 LR, Marken Farmers Union and TAU	A detailed visual assessment will be undertaken within the EIA in order to determine the significance of potential visual impacts.
The unique characteristics of the Waterberg Biosphere are its scenic beauty, peaceful village life and mountainous area. Development must, therefore, be planned accordingly.	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	Comment noted.
Camouflage of the towers must be investigated. Coloured towers (greenish/brownish bush colours) will enhance the aesthetic appearance of the large structures.	Lephalale Municipality	A detailed visual assessment will be undertaken within the EIA in order to determine the significance of potential visual impacts.
The newly designed towers have less visual impact on the area, but a power line still marred the scenic beauty of an area.	Property owner of the farm Alkantrant LR 531 (Herberg Boerdery)	Comment noted
Planning to change the current farming activities to game farming. The proposed route will negatively impact on the visual scenic section where accommodation is planned.	Chairperson of Eerstegoud Farmers Union & Property owner of Farm Hollandsdrift Portions 7, 18 and 22.	A detailed visual assessment will be undertaken within the EIA in order to determine the significance of potential visual impacts.
Impacts on vegetation		
If an additional power line is to be built, no bulldozers should be used to clear the servitude area as it stimulates sickle bush growth. Eskom should rather make use of poison to eliminate these problem plants.	Property owner of the farm Portlock	A detailed assessment of the potential impacts on vegetation as a result of the proposed project will be undertaken within the EIA. Appropriate mitigation and management will be proposed,

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		where required.
The impact on the fauna and flora in the Waterberg Biosphere is a concern.	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	A detailed assessment of the potential impacts on vegetation as a result of the proposed project will be undertaken within the EIA.
Impacts on avifauna		
Have a Vulture Restaurant on our property and the birds are fed three times a week. The proposed line will have a negative impact on these birds.	Chairperson of Eerstegoud Farmers Union & Property owner of Farm Hollandsdrift Portions 7, 18 and 22.	A detailed investigation of the potential impacts of the proposed line on birds will be undertaken within the EIA.
Eskom must ensure that the power lines are environmentally friendly in terms of the bird life of the region.	Lephalale Municipality	A detailed investigation of the potential impacts of the proposed line on birds will be undertaken within the EIA.
The towers must be bird nesting friendly. Provision of pre-nesting facilities must be provided for the birds.	Lephalale Municipality	A detailed investigation of the potential impacts of the proposed line on birds will be undertaken within the EIA.
Archaeological impacts		
The archaeological importance of the Moepel farms area must be emphasised, as these areas have not yet been surveyed to determine the archaeological importance, but important archaeological sites have been identified around the Moepel area (in Masebe, Keta, Touchstone, Lapalala etc.). If Eskom considers expanding on the existing location of the line, intensive archaeological surveys need to be conducted.	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	A detailed archaeological study will be undertaken within the EIA in order to assess the significance of potential impacts on archaeological sites as a result of the proposed project.
Impacts on tourism activities and game farming		
We are actively involved in the tourism industry (hunting activities of foreigners) and the tourists will negatively experience the proposed transmission line, as they come to	Property owner of the farm Goedgedacht 461 LR, Marken Farmers Union and TAU	A detailed tourism study will be undertaken within the EIA in order to assess the potential impacts on tourism potential as a result of the proposed

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enjoy the wildlife experience.		project.
The existing transmission line traverses six of our farms (private nature reserve of 14 000 ha) and the new proposed line would again cross these properties. We are dependent on income from overseas based on eco-tourism and a second line would have a negative impact on their business and the scenic beauty.	Manager of Rhinoland Safaris (Pty) Ltd.	A detailed tourism study will be undertaken within the EIA in order to assess the potential impacts on tourism potential as a result of the proposed project.
Planning to establish a game farm with his neighbour. Strongly opposed to a power line on my property.	Property owner of the farm Eduard (Portion 19 and a portion of Portion 18 of the farm Hollandsdrift)	A detailed tourism study will be undertaken within the EIA in order to assess the potential impacts on tourism potential as a result of the proposed project.
Different departments, the Biosphere Reserve Committee and local stakeholders are in a process of developing the Moepel farms as an important tourism development opportunity that could be developed in such a way that the adjacent communities benefit by becoming direct shareholders in the stated economic (tourism/game farm) industry.	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	A detailed tourism study will be undertaken within the EIA in order to assess the potential impacts on tourism potential as a result of the proposed project.
Impacts on livestock and wildlife		
It is expected that the power line would not affect cattle farming practices.	Property owner of the farm Challonsleigh (Portion 2 of the farm Zandrivier)	Comment noted.
The impact of the construction phase (machinery) on the game should be investigated, as it can place stress on the animals leading to deaths.	Property owner of the farm Weltevreden	A detailed assessment of the potential impacts on fauna associated with the proposed project will be undertaken within the EIA.
The impact of the power line on the fertility of the animals must be investigated. Studies have shown that it has an impact on human fertility and one can therefore assume	Property owner of the farm Zongesien Portion 1.	A detailed assessment of the potential impacts on fauna associated with the proposed project will be undertaken within the EIA. This study will include

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that it would also have an impact on the fertility of the animals. Game numbers would decrease, as they would not breed as usual.		information on the impacts on fertility.
Professionals in the game capturing industry indicated that the game flees to the area underneath the power lines and they then have to make use of a ground team to capture the animals.	Chairperson of the Lephalale Farmers Union	A detailed assessment of the potential impacts on fauna associated with the proposed project will be undertaken within the EIA.
There are allegations that bulls' impotence is a result of power lines.	I&AP: Polokwane Public Meeting	A detailed assessment of the potential impacts on fauna associated with the proposed project will be undertaken within the EIA. This study will include information on the impacts on fertility.
Route alignment		
Suggests that the proposed power line follow the existing power line, on the northern side, without any deviation.	Chairperson of Eerstegoud Farmers Union & Property owner of Farm Hollandsdrift Portions 7, 18 and 22.	The EIA will assess the potential environmental impacts associated within this option.
Understand the need for the proposed Transmission line, but suggest that the line should follow the existing line (as near as possible) to limit the environmental, social and economic impact on the area.	Property owner of the farm Goedgedacht 461 LR, Marken Farmers Union and TAU	The EIA will assess the potential environmental impacts associated within this option.
The farm is relatively small and the proposed line will traverse the centre of my property.	Property owner of the Remainder of the farm Goedgedacht 461 LR	Comment noted.
The most suitable route alignment is along the existing line.	Property owner of the Remainder of the farm Goedgedacht 461 LR	The EIA will assess the potential environmental impacts associated within this option.
An existing power line is currently running through the entire front of the farm and I definitely do not want another line on my property. I will not allow another power line through my property, as Eskom has no regard for my	Property owner of Bergsig Game Lodge	Comment noted.

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belongings.		
Concerned about the proposed route alignment through the mountainous area that links Masebe Nature Reserve and the Moepel Wilderness area. This area has been zoned as an important eco-tourism development due to its international status under the MaB Programme of UNESCO.	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	The EIA will assess the potential environmental impacts associated within this option.
How far from the existing line can the proposed line be erected?	I&AP: Lephale Public Meeting	Directly next to the existing line (approximately 55 m).
Alternative sites (e.g. to take the power line from Lephale along the Marken tar road around the mountain area) is suggested. It will be easily accessible for maintenance and will have less impact on the environment.	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	This alternative has already been incorporated into the study and was evaluated within the Scoping Phase.
The sociological impact assessment must be done thoroughly especially if one considers the relocation process of Amplats.	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	Comment noted.
Is the new route alignment fixed?	Property owner of the farm Halbosrust Portion 1.	The alternatives provided are only proposed and the final route alignment must still be finalised, in conjunction with the public and property owners. The findings from the EIA would also assist in identifying the most feasible route alignment.
The Lephale Farmers Union is of the opinion that the new transmission line should be erected next to the existing 400 kV line as it would have the least negative impact on the ecology and the aesthetic environment.	Chairperson of the Lephale Farmers Union	The EIA will assess the potential environmental impacts associated within this option.
The route through the neck was problematic as there was not enough space for an additional line.	Chairperson of the Lephale Farmers Union	The EIA will assess the potential environmental impacts associated within this option.

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Is totally opposed to the erection of the transmission line along the existing 270 kV line. Access roads and gates are in place along the existing 400 kV line and the additional transmission line should therefore be constructed next to the existing 400 kV line.	Property owner of the farm Jacobsloop	Alternatives have to be investigated. The final route alignment must still be finalised, in conjunction with the public and property owners. The findings from the EIA would also assist in identifying the most feasible route alignment.
Which alternative is the preferred option from Eskom's viewpoint?	Property owner of the farm Bordeaux	The construction of the transmission line along the existing 400 kV line.
The 270 kV line at Tafelkop runs between the Marken-Lephalale Road and the mountain. There is no space for an additional line.	I&AP: Lephalale Public Meeting	Eskom is of the opinion that there is enough space and that specific towers could be used in narrow areas.
An alignment along the gravel and tarred roads must be investigated.	Property owner of the farm Weltevreden	Such an alternative has been proposed in specific areas.
No one in the rest of the study area want to accept the line, and therefore it is clear why the farmers in the Lephalale area also do not want to accept the line.	I&AP: Lephalale area	The Lephalale Farmers Union indicated that the most preferred route is along the existing 400 kV line. Farmer Unions in the other areas were also requested to come up with proposals in terms of the route alignment.
The property owner indicated that he already has three power lines on his farm.	Property owner of the farm Welgelegen	Eskom and the consultants understand this, but one should try to find a balance between the social and bio-physical aspects and propose the most feasible route with the least negative impacts.
Opposed to the construction of the 400 kV line along the existing 270 kV line, as the latter already crosses my farm. The farm has been developed for tourism.	Property owner of the farm Jacobsloop: Remainder	The EIA will assess the potential environmental impacts associated within this option.
The northern alternative is not acceptable, as the proposed power line would then cross my property. I already have a	Property owner of the Remainder of the farm Goedgedacht 461 LR	The EIA will assess the potential environmental impacts associated within this option.

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distribution line on my farm.		
The consultants should take the concerns of the farmers seriously and one should find the most feasible alternative by following the necessary and correct procedures.	Property owner of the farm Goedgedacht	Comment noted.
Not in favour of an additional line traversing their properties.	Property owner of the farm Hollandsdrift Portion 28; Property owner of the farm Hollandsdrift Portion 1; Property owner of the farm Eduard (Portion 19 and a portion of Portion 18 of the farm Hollandsdrift; Property owner of Mockford Farms.	Eskom would review the study area around the Witkop Substation and would widen the study area to investigate possible alternatives. The inputs of the landowners are needed in this regard
Is it possible to divert the powerline to Bakenberg, and if possible build a substation here?	Mr Nelson Masipa, Bakenberg Tribal Authority public meeting	This will depend on the need for electricity, and must be recommended by Eskom Distribution.
What are the possibilities of running the new powerline parallel to the existing line rather than disturbing a new area?	Mr PM Matlou, Bakenberg Tribal Authority public meeting	The EIA will assess the potential environmental impacts associated within this option.
Capacity of the Transmission line		
Can the existing line not handle the additional capacity needed?	I&APs: Lephallale Public Meeting & Polokwane Public Meeting	In future the existing line would not have enough capacity to accommodate the growing electricity needs and an additional 400 kV transmission line would be necessary.
As much as four lines can be put on a conductor. The existing line can, therefore, be upgraded and Eskom would not waste money and negatively impact on farms and animals by erecting another transmission line.	Property owner of the farm Zongesien Portion 1.	Eskom are required to supply electricity. In order to construct new lines, Eskom loan money which they then have to repay. Eskom would, therefore, not build a new line which was not necessary.

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<i>Power generation, transmission and distribution</i>		
Can additional electricity not be obtained from the Cabora Bassa scheme?	Chairperson of the Lephalale Farmers Union	Eskom's Planning Department determined the possibilities before they decided on the construction of this 400 kV Transmission line. This information would form part of the Scoping Study.
Mention has been made of alternative power sources e.g. wind. Will this be implemented?	Property owner of the farm Hollandsdrift: Portion 1.	Numerous power generation methods are still being investigated and were not yet implemented.
There is a new smelter planned in the Mogolakwena area. How will Eskom deal with this?	DEAT: Limpopo Province	Electricity to the smelter will partially be supplied from the existing 400 kV line and the 132 kV lines from Witkop. There is a possibility of a 400 kV to supply the smelter with electricity, but Eskom will not start such a process unless the consumer signed a guarantee that they will be using that.
Was the huge number of power stations that were previously built still in use?	Property owner of the farm Hollandsdrift: Portion 1.	Some of those power stations, which became uneconomical, are not in use, because the latest power stations are more economical to operate and have cleaner emissions. In some cases the emissions from the old power stations became problematic and they were decommissioned. The Matimba power station is quite new and has highly specialised technology.
What was the need for the additional 400 kV line.	Property owner of the farm Eduard (Portion 19 and a portion of Portion 18 of the farm Hollandsdrift; DEAT: Limpopo Province.	The peak electricity load required in the greater Polokwane area is expected to increase significantly within the next year due to the emergence of new mines in the area. The temporary loss of power transmission through one

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		<p>of the existing 400 kV Transmission lines supplying Witkop Substation due to failure, or the line being temporarily being taken out of service for maintenance, will result in power-outages as one 400 kV Transmission line cannot supply the required load alone. Therefore, in order to reinforce the local Transmission Network's reliability (by ensuring a back-up supply to the area), maintain quality of supply to customers supplied from Witkop Substation, as well as meet the escalating electricity demands in the greater Polokwane area, Eskom Transmission propose the establishment of a second 400 kV Transmission line between the Matimba and Witkop Substations</p>
Related infrastructure		
<p>Will the proposed project interfere with the proposed housing development?</p>	<p>Mr Philemon Tala, Bakenberg Tribal Authority public meeting</p>	<p>This will depend on the final alignment selected. If there are houses to be built along the proposed line, these will be affected. A land use study will be undertaken as part of the EIA in order to minimise such potential impacts.</p>
<p>What would be done with other existing infrastructure along the route alignment?</p>	<p>I&AP: Stakeholder workshop of 5 March 2002</p>	<p>The other major government departments are informed of the proposed development through the South African Right of Way Association (SARWA) to obtain their inputs. Once the preferred corridor or final alignment has been finalised, planning in terms of e.g. crossing or</p>

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		roads, pipelines etc. will be undertaken in conjunction with these departments and to get their permission to cross their infrastructure. It was a standard procedure followed by Eskom.
Management and maintenance		
Eskom employees enter his property at will, through his private gate and not the gate installed by Eskom. They have cut the chain and padlock and put another lock on the gate.	Property owner of Bergsig Game Lodge	Comment noted.
There has recently been an increase in the number of snares in the front area of the farm where the power line is, resulting in the deaths of Zebra, Eland and Gemsbuck.	Property owner of Bergsig Game Lodge	Comment noted.
Object to Eskom employees entering my property unannounced and through the gates which do not belong to them.	Property owner of Bergsig Game Lodge	Comment noted.
The servitude underneath the existing 270 kV line on my property is overgrown. The soil has been disturbed and problem plants invaded the entire area. This has negatively affected the property value.	Property owner of the farm Bordeaux	Comment noted
Previously, promises were made regarding the maintenance of the servitudes, but those promises did not materialise. The servitude has since been overgrown.	Property owner of the farm Portlock	Comment noted.
Maintenance of the servitudes has only recently been resumed. It is of concern to the farmers that promises are made, but which are not implemented.	Chairperson of the Lephhalale Farmers Union	Comment noted.

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Eskom's principles in terms of the management and construction activities sounded good in theory, but are not practically implemented.	Property owner of the farm Alkantrant LR 531 (Herberg Boerdery)	Comment noted
Land use and future developments		
Planning township development on our property and the proposed line might affect this.	Property owner of Portion 13 of the farm Marken	A land use study will be undertaken within the EIA in order to assess potential impacts on land use and future developments as a result of the proposed project.
We are in the process of establishing a nature conservation area by removing boundary fences on the farms Diepspruit, Rietvlei, Groblaarshoek and Goedgedacht.	Property owner of the farm Goedgedacht 461 LR, Marken Farmers Union and TAU	A land use study will be undertaken within the EIA in order to assess potential impacts on land use and future developments as a result of the proposed project.
Together with our neighbours, we are planning to develop an eco-tourism area by consolidating the different farms.	Property owner of the Remainder of the farm Goedgedacht 461 LR	A land use study will be undertaken within the EIA in order to assess potential impacts on land use and future developments as a result of the proposed project.
The Masebe Nature Reserve and so called Moepel Wilderness area has been zoned as an important eco-tourism development due to its international status under the MaB Programme of UNESCO. South Africa, as a signatory to the programme, has certain obligations.	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	Comment noted
The Masebe Nature Reserve and the Moepel Wilderness areas, consisting of private nature reserves and some communal land, have been zoned as buffer zones to protect the core areas in the Waterberg Biosphere Reserve that puts certain obligations upon the provincial and national	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	Comment noted

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government departments.		
Developments that might impact on the core areas may not be developed within the buffer zones. Sensitive planning must, therefore, be kept in mind at all times.	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	Comment noted
Within the provincial economic strategy of the province and the IDP programme of the Mokgalakwena Municipality, the Moepel area linked with the Waterberg has been zoned as an important Tourism destination.	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	A land use study will be undertaken within the EIA in order to assess potential impacts on land use and future developments as a result of the proposed project.
The spatial configuration of the area indicates that the mountain area (Masebe and Moepel) forms a vital link with an existing tourism and game farming industry on the eastern side, as well as the cultural potential of Bakenberg.	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	Comment noted.
The importance of the Moepel farms as a water catchment area cannot be underestimated. The lack of water in rural areas is evident. Correct land use management is of utmost importance. Any development within the area needs to be evaluated according to this aspect.	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	A land use study will be undertaken within the EIA in order to assess potential impacts on land use and future developments as a result of the proposed project.
The 32 kV power line development of Anglo Plats must be integrated in this development. One must be able to evaluate the total impact of all power lines in the area. The spatial picture and impact must also be looked at. It is therefore imperative that the two power line developments must not be seen as two separate developments but as one development impact.	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	Comment noted.
It is proposed that a representative of Amplats be on the task team concerned with the proposed power line development, as the impact of the mine's relocation process	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	Comment noted.

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<p>in future has a direct influence on the future power supply to the area. One cannot evaluate the Matimba-Witkop power line project without taking the future plans and proposed development (10 years) into account.</p>		
<p>Eskom is involved in the Matimba-Witkop power line project and Amplats development. One should expect that they could provide a schematic outline and drawings of the two developments in the Bakenberg area.</p>	<p>Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>
<p>Was it correctly understood that the planned mining development at Overysseel will be undertaken near Mogolakwa and not the Overysseel settlement near Marken?</p>	<p>Property owner of the farm Alkantrant (Herberg Boerdery)</p>	<p>It was correctly understood. The proposed activity is planned near Mogolakwa.</p>
<p>The future mine developments and other future plans for the area should be taken into account to avoid unnecessary or several relocations of communities. If there will be mine development in the area additional power lines will have to be constructed for their needs. Care should be taken not to overdevelop that area</p>	<p>Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>
<p>The Waterberg Biosphere was a joint initiative between the National, Provincial, Local Government and private landowners. They did not want to exclude development, but the way in which development was undertaken was important to them. Even if the Biosphere was not a proclaimed area it would have some value that had to be conserved. The main hot spot is the mountainous area where water management was critical. The area was also earmarked and prioritised for tourism activities focusing on</p>	<p>Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>

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eco-tourism and the involvement of the local communities. These communities would therefore benefit from this initiative		
<i>Financial and economic impacts</i>		
An additional transmission line will result in the devaluation of the property values.	Property owner of the farm Goedgedacht 461 LR, Marken Farmers Union and TAU	Comment noted.
The farm is relatively small and the proposed line traversing the centre of my property would result in the devaluation of the property (it would be "worthless").	Property owner of the Remainder of the farm Goedgedacht 461 LR	Comment noted.
The property values in the Bushveld area are not only determined by the productive capacity of stock farming but also by the potential for eco-tourism. A power line therefore not only affects the servitude area, but the entire property value.	Property owner of the Remainder of the farm Goedgedacht 461 LR	Comment noted.
The compensation for the servitude is not in keeping with the inflation rate. Eskom should therefore rather provide a certain amount of electricity free of charge to the farmers.	Chairperson of Lephalale Farmers Union	Comment noted.
Eskom should discard the farmers' electricity levy as proof that they appreciate the farmers' sacrifices.	Property owner of the farm Zongesien Portion 1.	Comment noted.
The property owner indicated that he understood the need for an additional power line, but the devaluation of the property as a result of an additional power line would definitely not only comprise the value of the servitude area.	Property owner of the Remainder of the farm Goedgedacht 461 LR	Comment noted.
Eskom must investigate the possibility of discounts on the monthly electricity fee, as the farmers wanted an everlasting compensation to make it worthwhile to have a power line on the property.	Property owner of the farm Portlock	Comment noted.

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<p>The property values of the farms, with an existing line, can be calculated by subtracting 10% of the total value of the farm in the case of cattle farming and 20% in the case of game farming. The property values of the farms with an existing line have already been negatively impacted. It is therefore better not to affect farms that do not have existing lines.</p>	<p>Chairperson of the Lephalale Farmers Union</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>
<p>Was a transmission line recently built in the area and has Eskom taken the issue of the total depreciation of the farm into account or were compensation calculated in terms of the servitude area?</p>	<p>Property owner of the farm Alkantrant (Herberg Boerdery)</p>	<p>The Arnot-Maputo line was the last transmission line that was built and was completed approximately one year ago.</p>
<p>The economic potential of the Moepel area as a community owned eco-tourism destination is currently underway in partnership with the Dept. of Agriculture and the Dept. of Finance, Economic Affairs, Tourism and Environment.</p>	<p>Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>
<p>The farm has been developed as a nature resort and is used for conferences and training sessions. There is already an existing power line on the property and a second line would have a negative impact on the business activities.</p>	<p>Property owner of the farm Halbosrust Portion 1.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>
<p>The development of tourism in the Moepel Farms area would be a unique project where local communities could be linked with an existing market created by private landowners. The adjacent communities would therefore benefit by becoming direct shareholders in the stated economic (tourism/game farm) industry.</p>	<p>Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>

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<p>What was the process to be followed in the event that a property owner refused that the line crosses his/her property.</p>	<p>Property owner of the farm Halbosrust Portion 1. Property owner of the farm Eduard (Portion 19 and a portion of Portion 18 of the farm Hollandsdrift)</p>	<p>If the farm becomes uneconomical (i.e. the power lines take up between 30% to 40% of the farm) as a result of the power lines, Eskom would buy the property. If one individual refuses that the line crosses his/her property, then Eskom could go through a drawn out expropriation process. Eskom would need the permission of the National Electricity Regulator (NER) to expropriate a certain property. The NER would require evidence from Eskom that an alternative route cannot be followed. The property owner would also have to provide reasons for refusing the line to cross the property. If the NER decided that an alternative route would not be viable, they would allow Eskom to undergo an expropriation process by means of a court application. Eskom, however, do not like to go this route, and only uses it as the last resort.</p>
<p>Absolute assurances should be given that a second power line would not have a negative impact on the business activities and loss of income.</p>	<p>Property owner of the farm Halbosrust Portion 1.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>
<p>Within the Biosphere agreement, the committee assists not only in important education and training programmes, but also in project planning. The department as an important stakeholder in the biosphere reserve first responsibility is therefore to develop the Moepel farms area in a tourism</p>	<p>Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>

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product that will directly be owned by the adjacent communities.		
Compensation of not less than 25% of the market value of the farm should be the resolving factor.	Property owner of the farm Halbosrust Portion 1.	Comment noted.
The farmers are paying high amounts for their electricity. They now have to part with property so that other people (Johannesburg) can get inexpensive electricity.	Property owner of the farm Zongesien Portion 1.	The existing line and proposed transmission line do not provide electricity to Johannesburg, but to the greater Polokwane area.
The construction of a transmission line was a costly exercise, especially through mountainous terrain. It would therefore be cheaper to build another substation.	I&AP: Lephalale Public Meeting	It was not an option that was considered, as it would not be less expensive.
They understood the need and necessity for an additional transmission line but those property owners that will be negatively impacted by the proposed power line must be properly compensated.	I&APs at the Marken Public Meeting	Comment noted.
The servitude underneath the existing 270 kV line on his property is overgrown. The soil has been disturbed and problem plants invaded the entire area. This has negatively affected the property value.	Property owner of the farm Bordeaux	Legal advisors in Eskom indicated that if the farmers have any problems with Eskom and if it is costing the farmers money, they should submit a claim to the legal department and allocate a Rand value to that claim. If their suffering is as a result of Eskom's doing or wrongdoing, these claims had to be attended to.
They submitted claims to Eskom, but had not received any reply.	Manager of Zingela Game Reserve	Ms. C. Streaton of Eskom to be contacted to attend to this matter.
Submitted three claims to Eskom, but had no response.	Property owner of the farm Welgelegen.	Ms. C. Streaton of Eskom and Eskom's lawyers to be contacted to attend to this matter.
Power lines have a very negative impact on the property values.	Estate Agent in Lephalale area	Comment noted.

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response
How will compensation be determined?	I&AP: Lephalale Public Meeting	Eskom uses local independent valuers to determine the value of the property. This valuator had to take the potential of the property into account. If the property owners were not satisfied with the evaluation, they could obtain the input of another certified valuator. If there was a huge discrepancy between the figures the valuers had to jointly determine the correct amount
Does Eskom pay for the servitude?	I&AP: Polokwane Public Meeting	Eskom pays 100% of the land value.
How will the local communities benefit from the proposed project?	Traditional leader of Dikgale Tribal Authority	Power lines brought economic development to a region and the local communities are therefore indirectly benefiting from this development. The local communities will not be able to directly get power from these transmission lines. The job opportunities resulting from the construction of power lines are very limited, as it required highly skilled people. There will be limited opportunities for manual labour where the local contractor can make use of locals to assist with bush clearing, installation of gates etc. If houses had to be relocated in an area under the jurisdiction of the Tribal Authority, they will be compensated.

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response
<i>Impact on housing facilities and possible relocation</i>		
The existing 270 kV line passes near his house. Will a new line therefore be even nearer to his property?	Property owner of the farm Bordeaux	Eskom aims not to construct power lines near any built up area or near houses.
What was the minimum distance allowed between housing facilities and the power line?	I&AP: Polokwane Public Meeting	Eskom could erect a power line through a town, but the biggest impacts could be anticipated through a built up area. They, therefore, usually tried to avoid these areas, as it was an expensive option if they had to buy out the affected properties. People would not be allowed to reside in the servitude area of 55 meters.
There are a lot of developments taking place in the Mogalakwena area and the Scoping Report mentioned that communities might have to be relocated. The future mine developments and other future plans for the area should be taken into account to avoid unnecessary or several relocations of communities	Department of Finance, Economic Affairs and Tourism: Limpopo Province.	Comment noted.
<i>Health impacts</i>		
The impact of Aids should be taken into account as there would not be enough consumers in future.	Property owner of the farm Portlock	The household consumers form a small part of the total consumers.
What impacts had the power line on people's health?	I&AP: Polokwane Public Meeting	There are magnetic fields associated with power lines and there is therefore the servitude area of 55 meters. There is no convincing medical evidence yet that people and animals are negatively affected.

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response
<i>Safety and security</i>		
Safety is a concern of the farmers as stock and game theft have already taken place.	Chairperson of the Lephhalale Farmers Union	Comment noted.
Veld fires are of concern to the farmers as veld fires have occurred in the past.	Chairperson of the Lephhalale Farmers Union	Comment noted.
<i>Timeframes</i>		
When will the construction phase begin?	Property owner of the farm Murchison	It is expected that construction start during 2003, but there were numerous factors that could impact on the timeframes.
How long would the construction process be?	Property owner of the farm Hollandsdrift Portion 1	The constructing process would be approximately two years.
When will the project start if authorised?	Mr Philemon Tala, Bakenberg Tribal Authority public meeting	The proposed construction is planned to commence in 2004.
<i>Public participation and communication</i>		
Eskom should inform the Distribution Division and the relevant persons at the Matimba Substation of meetings to be held in the areas.	Property owner of the farm Zongesien Portion 1	Comment noted.
Eskom rented their property next to the Matimba Substation to farmers. These farmers should be notified of Eskom's intention to construct another transmission line.	Property owner of the farm Zongesien Portion 1	Comment noted.
The consultants should have another meeting with the overarching TAU to avoid conflicting interests between the various areas.	Chairperson of the Lephhalale Farmers Union	Comment noted.
Were the owners of the farm Keta contacted?	Property owner of the farm Kirstenbosch	A deed search was undertaken to identify all the property owners along the existing line and the alternatives to inform them about the project and

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response
		process.
The issue of the total depreciation of the farm vs. compensation calculated in terms of the servitude area should be discussed at the next meeting.	Property owner of the farm Alkantrant (Herberg Boerdery)	Comment noted.
The consultants should visit the various farms to identify the problems experienced at ground level.	I&AP: Polokwane Public Meeting	Comment noted.
Did the consultants contact each property owner along the existing line in his/her personal capacity? He indicated that he only received a fax when he came back from an overseas visit. If he did not receive that he would not have known about the process	Manager of Rhinoland Safaris (Pty) Ltd	The consultants tried to identify all the property owners along the line through a deed search. It was, however, difficult to get hold of all the landowners as they change, properties are sold and divided. The records at the deeds office are sometimes quite old and they do not have all the recent information. The consultants also contacted the Farmers Associations in the area, namely the TAU and Agri-North
Once the final route has been identified it would be too late for landowners to make comments and give inputs to the process	Manager of Rhinoland Safaris (Pty) Ltd	Comment noted.
Will property owners be visited when the route has been finalised?	I&AP: Polokwane Public Meeting	Negotiations will be undertaken with all the affected property owners once the final route alignment has been determined.
The public participation process had to be defensible and should be conducted as per the requirements stipulated in the EIA regulations. It might be that I&APs were not personally contacted, but therefore the process is advertised in the media. It is also the responsibility of the public to be aware of developments in their area and to	DEAT	Comment noted.

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response
<p>become involved in the process. If they know of anyone that would be affected by the proposed development they should inform those people about it. The I&APs should also respond adequately so that their issues, comments and concerns can be addressed in the final report</p>		
<p>Were issues raised regarding possible alternative alignments during the public participation meetings that were held?</p>	<p>DEAT</p>	<p>Members of the Waterberg Biosphere and Waterberg Nature Conservancy during focus group meetings held with them. They suggested an alignment that bypasses the Biosphere area which was incorporated into the studies. The Lephalale Farmers Union indicated that the route should following the existing 400 kV power line.</p>
<p>How are the mines involved?</p>	<p>I&AP: Stakeholder workshop of 5 March 2002</p>	<p>Information is distributed to the Department of Minerals and Energy as the holder of the mineral rights, so that they can indicate any future mining activities. The owners of existing infrastructure are also contacted e.g. private mines. More detailed consultation with these I&APs are undertaken once the final alignment has been approved. During the studies the specialists obtain a great deal of local information from the various communities and therefore most of the issues are addressed in the EIA</p>
<p>We have a 14 000 ha area with numerous animal species (e.g. elephant, black rhino etc.) and have not been contacted to give our inputs in terms of the anticipated impacts on their properties</p>	<p>Manager of Rhinoland Safaris (Pty) Ltd.</p>	<p>Documentation was sent to them, but the consultation process will continue and there was still ample opportunity to give inputs to the process. The landowners located in the study</p>

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response
		corridors will be consulted during the detailed EIA phase. If there were specific aspects that the consultants should look at on the specific property they were welcome to indicate the need to Bohlweki Environmental and the necessary visitation arrangements can then be made.
How were the rural communities involved in the process?	Traditional leader of Dikgale Tribal Authority	The consultants had a meeting with the traditional leaders (kgosis) and the structures serving under them (indunas, electrical committees etc.) in the Bakenberg and Polokwane areas. Chief Dikgale was consulted regarding the public meetings scheduled in the areas. He indicated that the traditional leaders or representatives in the Polokwane area will attend the public meeting in Polokwane but unfortunately they failed to attend. A public meeting was also held in the Bakenberg area.
General		
If an additional line is erected along the existing line the impacts would be doubled.	Property owner of the farm Eduard (Portion 19 and a portion of Portion 18 of the farm Hollandsdrift)	Comment noted.
What are the negative impacts that will be investigated?	Property owner of the farm Hollandsdrift Portion 1	Positive and negative impacts anticipated during the construction (e.g. impact on the soil) and operational phase (e.g. impact on the birds) will be investigated. One would aim to minimise the negative impacts by recommending mitigation measures.

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response
Was there any area of controversy that the Department should be aware of e.g. landowners that did not want the line on their properties and whether they provided specific reasons?	DEAT	Initially almost all the property owners indicated that they did not want the power line on their property. Most of these indicated throughout the process that they understand the need for the line, but that they should be consulted to find the best route alignment. In the Lephalale area, the Lephalale Farmers Union already provided some suggestions on the alignment.
Concern with regard to the poor electricity supply in the area.	Attendees at the Bakenberg Tribal Authority public meeting.	This issue has been forwarded to Eskom Distribution through the local committee (Mr Phala).

The following table provides a summary of issues and concerns raised by the Tribal Authorities consulted during the environmental studies.

Table 3: Summary of issues and concerns raised by the Tribal Authorities consulted during the environmental studies undertaken in 2002

Date	Area	Issues Raised
13 December 2001	Western Region at Bakenberg Tribal Authority	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why are there cut-offs without warning? 2. Will the community receive electricity from this power line? 3. Will the affected land owners be compensated by Eskom?
14 December 2001	Central Region at Polokwane Tribal Authority	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will the community receive electricity from this power line? 2. Will the communities around the affected areas be empowered by the project? 3. Will the affected land owners be compensated by Eskom? 4. What will happen to people who have properties on the proposed servitude? 5. Will the Chiefs be subsidised with the usage of electricity?

Date	Area	Issues Raised
01 March 2002	Western Region Public Meeting at Bakenberg Tribal Authority	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How possible can it be to build a substation to eliminate weak power supply; i.e. diverting this 400kV towards Bakenberg? 2. Will this proposed project not interfere with the proposed housing developments around the area? 3. Why do some areas around Bakenberg experience cut-offs whereas some have stronger current which does not experience the same problem?
02 May 2002	Ga-Mashashane Tribal Authority	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will this Proposed project not interfere with the current supply of electricity? 2. Will the landowners be compensated for their land? 3. Will this line not disturb the farming in the area? 4. The local community farms on cattle and maize
<p>From the above meetings, nothing negative has been said about the project. It is well requested that where possible, the line should be parallel to the existing one.</p> <p>The communities have welcomed this project and feel it will be a boost to their power shortages. Concerning job creation, after looking at the slides from the projector and from Mr Vuso's explanation, the Tribal Authorities have not commented.</p>		

Issues and concerns raised by landowners within the study area during the EIA Phase were summarised and forwarded to the relevant person for confirmation by mail, fax, or e-mail. These confirmation letters are included within this Appendix.

The following table provides a summary of the comments, concerns, issues and suggestions noted during the Environmental Impact Assessment undertaken in 2003-2004.

Table 4: Comments, concerns, issues and suggestions noted during the public participation process followed for the Environmental Impact Assessment undertaken for the proposed Matimba-Witkop No 2 400 kV Transmission line in 2003-2004

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response
No objection to alignment along the road reserve. Requested Eskom to contact their attorney to provide detailed information regarding the proposed alignment	Andrew Stubbs, Ellington Ranch: Manager	Comment noted.
No objection to the proposed alignment to the south of the Lephale-Marken road, provided that their residence is not impacted on.	Mrs van der Mark, Owner – Marseilles 496 LQ	Comment noted. The proposed alignment will not impact on the residence on this property.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed that the Transmission line be constructed parallel to the 275 kV distribution line. Should alignment be moved as suggested, then close proximity of homestead to powerline must be taken into consideration. • Questioned whether there was sufficient space for the Transmission line between Tafelkop and the Lephale-Marken road. • Should property be affected by the proposed route alignment, then compensation needs to be addressed. 	Willem Heystek, Owner – Good Hope 492 LQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The construction of the Transmission line parallel to the 275 kV distribution line was considered in the EIA. • Sufficient space does exist between Tafelkop and the Lephale-Marken road for the construction of the proposed Transmission line.
No objection to the proposed Transmission line alignment.	Koos de Wet, Owner – New York 490 LQ	Comment noted.

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response
Requested Eskom to contact him in order to discuss the proposed alignment. He has recently treated the proposed servitude area with herbicide (Molopo tree poison) and would require compensation from Eskom in this regard.	Johan van der Merwe, Owner – Portlock 489 LQ	Comment noted.
Requested that the invitation to the Open Day be faxed.	Mrs Gerardine Schoeman, Katberg 481 LR	Comment noted. Invitation faxed to Mrs Schoeman, as requested.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No objections regarding route alignment. • Requested Eskom to visit to discuss new contract. 	Tommy Westerman, Owner – Katberg 481 LR	Comment noted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Object to route alignment should it traverses directly along the farm boundaries of the farms Durban & Wynberg. The proposed line must not impact on the Farm Wynberg. • No objection to the construction of the new line parallel to the existing Matimba-Witkop Transmission line. • Bohlweki Environmental must ensure that a vegetation specialist visit his farm in order to evaluate the vegetation/trees which may be impacted on by the proposed line and to determine compensation for those affected. • The height of the existing powerline is too low. • Indicated that he represents all the farmers in the area up to Polokwane and should be consulted regarding any further public participation meetings which are planned for this project. • The public meeting should have been held in 	Mr Lewies, Owner – Durban 522 LR & Wynberg 521 LR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Lewies was informed by Ernest Grunewald (Eskom) during a site visit that the alignment would move away from the farm Wynberg boundaries, directly to the main entrance of that of Mr Phillip Bronkhorst (communal entrance). • A vegetation specialist visited the farm, and has included recommendations regarding the concerns raised in the EIA Report. • As suggested, the EIA Report will be placed in the Lephhalale Co-Op and not in the library.

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Interim Response
Lephhalale and not in Marken. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft EIA Report should be made available for review at the Lephhalale Co-Op and not at the library as indicated in the letter to I&APs, as more people visit the Co-Op than the library. 		
No comments	Mr Marius Kotze, Rhinoland Safaris: Manager	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed alignment is acceptable. • Has accommodation available for main Contractors. • In the process of purchasing the farm Roberston from Stefan Heystek. 	Mr Phillip Bronkhorst, Owner – Safari Lands	Comments noted.
No objection to the proposed alignment on Rhinoland.	Mr Koos Viljoen, Owner – Over Yssel 512 LR	Comment noted.
No objections.	Mr Kobus Henning, Owner - Over Yssel 512 LR	Comment noted.
The route will not have any visual impact on his property. No further comments.	Mr Tinus Smit, Owner – Morgenzon 491 LR	Comment noted.
No comments.	Mr Chris Moller, Owner – Johannisberg 509 LR	Comment noted.
No objections to the proposed alignment of the line on Rhinoland.	Mr Frik de Villiers, Owner - Groenfontein 494 LR	Comment noted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the process of negotiating a land claim in the vicinity of Zingela Lodge. • May want to have a meeting on site in order to determine the exact powerline alignment. 	Lesetja Selepe, Land Claims Commission	Comment noted.

Issues and concerns raised by landowners during the EIA Phase were recorded on comments sheets. These comments sheets are included within this Appendix.