



# water affairs

Department:  
Water Affairs  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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**OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL HEAD: GAUTENG**

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For attention: Ms. Pamela Mabece

## **ESKOM GROOTVLEI POWER STATION PROPOSED PHOTO-VOLTAIC PLANT POWERLINE AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE**

The abovementioned subject, pre-consultation meeting on 15 April 2013 and your e-mail correspondences dated 15 May 2013 and 28 May 2013 refer.

According to the information discussed at the meeting please be advised that the determination of a corridor must include a proper delineation of the watercourses as defined in the NWA. In other words, all wetlands must be delineated, all 1 in 100 year flood lines and riparian habitat must be determined if it is a river. This must be indicated on a map with the determined "Present Ecological State" (PES) and "Ecological Importance and Sensitivity" (EIS) scores. All infrastructures associated with the proposed power line and or PV array etc must be indicated in relation to the identified watercourses to enable the assessment of impacts and determination of mitigation measures according to the mitigation hierarchy. Post facto placement of pylon positions may render impact assessment and proposed mitigation worthless resulting in a new Water Use License Application (WULA) as an amendment cannot be done for activities/locations that have not been assessed. Pylon coordinates are a requirement for the issuing of the Water Use License (WUL).

Pylon positions will remain problematic as this will have to be available to determine the aspects and impacts on the relevant watercourse/wetland. The information required for example for a Basic Assessment Report BAR is not sufficient for a WULA as there are a lot of extra information required from a water resource perspective.

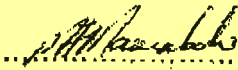
NEMA and WULA processes must run parallel as far as possible to ensure public participation includes all the additional WULA information requirements.

The Ashdam must be officially decommissioned before Eskom will be allowed to develop a Photo-Voltaic (PV) array on the Ashdam. Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) also confirmed that Eskom needs to apply for a Waste Management License in terms of NEM: WA for the decommissioning of the site. According to the NWA in terms of Section 19 Eskom will also need to provide proof that there is now no pollution from the existing Ashdam before they can start a new activity (water use) on and old activity (water use).

The proposed activity also need to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) (Act 107 of 1998) as amended 2010. Please be advised that you need to contact Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA).

Should you have any further queries, please contact the relevant official at the above number.

Yours faithfully

  
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PP REGIONAL HEAD: GAUTENG

DATE: 05/06/2013

CC: Mr. Nicus Durieux (EIMS) Fax: 011787-3059/086 571 9047