

# ESKOM LETHABONG PROJECT

## Environmental Management Plan

### I. OBJECTIVES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

The compilation of this Environmental Management Plan (EMP) forms part of the requirements of the EIA Regulations 2010 and compliance with the contents of this report is required during the construction and operational phases of the project. The EMP serves as an environmental management tool by providing a generic structured plan of mitigatory measures, which serves as a guide to assist in minimising the potential environmental impact of the activity that may arise during the construction and operational phases.

The EMP provides a set of guidelines for the environmental management of all works to be executed by the Engineer and Contractor, so as to have a minimum impact on the environment in accordance with all relevant legislation, policies and standards.

In this context it should be viewed as a dynamic or 'living' document, which may require updating, or revision during the life-cycle of the project to address new circumstances as the need arises. It is essentially a written plan of how the environment is to be managed in practical and achievable terms.

The effectiveness of the EMP is limited by the level of adherence to the conditions set forth in this report by the Developer and the Contractor. It is further assumed that compliance with the EMP will be monitored on a regular basis as set out in the EMP and contractual clauses.

The EMP forms part of the Contract Documentation and is thus a legally binding document. An individual responsible for environmental damage must pay costs both to environment and human health and the preventative measures to reduce or prevent additional pollution and/or environmental damage from occurring (the Polluter Pays Principle).

Further to the above, the following objectives apply:

- To state the standards and guidelines which Eskom will be required to adhere to in terms of environmental legislation;
- To set out the mitigation measures and environmental specifications which Eskom will be required to implement for the construction phase of the project in order to minimise the extent of environmental impacts, and where possible to improve the condition of the environment;
- To provide guidance regarding the method statements which Eskom will be required to compile and implement to achieve the environmental specification;
- To define corrective actions which Eskom must take in the event of non-compliance with the specifications of this EMP;
- To mitigate potential negative impact associated with the project and ensure optimising of positive impact;
- To prevent long-term or permanent environmental degradation;
- To ensure that the applicant, construction workers and the operational and maintenance staff are well acquainted with their responsibilities in terms of the environment;
- To ensure that communication channels to report on environment related issues are in place.

## II. DETAILS OF THE PERSON WHO PREPARED THE EMP

This Environmental Management Plan was prepared by Landscape Dynamics cc, an environmental consultancy firm established in May 1997. Their core business involves the execution of Environmental Impact Assessments that include the compilation of Environmental Management Plans for all of these projects. The team members responsible for this project and the compilation of the EMP are Annelize Grobler (012 4606043 / 082 566 4530 / agrobler@landscapedynamics.co.za), a qualified landscape architect specialising in the field of environmental impact assessments, and Susanna Nel (021 855 0912 / 082 888 4060 / susanna@landscapedynamics.co.za).

## III. DETAILS OF THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY

The applicant is Eskom Holdings SOC Limited, Eskom Distribution – North West Operating Unit: Land Development. The contact person is Ms Oarabile Mabula at the Eskom offices in Rustenburg (Tel 014 565 1169 / Fax 086 269 8088/ MabulaON@eskom.co.za).

The **Eskom Lethabong Project** will entail the following:

- The construction of the proposed Lethabong 88kV / 22kV Substation consisting of:
  - 2 X 20MVA transformers; 4 X 22kV feeder bays; and 2 X 88kV feeder bays;
- An approximate 16km 88kV chickadee power line to be constructed from the Dam Switching Substation to the proposed Lethabong Substation; and
- Short access roads will be required in order to access the substation, as well as to construct and maintain the power lines in future.

The study area is located northwest of Brits, southeast of the Vaalkop Dam in the Beestekraal area and falls in the jurisdiction of both the Madibeng and Rustenburg Local Municipalities (Bojanala District Municipality), North West Province.

## IV LEGAL REQUIREMENT

The applicable legislation in terms of the environment refers to procedures prescribed by the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010, made under Section 24 (5) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No 107 of 1998) (NEMA). Of particular importance is Section 28 (1) of NEMA which places an obligation on all individuals to take due care of the environment and to ensure remedial action is instituted to minimise and mitigate environmental impact.

The relevant applicable activities for which environmental authorisation had been applied for are:

Listed activity as described in GN R.544, 545 and 546	Description of project activity
<p><b>GN 544, June 2010, Number 10</b>            The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity  <b>(i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts;</b>  <b>(ii) or inside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of 275 kilovolts or more.</b></p>	<p>An approximate 16km 88kV powerline will be constructed outside an urban area.</p>

<p><b>GN 544, June 2010, Number 23</b> The transformation of undeveloped, vacant or derelict land to</p> <p>(i) residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use, inside an urban area, and where the total area to be transformed is 5 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares, or</p> <p><b>(ii) residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use, outside an urban area and where the total area to be transformed is bigger than 1 hectare but less than 20 hectares;</b> except where such transformation takes place for linear activities</p>	<p>The proposed Lethabong substation will be constructed on land of approximately 200m x 200m (4 hectares)</p>
<p><b>GN 546, June 2010, Number 4</b> The construction of a road wider than 4m with a reserve less than 13.5m:</p> <p>In North West:</p> <p>i. Outside urban areas, in:</p> <p>(aa) A protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA, excluding conservancies;</p> <p>(bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas;</p> <p><b>(cc) Sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority;</b></p> <p>(dd) Sites or areas identified in terms of an International Convention;</p> <p><b>(ee) Critical biodiversity areas (Terrestrial Type 1 and 2 and Aquatic Type 1) as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;</b></p> <p>(ff) Core areas in biosphere reserves;</p> <p><b>(gg) Areas within 10 kilometres from national parks or world heritage sites or 5 kilometres from any other protected area identified in terms of NEMPAA or from a biosphere reserve.</b></p> <p>ii. In urban areas:</p> <p>(aa) Areas zoned for use as public open space;</p> <p>(bb) Areas designated for conservation use in Spatial Development Frameworks adopted by the competent authority or zoned for a conservation purpose;</p> <p>(cc) Natural heritage sites.</p>	<p>Roads wider than 4m will be constructed from the substation to where the line runs adjacent to an existing gravel road (servitude of Magalies Water):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposed Lethabong Substation as well as powerline route falls within an identified Terrestrial CBA2 as identified by SANBI (map attached in Appendix A).</li> <li>• The substation is also in very close proximity to a Formal Protected Area as identified by SANBI (map attached in Appendix A) and the line runs directly adjacent to the Vaalkop Nature Reserve which is managed by the North West Parks &amp; Tourism Board.</li> </ul>
<p><b>GN 546, June 2010, Number 12</b> The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004;</li> <li>• <b>Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans;</b></li> <li>• Within the littoral active zone or 100 metres inland from high water mark of the sea or an estuary, whichever distance is the greater, excluding where such removal will occur behind the development setback line on erven in urban areas.</li> </ul>	<p>The proposed project falls within an identified Terrestrial CBA2 as identified by SANBI. Vegetation clearance is required for the substation and small areas will be cleared for the pylons.</p>

Application for environmental authorisation had been lodged with the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA).

## V. DETAILS OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF EMP

The following undertaking must be filled out and signed by the applicant and forwarded to DEA prior to commencement of construction:

### AGREEMENT & UNDERTAKING OF THE APPLICANT

I hereby confirm and state that I am aware of the contents of the Environmental Management Plan and the conditions of the Environmental Management Plan and shall comply with all legislation pertaining to the nature of the work to be done and all things accidental thereto.

Signed on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### AGREEMENT & UNDERTAKING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL OFFICER

The following details of the Environmental Control Officer must be filled out, signed and forwarded to the Department of Environmental Affairs prior to construction:

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## V. PROPOSED MECHANISM FOR COMPLIANCE

Key impacts generally associated with Eskom construction activities which are applicable to this project are:

- Impact on natural habitat
- Impact on birds
- Impact on cultural heritage resources
- Risk of groundwater pollution
- Risk of erosion
- Community Impact

Specifications and conditions are hereby provided to limit and/or prevent impact on these components during all the phases of project development, namely

- Specifications applicable throughout all Phases of Project Development
- Design & Pre-construction Phase
- Construction Phase
- Post-construction & Operational Phase

**ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**SPECIFICATIONS APPLICABLE THROUGHOUT ALL PHASES OF PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

The National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) is the designated authority responsible for authorising this EMP. DEA has overall responsibility for ensuring that the Applicant complies with the conditions of Environmental Authorisation and the EMP.

DEA shall also be responsible for approving any amendments to the EMP (if required). DEA may also perform random site inspections to check compliance with the EMP.

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER AFFAIRS**

The Department of Water Affairs has confirmed rights to inspect the project at any time to ensure compliance with relevant legislation.

**ESKOM HOLDINGS SOC LTD (DEVELOPER)**

The Applicant is the Developer and has overall responsibility for compliance with the EMP as it is a fundamental component of the authorisation requirements for the project.

This means that the Developer must:

- Ensure that the professional team and the Contractors are appropriately briefed and that their appointment includes environmental requirements as relevant;
- Ensure that he/she is kept fully informed of the performance of the project against the requirements of the EMP;
- Ensure that appropriate action is taken where consistent incidents of non-compliance are taking place;
- Ensure that any corrective action required by the authorities is implemented.

**Project Co-ordinator (PC)**

The primary responsibility of the Project Co-ordinator (PC) is to ensure that the Contractor complies with the environmental specifications in this document. In addition the PC shall:

- Assume overall responsibility for the effective implementation and administration of the EMP;
- Ensure that the EMP is included in the Contractors' contract (including all subcontractors);
- Ensure that the EMP and any other relevant documentation are provided to the applicable contractors;
- Inform Environmental Practitioner of the date of construction at least 2 months in advance.

**Construction Supervisor and the contractor (if utilised);**

- Undertake regular inspections of the Contractor's site (in conjunction with the Clerk of Works, where relevant) as well as the power line servitude in order to check for compliance with the EMP in terms of the specifications outlined in this document.
- Keep a register of major incidents (spills, injuries, complaints, legal transgressions, etc.) and any other relevant issues related to the EMP;
- Report any problems (or complaints) concerning the environment arising out of the construction phase to the appointed Environmental Control Officer;
- To ensure Contractor staff are trained in accordance with the EMP;
- To implement recommendations of possible audits.

### **Eskom construction team or external construction contractor and all subcontractors**

The construction team/ contractor/ subcontractor shall:

- Ensure that the environmental specifications of this document are effectively implemented. This includes the on-site implementation of steps to mitigate environmental impacts;
- Monitor environmental performance and conformance with the specifications contained in this document during site inspections;
- Discuss implementation of and compliance with this document with staff at routine site meetings;
- Report non-compliances to EMP and Environmental Authorisation to PC and Environmental Control Officer (ECO) immediately (on discovery), within 24 hours of the event discovered or occurred;
- Report progress towards implementation of and non-conformances with this document at site meetings with the PC;
- Ensure that suitable records are kept and appropriate documentation is available to the PC; and
- Ensure that construction employees are trained in accordance with the requirements of the EMP.

The Contractor will conduct all activities in a manner that minimises disturbances to and impacts on the environment.

The Contractor is deemed not to have complied with this EMP if:

- There is evidence of contravention of clauses within the boundaries of the property and adjacent areas during the Construction Phase;
- If environmental damage ensues due to negligence;
- The Contractor fails to comply with corrective or other instructions issued by the Local Authority, PC, ECO, or the Developer within a specified time;
- Failure to take any reasonable measure to protect the environment if there is a perceived or identified environmental risk associated with an activity that has not been defined in the EMP; and
- The Contractor fails to respond adequately to complaints from the public.

Application of a penalty clause will apply for incidents of non-compliance as per the Schedule of Fines as mentioned below. Such fines will be paid by the Contractor to the Developer and will be used in rehabilitation and/ or landscaping.

### **Environmental Control Officer (ECO)**

The key responsibility of the ECO is to ensure that all the conditions stipulated in the Environmental Authorisation are being adhered to and should monitor project compliance with the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation, environmental legislation and the recommendations of the EMP.

Furthermore, the duties of the ECO shall include, inter alia, the following:

- Ensuring the necessary environmental authorisations and permits, if any, has been obtained;
- Advising the Contractor on environmental issues within defined construction areas;
- Undertaking once-per-month site visits, or more if required to ensure compliance with this EMP;
- Completing environmental checklists during site visits and keeping a photographic record of progress on site from an environmental perspective;
- Reporting back on any environmental issues/incidents to the DEA as reported to by the Contractor;
- Providing the DEA is informed of work progress on site;
- Preparing an environmental audit report at the conclusion of the construction phase.
- Attending site meetings where applicable and where necessary inspect the construction site on a regular basis to ensure that the mitigation and rehabilitation measures are applied.
- Make reasonable amendments to the EMP in co-operation with the contractor. Penalties for non-compliance must be enforced.

- Remain employed until all rehabilitation measures as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site is handed over to Eskom by the contractor.
- Any conservation authority/institution as listed in the List of Interested and Affected Parties for the project should be allowed reasonable access to the construction site on request and arrangement with the ECO and the contractor.

### **Environmental Training and Awareness**

The purpose of the environmental training is to communicate potential environmental impacts relating to construction activities to contractors to ensure that precautionary measures are undertaken to avoid and/or mitigate the impacts. Environmental awareness training sessions should be undertaken prior to any work commencing by any contractor or sub-contractor on site as well as throughout the construction phase. The ECO shall give initial EMP training prior to any work starting on site. The training record must be kept on the project file for each training session.

Where possible the presentation will be conducted in the language of the employees. The environmental training could, as a minimum, include the following:

- The importance of conforming with all environmental policies, procedures, plans and systems;
- The significant environmental impacts, actual or potential, which could result from their work activities;
- The environmental benefits of improved personal performance;
- The roles and responsibilities in achieving conformance with the environmental policy and procedures, including emergency preparedness and response requirements;
- The potential consequences of departure from specified operating procedures
- The mitigation measures to be implemented when carrying out their work activities;
- The importance of not littering;
- The need to use water sparingly;
- Details of, and encouragement to, minimising the production of waste and re-use, recover and recycle waste where possible;
- Details regarding paleontological, archaeological and historical sites which may be unearthed during construction, and the procedures to be followed should these be encountered;
- The procedures which should be followed should a grave or any other archaeological and/or paleontological finds be encountered or unearthed during the construction phase;
- Details regarding flora and fauna of special concern, including protected/endangered plant and animal species, and the procedures to be followed should these be encountered during construction.

### **EMP training and awareness before commencement of construction**

- Eskom will provide a General Environmental Awareness Workshop for all employees of the Contractor, sub-contractor, and suppliers. The initial training workshop will be held prior to any work commencing on route. The Contractors shall ensure that all construction personnel, including senior route staff, sub-contractors and suppliers etc., attend the environmental awareness-training workshop prior to commencing any work i.e. camp establishment, clearing and installations. The Contractor shall allow one hour for this initial workshop. Additional staff, sub-contractors and suppliers coming on to the route must attend an environmental awareness workshop prior to the commencing their duties. Subsequent workshops will be arranged at a mutually agreed time and venue.
- The main contractor must provide the ECO with (a) a list of all sub-contractors and their scope of work for the contract and (b) a time schedule of works before the initial environmental training awareness session is scheduled. This will assist the ECO to schedule subsequent EMP awareness training sessions as and when required.
- No construction work may take place on route unless under the supervision of a person who has attended an Environmental Awareness Workshop.
- The PC shall inform the environmental practitioner two months prior to starting construction, so that training can be given.



### **EMP awareness training throughout the construction phase**

- EMP awareness training must be given to new contractors and sub-contractors that start to work on site throughout the construction phase at various stages.
- All contractor and sub-contractor teams involved in work on site must be briefed on their obligations towards environmental controls and methodologies in terms of this EMP prior to commencement of any construction and construction related activities on an on-going basis throughout the construction phase.
- In the case of new workers coming on site throughout the construction programme, the site contractor is responsible to ensure all new labour arriving on site is made aware of the contents of the EMP and is briefed on the Environmental Awareness Training session.
- A register must be kept of all training given to contractors and sub-contractors, indicating the date, time, venue, attendees, name of trainer, name of contractor, signatures and unique numbers / identity numbers of attendees.
- If the construction is phased, a training session must be conducted before the commencement of each phase. The environmental issues, construction impacts and mitigation measures for each phase must be discussed in detail at this training session.

### **Emergency Management**

All emergency incidents should be investigated in terms of Eskom's EPC 32-95: Safety, Health & Environmental Incident Management Procedure, in addition to any ELC requirement. This procedure describes the high-level intention for the effective incident management of work-related incidents as well as environmental damage. The aim of this procedure is to ensure and facilitate the effective and efficient management of incidents from the moment that one occurs, until it can be audited that corrective and preventive measures were developed and taken. This procedure is supported by annexes which set out the detailed rules, requirements and action steps as well as useful examples and templates. These two have to be read and applied together to ensure that the aim of this procedure and its supporting annexes is met.

An **Emergency Incident** can be defined as an unexpected sudden occurrence, including a major emission, fire or explosion leading to serious danger to the public or potentially serious pollution of or detriment to the environment, whether immediate or delayed. It is also an accident involving the spilling of a harmful substance that finds or may find its way into a water resource.

An **Environmental Incident** can be defined as pollution, erosion, cutting of protected and/or indigenous trees, hazardous substance spillages, wildlife interactions, public complaints and loss of biodiversity caused by Eskom Distribution's activities, as well as non-compliance to legislation such as Environmental Authorisations, Record of Decisions, permits and licences.

### **Incident Management – Aims and objectives**

The aims and objectives of incident management are as follows:

- Reduce risk and prevent any recurrence of incidents
- Ensure incidents are managed effectively
- Ensure incidents are classified and recorded accurately
- Ensure prompt and appropriate investigation
- Promote the proactive use and value of near-miss occurrence reporting
- Improve the quality of safety and the work environment by learning from incidents, including near miss occurrences;
- Share incident information
- Report to external and internal stakeholders as appropriate
- Promote the analysis of trends and review practices accordingly
- Involve and communicate information to all stakeholders.

## Incident Reporting

After becoming aware of an incident, the following should be done as per Eskom's ELC procedure:

- All incidents must be reported, regardless of the severity of the incident. Once an employee identifies that an incident has occurred, he/she must immediately notify his/her supervisor of such an incident, regardless of its severity, so that an appropriate and timely response can be made, an initial evaluation conducted, and an incident classification made.
- The responsible supervisor shall then send a flash report to the ECO and Project Coordinator within 24 hours of the incident. Thereafter, it will be determined by the ECO if reporting to the authorities is required.
- Immediate clean-up action is required;
- Eskom then has 14 days to formally investigate the incident internally before sending a report to the applicable authorities.

## Hazardous Waste - Incident Reporting

If a leakage or spillage of hazardous substances occurs as a result of Eskom's activities or other users, the local emergency services will be immediately notified of the incident. The location, nature of the load and the status of the site of the accident itself (i.e. whether further leakage is still taking place, whether the vehicle or the load is on fire, etc.) must be provided.

Written records of the corrective and remedial measures decided upon, and the progress achieved therewith over time, must be kept. Such progress reporting will be important for monitoring and auditing purposes. The written reports may be used for training purposes in an effort to prevent similar future occurrences.

## Emergency Preparedness

Eskom's environmental emergency procedures ensure that there will be an appropriate response to unexpected or accidental actions or incidents that will cause environmental impacts, throughout the life cycle of the project. Such incidents may include, inter alia:

- Accidental discharges to water and land;
- Accidental exposure of employees to hazardous substances;
- Accidental veld fires;
- Accidental spillage of hazardous substances;
- Specific environmental and ecosystem effects from accidental releases or incidents

## The Emergency Preparedness Plan

- Construction employees shall be adequately trained in terms of incidents and emergency situations.
- An emergency preparedness plan will include details of the organisation (manpower) and responsibilities, accountability and liability of personnel.
- The emergency preparedness plan shall include a list of key personnel.
- Details of emergency services (e.g. the fire department, spill clean-up services, etc.) shall be listed.
- Internal and external communication plans, including prescribed reporting procedures shall be listed.
- Actions to be taken in the event of different types of emergencies shall be included.
- Training plans, testing exercises, and schedules for effectiveness shall be included.
- Eskom will comply with the emergency preparedness, and incident and accident-reporting requirements, as required by the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act No 85 of 1993), the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No 107 of 1998), the National Water Act, 1008 (Act No 36 of 1998) and the National Veld and Forest Fire Act, 1998 (Act No 101 of 1998) as amended, and/or any other relevant legislation.
- *Hazardous material*
  - Information on hazardous materials, including the potential impact associated with each, and measure to be taken in the event of accidental release shall be listed.

## Spillages

- Streams, rivers, underground water and dams will be protected from direct or indirect spillage of pollutants such as refuse, garbage, cement, concrete, sewage, chemicals, fuels, oils, aggregate, wash water, organic materials and bituminous products.
- In the event of a spillage during the construction phase, the responsibility for spill treatment will be with Eskom and Eskom will be liable to arrange for competent assistance to clear the affected area.
- Eskom will compile and maintain environmental emergency procedure, to ensure that there will be an appropriate rapid response to unexpected or accidental environmental related incidents throughout the life cycle of the project.
- Incidents must be reported in line with the Eskom's Incident Management Procedure. The incident must be reported within 24 hours via a flash report.
- The Environmental Control Officer (ECO) will assess the situation and act as required in all cases; the immediate response will be to contain the spill. The exact treatment of soil/water pollutes will be determined by the ECO.
- Should water downstream of the spill be polluted, and fauna and flora show signs of deterioration or death, specialist hydrological or ecological advice must be sought for appropriate treatment and remedial procedures to be followed. The costs of containment and rehabilitation will be for Eskom's account, including the costs of specialist input.
- *Hazardous substance spillages*  
Hazardous substance spillages can be defined as any hazardous liquids or substances spilt that have the potential to pollute aquatic or terrestrial ecosystems or present a health hazard to other living organisms.
  - The Eskom construction team shall have an oil spill kit on site and where working with hazardous substances, also drip trays on trucks.
  - Vegetated areas cleared of hazardous waste will be re-vegetated.

## During an emergency situation, the following will apply

- No person shall be allowed to approach a spill, fire, etc. unless he/she is equipped with the personal protective clothing and equipment.
- The risk involved shall be assessed before anyone approaches the scene of the incident with the emergency response plan.
- Any known or discovered spillage of toxic substances into a stream or river should be followed by immediate monitoring of the receiving streams and rivers.

## Fires

- The adjacent landowners will be informed and/or involved in case of any fire that pose a threat to landowners.
- It must be ensured that the basic firefighting equipment is supplied to all living quarters, site offices, kitchen areas, workshop areas and stores.
- Welding gas cutting or cutting of metal will only be allowed inside the working/demarcated areas and with appropriate firefighting equipment at hand.

## Monitoring

Monitoring will be undertaken as and when required. Any incidents that might have a detrimental impact on the environment will be investigated and environmental monitoring will be conducted. Complaints received will be checked through verifiable monitoring.

## Inspections

On-going visual inspections will be conducted daily by the ECO. The ECO will spend time on site on the lookout for any unsafe acts and activities that transgress the requirements as specified in the EMP to define what action shall be taken to rectify the problem and prevent its reoccurrence.

### **Written instructions**

Written reporting will be given following an audit. The written instructions will indicate the source or sources of the problems identified on site and propose solutions to those problems. The implementation to solutions will be assessed in a follow-up audit and further written instructions issued if required. Maximum allowable response time is 4 working days unless specified otherwise by the ECO.

### **Liaison**

Eskom will comply with the requirements for public consultation as required by the National Environmental Management Act, 1009 (Act No 107 of 1998).

Throughout the project, ongoing liaison will be maintained with authorities and communities when needed to ensure that the following is done;

- Timeous advanced warning of any project activities that may have some impact on the surrounding communities i.e. blasting;
- Ongoing feedback on the environmental performance of the project;
- A complaints' register needs to be opened and maintained by the ECO. The register will contain the contact details of the person who made complaints and information regarding the complaint itself, including the date of submission.

### **Checking and Corrective Action**

Non-compliance with the specifications of the EMP constitutes a Breach of Contract for which Eskom must be immediately notified accordingly. Eskom will be deemed not to have complied with the EMP if;

- There is evidence of contravention of the EMP specifications within the boundaries of the construction site, site extensions and access roads;
- There is contravention of the EMP specifications which relate to activities outside the boundaries of the construction sites;
- Environmental damage ensues due to negligence;
- Construction activities take place outside the defined boundaries of the site;
- Eskom fails to comply with corrective or other instruction.

## **SITE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

- The ECO and the contractor will visit each landowner prior to commencement of construction on his/her property. The access routes and Eskom gate localities will specifically be confirmed.
- A detailed schedule (inclusive of postal addresses and/or fax and e-mail numbers) of affected landowners and other key stakeholders are included as the Register of Interested & Affected Parties in Appendix E of the Basic Assessment Report.
- The applicable Emergency telephone numbers should always be available on site.
- A copy of this EMP must be submitted to relevant landowners should they request it. They can assist Eskom in assuring that the contractor adheres to rules as stipulated and that mitigation measures are applied. They can also assist with measures to ensure that farming activities (if required) can continue under the power line. The exact placement of pylons and the height thereof must be designed to accommodate any spill points, if relevant.
- Rehabilitation measures must be applied.
- In order to prevent and/or minimise crime, it is required that all construction workers be supplied with controlled serviced accommodation or be supplied with transport to and from their homes.
- Construction workers should wear clearly identifiable clothing that allows for easy recognition of contract workers on site.

- Bush clearing must be planned in close cooperation with the relevant landowners. It should be kept in mind that, generally speaking, trees are only removed or pruned where they could affect the operation of the powerline.
- Very specifically, Mr Andre de Wet from Thaba Morula (Portion 12 & 23 of the Farm Yzerfontein 198-JQ) must be contacted before any vegetation clearance takes place on his property. Thorough discussions must take place regarding the removal and/or pruning of any plant and tree species.
  - Contact details for Mr de Wet:
    - 012 277 1371
    - Fax: 012 277 1549
    - Email: [thabamorula@telkomsa.net](mailto:thabamorula@telkomsa.net)
    - [www.thabamorula.co.za](http://www.thabamorula.co.za)

Planning and development with regards to agricultural activities:

- The time of construction activities planned on agricultural land must be negotiated with the farmer to ensure that construction activities do not unnecessarily interfere with agricultural activities such as harvest time.
- In order to identify all possible social issues a thorough Public Participation Programme was undertaken as per the NEMA Regulations. It is important to note that Eskom negotiators must also contact each affected landowner personally in order to obtain details in terms of construction of the structures across their land.

## DESIGN AND PRE-CONSTRUCTION PHASE

### ENVIRONMENTAL SUPERVISION

Eskom Distribution, specifically the ECO, Clerk of Works (CoW) and Project Coordinator (PC) must inspect the construction site on a regular basis (during pre-construction, construction and post-construction periods) to confirm the current state of the site and to ensure that the mitigation and rehabilitation measures are applied as specified in the EMP. These officers might make reasonable amendments to the EMP in co-operation with the contractor.

### DESIGN

- The engineering drawings must adhere to any site-specific mitigation measures (if applicable) supplied by a geotechnical engineer for the project in order to accommodate the geotechnical and earth-scientific constraints in terms of founding and construction methods, construction materials, excavation, etc.
- A surface runoff management plan indicating the management of all surface runoff generated as a result of the development (during construction and operation) must be compiled. This is specifically relevant to the substation site. It should indicate how water velocities will be reduced before stormwater enters natural channels and how natural processes for water infiltration of the affected landscape will be accommodated. This study is to be commissioned by Eskom Engineering or done by an internal Engineer, and to be included in the substation's design specification Terms of Reference.
- **Vegetation**
  - Although the sensitive Rocky Outcrops are not in the direct route of the power line, it is important to treat these areas as no-go areas. This should also be included in all personnel training as specified above.
  - No new access roads should be created unless deemed essential by the project engineer.
- **Avifauna**
  - *Power line*: The spans that skirt or cross drainage lines and water bodies should be marked with Bird Flight Diverters on the earth wire of the line, five metres apart, alternating black and white (see Appendix A: Sensitivity Maps for the area to be marked with Bird Flight Diverters).
  - *Poles*: The poles should be fitted with bird perches on top of the poles to draw birds, particularly vultures, away from the potentially risky insulators.

### COMPLIANCE WITH SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFIED LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

#### The National Water Act (Act No 36 of 1998)

Due to the absence of freshwater features of any significance within the study area, there is no perceived impact of the surrounding freshwater environments and no mitigation measures are deemed necessary. No Water Use Authorisation is required.

#### National Forest Act (Act 122 of 1984) and/or the Nature Conservation Ordinance of 1974 (Ordinance 19 of 1974) and / or the Nature Conservation Regulations 955 of 1975

A permit from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Forestry Branch) may be required to destroy or cut any protected trees.

## COMMUNITY ISSUES

Eskom representatives must liaise personally with all directly affected landowner prior to any construction activities taking place. The objectives of this liaison will be the following:

- To identify the most effective time schedule for construction activities on the applicable properties;
- To confirm site-specific requirements as identified during the EIA process;
- To identify any additional site-specific issues with reasonable mitigatory measures that had not been identified and documented during the Public Participation Procedures of the Basic Assessment process undertaken for this project;
- To update the contact details of affected landowners in case access to properties are required for both maintenance and emergency situations;
- To confirm the contact details of the contractor and Eskom representatives to ensure effective communication during the construction and operational phases of the project.

## ON-SITE COMMUNICATION PROCEDURE

### On site start-up / kick-off meeting

- A mandatory on-site start-up meeting must be conducted preferably 14 days but not less than 5 working days prior to commencement of any site/camp establishment, earthworks and/or construction activities and will relate to additional discussed information that must be complied with during the entire construction phase.
- All site-specific issues and arrangements as discussed and agreed on during this site start-up meeting must be adhered to.
- Information pertaining to specific site construction agreements that was discussed and agreed on at the kick-off meeting must be recorded and included as part of the EMP.
- Any changes made to the EMP as per the agreements between all parties must still fall within the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation.
- At the site start-up meeting, the following issues must be discussed:
  - The Construction EMP & other relevant site documents
  - Project to be discussed and all uncertainties are cleared
  - Method statement/s to be discussed
  - Access routes
  - Road and construction area to be demarcated
  - Materials stockpile and lay down areas to be demarcated
  - Method of stockpiling to be discussed
  - Firefighting procedures
  - Mandatory firefighting equipment & fire preventative measures
  - Mandatory site equipment and facilities
  - Solid waste facilities and removal intentions
  - Placement, type and service of toilets to be agreed on
  - Placement and type of rubbish bins and removal of rubbish to be agreed on
  - Environmental Education and awareness training session to all contractors & onsite staff/labour.
  - Location & establishment of concrete batching plant facility.

### Monthly construction progress meetings

- Environmental matters pertaining to the construction of the project must be included as an agenda item on the monthly project construction progress meeting.
- The ECO must be invited to monthly construction progress meetings to discuss findings of site audits, mitigation measures and other issues arising pertaining to the implementation of the EMP conditions.

### Minutes of meetings

- Environmental issues, action items, complaints, incidents and mitigation measures must be recorded in minutes of monthly construction project meetings.
- The ECO must be included in the circulation of minutes of meetings in order to stay informed of construction progress and construction issues as they relate to the receiving environment.

### CONSTRUCTION SITE

- Accommodation for labourers must either be limited to guarding personnel on the construction site (with labourers transported daily to and from the site) or a separate fenced and controlled area where proper accommodation and relevant ablution and washing facilities are provided.
- The location of the construction site must be negotiated with the relevant landowner and specifications of the landowner must be adhered to.
- The construction site office and storage areas for material and equipment must be fenced in to prevent impacts and human interference to spread further than the site.
- Storage facilities for construction equipment must be provided for.
- Encourage the construction contractor to employ local people as far as is reasonably practical and encourage the contractor to transport them daily to and from the site. This would reduce solid and liquid waste production and water demand at the site camps.
- Contractors should develop a comprehensive site camp management plan. This should apply even in the case of the limited accommodation camps as discussed above.
- Plan site campsites an appropriate distance from any facility where it can cause a nuisance and could cause a safety hazard (in terms of mining activities such as blasting).
- Minimise on-site storage of petroleum products.
- Ensure proper maintenance procedures in place for vehicles and equipment.
- Servicing of vehicles to be in designated areas with appropriate spill management procedures in place.
- Ensure measures to contain spills readily available on site (spill kits).
- Sufficient ablution and proper cooking facilities must be provided at the site camp.
- Deposit solid domestic waste in containers and dispose at municipal waste disposal sites regularly.
- Dispose of liquid waste (grey water) with sewerage.
- Install appropriate facilities at the campsite. Preferably utilise municipal systems (conservancy tanks with periodic removal) or chemical toilets.
- Ensure compliance with stringent daily clean up requirements of site camp inert waste (waste concrete, reinforcing rods, waste bags, wire, timber etc.) and dispose at municipal waste disposal sites.

### FIRE MANAGEMENT

Eskom will manage the fire risk within the servitude from a fire risk point of view and the field service office will be in close communication with the fire protection agency in the area. Reducing the vegetation load and managing the alien vegetation will also contribute to the prevention and the spreading of fires. The servitude itself can in many cases act as fire break within the landscape.

The following are applicable to both the construction and operational phases:

- No fires may be made for the burning of vegetation and waste, neither as source of heat or cooking.
- No open fires are to be made on site – cooking facilities must be provided, particularly for security staff.
- Branches and other debris resulting from pruning processes should not be left in areas where it will pose a risk to infrastructure.
- Fires shall not be made for the purpose of chasing or disturbing any fauna.



- The adjacent landowners must be informed and/or involved in case of any fire that may pose a threat to their properties.
- It must be ensured that the basic firefighting equipment is supplied to all living quarters, site offices, kitchen areas, workshop areas and stores and be kept available during construction phase.
- Welding gas cutting or cutting of metal will only be allowed inside the working/demarcated areas and with appropriate firefighting equipment at hand.

## APPOINTMENT OF CONTRACTORS

- The EMP will be made binding on all Contractors operating on the site and will be included in contract documents of all appointed contractors. Non-compliance with, or any deviation from, the conditions set out in this document constitutes a failure in compliance.
- All identified site specific measures as determined during the Basic Assessment process for a specific property must be considered and implemented during the construction phase of this project.
- The appointment of contractors with proven track records of sound environmental performance should be given priority.
- The contractor must ensure that, as far as possible, the majority of unskilled labour is obtained from the local residents in the macro area.
- The contractor must ensure that he is well aware of the implications of and must ensure compliance with the following legal requirements, guidelines and policies:
  - All relevant Eskom standards, specifications and procedures to manage the significant aspects with regards to oil management, bush clearing, entrance of private property, etc.
  - Requirements in terms of removing cutting and/or trimming of protected trees in terms the Forest Act (Act 122 of 1984).
  - All Sections and Regulations of the National Water Act, 1998(Act 36 of 1998) must be complied with; specifically specifications as described in Section 19 on Pollution and Waste.
  - Environmental Best Practice Guidelines and Specifications, compiled by the Department of Water Affairs.
  - Legislation with regard to graves that is included in the National Heritage Resources Act (No 25 of 1999). It should be noted that the act also distinguishes between various categories of graves and burial grounds. Other legislation with regard to graves includes those which apply when graves are exhumed and relocated, namely the Ordinance on Exhumations (No 12 of 1980) and the Human Tissues Act (No 65 of 1983 as amended).
- The contractor must be aware that all waste material generated during and after construction should be disposed of at a permitted landfill site and an agreement letter between the municipality and the contractor regarding the disposal of such waste material should be obtained.

## Method Statement

The Contractor shall submit written Method Statements to the PC and ECO for all environmentally sensitive activities. A Method Statement Control Sheet must be attached to each Method Statement, and shall be signed by the Contractor. The Method Statement must be in such detail that the ECO will be able to assess whether the contractor's proposal is in accordance with the stipulations as per the EMP and/or will produce results in accordance with the EMP stipulations.

Method statements are required for the following aspects of works:

- MS 1: Location of Construction camp
- MS 2: Storage of construction material and hazardous substances
- MS 3: Wastewater management

- MS 4: Fauna & Flora Management and Vegetation Clearance
- MS 5: Solid Waste management
- MS 6: Removal and stockpiling of topsoil and other excavated material
- MS 7: Watercourses and Estuarine Management (if applicable)
- MS 8: Dust control
- MS 9: Cement and concrete batching/on site mixing and water supply
- MS 10: Demarcation of Sensitive Areas
- MS 11: Erosion and Sediment Control
- MS 12: Fire control
- MS 13: Re-vegetation and land rehabilitation in areas disturbed by construction activities.
- MS 14: Construction of temporary road to structure B?
- MS 15: Removal of temporary road and rehabilitation of land
- MS 16: Stringing of conductor over estuary and 'wet' areas

The Method Statement shall cover applicable details with regard to:

- construction procedures,
- materials and equipment to be used,
- getting the equipment to and from site,
- how the equipment/ material will be moved while on site,
- how and where material will be stored,
- the containment (or action to be taken if containment is not possible) of leaks or spills of any liquid or material that may occur,
- timing and location of activities,
- any other information deemed necessary by the ECO (i.e. detail with regards to ablution facilities; storage, handling and disposal procedures of all hazardous materials to be stored on site; management of contaminated water; etc.).

The contractor may not commence the activity until the Method Statement has been approved. The ECO may require changes to the Method Statement if the proposal does not comply with the stipulations or if, in the reasonable opinion of the ECO, the proposal may result in, or carries a greater than reasonable risk of damage to the environment in excess of that permitted by the EMP or other applicable legislation.

Approved Method Statements shall be readily available on the site and shall be communicated to all relevant personnel. The contractor shall carry out the works in accordance with the approved Method Statement. Approval of the Method Statement shall not absolve the contractor from any of his obligations or responsibilities in terms of the Contract.

## CONSTRUCTION PHASE

### GROUND AND SURFACE WATER

- In all cases, abstraction of water from watercourses for construction purposes will not be allowed. Arrangements must be made prior to construction with the landowners or municipal water must be carted in.
- Under no circumstances must surface or groundwater be polluted.
- Adequate oil containment precautions must be taken.
- If a spill from a construction vehicle occurs it must be reported to ECO with immediate effect. A bio-remediation contractor must be appointed to rehabilitate large oil spills. Small oil spills must be cleaned immediately with an oil spill kit. Spills must be immediately stopped and a drip tray be used to catch any leaks until the risk can be eliminated and mitigation/ rehabilitation measures applied
- Minimise on-site storage of petroleum products.
- Ensure proper maintenance procedures are in place for vehicles and equipment.
- Servicing of vehicles to be done in designated areas with appropriate spill management procedures in place.
- Ensure that measures to contain spills are readily available on site (spill kits).
- All hazardous substance spills must be reported, recorded and investigated.
- All stormwater runoff must be managed efficiently so as to avoid stormwater damage and erosion to adjacent properties.
- During and after construction, stormwater control measures should be implemented especially around stockpiled soil, excavated areas, trenches etc. to avoid the export of soil into any watercourse.
- Stormwater should not be discharged into the working areas and it should be ensured that stormwater leaving the footprint of the proposed development areas is not contaminated by any substance, whether that substance is solid, liquid, vapour or any combination thereof.
- Stockpiling of construction material and soils should be such that pollution of water resources is prevented and that the materials will be retained in a storm event.
- Drinking water and water for ablution facilities must be provided to all construction workers on the construction site.

### WASTE MANAGEMENT

#### General Waste

- Expected constructed waste (unused steel, conductor cables, cement or concrete) and general waste around the construction site (plastic, tins and paper) may degrade the environment if not disposed in the correct manner.
- Littering or illegal dumping of any waste material is prohibited.
- No waste disposal holes may be made on site.
- Under no circumstances should waste be burnt on site.
- Waste separation should be encouraged for recycling purposes.
- Provision must be made for the collection of all general waste materials. Rubbish bags and bins with lids must be provided at various points within the construction corridor and must be emptied on a regular basis.
- Deposit solid domestic waste in containers and dispose at registered municipal waste disposal sites regularly.

- For all waste that is disposed of, Eskom shall obtain waste manifests and disposal certificates, which shall be recorded and reported to the ECO on a monthly basis.
- Liquid waste (grey water) must be disposed with sewerage.

#### Construction Waste

- Ensure compliance with stringent daily clean up requirements of site camp inert waste (waste concrete, reinforcing rods, waste bags, wire, timber etc.) and dispose at municipal waste disposal sites.
- Construction waste must be collected and sold for recycling purposes as far as possible.

#### Sewage

- Portable ablution facilities must be placed within the construction servitude and must be serviced by registered companies only and on a regular basis. There should be one toilet for every fifteen workers.
- No effluent to be dumped in the veld or any watercourse.
- The use of the open veld for ablution is prohibited.

#### Hazardous Waste

- Oil contaminated waste (soil, cloths used to clean small spills, spill kits, content of drip trays, etc.) must be disposed of at a facility that is registered as a hazardous landfill facility.
- All hazardous substances at the site must be adequately stored and accurately identified, recorded and labelled. All these hazardous substances should be disposed of at a H:H registered waste disposal facility.
- Hydrocarbon (oil, diesel, petrol) waste as well as hydrocarbon containing material must be regarded as hazardous waste and separated from general waste.
- Persons who remove hazardous waste must be appropriately qualified and authorised.

### **PREPARATION OF SERVITUDE / VEGETATION CLEARANCE**

- The procedures for vegetation clearance and maintenance within overhead power line servitudes and on Eskom owned land, updated September 2009 or latest approved revision thereafter, must be implemented (EPC 32-247).
- Vegetation clearance is often one of the very first activities of construction. The Project Coordinator shall inform the ECO at least 2 months before the vegetation clearance contract is issued. Vegetation clearance is considered commencement of construction. Eskom needs to notify the DEA of its intention to commence with construction before vegetation clearance can commence.
- Indigenous vegetation which does not interfere with the safe operation of the power line should be left undisturbed.
- Clearing for pylon positions must be done to the minimum required for that specific pylon.
- Vegetation clearing during construction must be restricted to the footprint of the substation infrastructure only and the power line servitude.
- Existing access roads must be used as far as possible and the creation of new access tracks for power line construction should be minimised.
- Unnecessary impacts (such as driving off road) on surrounding natural vegetation must be avoided.

### **CONTROL OF ALIEN VEGETATION**

- Alien vegetation in servitudes shall be managed in terms of the Regulation GNR.1048 of 25 May 1984 (as amended) issued in terms of the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, Act 43 of 1983. In terms of these regulations, Eskom shall "control" i.e. to combat Category 1, 2 and 3 plants to the extent necessary

to prevent or to contain the occurrence, establishment, growth, multiplication, propagation, regeneration and spreading such plants within servitude areas or land owned by Eskom.

- The use of herbicides shall be in compliance with the terms and conditions of The Fertilisers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act 36 of 1947).

## **PROTECTION OF FAUNA AND FLORA**

- No animals or birds may be fed, disturbed, hunted or trapped.
- No plant material may be removed if not part of identified vegetation clearance.

## **AVIFAUNA**

For the restriction and/or prevention of disturbance to birds and destruction of their habitat, the following will apply:

- Disturbance to and killing of birds must be prevented.
- Unnecessary habitat destruction must be avoided.
- The removal of large trees should be avoided if at all possible.
- All dismantling, construction and maintenance activities must be carried out according to best environmental practice principles so as to minimise habitat destruction (see in this respect the Eskom Environmental Procedure, EPC 32-96). The unnecessary removal of large trees is not allowed (see also in this respect the Procedure for Vegetation Clearance and Maintenance within Eskom owned land, EPC 32-247).

## **SOIL EROSION**

- To cause the loss of soil by erosion is an offence under the Soil Conservation Act, Act No 76 of 1969.) Access roads and site surfaces must be monitored for deterioration and possible erosion. Pro-active measures must be implemented to curb erosion and to rehabilitate eroded areas. All areas susceptible to erosion must be installed with temporary and permanent diversion channels and berms to prevent concentration of surface water and scouring of slopes and banks, thereby countering soil erosion.
- All cleared areas must be ripped and rehabilitated after construction. The top 200mm layer of topsoil must be removed and stockpiled in heaps not higher than 2m and replaced on the construction areas once the activities have been completed. All affected areas should be adequately rehabilitated.
- All vehicle movement must be along existing roads or tracks as far as possible.
- All stormwater runoff must be managed efficiently so as to avoid stormwater damage and erosion to adjacent properties.
- The viability of undertaking construction during the dry months of the year should be investigated in order to overcome possible problems caused by excessive moisture.
- Should any new temporary access roads be required, the following should apply in areas which are prone to erosion:
  - Where a cutting is made, subsoil drains should be installed wherever a perched water table occurs within 900m of the formation in all cuttings and below fills in the alluvial zones.
  - It is further critical to manage surface water. Drains should be provided along the top and bottom of all deep cuttings. This is to minimise the flow of surface water and erosion to the exposed cut faces and erosion along the toe of the cuttings.
  - Steep sections of the service road must be supplied of sufficient drainage areas to reduce flow velocity of run-off water.

- Any eroded sections must be rehabilitated and part of the management plan must include regular inspections of the water run-off areas.
- If any erosion occurs, rehabilitation must immediately be done.

### **COMMUNITY ISSUES (SAFETY, SECURITY, NOISE, DUST, ETC.)**

- Farm gates and fences must be left in the state it was found.
- Under no circumstances shall access be gained by cutting or “dropping” of fences. All gates shall be left closed and the Eskom servitude gates shall be securely locked at all times.
- Construction workers must be extremely careful not to damage any property along the proposed route. Should any damage occur it should be reported to the ECO and repaired and to a state prior to the damage to the written satisfaction of the landowner and ECO.
- Removal of agricultural products is prohibited.
- No firewood may be collected.
- No open fires are to be made on private property.
- In order to prevent and/or minimise crime, it is required that all construction workers be supplied with controlled serviced accommodation or be supplied with daily transport to and from the site.
- No wandering on adjacent properties is allowed, unless written consent has been obtained from the relevant landowners.
- All adjacent landowners have to be informed of the blasting programme (if applicable) prior to any blasting taking place. Contractors must liaise personally with adjacent landowners. All communication in this regard must be documented. Blasting may only be undertaken by specialists in the field and should be limited to small localised areas. All relevant legislation must be adhered to.
- All contractors and construction workers will be issued with temporary permits to enter the property.
- All construction workers will be allowed only for specified day light hours. Transport should be made available by the contractor to remove labourers from the site after working hours.
- Secure accommodation facilities must be provided for guarding personnel.
- Supervision of labourers must at all times take place.
- Construction hours will be restricted to specific periods that exclude Sundays and public holidays.
- Sweeping of construction sites, clearing of building rubble and debris and watering of construction sites (storage areas, roads, etc.) must take place on a regular basis.
- All excavated areas must be clearly marked and barrier tape must be placed around them to prevent humans and animals from falling into them.

### **CULTURAL-HISTORICAL COMPONENT**

- Should any evidence of archaeological sites or remains not previously identified, unmarked human burials or other categories of heritage resources are found during construction activities, the South African Heritage Resource Agency must be contacted at 021 462 4502, the archaeologist for this project (Mr Anton van Vollenhoven 012 083 291 6104) or an accredited professional archaeologist must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary.
- It is recommended that a targeted walk-down of the proposed powerline route is undertaken once the final route has been determined and the positions of the pylons towers have been finalised. This will not change the route alignment at all, but the positions of the pylons may be moved if necessary.

## POST-CONSTRUCTION & OPERATIONAL PHASE

### SOIL EROSION

- Specifications for topsoil storage and replacement to ensure sufficient soil coverage as soon as possible after construction activities must be implemented.
- All embankments (if any) must be adequately compacted and planted with grass to stop any excessive erosion and scouring of the landscape.
- After construction, all temporary access roads should be rehabilitated.
- The site must be rehabilitated and replanted with suitable, indigenous grass to prevent erosion.

### CONSTRUCTION SITE CLEARANCE

- After construction all building material, signs of excess concrete, equipment, houses, ablution facilities, building rubble, refuse and litter must be removed and cleaned up from the construction site as well as from the store room by the contractor.
- Items that can be used again should be recycled. Unusable waste steel and aluminium will be sold to scrap dealers for recycling at the Eskom stores.
- Once construction is completed, the contractor has to obtain written consent from the relevant landowner that the construction site, construction areas, access routes, etc. are sufficiently and adequately rehabilitated to the landowners' satisfaction.

### COMMUNITY ISSUES

- All complaints received with regards to poor conduct of Eskom personnel, malfunction of or damage to Eskom structures, bird killings as a result of electrocutions and/or collisions, etc. will be investigated by Eskom in cooperation with all the relevant stakeholders.
- The existing complaints structure must be revised by Eskom and be updated on a regular basis and communicated with all the affected landowners to ensure effective response and service supply.
- A list of all names, telephone numbers and addresses of the relevant Eskom employees, contractors and all affected landowners must be compiled, regularly updated and distributed to ensure sufficient communication channels are in place in case of emergency and where access is required for maintenance and debushing purposes.
- No wandering on adjacent properties is allowed, unless written consent has been obtained from the relevant landowners.

### AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

- Maintenance programmes should be negotiated with the relevant landowners to ensure that farming activities are not unnecessarily impacted on.

## VEGETATION MAINTENANCE OF THE SERVITUDE

- Alien invasive vegetation within the power line servitude and around the substation should be removed on an annual basis for the first five years after construction has been completed. Preferably, no herbicides should be sprayed, as this could kill adjacent non-target species. Trained personnel should be contracted to undertake alien invasive vegetation management, and no soil disturbance should be allowed.
- The management of alien vegetation is governed by Regulation GNR.1048 of 25 May 1984 (as amended) issued in terms of the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, Act 43 of 1983. In terms of these regulations, Eskom must “control” i.e. to combat Category 1, 2 and 3 plants to the extent necessary to prevent or to contain the occurrence, establishment, growth, multiplication, propagation, regeneration and spreading such plants within servitude areas or land owned by Eskom.

## FIRE RISK MANAGEMENT

- The existing complaints structure must be revised by Eskom and be updated on a regular basis and communicated with all the affected landowners to ensure effective response and service supply.
- The contact details of all affected landowners as well as relevant Eskom staff must be listed, updated regularly and distributed to all stakeholders to ensure effective communication in the case of emergencies such as veld fires.
- Branches and other debris resulting from pruning processes should not be left below conductors or in areas where it will pose a risk to infrastructure.
- Debris shall not be burnt under any circumstances.
- Fires shall not be made for the purpose of chasing or disturbing any fauna.
- Eskom encourages affected landowners and maintenance staff to participate in the Fire Protection Agency.

## ACCESS AND SERVITUDE MAINTENANCE ROADS

### General

- Eskom access and maintenance roads may only be used for its intended purpose- the use of these roads for any other purpose is prohibited.
- Drivers must stay within the speed limit in order to ensure the safety of other road users.
- All general SA road safety rules and regulations will apply while driving on Eskom’s access and maintenance roads.
- Access to the power line route shall be by means of approved access roads only. No unauthorised access is permitted.
- Off-road driving is strictly prohibited.
- Should any road be damaged by Eskom, the applicable landowner should immediately be informed and remedial action should be done as soon as possible.
- Eskom personnel should treat private property with respect at all times, for example gates should be lock after entering and exiting, no fauna or flora may be destroyed, killed or collected, the veld may not be used for ablution facilities and swimming in any natural or manmade water features are prohibited.
- The type of vehicle used should be conducive to the road condition; only 4x4 vehicles will be allowed on 4x4 roads. Where at all possible, 4x4 driving should not take place in wet conditions as this can easily cause additional damage to the road.



### Speed limit

- When driving on public roads, the general SA speed limits will apply.
- A maximum speed limit of 40km/h should be adhered to when driving on small (i.e. 2 wheel track) roads.
- The driving speed should be appropriate to the road conditions at all times. This could ensure the safety of the driver, other occupants as well as surrounding properties.

### Dust Control

- Speed limits must be strictly adhered to in order to limit the levels of dust pollution.
- Should any complaints from landowners be received (i.e. dust on crops), Eskom should attend to it immediately and appropriate dust control measures should be discussed with the landowners and implemented (i.e. speed calming measures).

### Erosion

- Should any signs of erosion be evident along the access and maintenance roads, remedial action should take place as soon as possible.
- In areas which are prone to erosion, soil berms could be placed on the roads at convenient intervals, not exceeding a height of 0,5m, to curtail the speed and erosion potential of any stormwater flowing across the gradient of the site. This could be especially applicable to roads on steep slopes.

### Monitoring

- Eskom personnel must be made aware of general acceptable road conditions and deviations there from should be reported to Eskom's Environmental Division. Hazardous road conditions should especially be reported.
- Access and maintenance roads must be monitored for deterioration and possible erosion at all times.
- Should any road works / rehabilitation be required, monitoring thereof should take place, especially during the rainy season to ensure the effectiveness thereof.
- Driver awareness and safety management programmes could be devised, implemented and recorded for audit and monitoring purposes.

## MONITORING PROGRAMMES

- Inspection of the servitude should include monitoring of the servitude line during the Post-Construction and the Operational Phase to detect any potential erosion problems timeously. Mitigatory measures should immediately be identified and implemented by Eskom in cooperation with the landowner.
- Any incidents resulting from Eskom structures and operation that might have a detrimental impact on the environment will be investigated and measures, if applicable, will be identified in close cooperation with the affected parties and/or stakeholders and be implemented and monitored accordingly.
- Eskom must at all times follow acceptable maintenance and operational practices to ensure consistent, effective and safe performance of the infrastructure.
- Regular monitoring for bird collisions along the line should be undertaken and, should there be bird mortalities as a result of collisions, appropriate steps have to be taken to improve mitigation measures.

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