

Mr. Sabelo Malaza The Chief Director

Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorizations

Department of Environmental Affairs

Environment House, 473 Steve Biko, Arcadia, 0083

Private Bag X447

Pretoria **0001** 

Dear Mr Malaza

Date: 5 July 2017

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NOTIFICATION FOR COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION AND FINAL ROUTE ALIGNMENT: OUTENIQUA-OUDTSHOORN 132kV OVERHEAD POWER LINE, EDEN DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, WESTERN CAPE - DEA REFERENCE NUMBER: 14/12/16/3/3/1/613

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the afore-mentioned project on 31 October 2013, as amended on 4 August 2015 (**DEA Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/1/613**), refers.

This letter serves to notify the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) of Eskom's intension to commence with site preparation for construction on 1 August 2017, as per condition 21 of the EA.

Eskom would further like to inform the DEA that a final line walkthrough was undertaken by a botanist and avifaunal specialist from 14-16 March 2017 as per conditions 24 and 35, and 34, respectively. Details of the specialist are as follow:

## **Botanical Specialist-**

Dr David J. McDonald
Bergwind Botanical Surveys & Tours CC
14A Thomson Road
Claremont
7708

Tel. +27 21 671-4056 Mobile: +27 82 876-4051 E-mail: dave@bergwind.co.za Web: www.bergwind.co.za

## Avifaunal specialist-

Jon Smallie Wildskies Ecological Services Mobile: +27 82 444 8919

Fax: 086 615 5654

E-mail: jon@wildskies.co.za

Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd Reg No 2002/015527/30

Based on the findings and recommendations made by these specialists the line route has been updated and pole positions shifted to more favorable positions in order to avoid and minimize environmental impacts.

Find attached the final route alignment and the pole positions. The EMPr as approved in the Final BAR dated 11 July 2013 will be implemented without the need for amendments. The EMPr includes all recommendations and mitigation measures as per the FBAR and Specialist Reports. As such, compliance to condition 12 in the EA is achieved.

A re-alignment of 3 pole positions is required at the end of the power line where it feeds into the Outeniqua substation, due to technical engineering constraints. The re-alignment will all be located within an existing Eskom servitude and will not result in any significant impact/ change and no change in scope. Please refer to the attached application and maps.

Yours sincerely

Justine Wyngaardt

**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER: LAND DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT**