



**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME (EMPr)**

*for*

**BASIC ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE 132kV CHIKADEE LOOP  
IN LOOP OUT POWERLINE BETWEEN THE EXISTING SPECULATE/GROOTLAAGTE 132kV LINE  
AND THE PROPOSED REABETSWE TRACTION SUBSTATION WITHIN THE STEVE TSHWETE  
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE.**

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**COMPILED BY:**

Envirolution Consulting (Pty) Ltd  
PO Box 1898  
Sunninghill  
2157  
Tel: 0861 444 499  
Fax: 0861 626 222  
Email: [info@envirolution.co.za](mailto:info@envirolution.co.za)

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## DEFINITIONS AND TERMINOLOGY

**Alternatives:** Alternatives are different means of meeting the general purpose and need of a proposed activity. Alternatives may include location or site alternatives, activity alternatives, processes or technology alternatives, temporal alternatives or the 'do nothing' alternative.

**Cumulative impacts:** Impacts that result from the incremental impact of the proposed activity on a common resource when added to the impacts of other past, present or reasonably foreseeable future activities (e.g. discharges of nutrients and heated water to a river that combine to cause algal bloom and subsequent loss of dissolved oxygen that is greater than the additive impacts of each pollutant). Cumulative impacts can occur from the collective impacts of individual minor actions over a period and can include both direct and indirect impacts.

**Direct impacts:** Impacts that are caused directly by the activity and generally occur at the same time and at the place of the activity (e.g. noise generated by blasting operations on the site of the activity). These impacts are usually associated with the construction, operation or maintenance of an activity and are generally obvious and quantifiable.

**Drainage line:** A drainage line is a lower category or order of watercourse that does not have a clearly defined bed or bank. It carries water only during or immediately after periods of heavy rainfall i.e. non-perennial and riparian vegetation may or may not be present

**'Do nothing' alternative:** The 'do nothing' alternative is the option of not undertaking the proposed activity or any of its alternatives. The 'do nothing' alternative also provides the baseline against which the impacts of other alternatives should be compared.

**Ecosystem:** A dynamic system of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit.

**Environment:** the surroundings within which humans exist and that are made up of:

- i. The land, water and atmosphere of the earth;
- ii. Micro-organisms, plant and animal life;
- iii. Any part or combination of (i) and (ii) and the interrelationships among and between them; and
- iv. The physical, chemical, aesthetic and cultural properties and conditions of the foregoing that influence human health and well-being.

**Environmental impact:** An action or series of actions that have an effect on the environment.

**Environmental impact assessment:** Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), as defined in the NEMA EIA Regulations and in relation to an application to which scoping must be applied, means the process of collecting, organising, analysing, interpreting and communicating information that is relevant to the consideration of that application.

**Environmental management:** Ensuring that environmental concerns are included in all stages of development, so that development is sustainable and does not exceed the carrying capacity of the environment.

**Environmental management programme:** A plan that organises and co-ordinates mitigation, rehabilitation and monitoring measures in order to guide the implementation of a proposal and its ongoing maintenance after implementation.

**General waste:** Waste which does not pose an immediate hazard or threat to health or to the environment' and includes the following waste flows: domestic waste, construction and demolition waste, business waste, inert waste.

**Habitat:** The place in which a species or ecological community occurs naturally.

**Hazardous waste:** Waste that has the potential to cause a negative threat/impact to humans and/or the environment. It includes, but is not limited to, batteries, neon lights, fluorescent lights, printer cartridges, oil, paint, paint containers, oil filters, IT equipment etc.

**Indirect impacts:** Indirect or induced changes that may occur as a result of the activity (e.g. the reduction of water in a stream that supply water to a reservoir that supply water to the activity). These types of impacts include all the potential impacts that do not manifest immediately when the activity is undertaken or which occur at a different place as a result of the activity.

**Interested and affected party:** Individuals or groups concerned with or affected by an activity and its consequences. These include the authorities, local communities, investors, work force, consumers, environmental interest groups, and the public.

**Pollution:** A change in the environment caused by substances (radio-active or other waves, noise, odours, dust or heat emitted from any activity, including the storage or treatment of waste or substances. place

**Significant impact:** An impact that by its magnitude, duration, intensity or probability of occurrence may have a notable effect on one or more aspects of the environment.

**Waste:** As per National Environmental Management: Waste Act means-

- a) any substance, material or object, that is unwanted, rejected, abandoned, discarded or
- b) disposed of, or that is intended or required to be discarded or disposed of, by the holder of that substance, material or object, whether or not such substance, material or object can be re-used, recycled or recovered and includes all wastes as defined in Schedule 3 to this Act; or
- c) any other substance, material or object that is not included in Schedule 3 that may be defined as a waste by the Minister by notice in the Gazette, but any waste or portion of waste, referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b), ceases to be a waste.

**Watercourse:** as per the National Water Act means -

- (a) a river or spring;
- (b) a natural channel in which water flows regularly or intermittently;
- (c) a wetland, lake or dam into which, or from which, water flows; and
- (d) any collection of water which the Minister may, by notice in the Gazette, declare to be a watercourse, and a reference to a watercourse includes, where relevant, its bed and banks. community



## ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

EA	Environmental Authorisation
ECO	Environmental Control Officer
ELO	Environmental Liaison Officer
EMPr	Environmental Management Programme
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GDARD	Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
I&AP	Interested and Affected Party
IEM	Integrated Environmental Management
PM	Project Manager

## 1. INTRODUCTION BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION

Envirovolution Consulting (Pty) Ltd was appointed by Eskom Holdings SOC Limited (Eskom) to conduct the Basic Assessment (BA) Process for the proposed development of the 132 kV Reabetswe (Chikadee) power line between the existing Speculate/Grootlaagte 132kv line and the proposed Reabetswe Traction Substation within the Steve Tshwete Local Municipality, Mpumalanga Province.

Eskom Holdings is the biggest producer of electricity in South Africa and is a vertically integrated company licensed to generate, transmit and distribute electricity. A distribution operation constructs and maintains equipment that transforms the power supply to the type that meets the customer's needs. Reliable network performance targets necessitate that Eskom Distribution improves present distribution network performance levels.

The need and desirability for this specific development is to assist Transnet (SOC) Ltd (Transnet) in increasing its export coal capacity to 81MTPA and to upgrade the Direct Current (DC) sections on the Transnet traction site as well as on the corresponding Eskom sides.

Local benefits of the proposed development include benefits to the local economy through possible job creation and local supplier procurement during the construction phase as well as during the operational phase of the development.

The project qualifies as a Strategic Infrastructure Project (SIP 10), namely "Electricity transmission and distribution for all". The project serves to "expand the transmission and distribution network to address historical imbalances, provide access to electricity for all and support economic development. Align the 10-year transmission plan, the services backlog, the national broadband roll-out and the freight rail line development to leverage off regulatory approvals, supply chain and project development capacity".

Local benefits of the proposed development include benefits to the local economy through job creation in the construction phase as well as during the operational phase of the development. The construction for the proposed power line development is estimated to last for more than 12 months. During the construction phase of the development, local labour (where applicable) will be sourced and where possible socially responsible local service providers will be used in order to benefit the maximum amount of people.

It is understood that any development can pose various risks to the environment as well as the residents or businesses in the surrounding area. These possible risks should be taken into account during the planning phase of the development. The purpose of this document is to provide management responses that will ensure that the impacts of the development are minimised. This EMP is, therefore, a stand-alone document, which must be used on site during each phase of the development (planning, construction and operational phases).

The purpose of this EMP is to formulate mitigating measures that should be made binding to all contractors during construction of the proposed development, as well as measures that should be implemented during the operational phase. The point of departure for this EMP is to take a pro-active route by addressing potential problems before they occur. The EMP will also provide management responses that will ensure that the impacts of the development are minimised. This should limit corrective measures needed during the construction and



operational phases of the development. Additional mitigation will be included throughout the project's various phases as necessary. This EMP is, therefore, a stand-alone document, which must be used on site during each phase of the development (planning, construction and operational phases).

This document should be flexible so as to allow the contractor and developer to conform to the management commitments without being prescriptive. The management commitments prove that the anticipated risks on the environment will be minimised if they are adhered to consistently. The onus set out in the EMP rests with the developer, main contractors and subcontractors, which promotes responsibility and commitment.

Any parties responsible for transgression of the underlying management measures outlined in this document will be held responsible of non-compliances and will be dealt with accordingly.

### **Aims and objectives of the EMP**

The purpose of this EMP is to provide an easily interpreted reference document that ensures that the project environmental commitments, safeguards and mitigation measures from the environmental planning documents, project approvals, and Scope of Works are implemented. It aims to minimise impacts associated with the construction phase for the power line and make sure the impacts on the environment are kept to a minimum. This includes ensuring that the mitigation measures described in the Basic Assessment Report (if required) are implemented, to ensure continued monitoring of the construction phase and to ensure the involvement of interested and affected parties (IA&Ps) in a meaningful way.

The objectives for the EMP are:

To develop, implement and maintain effective management systems for the environmental aspects of the maintenance works;

- To document details of environmental protection infrastructure and controls so that they are able to provide long term protection for the natural environment;
- To ensure compliance with relevant legislation (National, Provincial and Local), regulatory requirements and environmental documents;
- To maximise the value and outcomes of environmental monitoring activities so that the information can be applied to the planning and implementation of future projects;
- To ensure that all Environmental Management considerations are implemented during the operational and maintenance phases of the project.

The EMP has been developed based on the findings of the on site assessment undertaken by Envirolution and the following specialist studies undertaken during the basic assessment process of this project:

<b>Discipline</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Contact Person &amp; Details</b>
<b>Vegetation Assessment</b>	Dimela ECO Consulting	<b>Antoinette Eysell-Knox</b> Tel: 083 642 6295 <a href="mailto:antoinette@dimela-eco.co.za">antoinette@dimela-eco.co.za</a>
<b>Heritage Assessment</b>	Johan Van Schalkwyk	<b>Dr Johan Van Schalkwyk</b> Tel: 076 790 6777

		<a href="mailto:jvschalkwyk@mweb.co.za">jvschalkwyk@mweb.co.za</a>
<b>Visual Impact</b>	Skets Architects, Planning & Environmental Consulting cc.	<b>Mr. Mader van den Berg</b> Cell: 076 169 1435 mader@skets.co.za
<b>Wetlands Delineation</b>	Limosella Consulting Pty Ltd	<b>Antoinette Bootsma</b> Tel: 27 83 4545 454 <a href="mailto:antoinette@limosella.co.za">antoinette@limosella.co.za</a>
<b>Fauna Impact</b>	I.L. Rautenbach Ph.D., Pr.Sci.Nat., J.C.P. Van Wyk MSc., Pr.Sci.Nat., A.E. McKechnie Ph.D., Pr.Sci.Nat.	<b>I.L. Rautenbach</b> Tel: 27 83 4545 454

All the Environmental specifications and the procedures discussed in this document were also developed in accordance with the relevant legislation applicable to the development.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Envirovolution Consulting (Pty) Ltd was appointed by Eskom Holdings SOC Limited (Eskom) to conduct the Basic Assessment (BA) Process for the proposed development of the 132 kV Chikadee power line between the existing Hendrina/Arbedeen 132 kV power line and the proposed Reabetswe Traction Station (under construction) within the Steve Tshwete Local Municipality, Mpumalanga Province.

The alternatives considered are as follows:

#### **Proposed Reabetswe powerline (red route) - preferred:**

The length of power line (loop in/out) Proposed Reabetswe powerline is approximately 80 m in total and it will originate from the recently authorised Reabetswe substation and extend in a north easterly direction for approximately 25 m before turning in a right angle northwards for approximately 55 m before joining the existing Speculate/Grootlaagte 132 kV power line. This power line servitude is 52 m and traverses **Portion 4 of the Farm Tweefontein 458 JS** and has a capacity of 132 kV.

#### **Proposed Alternative powerline:**

The length of power line (loop in/out) Proposed Reabetswe powerline is approximately 543 m in total and it will originate from the recently authorised Reabetswe substation and extend in a north easterly direction for approximately 25 m before turning in a south eastern direction for approximately 42 m then the line turns to a south western direction where it spans for approximately 315 m before then turns northwards direction for approximately 161 m before joining to the existing Speculate/Grootlaagte 132 kV power line. This power line servitude is 52 m and traverses **Portion 4 of the Farm Tweefontein 458 JS** and has a capacity of 132 kV.

**Table 1:** Property details of proposed development:

#### **Proposed Reabetswe powerline (red route) - preferred:**

<b>Province</b>	Mpumalanga Province
<b>District Municipality</b>	Nkangala District Municipality
<b>Local Municipality</b>	Steve Tshwete Local Municipality
<b>Ward Number(s)</b>	Ward 7
<b>Farm name and number</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Portion 4 of the Farm Tweetfontein 458 JS</li> </ul>
<b>Portion number</b>	See above
<b>SG Code</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• T0JS00000000045800004</li> </ul>

**Proposed Alternative powerline:**

<b>Province</b>	Mpumalanga Province
<b>District Municipality</b>	Nkangala District Municipality
<b>Local Municipality</b>	Steve Tshwete Local Municipality
<b>Ward Number(s)</b>	Ward 7
<b>Farm name and number</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Portion 4 of the Farm Tweetfontein 458 JS</li> </ul>
<b>Portion number</b>	See above
<b>SG Code</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• T0JS00000000045800004</li> </ul>

The coordinates of the proposed power line are as follows:

**Proposed Reabetswe powerline (red route)**

**Alternative:**                                      **Longitude (E):**                                      **Latitude (S):**

**Proposed Reabetswe powerline (red route) - preferred:**

**Loop in 1**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Starting point of the activity</li> </ul>	29°47' 7.7" E	25°54' 47.8" S
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Middle/Additional point of the activity</li> </ul>	29°47' 8.1" E	25°54' 48.9" S
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bend Point 1</li> </ul>	29°47' 8.3" E	25°54' 49.5" S
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End point of the activity</li> </ul>	29°47' 7.5" E	25°54' 49.9" S

**Proposed Reabetswe powerline (red route) - preferred:**

**Loop out 2**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Starting point of the activity</li> </ul>	29°47' 7.1" E	25°54' 48.0" S
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• Middle/Additional point of the activity	29°47' 7.4" E	25°54' 48.8" S
• Bend Point 1	29°47' 7.6" E	25°54' 49.3" S
• End point of the activity	29°47' 7.3" E	25°54' 49.4" S

**Proposed Alternative powerline**

**Proposed Alternative powerline: Loop in 1**

	<b>Longitude (E):</b>	<b>Latitude (S):</b>
• Starting point of the activity	29° 47' 7.25" E	25° 54' 50.21" S
• Middle/Additional point of the activity	29° 47' 2.98" E	25° 54' 54.00" S
• Bend Point 1	29° 47' 08.4" E	25° 54' 51.4" S
• Bend Point 2	29° 47' 01.5" E	25° 54' 54.3" S
• End point of the activity	29° 46' 59.00" E	25° 54' 50.4" S

**Proposed Alternative powerline: Loop in 2**

	<b>Longitude (E):</b>	<b>Latitude (S):</b>
• Starting point of the activity	29° 47' 7.25" E	25°54'50.21"S
• Middle/Additional point of the activity	29° 47' 2.87" E	25° 54' 53.86" S
• Bend Point 1	29° 47' 09.1" E	25° 54' 51.7" S
• Bend Point 2	29° 47' 01.3" E	25° 54' 54.9" S
• End point of the activity	29° 46' 58.5" E	25° 54' 50.6" S

**2. PREPARATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME (EMP)**

This Environmental Management Programme was compiled by:

Company Name:                      Envirolution Consulting (Pty) Ltd  
 Contact person:                    Mr Thabang Sekele

Physical Address: Vista Place Suite 1a & 2  
No 52 Cnr Vorster Avenue & Glen Avenue  
Glenanda  
Postal Address: P.O Box 1898, Sunninghill, 2157  
Telephone Number: (0861) 44 44 99  
Fax Number: (0861) 62 62 22  
E-mail: [thabang@envirolution.co.za](mailto:thabang@envirolution.co.za)

### **Expertise of Environmental Practitioner that prepared the EMPr**

Thabang Sekele forms part of the project team and acts as the Project Manager and Environmental Assessment Practitioner for all phases of the project. Thabang holds a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Management from the University of South Africa. Thabang's key focus is on strategic environmental assessment and advice; management and co-ordination of environmental projects, which include integration of environmental studies and environmental processes into larger engineering-based projects and ensuring compliance to legislation and guidelines; environmental auditing and compliance reporting; the identification of environmental management solution and mitigation/risk minimising measures; environmental auditing, monitoring and reporting compliance. Thabang is currently an Environmental Consultant at Envirolution Consulting (Pty) Ltd. He is currently involved in several Environmental Impact Assessments for energy projects across the country.

Gesan Govender – The principle environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) for this project is a registered Professional Natural Scientist and holds an Honours Degree in Botany. He has over 15 years of experience within the field of environmental management. His key focus is on strategic environmental assessment and advice; management and co-ordination of environmental projects, which includes integration of environmental studies and environmental processes into larger engineering-based projects and ensuring compliance to legislation and guidelines; compliance reporting; the identification of environmental management solutions and mitigation/risk minimising measures; and strategy and guideline development. He is currently responsible for the project management of EIAs for several diverse projects across the country.

## **3. DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPACTS**

### **3.1. Vegetation Impacts**

The moist grassland on site is regarded as sensitive, however, the wetland report undertaken concurrently to this report must be consulted for details about wetland properties and extent on the project site (Limosella Consulting, 2017). While the excavation of soil for the base of pylons would remove vegetation, the vegetation could be replanted after the construction and its re-establishment monitored to ensure that the soil and vegetation rehabilitate over time. This could only be done with suitable mitigation measures in place to protect the wetland hydrology and soils as recommended by the wetland report (Limosella Consulting, 2017).

The greatest threat to the rehabilitation of the land disturbed by construction is the potential of invasive plant species rapidly establishing on the disturbed soil and spreading into adjacent natural areas. The category 1b

invasive *Solanum sisymbriifolium* was recorded on site and Wattle (*Acacia* species) and Eucalyptus trees south of the railway line. If remedial measures and monitoring are properly implemented, the vegetation that will be disturbed during construction could rehabilitate well over time, and long term impacts on vegetation could thus be minimal. Once in use, the powerlines have relatively contained impacts on the vegetation and can successfully be mitigated to limit or even negate the negative impacts. Furthermore, the presence of proximate access roads and dirt roads will greatly reduce the impacts of the proposed development.

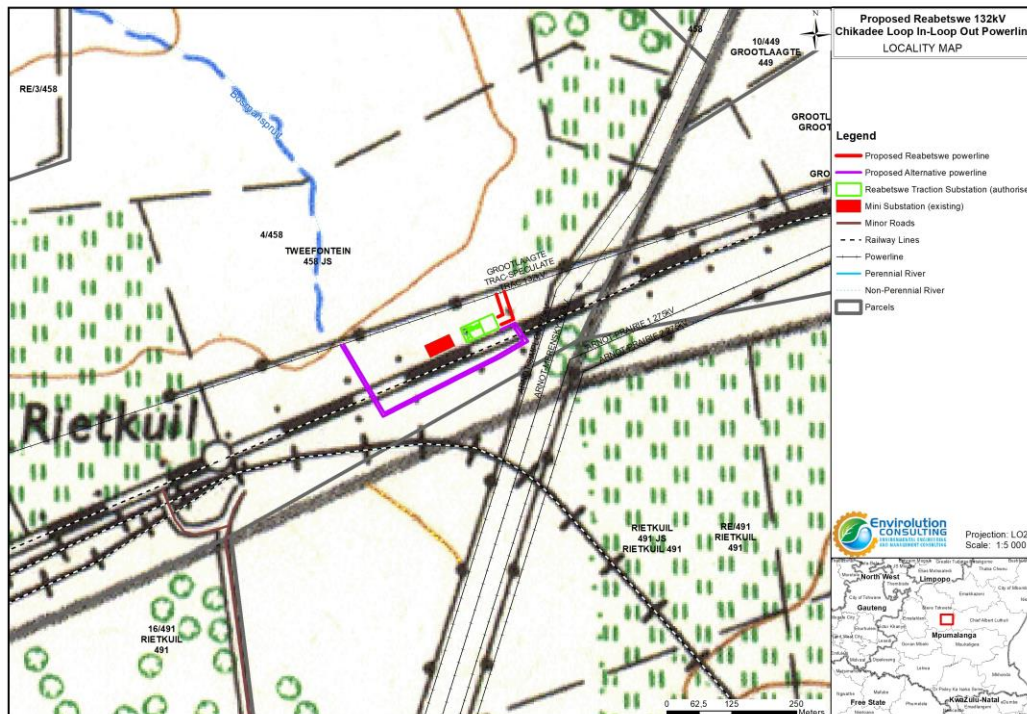


Figure 1: Project Locality map

Vegetation clearing for pylons could impact listed plant species and plant communities. Vegetation clearing will also lead to habitat loss for fauna and potentially the loss of sensitive faunal species, habitats and ecosystems. Erosion risk may result due to the loss of plant cover and soil disturbance created during the construction phase. Although the effects would probably only become apparent during the operation phase, the impact stems from the construction phase and suitable mitigation measures will also need to be applied at this stage. No protected species were found during the site assessment.



**Figure 2: Critical Biodiversity Areas within the proposed development**

### Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan

According to the Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan (MBSP), the project site is situated in Critical Biodiversity Areas: Optimal Area (Figure 3). In Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA's), any irreversible loss of habitat would be highly undesirable and these biodiversity features must be treated as 'red flags' or 'fatal flaws' (MTPA, 2014). The CBA Optimal Areas (previously called 'important and necessary' in the MBCP) are the areas optimally located to meet both the various biodiversity targets and other criteria defined in the analysis. Although these areas are not 'irreplaceable' they are the most efficient land configuration to meet all biodiversity targets and design criteria (MTPA, 2014).

Optimal areas should be maintained in a natural state with no further loss of natural habitat. If small-scale land use change is unavoidable, it must be located and designed to be as biodiversity-sensitive as possible. The land use guidelines state that powerline infrastructure may compromise the biodiversity objective and are only permissible under certain conditions (MTPA, 2014).

### 3.2 Fauna Impacts

The footprint of the new Reabetwe substation will be very small (< 1 acre) relative to the adjoining natural terrain, and the environmental loss is thus insignificant and its affect will be benign. The short (90 meters) new in/out powerlines will cross relatively unaltered grassland, but will have no environmental effect once commissioned.

The specialist are of opinion that the conservation status of predominantly terrestrial and small manmade wetland habitats along both the routes under consideration can be rated as "Medium-low, i.e. Land on which small sections could be considered for conservation but where the area in general has little conservation value" (See Section 4.4 and 6.1).

In spite of a significance rating of 32% (moderate) (See Sections 4.6 and 6.2), we are of opinion that the operational powerline will in fact have no environmental impact. A powerline is a formidable and highly visual structure, but in essence it has no impact on the environment once rehabilitation and ecological processes revert the affected areas to its former status. The respective predicted impact of the construction will be similar for each of the routes.

The choice of which route to follow is therefore incumbent on factors other than environmental concerns.

Considering on the nature of the development and the fact that it is not even necessary to implement conservation measures, it is most likely that none of the terrestrial vertebrates with their habitat(s) will be displaced or even be negatively affected.

### **3.3. Watercourse impact**

The specialist study that was conducted by Limosella Consulting (Appendix D) found that physical alteration to wetlands can have an impact on the functioning of those wetlands. The following potential impacts were identified:

#### **Changes in sediment entering and exiting the system**

Activities such as earthworks and soil disturbance as well as the removal of natural vegetation. This could result in the loss of topsoil, sedimentation of the wetland and increase the turbidity of the water. Possible sources of the impacts include:

- Earthwork activities during structure construction and upgrade
- Disturbance of soil surface including soil compaction
- Disturbance of slopes through creation of access roads and tracks adjacent to the wetland

#### **Changes in water flow ratings**

Any activities that change the catchment of a wetland will affect the way in which water enters into the wetlands. This has an effect on water flow volumes as well as energy. Possible sources of the impacts include:

- Soil compaction through movement of heavy vehicles
- Disturbance of slopes through creation of roads and tracks adjacent to or within the wetland
- Disturbance of vegetation cover through trampling
- Creation of additional access roads

#### **Introduction and spread of alien vegetation impact ratings**

Any activities that damage the natural vegetation cover will result in opportunistic invasions after disturbance and the introduction of seed in construction materials and on vehicles. Invasions of alien plants can impact on



hydrology, by outcompeting natural vegetation and decreasing the natural biodiversity. The cumulative impacts are expected to be High to Moderate.

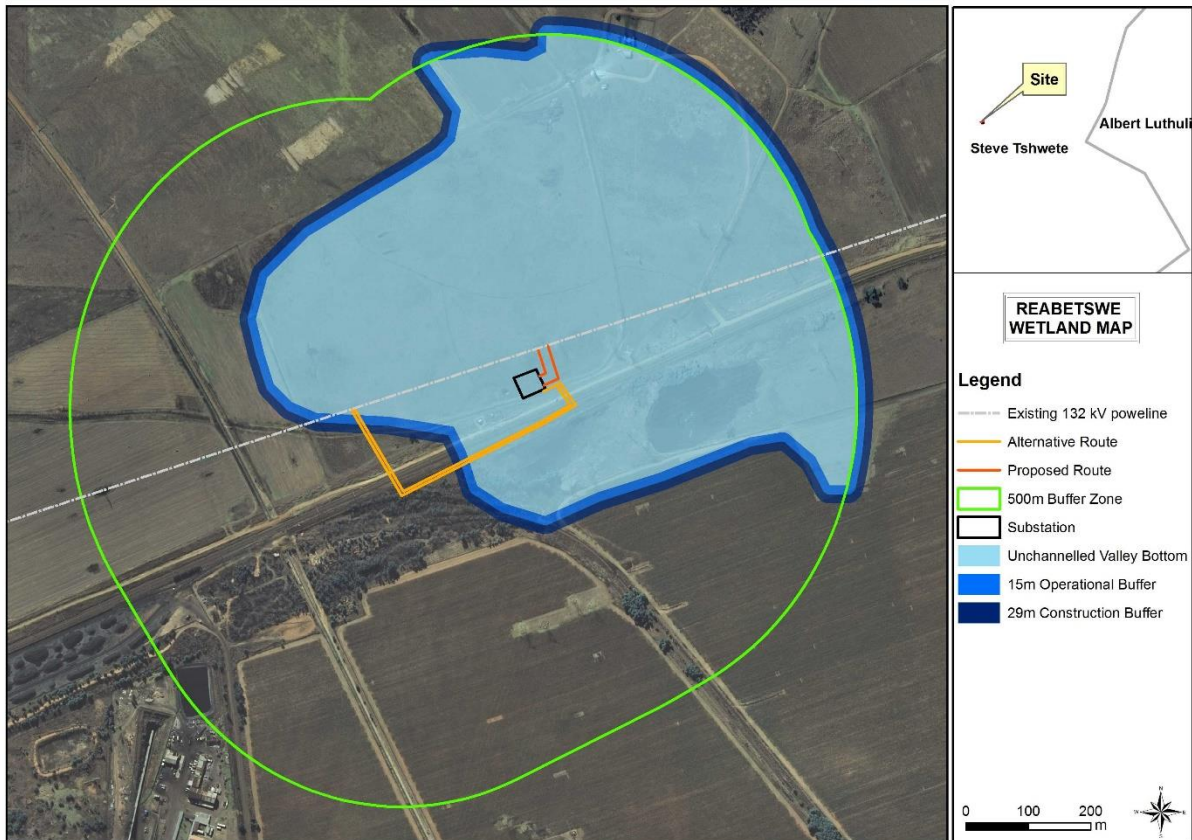


Figure 4: Wetland sensitivity map of the study site.

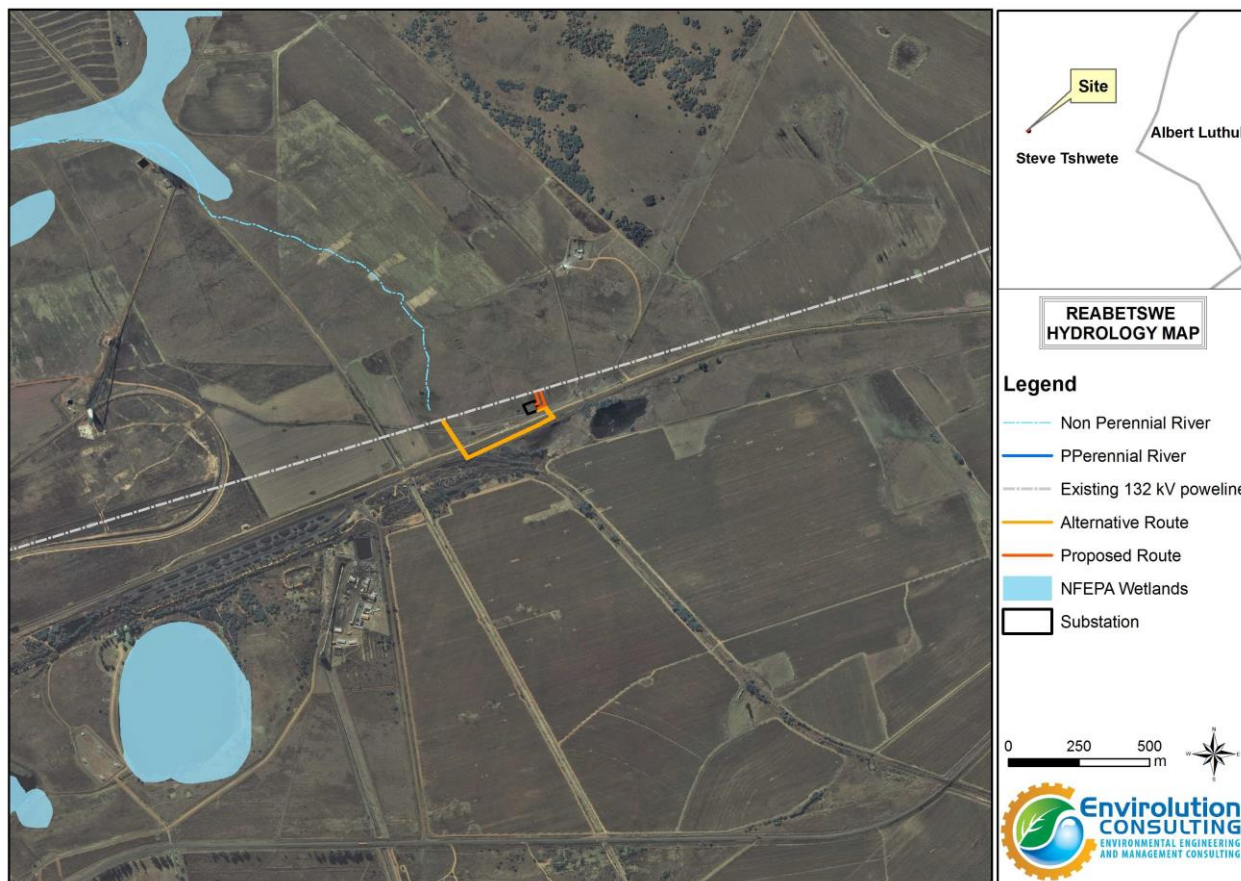


Figure 5: The hydrology of the proposed development site.

### 3.4. Visual Impact

The construction activity will cause damage to the existing vegetation cover between the Reabetswe Traction Substation and the existing Speculate/Grootlaagte 132kV power line due to the movement of the technical team and the operation of construction equipment. These activities will negatively impact on the attributes of the landscape as it will remove or damage elements that partially contribute to the prevailing character of the landscape. The construction equipment, construction camps and workforce will be elements that are uncharacteristic to the visual environment. Construction sites are considered unsightly and may intrude on the views of the identified observers inside the ZMVE. It will negatively impact on the visual value and quality of the landscape character on a localised scale.

A new loop-in, loop-out power line is considered a very small addition to the visual environment which is already impacted by existing power line infrastructure. The loop-in, loop-out power line will not be longer than 80m and will cause a very small visual change. No sensitive observers are located within the ZMVE and viewer incidence is expected to be insignificant. The impact on the landscape character is considered minimal with no significant disruption or intrusion caused by the proposed project.

The only mitigation measure that will yield a significant result is the construction of an underground cable instead of an overhead line. This option will conceal any visible parts of the power line and will have the least long-term impacts.

No fatally flawed issues are identified, and visual impacts are considered within acceptable limits.

### **3.5. Heritage Impact**

The cultural landscape qualities of the region essentially consist of two components. The first is made up of a pre-colonial (Stone Age and Iron Age) occupation. The second component is a rural settlement largely based on farming, but also in which coal mining activities in recent years contributed to a densification of settlement and concurrent business development.

No sites, features or objects of cultural heritage significance were found in the development area. As no sites, features or objects of cultural heritage significance were found in the development area, there would be no impact as a result of the proposed development. Alternative 1 is recommended as it is the shortest possible route.

### **3.6. Palaeontological Impact**

The potential impact of the development on fossil heritage is VERY HIGH and therefore a field survey or further mitigation or conservation measures were necessary for this development (according to SAHRA protocol). A Phase 2 PIA and or mitigation are only recommended if the Phase 1: Field study finds fossils (plant remains). During the survey, it was found that the site is directly underlain by shale and sandstone of the Vryheid Formation and that coal is present. It is located on an undulating topography. The area is undermined and disturbed by historic mining in the Witbank-Middelburg area. The area is covered by overburden, vegetation, crops, natural grassland and other land uses include roads and mine activities. The development will take place on the Vryheid Formation known for its plant fossils. The development will benefit the community. Both Alternatives have a very high heritage impact, fossils were not found during the walk through and drive through.

### **3.7. Soil erosion and associated degradation of ecosystems**

Soil erosion is a frequent risk, associated with developments where vegetation clearing and disturbance is taking place. Service roads, pavements and roofs of buildings will generate an increase in runoff during intense rainfall events and may potentially exaggerate the effects of erosion. These eroded materials may enter the nearby storm water canals and may potentially impact these systems through siltation and change in chemistry and turbidity of the water. With effective mitigation measures in place, including regular monitoring, the occurrence, spread and potential effects of erosion may be limited to an absolute minimum.

### **3.8. Alien Plant Invasions**

Major factors contributing to an invasion by alien invader plants includes habitat disturbance and associated destruction of indigenous vegetation. Consequences of this may include

- further loss and displacement of indigenous vegetation;

- change in vegetation structure leading to change in various habitat characteristics;
- change in plant species composition;
- change in soil chemistry properties;
- loss of sensitive habitats;
- loss or disturbance to individuals of rare, endangered, endemic and/or protected species;
- fragmentation of sensitive habitats;
- change in flammability of vegetation, depending on alien species;
- hydrological impacts due to increased transpiration and runoff; and
- impairment of wetland function.

The largest concentration of alien plant species is along the roads and at the wetland site.

Consequences of this may include:

- Further loss and displacement of indigenous vegetation due to invasion by alien invasives

Although the potential severity of this impact may be high, it can be easily mitigated through regular alien control.

#### **4. APPLICABLE LEGISLATION**

Several laws and regulations apply to the protection of the environment and contain environmental principles and standards that need to be applied and permits and licences that need to be obtained. This EMPr will be subject to regulatory control under a range of State, Provincial and Local regulations. Such legislation largely embraces pollution prevention, resource use and conservation, and socio cultural (heritage) protection. This chapter reviews legislation pertaining to the proposed development.

According to Section 2 (1, 2 & 3) of the National Environmental Management Act No. 107 of 1998 (NEMA), all organs of state have to apply certain principles set out in NEMA when taking decisions that may significantly affect the environment. The key principles of this Act include that all “actions” that they approve must be economically, socially and environmentally sustainable. It further states that “people and their needs” must be at the forefront of “its concern” and their interests must be served equitably. The intent of this EMPr is to ensure that the developer conducts all its activities related to the construction and maintenance of this erosion protection measure in accordance with the provisions of the NEMA, and has taken into account the provisions of the Constitution and the principles of Integrated Environmental Management.

Key environmental legislations that are applicable to the project are described below:

##### **4.1 The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Act 108 of 1996)**

The Constitution is the most important piece of legislation that provides a framework for environmental management in South Africa. There are various sections that have implications for environmental management, hence for sustainable development. The Bill of Rights is fundamental to the Constitution of South Africa and in, section 24 of the Act. Other sections in the Constitution that are of importance are section 32 which deals with the

right of access to information; section 33 which provides for just administrative action; section 38 which deals with the extended *locus standi* provisions.

Section 24 therefore places a duty on all spheres of government to take reasonable steps, including to make laws, prevent pollution, promote conservation and ensure sustainable development.

*While no permitting or licensing requirements arise from this legislation. However, this Act will find application during the construction phase of the project in proper management of the environment. An EMP has been compiled for this purpose, to ensure that the environment is protected throughout the phases of the development.*

#### **4.2 National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (as amended)**

The National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) generally known as “NEMA” is South Africa’s overarching framework for environmental legislation. The NEMA Act sets out the principles of Integrated Environmental Management (IEM). NEMA aims to promote sustainable development, with wide-ranging implications for national, provincial, and local government. Included amongst the key principles is that all development must be environmentally, economically and socially sustainable and that environmental management must place people and their needs at the forefront, and equitably serve their physical, developmental, psychological, cultural and social interest. Section 24 provides for the prohibition, restriction and control of activities which are likely to have a detrimental effect on the environment. While Section 28 of NEMA creates a general duty of care on every person, and “person” is very widely defined, to take reasonable measures to prevent significant pollution or degradation of the environment from occurring, continuing or recurring, or, in so far as such harm to the environment is authorised by law or cannot reasonably be avoided or stopped, to minimise and rectify such pollution or degradation of the environment.

*In terms of Section 19, the project proponent must ensure that reasonable measures are taken throughout the life cycle of this project to prevent significant pollution or degradation of the environment from occurring, continuing or recurring, or, in so far as such harm to the environment is authorised by law or cannot reasonably be avoided or stopped, to minimise and rectify such pollution or degradation of the environment*

#### **4.3 National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 2004 (Act 10 of 2004)**

Provides management and conservation of South Africa’s biodiversity within the framework of the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998; the protection of species and ecosystems that warrant national protection and the sustainable use of indigenous biological resources.

#### **4.4 The National Environmental Management Waste Act 2008 (Act 59 of 2008)**

The National Environmental Management Waste Act (NEMWA) reforms the law regulating waste management in order to protect health and the environment providing reasonable measures for the prevention of pollution and ecological degradation and for securing ecologically sustainable development; to provide for institutional arrangements and planning matters; to provide for national norms and standards for regulating the management of waste by all spheres of government; to provide for specific waste management measures; to provide for licensing and control of waste management activities; to provide for the remediation of contaminated land; to

provide for the national waste information system; to provide for compliance and enforcement; and to provide for matters connected therewith.

#### **4.5 The Occupational Health and Safety Act 1993 (No 85 of 1993)**

The Occupational Health and Safety Act makes provision in regulation Section 8 for the general duties of employers to their employees. Section 9 of the Regulations makes provision for general duties of employers and self employed persons to persons other than their employees.

While no permitting or licensing requirements arise from this legislation, this Act will find application during the construction phase of the project. Healthy and safety precautions measures must be put in place for the construction crew and the general public

#### **4.6 The National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act 2004 (No 39 of 2004)**

National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (NEM:AQA) which provides for the control of dust, noise and offensive odours.

While no permitting or licensing requirements arise from this legislation, this Act will find application during the demolition phase of the project. Dust control regulations promulgated in November 2013 may require the implementation of a dust management plan.

#### **4.7 The National Environmental Management: Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998)**

The National Water Act aims to provide management of the national water resources to achieve sustainable use of water for the benefit of all water users. This requires that the quality of water resources is protected as well as integrated management of water resources with the delegation of powers to institutions at the regional or catchment level. The purpose of the Act is to ensure that the nation's water resources are protected, used, developed, conserved, managed and controlled.

Of specific importance to this application is Section 19 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), which states that an owner of land, a person in control of land or a person who occupies or uses the land which thereby causes, has caused or is likely to cause pollution of a water resource must take all reasonable measures to prevent any such pollution from occurring, continuing or recurring and must therefore comply with any prescribed waste standard or management practices. Section 20 outlines the control of emergency incidents.

For the purpose of this project a Water Use Licence is required in terms of Section 21 (c) impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse and (i) altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse

#### **4.8 Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan (MBSP), 2013**

A spatial tool (map) with guidelines to inform permissible land-uses that support biodiversity and ecological processes, that also allow for species to adapt to climate change.

Strategically the MBSP enables province to:

- Implement NEM:BA provincially, and comply with requirements of NBF and certain international conventions.
- Identify those areas of highest biodiversity that need to be considered in provincial planning initiatives.
- Address threat of climate change (ecosystem-based adaptation).

According to the Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan (MBSP), the project site falls within Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA): Optimal Area. Therefore, the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) to be submitted as part of the final BAR must clearly indicate the biodiversity impacts that might occur as a result of the proposed project and the proposed mitigation measures thereof.

## **5. PHASES OF THE PROJECT**

The point of departure for this EMPr is to take a pro-active route by addressing potential problems before they occur. This should limit corrective measures needed during the construction and operational phases of the development. Additional mitigation will be included throughout the project's various phases, as required and if necessary.

The EMPr deals with the following phases as detailed below:

### **5.1. The Planning and Design Phase**

The EMPr offers an ideal opportunity to incorporate pro-active environmental management measures with the goal of attaining sustainable development.

Pro-active environmental measures minimize the chance of impacts taking place during the construction and operational phase. There is still the chance of accidental impacts taking place; however, through the incorporation of contingency plans (e.g. this EMPr) during the planning phase, the necessary corrective action can be taken to further limit potential impacts.

### **5.2. The Construction Phase**

The bulk of the impacts during this phase will have immediate effect (e.g. noise-, dust- and water pollution). If the site is monitored on a continual basis during the construction phase, it is possible to identify these impacts as they occur. These impacts will then be mitigated through the contingency plans identified in the planning phase, together with a commitment to sound environmental management from the developer.

### **5.3. Rehabilitation Phase**

This phase will involve restoring the land impacted during the construction phase back to its original state. This process will mainly be on rectifying the negative impacts that have been caused during construction by the removing pollution or contaminants and other dangerous substances from groundwater, sediment, or surface water and improvement of the soil.

#### **5.4. The Operational Phase**

By taking pro-active measures during the planning and construction phases, potential environmental impacts emanating during the operational phase will be minimised. This, in turn, will minimise the risk and reduce the monitoring effort, but it does not make monitoring obsolete.

### **6. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The implementation of this EMPr requires the involvement of several stakeholders, each fulfilling a different but vital role to ensure sound environmental management during the construction phase. The stakeholders are discussed below.

#### **6.1. Developer**

The developer remains ultimately responsible for ensuring that the development is implemented according to the requirements of the EMPr. Although the developer appoints specific role players to perform functions on his/her behalf, this responsibility is delegated. The developer is responsible for ensuring that sufficient resources (time, financial, human, equipment, etc.) are available to the other role players (e.g. the ECO, ELO and contractor) to efficiently perform their tasks in terms of the EMPr. The developer is liable for restoring the environment in the event of negligence leading to damage to the environment.

The developer must ensure that the EMPr is included in the tender documentation so that the contractor who is appointed is bound to the conditions of the EMPr.

The developer must appoint an independent Environmental Control Officer (ECO) during the construction phase to oversee all the environmental aspects relating to the development.

#### **6.2. Contractor**

The contractor, as the developer's agent on site, is bound to the EMPr conditions through his/her contract with the developer, and is responsible for ensuring that he adheres to all the conditions of the EMPr. The contractor must thoroughly familiarise him/herself with the EMPr requirements before construction begins and must request clarification on any aspect of these documents, should they be unclear. The contractor must ensure that he/she has provided sufficient budget for complying with all EMPr conditions at the tender stage.

The contractor must comply with all orders (whether verbal or written) given by the ECO, project manager or site engineer in terms of the EMPr.

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



The Environmental Control Officer (ECO) is appointed by the developer as an independent monitor of the implementation of the EMPr. He/she must form part of the project team and be involved in all aspects of project planning that can influence environmental conditions on the site. The ECO must attend relevant project meetings, conduct inspections to assess compliance with the EMPr and be responsible for providing feedback on potential environmental problems associated with the development. In addition, the ECO is responsible for:

- Assisting in ensuring that the necessary environmental authorisations and permits have been obtained prior to construction commencing.
- Reviewing the Contractor's construction Method Statements.
- Monthly site inspections of all construction areas with regard to compliance with the EMPr.
- Monitoring and verifying adherence to the EMPr, the EA and approved Method Statements at all times.
- Monitoring and verifying that environmental impacts are kept to a minimum.
- Taking appropriate action if the specifications are not followed.
- Monitoring the undertaking by the Contractor of environmental awareness training for all new personnel coming onto site.
- Advising on the removal of person(s) and/or equipment not complying with the specifications.
- Auditing the implementation of the EMPr and compliance with the EA on a monthly basis.
- Compiling a final audit report regarding the EMPr and its implementation during the construction period after completion of the contract and submitting this report to the Employer and the authorising authority.

The ECO has the right to enter the site and do monitoring and auditing at any time, subject to compliance with health and safety requirements applicable to the site (e.g. wearing of safety boots and protective head gear).

**(a) Liaison with Authorities**

The ECO will be responsible for liaising with the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD). The ECO must submit monthly environmental audit reports to the authorities. These audit reports must contain information on the contractor and developer's levels of compliance with the EMPr. The audit report must also include a description of the general state of the site, with specific reference to sensitive areas and areas of non-conformance. The ECO must indicate suggested corrective action measures to eliminate the cause of the non-conformance incidents. In order to keep a record of any impacts, an Environmental Log Sheet (refer to Appendix 1) is to be kept on a continual basis.

**(b) Liaison with Contractors**

The ECO is responsible for informing the contractors of any decisions that are taken concerning environmental management during the construction phase. This would also include informing the contractors of the necessary corrective actions to be taken.

#### 6.4 Project Engineer (PE)

The Project Engineer (PE) will be appointed by the 'Consultant' and will be required to oversee the construction programme and construction activities performed by the Contractor. The PE is expected to liaise with the Contractor and ECO on environmental matters, as well as any pertinent engineering matters where these may have environmental consequences. He/she will oversee the general compliance of the Contractor with the EMP and other pertinent site specifications. The PE will also be required to be familiar with the EMP specifications and further monitor the Contractor's compliance with the Environmental Specifications on a daily basis, through the Site Diary, and enforce compliance.

#### 6.5 Environmental Liaison Officer (ELO)

The contractor must appoint an Environmental Liaison Officer (ELO) to assist with day-to-day monitoring of the construction activities. Any issues raised by the ECO will be routed to the ELO for the contractors' attention. The ELO shall be permanently on site during the construction phase to oversee the Contractor's internal compliance with the EMP requirements and ensuring that the environmental specifications are adhered to. The ELO should ideally also be a senior and respected member of the construction crew.

The ELO will be responsible for keeping detailed records of all site activities that may pertain to the environment and include all these aspects in an environmental register. This register must be presented at each EMC meeting and be made available to the ECO during his/her monthly audits. In addition to the environmental register the ELO must keep a register of complaints from any community members on environmental issues. Finally, the ELO will be required to keep a record of all on-site environmentally related incidents and how these incidents were dealt with. Past experience has revealed that, ELO's that can relate to the work force are the most effective for information transfer and ensuring compliance with the EMP.

### 7. ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS PROCEDURE

**OBJECTIVE:** Ensure all construction and operation personnel have the appropriate level of environmental awareness and competence to ensure continued environmental due diligence and on-going minimisation of environmental harm (Environmental Awareness Plan)

To achieve effective environmental management, it is important that Contractors and site employees are aware of the responsibilities in terms of the relevant environmental legislation and the contents of this EMP. The developer is responsible for informing its employees and contractors (transportation contractor) of their environmental obligations in terms of the environmental specifications, and for ensuring that employees are adequately experienced and properly trained in order to execute the works in a manner that will minimise environmental impacts. The developer's obligations in this regard include the following:

- Employees must have a basic understanding of the key environmental features of the site and its surrounding environment.
- Ensuring that a copy of the EMP is readily available on-site, and that all site staff are aware of the location and have access to the document. Employees must be familiar with the

requirements of the EMPr and the environmental specifications as they apply to the operation of the facility.

- Ensuring that, prior to commencing any new site works, all employees have attended an Environmental Awareness Training course. The course must provide the site staff with an appreciation of the project's environmental requirements, and how they are to be implemented.
- Awareness of any other environmental matters, which are deemed to be necessary by the Environmental Control Officer.
- Ensuring that appropriate communication tools are used to outline the environmental “do’s” and “don’ts” (as per the environmental awareness training course) to employees.
- Records must be kept of those that have completed the relevant training.
- Refresher sessions must be held to ensure the operating staffs are aware of their environmental obligations.

Therefore, prior to the commencement of construction activities on site and before any person commences with work on site thereafter, adequate environmental awareness and responsibility are to be appropriately presented to all staff present onsite, clearly describing their obligations towards environmental controls and methodologies in terms of this EMPr. This training and awareness will be achieved in the following ways:

#### 6.1 Environmental Awareness Training

Environmental Awareness Training must be undertaken by the Contractor and must take the form of an on-site talk and demonstration by the Contractor before the commencement of construction activities on site. A record of attendance of this training must be maintained by the Contractor on site.

#### 6.2 Induction Training

Environmental induction training must be presented to all persons who are to work on the site – be it for short or long durations.

This induction training should be undertaken by the Contractor and should include discussing the Eskom’s environmental policy and values, the function of the EMPr and the importance and reasons for compliance to these. The induction training must highlight overall do’s and don’ts on site and clarify the repercussions of not complying with these. The reporting procedure must be explained during the induction as well. Opportunity for questions and clarifications must form part of this training. A record of attendance of this training must be maintained by the Contractor on site.

#### 6.3 Toolbox Talks

Toolbox talks should be held on a scheduled and regular basis (at least once a month) where the Contractor and all employees on site hold talks relating to environmental practices and safety awareness on site. These talks should also include discussions on possible common incidents occurring on site and the prevention of reoccurrence thereof. Records of attendance and the awareness talk subject must be kept on file.

## **8. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (EMPr)**

The following table forms the core of this EMPr for the construction and operational phases of the development. This table should be used as a checklist on site, especially during the construction phase. Compliance with this EMPr must be audited monthly during the construction phase and once immediately following completion of construction. This must be followed up with annual audits for a period of two years during the operational phase.

**Table 1: PLANNING AND DESIGN PHASE: Environmental Management Programme for the proposed project**

Activity / issue	Action required	Responsible party	Frequency
<b>Appointment and Duties of ECO</b>	The Developer must appoint an independent Environmental Control Officer (ECO) who must monitor the contractor's compliance with the EMPr.	Developer	Once-Off
	The developer must provide the ECO and contractor with a copy of the EMPr.	Developer	Once-Off
	The priority of the ECO is to maintain the integrity of the development conditions outlined in the EMPr.	ECO	Continuous
	The ECO must form part of the project management team and attend all project meetings.	ECO	Continuous
	The contractor must ensure that the construction crew attend an environmental briefing and training session presented by the ECO prior to commencing activities on site.	ECO, Contractor	Once-Off
	Report on environmental compliance at the monthly site meetings	ECO, ELO	As necessary
<b>Appointment and Duties of ELO</b>	The contractor must appoint an Environmental Liaison Officer (ELO). This person will be required to monitor the situation with a direct hands-on approach, and ensure compliance and co-operation of all personnel. He should be fluent in the languages of the employees.	Contractor	Once-Off
<b>EMPr</b>	This EMPr must be made binding to the main contractor as well as individual contractors and should be included in tender documentation for the construction contract.	Developer, ECO	Once-Off
<b>Training for Site Personnel</b>	All Contractor teams involved in construction work are to be required to undergo some form of environmental induction on their obligations towards environmental controls and methodologies in terms of this EMP, prior to commencing of the works.	Developer, ECO	Once-Off
	The Contractor shall ensure that all site personnel have a basic level of environmental awareness	Contractor	Continuous

	<p>training. Topics covered should include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is meant by “Environment”</li> <li>• Why the environment needs to be protected and conserved</li> <li>• How construction activities can impact on the environment</li> <li>• What can be done to mitigate against such impacts</li> <li>• Awareness of emergency and spills response provisions</li> <li>• Social responsibility during construction of the fire station</li> </ul> <p>- It is the Contractor’s responsibility to provide the site foreman with environmental training and to ensure that the foreman has sufficient understanding to pass this information onto the construction staff.</p> <p>- Training should be provided to the staff members in the use of the appropriate fire-fighting equipment. Translators are to be used where necessary.</p> <p>- Use should be made of environmental awareness posters on site.</p> <p>- The need for a “clean site” policy also needs to be explained to the workers.</p> <p>- Staff operating equipment (such as excavators, loaders, etc.) shall be adequately trained and sensitised to any potential hazards associated with their tasks.</p> <p>The Contractor must monitor the performance of construction workers to ensure that the points relayed during their introduction have been properly understood and are being followed.</p>		
	<p>Environmental inductions may take the form of onsite talks and demonstrations by the Contractor and the ECO. Induction report will be signed by the Contractor as well as the Employee undergoing Induction, and records kept for auditing purposes and copies given to the ECO for filing. The education / awareness programme should be aimed at all levels of management and staff within the Contractor’s team, and particularly labour drawn from surrounding communities</p>	<p>ELO, ECO, Contractor</p>	<p>Continuous</p>
<p><b>Record Keeping</b></p>	<p>It is recommended that photographs are taken of the site prior to, during and immediately after construction as a visual reference. These photographs should be stored with related documents</p>	<p>Developer, Contractor</p>	<p>As necessary</p>

	and other records related to this EMP.		
	All specialists reports (Vegetation, Wetland Delineation, Fauna, Geotechnical, Socio-economic, Heritage Impact Assessment must be kept on site.	Developer, Contractor	Continuous
	The Contractor shall ensure that all pertinent permits, certificates and permissions have been obtained prior to any activities commencing on site and ensure that they are strictly enforced / adhered to. This includes, for example, updating the Department of Water Affairs and Sanitation (DWS) Water Use licence and other monitoring programs.	Contractor, Developer	Continuous
	All records related to the implementation of this management plan (e.g. site instruction book, ECO reports, induction records, method statements, must be kept together in an office where it is safe and can be retrieved easily.	Developer, Contractor, ELO	As necessary
	All relevant records should be kept for a minimum of two years after construction and should at any time be available for scrutiny by any relevant authorities or stakeholder.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
<b>Layout Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Environmental sensitivity maps compiled during the Basic Assessment and present in the vegetation specialist report should be used as a decision tool to guide the final layout design of the proposed development.</li> <li>The extent of the construction sites and access roads should be demarcated on site layout plans and should be restricted to disturbed areas or those identified with low conservation importance. Therefore, no construction personnel or vehicle may leave the demarcated area except those authorised to do so. Those areas surrounding the construction site that are not part of the demarcated development area should be considered as “no-go” areas for employees, machinery or even visitors;</li> </ul>	Developer, Contractor	Once - off
<b>Environmental Protection Plan</b>	Within 21 days of the Commencement Date, the Site Contractor shall prepare and submit to the Project Manager for approval in consultation with the ECO an Environmental Protection Plan. The Plan shall cover all environmental protection works and shall also include descriptions of environmental safeguards and emergency procedures.	Developer, ECO, Contractor	Once - off

	The Plan shall include a description of the administrative structure and lines of communication which shall be established between the Contractor's and his subcontractors' workforce for the implementation of environmental protection procedures. Details of the expertise available for the implementation of environmental protection procedures must also be provided.	Contractor, PE, ECO	Once off
	In addition this plan must have a site layout plan and showing the final positions and extent of all permanent and temporary site structures and infrastructure, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buildings</li> <li>• Contractors' camp</li> <li>• Roads and access routes</li> <li>• Gates and fences.</li> <li>• Essential services (permanent and temporary water, electricity and sewage)</li> <li>• Rubble and waste rock storage and disposal sites.</li> <li>• Site toilets and ablutions.</li> <li>• Firebreaks.</li> <li>• Excavations and trenches.</li> <li>• Topsoil stockpiles.</li> <li>• Spoil areas.</li> <li>• Construction materials stores.</li> <li>• Vehicle and equipment stores.</li> <li>• Sensitive and No go areas &amp; applicable buffers. This must include all areas of Environmental sensitivity (natural environment, sensitive habitats wetland areas and protected species)</li> </ul> <p>•All temporary and permanent water management structures including bunds and sumps</p>	Contractor, PE, ECO	Once off
<b>Existing Services and Infrastructure</b>	The Contractor shall ensure that existing services (e.g. roads, pipelines, power lines and telephone services) are not damaged or disrupted unless required by the contract and with the	Contractor, PE, ECO	Continuous



	permission of the RE.		
	The Contractor shall be responsible for the repair and reinstatement of any existing infrastructure that is damaged or services which are interrupted.	Contractor	As necessary
	Such repair or reinstatement will be to the Contractor's cost and shall receive top priority over all other activities.	Contractor	Continuous
	A time limit for the repairs may be stipulated by the RE in consultation with the Contractor.	Contractor, PE, ECO	Continuous
<b>Emergency Preparedness</b>	If chemicals in sufficient quantity and toxicity have the potential to be released on the construction sites, emergency contingency plans should be prepared as safety measures (Bunded areas). These safety measures should be communicated to the relevant personnel on the construction site. All hazardous installations require a Risk Assessment in terms of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, (Act No.85 of 1993) for construction sites.	Contractor, ELO	Once - Off
	<p>The Contractor shall submit written Method Statements to the RE for the activities identified by the RE or ECO. Activities that will require method statements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Logistics for the Environmental Awareness Training Course</li> <li>• Location and Layout of Construction camp</li> <li>• Construction procedures</li> <li>• Cement and concrete batching</li> <li>• Solid and Hazardous Waste Management</li> <li>• Drainage and Storm water planning</li> <li>• Dust Control</li> <li>• Stockpiling area</li> <li>• Vegetation removal</li> <li>• Materials and equipment to be used</li> <li>• Getting the equipment to and from the site</li> </ul>	Contractor	As necessary

<p><b>Method Statements</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How the equipment material will be moved while on site</li> <li>• How and where material will be stored</li> <li>• The containment (or action to be taken if containment is not possible) of leaks or spills of any liquid or material that may occur</li> <li>• Timing and location of activities</li> <li>• Compliance/non compliance with Specifications</li> <li>• Site camp establishment</li> <li>• Concrete pre-cast and batching operation</li> <li>• Emergency procedures</li> <li>• Materials, equipment and staffing requirements</li> <li>• Transporting the materials and/or equipment to, from and within the site</li> <li>• Stockpiling of rubble</li> <li>• General and Hazardous waste management on site</li> <li>• The storage provisions for the materials and/or equipment</li> <li>• The proposed construction procedure designed to implement the relevant Environmental Specifications</li> <li>• Other information deemed necessary by the RE and/or ECO.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Method Statements</b></p>	<p>Method Statements shall be submitted at least ten working days prior to the proposed commencement of work on an activity to allow the RE (and/or ECO) time to study and approve the method statement.</p>		
	<p>Contractor shall not commence work on that activity until such time as the Method Statement has been approved in writing by the RE contract.</p>	<p>Contractor, PE, ECO</p>	<p>Continuous</p>
	<p>The Contractor shall carry out the activities in accordance with the approved Method Statement.</p>	<p>Contractor, PE. ECO</p>	<p>Continuous</p>

	Under certain circumstances, the RE may require changes to an approved Method Statement. In such cases the proposed changes must be agreed upon in writing between the Contractor and the RE, and appropriate records retained.	Contractor, PE	Continuous
	Approved Method Statements shall be readily available on the site and shall be communicated to all relevant personnel. Approval of the Method Statement shall not absolve the Contractor from any of his obligations or responsibilities in terms of the EMP specifications.	Contractor, Developer	Continuous
<b>Site Establishment</b>	The contractor shall establish his construction camp, office/s and any other infrastructure as per the agreed site layout plan in a manner that does not adversely affect the environment.	Contractor, ECO	Once-Off
	The contractor shall submit a method statement for site clearance for approval by the RE in consultation with the ECO. Site establishment shall take place in an orderly manner and all required amenities shall be installed at Camp site before the main workforce move onto site.	PE, Contractor, ECO	Once-Off
	Designate access roads during the planning phase allowing only wetland crossing at designated points	Contractor, ECO	Once-off
	The Construction camp shall have the necessary ablution facilities with chemical toilets at commencement of construction activities to the satisfaction of the Project Manager. The Contractor shall inform all site staff to make use of supplied ablution facilities and under no circumstances shall indiscriminate sanitary activities be allowed other than in supplied facilities.	Contractor, ECO	Continuous
	Safe drinking water for human consumption shall be available at the site offices and at other convenient locations on site. All water used on site must be taken from a legal source and comply with the recognised standards for potable and other uses.	Contractor, ECO	Continuous
	No fires on site will be allowed. Activities which may pose a risk of fire must be identified and suitable measures must be put in place to prevent any possible damage by fire. Contractors must inform the staff of the risk of fires and fire prevention and emergency procedures in the event of a fire. Fire fighting equipment shall be supplied by the Contractor at suitable locations	Contractor, ECO	Continuous
	The construction camp must preferably be positioned where it will not visually impact on adjacent landowners and should not be located in an environmentally sensitive area	Contractor, ECO	Once off

	All sensitive areas, heritage (if encountered), wetland, drainage lines, should be demarcated and fenced off before development commences. These areas should be treated as “no go” areas.	Contractor, ECO, ELO	Continuous
	Invasive alien plant species should be treated in an appropriate manner.	ELO and Contractor	Continuous
	Alien plant eradication and follow-up control activities prior to construction, to prevent spread into disturbed soils, as well as follow-up control during construction.	ELO and Contractor	Continuous

**Table 2: PRE - CONSTRUCTION PHASE: Environmental Management Programme for the proposed project**

Activity / issue	Action required	Responsible party	Frequency
<b>Vegetation Impacts</b>	A final walk through with an ecological specialist must be undertaken to fine tune the final positioning of the towers in order to avoid impacting on species of conservation concern.	Contractor, Developer	Once-Off
	A permit from relevant Mpumalanga authorities must be obtained before provincially protected plant species are removed or damaged.	Contractor, Developer	Once-Off
	Make use of existing roads in such a way as to minimise impact on the wetland	ELO and Contractor	Continuous
	Plan construction to take place during the drier winter months	Contractor, Developer	Once-Off
	Plan construction activities to have the smallest possible footprint	Contractor, Developer	Continuous
	Minimise the width of the construction servitude across a wetland zone	Contractor, Developer	Once-Off
	Demarcate the construction footprint prior to commencement of construction and ensure that all workers and contractors are aware that	ELO, Contractor, ECO	Continuous

	<p>access beyond the demarcated areas are not allowed Where the structures will affect a wetland, the edge / boundary of this wetland must be clearly demarcated in the field with poles, sticks, or any solid structure that will last for the duration of the development. These indicators could be coloured as follows and communicated to workers</p> <p><b>Red</b> – Indicating the edge / boundary of the wetland  <b>Orange</b> – Indicating the edge of the buffer zone</p>		
	Plan construction camps to be placed outside of watercourses and their associated buffer zones	Contractor, Project Engineer	Once – Off
	Plan construction activities that necessitate water crossings to only cross watercourses at designated points	Contractor, Project Engineer	Continuous
	Plan to avoid linear disturbances that run parallel to a watercourse	Contractor, Project Engineer	Continuous
<b>Footprint and related impacts</b>	Make use of existing road servitudes as far as possible	Contractor, ECO, ELO	Continuous
	Minimise the width of the construction servitude across the wetland zone and demarcated the construction footprint prior to commencement of construction and ensure that all workers and contractors are aware that access beyond the demarcated areas are not allowed	Contractor, Project Engineer	Once - Off
	Only use access roads as designated during the planning phase	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Only cross watercourses at designated points should this be absolutely necessary	Contractor, ELO	As necessary
	Crossings to be undertaken with only one vehicle that have the minimum footprint as decided on during planning	Contractor, ELO	As necessary

	Limit compaction by not working in wet conditions and limiting vehicular access. Ensure that all workers and contractors are aware of this	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Do not permit vehicular or pedestrian access into natural areas or into seasonally wet areas during and immediately after rainy periods, until such a time that the soil has dried out.	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Only necessary traffic should be allowed within these demarcated areas	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Contractors should refrain from impacting areas beyond the demarcated construction area	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Minimise disturbance and loss of soil	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	The contractor must avoid traffic or storing of equipment and material in vegetated areas that will not be cleared	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
<b>Underground conditions (Geotechnical conditions)</b>	Detailed geotechnical investigation must be conducted along the power line route and to provide site specific appropriate pylon founding solutions.	Developer	As necessary
	The wind factor (direction and strength) should be determined and incorporated in the design of pylon foundations.	Developer	As necessary
	Steep slopes (>45°) and areas immediately below them should be avoided for the siting of pylons and maintenance roads wherever possible. These areas are subject to slope failure and are vulnerable to erosion	Developer	As necessary

**Table 3: CONSTRUCTION PHASE: Environmental Management Programme for the proposed project**

Activity / issue	Action required	Responsible party	Frequency
<b>Vegetation Impacts</b>	There must be a preconstruction walk-through of the development footprint/project site in order to assess the pylon footprint areas for Red Data / protected species.	Developer, Vegetation Specialist, Contractor	Once off
	A search and rescue operation must be done to remove plants which can be successfully transplanted with the approval permit from the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA).	Developer, Contractor	Once off
	A permit from relevant Mpumalanga authorities must be obtained before provincially protected plant species are removed or damaged.	Contractor, Developer	Once-Off
	Bush clearing can be avoided or stopped to allow vegetation to restore itself.	Contractor	Continuous
	The footprint of the impact area around a pylon can be minimised.	Contractor	Continuous
	Disturbed areas must be revegetated as soon as practically possible.	Contractor	Continuous
	Restrict all movement of vehicles and heavy machinery to permissible areas, these being designated access roads, maintenance roads, turning points and parking areas. No off-road driving beyond designated areas may be allowed.	Contractor	As necessary
	If these species are deemed to be under threat from the construction activity, these plants be removed by a suitably qualified specialist and replanted as part of vegetation rehabilitation after the construction (Note, these plants may only be removed with the permission of the provincial authority and as provided for in the Environmental authorisation). If	Contractor	As necessary

	<i>Eucomis atumnails</i> is noted on site, relocation plans must be conducted by a suitably qualified specialist.		
	Ensure engagements is undertaken with Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency and Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry with regard to the relocation of <i>Eucomis atumnails</i> if found to be present within the proposed site.	Contractor, Developer	As necessary
	Keep the clearing of natural and semi-natural grasslands to a minimum.	Contractor	As necessary
	Protected plant species must be relocated if possible.	Contractor, Developer	As necessary
	Monitor the establishment of invasive species and remove as soon as detected, whenever possible before regenerative material can be formed	Contractor	Continuous
	Weed control measures must be applied to eradicate the noxious weeds (category 1a & 1b species) on disturbed areas	Contractor	Continuous
	The areas to be cleared as well as the construction area must be clearly demarcated.	Contractor	As necessary
	Construction workers may not tamper or remove protected plants and neither may anyone collect seed from the plants without permission from the provincial authority.	Contractor	As necessary
	A temporary fence or demarcation must be erected around the construction area (include the servitude, construction camps, areas where material is stored and the actual footprint of the development) to prevent access to sensitive environs.	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous
	No open fires are permitted.	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous
	Formalise access roads and where possible, make use the existing road, rather than creating new routes through naturally vegetated areas.	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous



	No activities should take place during rainy events and at least 2 days afterwards	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Maintain site demarcations in position until the cessation of construction work.	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
<b>Hazardous Content / Hazardous Waste Management</b>	Drip trays must be utilised during repairs and maintenance of all machinery. The depth of the drip tray must be determined considering the total amount / volume of oil in the vehicle. The drip tray must be able to contain the volume of oil in the vehicle	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Drip trays (minimum of 10cm deep) must be placed under all leaking vehicles that stand for more than 24 hours. Vehicles suspected of leaking must not be left unattended, drip trays must be utilised	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Cement and plaster should only be mixed within mixing trays. Washing and cleaning of equipment should also be done within a bermed area (outside of the wetland buffer), in order to trap any cement or plaster and avoid excessive soil erosion. These sites must be rehabilitated prior to commencing the operational phase	Contractor, ELO, ECO	As necessary
	The mixing of concrete should only be done at specifically selected sites on mortar boards or similar structures to contain run-off into drainage lines, streams and natural vegetation	Contractor, ELO, ECO	As necessary
	Materials such as fuel, oil, paint, herbicide and insecticides must be sealed and stored in bermed areas or under lock and key, as appropriate, in well-ventilated areas. These substances must be confined to specific and secured areas within the contractor's camp, and in a way that does not pose a danger of pollution even during times of high rainfall	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous

	Storage of materials as described above may not be within the 1:100 floodline, watercourses or associated buffer areas	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous
	In the case of pollution of any surface or groundwater, the Regional Representative of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) must be informed immediately	Contractor, ELO	As necessary
	All equipment should be parked overnight and/or fuelled at least 30 meters from the wetland	Contractor, ELO	As necessary
	Provision of adequate sanitation facilities located outside of the wetland/riparian area or its associated buffer zone	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous
	Remove all construction equipment and material on completion of construction.	Contractor, ELO	Once off
	Ensure compliance with all national, regional and local legislation with regard to the disposal of hydrocarbons, chemicals, solvents and any other harmful and hazardous substances and materials.	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Regularly dispose of all hazardous waste not earmarked for reuse, recycling or resale (such as oil contaminated with chlorinated hydrocarbons, electrical cleaning solvent, certain chemicals and fluorescent tubes) at a registered hazardous waste disposal site.	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Contain chemical spills, and arrange for cleanup / control by the supplier, or by professional pollution control personnel.	Contractor, ELO	As necessary
<b>Fauna Impacts</b>	Minimise areas cleared for towers, construction activities and access roads, and as far as possible use existing roads	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Anti-collision devices such as bird flappers must be installed on all high risk sections of the powerline to alert birds of the risk.	Contractor, ELO	Where necessary
	Restrict construction activities to area directly below power line	Contractor, ELO	Continuous

	Any fauna threatened by the construction and operation activities should be removed to safety by the ECO or appropriately qualified environmental officer	Contractor, ELO, ECO	As necessary
	All construction vehicles should adhere to a low speed limit (<30km/h) to avoid collisions with susceptible species such as snakes and tortoises.	Contractor	Continuous
	If trenches need to be dug for electrical cabling or other purposes, these should not be left open for extended periods of time as fauna may fall in and become trapped in them. Trenches which are exposed should contain soil ramps allowing fauna to escape the trench	Contractor	Continuous
	Construction activities of the proposed power line should be restricted to daylight hours reducing the potential impact on the nocturnal breeding activities of the majority of amphibian species. The Giant Bullfrog however breeds during the day.	Contractor	Continuous
	Ideally the installation of the new pylons should be undertaken during the dry winter months (May-September) when the majority of amphibian species are dormant.	Developer, Contractor	Continuous
	No Giant Bullfrogs may not be collected for food or illegal pet trade	Contractor	Continuous
	No further rock removal should occur adjacent to the new pylons. No termite mounds should be intentionally destroyed. If any moribund termite mounds have to be destroyed due to tower position a qualified herpetologist must be present in case any blind snakes are unearthed. The termite mounds should be carefully excavated by hand and pick.	Contractor	Continuous
	Any animals rescued or recovered will be relocated in suitable habitat away from the pylon and line.	Contractor	As necessary
	No hunting or poaching activities must be allowed along the servitudes	Contractor	Continuous

	during all phases of the project		
	The removal of indigenous tree species as well as vegetation clearance must be kept to the minimum area required and remain in the existing servitude wherever possible.	Contractor, ELO	Once off
	Cleared vegetation should be kept to form wood piles and logs and stumps within the cleared servitude.	Contractor	As necessary
	Any lizards, gecko's, agamids, monitors or snakes encountered must be allowed to escape to suitable habitat away from the disturbance. No reptile should be intentionally killed, caught or collected during any phase of the project.	Contractor	Continuous
	Several venomous snake species occur along the study area including <i>Rinkhals (Haemachatus haemachatus)</i> , Snouted Cobra ( <i>Naja annulifera</i> ), Mozambique Spitting Cobra ( <i>Naja mossambica</i> ), Common or Rhombic Night Adder ( <i>Causus rhombeatus</i> ), Puff Adder ( <i>Bitis arietans</i> ). General avoidance of snakes if the best policy if encountered. Snakes should not be intentionally harmed or killed and allowed free movement away from the area.	Developer, Contractor	Continuous
	Appropriate foot wear (sturdy leather boots) should be worn in the field	Contractor	Continuous
<b>Avifauna Impacts</b>	Construction of the proposed power line should take place during winter, outside the breeding season of most birds and when migrants are absent.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Construction workers must be instructed to minimise disturbance of birds at all times.	Developer, Contractor	Continuous
	Illegal hunting of birds must be strictly prevented	Developer, Contractor	Continuous
	All construction should take place as per Eskom Transmission's	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous

	environmental best practice standards.		
	The possibility that several large-bodied threatened species (e.g., Secretary Bird, Blue Crane, Southern Bald Ibis) move through the area from time to time means that the risk of collision needs to be taken seriously.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Bird flight diverters must be fitted to the line. Specifically, "Bird flappers" or double-loop flight diverters developed by the Eskom / Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) Strategic Partnership should be fitted to the line during initial construction. These devices must be attached to the centre 60% of the line between each pair of pylons, with the flappers 5 m apart in a staggered configuration.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Electrocutions are likely on 132 kV towers. In the interests of preventing short circuits caused by excreta, it is recommended that standard Eskom Bird Guards be fitted to all towers in the proposed line.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Bird flight diverters shall be installed according to Eskom Specifications.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
<b>Erosion and Sedimentation</b>	Reinforce portions of existing access routes that are prone to erosion, create structures or low berms to drain the access roads rapidly during rainfall events, yet preventing erosion of the track and surrounding areas.	Contractor	As necessary
	Ensure that runoff from compacted or sealed surfaces is slowed down and dispersed sufficiently to prevent accelerated erosion from being initiated (storm water and erosion management plan required).	Contractor	Continuous
	Do not allow erosion to develop on a large scale before taking action.	Contractor	Continuous
	Make use of existing roads and tracks where feasible, rather than creating new routes through vegetated areas.	Contractor, ELO, ECO	As necessary

	Leave as much natural vegetation as intact as possible during construction.	Contractor, ELO, ECO	As necessary
	Retain vegetation and soil in position for as long as possible, removing it immediately ahead of construction / earthworks in that area.	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Remove only the vegetation where essential for construction and do not allow any disturbance to the adjoining natural vegetation cover. The grassland can be removed as sods and re-established after construction is completed.	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous
	Colonisation of the disturbed areas by plants species from the surrounding natural vegetation must be monitored to ensure that vegetation cover is sufficient within one growing season. If not, then the areas need to be rehabilitated with a grass seed mix containing species that naturally occur within the study area.	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous
<b>Spread of alien invasive</b>	Retain vegetation and soil in position for as long as possible, removing it immediately ahead of construction / earthworks in that area and returning it where possible afterwards.	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous
	Monitor the establishment of alien invasive species within the areas affected by the construction and maintenance and take immediate corrective action where invasive species are observed to establish.	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous
	An alien and invasive plant management plan must be developed to reduce the establishment and spread of alien plant species within the development footprint.	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Once off
	Weed control measures must be applied to eradicate the noxious weeds (category 1a & 1b species) that are identified within the study area should be removed from the development footprint and immediate surrounds, prior to construction or soil disturbances. By removing these species, the	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous

	spread of seeds will be prevented into disturbed soils which could thus have a positive impact on the surrounding natural vegetation.		
	All alien seedlings and saplings must be removed as they become evident for the duration of construction.	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous
	All construction vehicles and equipment, as well as construction material should be free of plant material. Therefore, all equipment and vehicles should be thoroughly cleaned prior to access on to the construction areas. This should be verified by the ECO.	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous
	Establish an on-going monitoring programme to detect and quantify any alien species that may become established and identify the problem species (as per Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983).	Developer	As necessary
	Soil stockpiles should not be translocated from areas with alien plants into the construction site so as to avoid the development of a soil seed bank of alien plants within the stock-piled soil.	Contractor, ELO, ECO	As necessary
	All declared alien vegetation must be identified and managed in accordance with the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983).	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous
	A register of the methods used, dates undertaken, as well as herbicides and dosage used must be kept and available on site. The register must also include incidents of poisoning or spillage	Contractor, ELO	As necessary
	Ensure that contractors can identify the relevant plants and are aware of the removal procedures	Developer	As necessary
	Construction equipment must be cleaned prior to site access. This will prevent alien invasive seed from other sites to spread into disturbed soils	Contractor, ELO	Continuous

<b>Soil management</b>	Topsoil (the upper 25 cm of soil) is an important natural resource; where it must be stripped, never mix it with subsoil or any other material, store and protect it separately until it can be re-applied, minimise handling of topsoil	Contractor	As necessary
	Vehicles and machinery may not veer from the dedicated roads.	Contractor	As necessary
	Prevent leakage of oil or other chemicals or any other form of pollution.	Contractor	As necessary
	Once construction is complete, obsolete roads should be obliterated by breaking the surface crust and erecting earth embankments to prevent erosion, while the natural species composition should be re-established.	Contractor	As necessary
	Particular attention should be paid to drainage and no stormwater should be allowed to stand in pools adjacent to buildings.	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous
<b>Underground conditions (Geotechnical conditions)</b>	The possible presence of shallow rock within 1,5m of surface could result in areas of difficult excavation, NHBRC class R. In these areas a shallow perched water table could also be present during the wet season and sub-surface drainage might be required.	Contractor, ELO	As necessary
	Groundwater pollution is a huge threat to the groundwater (a scarce resource) and adequate measures need to be implemented for the disposal of sewage and waste water etc. during the construction process.	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	All waste water from offices, workshops etc. should be adequately controlled and disposed of.	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Steep slopes (>45°) and areas immediately below them should be avoided for the siting of pylons and maintenance roads wherever possible. These areas are subject to slope failure and are vulnerable to erosion.	Contractor, Developer	Continuous
<b>Visual impact</b>	Keep dust levels down by regularly wetting dirt roads and exposed soil areas	Contractor	Continuous



	Remove rubble and other waste that is generated by the construction process as soon as possible and dispose at an appropriate dump site.	Contractor	Continuous
	Implement rehabilitation of disturbed areas as soon as possible to limit the duration of exposed soil surfaces. Monitor the rehabilitated areas for at least 6 months to ensure a sufficient vegetation cover is established that will prevent erosion from occurring.	Contractor	Continuous
	Keep the construction camp neat and tidy at all times. Remove any waste from the site or contain it in an enclosed area out of sight from sensitive viewpoints.	Contractor	Continuous
	Enhance screening of the construction camps by erecting a temporary fence with a 3m high shade cloth to limit the intrusive nature of such a site.	Contractor	Continuous
<b>Waste management</b>	Litter generated by the construction crew must be collected in rubbish bins and disposed of weekly at registered waste disposal sites. Waste slips must be in place.	ELO, Contractor	Weekly
	No dumping of building waste or spoil material from the development should take place on areas other than a licenced landfill site	Contractor	Continuous
	All building rubble, solid and liquid waste etc must be disposed of as necessary at an appropriately licensed refuse facility.	ELO, Contractor	Once off, as necessary
	All hazardous materials should be stored appropriately to prevent contamination of the project site. Any accidental chemical, fuel and oil spills that occur at the project site should be cleaned up appropriately as related to the nature of the spill	Contractor	Continuous
	Ensure that no refuse wastes are burnt on the premises or on surrounding premises. No fires will be allowed on site.	ELO, Contractor	Monitor daily

	The construction site must be kept in a clean and orderly state at all times.	Contractor, Construction crew	Monitor daily
	Ensure that no litter, refuse, wastes, rubbish, rubble, debris and builders wastes generated on the premises be placed, dumped or deposited on adjacent/surrounding properties during or after the construction period of the project are disposed of an approved at dumping site as approved by the Council.	ELO, Contractor	Monitor daily - weekly
	Collect waste paper, glass and metal waste separately and arrange for collection by recycling contractors	Contractor	Continuous
	Provide litter bins at regular positions along power line working servitude, with spacing not exceeding 100m throughout the Work Site	Contractor	Continuous
	Litter bins must be equipped with a closing mechanism to prevent their contents from blowing out	Contractor	Continuous
<b>Storm water Management</b>	Do not allow surface water or storm water to be concentrated, or to flow down cut or fill slopes or along pipeline routes without erosion protection measures being in place.	Contractor	Continuous
	No stockpiles or construction materials may be stored or placed within any drainage line that may be in close proximity of storm water drains	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous
	Should a freak storm displace the temporary earth embankments or other erosion control structures, a visual inspection of the site must be made and any damage be recorded. Any damage and loss of soil resulting from a storm is to be remedied immediately. Should the temporary walls collapse due to construction error, the contractor is to fund the remediation process	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous
	Storm water at the construction crew camp must be managed so as to reduce the silt loads into the ecological environment. Measures must be	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous

	implemented to distribute storm water as evenly as possible to avoid point sources of erosion		
	The site must be managed in a manner that prevent pollution of drains, downstream watercourses or groundwater, due to suspended solids, silt or chemicals	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous
	No stockpiles or construction materials may be stored or placed in close proximity to storm water drains.	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous
	Temporary cut-off drains and berms may be required to capture storm water and promote infiltration.	Contractor, ELO, ECO	Continuous
<b>Noise management</b>	Construction and the use of construction machinery should be limited between 06h00 and 18h00 on weekdays only.	Developer, Contractor	Monitor daily
	Institute noise control measures throughout the construction phase for all applicable activities, including the construction times.	ELO, Contractor	Once off, as necessary
	Ensure that noise licensers are installed on the construction vehicles and machineries to reduce the noise level	ECO, ELO, Contractor	Continuous
	Inform residents of nearby residential areas of planned noisy activities outside the timeframes stated above.	ECO, ELO, Contractor	Once off, as necessary
	No construction should occur during weekends, unless the adjacent residents have been notified in writing at least three days in advance.	ELO, Contractor	Once off, as necessary
	Construction activities must abide by the national noise laws and the municipal noise by-laws with regard to the abatement of noise caused by mechanical equipment.	Developer, ELO, Contractor	Continuous
<b>Dust control</b>	Wet all unprotected cleared areas and stockpiles with water to suppress dust pollution during dry and windy periods.	ECO, ELO	As necessary

	Conduct dust suppression techniques (not limited to watering) as the need arises and/or when dust fallout occurs.	Developer, ELO, Contractor	As necessary
	Ensure proper rehabilitation of disturbed areas in order to minimise bare patches.	ELO, Contractor	Continuous
<b>Crime, safety and security</b>	Ensure that the construction vehicles are under the control of competent personnel and are in proper working order.	Contractor	Continuous
	Ensure that only suitably qualified personnel use construction vehicles	Contractors	Continuous
	Ensure that the contact details of the police or security company and ambulance services are available on site	Contractor	Continuous
	Limit access to the construction crew camp to construction workers through access control.	ELO, Contractor	Continuous
	Comply with the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act No.85 of 1993) requirements.	ELO, Contractor	Continuous
	Ensure that the handling of equipment and materials is supervised and adequately instructed.	ELO, Contractor	Continuous
	Vehicular traffic during construction activities must be limited to a maximum speed limit of 30 km/hr.	ELO, Contractor	Continuous
	Site notices informing the public of the planned activities must be placed at visible locations a few days prior to any blasting.	ELO, Contractor	As necessary
	The security fence around the development site must be completed before construction commences internally.	ELO, Contractor	Once-off
	Security fence is to be inspected daily to ensure no illegal entry points are created.	ELO, Contractor	Daily
The site and crew are to be managed in strict accordance with the	Contractor	Continuous	

	Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act No.85 of 1993) and the National Building Regulations.		
	The contractor must supply his own security arrangements for the construction camp within the framework of the EMP.	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Equipment and materials must be handled by staff that have been supervised and adequately trained.	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Staff must be regularly updated about the safety procedures.	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Emergency facilities must be available and adequately supplied for use by staff and customers.	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Ensure that the handling of equipments and materials is supervised and adequately instructed.	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Limit access to the construction crew camp only to the workforce.	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Do not allow the movement of public within the development site by posting notices at the entrance gates, and where necessary on the boundary fence.	Contractor, ELO	Once-off, monitor daily
	Appropriate notification signs must be erected, warning the residents and visitors about the hazards around the construction site and presence of heavy vehicles	Contractor, ELO	Once-off, or as necessary
<b>Excavation</b>	Topsoil and subsoil must be placed on opposite sides of the trench and must be kept separate throughout construction and rehabilitation	Contractor, ELO, ECO	As necessary
	Topsoil must not be stockpiled for an extensive period (> 3 months). This is to prevent the redundancy of the existing seed bank as well as the alteration of the soil characteristics (permeability, bulk density etc.).	ELO, ECO, Contractor	As necessary
	Erect signs and/or danger tape around the exposed excavations to warn the public of the inherent dangers.	ELO, Contractor	Continuous

	Ensure that excavated and stockpiled soil material is stored and bermed on the higher lying areas of the site and not in any storm water run-off channels or any other areas where it is likely to cause erosion or where water would naturally accumulate.	ECO, Contractor	As necessary
<b>Heritage Impacts</b>	The contractors and workers should be notified that archaeological sites might be exposed during the construction activities.	ELO, Contractor	As necessary
	Should any heritage artefacts be exposed during excavation, work on the area where the artefacts were discovered, shall cease immediately and the Environmental Control Officer shall be notified as soon as possible;	ECO, Contractor	As necessary
	All discoveries shall be reported immediately to a heritage practitioner so that an investigation and evaluation of the finds can be made. Acting upon advice from these specialists, the Environmental Control Officer will advise the necessary actions to be taken;	ELO, Contractor	Continuous
	Under no circumstances shall any artefacts be removed, destroyed or interfered with by anyone on the site	ELO, Contractor	Continuous
	Contractors and workers shall be advised of the penalties associated with the unlawful removal of cultural, historical, archaeological or palaeontological artefacts, as set out in the National Heritage Resources Act (Act No. 25 of 1999), Section 51. (1).	ELO, Contractor	Continuous
	Known sites should be located and isolated, e.g. by fencing them off. All construction workers should be informed that these are no-go areas, unless accompanied by the individual or persons representing the Environmental Control Officer as identified above	ELO, Contractor	Continuous
<b>Palaeontological impacts</b>	In the event that fossils are uncovered during construction then construction must cease within the immediate vicinity, a buffer of 30 m must be established, and a palaeontologist called in to inspect the finds. The	ELO, Contractor	Where necessary

	<p>palaeontologist must obtain a section 35(4) permit in terms of NHRA and Chapter IV NHRA Regulations, before any fossils are collected.</p>		
	<p>If there are any new heritages resources are discovered during construction and operation phases of the proposed development, then a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings at the expense of the developer.</p>	Contractor, ELO	As necessary
	<p>If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required at the expense of the developer. Mitigation will only be carried out after the archaeologist or palaeontologist obtains a permit in terms of section 35 of the NHRA (Act 25 of 1999). You may contact SAHRA APM Unit for further details: (Nokukhanya Khumalo/Phillip Hine 021 202 8652).</p>	Contractor, ELO	As necessary
	<p>If any unmarked human burials are uncovered and the archaeologist called in to inspect the finds and/or the police find them to be heritage graves, then mitigation may be necessary and the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit must be contacted for processes to follow (Mimi Seetelo 072 802 1251).</p>	Contractor, ELO	As necessary
<b>Mobilisation of pollutants</b>	<p>In case of emergencies or unforeseen events, problem must be remediated immediately and any spillage into any watercourses be reported to the Department of Water and Sanitation. In addition, the soil must be stabilised (import additional topsoil if necessary) and re-vegetated as soon as possible. Re-vegetation should include seeds from the adjacent grassland and any rescued protected plants and/or plants of conservation concern that might have been impacted upon by the emergency / unforeseen event</p>	Contractor, ELO	As necessary
	<p>Remove all project-related material used to support equipment on completion of construction</p>	Contractor, ELO	Once off

	Any contaminated soil from the onsite needs to be removed and properly disposed off	Contractor, ELO,ECO	As necessary
	Materials such as fuel, oil, paint, herbicides and insecticides must be sealed and stored in bermed areas or under lock and key, as appropriate, in well-ventilated areas	Contractor, ECO, ELO	Continuous
	These substances must be confined to specific and secured areas within the contractor's camp, and in a way that does not pose a danger of pollution even during times of high rainfall	ECO, Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Drip trays must be utilised during repairs and maintenance of all machinery. The depth of the drip tray must be determined considering the total amount / volume of oil in the vehicle. The drip tray must be able to contain the volume of oil in the vehicle	Contractor, ELO	As necessary
	Provision of adequate sanitation facilities located outside of the wetland/riparian area or its associated buffer zone	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Any water discharged must comply with the relevant Water Quality limits/guidelines specified by DWA.	Contractor, ELO	As necessary

**Table 4: OPERATIONAL PHASE: Environmental Management Programme for the proposed project**

Activity / issue	Action required	Responsible party	Frequency
<b>Vegetation Impacts</b>	Ensure that maintenance work does not take place haphazardly, but according to a fixed plan.	ELO, Contractor	Continuous
	A permit from relevant Mpumalanga authorities must be obtained before provincially protected plant species are removed or damaged.	Contractor, Developer	Once-Off



	Cordon off areas that are under rehabilitation as no-go areas using danger tape and steel. ppers. If necessary, these areas should be fenced off to prevent vehicular, pedestrian and livestock access	ELO, Contractor	Continuous
	Maintenance workers may not trample natural vegetation and work should be restricted to previously disturbed footprint. In addition, mitigation measures as set out for the construction phase should be adhered to.	ELO, Contractor	Continuous
	Introduce adequate sedimentation control measures at watercourse crossings and when excavation or disturbance within moist grasslands takes place.	ELO, Contractor	Continuous
	Address erosion donga crossings, applying soil erosion control and bank stabilisation procedures as specified by the Eskom Maintenance Standard Procedure.	ELO, Contractor	Continuous
	Do not allow erosion to develop on a large scale before effecting repairs. When in doubt, seek advice from the Eskom Maintenance Standard Procedure.	ELO, Contractor	Continuous
	Repair all erosion damage as soon as possible and in any case not later than six months before the termination of the Maintenance Period to allow for sufficient rehabilitation growth	ELO, Contractor	Continuous
<b>Prevent/limit sedimentation</b>	The contractor shall ensure that a method statement is prepared prior to maintenance work to ensure that excessive quantities of sand, silt and silt-laden water do not enter watercourses. Appropriate measures, e.g. erection of silt traps, or drainage retention areas to prevent silt and sand entering drainage or watercourses must be taken	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Plan monitoring during the operational phase to ensure that the construction footprint is adequately rehabilitated	Developer	As necessary

	During maintenance or emergencies in areas that slope toward wetlands, install sediment barriers along the edge of the maintenance activity as necessary to prevent sediment flow into wetlands	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
<b>Preventing spread of alien invasive</b>	Plan an alien invasive plant work group that can carry out follow-up alien plant control for at least three years after construction	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Ensure that contractors can identify the relevant plants and are aware of the removal procedures .	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
<b>Fauna Impacts</b>	Direct light away from surrounding, use 'yellow' lights.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Flat area with absorbent soils, minimise solid surfaces.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Mow to sustain grasslands, reduce weeds, eliminate aliens. Sustain short-grass areas.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Control workforce and ablutions. Install temporary facilities.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Monitor and control during annual clearance operations. Mow, and spray woody invasive aliens.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Use Eskom-EWT scaring protocols.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Monitor under pylons annually for electrucutions.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
<b>Visual Impacts</b>	Locate construction camps and stock yards in the least visible areas or locate it on areas that are already disturbed such as agricultural fields for example.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	The screening capacity of the site can be temporarily enhanced through the erection of a 3 m high shade cloth fence around the construction	Developer, Contractor	As necessary

	camp during construction. The colour of the shade cloth should be similar to that of the adjacent vegetation, i.e. a light brown or khaki green.		
	Keep the construction camp and construction area neat and tidy at all times. Remove any waste products from the site or contain it in an enclosed area out of sight from viewers	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Establish limits of disturbances during construction through the demarcating of the construction areas to prevent unnecessary damage to vegetation.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Keep to existing road infrastructure as far as possible to minimise the physical damage to vegetation in the power line servitude.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Implement rehabilitation of disturbed areas as soon as possible to limit the duration of exposed surfaces.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Keep as much of the natural shrubs and trees in and around the servitude. This will maintain a degree of screening from sensitive viewpoints.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Previously rehabilitated areas must be monitored to prevent the infestation of weeds that may become an unsightly feature	Developer, Contractor	As necessary
	Maintenance of the servitude in terms of clearing up littering and dumped refuse is highly recommended. This must be done on a routine basis in order to keep the servitude neat and maintain a visually unobtrusive condition.	Developer, Contractor	As necessary

**Table 5: REHABILITATION PHASE: Environmental Management Programme for the proposed project**

ACTIVITY / ISSUE	ACTION REQUIRED	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	FREQUENCY
<b>Rehabilitation plan</b>	A rehabilitation plan that guides planting and seeding with indigenous plants must be developed.	Contractor, Developer	Once off
<b>Erosion</b>	The contractor shall be responsible for rehabilitating all eroded areas in such a way that the erosion potential is limited after construction has been completed	Contractor, ELO	During and immediately after construction
	All slopes that are disturbed during construction should be stabilised immediately to prevent erosion	Contractor	During and immediately after construction
	Re-vegetation should be done immediately after construction, especially in sloped areas	Contractor	During and immediately after construction
	Disturbed areas that require rehabilitation should be mulched to encourage vegetation re-growth	Contractor	As necessary
	Bare ground exposed after vegetation removal must be rehabilitated as soon as possible	Contractor, ELO, ECO	As necessary
<b>Mobilisation of pollutants</b>	In case of emergencies or unforeseen events, problem must be remediated immediately and any spillage into any watercourses be reported to the Department of Water and Sanitation. In addition, the soil must be stabilised (import additional topsoil if necessary) and re-vegetated as soon as possible. Re-vegetation should include seeds from the adjacent grassland and any rescued protected plants and/or plants of conservation concern that might have been impacted upon by the emergency / unforeseen event	Contractor, ELO	As necessary

	Remove all project-related material used to support equipment on completion of construction	Contractor, ELO	Once off
	Any contaminated soil from the onsite needs to be removed and properly disposed off	Contractor, ELO,ECO	As necessary
	Materials such as fuel, oil, paint, herbicides and insecticides must be sealed and stored in bermed areas or under lock and key, as appropriate, in well-ventilated areas	Contractor, ECO, ELO	Continuous
	These substances must be confined to specific and secured areas within the contractor's camp, and in a way that does not pose a danger of pollution even during times of high rainfall	ECO, Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Drip trays must be utilised during repairs and maintenance of all machinery. The depth of the drip tray must be determined considering the total amount / volume of oil in the vehicle. The drip tray must be able to contain the volume of oil in the vehicle	Contractor, ELO	As necessary
	Provision of adequate sanitation facilities located outside of the wetland/riparian area or its associated buffer zone	Contractor, ELO	Continuous
	Any water discharged must comply with the relevant Water Quality limits/guidelines specified by DWA.	Contractor, ELO	As necessary

## **9. CONCLUSION**

Provided this project is mitigated, as per the EMPr, the project will result in limited negative environmental impacts that can be mitigated through implementation of this EMPr. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that this EMPr is made binding on the contractor by including the EMPr in the contract documentation. The contractor should thoroughly familiarise himself with the requirements of the EMPr and appoint an environmental liaison officer (ELO) to oversee the implementation of the EMPr on a day-to-day basis.

Parties responsible for transgression of this EMPr should be held responsible for any rehabilitation that may need to be undertaken. Parties responsible for environmental degradation through irresponsible behaviour/negligence should receive penalties.

**APPENDIX 1: INCIDENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL LOG**

<b>ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENT LOG</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Env. Condition</b>	<b>Comments</b> <i>(Include any possible explanations for current condition and possible responsible parties. Include photographs, records etc. if available)</i>	<b>Corrective Action Taken</b> <i>(Give details and attach documentation as far as possible)</i>	<b>Signature</b>

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