

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED 1X400KV TABOR- BOKMAKIRIE (NZHELELE) AND 4X 250MVA 400KV/132KV
NZHELELE MAIN TRANSMISSION STATION (MTS), LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

COMMENT AND RESPONSES REPORT – DRAFT EIA REPORT

SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES/CONCERNS AND SUGGESTIONS RAISED BY INTERESTED AND/OR AFFECTED PARTIES

AUGUST 2012 – MARCH 2013

- This Comments and Responses Report (C&RR) is a record of all the contributed issues raised by Stakeholders ranging across all sectors of society.
- Full record of every issue raised is available from Lidwala Consulting.
- The name, affiliation (as at that time) and date of the commentator are also indicated

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ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS ISSUES TRAIL:

EAP Environmental Assessment Practitioner
FGM Focus Group Meeting

PM Public Meeting

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
1. EIA Process Related Comments/ Issues		
I require some clarification on a specific area on the map	Al Maytham Landowner PM Louis Trichardt: 12 June 2012	This was discussed and dealt with after the meeting. Ashlea Strong (Lidwala)
Can the landowners assist with the contact details of the farm watch's.	Ashlea Strong Lidwala Consulting (SA) EAP FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	Philip Potgieter gave Ashlea the contact numbers for the chairperson. Philip also also stated that the Telkom reception is bad around the mountainous area. Most farmers now make use of two-way radios.
So the EIA that you are doing now, is it for the route of the line?	Barry Fourie Landowner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	The EIA has three alternatives at this stage, however only one alternative through the mountains Ashlea Strong (Lidwala)
I don't understand how you chronically work because I'd think that when you speak to the land owners and they tell you that they don't want the line on their farms, surely you would just stop there with the project.	Orion Theron Land Owner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	Even so we have to continue with the EIA process – and today's minutes once finalised will be sent through to all attendees and the Department of Environmental Affairs Ashlea Strong (Lidwala)
So the purpose of the meeting is to get our comments, to say yes or no.	Ms Potgieter Landowner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	To obtain your comments and concerns Ashlea Strong (Lidwala) I would like to add with regards to comments. When you send through your comments also state your reasons as to why you are opposing the project. Sebenzile Vilakazi (Eskom Group Capital)
On your experience and what you get from this meeting, does the government enforce themselves. You say that you look at alternatives right, so what about going around the mountain and not over it?	Orion Theron Land Owner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	If there weren't two servitudes. If they weren't crossing the mountain. Then it wouldn't have been easy to get another line here. Xander Neethling (Eskom Distribution) If there are any other alternatives that you guys may think off – then by all means you are welcome to forward them to us. Ashlea Strong (Lidwala)
You are looking at the impact; what's the impact that this line is going to have on us in the long run. Have you seen the map of the proposed mines over the mountain. If you look at the map, you will see that there is no positive that will come out of that.	Barry Fourie Landowner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	Please send us that map. We will have a look at it and discuss the positive and negative impacts and include it in our EIA studies. Ashlea Strong (Lidwala)
What is the date / time to finish the project?	Philip Potgieter Landowner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	In terms of the EIA – are program is to submit a final report to the Nation Department by January 2013. Ashlea Strong (Lidwala)

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What's going to be an outcome from all of this? There should be significant outcome. If the line was coming through my farm I would say no and not even give a reason.	Orion Theron Land Owner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	There are many reasons why one can say no to a project. But let there be a valid reason why you say no. If it's just financial reasons – you will be compensated. Xander Neethling (Eskom Distribution)
The truth of the matter is people are going to evaluate these reports and unfortunately people look at things differently. Who has the final say?	Orion Theron Land Owner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	The National Department of Environmental Affairs. Ashlea Strong (Lidwala)
So we actually don't have a say. When we have the follow up meeting. I would like to see proof of the pros and cons of alternatives (environmentally, socially and financially).	Ms Potgieter Landowner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	Yes that is what the next report is going to be about. Ashlea Strong (Lidwala)
We will have our own meeting were we will discuss our reasons as to say we oppose the project and then we will have a follow up meeting.	Philip Potgieter Landowner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	Your comment has been noted. Please forward the outcomes of your meeting to Lidwala.
I thank Lidwala SA that it is going to help the deep villages of Ndzelele. The project is not for now but the coming future. The Makhado municipality must let people to be ready for new project that is able to create jobs and benefits to the municipality.	Wisani Sono Community member PM Louis Trichardt: 12 June 2012	Thank you for your comments.
I am the tenant on the farm Scott, must know the extent of the project.	Gideon Meiring Email: 25 November 2012	Thank you for your comment. Please note that a background information document was sent to you.
2. Visual Related Comments/ Issues		
The existing pylons are already visible from our farm and the larger ones will present much more of an eyesore	Mrs Gail Maytham Email: 11 July 2012	Thank you for your comment. This issue has been covered by the visual and social specialist studies (Appendix O and P).
Pruning and cutting of trees will have an impact on the overall look of the farm and view over the land.	AJ Haasbroek Albert Haasbroek Trust Landowner Email: 16 November 2012	Thank you for your comment. Your concern has been noted. This issue has been covered by the visual specialist study (Appendix O).
Negatiewe impakte op landerye visuele impakte.	Petrus Visagie Landowner FGM: 13 November 2012	Thank you for your comment. It has been noted. This issue has been covered by the visual specialist study (Appendix O).
We are very concerned about the visual impact and the aesthetics of this in our wildlife area. We are and have been a proclaimed nature reserve since 1965, and we host many international visitors, who come to Africa to enjoy the wildlife and the fauna and flora. Such a powerline – cutting right through the middle of our property,	Kenneth Ball and Dennis Ball Shiawela Safaris Landowners Email: 18 January 2013	Thank you for your comments. Your concerns have been noted. This issue has been covered by the visual and social specialist studies (Appendix O and P).

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
will create a tremendous eye-sore and ruin the pristine beauty of the area. This will have a detrimental effect on the aesthetics to our business, as well as the value of our land.		
(Visual impact) – Also where exactly the powerline is going to be situated.	Bhavesh Desai Landowner FGM – Landowner: 14 November 2012	Thank you for your comment. At this stage the EIA Report deals with a corridor within which the final alignment can be placed. The exact alignment of the line will be identified at a later stage one the final corridor has been surveyed.
Visually, what is already an eyesore will become doubly so – we have planted trees to block the view of the powerline from our one cottage, but it would take a decade or more to have trees grow tall enough to block out the proposed new line	Gail Maytham Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 15 April 2013	
Will the project occupy an area valued for its wildness and remoteness? If these values have been specifically documented, then consideration of the appropriateness of the project becomes even more important	Barry Fourie Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 18 April 2013	
Would the project's scale in terms of the dimensions of its infrastructure (height & footprint), and the spatial distribution thereof overwhelm the landscape in which it occurs?		
Will the project result in unreasonable visual clutter due to its combination with existing built features that already degrade landscape features? This is an issue of cumulative impacts.		
Does the project violate a clear, written community standard intended to protect the aesthetics or scenic beauty of the area? Such a standard ideally will be legally adopted by a community or government institution, and provide clear guidance to developers and be based on sound principles of aesthetic resource assessment.		
The visual quality of the Soutpansberg landscape is high to very high, due to the majestic cliffs and valleys, together with unspoilt forest and woodland. Views of cultivated land do not distract from the beauty of panoramas, as these unfold to viewers on the road and scenic places elsewhere		
Possible sensitive viewer locations include places of residence (such as farm houses and villages), scenic attractions, tourist routes and facilities, and other places of attendance, such as public roads, sport		

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<p>fields, schools, road stalls, etc. The study area presents a variety of sensitive viewer locations, which are mostly associated with the visual character of the area.</p>		
<p>Ek is baie gesteld op bewaring en die visuele aspekte van die plaas. Ek bly hier van 1977 af en die kraglyn wat toe oor die plaas geloop het, was van houtstrukture. Dit het die visuele aspek van so kraglyn, minder sigbaar gemaak. 'n Belangrike langtermyn doelwit van die plaas en andere in die omgewing is verskeie vorms van toerisme wat landbou, natuur en gepaardgaande toerisme aktiwiteite soos mikro-toerisme insluit. Landbou praktyke wat in harmonie met 'n ongerepte natuurskoon beoefen word is 'n voorvereiste hiervoor. 'n Addisionele 400kva lyn sal sonder twyfel 'n onherroeplike inpak hierop hê wat die praktyk van toerisme in die omgewing so kan beïnvloed dat dit nie meer 'n lewensvatbare alternatief sal wees nie. Toerisme is saam met landbou geïdentifiseer as een van die belangrikste ekonomiese praktyke vir die Limpopo Provinsie. Die grondwet bepaal dan ook dat elke burger die reg het om die omgewing bewaar te hê vir die huidige geslagte sowel as nageslagte. Toerisme bied 'n realistiese ekonomiese alternatief hier in 'n landskap wat nie net ideaal homself daartoe verleen nie maar wat in baie gevalle lae landbou potensiaal inhou. Ander praktyke wat ekonomiese potensiaal inhou sou in meeste gevalle noodwendig 'n negatiewe invloed op die natuurskoon hê. Die hout konstruksie kraglyn is vervang deur 'n staalkonstruksie-kraglyn wat dinge nog verder vererger en uit 'n nasionale erfenis oogpunt gaan ons en ons nageslagte hiermee moet saamleef. Kraglyne verander die natuurskoon en die natuurlike omgewing onherroeplik. 'n Derde kraglyn sal nooit vir my aanvaarbaar wees nie. Vergoeding wat ESKOM my sal betaal, om nog 'n servituut te registreer, sal nooit die skade aan hierdie nasionale erfenis kan</p>	<p>Barry Fourie Landowner Letter - DEIR Comments: 18 April 2013</p>	

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
<p>vergoed nie.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Another concern is the visual impact it will have on the visual character of the area. • These powerlines are unsightly and run right past houses and factories on the property and it is very unfair and not ethical to expect people to live under these powerlines, plus the safety aspect of millions of volts above your property, this also creates an unsafe place to live and work. • These powerlines are not only unsightly, but also devalues the area. • It also has an emotional implication for us due to all above mentioned points. This is the 6th generation to live on this farm and therefore we value and respect the environment and wanted make sure it is kept and protected for generations to come 	<p>Philip Potgieter Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 18 April 2013</p>	
3. Tourism Related Comments/ Issues		
<p>My husband and I attended the Public meeting held on the 12th June 2012 in the Showgrounds Hall at Louis Trichardt. We are obviously concerned and interested parties as our farm borders Vlakfontein on which some of the new massive pylons will be built. Our concerns are that the cottages we hire out for tourism will be affected by this 1 x 400kv Tabor-Bokakirie construction. Our guests, both local and international come to our mountain farm largely for peace and tranquillity</p>	<p>Mrs Gail Maytham Email: 11 July 2012</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment. This issue has been covered by the social specialist study (Appendix P).</p>
<p>We are very concerned about the visual impact and the aesthetics of this in our wildlife area. We are and have been a proclaimed nature reserve since 1965, and we host many international visitors, who come to Africa to enjoy the wildlife and the fauna and flora. Such a powerline – cutting right through the middle of our property, will create a tremendous eye-sore and ruin the pristine beauty of the area. This will have a detrimental effect on the aesthetics to our business, as well as the value of our land.</p>	<p>Kenneth Ball and Dennis Ball Shiawela Safaris Landowners Email: 18 January 2013</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. Your concerns have been noted. This issue has been covered by the visual and social specialist studies (Appendix O and P).</p>
<p>We own a 74 hectare farm bordering Philip Potgieter's farm Vlakfontein. The existing powerline runs along this boundary on</p>	<p>Gail Maytham Landowner</p>	

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<p>Potgieter's side of the farm. We do not farm but have an income from tourism by hiring out 2 self-catering cottages and an exclusive camp site. It has taken us 9 years to build up our guest base and people stay with us for peace and quiet and to enjoy the beautiful Soutpansberg Mountains</p>	<p>Letter – DEIR Comments: 15 April 2013</p>	
<p>The building of the new line in our vicinity will be very noisy and disruptive – there is no way that this could be blocked from us and I could not, in all fairness, assure prospective guests that they will find the peace and tranquility they are looking for.</p>		
<p>If a construction camp for labour were to be built near where the powerline is to be erected, the noise from it on the weekend would destroy our business completely. This is because our prevailing winds come from the east and the sound travels amazingly effectively from this direction. We could not offer guests a tranquil weekend with the sounds of music and other gaiety that usually come with settlements of this sort</p>		
<p>I predict that our bookings will drop off substantially having a devastating financial impact on us. It will also mean that it will take us years to rebuild the reputation we had before the work on the powerline commences</p>		
<p>4. Socio-Economic Related Comments / Issues</p>		
<p>I have over 100 people working here. So if you are going to take another 55m of my land, it's going to have financial implications for me as well as the people working here.</p>	<p>Philip Potgieter Landowner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment. This issue has been covered by the social specialist study (Appendix P).</p>
<p>Any compensation for lost of land?</p>	<p>Bhavesh Desai Landowner FGM – Landowner: 14 November 2012</p>	<p>Compensation is based on negotiated agreement with registered owner of the property. Eskom appoints an independent valuator to do a before and after valuation of the property and this is usually the starting point of negotiations</p>

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We are concerned about the health risks, not only to us and our workers but also to our livestock, both domestic and wild life. Our farming enterprise is reliant on healthy populations of animals, and the dangerous levels of radiation emitted from such a line, would pose a tremendous health risk to all living here. The fertility of our game and our live stock could be adversely affected by this proposed line.	Kenneth Ball and Dennis Ball Shiawela Safaris Landowners Email: 18 January 2013	The risk associated with EMFs (electric and magnetic fields) is considered to be low (by international studies), especially where animals and people have free range. Therefore, as a precautionary measure, Eskom requires that all dwellings for people and animal housing (and feedlots) should not be placed in the servitude of the power line. Either the power line must be moved, or the housing must be moved.
What benefit do I as farmer have with the construction of this power line?	AJ Haasbroek Albert Haasbroek Trust Landowner Email: 16 November 2012	The Polokwane Customer Load Network (CLN), including the Tabor and Spencer power corridor, remains susceptible to voltage instability and is the weakest part of the Northern Grid network due to being operated beyond its reliability power transfer limit. The proposed network solutions meet the 10 year Distribution load requirements in the Tabor and Spencer network area and it is also informed by the 20 year Transmission and Distribution load forecast in meeting the Transmission 20 year plan.
I would like to request Eskom to supply power to Driekloof as well, as we never had power in this area.		Thank you for your comment. Your request has been noted.
Ons is goed gesind aan die projek. Omdat dit sal beteken dat daar meer krag beskikbaar sal wees.	Paul Otto FGM:16 November 2012	Thank you for your comment. It has been noted.
Littering Long term impact on volume production, workers; Impact on farming on land; Impact on income for farming; Impact on workers income; Heavy vehicles on private road damages water pipes and infrastructures. Sub-contractors route to drive to stay underneath the line.	Phillip Potgieter Landowner FGM – Landowner: 14 November 2012	Thank you for your comments. These issue has been covered by the social and agricultural specialist studies as well as the Environmental Management Plan (Appendix P, K and E).
Gedurende die tydperk wat die eerste kraglyn bestaan het, het ons nooit probleme met diefstal gehad nie. Die natuurlike bos was van so aard dat dit as 'n buffer gedien het. Dit was na die konstruksie van die nuwe kraglyn, dat natuurlike bos oopgekap is en as te ware 'n voetpad vir onwettige immigrante teweë gebring het. Met die	Barry Fourie Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 18 April 2013	

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<p>oprigting van die tweede kraglyn is die voetpad nou 'n potensiële hoofweg vir onwettige immigrante uit Zimbabwe.</p> <p>Om nog 8 meter natuurlike bos te ontbos, verhoog my veiligheids risiko nog verder.</p> <p>Daar is juis nie heinings op die plaas nie, sodat natuurlike wild soos die bruin hiëna, en luiperd vrylik kan beweeg om hulle rol in die natuur te kan vervul. Koedoes migreer ook gedurende die baie droë seisoene hier teen die berg op en ofskoon 'n heining hulle sekerlik nie gaan keer nie, verkies ek dit om dit op die natuurlike manier te laat gebeur.</p> <p>Plaasaanvalle is hoog in Suid Afrika en ek voel dat 'n derde kraglyn, my nog meer gaan blootstel.</p>		
<p>Ek verwys eerstens na aanhangsel "P" bladsy 13, tabel 4 in die sosiale studie van die EIA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dit is vir my skokkend om te sien hoeveel huishoudings verniet van elektrisiteit voorsien word in die Makhado lokale Munisipaliteit. Dit terwyl ons 'n nasionale erfenis moet bedreig. Verder kan ek nie glo dat by bykans 20 000 huishoudings verniet voorsien word, terwyl ek 'n bydra maak tot die ekonomie, deur landbou produkte en werkskepping, dan nog ten duurste daarmee moet probeer 'n vooruitgang maak. Volgende verwys ek ook in aanhangsel "P" bladsy 15, tabel 5 in die sosiale studie van die EIA. Ek verstaan dat volgens die studie, die gebruik van elektrisiteit verhoog het weens ontwikkeling en verstaan ook die behoefte vir meer stabiele krag in die studie area agv. meer huishoudings wat die basiese elektrisiteits behoeftes benodig vir vooruitgang. 	<p>Barry Fourie Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 18 April 2013</p>	
<p>Health and Electric Magnetic Fields Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have major concerns regarding the negative effects and health hazards that the power lines could have due to the EMF. Studies have shown that cancer, tumours and other life 	<p>Philip Potgieter Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 18 April 2013</p>	

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
<p>threatening illnesses are directly linked to the power lines being situated so close to homes and working areas. This was part of ESKOM's research done for the power line that was being contested in Roodepoort and it was proven!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This causes a threat to the people living on the farm and to all our animals and wildlife. Magnetic fields interact with animal tissues and are therefore dangerous to all who live in the area. • These power lines also have negative health impact on visitors and the working force of round about 200 people. • It is also very unhealthy to the environment, as it has the ability to radiate magnetic radiation. • This can have massive effects on our children and those of the people working in the area and on this farm. • Substantial evidence that exposure to magnetic fields doubles the risk of children contracting leukemia, it can also increase abortion within the first 10 weeks of pregnancy. • These statistics speak for themselves. 		
5. Agricultural Related Comments / Issues		
<p>It is a major concern and it has been researched that there are limitations to any activities taking place under the power lines of up to 4 m. Therefore a tree growing higher than 4m will be effected negatively, this includes dangers to horse riders and workers operating mechanical equipment in the area.</p>	<p>Philip Potgieter Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 18 April 2013</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment. This issue has been dealt with in the agricultural potential specialist study (Appendix K).</p>
6. Biodiversity Related Comments / Issues		
<p>Why get someone who is not from this area to come do specialist studies here? <i>Response: I will check that. Yes but his no longer in this area and things have changed in the environment.</i></p>	<p>Barry Fourie Landowner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012</p>	<p>Our fauna specialist – Clayton Cooke knows this area very well. He did most of his studies in this area. His also very much involved with the university. All the specialists identified for this project have an intimate working knowledge of the area within their relevant specialist field of expertise. One thing that I may also say is that we may not publish the location of the red data plant species that are on your farm. Specialists should and will make arrangements with you should they want some info on your farm or for a site visit. Ashlea Strong (Lidwala)</p>
<p>Tydens die konstruksieproses word plantegroei in en om die serwituuut totaal en al vernietig en neem dit jare om te herstel.</p>	<p>Mr Johan Fourie Hakuna Matata Wildsplaas</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment. This issue has been dealt with in the flora specialist study (Appendix L).</p>

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<p>Bome is ontwortel en afgekap, plat getrap en daar is ook gevalle waar plantegroei ver buite die serwituut beskadig is deur konstruksiespanne. Enige verdere transmissielyste gaan ook beskermde bome, soos kremetartbome, beïnvloed en ek is gekant teen die verskuiwing van die bome aangesien dit bydra tot die karakter van die plaas.</p>	<p>E-mail: 06 August 2012</p>	
<p>Wildplase wat eko vriendelik wil wees gaan affekteer word.</p>	<p>Soutpansberg Distriks Landbou Unie FGM: 16 November 2012</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment. This issue has been dealt with in the flora, fauna and social specialist studies (Appendix L, J and P).</p>
<p>N Verdere hoogspannings lyn sal n impak he op die, reeds onder druk weidings potensiaal van hierdie unieke gebied.</p>	<p>Freddie Stegmann FGM: 15 November 2012</p>	<p>This issue has been dealt with in the agricultural and social specialist studies.</p>
<p>Our farm is a haven for animals such as bushbuck which get shot at by surrounding farmers because they threaten their orchards and we have built up a population of bushbuck, bush pig, duiker, porcupine, baboons, vervets, leopard, brown hyeana, honey badgers and many more smaller creatures. Many of these animals have lost their fear of humans and we have regular, close sightings of them. Our concern is that, if labourers were in the area many of these animals would be poached, especially in the eucalyptus forest which would be hard to police</p>	<p>Gail Maytham Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 15 April 2013</p>	
<p>Tab-Nzh 1 Vegetation Study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low impact on vegetation as the corridor follows an existing power line and there is an existing servitude which might need to widened by a few metres; • There are existing access roads with Eskom installed gates; • The number of pylons might have to be increased as the route gets narrow between the mountains. The steeper the route with more turning points will necessitate more pylons and strain towers; • Only approximately 5% of the route needs new access roads. <p>The mountain slopes to the south of the Farm Clydesdale have all been transformed due to Silviculture, or “forest□culture”, agriculture or bush encroachment The mist-belt vegetation of the Farm Clydesdale is of concern as the sandy soils are susceptible to</p>	<p>Barry Fourie Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 18 April 2013</p>	

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
trampling and erosion. This area also harbours many of the treated plants mentioned below.		
<p>Huidiglik boer ek met Protea Cynaroides wat 'n inheemse plant van Suid Afrika is. Daarmee saam boer ek ook 90% organies om my omgewing te bewaar. Vleie en sponsgebiede is lank reeds op nasionale vlak geidentifiseer as hoogs bedreig in Suid-Afrika en wetgewing bepaal dat dit bewaar moet word. Die plaas is 'n sensitiewe area wat 'n spons en vleiegebied bevat wat een van die twee beginpunte van watervoeding vir die Nzhelele-reef is en voed ook die laagliggende plase van bo en ondergrondse water. Ek deurdink alle boerdery praktyke sorgvuldig voor ek enige veranderinge aan die natuurlike plantegroei veroorsaak omdat ek bewus is van die uniekheid van die plaas en omgewing. Sodoende ook te verhoed dat die omgewing laer af aan die noorde kant van die berg, nie nagevolg het deur besoedelde water afvloei gedurende die reenseisoen nie. Die plaas huisves ook die grootste kolonie in die Soutpansberg van Aloe vosii. Nog 'n plant wat die jaar eers ontdek is op die plaas Dianthus basuticus kom ook voor binne die huidige servituut. Die plant kom hoofsaaklik in die hooglande van Lesotho voor.</p>	<p>Barry Fourie Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 18 April 2013</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We also need to raise our concerns regarding the destruction of natural habitat to wildlife in the area. Also the effect these power lines will have on indigenous species, have any survey's been done to measure this impact? These power lines will clearly have a negative impact on our ecosystems. Green belts, rivers and public open spaces are sacrosanct, and their violation will result in their permanent desecration and destruction. 	<p>Philip Potgieter Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 18 April 2013</p>	
7. Avifauna Related Comments / Issues		
I have red data species on my farm (eagles).	Barry Fourie Landowner	Thank you for your comment. This issue has been dealt with in the avifauna specialist study (Appendix M)

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
	FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	
Blouberg nature reserve has the one of the biggest vulture breeding colonies in the area.	Barry Fourie Landowner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	Thank you for your comment. This issue has been dealt with in the avifauna specialist study (Appendix M)
Dit is duidelik dat die huidige kraglyne alreeds 'n risiko vir voellewe in die area het en ek het al male sonder tal vere onder die drade gevind van voels (soos gompoue en sekretarisvoels) wat in die drade vasgevlieg het. Dit is ook opvallend dat roofvoelgetalle aansienlik afgeneem het sedert die nuwe transmissielyn opgerig is,	Mr Johan Fourie Hakuna Matata Wildsplaaas E-mail: 06 August 2012	Thank you for your comment. This issue has been dealt with in the avifauna specialist study (Appendix M)
<p>Daar is ook al meer as 150 voëlspesies hier aangeteken, waarvan die bromvoël, grootswartooievaar, sekretarisvoël, kroonarend en witkruisarend maar 'n paar voorbeelde is.</p> <p>Witkruisarende het gereeld in die verlede die plaas besoek en in die laaste jaar, sien ek hulle omtrent nooit meer nie. Die huidige twee kraglyne deurkruis 'n jaggebied vir die voëls. Daar is talle bewyse dat die oprigting van kraglyne 'n betekenisvolle impak of verskeie voel spesies het, dit is reeds duidelik dat die bestaande lyne hier 'n groot inpak op roofvoels van die omgewing het en 'n addisionele 400kva lyn wat baie groter as die bestaande lyne is gaan die probleem baie vererger. Verskeie gevalle van roofvoels wat hier agv die kraglyn gedood is in die verlede is reeds waargeneem. Hulle afwesigheid het die balans versteur wat ek ten alle tye probeer behou. Dit het byvoorbeeld veroorsaak dat klipdassie getalle uitermatig vermeerder het, soveel so dat dit bykans 'n pes begin raak asook inheemse en skaars plante kan begin bedreig.</p>	Barry Fourie Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 18 April 2013	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have a major concern regarding the impact of these power lines on our fauna and flora. We have hundreds of bird species in this area and how will bird fatalities be addressed due to collision with power lines? 	Philip Potgieter Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 18 April 2013	
8. Construction and Maintenance Related Comments/ Issues		
During the construction phase our cottages will be affected because	Mrs Gail Maytham	Thank you for your comment. This issue has been dealt with in

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
<p>of noise and increased traffic and presence of workers</p> <p>It is not clear to us whether clearing will need to be done on our property, in our gum plantation, for the servitude for the powerline if it extends onto our property. Any clearing will obviously be noisy and disrupt the peace for some time</p>	<p>Email: 11 July 2012</p>	<p>the social specialist study (Appendix P)</p>
<p>After receipt of the environmental authorisation, how long before construction begins?</p>	<p>Gail Maytham Landowner PM Louis Trichardt: 12 June 2012</p>	<p>Eskom need the powerline and substation to be commissioned by 2017 -2019. Thamsanqa Ngcobo (Eskom Transmission) That will depend on Eskom and the authorities because after the environmental authorisation has been granted there is still some work that Eskom needs to do. Ashlea Strong (Lidwala)</p>
<p>Is the full corridor cleared of vegetation?</p>		<p>No, the corridor (500 m either side of the centre line) is what is assessed during the EIA, the final servitude will only be between 55 and 60 m wide, this is the area that is cleared of vegetation. Ashlea Strong (Lidwala)</p>
<p>We would like to understand the process, because people come to our farm for some peace and quiet. So if we are going to have people working and helicopters on our farm; it is a cause for concern.</p>		<p>It is for just this reason that it is so important for people to come to these meetings so that they can understand the process. Ashlea Strong (Lidwala) The construction process would not be undertaken on the farm for the full duration of the construction period due to the fact that it is a linear installation the construction teams move through the farms fairly quickly. Transmission does however, utilised helicopters to conduct maintenance and inspections but this is only on an as required basis. Xander Neethling (Eskom Distribution) Because access posed a great challenge during construction of the Louis Trichardt – De Beers – Venetia 132 kV line, a Helicopter was used to carry equipment & material to the summit of the mountain</p>
<p>How long will the construction take for the whole line to be completed?</p>		<p>Construction should take place from 2015 to 2018. Thamsanqa Ngcobo (Eskom Transmission)</p>
<p>The road is not maintained. Trees are thrown on the road after been cut off; they don't clear the road when there has been an accident. People get stuck in the rainy season because of the state</p>	<p>Philip Potgieter Landowner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012</p>	<p>A follow up shall be with Eskom Distribution as it is their servitude which is currently in the area and feedback given in the EIA phase of this project.</p>

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
of the road. I now even charge a fee when people ask me to come tow them.		Xander Neethling (Eskom Distribution) The situation will be addressed by Dx – it occurred during construction of the Louis Trichardt – De Beers – Venetia 132 kV line,
How and where it's going to be constructed. There maybe NO-GO areas on the farm.	Bhavesh Desai Landowner FGM – Landowner: 14 November 2012	Thank you for your comments. They have been noted. At this stage the EIA Report deals with a corridor within which the final alignment can be placed. The exact alignment of the line will be identified at a later stage once the final corridor has been surveyed. As part of the EIA's recommendations a full specialist walk down must be undertaken of the final alignment in order to check each proposed tower position in order to ensure that the final tower positions do not affect sensitive or no-go areas (Appendix E and Chapter 10).
9. Access Road Related Comments/ Issues		
There is to be an access road built right on our border. It is not clear whether it will be on our farm (Middlefontein 809 Portion 4) or Philip Pogieter's (Vlakfontein) and whether any clearing will be done on our farm. (See Page 10 Chapter 11 of the DESR)	Mrs Gail Maytham Email: 11 July 2012	A map of the access road was made available in the DSR. Xander Neethling (Eskom Distribution) The access road will most likely be constructed on Mr potgieters's property. Final alignment will be established after specialist Engineering studies
So there still needs to be an access road there (referring to the section of the line traversing Clydesdale and Vlakfontein)?	Gail Maytham Landowner PM Louis Trichardt: 12 June 2012	The access road in the area is as a result of a request from the relevant landowners and the road has therefore been included in the EIA's scope of work. Ashlea Strong (Lidwala)
New access road to farms needs to be developed because it is disturbing to have people driving over the farm to other farms without any respect or appointment/ arrangement.	Phillip Potgieter Landowner FGM – Landowner: 14 November 2012	An access road over farms Clydesdale and Vlakfontein has been included in the EIA (Chapter 4).
10. Technical Related Comments/ Issues		
Are you doubling the supply?	Al Maytham Landowner PM Louis Trichardt: 12 June 2012	The supply in the area will be increased to meet demand; it is however, not simply a doubling up of the current supply Thamsanqa Ngcobo (Eskom Transmission)
Where is Tabor?	Gail Maytham Landowner	It is the large transmission substation one can see at the Capricorn toll gate.

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
	PM Louis Trichardt: 12 June 2012	Ashlea Strong (Lidwala)
What about the designs, will there be a new substation?		The Bokmakirie substation already has an authorisation for the distribution side of the substation. This EIA looks at the extension of the Bokmakirie substation to include the transmission requirements. Ashlea Strong (Lidwala)
How tall are the towers?		Between 30 – 40m high, depending on which tower design is utilised. Ashlea Strong (Lidwala)
Does this have anything to do with the electricity shortage?		The current situation as it stands is that the electricity supply in the northern areas of Limpopo is under a lot of pressure and with both current and future proposed developments Eskom need to plan for these eventualities. Xander Neethling (Eskom Distribution) The new line is also to provide stability of supply to ensure that there is supply for the bigger users and the smaller users so that the smaller users don't suffer as a result of the larger user. Ashlea Strong (Lidwala) To add for interest – we see this corridor as a strategic corridor in the future as it could be used to evacuate power from Zimbabwe should they decide to increase their power generation. Thamsanqa Ngcobo (Eskom Transmission)
Does the Tabor substation supply Louis Trichardt?	Al Maytham Landowner PM Louis Trichardt: 12 June 2012	Yes. Ashlea Strong (Lidwala)
11. Route Alterantive Related Comments/ Issues		
Why this route?	Ms Potgieter Landowner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	The alternatives presented at the FGM with the landowners were those identified as technically feasible alternatives by the Eskom Planning department. During the meeting it was agreed that the EIA would identify and investigate the possilbitly of any alterantive routes over the Soutpansberg Mountains and to include these in the EIA phase for further investigation by all specialists. More detail on the alternatives can be found in

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
If you are going to take another 55m from Phillip's farm it means that his whole farm is going to be a servitude for Eskom.	Barry Fourie Landowner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	Chapter 4 of the Draft EIR. Thank you for your comment. We will take this into consideration during the EIA phase.
Looking at the maps, why don't they build the substation on the mine ground north (Coal of Africa's) ground where the environment is going to destroy the ground in any case.	Howard Knott Landowner Email: 26 November 2012	The site for the substation was predetermined due to the fact that it has already been approved by the National Department of Environmental Affairs for the Bokmakierie Distribution Substation. This EIA has evaluated the expansion of this existing site.
Dit blyk asof die Waterpoort route. Die minsie inpak op boerdery aktiwiteit hoofsaaklik wildboerdery sal he aangesien dit. Die spoorlyn volg wat reeds n versteuring is.	Soutpansberg Distriks Landbou Unie FGM: 16 November 2012	The preferred alternative is discussed in Chapter 4
Is it not possible to link into this existing line at Rondebosch 286 portion 3 as it shows on the aerial photograph that there will be a link into this line. Will this not be cost effective and environmental friendly?	Andre Olwage Landowner Email: 18 December 2012	Thank you for your comment. It has been forwarded to Eskom for their response. This response will be added to the Final EIR.
<p>Ek verstaan ook dat ESKOM graag sy elektrisiteits toevoer in kringe wil voltooi om meer stabiele krag te voorsien aan die gemeenskap van die Limpopo valei.</p> <p>Ek stel voor:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kry 'n ander roete, of 2. Gebruik die bestaande servituut, of 3. Bou die nuwe 400KVA langs die bestaande servituut en verwyder dan die twee 132KVA lyne. (Indien die opsie gekies word, moet die vorige servituut gerehabiliteer word) <p>Ek is nie bereid om die grondwaarde, visuele, estetiese en natuurlike diversiteit van die plaas wat ek glo in nasionale belang is nog minder te maak as gevolg van 'n derde kraglyn nie.</p>	Barry Fourie Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 18 April 2013	
<p>After all considerations our recommendations to ensure both parties a positive would be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To find an alternative route, 	Philip Potgieter Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 18 April 2013	

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the existing servitude, • To build the new 400KVA next to the existing servitude and then remove the two 132KVA lines and with doing so rehabilitate the previous servitude. 		
12. Historical (existing line) Comments/ Issues		
<p>The current line is also not yet completely finished and currently the line is not being maintained on my farm.</p>	<p>Louis Jordaan Land Owner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012</p>	<p>This issue was discussed with the landowners during a follow up meeting with Eskom Distribution. Xander Neethling (Eskom Distribution) OPGW stringing not complete on Louis Trichardt – Venetia 132 kV line on Vlakfontein & Clydsdakle due to access challenges</p>
<p>Before we can start thinking about talking about new developments. We have to sort out the current problem. The current powerline is not maintained properly.</p>	<p>Orion Theron Land Owner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012</p>	<p>This issue was discussed with the landowners during a follow up meeting with Eskom Distribution. Xander Neethling (Eskom Distribution) The land owners request a dedicated access road to be used by Eskom. To be addressed with current Access Road EIA</p>
<p>Just to add, I don't think that we have been unreasonable with the other projects. It's just that things were not done properly as they should have.</p>	<p>Phillip Potgieter Land Owner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012</p>	<p>Let's list all the issues from the current project. Let's solve all the historical issues. Issues listed include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Farm visit Protocol not adhered to during construction of Louis Trichardt – Venetia 132 kV line ○ Private road was severely damaged by Eskom during construction of Louis Trichardt – Messina 132 kV line in 1995 • Roads <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Private road was severely damaged by Eskom during construction of Louis Trichardt – Messina 132 kV line in 1995. ○ The land owners request a dedicated access road to be used by Eskom. To be addressed with current Access Road EIA • Material left behind by contractors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay rods were left, A grass slasher gearbox and

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
		blade was damaged by hidden stay rod Xander Neethling (Eskom Distribution)
This line is not going through my farm but because of historical issues and farmers saying no. I don't want this line on my farm. How do you address this / how does it work?	Orion Theron Land Owner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	Gave clarification on the EIA process. Ashlea Strong (Lidwala)
Ek wil ten sterkte beswaar aanteken teen die beoogde transmissielyn wat deur die plaas Rissik Ged 1 gaan loop. My besware is gegrond op die volgende:	Mr Johan Fourie Hakuna Matata Wildsplaas E-mail: 06 August 2012	Thank you for your comment. It has been noted.
Soos u weet is al die plase noord van die Soutpansberg wildsplase wat 'n bestaan uit die jag- en toerismebedryf maak. Daar loop alreeds 2 transmissielyne deur ons grond en enige addisionele lyn gaan die estiese waarde van die plaas so aantast dat dit onmoontlik gaan wees om die grond verder vir toerisme en jagdoeleindes te gebruik! Jagters en toeriste wat die afgelope seisoen op die plaas was het alreeds negatiewe kommentaar gehad oor die nuwe kraglyn wat in 2010/2011 op die plaas opgerig is. Die oprigting van nog 'n kraglyn gaan ook die waarde van die grond negatief affekteer aangesien daar min belangstelling is in grond wat deurkruis is met onooglike kraglyne.	Mr Johan Fourie Hakuna Matata Wildsplaas E-mail: 06 August 2012	Thank you for your comment. We have forwarded your comment to our social specialist who will deal with your comment in his EIA Report ((Appendix P)).
Dit is onduidelik uit die kort voorlegging of die huidige kragpale gebruik gaan word en of nuwe pale opgerig gaan word. Die serwituut is volgens my transportakte te klein vir die oprigting van 'n kraglyn met sy eie pale en ek weier dat die huidige serwituut op my grond vergroot word vir die oprigting van die addisionele lyn (selfs al word ek vergoed daarvoor).	Mr Johan Fourie Hakuna Matata Wildsplaas E-mail: 06 August 2012	An additional servitude will have to be registered to accommodate a 400 kV line. Xander Neethling (Eskom Distribution)
Met die oprigting van die vorige transmissielyn het ek oneindige probleme met Eskom en hul konstruksiespanne gehad: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eskom het eerstens die versekering gegee dat konstruksie buite die jagseisoen sal plaasvind en afgehandel sal wees. Dit het nie gebeur nie en konstruksie het gedurende die 2010 jagseisoen voortgeduur en tot groot ongerief vir my en my jaggroepe gelei,	Mr Johan Fourie Hakuna Matata Wildsplaas E-mail: 06 August 2012	Construction to be scheduled properly Xander Neethling (Eskom Distribution)

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Op meer as een geleentheid is werk nie voltooi nie en het pale en kragdrade die hele plaas vol gele en kon ek geensins voortgaan met my normale bestuursaktiwiteite op die plaas nie aangesien roetes na sekere dele van die plaas totaal en al afgesny is. Dit het ook wesenlike gevare ingehou vir mense en wild wat rondbeweeg op die plaas. 		<p>Construction to be managed properly Xander Neethling (Eskom Distribution)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toerusting is gereeld op die plaas agtergelaat en moes toesighouers self op die plaas oorslaap om die toerusting op te pas. Dit is vir my totaal en al onaanvaarbaar aangesien ek geen beheer het oor wie op ons grond is en wat hulle doen nie, 		<p>Construction to be managed properly Xander Neethling (Eskom Distribution)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tydens die konstruksiefase het ek meer as 20 draadstrikke in die serwituutstrook gekry en het ek meer as R10 000 se wild verloor wat in draadstrikke gevang is. Alhoewel ek die probleem gerapporteer het en daar ondersoek ingestel is, kon daar nie bewys word dat die konstruksiespanne daarby betrokke is nie. Dit is egter baie opvallend dat die probleem slegs voorgekom het tydens die konstruksie periode (nooit voor dit of ooit weer daarna nie). Ek is dus nie weer bereid om finansiële verliese te ly a.g.v. onwettige "poaching" nie, 		<p>This problem was investigated by the ECO and the construction contractor for the Venetia 132kV powerline and no evidence could be found that the construction team was responsible for putting up snares on the farm.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eskom personeel en konstruksiespanne het ook die plaasprotokol wat toegang op plaasgrond reguleer gereeld verbreek. Op verskeie geleenthede is ek nie vooraf ingelig dat op my plaas gewerk gaan word of dat my grof betree gaan word nie. Dit het daartoe gelei dat ek konstruksiepersoneel en Eskom personeel van my grond moes afsit en selfs moes uitsluit. Die feit dat ek verskeie kere met die probleem gesukkel het, is 'n indikasie dat Eskom en hul konstruksiespanne geen respek vir die reëls en regulasies van die plaasprotokol het nie en dus 'n wesenlike gevaar vir my, my arbeiders en my eiendom inhou. Ek is nie bereid om weer deur dieselfde trauma te gaan nie en om die veiligheidsrisiko te loop nie, 		<p>Farm Visit Protocol to be managed properly Xander Neethling (Eskom Distribution)</p>
<p>Uit bogenoemde is dit dus duidelik dat ek heeltemal gekant is teen die konstruksie van enige addisionele transmissie- en</p>	<p>Mr Johan Fourie Hakuna Matata Wildsplaas</p>	<p>Thank you for you comment. Your concerns have been noted.</p>

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
kraglyne op die plaas Rissik Ged 1 en dit ten alle koste sal teenstaan en probeer verhoed.	E-mail: 06 August 2012	
13. General Comments/ Issues		
Ja, Ek wil graag as 'n belandstellende end geaffekteerde party registreer.	Mr Johan Fourie Hakuna Matata Wildsplaas E-mail: 06 August 2012	You have been registered as an Interested and Affected on the projects database.
I am not sure how to register as a concerned person. The Pdf files can not be filled in as it seems that they are protected. I herby request that you make sure that I am a registerd person so that I can receive all information applicable to me. I did receive a cd with information on the draft EIA, but would like to be updated on proceedings for comment in the future.	Mr Barry Fourie Land owner E-mail: 18 July 2012	Comments noted. You have been registered as an Interested and Affected on the projects database. A CD of the report was posted via registered post.
Can you please register the Soutpansberg District agricultural union as affected party.	Soutpansberg District agricultural Union (SDLU) Email: 06 July 2012	You have been registered as an Interested and Affected on the projects database.
I will not allow the line to be constructed because I k now where the Iine is going (i.e. mining projects). I am an affected party in so many ways. I represents not only myself as landowner but also; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bird life SA • Wildlife and Environment Society of SA • Blouberg conservancy 	Barry Fourie Landowner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	Your comment has been noted.
Mr Peter Knott stopped the railway project on his own and he will stop this one as well	Louis Jordaan Land Owner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	Your comment has been noted.
I would like to go back to a time where I use a cannel, pump water with a windmill. That's why I went to the mountain to avoid electricity. Prove to us that what has happened with the previous development will not happen here.	Louis Jordaan Land Owner FGM – Landowners: 13 June 2012	Your comment has been noted.
Please register me as an Interested party.	Hendrik du Toit E-mail: 21 August 2012	You have been registered as an Interested and Affected on the projects database.

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
<p>Thank you for the notification of intended Eskom – Tabor – Bokmakirie 400 KV power line project. With reference to the aerial photograph it appears that this new line will be cutting across my property Rondebosch 287 portion 84.</p>	<p>Andre Olwage Landowner Email: 18 December 2012</p>	<p>Thank you for your confirmation.</p>
<p>I am not in favour of this development thru my property as there is already a 400KV line route running a few 100m south of my property.</p>		<p>Thank you for your comment. Your comment has been noted.</p>
<p>Rondebosch 287/33 and 287/34 belong to me and they fall within the Makhado Spatial Development Framework. We have permission to subdivide these properties into smaller units. Seeing that these properties will later become high density housing units, we will not allow any further servitudes as far as powerlines are concerned.</p>	<p>Louis Joubert Landowner Email: 26 November 2012</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. Your comments have been noted.</p>
<p>Volgens kaart 7 van die voorgestelde kraglyn, gaan n gedeelte van die lyn oor my plaas, Waterpan 401 LS, gebou word.</p> <p>Ek teken ten sterkste beswaar aan teen die voorgestelde roete oor Waterpan vir die volgende redes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Die lyn gaan oor 2 (twee) van my veesuiplings en werkskrale. 2. Die lyn gaan teenaan my huis verby!! 3. Die lyn gaan oor my toegangspad. 4. Verder gaan die lyn ook oor n geskiedkundige terrain met 2 monumente waar daar maandeliks begeleide toere plaasvind. 5. Ek het my huis hier gebou spesifiek vir die natuurskoon en uitsig. Alles sal geskend word deur hierdie infrastruktuu. Angesiens die lyn feitlik reg oor my huis gaan, hou dit gesondheidsgevaar in vir my, my gesien en diere en dit is ononderhandel. 6. Daar is n baie maklikeer alternatief. Volk die bestaande kraglyn tot op die hoek van Waterpan (teen die Elimpad) en volg die voorgestelde roete. Hoekom deur die klowe kom met hom? 	<p>Gerrit Hendriks Landowner Fax: 29 November 2012</p>	<p>At this stage the EIA Report deals with a corridor within which the final alignment can be placed. The exact alignment of the line will be identified at a later stage once the final corridor has been surveyed. As part of the EIA's recommendations a full specialist walk down must be undertaken of the final alignment in order to check each proposed tower position in order to ensure that the final tower positions do not affect sensitive or no-go areas.</p>

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
Negatief teenoor projek. Wiltsploas soek nie mense in en uit ploas wat bome sny en stilde stel ens nie.	Wietz Lourens Botes Landowner FGM: 14 November 2012	Thank you for your comments.
Negatief teenoor ontwikkeling waarde van ground/eiendomme neem af. Beskadiging van eiedomme.	Petrus Visagie Landowner FGM:13 November 2012	Thank you for your comments.
Positief met voorwaardes.	GPB van der Merwe Landowner FGM: 14 November 2012	Thank you for your comment. It has been noted.
We are not in favour of it.	Kenneth Ball and Dennis Ball Shiawela Safaris Landowners Email:18 January 2013	Thank you for your comment in has been noted.
<p>Herewith I would like to express my strongest objection to the abovementioned project. My objection is based on the following:</p> <p>The reasons provided in the background information document is very sketchy and do not state the real reason for the proposed project. It is common knowledge in the area that the main reason for the proposed project is to service the envisaged mining developments within the Limpopo Valley region. The proposed mining development is however strongly contested by the majority of residents within the Limpopo Valley to the extent that only one mining license (Vele Colliery) has been granted up to now. License applications for all other proposed mines (including the Makhado Colliery) have not even been submitted yet and should it be, will be objected to at the highest level. The proposed powerline by Eskom is therefore totally premature.</p> <p>From the information provided it is not clear at all how the existing powerlines along the Eskom servitude as well as the proposed 400Kv Tabor – Bokmakierie transmission line (Lidwala Engineers) will be linked to this project. Will existing powerlines for example stay in place or will it be removed, will existing pylons be utilized or will new pylons have to be put up, or will it</p>	<p>Johan Fourie Landowner E-mail: 29 November 2012</p>	<p>Please refer to Chapter 3 of the DEIR for a more detailed explanation of the need and justification.</p> <p>The Polokwane Customer Load Network (CLN), including the Tabor and Spencer power corridor, remains susceptible to voltage instability and is the weakest part of the Northern Grid network due to being operated beyond its reliability power transfer limit. The proposed network solutions meet the 10 year Distribution load requirements in the Tabor and Spencer network area and it is also informed by the 20 year Transmission and Distribution load forecast in meeting the Transmission 20 year plan.</p> <p>At this stage the proposed new line will require all new infrastructure and will be an additional line, over and above the existing lines.</p>

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
<p>be an additional line to the existing two lines?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The majority of farms in the area north of the Soutpansberg affected by this project are game farms which make a living from the hunting and tourism industry and attract a large number of foreign and local clients on an annual basis. The proposed project will totally destroy the natural beauty and aesthetic value of the area and will visually scar the area even further. To this effect the project cannot be described in other terms than a project creating severe land- and industrial pollution. 		<p>Thank you for your comment. This has been identified and assessed by the social specialist study (Appendix P).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Eskom servitude is only registered for a limited number of meters and it is doubtful whether the construction of any additional powerline or construction work can be accommodated in the existing servitude. Extending this servitude by buying out additional land is in my case totally unacceptable since it will reduce the size of my farm to such an extent that game farming, hunting and tourist activities will no longer be able to take place, robbing me of an income and way of life. I am therefore not willing to extend Eskom's servitude for this project in exchange for any amount of money. 		<p>The proposed line (final alignment) will most likely require the expansion of the existing servitude. At this stage the EIA Report deals with a corridor within which the final alignment can be placed. The exact alignment of the line will be identified at a later stage once the final corridor has been surveyed. As part of the EIA's recommendations a full specialist walk down must be undertaken of the final alignment in order to check each proposed tower position in order to ensure that the final tower positions do not affect sensitive or no-go areas (Appendix E and Chapter 10).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previous experience with Eskom and their appointed contractors doing work within the servitude has proven time and time again that workers are totally insensitive to the natural habitat (trees, plants, animals, birdlife, etc) as well as farmers staying on these farms. Despite requests by myself that as little disturbance as possible should take place, this is not adhered to at all resulting in the fact that construction teams had to be chased from my farm and locked out at times. I also experienced poaching activity on the farm during the construction phases resulting in a financial loss of more than R15 000 and then not even mentioning the suffering of the affected animals in the process (See 		<p>Thank you for your comment – it has been noted. Detailed flora, fauna and avifauna studies are included in the DEIR (Appendix L, J and M).</p>

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
<p>comments to Lidwala in this regard). Various protected trees, birds and animals occur on my farm and within Eskom's servitude and will be destroyed or driven away by this project. It is a known fact that vegetation clearing and development of electrical transmission and distribution lines have a negative effect on raptors and migratory birds – something which I have experiences on my own farm.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the previous Eskom project (Makhado-Paradise Tee-Venetia Transmission line) I clearly stated that NO CONSTRUCTION should take place during the hunting season since it will severely disrupt hunting bookings and activities on the farm. Needless to say that this instruction was totally ignored and construction started and continued right through the hunting season. This resulted in a loss of income due to the cancellation of bookings as well as driving away future clients. I would therefore like to make it very clear – NO CONSTRUCTION WORK WILL BE ALLOWED ON MY FARM DURING THE HUNTING SEASON (End of April to end of September)! 		<p>Thank for your comment – it has been noted. Please also see other mitigation measures included in the Environmental Management Programme (Appendix E)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Despite numerous complaints and meetings, Eskom and their construction teams have also shown no respect for AgriSA's farm protocol for farm visits and have entered and commenced work on my property without informing me and without proper consultation. This poses a huge risk for the security of people, animals and property on my farm. Should ANY work proceed on my farm I INSIST that a LEGALLY BINDING CONTRACT be drawn up between myself and Eskom to GUIDE THE PROCESS, PROCEDURE AND WORK related to the project. 		<p>Thank for your comment – it has been noted. Please also see other mitigation measures included in the Environmental Management Programme (Appendix E)</p>
<p>Lastly, I do not believe that the project holds any benefit for the local community and residents in the area and the environment. Based on this and the abovementioned comments I object to and reject the proposed powerline project.</p>		<p>Thank you for comment – it has been noted.</p>

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
<p>On a broader scale, it is sad to think of the impact that this construction will have on the beautiful and highly sensitive flora, fauna and landscape of the mountain.</p>	<p>Gail Maytham Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 15 April 2013</p>	
<p>Vandat die tweede kraglyn opgerig is het weerlig aansienlik verhoog in die area. Ek het meer weerligskade as voorheen gehad die afgelope somer as vorige jare. `n Derde lyn, voel ek gaan weerlig nog verder verhoog in die area, wat my nog meer skade as huidiglik gaan veroorsaak.</p> <p>ESKOM sal aan my moet bewys dat dit nie hulle kraglyne is wat die weerlig in die laaste jaar verhoog het nie en dat dit slegs `n natuurlike proses was. Indien daar wel `n derde lyn gespan gaan word, sal ESKOM my vir elke weerligskade moet uitbetaal tensy ESKOM kan bewys dat dit nie hulle kraglyne is wat die weerlig meer aantrek in die area nie.</p> <p>Ek moes die jaar op `n meer gereelde basis as voorheen, alle elektriese apparaat uitprop as vorige jare.</p> <p>Die verhoging van weerlig, verhoog die brandgevaar en agv. die topografie van die area is dit nie moontlik om voorbrande te maak soos wetgewing vereis nie. Dit stel my in `n groot risiko vir eise teen my van naburige plase.</p>	<p>Barry Fourie Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 18 April 2013</p>	
<p>Lightning Damages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the erection of the second ESKOM powerline we have had considerable increase in lightning damages in the area. We have been forced to take extra precautions that were not necessary prior to this. • Not to mention the additional insurance costs that we needed to spend, to make sure that the business and livelihood of 150 community members were covered and safe. • The increase in lightning also escalates the fire hazard in this area, which again in turn could have a massive impact on many families who could stand to lose their jobs. 	<p>Philip Potgieter Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 18 April 2013</p>	

Issue/Comment	Raised By	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Therefore our concern of having a third powerline running through this area. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are a large macadamia nut and avocado producer in this area and we also operate two factories where we take in and market surrounding farmer's produce. We are also proud to say that we farm close to 100% organically. I have also attached our Conservation Management Plan for your perusal (see attached detailed letter). We currently produce our own bio-diesel and use diesel burners in our factories, so forth reducing our carbon imprint on our environment. We also make use of organic fertilizer on the farm, with minimal mulching and effective micro-organisms (EM). Mulching and EM is recovered and produced from material from the farm. As you can see we take any impact to the environment as a very serious matter. Please see our neighbour's extensive research on different species that will be impacted by the expansion of this powerline. 	<p>Philip Potgieter Landowner Letter – DEIR Comments: 18 April 2013</p>	