



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Ms Ritsch

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION:

THE PROPOSED BLANCO 400/132KV MAIN TRANSMISSION SUBSTATION AND DROERVIER PROTEUS LOOP-IN LOOP-OUT POWER LINE PROJECT IN GEORGE, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The Final Scoping Report (FSR) and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated August 2013 and received by the Department on 26 August 2013 refers.

The Department has evaluated the submitted FSR and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated August 2013 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2010. The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of regulation 30(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2010.

You may proceed with the environmental impact assessment process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2010.

Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final EIR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.

In addition, the following amendments and additional information are required for the EIR:

- a) It has been noted that there is a repetition of the listed activities in the application form. Some activities, like activity 23 of GN R.544 where there is (i) and (ii), you can only apply for one activity not both; thus it is requested that you go through the activities to include a relevant activity. Therefore, it is required that the application form be amended to include the listed activities that are specific to the proposed project

- b) The impacts of the proposed loop-in loop-out power line on avifauna and bats must be assessed in the EIA phase.
- c) A construction and operational phase EMP to include mitigation and monitoring measures.

The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of regulation 67 with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations, and regulations 56 and 57 with regard to the allowance of a comment period for interested and affected parties on all reports submitted to the competent authority for decision-making. The reports referred to are listed in regulation 56(3a-3h).

Please ensure that the Final EIR includes at least one A3 regional map of the area and the locality maps included in the final EIR illustrate the different proposed alignments and above ground storage of fuel. The maps must be of acceptable quality and as a minimum, have the following attributes:

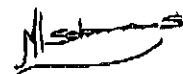
- Maps are relatable to one another;
- Cardinal points;
- Co-ordinates;
- Legible legends;
- Indicate alternatives;
- Latest land cover;
- Vegetation types of the study area; and
- A3 size locality map.

Further, it must be reiterated that, should an application for Environmental Authorisation be subject to the provisions of Chapter II, Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999, then this Department will not be able to make nor issue a decision in terms of your application for Environmental Authorisation pending a letter from the pertinent heritage authority categorically stating that the application fulfils the requirements of the relevant heritage resources authority as described in Chapter II, Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999.

You are requested to submit two (2) copies of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to the Department and at least one electronic copy (CD/DVD) of the complete final report with the hard copy documents.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours faithfully



Mr Ishaam Abader
Deputy Director-General: Legal, Authorisations, Compliance and Enforcement
Department of Environmental Affairs
Letter signed by: Millicent Solomons
Designation: Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Date: 09/10/2013

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