



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA · 0001· Environment House · 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, PRETORIA
Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9372

DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1076

Enquiries: Ms Adika Rambally

Telephone: (012) 399 9386 **E-mail:** ARambally@environment.gov.za

Mr David Tunnickliff
Eskom Holdings SOC Limited
PO Box 1091
JOHANNESBURG
2000

Tel: (011) 800 5145
Email: david.tunnickliff@eskom.co.za

PER E-MAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Tunnickliff

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998: GN R. 982/983/984/985: FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A 400kV POWERLINE WITH A LENGTH OF APPROXIMATELY 110KM FROM THE FOSKOR SUBSTATION TO THE SPENCER SUBSTATION AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AT THE SPENCER SUBSTATION (REFERRED TO AS THE LIMPOPO EAST CORRIDOR STRENGTHENING PROJECT) WITHIN THE MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant an environmental authorisation to you. The environmental authorisation (EA) and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the National Environmental Management Act: the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing within 14 (fourteen) days of the date of this EA, of the Department's decision as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No. 3 of 2000), you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013) which stipulates that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuse or compromises your personal information in any way.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribe the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

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Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appealsdirector@environment.gov.za;

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko Street
Arcadia
Pretoria
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the NEMA, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the EA or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with any activity authorised in the EA until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal> authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appealsdirector@environment.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs

Date: 07/11/2018

CC:	Mr Kishaylin Chetty	Eskom Holdings SOC Limited (Sustainability Division)	E-mail: ChettyKC@eskom.co.za
	Ms T Ramathavha	Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism	RamathavhaT@ledet.gov.za
	Mr Paul Van Royen	Ba-Phalaborwa Local Municipality	vanroyenp@ba-phalaborwa.gov.za
	Ms Tivane Tsakane	Maruleng Local Municipality	tivanit@maruleng.gov.za
	Ms Julie Somanje	Greater Giyani Local Municipality	somanjeni@greatergiyani.gov.za
	Ms Maggy Machumeme	Greater Tzaneen Local Municipality	maggy.macumeme@tzaneen.gov.za
	Ms Lerato Shukuma	Greater Letaba Local Municipality	sukuma!@gim.gov.za
	Mr Mudau Tshavheni	Mopani District Municipality	mudaun@mopani.gov.za
	Ms Brenda Makanza	DIGES Group	brendam@diges.co.za



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Environmental Authorisation

In terms of Regulation 25 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014

The construction of a 400kV power line with a length of approximately 110km from the Foskor Substation to the Spencer Substation and the development of associated infrastructure at the Spencer Substation (referred to as the Limpopo East Corridor Strengthening Project) within the Mopani District Municipality, Limpopo Province

Mopani District Municipality

Application Reference Number:	<i>14/12/16/3/3/2/1076</i>
Last amended:	<i>First issue</i>
Holder of authorisation:	<i>Eskom Holdings SOC Limited</i>
Location of activity:	<i>Ba-Phalaborwa Local Municipality; Greater Letaba Local Municipality; Greater Tzaneen Local Municipality; Maruleng Local Municipality; Mopani District Municipality; Limpopo Province</i>

This environmental authorisation does not negate the holder of the authorisation's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.

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Decision

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this environmental authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activity specified below.

Non-compliance with a condition of this environmental authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014.

Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

Activities authorised

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 the Department hereby authorises -

ESKOM HOLDINGS SOC LIMITED

(hereafter referred to as the **holder of the authorisation**)

with the following contact details -

Mr David Tunnicliff

PO Box 1091

JOHANNESBURG

2000

Telephone Number: (011) 800 5145

Email Address: david.tunnicliff@eskom.co.za

to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as "the activities") indicated in Listing Notice 1 (GN R. 983), Listing Notice 2 (GN R. 984) and Listing Notice 3 (GN R. 985) of the EIA Regulations, 2014:

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>GN R. 983 Activity 27:</u></p> <p><i>"The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for -</i></p> <p><i>(i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or</i></p> <p><i>(ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan".</i></p>	<p>The extension of the Spencer Substation will result in the clearance of approximately 9 hectares of vegetation of which more than 1 hectare will comprise indigenous vegetation.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 983 Activity 30:</u></p> <p><i>"Any process or activity identified in terms of section 53(1) of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004)".</i></p>	<p>Vegetation will be cleared in Critical Biodiversity Areas which are termed threatened.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 984 Activity 9:</u></p> <p><i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kilovolts or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex excluding the development of bypass infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity where such bypass infrastructure is -</i></p> <p><i>(a) temporarily required to allow for maintenance of existing infrastructure;</i></p> <p><i>(b) 2 kilometres or shorter in length;</i></p> <p><i>(c) within an existing transmission line servitude; and will be removed within 18 months of the commencement of development".</i></p>	<p>A 400kV power line with a length of approximately 110km will be constructed and traverse across areas that are largely classified as rural.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 985 Activity 12(e) (ii) and (iii):</u></p> <p><i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for</i></p>	<p>According to the Draft Mopani Bioregional Plan and the Limpopo Conservation Plan v2, the power line alternatives traverse across areas that have been classified as critical biodiversity areas, CBA1, CBA2,</p>

<p><i>maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.</i></p> <p><i>e. Limpopo</i></p> <p><i>ii. Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans; or</i></p> <p><i>iii. On land, where, at the time of the coming into effect of this Notice or thereafter such land was zoned open space, conservation or had an equivalent zoning".</i></p>	<p>ESA1 and ESA2; and, more than 300m² of indigenous vegetation will be cleared within these areas.</p> <p>More than 300m² of indigenous vegetation will be cleared in conservation areas (nature reserves) surrounding the Foskor substation.</p>
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as described in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAr) received by this Department on 23 July 2018.

The co-ordinates for the Spencer Substation and approved corridor:

	Latitude	Longitude
Start	24° 01' 40.05" S	31° 07' 37.41" E
Middle	23° 56' 21.25" S	30° 39' 54.11" E
End	23° 29' 19.37" S	30° 22' 51.58" E

The project will entail the construction and operation of a 400kV power line with a length of approximately 110km from the Foskor Substation to the Spencer Substation and the development of associated infrastructure at the Spencer Substation. The type of tower to be used will be finalized after the power line has been designed. However, the following three towers are usually used for 400kV power lines: cross rope suspension, guyed suspension tower and self-supporting tower.

The corridor referred to as: Foskor-Spencer combination of Corridor Alternative 1, 2 and deviation 1b is hereby approved and is attached as Annexure 2 of this EA. The Spencer Substation will also be expanded through the construction of a 400/132kV transformation yard, 1 x 500MVA, 400/132kV transformer to cater for the proposed 400kV power line coming from the Foskor Main Transmission Substation and a transformer oil holding dam with a capacity of 120m³. The expansion at the Spencer Substation will require a footprint area of approximately 9 ha.

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Details and dimensions of infrastructure:

Component	Description/dimensions
Power line capacity	400kV
Pylon type	One of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cross rope suspension• Guyed suspension tower• Self-supporting tower
Height of pylon	30-45m
Span Length	300-400m
Minimum Ground Clearance	8.1m
Length	Approximately 110km
Servitude	55m (cross rope suspension towers require 75m at tower position).
Height of fencing	2.1m
Type of fencing	Palisade

Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

Scope of authorisation

1. The development of a 400kV power line with a length of approximately 110km from the Foskor Substation to the Spencer Substation and the development of associated infrastructure at the Spencer Substation within the Mopani District Municipality, Limpopo Province referred to as the Foskor-Spencer combination of Corridor Alternative 1, 2 and deviation 1b as described above, and as attached as Annexure 2 of his Environmental Authorisation is hereby approved.
2. Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this environmental authorisation, which form part of the environmental authorisation and are binding on the holder of the authorisation.
3. The holder of the authorisation is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this environmental authorisation. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the authorisation.
4. The activities authorised may only be carried out at the property as described above.
5. Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this environmental authorisation must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In

assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the holder of the authorisation to apply for further environmental authorisation in terms of the regulations.

6. The holder of an environmental authorisation must apply for an amendment of the environmental authorisation with the competent authority for any alienation, transfer or change of ownership rights in the property on which the activity is to take place.
7. This activity must commence within a period of five (05) years from the date of issue of this environmental authorisation. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.
8. Construction must be completed within five (05) years of the commencement of the activity on site.
9. Commencement with one activity listed in terms of this environmental authorisation constitutes commencement of all authorised activities.

Notification of authorisation and right to appeal

10. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this environmental authorisation, of the decision to authorise the activity.
11. The notification referred to must –
 - 11.1. specify the date on which the authorisation was issued;
 - 11.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in the National Appeal Regulations, 2014;
 - 11.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation will be furnished on request; and
 - 11.4. give the reasons of the competent authority for the decision.

Commencement of the activity

12. The authorised activity shall not commence until the period for the submission of appeals has lapsed as per the National Appeal Regulations, 2014. In terms of section 43(7), an appeal under section 43 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal has been finalised.

Management of the activity

13. The final development layout plan to be included in the EMPr must indicate the following:
 - 13.1. The final delineation of the centreline of the power line within the approved corridor;
 - 13.2. The specific position of the pylon structures and foundation footprints;
 - 13.3. All existing infrastructure on the site, especially roads;
 - 13.4. All sensitive features/areas and/or no-go areas e.g. nesting sites, wetlands and drainage channels that will be affected by the power line; and
 - 13.5. All "no-go" and buffer areas.
14. The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) submitted as part of the EIAr is not approved and must be amended to include measures as dictated by the final site lay-out map and micro-siting, and the provisions of this environmental authorisation. The EMPr must be made available for comments by registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final EMPr must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. Once approved the EMPr must be implemented and adhered to.
15. The EMPr must be amended to include:
 - 15.1. The requirements and conditions of this environmental authorisation.
 - 15.2. All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the BAR and the specialist reports as included in the final EIAr dated July 2018.
 - 15.3. A final development layout map (with micro-siting of the routes of the power lines and pylon structures) and all mitigation measures as dictated by the final development layout map.

Frequency and process of updating the EMPr

16. The EMPr must be updated where the findings of the environmental audit reports, contemplated in Condition 25 below, indicate insufficient mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity, or insufficient levels of compliance with the Environmental Authorisation or EMPr.
17. The updated EMPr must contain recommendations to rectify the shortcomings identified in the environmental audit report.
18. The updated EMPr must be submitted to the Department for approval together with the environmental audit report, as per Regulation 34 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as amended. The updated EMPr must have been subjected to a public participation process, which process has been agreed to by the Department, prior to submission of the updated EMPr to the Department for approval.

19. In assessing whether to grant approval of an EMPr which has been updated as a result of an audit, the Department will consider the processes prescribed in Regulation 35 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as amended. Prior to approving an amended EMPr, the Department may request such amendments to the EMPr as it deems appropriate to ensure that the EMPr sufficiently provides for avoidance, management and mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity.
20. The holder of the authorisation may apply for an amendment of an EMPr, if such amendment is required before an audit is required. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department will consider the processes and requirements prescribed in Regulation 37 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as amended.

Monitoring

21. The holder of the authorisation must appoint an experienced independent Environmental Control Officer (ECO) for the construction phase of the development that will have the responsibility to ensure that the mitigation/rehabilitation measures and recommendations referred to in this environmental authorisation are implemented and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the approved EMPr.
 - 21.1. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activities.
 - 21.2. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
 - 21.3. The ECO must keep record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a task schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
 - 21.4. The ECO must remain employed until all rehabilitation measures, as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site is ready for operation.

Recording and reporting to the Department

22. All documentation e.g. audit/monitoring/compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to the Department in terms of this Environmental Authorisation, must be submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring of the Department at Directorcompliance@environment.gov.za.
23. The holder of the Environmental Authorisation must, for the period during which the Environmental Authorisation and EMPr remain valid, ensure that project compliance with the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation and the EMPr are audited, and that the audit reports are submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring of the Department at Directorcompliance@environment.gov.za.

24. The frequency of auditing and of submission of the environmental audit reports must be as per the frequency indicated in the EMPr, taking into account the processes for such auditing as prescribed in Regulation 34 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as amended.
25. The holder of the authorisation must, in addition, submit an environmental audit reports to the Department within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e. within 30 days of site handover) and a final environmental audit report within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities.
26. The environmental audit reports must be compiled in accordance with Appendix 7 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, and must indicate the date of the audit, the name of the auditor and the outcome of the audit in terms of compliance with the Environmental Authorisation conditions as well as the requirements of the approved EMPr.
27. Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on site and made available for inspection to any relevant and Competent Authority in respect of this development.

Notification to authorities

28. A written notification of commencement must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity. Commencement for the purposes of this condition includes site preparation. The notice must include a date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence, as well as a reference number.

Operation of the activity

29. A written notification of operation must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity's operational phase.

Site closure and decommissioning

30. Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the holder of the authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and competent authority at that time.

Specific conditions

31. The final power line alignment must be inspected by the avifaunal, biodiversity, wetland, palaeontological and archaeological specialists prior to construction to ascertain if any sensitive species and/or objects are present. Should any sensitive species and/or objects be present then the recommendations of the relevant specialist must be adhered to.
32. No activities are allowed to take place within 32 meters of a watercourse.
33. Rescued flora and faunal species must be relocated within the project site (if suitable) or areas outside of the project site identified as suitable by the relevant specialist.
34. Phased vegetation clearance must be practised so that cleared areas are not left un-vegetated and vulnerable to erosion and invasion by alien vegetation.
35. A permit must be obtained from the relevant nature conservation authority for the relocation, removal or destruction of any indigenous, protected or endangered flora and/or fauna, if required.
36. No exotic plants may be used for rehabilitation purposes. Only indigenous plants occurring within a ten (10) kilometre radius of the development site must be utilised.
37. Erosion and silt control mechanisms must be implemented to prevent sediment from entering the watercourse and/or other sensitive areas.
38. The graves observed in Corridor 2 must be marked as 'no-go' areas.
39. The vulture restaurant in deviation 1b must be marked as 'no-go' areas.
40. Where power line marking is required (i.e. in areas that contain rivers, dams or near a vulture restaurant) bird flight diverters must be installed on the full span length on each earth wire (according to Eskom guidelines i.e. 5m apart). Light and dark colour devices must be alternated so as to provide contrast against both dark and light backgrounds respectively. These devices must be installed as soon as the conductors are strung.
41. The galvanising of the pylon must be allowed to weather a matt grey finish rather than be painted silver. Should the pylons be painted then a neutral matt finish must be used.
42. If any new evidence of archaeological and/or palaeontological sites or remains (e.g., remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, marine shell and charcoal/ash concentrations), unmarked human burials, fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during construction, the relevant heritage authority must be informed immediately, and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, must be contracted to inspect the findings.
43. An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation and must incorporate reduction, recycling, re-use and disposal where appropriate.

44. Any solid waste, which will not be recycled, must be disposed of at a landfill licensed in terms of section 20 (b) of the National Environment Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008). No waste material may be left on site after construction.
45. The recommendations of the EAP in the EIAR received by the Department on 23 July 2018 and the specialist studies attached must be adhered to. In the event of any conflicting mitigation measures and conditions of the environmental authorisation, the specific condition of this environmental authorisation will take preference.

General

46. A copy of this Environmental Authorisation, the audit and compliance monitoring reports, and the approved EMPr, must be made available for inspection and copying-
 - 46.1. at the site of the authorised activity;
 - 46.2. to anyone on request; and
 - 46.3. where the holder of the Environmental Authorisation has a website, on such publicly accessible website.
47. National government, provincial government, local authorities or committees appointed in terms of the conditions of this authorisation or any other public authority shall not be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder of the authorisation or his/her successor in title in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction be temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance by the holder of the authorisation with the conditions of authorisation as set out in this document or any other subsequent document emanating from these conditions of authorisation.

Date of environmental authorisation: 09/11/2018


Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs

Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

1. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration-

- a) The information contained in the scoping report received by the Department on 22 September 2017 (with reference number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1023).
- b) The acceptance of the scoping report (with reference number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1023) subject to conditions issued by the Department on 03 November 2017.
- c) The information contained in the new application for environmental authorisation (with reference number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1076) received by the Department on 12 June 2018.
- d) The information contained in the EIA received by the Department on 23 July 2018.
- e) The findings of the site visit conducted by the Department on 16 October 2018.
- f) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998.
- g) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the EIA received by the Department on 23 July 2018 and as detailed below:

Title	Prepared by	Date
A review of Eskom Holdings Report: electric and magnetic fields from overhead power lines: a summary of technical and biological aspects	Optimum Engineering Consultants	21 September 2017
Bird Impact Assessment Report	Chris van Rooyen Consulting	undated
Biodiversity Study	Bioassets Biological Assessments	June 2017
Eco-Tourism Impact Assessment	Engwe Scoping Consulting	undated
Social Impact Assessment	Afro Conserva Intergration	undated
Soil and Land Capability Impact Assessment	Dr. K.K. Ayisi	15 August 2017
Visual Impact Assessment	Zone Land Solutions	09 February 2018
Wetland Delineation and Assessment	Sazi Environmental Consulting	06 July 2017
Paleontological Desktop Study	Dr JF Durand	10 February 2018

Phase 1 Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Report	Vhubvo Consultants CC	Archaeo-Heritage	February 2018
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2. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was taken into account in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- a) The EIA received by the Department on 23 July 2018 identified all relevant legislation and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the EIA.
- b) The findings of all the specialist studies conducted and their recommended mitigation measures.
- c) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the EIA received by the Department on 23 July 2018 and the specialist studies have been adequately indicated.
- d) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations, 2014 for public involvement.

3. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings-

- a) The identification and assessment of impacts are detailed in the EIA received by the Department on 23 July 2018 and sufficient assessment of the key identified issues and impacts have been completed.
- b) The procedure followed for impact assessment is adequate for the decision-making process.
- c) The proposed mitigation of impacts identified and assessed adequately curtails the identified impacts.
- d) The information contained in the EIA received by the Department on 23 July 2018 is deemed to be accurate and credible.
- e) EMP measures for the project were proposed and included in the EIA received by the Department on 23 July 2018 and will be implemented to manage the identified environmental impacts.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the environmental authorisation, the authorised activities will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the authorised activities can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The environmental authorisation is accordingly granted.

ANNEXURE 2: Approved Corridor



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