

DER/EIA/0002224/2013

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DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/629 Enquiries: Mmatlala Rabothata

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PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE OF A NEW APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION (SCOPING/EIA PROCESS) FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE 2X500KV POWER LINES FROM NZHELELE (RSA) TO TRIANGLE SUBSTATION (ZIMBABWE)

The Department confirms having received the application form, landowner notification, title deed, locality map, project schedule, declaration of the applicant and declaration of the EAP for environmental authorisation for the abovementioned project submitted by you on 28 November 2013. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010. The Application is accepted.

In addition, please consider the following during compilation of reports for this application for environmental authorisation:

- Please be advised that in terms of the EIA Regulations and NEMA the investigation of alternatives is mandatory. Alternatives must therefore be identified, investigated to determine if they are feasible and reasonable. It is also mandatory to investigate and assess the option of not proceeding with the proposed activity (the "no-go" option).
- Should water, solid waste removal, effluent discharge, stormwater management and
  electricity services be provided by the municipality, you are requested to provide this office
  with written proof that the municipality has sufficient capacity to provide the necessary
  services to the proposed development. Confirmation of the availability of services from the
  service providers must be provided together with the reports to be submitted.
- In the reports to be submitted it must clearly be demonstrated in which way the proposed development will meet the requirements of sustainable development. You must also consider energy efficient technologies and water saving devices and technologies for the proposed development. This could include measures such as the recycling of waste, the use of low voltage or compact fluorescent lights instead of incandescent globes, maximising the use of solar heating, the use of dual flush toilets and low-flow shower

heads and taps, the management of storm water, the capture and use of rainwater from gutters and roofs, the use of locally indigenous vegetation during landscaping and the training of staff to implement good housekeeping techniques.

- A detailed and complete EMPr must be submitted with the EIR. This EMPr must not
  provide recommendations but must indicate actual remediation activities which will be
  binding on the applicant. Without this EMPr the documents will be regarded as not
  meeting the requirements and will be returned to the applicant for correction.
- The applicant/EAP is required to inform this Department in writing upon submission of any draft report, of the contact details of the relevant State Departments (that administer laws relating to a matter affecting the environment) to whom copies of the draft report were submitted for comment. Upon receipt of this confirmation, this Department will in accordance with Section 24O(2) & (3) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) inform the relevant State Departments of the commencement date of the 40 day commenting period, or 60 days in the case of the Department of Water Affairs for waste management activities which also require a licence in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998).
- Should it be necessary to apply for a permit in terms of the National Heritage Resources
  Act, 1999 (Act 25 of 1999), please submit the necessary application to SAHRA or the
  relevant provincial heritage agency and submit proof thereof with the Environmental
  Impact Assessment Report. The relevant heritage agency should also be involved during
  the public participation process and have the opportunity to comment on all the reports to
  be submitted to this Department.

You are required to submit the final site layout plan together with the Final EIR to the Department. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout plan.

The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) submitted as part of the application for environmental authorisation must include the following:

- All recommendations and mitigation measures to be recorded in the Final EIR.
- A plant rescue and protection plan which allows for the maximum transplant of conservation important species from areas to be transformed. This plan must be compiled by a vegetation specialist familiar with the site in consultation with the ECO and be implemented prior to commencement of the construction phase.
- An open space management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility.
- A re-vegetation and habitat rehabilitation plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility including timeframes for restoration which must indicate rehabilitation within the shortest possible time after completion of construction activities to reduce the amount of habitat converted at any one time and to speed up the recovery to natural habitats.
- An alien invasive management plan to be implemented during construction and operation
  of the facility. The plan must include mitigation measures to reduce the invasion of alien
  species and ensure that the continuous monitoring and removal of alien species is
  undertaken.
- A storm water management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation
  of the facility. The plan must ensure compliance with applicable regulations and prevent
  off-site migration of contaminated storm water or increased soil erosion. The plan must
  include the construction of appropriate design measures that allow surface and subsurface
  movement of water along drainage lines so as not to impede natural surface and

subsurface flows. Drainage measures must promote the dissipation of storm water runoff.

- An effective monitoring system to detect any leakage or spillage of all hazardous substances during their transportation, handling, use and storage. This must include precautionary measures to limit the possibility of oil and other toxic liquids from entering the soil or storm water systems.
- An erosion management plan for monitoring and rehabilitating erosion events associated with the facility. Appropriate erosion mitigation must form part of this plan to prevent and reduce the risk of any potential erosion.
- A traffic management plan for the site access roads to ensure that no hazards would results from the increased truck traffic and that traffic flow would not be adversely impacted. This plan must include measures to minimize impacts on local commuters e.g. limiting construction vehicles travelling on public roadways during the morning and late afternoon commute time and avoid using roads through densely populated built-up areas so as not to disturb existing retail and commercial operations.
- An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process.
- Measures to protect hydrological features such as streams, rivers, pans, wetlands, dams and their catchments, and other environmental sensitive areas from construction impacts including the direct or indirect spillage of pollutants.

You are requested to submit two (2) electronic copies (the main report must be separated from the Appendices (each appendix saved separately) (CD/DVD) and two (2) hard copies of both the Draft and Final Report to the Department. The hard copies must be double-sided printed; double-punched and must be bound using a lever arch file (two or four holes).

The EAP must, in order to give effect to regulation 56 (2), before submitting the Environmental Impact Assessment Report to the Department give registered interested and affected parties access to, and an opportunity to comment on the report in writing.

In terms of regulation 67 of the EIA Regulations, 2010 this application will lapse if the applicant (or the EAP on behalf of the applicant) fails to comply with a requirement in terms of the Regulations for a period of six months after having submitted the application, unless the reasons for failure have been communicated to and accepted by this Department.

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 sincerely

Mr Ishaam Abader

Deputy Director-General: LACE

Department of Environmental Affairs: Letter signed by: Ms Mmatlala Rabothata

Designation: Environmental Officer: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Date: 12/12/2013

CC:	Mr David Tunnicliff	Eskom Holdings SOC Limited	Fax: 086 602 9704
	Ms Juliet Mukhari	LP DEDET	Fax: 015 295 5015
	Ms Susan Sithole	Musina Local Municipality	Fax: 086 743 0186

BROADCAST REPORT

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