



Dynamic Integrated Geohydro
Environmental Services cc

Midrand: Suite 2, 546 16th Road
PO Box 7068, Midrand 1685
Tel: 011 312 2878, Fax: 011 312 7824

Polokwane: No 98, Marshal Street
PO Box 5743, Polokwane North 0750
Tel: 015 291 4151, Fax: 015 291 41 67

Mafikeng: Office No4, Old Mutual Building
Provident Street, PO Box 24322
Mafikeng 2745, Tel: 018 384 4465
Fax: 018 384 0414

www.diges.co.za | info@diges.co.za | CK No. 2004/050201/23 | VAT No. 4450221314

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Department of Environmental Affairs

Environmental House

473 Steve Biko Road

Arcadia

Pretoria

0083

ATTENTION: DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

**EXTENSION OF TIME FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR
THE PROPOSED RUSTENBURG STRENGTHENING PHASE 2 (MARANG B), DEA REF NO.
14/12/16/3/3/1/611**

The above project bears reference:

An application form was submitted on the 31st of October 2013 and was granted permission to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment on the 02 December 2013 as per section 26 and 27 of EIA Regulations, Government Notice No. R543 of 18 June 2010. The reference no. for the application is 14/12/16/3/3/1/611.

The Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) submitted to the Department on the 18th of May 2015 was retracted citing the identification of an additional location alternative. At the time of submission of the final EIR, the following three activity alternatives had been assessed;

- i. The extension of the existing substation with 2 x 315 MVA 400/88kV. This option would lock Marang Voltage 88kV in the 20 years forecasted and it would not allow distribution voltage to gradually migrate to 132kV for reliability in the area. For this reason this option was not considered;
- ii. The construction of a new Transmission Substation, Marang B with an end state design of 3 x 500, 400/132 kV substation by 2018. The load including all distribution upgrades would be done all at once and this would result in a high capital expenditure. Therefore this option was also not considered; and

- iii. The construction of a new transmission substation: this option is the same as option 2. The load shift would be done in two phases ensuring that the spare capacity at the new substation will be more due to the load being moved in small volumes and Phase 2 load shift is optional and will be determined by the load changes and requirements in the Marang supply area. This was the preferred option and Phase 1 would entail the construction of Marang B 400/132kV substation and 400kV loop in loop out power lines. The construction of this infrastructure would trigger Activity 8 and 15 of Listing Notice 2, Government Notice R545 and Activity 4 (c)(i) ee Listing Notice 3, Government Notice R546 of 18 June 2010.

Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd has since addressed the challenges cited in alternative 1 and the extension of the existing substation will form part of the assessment.

We therefore request an extension of time of 3 months in which we can submit the Final Environmental Impact Report.

For any clarifications do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,



Brenda Makanza

Dynamic Integrated Geo-Hydro Environmental Services (DIGES)