

Our Ref: J33019
(DEA Ref no: 14/12/16/3/3/1/903)



7 November 2013

Dear Interested and Affected Party

Tshwane

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NOTICE OF A BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED ZANDKOPSDRIFT 132KV POWERLINE TO BE CONSTRUCTED FROM THE PROPOSED HOEKKLIP SUBSTATION (WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE) TO THE ZANDKOPSDRIFT MINE (NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE)

ESKOM Holdings SOC Limited (Eskom Distribution – Western Region) (ESKOM) has submitted an application for Environmental Authorisation for the proposed construction of the Zandkopsdrift 132kV Powerline from the proposed Hoekklip substation (Western Cape) to the Zandkopsdrift mine (Northern Cape).

The Application for Environmental Authorisation is conducted in accordance with the following legislation:

- Environmental Authorisation from the National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (GNR. 544, and 546 of 2010).
- The activity also requires a Water Use License (WUL) in terms of Section 21(c) and (i) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998).

GIBB (Pty) Ltd (GIBB) has been appointed as an independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by ESKOM to undertake the necessary environmental authorisation processes (Basic Assessment and Water Use License) and associated public participation process in support of the above applications.

STUDY AREA:

The proposed powerline is approximately 81.5 km long and passes through the proposed Hoekklip substation, into the proposed Landplaas switching station, and finally into the Zandkopsdrift substation (which is situated within the Zandkopsdrift mine) (**Error! Reference source not found.**). There are two route options considered for the line between the Zandkopsdrift mine and the Hoekklip substation.

Alternative 1 follows a northerly to North North–Westerly direction from the proposed Landplaas switching station which is located to the East of and approximately parallel with the road between Waterklip and Biesiesfontein. Alternative 1 is approximately 82 km in length.

Alternative 2 (**preferred route**) follows a similar route alignment as Alternative 1, with the exception of a few deviations. These deviations occur firstly at the proposed Hoekklip substation, where Alternative 2 heads out in a North-Westerly direction for approximate 4.5 km before linking up with Alternative 1 again. The second deviation occurs South of the Zandkopsdrift mine, where Alternative 2 deviates slightly to the East before entering the Zandkopsdrift mine substation, covering a total distance of 81.5 km. Alternative 2 lies predominantly to the East of Alternative 1.

The proposed project involves the construction of:

- An approximate 81.5 km long 132kV overhead distribution powerline from the Hoekklip substation to the Zandkopsdrift substation via the Landplaas switching station;
- Hoekklip substation;
- Landplaas switching station; and
- Zandkopsdrift substation.

Based on the proposed route and nature of the project, several watercourses will be crossed by the 132kV powerline.

It should be noted that the main purpose of the proposed powerline is to service the Zandkopsdrift mine, providing the mine with adequate and reliable power supply to meet current and future demands. This will allow for the mine to go into full production in the nearby future and in return promote future developments and economic growth in the area.

PROJECT ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative 1 - Zandkopsdrift 132kV Powerline route

The Alternative 1 powerline will be constructed along the following route:

- Hoekklip Substation along the R363 (31°29'39.01"S;18°18' 3.06"E), turning left from the R363 (31°21'13.30"S;18°14'10.20"E) heading towards the proposed Landplaas switching station (31°17'24.778"S;18°6'45.722"E) covering an approximate distance of 40km.
- From the proposed Landplaas switching station, heading Northwards for approximately 50km towards the Zandkopsdrift mine (30°52'17.940"S17°57'22.349"E).

Alternative 2 (Preferred Alternative) - Zandkopsdrift 132kV Powerline route

The Alternative 2 (preferred alternative) powerline will be constructed along the following route:

- Hoekklip Substation along the R363 (31°29'39.01"S;18°18' 3.06"E), heading out in a North-Westerly direction for approximately 4.5km (31°27'9.33"S;18°16'3.25"E) before linking up with Alternative 1 again.
- Turning left from the R363 (31°21'13.30"S;18°14'10.20"E) heading towards the proposed Landplaas switching station (31°17'24.778"S;18°6'45.722"E) covering an approximate distance of 40km.
- From the proposed Landplaas switching station, heading Northwards towards the Zandkopsdrift mine, deviating to the East on two occasions (31°5'45.72"S;18°3'38.44"E and 30°58'21.37"S;18°0'37.52"E) before entering the Zandkopsdrift mine substation (30°52'17.940"S;17°57'22.349"E), covering a total distance of 81.5km.

**Please refer to Figure 1 indicating both Alternative 1 (in yellow) and Alternative 2 (Preferred alternative - in Orange) distribution line alignments.*



Figure 1: Alternative 1 & 2 distribution line alignments

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT:

All Interested and/or Affected Parties (I&APs) are invited to participate by: registering written comments on the abovementioned project to the GIBB Public Participation Office.

Comments should include the I&AP's name, organisation, telephone and fax numbers, physical and postal address, email address, your comment and/or interest in the project, and can be submitted by post, fax or email to the Public Participation Office (details provided below).

REVIEW OF THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT (BAR):

Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP's) are hereby notified of a 40 (forty) day period from **Tuesday, 12 November 2013** to **Friday, 10 January 2014 (inclusive)** to register for the abovementioned project and/ or comment on draft BAR. The draft BAR will be made available for public review at the following locations:

Place	Address	Contact Person	Telephone
Lutzville Public Library	Du Toit Street, Lutzville, 8165	Susan Cronje	027 217 1519
The community hall in Vleifontein	Landplaas Community Hall along the R363	Boeta Smit	027 217 1360
The draft BAR and associated WULA is also available on the GIBB website at the following link: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• http://projects.gibb.co.za/Projects/Zandkopsdrift-132KV-Powerline-BA• A CD copy is available upon request. Please contact Alecia Barnard			

INVITATION TO A PUBLIC OPEN DAY:

I&AP's are invited to a public open day. Details of the meeting are as follows:

Date: 13 November 2013
Presentation time: 09:00 – 11:00
16:00 – 18:00
Venue: Landplaas Community Hall


The purpose of the public open day will be to present the contents of the draft BAR, and to allow discussions with I&AP's. Recommendations and concerns raised by registered I&AP's will be included into the final BAR to be submitted to the competent authority for consideration and decision making. Should you wish to be registered as an I&AP, obtain additional information or comment on the proposed project, please contact the Public Participation Office by no later than **10 January 2014** using the contact details provided hereunder.

Att: Kabelo Mphake
The RRT Public Participation Office
Email: publicparticipation@gibb.co.za
Tel: (012) 348 5880
Fax: (012) 348 5878
Post: P O Box 35007, Menlo Park, 0102

GIBB will distribute further information and correspondence on the project and associated BA process to all registered Interested and Affected Parties and provide further opportunities for comments throughout the BA process.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully
For GIBB (Pty) Ltd

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Tashriq Naicker', positioned above a horizontal line.

Tashriq Naicker
Senior Environmental Scientist