

ISSUES AND RESPONSE REPORT:



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 2X500MVA 400/132kV ESKOM INYANINGA SUBSTATION, APPROXIMATELY 100KM INYANINGA – MBEWU 2x400kV POWERLINES AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF ETHEKWINI METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY, ILEMBE AND UTHUNGULU DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES IN KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

Date receipt of comment	Name and contact details	Organization	Issues and comments	Response by Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)	Date of response by EAP
13 April 2016	Sanjeev Gareeb Tel: 032 436 6894 Cell: 082 710 2716 E-Mail: Sanjeev.Gareeb@airports.co.za	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Airports Company South Africa 	- Mr. Sanjeev Gareeb requested the coordinates of the proposed pylons and powerlines with Above Mean Sea Level (AMSL) heights. He further indicated that Air Traffic Navigation Services (ATNS) will also need to check if there are any potential impacts on radar or other NAVAID performance.	- The EAP submitted the co-ordinates to both the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) and Airports Company of South Africa (ACSA) on the 14 th April 2016. - On the 18 th April 2016, the EAP informed SACAA that the height of the communication tower at the proposed substation site will be less than 50m and that Nsovo is still awaiting confirmation of the exact height of the pylons from Eskom and this might also be below 50m. The EAP further requested information on	14 and 18 April 2016.

				future developments at King Shaka International Airport that may potentially influence/affect Eskom's future projects and that if possible the information should be sent in GDN format.	
21 April 2016	<p>Sanjeev Gareeb</p> <p>Tel: 032 436 6894</p> <p>Cell: 082 710 2716</p> <p>E-Mail: Sanjeev.Gareeb@airports.co.za</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Airports Company South Africa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Sanjeev Gareeb sent an email to Nsovo stating that Nsovo should engage directly with the SACAA regarding the assessment / application for the structures and power lines. He also stated that the information required for ATNS will form part of what the CAA requires and a separate assessment (radar performance/ interference with NAVAIDS). Further, he requested to be copied when submitting the required information for ease of access to the same. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 21 April 2016, the EAP forwarded the ACSA email to Eskom (Vuledzani Thanyani) so that they could assist with provision of the requested information. Mr Thanyani submitted the tower specifications on 22 April 2016. However, some of the information required by ACSA was not readily available from Nsovo, as such, the EAP advised both ACSA and SACAA to communicate directly with Eskom to avoid miscommunication. 	21 and 22 April 2016.
24 November 2016	<p>Ethel</p> <p>info@kwanalu.co.za</p>	Kwanalu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethel from Kwanalu Organisation confirmed receipt of Nsovo's email notification and confirmed that the notification has been forwarded to the 	The EAP acknowledged the comments and further requested Ethel to send the contact details of the Kwanalu Board members as well as the Chairpersons and Secretaries of the	24 November 2016

			<p>Kwanalu Board members as well as the Chairpersons and Secretaries of the various Farmers' Associations in the iLembe and Uthungulu area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - She requested that the Chairpersons and Secretaries make contact directly with Nsovo should they have any queries. She further indicated that they will distribute the information to all Kwanalu members in the two districts, and that they do not have contact details of the farmers in the eThekwini area. 	<p>various Farmers' Associations in the Ilembe and Uthungulu Municipalities. This is to enable Nsovo to make follow-up with them in future. However, she indicated that she cannot share such information with the EAP and that anything Nsovo wishes to communicate to any of the Kwanalu members in any area, can be done through the Kwanalu office.</p>	
01 December 2016	<p>John Readman Tel: +27 828 011 160 Fax: +27 821 318 011 160 Email: jreadman@iafrica.com</p>	Mevamhlope Farm	Mr. Readman requested a google map of the location of Mbewu sub-station and the associated powerlines.	Accordingly, the EAP sent the KMZ file of the project to Mr Readman	1 December 2016
05 December 2016	<p>Greg Veerasamy Tel: 031 560 1931 Cell: 83 272 0709 Fax: 086 681 9503 Email: Greg.Veerasamy@tonga.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tongaat Hulett 	Mr. Veerasamy inquired about the timing to commence the EIA process for the Eskom infrastructure for the greater Inyaninga area.	The EAP responded indicating that the Inyaninga EIA is underway and that the project information (Background Information Document) was sent to Mr. Veerasamy. It was further reaffirmed that the Tongaat Hulett team will be kept informed as the project progresses.	06 December 2018

<p>7 December 2017</p>	<p>Cheryl admin@millgroup.co.za</p> <p>Keith Archibald keith@millgroup.co.za</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Em Mill Group • Zululand Planters' Association 	<p>Mr. Keith Archibald of Zululand Planters' Association (ZPA) sent a letter acknowledging the notification sent and further stating the following comments:</p> <p>"We note that there appear to be three proposed routes for a powerline connection between Durban and Mbewu and that all three seem likely to involve the members of Zululand Planters' Association.</p> <p>We note with concern that we are required to comment on the impact upon us of these project proposals by 23 January 2017 in view of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The precise routes to be followed in each of the corridors is not clearly evident from the details so far provided; b) The envisaged impact of Eskom activities both during and after construction is not mentioned at all; c) Eskom's own preferences and its 	<p>The EAP acknowledged the ZPA's letter dated 29 November 2016; received by Nsovo on the 7th of December 2016 and responded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Archibald has been registered as the I&AP on behalf of the Zululand Planters Association. - The communication received on 23 November 2016 was to identify and notify landowners, organs of State, Parastatals and any person who may be interested or affected by the proposed project. Further, to invite such persons to register as I&APs and to raise comments that they may have. - In view of the time of the year i.e. Christmas season; the Call to Register period was extended from the 23 November 2016 until 23 January 2016 which is over and above the 30 days regulated period. - The I&AP was made aware of the fact that public participation is an on-going process 	<p>8 December 2016.</p>
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			<p>reasons for preferring one route over another are not explained;</p> <p>d) No dates have been proposed by either Eskom or by Nsovo on which to brief us fully on these matters and thus to enable us to obtain clarity on points that would concern us.</p> <p>We also wish to point out further that from 15th December to 15th January, sugar farms close down after a very lengthy milling season. Our members take their annual break over this period as do many other rural businesses connected with farming.</p> <p>To choose this period in which to require us to submit our response will not constitute a fair consultative procedure. This will invalidate any EIA process.</p> <p>We have previously dealt with Eskom with regard to its plans for distribution lines. We</p>	<p>and runs until the EIA process reaches its completion phase.</p> <p>- Subsequent to identifying and notifying Interested and Affected Parties of the proposed project, Scoping and EIA Reports will be prepared and made available to all I&APs and the public for review and comment. Further, public meetings will be scheduled and details will be communicated with all in terms of date, time and venue. During the meeting, the I&AP will be given an opportunity to raise any queries or comments related to the project. The Eskom team will be present at these meetings to respond to the I&AP's queries.</p>	
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			<p>recall that on those occasions we met with a full team of Eskom engineers and officials who came with maps and aerial photographs, etc. We would expect the same courtesy on this occasion.</p> <p>It is passing strange that on the occasion referred to above Eskom also chose to launch its EIA proceedings in the last week of November, presumably knowing full well the difficulties of conducting proper consultations over Christmas and New Year.</p> <p>We also note with dismay that Eskom delayed providing the additional information that we had requested until after we had submitted our appeal to the Minister. Then when we sought to use this information to elaborate on the reasons for our objections, we were advised that “counter responding statements by the applicant to the appellants answering statements will only derail the whole process” and that “the Minister will</p>		
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			<p>disregard the answering statements”.</p> <p>We can obviously not afford to be subjected to such arbitrary treatment again. We therefore appeal for a full and detailed disclosure of Eskom’s intentions and thereafter adequate time to respond. For the reasons already stated, we do not think that 23 January 2017 will be a reasonable deadline to set. There are after all 365 days in the year, why does Eskom have to choose the period over Christmas and New Year to deal with such an important matter for both parties?</p> <p>None of our members is content to deal individually with Eskom or its agents. We need to meet as a group so that all may be consulted together and to allow a common decision to be taken that is suitable to all.</p> <p>We suggest that a meeting be held between ZPA members and Eskom’s team at ZPA</p>		
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			offices, Gingindlovu on Wednesday, 25 January 2016”.		
8 January 2018	Humayrah Bassa Tel: 087 350 6660 / 087 350 6760 Cell: 083 642 7077 Email: Humayrah.Bassa@rhdhv.com	Royal HaskoningDHV (Pty) Ltd trading as Royal HaskoningDHV	Ms. Bassa requested to be registered as an I&AP. She further inquired about the status of the project, reference number for the project and also as to where she can access the most recent documentation (BID, scoping report, EIA report, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Bassa was registered as an I&AP. - She was sent the BID and also informed that there has been updates on the project site since the first BID was created / distributed. - She was informed that the project is underway and she will be notified once the Scoping Report is released for public review. Further, she was advised that copies of the Scoping Report will be placed at/near the project sites as well as on the Nsovo website for review. - She was also informed that the DEA Reference Number for the project is not yet available. 	15 January 2018
16 January 2018	Humayrah Bassa Tel: 087 3506660/ 087 350 6760 Cell: 083 642 7077 Email: Humayrah.Bassa@rhdhv.com	Royal HaskoningDHV (Pty) Ltd trading as Royal HaskoningDHV	Ms. Bassa indicated that she had not received maps that she has requested.	The KML files for the project were sent to Ms. Bassa and she confirmed receipt on the same day.	25 January 2018.

<p>29 January 2018</p>	<p>Greg Veerasamy Tel:031 560 1931 Cell: 83 272 0709 Fax: 086 681 9503 Email: Greg.Veerasamy@tonga.com</p>	<p>Tongaat Hulett (TH)</p>	<p>Mr. Veerasamy inquired about the status of the EIA process dealing with Eskom's Inyaninga intake substation. He also asked if the process progressed further since the last time he communicated with Nsovo. He further asked if Nsovo could confirm that Tongaat Hulett (represented primarily by Ms Nonhlanhla Khosa) is listed as an I&AP to this EIA process.</p>	<p>The EAP responded by indicating that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Scoping Reports have not yet been released for public review. - TH will be notified when it is released. - TH is already registered as an I&AP. - Nonhlanhla Khosa will also be added as an I&AP 	<p>30 January 2018</p>
<p>30 January 2018</p>	<p>Greg Veerasamy Tel:031 560 1931 Cell: 83 272 0709 Fax: 086 681 9503 Email: Greg.Veerasamy@tonga.com</p>	<p>Tongaat Hulett</p>	<p>Mr. Veerasamy indicated that Tongaat Hulett will await the release of the Draft Scoping Report to the public.</p> <p>He further indicated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tongaat Hulett has always indicated that they would want to work collaboratively with Eskom (and Ethekeeni Municipality) towards the optimal siting of the intake (and major) substation/s. - Tongaat Hulett believes that a win-win solution can be achieved and will continue to avail itself to engage with 	<p>The EAP forwarded Mr. Veerasamy's comments to Eskom (Mr Vuledzani Thanyani) who responded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tongaat Hulett will be treated like any other registered I&AP. - Eskom will consider Tongaat Hulett's input as part of the PPP and take it from there. - Eskom further indicated that Tongaat Hulett needs this project for their development to go ahead 	<p>26 March 2018</p>

			<p>Eskom in this regard.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tongaat Hulett acknowledges that its appeal/objections to the draft scoping report does not really assist any party, hence they need to collaborate outside the EIA process. - Mr. Veerasamy requested the EAP to communicate this message again to Eskom. 		
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