

Your role in the Environmental Impact Assessment Process

Your involvement will enhance the applicability and completeness of the EIA process.

Your involvement in the Environmental Impact Assessment process is fourfold:

1. To ensure that your interests/concerns in the proposed activity are recorded and/addressed, you need to register with Nsovo as an Interested & Affected Party.
2. To raise public awareness of activities taking place within your surroundings and to ensure inclusion of any issues, suggestions or comments you may be aware of regarding proposed activities.
3. To provide participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way.
4. To utilise opportunities provided to raise issues and provide comments throughout the process.

How to become Involved and Register as an I&AP?

Your participation in this process is valuable and is encouraged, therefore you are invited to register as an I&AP and contribute by written submissions by fax, post, email or telephone through any one of the details overleaf.

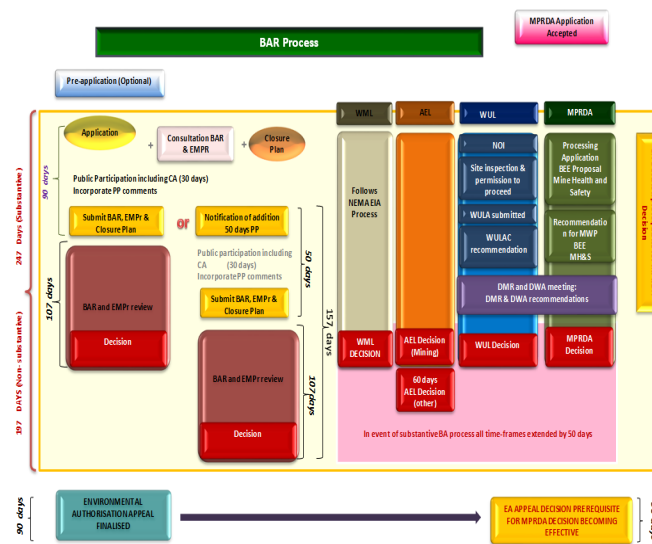


Figure 1: BAR Process (EIA Regulations, December, 2014)

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NOTICE OF BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 2 X 1KM 88KV ESKOM LOOP IN LOOP OUT POWERLINES FROM BURNSTONE 88KV POWERLINE TO THE PROPOSED SIYATHEMBA SWITCHING STATION WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF DIPALESENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

MARCH 2018



Please Quote REF: F001-18 in all correspondence

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The aim of this document is to provide an overview of the proposed project and study area; to provide information of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process to be followed prior to the development of the proposed loop in loop out power line and switching station as per the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998); and indicate how Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), can become involved in the EIA process.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS (PPP)

Public Participation Process (PPP) is any process that involves the public in problem solving or decision-making and forms an integral part of the BA process. The PPP provides I&APs with an opportunity to comment and/or make suggestions on the proposed project. The PPP will be undertaken in terms of Chapter 6 , Regulation 39 through 44 of the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of December 2014 as amended.

NEED AND DESIRABILITY

Eskom proposes the development of a loop in and loop out power line and Siyathemba switching station in order to ensure supply of electricity around Balfour. The proposed project is beneficial as it will ensure supply of electricity around Balfour and will form part of the Grootvlei 88kV network.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR BA

In accordance with the requirements of the NEMA, Eskom requires approval from the Competent Authority i.e. the Department of Environmental Affairs in order to undertake the proposed project. The proposed project triggers listed activities under Government Notice R983 (Listing Notice 1) of December 2014 as amended.

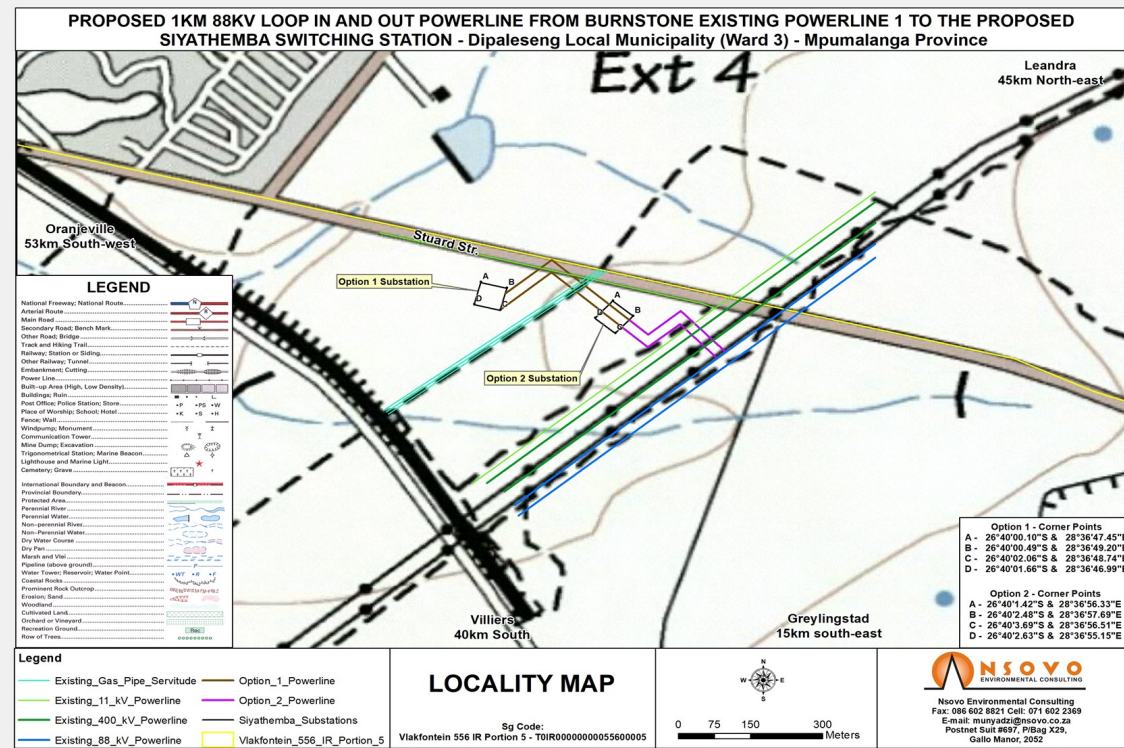


Figure 2: Locality map of the study area indicating proposed power lines and switching station.

LOCALITY

The proposed development will be located on Farm Vlakfontein 566IR Portion 5 within the jurisdiction of Dipaleseng Local Municipality, Mpumalanga province.

PROPOSED PROJECT

Eskom Holdings SOC Limited proposes the development of 2 X 1km 88kV loop in loop out power-lines from Burnstone 88kV powerline to the proposed Siyathemba switching station in order to meet electricity demand in the area .

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

Another key driver towards a successful BA process is the thorough identification and investigation of feasible alternatives. The selection of potential alternatives will be informed by input received from the I&APs, authorities as well as the EAP. Alternatives will be considered and discussed in terms of their practicality and feasibility. It is important to note that the definition of alternatives includes all aspects of the proposed activity including, activity alternatives, process alternatives, scheduling alternatives, demand alternatives; design alternatives and the No-go alternative.

Two substation alternatives were considered for the proposed project as indicated on the map

