# **BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT** (BID)

**Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) Consultation Meeting** (Ref No: 2022-09-0009)

# Strategic Transmission Corridor (EGI)

AL SENSITIVE REPORT, REOU

**ENVIRONMENTA** FOR REGISTRATION AND INTENT TO COMPLY W THE STANDARD FOR DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION OF POWERLINES AND SUBSTATIONS WITHIN IDENTIFIED GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS REVISION 2 INSTERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENTACT, 1998 (ACT

NO. 107 OF 1998), FOR THE PROPOSED DEVIATION **OF TWO ELECTRICAL PYLON STRUCTURES AS PART OF GINGINDLOVU-MBONGOLWANE 132KV** MUNICIPALITY IN KWAZULU NATA PROVINCE

une 2023





# Table of Contents

(A) I	PURPOSE OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)
1.1.	Environmental Studies3
1.	1.1 DFFE Request
1.	2. Web Based Environmental Screening Tool5
1.	3. Site Visit (Ground Verification)
1.	4. Receiving Environment
1.5.	New Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane Powerline Deviation Coordinates7
(B) L	EGAL CONTEXT
B.	1. Overview of Strategic Transmission Corridors (EGI)7
(C) B	ACKGROUND AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION
D) A	PPLICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION Error! Bookmark not defined.
(D) P	ROCESS AND TIMELINE
D	1. Public Participation
• •	HE SCREENING REPORT GENERATED FROM THE SCREENING TOOL FOR THE PRELIMINARY CORRIDOR AND/OR GINDLOVU-MBONGOLWANE POWERLINE DEVIATION SITE Error! Bookmark not defined.
	OCATION OF THE PRELIMINARY CORRIDOR AND/OR GINGINDLOVU-MBONGOLWANE POWERLINE DEVIATION Error! Bookmark not defined.
(H) I	&AP REGISTRATION FORMS

## (A) PURPOSE OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)

This document aims to give you background information about the application for environmental authorization under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998: GN R. 982 and 983 for the proposed Mbongolwane 132/22kv Powerline Deviation at Vekeya (Vekeza Village), Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane Powerline Deviation, and 132kv powerline (Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane) within uMlalazi Local Municipality in Kwazulu-Natal Province. As well as the necessary Impact Assessment studies that must be conducted, (See attached Map). Any individual, business, government agency, or other organization that might be directly or indirectly impacted by the planned action is eligible to register as an I&AP (Interested or Affected Party). Landowners, tenants, municipal and provincial authorities, interest groups, nongovernmental organizations, and conservation organizations are all included in this, although they are not the only ones.

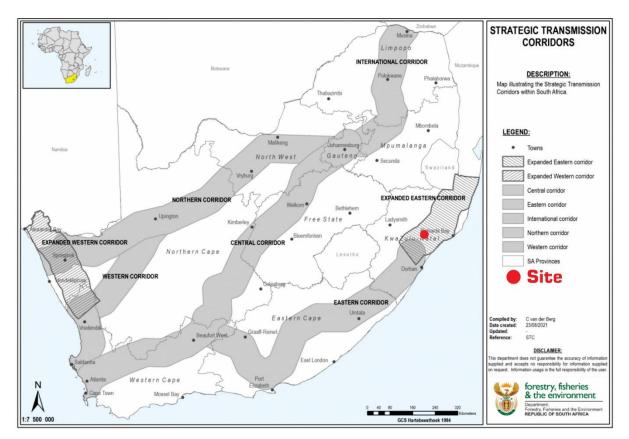
This document outlines how to get engaged in the project, get information, and identify areas of interest and/or concern. You have the chance to participate actively in the project right away through the information exchange that serves as the foundation of the public participation process. With collaboration from I&APs, we can make sure that the intended development is taken into account while addressing any environmental concerns.

### 1.1. Environmental Studies

An Impact Assessment is an effective planning and decision-making tool, which allows for the identification of potential environmental consequences of a proposed project. This study will be conducted in accordance with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment, 2021 Standard for the development of Power Lines and Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane Powerline Deviations within Identified Geographical Areas Revision 1.

When read in conjunction with as expansion of the Strategic Transmission Corridors published in Government Notice No. 113 under Government Gazette No. 41445 on 16 February 2018, as set out In the Schedule hereto. Eskom intends to be excluded through exclusions and/ or specific requirements of Basic Assessment Process. The EGI process is in accordance to Notice of identification in terms. of Section 24(5)(a) and (b) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, of the procedure to be followed in applying for Environmental Authorisation for large scale Electricity Transmission and Distribution Development activities identified in terms of Section 24(2)(a) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 when occurring in geographical areas of strategic importance.

In this instance, the proposed Construction of the proposed 132kV/22 Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane Powerline Deviation and associated 21km 132kV power line in Vekeya (Vekeza) within UMlalazi Local Municipality in the Kwazulu-Natal Province falls within the Strategic Transmission Corridors (EGI), Expanded Eastern Corridor.



**Figure 1**: Showing the location of Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane Powerline Deviation within the Expanded Eastern Strategic Transmission Corridors

### 1.1.1 DFFE Request

To this effect, The Department requested the following, that: for the Department to consider Eskom's request to follow the EGI process, Eskom must:

- Utilise the Web Based Environmental Screening Tool to determine the sensitivity of the Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane Powerline Deviation site.
- Eskom's Environmental Assessment Practitioner to conduct a ground truthing to confirm or contrast the sensitivity as shown by the National web based Environmental Screening tool.
- A feedback report be prepared and be subjected to a public participation period of 30 days and all comments be included and then be submitted to the DFFE for decision.

This report contains the site's various sensitivities as per National Web based Environmental Screening Tool and the ground truthing feedback and other measures as suggested by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).

### 1.2. Web Based Environmental Screening Tool

The web-based environmental screening application was used to determine the site's environmental sensitivities. The initial environmental screening was finished on February 15, 2023, before the site inspection. The last environmental screening report was written on March 4th, 2023, following the site visit, merely to make sure the environmental sensitivity had not changed.

### 1.3. Site Visit (Ground Verification)

The site visit took place on February 24, 2023, for one day during the summer. The goal of the site visit was to validate, verify, or refute the many environmental sensitivity themes that the online environmental screening program had produced.

### 13.1. Methodology followed to assess all themes sensitivities:

### 1.3.1.1. Site sensitivity verification and minimum report content requirements

Prior to commencing with a specialist assessment, the current use of the land and the environmental sensitivity of the site under consideration identified by the screening tool has been confirmed by the undertaking a site sensitivity verification.

1.3.1.2. The site sensitivity verification was undertaken by an environmental assessment practitioner.

- 1.3.1.3 The site sensitivity verification was undertaken through the use of:
- (a) a desk top analysis, using satellite imagery.
- (b) a preliminary site inspection; and
- (c) any other available and relevant information.

1.3.1.4 The outcome of the site sensitivity verification was recorded in the form of a report this that:

(a) confirms or disputes the current use of the land and the environmental sensitivity as identified by the screening tool, such as new developments or infrastructure, the change in vegetation cover or status etc.

(b) contains a motivation and evidence (e.g., photographs) of either the verified or different use of the land and environmental sensitivity; and

(c) is submitted together with the relevant assessment report prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.

### 1.4. Receiving Environment

Land cover: Currently, the location of the planned powerline deviation is surrounded by a sugarcane plantation and a standard field that is also utilized for agricultural cultivation. Rural residential homes can be found in the general vicinity in the eastern, northern, and western directions. The bank of the Nyezane River is located in a southern direction, nearly 110 meters away. Grassland predominates in the Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane Powerline Deviation site's vegetation, with sporadic shrubs and tiny native trees being present. There are sections of the proposed site that have been used by the local people for subsistence farming, and the grasses in this veld are suitable for grazing livestock. Good grade grassland, shrubbery, and tiny trees make up the vegetation over the proposed routes' whole length.

The Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane Powerline Deviation site is located in a fairly flat area from Gingindlovu substation up to this point at Vekeya (Vekeza) and it is at this village that the landscape changes to mountain and gorgeous which the rest of the powerline will traverse through.



**Figure 2**: Showing the DFFE Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane Powerline Deviation site versus the Eskom Current Application site.



### 1.5. New Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane Powerline Deviation Coordinates

Monopole Structure 20	Monopole Structure 21
S: 29°59'23.08"	S: 29°59'11.78"
E: 31°33'12.11"	E: 31°33'08.40"

# (B) LEGAL CONTEXT

Activities likely to be triggered by the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998

An Environmental Sensitive Report for the proposed 132/22KV Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane Powerline Deviation site at Vekeya Village within uMlalazi Local Municipality in KwaZulu Natal Province is being undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations published in Government Notice No 38282 of December 2014, read with section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998). In terms of Government Notice No. 338282 of December 2014, the following listed activities are applicable, which may have an impact on the environment:

LISTING NOTICE	DESCRIPTION
	11. The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution
	of electricity –
Listing Notice 1	(i) Outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but
	less than 275 kilovolts.

The Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and Environment will receive the Environmental Sensitive Report application and assessments for review and approval. In accordance with chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998), an Environmental Sensitive Report procedure would be carried out in accordance with the Standard for development of powerlines and substations within identified geographical areas.

## B.1. Overview of Strategic Transmission Corridors (EGI)

Government Notice No. 113, published by Minister Edna Molewa on February 16, 2018, in Government Gazette No. 41445 identified five strategic transmission corridors that were crucial for the planning of electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure. It also outlined the process to be used when requesting environmental authorization for electricity transmission and distribution expansion when it occurred in these corridors.

In March 2019, a generic Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) relevant to an application for Environmental Authorisation for Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane Powerline Deviations and overhead transmission and distribution electricity transmission infrastructure was published in Government Notice No. 435 in Government Gazette No, 42323. The EMPr is relevant to Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane Powerline Deviations or overhead transmission and distribution infrastructure when developed within or outside of the strategic transmission corridors.

On 29 April 2021, Minister Barbara Dallas Creecy published Government Notice No. 383 in Government Gazette No. 44504, which expanded the eastern and western transmission corridors and gave notice of the applicability of the application procedures identified in Government Notice No. 113, to these expanded corridors.

The transmission corridors and their expansion were identified through the undertaking of 2 Strategic Environmental Assessments as was the development of the generic EMPr for Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane Powerline Deviations and overhead powerlines. The first Strategic Environmental Assessment was finalised in 2016 and second in 2019.

The Minister through Government Gazette Notice No. 383 of 21 April 2021 published an identification in terms of Sections 24(3), 24(5)(1) and 24(5)(b) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 of expanded geographical areas of strategic importance for the development of electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure and of procedures to be followed when applying for or deciding on environmental authorisations for large scale electricity transmission or distribution development activities identified in terms of section 24(2)(a) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 when occurring in geographical areas of strategic importance.

# (C) BACKGROUND AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION.

Eskom have received an environmental authorization for the application of Environmental Authorisation In terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998: GN R. 982 and 983 for the proposed Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane 132kV powerline deviation within uMlalazi Local Municipality in KwaZulu Natal Province.

Eskom have since commenced with the project construction through Survey work currently underway, however Eskom noted at Vekeya Village where the powerline is traversing there are some residential dwellings that have encroached on the authorised route. Because of safety concerns and as well as building restrictions, the powerline cannot be constructed through the residential dwellings and therefore the need to deviate the line by two structures have arisen. The powerline

deviation will see two structures located outside the authorised powerline corridor on the left (western direction) of the authorised route.

This have necessitated Eskom to seek Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) to register the through Strategic Transmission Corridor (EGI) process which is (registration and intent to comply with the standard for development and expansion of powerlines and substations within identified geographical areas revision 2 in terms of the national environmental management act, 1998 (act no. 107 of 1998). Eskom requested a meeting with Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) and the consultation meeting with the following REF: 2022-09-0009 was held on January 25, 2023, with the officials from DFFE.

From this meeting, Eskom requested to have the powerline deviation follow the Transmission Strategic Corridors Process (EGI) for obtaining an Environmental Authorisation. That is, because the proposed Gingindlovu-Powerline Project falls within the Expanded Electricity Grid Infrastructure (EGI) [Expanded Eastern Corridor] that is, is it is located within the Eastern Strategic Transmission Corridor to be precise as per the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act N0.107 of 1998) Standard No 383 of 29 April 2021 as gazetted. The Standard identification is in terms of sections 24(3), 24(5)(1) and 24(5)(b) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 of expanded geographical areas of strategic importance for the development of electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure.

If it is read in conjunction with the extension of the Strategic Transmission Corridors as outlined in the Schedule hereto, which was announced on February 16, 2018, under Government Notice No. 113. Via exclusions and/or certain requirements of the Basic Assessment Procedure, Eskom wants to be excluded. The EGI procedure is in accordance with the Notice of Identification in Terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (b) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, of the procedure to be followed in applying for Environmental Authorization for Large-Scale Electricity Transmission and Distribution Development Activities identified in Terms of Section 24(2)(a) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when occurring in Geographic Areas of Strategic Importance. In this instance, the proposed Construction Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane 132/22kv powerline deviation in the Kwazulu-Natal Province falls within the Transmission Strategic Corridors (EGI), Expanded Eastern Corridor.

# (D) PROCESS AND TIMELINE.

### D1. Public Participation

Public participation is the cornerstone of the Impact Assessment Process. The principles of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) govern most aspects of EIAs, including public participation. These include the ongoing provision of sufficient information (in a transparent manner) to Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs).

During the Public Participation Process, input from the proponent, technical experts, government authorities and the general public will be gathered to result in a better understanding of the project for all involved, and more informed decision-making throughout the process.

The key objective of public participation is to provide I&APs with an opportunity to provide comment and input in the planning phase of the project. Issues of concern and suggestions raised by I&APs will be addressed and responded to as required in the Impact Assessment Report.

I&APs will also be given the opportunity to comment on the findings of Impact Assessment (IA) Report during the specified comment periods I&APs will be provided with a **30-day comment period** in which to raise issues and / or concerns in response to the Background Information Document.

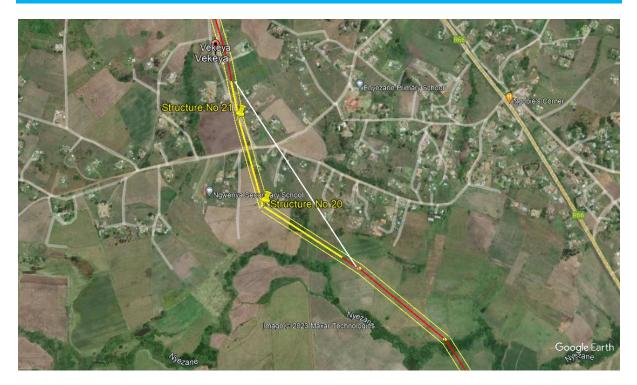
A resulting EGI Draft Impact Assessment Report comprising of site findings and compliance statements will be compiled and will be available for public comment for a period of 30 days, where after the Final Impact Assessment Report including Comments and Responses from the public will be submitted to DFFE for decision. I&APs will be notified in writing of any decisions made by DFFE.

Please note that communications regarding the process and the availability of reports will only be sent to registered I&APs. To register for the process, and thus receive further communications regarding this development, please register by sending the signed registration sheet at the back of this document, together with your contact details and nature of interest, to Ourbiosphere Environmental (Pty) Ltd on the details shown above.

# E) THE SCREENING REPORT GENERATED FROM THE SCREENING TOOL FOR THE PRELIMINARY CORRIDOR AND/OR PROPOSED SUBSTATION SITE;

Kindly refer to Annexure 1 for the Web Based Environmental Screening Report.

### F) LOCATION OF THE PRELIMINARY CORRIDOR AND/OR PROPOSED SUBSTATION SITE



**Figure 3**: Showing the location of the proposed Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane Powerline Deviation site.

# G) CONTACT DETAILS OF THE EAP

Company Name:	Ourbiosphere Environmental (Pty) Ltd	
EAP Name:	Musa Netshivhambe (EAPASA, SACNASP)	
Telephone:	086 001 82 55	
Cell:	073 977 94 14	
WhatsApp Number:	082 045 7660	
Fax:	086 567 55 23	
Email Address:	musa@ourbiosphere.co.za	
Postal Address:	9 Lords Lane Street, Northview Complex, Bendor Park, Polokwane, 0699	
Website:	www.ourbiosphere.co.za	
Public Meeting:	Date: 23 June 2023 Venue: Ngwenya Secondary School Time: 09h30am to 16h30pm	





02 June 2023

9 Lords Lane Street, Northview Complex Bendor Park, Polokwane, 0699 Tel: +27 86 001 8255 Cell: +27 73 977 9414 Fax: +27 86 567 5523 Email: musa@ourbiosphere.co.za www.ourbiosphere.co.za

# REGISTRATION & COMMENT SHEET Strategic Transmission Corridor (EGI)

Environmental sensitive report, request for registration and intent to comply with the standard for development and expansion of powerlines and substations within identified geographical areas revision 2 in terms of the national environmental management act, 1998 (act no. 107 of 1998), for the proposed deviation of two electrical pylon structures as part of Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane 132kv powerline within uMlalazi Local Municipality in Kwazulu-Natal Province

I wish to register as an Interested and Affected Party and/or bring to the attention of Ourbiosphere Environmental (Pty) Ltd the following comments (please use additional sheets of paper if required).

Attention : Musa Netshivhambe

Email : musa@ourbiosphere.co.za

(In order for your contact details to be captured on our database - Please fill out the sheet below)

I&AP Details:		
Name:		
Organization:		
Telephone Number:		
E-mail:		
Physical Address:		
Postal Address:		
Fax Number:		
	COMMENTS:	
9 Lords Lane Street, Northview Complex		Signature:
Bendor Park, Polokwane, 0699		Signature:
Tel: +27 86 001 8255		
Cell: +27 73 977 9414		
Fax: +27 86 567 5523		Date:
Email: musa@ourbiosphere.co.za www.ourbiosphere.co.za		Closing Dates: 06 July 2023
www.ourniosphere.co.za		Clusing Dates. 00 July 2025

### I) POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed development have been identified and will be assessed

during the Ecological Sensitive Report Process. Specialist inputs which will form part of the Ecological Sensitive Report and will include:

SPECIALIST FIELD	ORGANISATION
Heritage	Integrated Specialist Services
Terrestrial biodiversity and ecology	Naledzani Environmental Services
Agriculture/soil scientist	Nyamoki Consulting
Visual	Nyamoki Consulting

### a) EGI Standard suggested specialists that will not be required

b) Aquatic biodiversity and ecology;
c) Avifauna

### J) MOTIVATION OF WHY SPECIALIST NOT REQUIRED

### b) Aquatic biodiversity and ecology.

It should be noted that there is not river or wetland between Pylon Tower Position 20 and 21. Pylon 20 is situated in a sugarcane field and Pylon 21 is situated on a subsistence farming field surrounded by rural households located in all four directions for tower 21 and in 3 directions for pylon tower 20. on the tower positions deviation. Although there is Nyezane River traversing at the southern direction, neither Pylon structure 20 or 21 will in anyway affect the river as it is located 136 meters. And there area between pylon structure no 21 and the river is covered by sugarcane plantation.

### c) Avifauna

It is envisaged that the avifaunal specialist study will not be necessary for the two pylons. Considering the fact that this is a powerline deviation by only two pylon structures of the authorised  $\pm$ 45km Gingindlovu-Mbongolwane Powerline. There was an avifaunal study conducted as part of the initial basic assessment which have addressed various sensitive environments with regard to birds and have also addressed ways to avoid collisions through the powerline. Considering the fact that the two pylons are located within a build-up area and running within the street of the rural residential setting, it is not envisaged that birds of critical concern will be

affected as the residential setting already present a negative factor to their habitat at and survival. As with most linear developments such as power lines, the most significant impact is that of potential collision of birds with the overhead wires (thin profile obstructions). The report conducted by GC consulting have already suggested impact measures such as flight diverters, in all areas of critical concern like river crossings and wetland areas, and expanses of open grassland within the corridors. These two pylons are pretty much covered and will follow the same recommendations just like the rest of the powerline hence not necessary for the two pylons in a built up area.

#### **K) WHAT IS YOUR ROLE**

We invite you to use the opportunity provided by the Public Participation Process to get involved in the process and raise the problems and concerns that affect and/or interest you and about which you want more information if you identify as an I&AP for the proposed project.

By completing and submitting the accompanying registration form, we will ensure that you are registered as an I&AP for the project, and that your concerns or queries regarding the project will be noted and assessed as part of the process. We invite you to use the opportunity provided by the Public Participation Process to get involved in the process and raise the problems and concerns that affect and/or interest you and about which you want more information if you identify as an I&AP for the proposed project.

By completing and submitting the accompanying registration form, we will ensure that you are registered as an I&AP for the project, and that your concerns or queries regarding the project will be noted and assessed as part of the process. We will also ensure that you are provided with future information pertaining to the project as well as the availability of the draft and final Impact Assessment Report for comment.

A notice has been placed in a Zululand Observer and Isolezwe newspapers notifying interested and affected parties and the general public of a public meeting in due course. Registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) will be notified directly of this meeting.



### ANNEXURE 1

# SCREENING REPORT FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION AS REQUIRED BY THE 2014 EIA REGULATIONS – PROPOSED SITE ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY

#### **EIA Reference number:** 14/12/16/3/3/1/1918

Project name: PROPOSED MBONGOLWANE 132/22KV

**Project title:** APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998: GN R. 982 AND 983 FOR THE PROPOSED MBONGOLWANE 132/22KV, 20MVA SUBSTATION AND 132KV POWERLINE (GINGINDLOVU-MBONGOLWANE) WITHIN UMLALAZI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN KWAZULU NATAL PROVINCE

Date screening report generated: 04/03/2023 23:29:48

Applicant: Eskom KZN Operating Unit

Compiler: Ourbiosphere Environmental (Pty) Ltd

**Compiler signature:** 

Application Category: Utilities Infrastructure | Electricity | Distribution and Transmission | Powerline

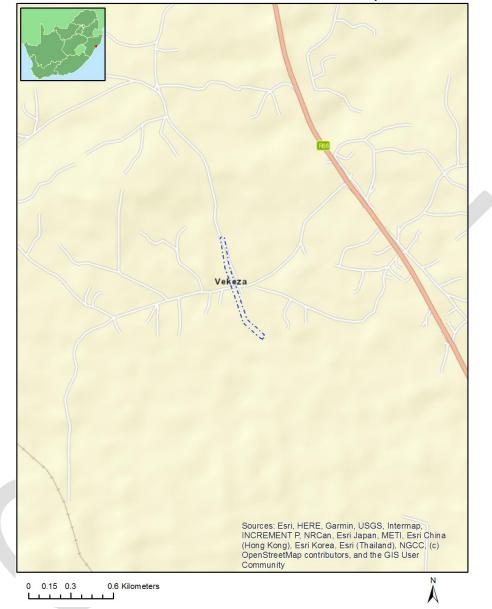


# Table of Contents

Proposed Project Location	3
Orientation map 1: General location	}
Map of proposed site and relevant area(s)	ŀ
Cadastral details of the proposed site	ŀ
Wind and Solar developments with an approved Environmental Authorisation or applications under consideration within 30 km of the proposed area4	ł
Environmental Management Frameworks relevant to the application	5
Environmental screening results and assessment outcomes	;
Relevant development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions	5
Map indicating proposed development footprint within applicable development incentive, restriction, exclusion or prohibition zones	5
Proposed Development Area Environmental Sensitivity6	5
Specialist assessments identified	7
Results of the environmental sensitivity of the proposed area.	)
MAP OF RELATIVE AGRICULTURE THEME SENSITIVITY	)
MAP OF RELATIVE ANIMAL SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY	)
MAP OF RELATIVE AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY	L
MAP OF RELATIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE THEME SENSITIVITY	)
MAP OF RELATIVE CIVIL AVIATION THEME SENSITIVITY	3
MAP OF RELATIVE DEFENCE THEME SENSITIVITY	ŀ
MAP OF RELATIVE PALEONTOLOGY THEME SENSITIVITY	5
MAP OF RELATIVE PLANT SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY	5
MAP OF RELATIVE TERRESTRIAL BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY	7

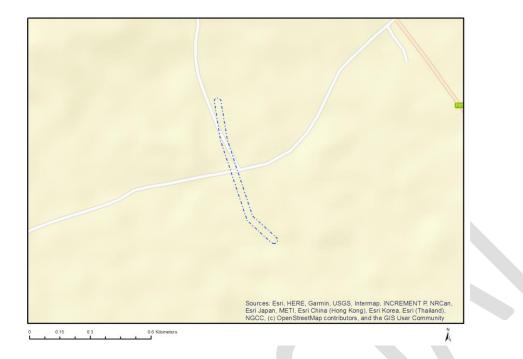
# **Proposed Project Location**

# Orientation map 1: General location



#### General Orientation: PROPOSED MBONGOLWANE 132/22KV

# Map of proposed site and relevant area(s)



## Cadastral details of the proposed site

Property details:

No	Farm Name	Farm/ Erf No	Portion	Latitude	Longitude	Property Type
1	NZUZA	17625	0	28°57'21.17S	31°35'36.57E	Farm
2	NZUZA	17625	0	28°57'22.11S	31°35'36.22E	Farm Portion

Development footprint<sup>1</sup> vertices: No development footprint(s) specified.

# Wind and Solar developments with an approved Environmental Authorisation or applications under consideration within 30 km of the proposed area

No	EIA Reference No	Classification	Status of application	Distance from proposed area (km)
1	12/12/20/2356	Solar PV	Approved	6.7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "development footprint", means the area within the site on which the development will take place and incudes all ancillary developments for example roads, power lines, boundary walls, paving etc. which require vegetation clearance or which will be disturbed and for which the application has been submitted.

No intersections with EMF areas found.

# Environmental screening results and assessment outcomes

The following sections contain a summary of any development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions that apply to the proposed development site as well as the most environmental sensitive features on the site based on the site sensitivity screening results for the application classification that was selected. The application classification selected for this report is: Utilities Infrastructure | Electricity | Distribution and Transmission | Powerline.

#### Relevant development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions

The following development incentives, restrictions, exclusions or prohibitions and their implications that apply to this site are indicated below.

Incentive	Implication
,	
restrictio	
n or	
prohibiti	
on	
Strategic	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/DevelopmentZones/Co
Transmissi	mbined EGI.pdf
on	
Corridor-	
Expanded	
Eastern	
Corridor	
Strategic	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/DevelopmentZones/Co
Gas	mbined GAS.pdf
Pipeline	
Corridors-	
Phase 7:	
Coega to	
Richards	
Вау	

# Project Location: PROPOSED MBONGOLWANE 132/22KV **Development Zones** Air Quality Priority Areas Atlantis Urban Exclusion Area Besaansklip Industrial Zone No Offset Needed Besaansklip Industrial Zone Not Developable Besaansklip Industrial Zone Offset Needed Gauteng EMF Zone 1 Gauteng EMF Zone 5 Renewable Energy Development Zones South African Conservation Areas South African Protected Areas Strategic Gas Pipeline Corridors Strategic Transmission Corridors 0 0.0750.15 0.3 Kilometers A . . . . . . . . .

development incentive, restriction, exclusion or prohibition zones

Map indicating proposed development footprint within applicable

## Proposed Development Area Environmental Sensitivity

The following summary of the development site environmental sensitivities is identified. Only the highest environmental sensitivity is indicated. The footprint environmental sensitivities for the proposed development footprint as identified, are indicative only and must be verified on site by a suitably qualified person before the specialist assessments identified below can be confirmed.

Theme	Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
Agriculture Theme	Х			
Animal Species Theme			Х	
Dece C of 17	Diselating on analies			

Aquatic Biodiversity Theme			Х
Archaeological and Cultural			Х
Heritage Theme			
Civil Aviation Theme		Х	
Defence Theme			Х
Paleontology Theme	Х		
Plant Species Theme			Х
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme	Х		

### Specialist assessments identified

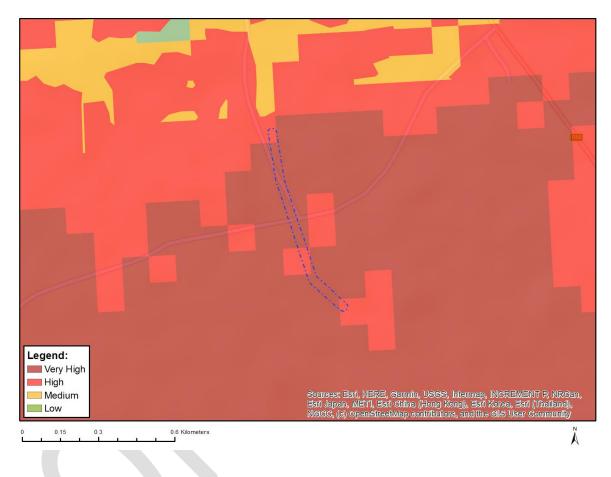
Based on the selected classification, and the known impacts associated with the proposed development, the following list of specialist assessments have been identified for inclusion in the assessment report. It is the responsibility of the EAP to confirm this list and to motivate in the assessment report, the reason for not including any of the identified specialist study including the provision of photographic evidence of the site situation.

Ν	Special	Assessment Protocol
0	ist	
U	assess	
	ment	
1	Agricult	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols
1	ural	
	Impact	<u>/Gazetted_General_Agriculture_Assessment_Protocols.pdf</u>
	Assessm	
	ent	
2	Landsca	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols
	pe/Visu al	/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
	ai Impact	
	Assessm	
	ent	
3	Archaeo	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols
	logical	/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
	and Cultural	
	Heritage	
	Impact	
	Assessm	
	ent	
4	Palaeon	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols
	tology	/Gazetted General Requirement Assessment Protocols.pdf
	Impact Assessm	
	ent	
5	Terrestri	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols
	al	/Gazetted Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment Protocols.pdf
	Biodiver	
	sity	
	Impact Assessm	
	ent	
6	Aquatic	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols
	Biodiver	/Gazetted Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment Protocols.pdf
	sity	
	Impact	
	Assessm ent	
	ent	

7	Avian Impact Assessm ent	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols /Gazetted_Avifauna_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
8	Civil Aviation Assessm ent	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols /Gazetted_Civil_Aviation_Installations_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
9	RFI Assessm ent	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols /Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
1 0	Geotech nical Assessm ent	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols /Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
1 1	Plant Species Assessm ent	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols /Gazetted_Plant_Species_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
1 2	Animal Species Assessm ent	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols /Gazetted Animal Species Assessment Protocols.pdf

# Results of the environmental sensitivity of the proposed area.

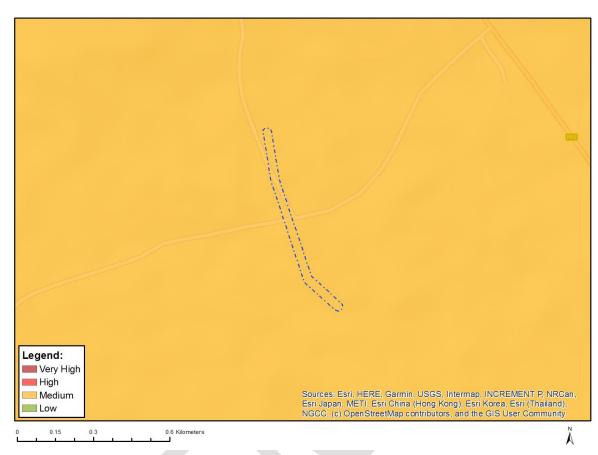
The following section represents the results of the screening for environmental sensitivity of the proposed site for relevant environmental themes associated with the project classification. It is the duty of the EAP to ensure that the environmental themes provided by the screening tool are comprehensive and complete for the project. Refer to the disclaimer.



### MAP OF RELATIVE AGRICULTURE THEME SENSITIVITY

	Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
ſ	Х			

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
High	Land capability;09. Moderate-High/10. Moderate-High
High	Subsistence Farming 1;Land capability;09. Moderate-High/10. Moderate-High
Very High	Land capability;11. High/12. High-Very high/13. High-Very high/14. Very high/15. Very high
Very High	Subsistence Farming 1;Land capability;11. High/12. High-Very high/13. High-Very high/14. Very high/15. Very high

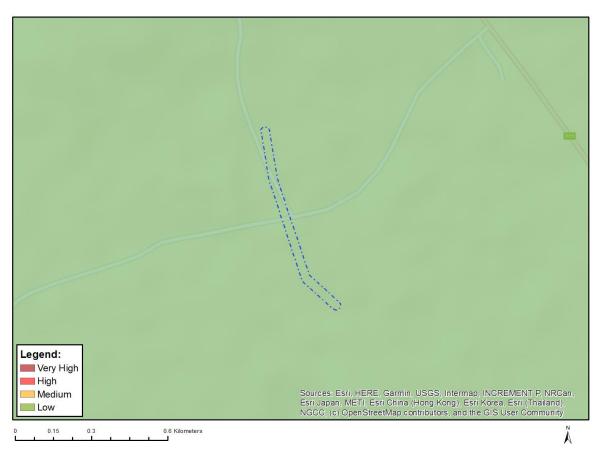


### MAP OF RELATIVE ANIMAL SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY

Where only a sensitive plant unique number or sensitive animal unique number is provided in the screening report and an assessment is required, the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) or specialist is required to email SANBI at <u>eiadatarequests@sanbi.org.za</u> listing all sensitive species with their unique identifiers for which information is required. The name has been withheld as the species may be prone to illegal harvesting and must be protected. SANBI will release the actual species name after the details of the EAP or specialist have been documented.

Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
		х	

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Medium	Sensitive species 8
Medium	Invertebrate-Arytropteris basalis
Medium	Invertebrate-Physophorina livingstonii

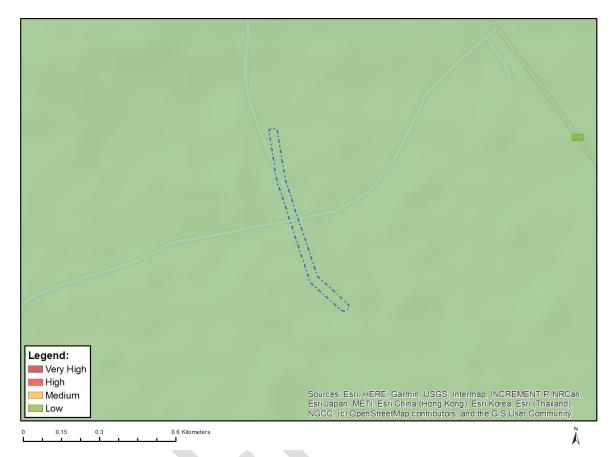


## MAP OF RELATIVE AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY

Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			Х

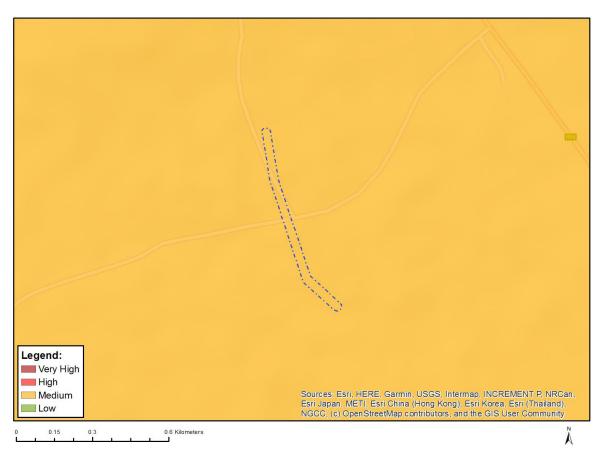
Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low sensitivity

# MAP OF RELATIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE THEME SENSITIVITY



Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			Х

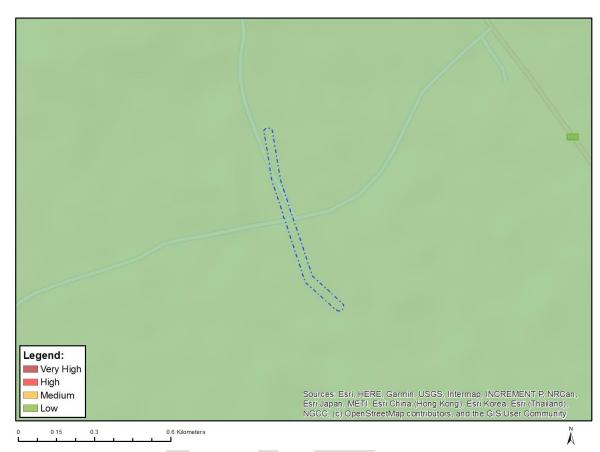
Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low sensitivity



### MAP OF RELATIVE CIVIL AVIATION THEME SENSITIVITY

Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
		Х	

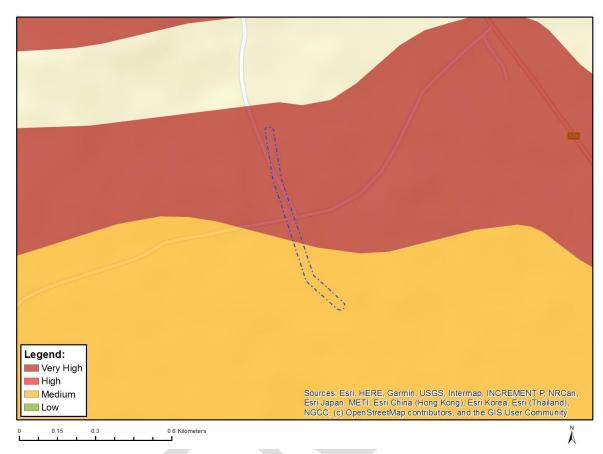
Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Medium	Between 8 and 15 km of other civil aviation aerodrome



### MAP OF RELATIVE DEFENCE THEME SENSITIVITY

Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			Х

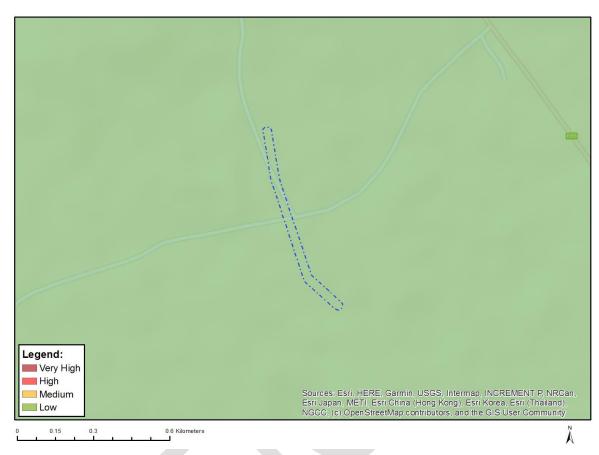
Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low Sensitivity



# MAP OF RELATIVE PALEONTOLOGY THEME SENSITIVITY

Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
X			

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Medium	Features with a Medium paleontological sensitivity
Very High	Features with a Very High paleontological sensitivity



## MAP OF RELATIVE PLANT SPECIES THEME SENSITIVITY

Where only a sensitive plant unique number or sensitive animal unique number is provided in the screening report and an assessment is required, the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) or specialist is required to email SANBI at <u>eiadatarequests@sanbi.org.za</u> listing all sensitive species with their unique identifiers for which information is required. The name has been withheld as the species may be prone to illegal harvesting and must be protected. SANBI will release the actual species name after the details of the EAP or specialist have been documented.

Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
			Х

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Low	Low Sensitivity



### MAP OF RELATIVE TERRESTRIAL BIODIVERSITY THEME SENSITIVITY

Very High sensitivity	High sensitivity	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
X			

Sensitivity	Feature(s)
Very High	Vulnerable ecosystem