



Planning Division: IEM Section

Enquiries: Andrew Blackmore

Your Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/745

ACER (Africa) Environmental Consultants
PO Box 503
Mthunzini
3867

7 April 2016

ATTENTION: Paul Scherzer

Dear Mr Scherzer

Re: PROPOSED ISUNDU SUB-STATION AND TURN-IN TRANSMISSION LINES.

The Final Scoping Report, dated July 2015, for the abovementioned application has been reviewed by Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife (Ezemvelo).

We are satisfied that the specialist studies to address key biodiversity issues have been commissioned. These include:

1. Issues of concern to the African Bird of Prey Sanctuary and Raptor Rescue Centre, which are outlined in the terms of reference for the avifaunal specialist study. These concerns are related, particularly with regards to the following:
 - a. Impacts of light, noise and electromagnetic fields on the rehabilitation of injured birds and captive breeding of vulnerable species such as the Bearded Vulture.
 - b. Impacts of additional transmission lines on free-flying raptors used for flight demonstrations as well as the release of rehabilitated birds. These relate both to risk of line collisions and the interference with radio tracking devices used to track lost demonstration birds that are unable to fend for themselves in the wild.
 - c. Loss of a controlled release site where the proposed sub-station is to be built.
2. Potential impacts on wetlands and vegetation.
3. Impacts on faunal habitat and direct impacts on the animals themselves, with specific reference to vulnerable species.

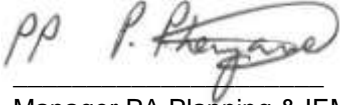
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Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife Official Comment	14/12/16/3/3/2/745	PROPOSED ISUNDU SUB-STATION AND TURN-IN TRANSMISSION LINES	Page 1 of 2
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We trust that these specialist studies will be undertaken as outlined in the Scoping Report and that findings and recommendations derived from them will be included in the final Environmental Impact Assessment.

Should any other biodiversity issues arise, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely



Manager PA Planning & IEM
For CEO: EZEMVELO KZN WILDLIFE