

PROPOSED ISUNDU 765/400 kV SUB-STATION AND TURN-IN TRANSMISSION LINES
(DEA EIA REF: 14/12/16/3/3/2/745)
Comments and Responses Report 1
28 April 2015

Comments have been received from the following stakeholders (alphabetical)
up to the release of the Draft Scoping Report

Name	Organisation
Rebecca Bowd	Green Door Environmental
Dean Boswell	Rents Sub-Station Site farm & Natal Lion Park Manager
David Bozas	Mayibuye Estate
Doug Burden	Duzi uMngeni Conservation Trust (DUCT)
Bill Burton	Froggy Leap Farm
Nora Choveaux	Preservation Mkhondeni Mpushini Biodiversity Trust
Mike Dando	Mkhambathini Municipality
Elaine Donaldson	Mkhambathini Municipality
Dave Douglas	NEBRAC
Owen Greene	Greeneland
Laurence Hancock	Private Landowner
Lorraine Hebblethwaite	Sub-Station Site Landowner
Paul Henderson	ASSMANG LTD/ ARM LTD
Baar Hirschowitz	uMshwati Agricultural Union
Ben Hoffman	Raptor Rescue
Shannon Hoffman	African Bird of Prey Sanctuary (Director)/African Raptor Trust (Secretary)
Grant Holmwood	Surrounding Landowner
Scott Johnson	Keystone Park Light Industrial & Logistics Precinct
Radesh Jugath	Umgeni Water
Lauren Kelso	Eversheds (on behalf of Rainbow Farm)
Phindile P. Langazane	KZN Wildlife
B.N. Lange	DAFF
Pandora Long	Preservation Mkhondeni Mpushini Biodiversity Trust
Eckard Lucht	Illovo Sugar Ltd
Deon Maharaj	Transnet Pipelines
Dr. Sanjay Maharaj	Rainbow Farms
Wandile Mbense	Mbense Consulting / Mkhambathini Local Municipality
Brian Millard	Surrounding Landowner
Karen Moodley	DAFF
Nonhlanhla Myeni	Department of Agriculture & Rural Development
Niki Potgieter	Barkers
Esmeralda Ramburran	Msunduzi Municipality
Mrs. J. Reddy	Department of Transport
Dave Rigby	Farm Sales
SANRAL	On behalf of the Regional Manager (Eastern region)
Ms. N. Sontangane	DAFF
Sharon van der Merwe	Mondi Group
Pieter Venter	Transnet Pipes
John Young	Capko

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1 (a)		11 Aug 2014	Lorraine Hebblethwaite Sub-Station Landowner Site	Pre-EIA Consultation. Granted ACER and the study team access to the sub-station site for purposes of undertaking the EIA. Requested to be kept informed of progress with the EIA.	Acknowledged with thanks and committed to keeping Ms Hebblethwaite informed of progress with the EIA.
1 (b)		2 Dec 2014	Lorraine Hebblethwaite	<p>The submission addressed the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of recent communication. 2. Queried the co-ordinates for the proposed sub-station which would place the sub-station about 1 km within the farm close to the main homestead and the manager's cottage. In this regard, concern was expressed about existing infrastructure and the future viability of the farm (especially as arable land will be lost and the aesthetic value of the farm as a game farm will be compromised). 3. Submitted apologies for not being able to attend the public meeting (due to residence in Tulbagh); however, suggested local conservation stakeholders such as the Lion Park and Raptor Centre would be able to address environmental concerns). 4. Requested contact details of the responsible Eskom official in order to liaise directly with Eskom concerning the future viability of the farm. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The EIA has only recently been initiated with two communications, both of which were sent to the landowner. 2. Submitted a Google Earth file showing the location of the 100 ha site (for which the actual footprint will be approximately 60 ha). This would require the removal of all existing infrastructure, the probable in-filling of the dam and the levelling of the entire site. Farming would no longer be able to occur on the affected area. How this affects the future viability of the farm will be addressed during the impact assessment. Similarly, visual and aesthetic effects will also be addressed. 3. Apologies noted. 4. The Eskom official responsible for the EIA is Ms A Motalane, Senior Environmental Advisor. However, at this stage, it is best to direct EIA related matters to the Public Participation Office. At a later stage, assuming a positive Environmental Authorisation, an Eskom negotiator will contact the landowner to discuss and agree matters related to land acquisition, including addressing such matters as the future viability of the farm and compromised aesthetics.

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2 (a)		18 Aug 2014 (Phone call with Paul Scherzer)	Owen Greene Greenland (Town Planner for Aero Estate)	Pre-EIA Consultation. Expressed concern that the proposed sub-station would affect the layout of an aero estate currently being formulated. Requested a layout of what is proposed at Isundu as well as the location of servitudes.	At the time of the comment, the project description had not been finalised but it has subsequently been submitted. Mr Greene appeared to have all information pertaining to existing Eskom servitudes but not the authorised transmission line corridor for the VSHA transmission lines. These were forwarded to Mr Greene.
2 (b)		5 Nov 2014	Owen Greene – Greenland (Town Planner for Aero-Estate)	The EAP held a meeting with Mr Greene and Rebecca Bowd from Green Door Environmental. The Aero-Estate layout had increased and was larger. They were concerned that if the two 400 kV transmission lines were on the west side of the existing 275 kV transmission lines it may affect their design. However, they felt that if Eskom did not have a registered servitude yet, they would just continue with their plans.	The preferred alignment for the 2x400 kV double circuit transmission lines from Isundu is the same route agreed and authorised during the VSHA investigation. This alignment would only affect any housing developments on the eastern side of the existing Geordedale-Mersey 275 kV transmission lines, i.e. the far eastern corner of your property to the south of the Lion Park road.
3		18 Aug 2014	Rebecca Bowd (EAP) – Green Door Environmental (Aero-Estate EAP)	Pre-EIA Consultation. Confirmed the Aero-Estate Basic Assessment is in its initial stages as a final layout is required from the architect.	Noted.
4 (a)		5 Nov 14	Dean Boswell Rents Sub-Station Site Farm & Natal Lion Park Manager	Pre EIA Consultation. During a meeting with Mr Boswell, he noted the following: 1. He rents the farm on which the proposed sub-station is to be located. As a tenant, he indicated he would not be in a position to object although he has put in much effort to restore the farm. 2. Poaching by local community members with hunting dogs is a significant problem on the farm. 3. No key concerns for the Lion Park. 4. Requested that the Natal Zoological Gardens be included as an I&AP.	1. Noted. 2. Noted. Assuming the proposed project is developed, if poaching arises as a result of Eskom's infrastructure, Eskom will need to manage it as per specifications in an Operational Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). 3. Noted. 4. The Natal Zoological Gardens was invited to participate as an I&AP in the EIA. Dean Boswell confirmed that he

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					would also be placed on the database as the representative for the Natal Zoological Gardens.
4 (b)		13 Dec 2014	Dean Boswell Rents Sub-Station Site Farm & Natal Lion Park Manager	Requested to be registered as an I&AP (in terms of living on the farm in question and running the Lion Park) and submitted the following issues: 1. What will be the effects on tourism? 2. What effect will heavy machinery and transporters have on the Lion Park road during construction? 3. How will poaching, in particular, snaring, be controlled during construction? 4. What precautionary measures will Eskom take during construction and operation to prevent run away fires (there is a legal requirement for landowners to take such measures)? 5. What effect will the sub-station and transmission lines have on animals (Lion Park and Natal Zoo) that are sensitive to noise, vibration, electromagnetic fields, etc?	Has been registered. 1. This will be investigated during the EIA (impact assessment phase). 2. This will be investigated during the EIA (impact assessment phase). 3. Eskom is very strict when it comes to the poaching issues during construction or even the breach of landowner special conditions. The Construction EMPr will propose mitigation measures to ensure that this issue is addressed. 4. These measures will be contained as specifications within the construction and operational EMPrs which are legally binding documents. 5. This will be investigated during the EIA (impact assessment phase).
5		12 Sep 2014	Radesh Jugath – Umgeni Water	Pre EIA Consultation. The EAP provided information on the proposed Isundu Sub-station and turn-in transmission lines and requested the layout of the pipeline Umgeni Water is planning as well as a brief description of the pipeline (size of pipe, servitude requirements along the road, and for when construction is planned).	The route location plan was provided by Umgeni Water (350 diameter pipeline requiring a six metre wide servitude). Construction is scheduled to begin within one month.
6		3 Nov 2014	Mr. Mike Dando - Mkhambathini Municipality	Pre EIA Consultation. This application is not supported by the Mkhambathini Municipality within whose area this site falls. The sub-station (proposed) falls in an area designated 'Agri-Tourism' in terms of the 2014 SDF. It is immediately adjacent to the TP Scheme area zoned 'Special Zone 1' for the Mayibuye Game Reserve. The sub-station would be at the approved entrance to the Game Reserve, adjacent to the Raptor Centre and alongside the proposed aero-estate. The Ezemvelo C-Plan shows this area as 'irreplaceable'. For us this is a no-go	The Municipality's comments have been received and noted. Eskom and the EAP are aware of the surrounding developments in the area and these will all be key stakeholders in the EIA process. Nevertheless, the EIA process will need to proceed as it is the process through which all the issues can be investigated in order for an optimum decision to be reached. The EAP is planning to hold a public

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				area. Suggested a meeting at the municipal offices to elaborate on municipal developments before proceeding any further.	meeting before the end of the year, specifically aimed at providing more detailed technical information to surrounding landowners/I&APs and the opportunity for the EAP to better understand their concerns. The Municipality will be invited to this meeting. Thereafter, if still required, the EAP/Eskom are willing to meet with the Municipality specifically to ensure their planning concerns are correctly captured in the EIA process.
7		3 Nov 2014	Dave Douglas, Chairperson of the No Eskom Blue Route Committee (NEBRAC)	Pre EIA Consultation. The EAP informed Mr Douglas about the project, the reason why another EIA is being done, and, also, informed him that it does not affect his constituents.	Mr Douglas was very appreciative of the call and undertook to inform his committee accordingly.
8 (a)		5 Nov 2014	Shannon Hoffman – Africa Bird of Prey Centre (Director) Ben Hoffman – Raptor Rescue	Pre EIA Consultation. The EAP met with them and explained the proposed project. They were concerned about how the proposed sub-station and transmission lines would affect the birds and the viability of the centre which is the largest bird of prey centre. They also mentioned that the sub-station site was a unique grassland habitat and had Blue Crane, Oribi, Grass Owl and Secretary birds on it. They had also seen Crowned Crane. There is also a pair of Martial Eagles in the wider area that the transmission lines would affect. They had not objected to the line running next to the other existing one but now this would change and the previous EIA and corridor fell away as this was a new configuration. The health impacts of EMFs were also a concern.	These issues and concerns were noted and will be further investigated during the impact assessment process.
8 (b)		18th Dec 2014	Shannon Hoffman African Bird of Prey Sanctuary (Director) and African Raptor Trust (Secretary)	Subsequent to two meetings with Ms Hoffman, the following was submitted concerning potential impacts on the African Bird of Prey Sanctuary Operations: 1. The African Bird of Prey Sanctuary, and the associated rehabilitation centre, Raptor Rescue, currently constitute the biggest dedicated conservation and awareness facility housing indigenous raptors in Africa. All the resident birds of prey at this working facility are protected species and many are CITES listed. In partnership with the Mayibuye Community, the sanctuary has been in operation at this site since 2006 and holds a registered 99 year lease on the 60 hectares of land (Portion 184 of the Farm Vaalkop and Dadelfontein 885) which lies immediately adjacent to the proposed sub-station. The African Raptor Trust (Reg. No IT 1467/2005/PMB) also operates from this	The Sanctuary is thanked for this detailed submission. The project is currently in the EIA phase and, therefore, for the duration of the EIA, submissions should continue to be made through the Public Participation Office. The issues raised will be investigated during the EIA, the outcomes of which will influence whether or not the proposed sub-station receives environmental authorisation. In the event of a positive authorisation, Eskom will negotiate with each landowner taking local circumstances into account. At this stage, it is too early for Eskom negotiators to engage the Sanctuary. However, importantly, in the interim, the Sanctuary

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				<p>property. The object of this NPO is to aid the conservation of indigenous birds of prey both in and ex-situ of their natural environment.</p> <p>Part of the unique nature of the operations is that the facility conducts free-flight raptor demonstrations daily from an open-air amphitheatre. Visiting guests participating in these shows fund the operations. This particular site was chosen for its ideal aspect and land gradient providing suitable flying winds, as well as its beautiful natural scenery and views which facilitate both maximum welfare for the raptors and guest enjoyment. The site proximity to both of the largest KwaZulu-Natal cities and the easy N3 highway access promote visitor patronage. All these factors were taken into consideration and enable the support of the endangered wildlife in care.</p> <p>Also 13 species of raptor have been bred at the working facility. These include the African Grass Owl (listed in the Red Data Book as vulnerable), Taita Falcon (near threatened) and White-headed Vulture (vulnerable). In partnership with Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife and Birdlife, the sanctuary is also the planned breeding station for the critically endangered Bearded Vulture. There are approximately 320 bearded vultures left in the wild, which reside around the Drakensberg mountain range. The skills found at the facility, the site tenure and location supported the initiation of this 20 year project and the first two dedicated breeding chambers (to a value of R 450,000.00) have been already been built on the site. The sanctuary currently houses the only Bearded Vulture of this sub-species in captivity.</p> <p>It was with concern that we heard of Eskom's altered development plans and of the seemingly conclusive decision to now construct the new Isundu sub-station within such close proximity to the Sanctuary. While the Sanctuary fully understands the need for expansion and growth, this form of development is probably the most invasive and potentially detrimental to the Sanctuary possible. The fact that a good portion of the permanently injured and non-releasable raptors housed at the Sanctuary are power-line victims (of either collision or electrocution) thoroughly confirms this statement.</p>	<p>(and other affected landowners) should continue with their operations and plans as if there is no proposed project.</p>

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				<p>Sanctuary concerns regarding the location of the proposed sub-station are two-fold:</p> <p>a) The sheer size of the sub-station and the immediate proximity of the Sanctuary to the hub of the development (approximately 150 m) pose a potential health risk to both the people living permanently on site and certainly the housed raptors. While the effect of electro-magnetic fields on humans is argued, the indirect increase in human ailments associated with people living in close proximity to large electrical installations does not really seem a risk worth taking. There is, however, proven research that birds are highly sensitive to electro-magnetic fields, so it becomes completely non-viable, for example, to take some of the last remaining species (such as in the case of the bearded vulture) and hope for them to breed in enclosures right next to a large sub-station. There is neither time, nor birds available, to explore or argue this risk.</p> <p>b) Due to the unique aerial nature of the operations, overhead cables near, or over, Sanctuary boundaries are of major concern. The radiating transmission lines from the proposed Isundu sub-station pose a serious threat to the core of the Sanctuary business and future educational capabilities. Currently, the major lines running parallel to the southern border of the property pose no more than a 25% threat to the birds' safety as they fly in the aerial displays. Considering the distance of the power lines and that the flight arena faces in the opposite direction, this is currently a manageable risk. Flying activities have been sanctioned as permissible by the local permitting authority, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife for this reason. Any additional lines running to the north or west of the arena obviously increase the collision or electrocution risk considerably. So, the flying of the birds at this site could then be advanced from what is currently a controllable activity (where risk is negated through slope aspect and suitable training) into undertaking what is almost negligent in nature.</p> <p>The operations of the Sanctuary, Raptor Rescue and the African Raptor Trust rely heavily on the solicitation of funds and the development of skills partnerships</p>	

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				<p>between multiple NGOs, government departments and the private sector. If core operations are severely compromised by Eskom's proposed expansion, then the Sanctuary will not be in a position to responsibly negotiate or plan future advancements or continue conservation projects. This effectively puts on hold any planning for the future, immediate or otherwise, until such time as a concrete proposal is presented by Eskom regarding this development. Therefore, the Sanctuary would be grateful to meet Eskom at the earliest possible opportunity to discuss these challenges and pursue solutions.</p> <p>In this regard, the Sanctuary requested that the possible options available be included in negotiations to proceed amicably and to reach a mutual agreement, for example, the following were offered for the consideration of Eskom:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Alterations to the position or design of the sub-station to accommodate Sanctuary requirements. 2. Finite and documented expansion plan parameters protecting the Sanctuary's interests in the long-term. 3. Offsets for possible Sanctuary relocation. 4. Compensation for lost assets and/or income potential. 	
9		3 Nov 2014	Baar Hirschowitz - uMshwati Agricultural Union	Pre EIA Consultation. The EAP explained that an alternative to Sigma is being investigated and suggested he examine the BID to consider potential impacts on members and whether or not the Union wished to remain an I&AP.	Although no longer the chairperson of the Union, Mr Hirschowitz expressed thanks for the advance notification and was of the opinion that Union members would be less affected by the proposed changes than by the original Sigma Sub-station.
10		3 Nov 2014	Eckard Lucht - Illovo Sugar Ltd	Pre EIA Consultation. The EAP explained that an alternative to Sigma is being investigated and suggested he examine the BID to consider potential impacts on Illovo and its growers and whether or not Illovo wished to remain and I&AP.	Mr Lucht expressed thanks for the advance notification and was of the opinion that there would be less impacts now than by the proposed Sigma Sub-station.
11		5 Nov 2014	David Bozas - Mayibuye Estate	Pre EIA Consultation. The EAP explained that an alternative to Sigma is being investigated. Mr Bozas was very concerned and opposed to the proposal believing they had accommodated Eskom with the previous alignment but now the whole sub-station would be opposite their entrance and construction was commencing. He queried why there is only one sub-station alternative.	The concerns of the Mayibuye Estate are noted and will be investigated during the EIA.

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					The Scoping Report contains a full elaboration of alternative sites investigated and the reasons for the current EIA being reduced to the consideration of only one sub-station site.
12		05 Nov 2014	Pieter Venter - Transnet Pipelines	Pre EIA Consultation. The EAP emailed two Google Earth files showing the proposed layout area for the sub-station and the study area which will be investigated for the two 400 kV transmission lines coming from the sub-station in order for them to connect into an existing transmission line. The EAP explained that this is what is being applied for in this EIA process but that there is also an amendment to the previously proposed and authorised transmission line which will run from near Wartburg to the Isundu Sub-station. The EAP requested shape files of where the Transnet pipeline runs from Durban, Hillcrest, Inchanga, Cato Ridge, Ashburton, Pietermaritzburg, Bishopstowe, Claridge, Hilton, Merrivale, Howick, Curry's Post and Mooi River to determine where Eskom servitudes may intersect the pipeline.	Transnet sent through an image showing where their pipelines crossed through the proposed project area. This information, subject to confidentiality, has been provided to the Spatial Development specialist to investigate further.
13 (b)		10 Dec 2014	Ben Hoffman Raptor Rescue	Submitted the following for investigation during the EIA: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. TOPS species found on the property. 2. Oribi - last remaining piece of grassland. 3. Grass Owls. 4. Blue Crane. 5. Marshall Eagle (as part of hunting range). 6. Rock Python. 7. Black Rumped Button Quail. 8. Impact on Raptor Rescue and African Bird Of Prey Sanctuary. 9. Raptor Rescue can no longer use this site as a release or controlled release (hack) site. 10. The African Bird Of Prey Sanctuary can no longer carry on doing free flight displays due to the hazard of further transmission lines. This is the core of their business. 11. Electro Magnetic Fields and their implications. 12. Noise. Hum and other background noises. 	These aspects will be investigated, via specialist studies, during the impact assessment phase of the EIA.

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13 (c)		6 Jan 2015	Ben Hoffman Raptor Rescue	<p>Additional comments were submitted by Mr Hoffman as follows:</p> <p><u>1. Telemetry</u> All flying birds in the demonstrations are equipped with a radio transmitter to allow for their recovery if they get lost for any reason. These birds are either captive bred or impaired birds that are unable to survive in the wild, and as a result, if lost, would die. Recently, a Lanner Falcon (Chicken) ended up going to ground in the valley in front of the facility. As a result of the topography, there was no signal from its transmitter. Therefore, attempts were made to locate the beacon signal from high points. However, if one points the receiver towards the large transmission lines, the interference makes it impossible to track a signal. In this instance, it was fortunate the bird was in the valley where there are no transmission lines (it would have been very different if it had ended up on the other side of the transmission lines).</p> <p>Having a major sub-station opposite the facility would mean bird tracking could not occur, substantially increasing the risk of losing birds.</p> <p><u>2. Bearded Vulture Project</u> The facility is initiating the Bearded Vulture recovery program and is looking at collecting the first eggs from the wild in August 2015. After the initial rearing period, these birds need to be housed in large flight enclosures. The facility is sourcing funds for the enclosures which is difficult at the best of times. In this regard, the question arises as to where the facility will be located making it difficult to write funding proposals being unsure where the birds will be housed. Construction needs to start by June/July 2015 at the latest.</p>	<p>Transmitter interference will be investigated during the impact assessment phase.</p> <p>The proposed project is currently subject to an EIA which will take of the order of 12-14 months to complete. In the event of a positive environmental authorization, Eskom would require additional time to complete its route location and detailed design. Only thereafter would construction commence (perhaps three years). Therefore, in the interim, affected parties are encouraged to continue their activities as if there is no proposed project.</p>
14 (a)		10 Nov 2014	Scott Johnson - Keystone Park Light Industrial and Logistics Precinct	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requested to be registered as an I&AP. 2. Queried if there will be a public meeting or, alternatively, an opportunity to meet and discuss the location of the proposed new sub-station and or alignment of the proposed new transmission lines. 3. Queried the time frames involved in constructing the new sub-station and transmission lines in the event that a positive authorization is granted. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr Johnson has been registered as an I&AP. 2. There have been various interactions with Mr Johnson and, in addition, a public meeting was held on 3 December 2014, to which Mr Johnson was invited. 3. The EIA will take until the end of 2015 to complete; thereafter, Eskom will need to negotiate servitudes and

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				4. Requested a more detailed/higher definition plan of the alignment of the new transmission line/s as they cross the MR385 from west to east and terminate at Hector sub-station at the southern-most point of the proposed transmission lines.	undertake detailed design and procurement. The earliest construction is likely to commence would be around 2017, but this is also dependent upon funds being available. 4. This was provided by the EAP. It should be noted that there is no effect from the proposed Isundu Sub-station and associated transmission lines on the Keystone Park Light Industrial and Logistics Precinct and only a marginal effect arising from the original VSHA transmission lines entering the Hector Sub-station (depending on final alignment), taking note that these transmission lines would not be required in the event of the proposed Isundu Sub-station receiving a positive environmental authorisation and being constructed.
14 (b)		10- 26 Nov 2014	Scott Johnson Keystone Park Light Industrial and Logistics Precinct	Mr Johnson submitted the following: 1. A request for regular feedback and information updates (in particular, concerning public meetings). 2. Acknowledgement that his main area of interest concerns the transmission lines entering the Hector Sub-station (albeit he is involved in other large developments in the general area that may be affected by transmission lines). 3. Request for a one-on-one meeting when the EAP is in the study area in order that he may better understand the project proposal.	1. Mr Johnson is registered as an I&AP and will receive all project correspondence, including that pertaining to public meetings (as for the public meeting on 3 December 2014). 2. The VSHA corridor has been authorised. The corridor entering Hector Sub-station has a marginal effect on Keystone Park (however, this is a 2 km wide corridor; the transmission lines could located anywhere in this corridor and may not affect Keystone Park at all). The proposed Isundu Sub-station and transmission lines have no effect on Keystone Park save that the two transmission lines to Hector Sub-station may no longer be required. 3. Additional material has been sent to Mr Johnston who then decided that a further meeting would not be necessary at this stage.
15 (a)		10 Nov 2014	Sharon van der Merwe – Mondi Group	In order for Mondi to review the proposal, they requested the following information/documents:	There is a long history to the VSHA project and all the EIA documentation has previously been made available to Mondi (and can be again, if relevant). In reality, it is quite possible

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				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proposal letter for the project with maps showing the impacted Mondi properties. 2. Report re the routes considered and reasons why the current route was chosen. 3. Timelines involved. 4. Shape file (LO31 and WSG)/referenced dgn. file of the proposed route and associated activities (i.e. sub-station). 5. Servitude width and tree restriction width of the line (dimension of servitude). 6. Copies of all relevant documentation for obtaining Environmental Authorisation. 7. Highlight the impacts of this project on surrounding properties. Advise if due consideration has been given to the impact on commercial agriculture and forestry. 8. Provide a list of key contact people/project managers etc. <p>This information was requested to assist Mondi in quantifying the impacts on their commercial forests.</p> <p>Mondi also requested that they be informed timeously of any matters in relation to the project, EAP activities and any other matters in relation to the impacted Mondi properties which may affect their usage of the land.</p>	<p>that Eskom negotiators have already engaged Mondi in servitude negotiations for sections of the VSHA transmission line from the Venus Sub-station near Estcourt to the Sigma Sub-station (not constructed) near Wartburg and onto the Hector Sub-station near Hammarsdale. The main area of impact for Mondi is between Estcourt and Albert Falls Dam.</p> <p>However, for clarity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The EAP provided Google Earth files and shapefiles of the authorised corridor arising out of the VSHA study. The authorisation is for a 765 kV line with an 80 m servitude to run from section C1 to C7 (where a new Sigma Sub-station would be located) and then 2 x 400 kV transmission lines to run from C7 to C12, these double circuit lines have a servitude of 110 m except through forestry where it has a servitude of 131 m. 2. The current Isundu EIA and application amendment are to consider a new sub-station (instead of the Sigma site). This would result in the 765 kV continuing down the corridor from C7 to the Isundu site and then two 400 kV lines joining into existing lines somewhere within the proposed Isundu study area (bubble). <p>As far as the EAP can ascertain from Google Earth, there is no forestry within the Isundu study area (although it may be Mondi land not planted); however, there is some forestry in the corridor section from C7 to Isundu. Where the line will run exactly within the 2 km corridor will be negotiated when Eskom is identifying a servitude. However, the current proposal would reduce the land required through forestry in this area from 131 m to 80 m.</p>

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					The EIA will take until the end of 2015 to complete; thereafter, Eskom will need to negotiate servitudes and undertake detailed design and procurement. It is probable that construction would commence only in 2017 at the earliest.
15 (b)		10 Nov 2014	Sharon van der Merwe – Mondi Group	Acknowledged receipt of the information provided.	Noted with thanks.
16		12 Nov 2014	Bill Burton – Froggy Leap Farm	Requested a better map of the proposed amendment with a key to the points, e.g. G4, etc.	<p>On a project of this scale it is difficult to provide clearer maps in a small document covering the whole project area.</p> <p>The various numbers (e.g. C4 and not G4) refer to sections of the VSHA transmission line corridor for which the EIA was undertaken during 2010-2011.</p> <p>If Froggy Leap Farm is near Curry's Post (as the email signature suggests) then the I&AP would have been included on the original VSHA transmission line database because one of the proposed corridors was through this area (the Blue route as it became known). This corridor was not recommended and only the authorised corridor (the Central corridor in the northern section of the study area) is shown on the recent BID. Google Earth files of the authorised corridor from the VSHA study and the new Isundu Substation site and study area which are near Ashburton were provided to Mr Burton.</p> <p>All the transmission line segments are labelled in the file. The previous authorisation was for a 765kV line to run from section C1 to C7 (where a new Sigma Sub-station would be located) and then 2 x 400 kV transmission lines to run from C7 to C12 (at Hector sub-station). The current proposal is to construct the Isundu Sub-station near Ashburton and joining the two 400 kV lines into the existing Hector- Ariadne 400 kV lines in the</p>

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					<p>southern part of the Isundu study area (approximately 4 km south of the sub-station site).</p> <p>If the farm is near Curry's Post, then it will not be affected by the new proposed project configuration (the I&AP was requested to confirm the location of Froggy Leap Farm).</p> <p>The I&AP was contacted as a previous VSHA stakeholder because this project is related to it. However, if you are affected or wish to remain on the database, then you will need to re-register as an Interested and Affected Party; importantly, if the I&AP does not re-register, he will not be contacted again during this new EIA process.</p>
17		14 Nov 2014	Deon Maharaj Transnet Pipelines	<p>In response to previous correspondence with Transnet, the following was submitted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Eskom Isundu project area overlaps Transnet's mainlines in Lynnfield Park (as indicated in an attached GE extract (jpg)) affecting three mainlines (DJP (12"), DWP (16") & New NMPP PL1 Trunkline (20" - coloured red on image). 2. Transnet offered to send the relevant shapefiles subject to Eskom signing a confidentiality agreement and a national key points acknowledgement. 3. Transnet emphasised that Transnet Pipelines is a National Key Point entity and a state-owned enterprise. 4. The Confidential Agreement & NKP Acknowledgement will follow accordingly. 	The information is noted. It does not appear as though Transnet Pipelines are affected by the proposed Isundu Sub-station; however, they will be traversed by the two 400 kV transmission lines.
18		14 Nov 2014	Grant Holmwood Surrounding Landowner	<p>Requested the following be considered as part of the EIA:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Effect on property values from an aesthetic point of view. 2. Effect on health should the lines be near houses/living quarters. 	The I&AP appears to be from the Mbona area and not within the authorised corridor for the VSHA project. The EAP has asked Mr Holmwood to confirm this and to ascertain whether or not he wishes to remain an I&AP on the current EIA which does not affect him. [Mr Holmwood confirmed that he is outside the authorised corridor and is, thus, not affected]

No	Ref	Date	Name and Organisation	Comment	Response
				<p>Comments on/or suggestions for the public participation and technical processes were as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow enough time for multiple public meetings (from previous experience there is nothing worse than running out of time in one meeting to hear people's concerns and then not getting feedback on questions raised until months later when everyone has forgotten the context of the question). 2. When arranging follow up meetings, ensure minutes from the prior meeting are provided timeously before the follow up meeting. The minutes must have an addendum that contains answers to all questions raised in the previous meeting. 3. Ensure all affected landowners are personally visited ahead of time. This may be difficult but it allows them to address concerns immediately and be part of the process. Do not wait for a public meeting and do not retract promises. <p>Suggested the following stakeholders also be involved in the process:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Crane Conservancy. 	<p>In terms of comments, the following:</p> <p>Property values and health effects will be investigated for the study area in question (for the proposed Isundu Sub-station and associated transmission lines).</p> <p>The EAP will organise and facilitate as many meetings as are required for the current EIA process. Proceedings will be recorded and circulated to attendees as soon as possible after each meeting. Commitments made by the EAP will be followed through to their conclusion.</p> <p>The Crane Conservancy has been invited to participate in the EIA.</p>
19		18 Nov 2014	Mrs. J. Reddy – Department of Transport (KZN)	The KZN Department of Transport provided a reference number for future correspondence (T10/2/2/1541/3) and advised that they are considering the proposed project to which they will respond in due course.	Noted with thanks.
20		25 Nov 2014	Phindile P. Langazane – Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife	Acknowledged receipt of the Background Information Document and requested a shapefile/KML file for the proposed project.	Noted with thanks. The KML files for the proposed sub-station site and the study area were provided to Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife.
21		26 Nov 2014	Dave Rigby Farm Sales	Requested overall maps of the proposed project and advised that he would be unable to attend the public meeting on 3 December 2014.	The BID maps were provided. Apologies for the public meeting were noted.
22		26 Nov 2014	Lauren Kelso - Partner	Advised that they act on behalf of Rainbow Farms (Pty) Ltd and acknowledged receipt of notification of the above EIA process. Requested additional	The BID and maps were provided by the EAP.

No	Ref	Date	Name and Organisation	Comment	Response															
			Eversheds on behalf of Rainbow Chicken	information, including maps, in order to ascertain which Rainbow Farms may be affected.	<p>In addition, the EAP advised that the following four properties which fall within the study area are owned by Rainbow Farms.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>SG Code</th> <th>Farm number</th> <th>Farm portion</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>N0FT0000000088500187</td> <td>885</td> <td>187</td> </tr> <tr> <td>N0FT00000001476700000</td> <td>14767</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>N0FT0000000103200019</td> <td>1032</td> <td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>N0FT0000000088500253</td> <td>885</td> <td>253</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The EAP stressed that the study area is currently defined as a “bubble” and that the exact alignment of the two 400 kV transmission lines (total servitude of 110 m) would occur within this bubble provided a positive environmental authorisation was received.</p> <p>The EAP requested Rainbow Farms to advise if any additional Rainbow Farms properties may be affected (i.e. any additional properties not identified by the EAP).</p>	SG Code	Farm number	Farm portion	N0FT0000000088500187	885	187	N0FT00000001476700000	14767	0	N0FT0000000103200019	1032	19	N0FT0000000088500253	885	253
SG Code	Farm number	Farm portion																		
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N0FT00000001476700000	14767	0																		
N0FT0000000103200019	1032	19																		
N0FT0000000088500253	885	253																		
23		26 Nov 2014	Laurence Hancock	Requested overall maps for the proposed project.	BID maps were provided by the EAP.															
24		26 Nov 2014	Elaine Donaldson	Requested that the EAP consider a venue in Mkhambathini to hold public meetings.	The public meeting had been scheduled to be held at the Ashburton Library as advised by an I&AP (easily accessible and close to those in the project area). Nevertheless, the local municipality is welcome to advise of suitable venues in Mkhambathini for future meetings.															
25		26 Nov 2014	Karen Moodley – DAFF	Requested additional information for the proposed project.	Google Earth files and additional information were provided by the EAP.															
26		27 Nov 2014	John Young - Capko	Requested a copy of the revised route map to see how he would be affected.	Google Earth/kmls files and additional information were provided by the EAP – do not think that Mr. Young will be															

No	Ref	Date	Name and Organisation	Comment	Response
					affected. He was advised of the BID on the website, and that he should contact the EAP if he requires additional information.
27		27 Nov 2014	Niki Potgieter - Barkers	Thanked the EAP for the project notification and queried whether or not this project would rectify electricity problems in Hammarsdale and, if not, requested if there are any meetings planned to address the electricity problems in Hammarsdale.	The EAP responded that this project deals with bulk strengthening and is a transmission and not a distribution project (in the long-term this project will assist distribution as the current network is under strain from over utilisation). The EAP advised that we are unaware of planned meetings to discuss electricity supply in Hammarsdale and that Ms Potgieter should contact the local Eskom Distribution office, or alternatively, the local municipality for further information.
28		28 Nov 2014	Nora Choveaux - Preservation Mkhondeni Mpushini Biodiversity Trust	Requested a copy of the email inviting interested and affected parties to a public meeting on 3 December 2014 about the proposed Isundu sub-station	The invitation/meeting information was provided by the EAP.
29		28 Nov 2014	Pandora Long-Preservation Mkhondeni Mpushini Biodiversity Trust	Requested that the Preservation of the Mkhondeni Mpushini Biodiversity Trust (PMMBT), the Lower Mpushini Valley Conservancy and Mpushini Protected Environment be registered as Interested and Affected Parties and provided contact details. Also requested information regarding alternative sites for this proposed project.	The three entities have been registered as I&APs. Concerning alternatives, the EAP supplied information on the previous alternatives considered and was advised that further information could be obtained from the Application which was loaded onto the site www.acerafrica.co.za
30		28 Nov 2014	Casper Landman	Requested a drawing of the area that is being investigated and to be registered as an I&AP.	Mr Landman was advised that the maps can be downloaded at www.acerafrica.co.za under the "Current Projects" link. He was also registered as an I&AP.
31		1 Dec 2014	Wandile Mbense (Mbense Consultancy) - Mkhambathini Local Municipality	I expect that the following individuals from the Mkhambathini Local Municipality: Housing Officer (Nhlanhla Mbatha 0847214706); Councillor (Mr Gwala). Our EIA Consultant (Urvassi Hurburun 0828753710) would like to review your layout before attending.	The EAP provided kml files for the proposed project. In response to whether the Poortje Low Income Housing Development would be affected, using the co-ordinates provided by the I&AP, it would appear as though this development is quite some distance to the south from both the sub-station and the transmission lines.

No	Ref	Date	Name and Organisation	Comment	Response
32		5 Dec 2014	Dr. Sanjay Maharaj - Rainbow Farms	Requested that the following be addressed: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Impact of electrical voltage and microwaves on breeding birds. 2. Aesthetics of the wires. 3. Impact of security lighting on production. 4. Noise impact during construction and operation on breeding birds. 5. Spatial development plan for the area. 	These aspects will be investigated during the impact assessment of the EIA (via specialist studies).
33		5 Dec 2014	B .N. De Lange - Directorate Land Use and Soil Management	Acknowledged receipt of project notification and advised that the application has been captured in the electronic Agriland tracking and management system.	Noted with thanks.
34		5 Dec 2014	Ms. N. Sontangane – DAFF (Forestry Regulation and Support)	DAFF acknowledged receipt of the BID and submitted the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requested a Vegetation Specialist Assessment be conducted for the proposed site, to be included in the draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (DEIAR). The study should include the following: the sub-station site; access roads; servitudes; alternative sites; microwave communication tower site; oil and fuel storage facility site and other sites for the infrastructure associated with the sub-station. This study should be designed to assist in determining the impact that the development may have on indigenous trees, natural forests and/or protected trees in terms of the National Forests Act of 1998 (Act No. 84 of 1998). 2. Requested that the Environmental Management Plan should include a list of indigenous trees which will be planted during the landscaping phase and the rehabilitation of sites with structures which may be demolished. <p>DAFF indicated that further comments will be issued upon receipt of the DEIAR.</p>	Noted with thanks. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Vegetation Assessment will be undertaken as part of the suite of specialist studies to be commissioned as part of the EIA. 2. The EAP will ensure that a list of locally suitable indigenous plants be included in the EMP for rehabilitation and landscaping purposes.
35		8 Dec 2014	Brian Millard – Independent Farmer	Submitted the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acknowledgement of project notification and the nature of the intended project, viz. an investigation to establish a new electricity sub-station east of Ashburton called Isundu. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted with thanks.

No	Ref	Date	Name and Organisation	Comment	Response
				<p>2. The area for the proposed Isundu substation, which may include additional structures, could be extensive.</p> <p>3. If future power lines are taken out of Isundu sub-station, it is important to ensure that farm(s) do not become small and unproductive. Farmers should be made aware of the situation.</p> <p>4. Sugar cane, under power lines, which is burnt before harvesting is likely to cause lines to trip.</p>	<p>2. The study area is large. However, at this stage, corridors and routes are being investigated. The final servitudes for the transmission lines will be significantly smaller.</p> <p>3. This is correct and something of which all landowners should be aware, viz. multiple transmission lines into the future. The viability of farms will need to be addressed in this and subsequent EIAs.</p> <p>4. This matter has been extensively investigated by Eskom and SASA, with the two parties having signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) concerning sugar cane farming, including the burning of sugar cane prior to harvest, underneath transmission lines. It is believed that via the MOU, sugar cane farming and transmission lines are compatible.</p>
36		9 Dec 2014	Esmeralda Ramburran - Msunduzi Municipality	<p>Noted that the 100 ha proposed site for the Isundu sub-station does not fall within the boundary of Msunduzi Municipality; however, the Isundu study area and a large portion of the 5 km study buffer area does. In this regard, the Municipal Environmental Management Framework (EMF) indicates high biodiversity constraints in the wider study area.</p> <p>The municipality provided plans of the areas affecting Msunduzi Municipality for inclusion in the EIA.</p> <p>The Municipality also advised that a Water Use License would be required for the proposed project.</p> <p>The Municipality requested hard and soft copies of all reports.</p>	<p>This is noted with thanks and will be investigated and included in the EIA.</p> <p>The applicant is aware of the need for a water use license as indicated on public documents. The application process is underway.</p> <p>Noted.</p>

No	Ref	Date	Name and Organisation	Comment	Response
37		12 Dec 2014	Doug Burden - Duzi uMngeni Conservation Trust	Submitted that the EIA should consider mitigation/compensation for the probable negative effects on the nearby African Raptors Centre (in terms of overhead transmission cables affecting the flight paths of the birds).	This will be investigated by specialists during the impact assessment phase.
38 (a)		12 & 15 Dec 2014	Paul Henderson - African Rainbow Minerals Limited	Acknowledged receipt of the project notification and indicated that their interests fall outside the study area; nevertheless, requested to be registered as an I&AP (Assmang and the Cato Ridge Development Company). Requested a change to contact details.	African Rainbow Minerals (Mr. Henderson) has been registered as an I&AP. Database updated.
39		12 Dec 2014	Nonhlanhla Myeni Department of Agriculture and Rural Development – Land Use and Soil Management	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Provincial Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs: Macro Planning acknowledged the receipt of the Isundu mentioned application. 2. The Department undertook a site inspection and noted the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The proposed project is in Langehoop FT 1032, Portion 23. The original farm size is +/- 1,784.6 ha in extent with different portions and only +/- 100 hectares will be affected by this proposed development. b) The proposed site is bounded by a few Rainbow Farms that are in full operation. c) The property according to KZN Agricultural Land Potential Categories Version 1 (2012, Draft) is on land with moderate agricultural potential where significant interventions are required in order to achieve viable and sustainable food production that is regarded as very high potential agricultural land that should be exclusively retained for agricultural use. The land has moderate potential because of shallow soils and a grazing carrying capacity of 3.0 ha/ animal unit. d) Consequently semi extensive farming is an option on this part of land. 3. It is recommended that the proposed sub-station must be properly constructed in order to alleviate possible soil erosion and good surface water management. 4. Natural vegetation clearing must be kept to a minimum during site preparation. 5. The Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Development: Land Use Regulatory Component has no objection to the activity in principle but awaits further documentation before concluding our comments on the proposed project. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted with thanks. 2. Noted with thanks. 3. This will be included in the construction EMPr. 4. This will be included in the construction EMPr. 5. Noted with thanks. The Department will receive all EIA reports as they become available.

No	Ref	Date	Name and Organisation	Comment	Response
40		9 Jan 2015	Esmeralda Ramburran - Msunduzi Municipality	<p>Following on the hardcopy of the comments provided (9 December 2015), the following were submitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> € The Msunduzi Conservation Plan € Ecosystems Services Plan (ESP) € Environmental Management Framework (EMF) 	Received with thanks.
41		16 Jan 2015	Mr. Raymond Couch – Telkom SA	<p>With reference to your letter dated 07 November 2014 refers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Telkom approves in principle the proposed work indicated on the drawing. This approval is valid for 12 months only, after which reapplication must be made if the work has not been completed. 2. Any changes/deviations from the original planning during or prior to construction must immediately be communicated to this office. 3. Approval is granted, subject to the following conditions : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> € Aerial Plant - At points of crossing, the overhead power lines should cross above the overhead communication lines in accordance with, and clearances stipulated in the Occupational Health and Safety Act No 85 of 1993, Electrical Machinery Regulations 20 - Crossings, and Electrical Machinery Regulations 15 - Clearances of Power Lines. € If the specifications could not be met, all deviation costs will be for the applicant's account. We also refer to section 25 of the Electronic Communications Act 36 of 2005. € Please notify this office within 21 working days from date of this letter of acceptance and if any alternative proposal is available or if a recoverable work should commence (the liaison officer is Rishi Rampershad Tel: 031 459 1768). 	Thank you for this submission. Please note that construction will not commence within 12 months; rather 36 months at the earliest. At this time, Eskom will liaise with Telkom over requirements, of which Eskom is well aware.

No	Ref	Date	Name and Organisation	Comment	Response
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> € As important cables are affected, please contact Mr. J. Maghoo on Tel: 081 366 1929 two weeks prior of commencement on construction work. It would be appreciated if this office can be notified within 30 days on completion of construction work. Confirmation is required on completion of construction as per agreed requirements. € All Telkom SA LTD rights remain reserved. 	
42		19 Jan 2015	Mr Owen Greene - Greene Land	<p>Mr. Greene provided a copy of the layout plan and information regarding The Wild Aloe Estate, which is situated just east of the N3 near the Lion Park off ramp at Ashburton:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> € There will be approx. 50 sites grouped around a private airstrip with hangars. This section is aimed at people with their own planes who would like to live near an airstrip. € There will be approx. 115 retirement sites (the ones with red numbers) € The balance of the sites to the east of the road will aimed at people with horses as equestrian facilities will be provided for people wanting to live in an eco-estate. € The estate will be game fenced and stocked with game. € The sites to the south of the road will be for labour tenants and others who qualify for subsidized state housing. € The development respects the existing Eskom servitudes and while the land under the servitudes will be used for roads and gardens it will not be built on. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Municipality have requested comments from Eskom on whether the layout will interfere with proposed Isundu substation and it feeder lines or not. 2. The EIA consultant for the feeder has stated that he is still doing the scoping report and the final approval of the 2 km wide corridor is 2 years away and that the proposed site for the substation is not on the this property. 3. Requested confirmation whether the proposed Wild Aloe Development will interfere with the proposed Isundu substation and its feeder lines. 	<p>The EAP provided background information on the proposed Venus-Sigma-Hector-(Ariadne) transmission line project in a clarification letter dated 29 January 2015.</p> <p>Between 2009 and 2011, Eskom undertook an EIA on the proposed Venus-Sigma-Hector-(Ariadne) transmission line project. Authorisation of the proposed VSHA transmission line corridor, which is 2 km wide, was granted in 2012. The entire eastern portion of the proposed Wild Aloe Estate is within this 2 km corridor. However, in this section of the corridor a specific transmission line route was agreed to in the final EIA report whereby the 2 x 400 kV transmission lines would follow the existing Geordedale-Mersey 275 kV transmission lines through the proposed Mayibuye Game Reserve. The servitude for the double 400 kV transmission line in this area would be 110 m wide.</p> <p>The proposed Isundu Sub-station site is on a separate property and is not affected by the Wild Aloe layout. However, as per the original VSHA configuration, 2 x 400 kV transmission lines will still need to come from Isundu sub-station to connect into the existing network. It is currently proposed that these two 400 kV transmission lines be double circuit lines and follow the same route alongside the existing 275 kV transmission line until they join into the existing Hector-Ariadne 400 kV double-circuit transmission lines. Thus, it is</p>

No	Ref	Date	Name and Organisation	Comment	Response
					likely that these transmission lines will affect only the far eastern corner of your proposed layout.
43		20 Jan 2015	Mr. GK Suzor – Department of Co-Operative Governance & Traditional Affairs	<p>Based on the documentation submitted to this office on 01 December 2014 (DEA EIA reference no. 14/12/16/3/3/2/745; 12/12/20/13897/AM2):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> € It will also be necessary to submit an application in terms of the KwaZulu - Natal Planning and Development Act No. 6 of 2008 (PDA) to the relevant local municipality. € This Department will consider the application in terms of the KwaZulu - Natal Planning and Development Act No. 6 of 2008 (PDA) when submitted. Such PDA application will need to meet all the requirements of the legislation. Other important aspects would include planning consideration, compliance with the municipality's Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and Spatial Development Framework (SDF) and related matters. € This Department reserves the right to comment fully on the PDA Application to be submitted. 	Noted. This requirement has been forwarded to Eskom.
44		30 Jan & 12 Feb 2015	Pravesh Manipersadh – Ingonyama Trust	<p>Requested the coordinates or the alignment in shapefile or cad format in order to identify the affected Ingonyama Trust Land.</p> <p>Mr Manipersadh confirmed that no Ingonyama Trust Land was affected by the Isundu Sub-station or transmission line corridor.</p>	<p>The EAP provided the proposed Isundu sub-station site in kml format including the authorised transmission line corridor.</p> <p>Noted.</p>
45		13 Feb 2015	Hennie Heyns - owner of the property Aloe Wild Life Estate (formerly known as 'Kingthorpe')	<p>Mr. Heyns said that in 2009 the Aloe Wild Life Estate EIA was approved for a housing development, subject to a few minor conditions. The application was subsequently amended, and is well under way.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> € Mr Heyns noted that he only received notification of the public meeting the day before and was therefore not able to attend. € Raised concern that their 'amended' application may be held up because of Eskom's application. € The town planner received feedback from an inquiry and advised that Wild Life Estate may have to amend their layout once again, as there is low cost housing proposed for the area in question. 	<p>The EAP contacted Mr Heyns to update him on the fact that Kingsthorpe's previous representatives (who he said were no longer involved) had been involved and informed since 2009, and the town planner for the development had also been met and corresponded with prior to the public announcement of the project.</p> <p>The alternative land mentioned is on the far eastern portion of the farm where the proposed transmission line is planned. No meeting was deemed necessary and the EAP responded with the clarification letter dated 23 February 2015.</p>

No	Ref	Date	Name and Organisation	Comment	Response
				<p>€ The labour tenants have already signed agreements and their expectations of a Wild Life Estate are seriously compromised.</p> <p>Mr Heyns requested an urgent onsite meeting with the planning team, and suggested that there is land available on the other side of the tar road, opposite the main development node, that could be used by Eskom.</p>	<p>The preferred alignment for these 2x400 kV transmission lines is the same route agreed and authorised during the VSHA investigation. This alignment would only affect any housing developments on the eastern side of the existing Geogedale-Mersey 275 kV transmission lines i.e. the far eastern corner of your property to the south of the Lion Park road.</p> <p>The environmental authorisation process for the proposed Isundu Sub-station site and the proposed 2 x 400 kV double circuit transmission lines is still underway. A decision from the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) on the proposed sub-station will only be available once the EIA process has run its course.</p> <p>In the interests of integrated planning, Eskom requests that your plans take cognisance of the existing 110 m transmission line route already authorised by DEA on the eastern side of the Geogedale-Mersey 275 kV transmission lines. The only reason why servitude negotiations for this land have not yet started is the uncertainty surrounding the sub-station site.</p> <p>The impact of any alternative transmission lines routes, should they be proposed, upon your development will be considered during the Isundu Sub-station environmental authorisation process. In this regard, any alternative transmission line route would first need to be authorised by DEA and, thereafter, a suitable alignment negotiated between Eskom and the Aloe Wild Life Estate.</p>
47		6 Feb 2015	L. Kelso (Eversheds) representing Rainbow Farms -	1. Provided a report compiled by Metamorphosis Environmental Consultants, which forms part of the Rainbow Farms input into the Environmental Assessment process.	This report has been received and the issues will be considered by the specialists and addressed during the impact assessment phase.

No	Ref	Date	Name and Organisation	Comment	Response
				<p>2. In the Background Information Document, there is mention of an environmental authorisation dated 11 June 2012 for the Venus-Sigma-Hector-Ariadne transmission lines. Rainbow Farms did not receive notice of this application and from the map provided it is not possible to confirm whether it will affect Rainbow Farms' operations. To the extent that their operations may be affected by these power lines, its right to object are fully reserved.</p>	<p>The VSHA project was extensively advertised and received significant media attention between 2009-2011 throughout the KZN Midlands. ACER has consulted their records and, during the VSHA process, all stakeholder letters during the process were posted to your office at Hammarisdale (PO Box 26) and email correspondence was also previously held with a representative from your Westville office.</p>
48		16 Feb 2015	SANRAL - For Regional Manager (Eastern region)	<p>The background information document referred to this office for comment on 7 November 2014 has reference.</p> <p>The N3 National Road in the Camperdown/Pietermaritzburg area will possibly be affected by the corridor being considered for the turn-in transmission lines and it should be noted that SANRAL's policy on transmission lines of this nature is the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a.) No structure shall be erected within 60 metres of the National Road Reserve boundary. b.) Similar restrictions on structures are applicable to crossings of National Roads and the minimum height above the roadway is 7.5 metres. c.) Once a route has been finalised, application shall be made to the SA National Roads Agency, (SANRAL) Eastern Region for wayleaves on any structures that run parallel to the National Road within the 60 metres and any crossing of the National Road. 	<p>Noted with thanks. Eskom will engage SANRAL at the appropriate time, taking note that Eskom is well aware of SANRAL's requirements.</p>