



P.O. Box 9514 | P.O. Box 11634
Richards Bay, 3900 | Erasmuskloof, 0048
Tel: 035 788 0398 | Tel: 012 743 6202
Fax: 086 614 7327 | Fax: 086 614 7327

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ACER (Africa) Environmental Consultants
Hely Hutchins Street
Mtunzini
3867

Attention: Mr. Keagan Kruger

Dear Sir

RE: VERIFICATION OF THE VALIDITY OF THE SPECIALIST REPORTS FOR THE AUTHORISED CLOCOLAN – FICKSBURG 88KV POWERLINE AND THE PROPOSED MARALANENG SUBSTATION AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE

Following the Basic Assessment process undertaken by ACER during 2012/3, Eskom Holdings SOC Limited (Eskom) received environmental authorisation (EA) to construct a new (second) 88 kV power line and associated infrastructure between the existing Clocolan Substation and the Ficksburg Municipal Substation. The aim of this project was to supply a radial feed which will ensure a secure power supply to customers should one of the power lines experience a fault.

Since receiving the EA, servitude negotiations and new power supply demands made it necessary for Eskom to make the following additions / changes to the proposed development:

Realign certain sections of the proposed new 88 kV power line.

Remove the existing 88 kV power line and relocate it on to the double circuit structures of the proposed new power line.

Construct the 2 x 20 MVA Marallaneng 88/1 kV Substation in order to be able to provide sufficient capacity to transform and distribute the additional power.

The proposed amendments as mentioned above were assessed and applied for in an application to amend the existing EA for the proposed 88 kV power line from Clocolan to Ficksburg. The application to amend the EA to include the above changes only successfully authorised the realignment to the proposed 88 kV power line. The removal of the existing power line and the construction of the proposed Marallaneng Substation were refused, as these would trigger listed activities on their own in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

Eskom is therefore required to follow a separate Basic Assessment process in order to have these essential components of the proposed 88 kV power line authorised.

Exigent was appointed to produce an addendum to the original terrestrial ecology and wetland assessment report; as such we are confident in our knowledge of the study area and the proposed activities. We can therefore conclude that the findings and recommendations made in the original and addendum reports remain valid and will suffice for the purposes of Eskom's current basic assessment process.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if any clarification is required.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jacolette Adam". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Jacolette Adam

Pr. Sci. Nat.

EXIGENT Engineering Consultants CC