

23 February 2015

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Dear Mr Heyns,

### **Wild Aloe Estate and Transmission Lines from the Proposed Isundu Sub-station**

Your email query to Eskom on 13 February 2015 and our telephone discussion on 16 February 2015 have reference.

Between 2009 and 2011, Eskom undertook an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) on the proposed Venus-Sigma-Hector-(Ariadne) (VSHA) 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 falls within this 2 km corridor. However, in this section of the corridor, a specific transmission line route was agreed with the developers of the Kingsthorpe and Mayibuye Estates. This alignment is for the 2 x 400 kV transmission lines to run on the eastern side, parallel, to the existing Geogedale-Mersey 275 kV transmission lines from just north of the Lion Park road through the Mayibuye Estate. The servitude for the two 400 kV transmission lines in this area would be 110 m wide.

The proposed Isundu Sub-station site is on a separate property and is not affected by the Wild Aloe layout. Eskom now plans to take two double circuit 400 kV transmission lines from the sub-station and connect them to the existing Hector-Ariadne 400 kV double-circuit transmission line, approximately 4 km to the south.

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.

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 is only anticipated towards the end of 2015.

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.

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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 Samaria Safaris.

I trust this provides the required clarity in order for Samaria Safari to continue with their planning application.

Please contact me should you require any further information.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Scherzer', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**ACER (Africa) Environmental Consultants**

Paul Scherzer