

ESKOM SOC LTD LWALA PROJECT PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

GA-MASHISHI COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY

11 JUNE 2019

GA-MASHISHI TRIBAL OFFICES AND COMMUNITY HALL,

FARM FOREST HILL 117 KT, LIMPOPO

WARD 15, FETAKGOMO TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

@ 11:00 AM



MEETING ATTENDEES

Refer to **APPENDIX 1**.

ABBREVIATIONS

BAR	Basic Assessment report
DMR	Department mineral resources
EIA	Environmental impact assessment
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
I & AP	Interested and affected parties

INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE OF THE MEETING

Mr. Mashishi (Kgosi) introduced Mr. Thomas Mavunda, from Eskom, and Mr. Marius Alers, representing Acer Africa, to the community and welcomed them to the meeting. Mr. Mashishi then proceeded to allow Mr. Mavunda and Mr. Alers to brief the community on the project background and purpose for the meeting.

Following the introduction, Mr. Mavunda explained that the proposed project is for a powerline and substation that will, mainly, supply the Lwala mine with electricity. Mr. Mavunda explained that Eskom has a policy of compensation for the servitude and that that negotiations will follow in the months to come via the resolution process. Mr. Mavunda then gave a brief overview of the proposed project as well as the public participation process to the community and emphasised that this public participation is separate from the resolution process that is still to follow, with its main focus on the environmental assessment process. Following the briefing of the project overview and the purpose of this public participation, Mr. Mavunda then handed over to Mr. Alers to discuss the environmental process and way forward. A community leader acted as an interpreter and relayed everything Mr. Alers said to the community in their language. Mr. Alers presented an overview of the proposed project, inclusive of the locality of the project and the Environmental Processes to be followed for the development of the powerline and Lwala substation. Mr. Alers explained that the law requires them to engage with the community before the project begins in order to allow the community to provide comments and inputs on the assessments undertaken. He further explained that this interaction is the initial engagement to brief them on the project, to brief them about the studies that is underway and to use this opportunity to allow them to make comments and to also provide them with the information on how to make comments afterwards. Mr. Alers indicated that the studies currently underway is an Archaeological study, a wetland and vegetation study, and an avifauna study. Mr. Alers concluded by saying that the process going forward will be to collate all the specialist studies into a basic assessment report (BAR) and an environmental management plan (EMP). Notification will then be sent to the relevant I & AP when these reports are available, and I & AP will then be allowed to submit comments.

The community were then provided with an opportunity to present any questions or comments that they might have regarding the process.

DISCUSSION SESSION

ISSUES RAISED, AND QUESTIONS ASKED	ANSWERS AND RESPONSES
<p>Mr. Steyn Mamogawane said that the Lwala mine blasting causes cracking to their houses and causes water shortages. Mr. Mamogawane suggested that Eskom and the mines consider constructing a reservoir to supply those community members that has to walk far to collect water.</p>	<p>Mr. Alers responded and reiterated that this project and public participation only relates to the powerline and substation construction and operation work, which will be the responsibility of Eskom. The concerns he raised relates to the mine itself which is currently operated by Samancor. Mr. Alers suggested that the existing channels for communication be used to raise concerns with the mine, and further suggested that where such does not exist that the leaders should engage constructively with the mine to open such communication channels and use the platform to raise these concerns with them directly. Mr. Alers said that these comments can be forwarded to the relevant community engagement officer at Samancor and the other nearby mines and that he can discuss with them to at least note this topic of water supply (reservoir) for inclusion in their next engagements with the Ga-Mashishi community.</p>
<p>A community member asked what Mr. Mavunda means when he says Eskom will not come “empty handed”, as said during his project briefing.</p>	<p>Mr. Mavunda explained that the resolution process comes after the EIA process (BA process in this case). During this process Eskom engages with the community to discuss the associated compensation for the powerline servitude, called the resolution process. Mr. Mavunda explained that how the process work is that Eskom will survey the total surface area that will be occupied as a servitude and then use rates to determine associated compensation that will be paid for the servitude.</p>
<p>Mr. Collen Mashabela asked whether there will be any employment opportunities.</p>	<p>Mr. Mavunda replied that a contractor will be appointed to do the construction and that Eskom usually recommends that their contractors apply a “local employment first” policy and employ locals where possible.</p>
<p>Ms. Magwashane indicated that when such employment is made that Eskom uses the official channels of the community and that such</p>	<p>Noted</p>

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employment happens according to the community processes.	
Mr. Mashishi asked that the assessment reports be made available for review	Mr. Alers replied that it will be made available as this is also a requirement of the public participation process. Mr. Alers said he will contact the tribal office to notify them once the reports are available to the public for review.

CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

Mr. Alers and Mr. Mashishi agreed to stay in contact regarding the release of the draft BAR and EMP, once these are made public.

Mr. Alers and Mr. Mavunda then thanked the Community Representatives for their time as well as the opportunity to discuss the project with them.

Appendix 1:
Attendance register

