

## COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT

**Proposed “KRONOS-PERSEUS” 765kV Transmission Powerline & Substations Upgrades,  
Northern Cape and Free State Provinces  
NEAS Ref: DEA/EIA/0001555/2012  
DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/438**

I&AP	Concerns & Queries	Date	Response from Mokgope / Eskom
<p>AM Griesel &amp; BM Griesel (Loskop Game Farms Pty Ltd)</p>	<p>i) <b>LOSKOP GAME FARMS</b> is a going concern operating on the farm Loskop in the Northern Cape as an ecotourism destination, a game farm breeding exotic species and as a hunting safari lodge. Loskop hosts more than 25 mammal species and are frequently visited for its birdlife which includes white-backed vulture breeding pairs. Apart from ecotourism guests not wanting to see power lines in this savannah vista, the danger that power lines holds for young vultures, are well documented.</p> <p>ii) The flora on the farm also includes the protected Acacia Erioloba (Camel Thorn, Kameeldoring). Clearly a comprehensive environmental impact study would need to be conducted in this sensitive savannah enclave that is totally different to the Kimberley/Karoo habitat.</p> <p>iii) We have free ranging herds of more than 25 mammal species, which include disease free Buffalo, Sable and Roan antelope. With free ranging Cape Buffalo roaming the farm, Loskop Game Farms would unfortunately not be able to guarantee the safety of any construction and maintenance workers on the property. Buffalo breed throughout the year and cannot be fenced in.</p> <p>iv) Sable and especially Roan antelope are endangered species which are very sensitive to disturbance habitat. We have lost some of the new born calves in the past due to disturbances caused by fencing teams and game capturing teams using helicopters flying in the airspace over the farm at a low altitude.</p> <p>The farm Loskop is fenced with a game fence and is licenced for trophy hunting safaris throughout the year by</p>	<p>23-03-13</p>	<p>i) Comments noted.</p> <p>ii) A vegetation impact assessment will be conducted for this project. Thank you for bringing it to our attention.</p> <p>iii) Comments noted.</p> <p>iv) Thank you for the information you have provided to us. All your comments have been noted.</p>

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	foreign and SA hunters. For their own safety, it would not be advisable to have construction or maintenance workers on the same farm, as hunters on safari are tracking, stalking and shooting at the game.		
Marius Meyer	Please register me as an interested and affected party and send me all correspondence. Do you have a detailed map of the proposed line? We have received a map but it does not give details of which farms are directly affected.	05-04-13	You are registered as an Interested and Affected Party. Please send me the name of your farm so I may send you the relevant map.
	It is Portion 1 of the farm Becha no. 1 held under title deed T/A 17276/72. It belongs to SE Du Raan, who is deceased. She was an aunt of the family.	09-04-13	Map has been sent.
Ken Dugmore	i) Ken requested for a clearer map.	08-04-13	i) Please find attached 1:400 000 map portion that shows the farms concerned. We will further discuss routing during the meetings in late May 2013. Eskom stakeholders will be available to discuss concerns regarding the project. I will contact you when I am closer to preparing for public meetings to confirm venues and times. Thank you.
	<p>Thanks Judith, We definitely need to talk, as the 1 line goes straight over my game farm which would cause aesthetic disruption and reduce my marketing ability to the overseas tourist. Further to that the proposed lines all cut through the newest Mokala National Park! This is inconceivable! That Eskom would put a line right through the beauty of our pristine national heritage! I suggest you move the blue line slightly to miss the greater Mokala! I can provide details if you would like me to.</p> <p>Please provide me with the opportunity to oppose the present proposed routes.</p>	09-04-13	In the final stage of the Environmental Impact Assessment Phase, one of the alternative routes will be considered for construction after having considered suggestions from landowners like yourself and having considered recommendations from the various specialists who are yet to conduct studies along the routes. You are welcome and you have the right to oppose the proposed routes.

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	<p>The change to the blue route should be a direct line from Jacobsdal to Belmont and then over the Orange River, as this misses Mokala National Park. The greater Park planned for the future, bigger than present, is bordered by N12, Belmont-Douglas railway line, Douglas-Plooyburg road and Riet River). It would be a tragedy to put overhead lines over this pristine park when there is an easy alternative. Please consider this rerouting at the May meeting.</p> <p>Please send out public meeting dates well in advance so that we can keep these dates open to attend the closest meeting – preferably at Salt Lake.</p>	10-04-13	<p>Your comments have been noted with thanks. I have kept a record, of which the concerns will be brought to Eskom and the Environmental Department's attention. Thank you!</p> <p>The meeting was held at Salt Lake on 30<sup>th</sup> May.</p>
Dr. Adrian Tiplady (SKA)	<p>Thank you for the maps you have provided, and the relevant shape files. We have identified a number of sections along the proposed routes that would result in significant risk to the SKA. I would propose a meeting to discuss. I will be in the UK next week, but suggest the following week.</p> <p>Based on distances to the nearest SKA stations, and the information currently available on the detailed design of the transmission line, the following risks have been identified:</p> <p>Kronos-Perseus 3 and Kronos-Perseus 2 pose a medium</p>	<p>08-04-13</p> <p>10-06-13</p>	<p>With reference to our telephonic discussion earlier: Eskom is planning to construct a new 765kV transmission power line from Juno Substation in the Western Cape all the way to Perseus Substation in the Free State. Please may you confirm which one of the project portions may affect your solar developments? The maps will be sent separately due to large file size. Once you have identified the general area affected, we will narrow it down by sending you 1:50 000 maps that show individual farms traversed by the proposed power line routes. Let us know which farms are affected.</p> <p>Please allow me to add you to our Interested and affected Parties Register, to send you future EIA documents.</p> <p>Thank you for the assessment results. Eskom and Mokgope will arrange for a further discussion with SKA in the early EIA phase. The purpose of the meeting would be to determine how the risk may be mitigated and to discuss a suitable route.</p>

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	risk to the SKA in one 10km section of the line near the Kronos substation. We request further engagement to determine how this risk may be mitigated. Kronos-Perseus 1 poses the highest risk of the three available line route options.		
R Wiid	Telephonic correspondence: Requested for a clearer map.	10-04-13	Map was emailed to: rwiid@rooksein.co.za
Mike Birch	Mike requested to be included in the database.	12-04-13	He is registered.
Gariep	Telephonic correspondence: Requested for a clearer map.	16-04-13	Map has been sent.
Johan Visser	<p>We JA and BJ Visser Trust and Bernean Boerdery BK are being affected by the 765kV transmission from Copperton to Boshof. The green line route will have a direct impact on our Game farming on Farm Grensplaats as we breed scarce Game as well as impact on tourism.</p> <p>We would be please to meet with you to Discuss several matters, if possible at Salt Lake.</p>	22-04-13	<p>Noted...green line traversing Farm Grensplaats.</p> <p>The meeting was held at Salt Lake on 30<sup>th</sup> May.</p>
Deon Joubert (Park Manager: Mokala National park)	Thank you Lerato. Your reply is appreciated. Please find herewith SANParks National Parks kmz file. I will also asked Dr Peter Bradshaw to assist with the specific map for MokalaNP	10-05-13	<p>My name is Lerato and I am the Environmental Advisor on behalf of Eskom for the proposed 765KV power line between Perseus and Kronos substations. I have been informed of your concerns and they will be attended to.</p> <p>In order for us to avoid or minimise the impact that this project could have on Mokala National Park and other pristine areas, could we (Judy, the environmental consultant and I) be forwarded the kmz files of the attached tenure map? We would like to overlay this to our study area and determine how can impacting on these areas be avoided or minimised. We are looking forward to</p>

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	<p>Please be aware of the fact that it is in the Management plan of the park to also expand to the West and South West sections as well as to the East.</p>	13-05-13	<p>work with you all to achieve satisfactory outcomes.</p> <p>Noted with thanks.</p>
<p>Mike Mangnall (Development Manager; Mainstream Renewable Power, South Africa)</p>	<p>The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) dated May 2013 for Eskom’s proposed, above-mentioned 765 kV powerline from Kronos to Perseus substations in the Northern Cape and Free State, has reference.</p> <p>Below please find Mainstream Renewable Power’s (Mainstream) comments regarding the DSR for the proposed project.</p> <p>On 6 September 2012, the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) approved the Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) for the construction of two 75 MW photovoltaic (PV) plant on Platsjambok Farm (DEA No: 12/12/20/2320/5 and 12/12/20/2320/4) and of a 40 MW1 PV plant on Mierdam Farm near Prieska, Northern Cape (DEA Ref. No.:12/12/20/2320/2).</p> <p>Mainstream has legal agreements, for 200 m grid servitudes, with the land owners of the farms Hoekplaas and Klippgats Pan for their proposed PV projects for the construction of 132 kV overhead grid lines to the Kronos substation. Mainstream intends bidding the PV projects into the Department of Energy’s Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer (IPP) Procurement Programme in due course.</p> <p>In light of the above, we request that our approved grid corridors are accommodated in the future project planning</p>	02-07-13	<p>Your request is noted. This EIA has to consider both approved and proposed developments / projects. The shape files of those developments / projects should be forwarded to this application’s EAP for consideration.</p>

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	and design of the proposed 765 kV powerline. More-specifically, the project layouts included in the subsequent Draft EIR for the proposed project should allow for our approved corridors.		
Carolyn Ah Shene-Verdoorn  (BirdLife South Africa)	<p>i) Avifaunal specialist studies for the EIA to include a comparison of the different impacts on raptors and electrical faulting issues of the four alternative structures presented in the DSR. Is there any data yet on any impacts on raptors from the new cross-rope tower design?</p> <p>ii) Avoid ephemeral pans and buffer zones of 100 m around pans (and CBA2, T2 areas) as these are very important in this the arid areas. Effective bird diverters on all lines along sections where they pass by pans, through the ESA corridors and over all perennial and non-perennial rivers and across bird flight paths, as advised by avifaunal specialist.</p> <p>iii) Avifaunal specialist to review monitoring data of large terrestrial bird collisions and electrical faulting on other transmission lines across the Karoo to make new recommendations on mitigation measures that can be taken.</p> <p>iv) If authorisation is given, monitoring of collisions and possible electrical faulting for at least five years should take place to determine the actual impacts of the transmission lines on threatened raptors and large terrestrial bird species, and new mitigating measures developed and implemented to reduce these impacts. This must be included in the EMPr.</p>	02-08-13	<p>i) Comments would be brought to the Avifaunal specialist's attention! Data would be provided in the EIR phase.</p> <p>ii) Noted with thanks. Comments would be brought to the Avifaunal specialist's attention!</p> <p>iii) Noted with thanks. Comments would be brought to the Avifaunal specialist's attention!</p> <p>iv) BirdLife recommendations would be included in the EMPr.</p>

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	<p>v) The pans in the Free State section from east of Kimberley along the N8 towards Perseus often support fairly large numbers of Greater and Lesser flamingos, so these need to be avoided and special consideration given to these species' flight paths between these pans. Effective night bird diverters are required for flamingos as they move between pans/migrate at night.</p> <p>vi) The Orange River and Modder River are CBAs and/or ESAs, with associated flight paths.</p> <p>vii) The present alternative routes as depicted on the Google earth map will pass very close to or through a few of the threatened African White-backed Vulture breeding colonies. They do not breed at many sites. The colonies with a buffer zone must be avoided by the transmission lines. These colonies need to be mapped in the EIA report and serious thought given to the extent of the buffer zones required around these colonies; our initial opinion is that a buffer zone of at least 10-20 km around each colony is required. The avifaunal specialist should get input from vulture experts and advise.</p> <p>viii) The blue and pink alternative routes on the Google Earth image transect the Mokala National Park. This is a no go and should be avoided.</p> <p>ix) There are two Important Bird Areas (IBAs) close to the routes – Benfontein (SA033) and Sandveld&amp;Bloemhof Dam (SA039). These need to be avoided by any route adjustments.</p> <p>x) The blue and pink alternative routes also appear to transect the Magersfontein Battlefield Museum site, which</p>		<p>v) Thank you, this would be brought to the Avifauna specialist's attention.</p> <p>vi) Noted with thanks. The Avifauna specialist is also required to point out CBA and ESAs.</p> <p>vii) This would be brought to the Avifauna specialist's attention and mapped in the EIR.</p> <p>viii) Point taken. Mokala National Park is also part of the I&amp;APs. Thank you.</p> <p>ix) This would be brought to the Avifauna specialist's attention.</p> <p>x) Thank you. They have been included in our I&amp;APs database and this would be brought to the Heritage</p>



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Edwards (Magersfontein Safaris)	Please can you tell me how to go about doing this and who to address the opposition to?		Comments have been noted.  Please provide me with reasons for opposing the proposed power line. One of the three alternative corridors would be chosen as the final route in the EIA phase. Please provide me with the name of your farm property to confirm which alternative corridor crosses your farm.