

SPECIALIST SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENT ON POSSIBLE 385 METRE EXTENSION OF 22 kV TRANSMISSION LINE TO BLOUPUTS SUBSTATION

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Letter requesting comment from specialists



From: Philip Rosenthal [<mailto:mail@philiprosenthal.com>]
Sent: 06 September 2012 04:41 PM
To: mail@philiprosenthal.com
Subject: Please comment if necessary on proposed extended transmission line

Dear Augrabies Specialist team

It is possible that Eskom may require that the proposed Augrabies Solar transmission line tie in at the Blouputs substation instead of into the existing transmission line running alongside the Augrabies Park as in the original proposal.

This would require an additional 22 kV transmission line distance of 385 metres. The new section of transmission line would run

parallel to the existing transmission line running parallel to the fence of the National Park (shown in the attached image and Google Earth placemark). Apart from the extension in length, the description of the transmission line would be the same as in the previous project description.

* As far as I can see on the Google Earth aerial imagery, it does not cross any watercourses.

* I have had verbal confirmation from the Visual and Agricultural specialists that this additional information does not warrant the need to amend their reports or make further comment.

* If you do wish to make further comment based on this project description change, I would prefer if you put it in a separate letter or email to append to your report rather than amend your reports.

* Please could you let me know whether you feel any such further comment is necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Rosenthal

Heritage specialist

From: Jayson Orton [<mailto:jayson.orton@aco-associates.com>]
Sent: 10 September 2012 06:00 PM
To: Philip Rosenthal
Subject: Re: Please comment if necessary on proposed extended transmission line

Hi Philip

Sorry I was away last week and catching up with things. Also got thesis to finish by the end of the weekend! Can't wait for that to be over.

I'd say the extended power line is probably OK, but one can never be sure. The critical aspect is to have someone (the ECO can do this) check for grave sites (the stone mound types) and ensure that none will be impacted by pylon footings. otherwise I think nothing further from my side.

Thanks

Jayson

Aquatic specialist

Subject: RE: Please comment if necessary on proposed extended transmission line

Hi Philip

While the transmission line does appear to cross some drainage lines, it should not present any issues providing the pylons / structures remain outside of the recommended 10m buffers for the drainage lines and that the other recommendations given for the project are also applied to the construction of the transmission line.

Regards
Toni

Antonia Belcher
Aquatic Scientist

EMP Specialist

From: Christine [<mailto:christine@ecosense.co.za>]
Sent: 07 September 2012 09:08 AM
To: 'Philip Rosenthal'
Subject: RE: Please comment if necessary on proposed extended transmission line

Thanks Philip,

This does not materially change my report but I would need to amend the description section on page 2, bullet 2 which currently reads

"Associated infrastructure includes:

- a new 22kv transmission line (wooden pole up to 8.5 m high with three transmission wires) to connect to the existing 22 kv line running across the westerly portion of the farm to the Blouputs substation;

Would I need to allow for both options in the project description?

Kind regards,

Christine Rabie
Green Star SA Accredited Professional

Visual Specialist

From: Albert van derStok [<mailto:al-vis@iburst.co.za>]
Sent: 07 September 2012 08:30 AM
To: Philip Rosenthal

Subject: Re: Please comment if necessary on proposed extended transmission line

Hi Philip,

Just to confirm that I do not think there will be any changes to the ratings in the VIA should the new line be implemented.

Regards,

Albert van der Stok
Visual Impact Assessments

Agricultural specialist

From: Garry Paterson [<mailto:Garry@arc.agric.za>]
Sent: 07 September 2012 07:33 AM
To: Philip Rosenthal
Subject: Re: Please comment if necessary on proposed extended transmission line

Dear Philip,

As far as I can see, it will not be necessary for me to give any further comment.

Regards,

Garry

Garry Paterson (Pr.Sci.Nat.), ARC-Institute for Soil, Climate & Water

Botanical Specialist

From: Dave McDonald - Bergwind [<mailto:dave@bergwind.co.za>]
Sent: 06 September 2012 06:30 PM
To: Philip Rosenthal
Subject: Re: Please comment if necessary on proposed extended transmission line

Hi Philip

The short answer from a botanical perspective is that as long as the new transmission line is parallel with the existing line I reckon there would be very little, if any additional impact. No further comment is necessary from me and I do not need to amend my report..

Best wishes

Dave

Dr D.J. McDonald (Pr. Sci. Nat.)
Botanical Specialist

Paleontological Specialist

From: John Almond [<mailto:naturaviva@universe.co.za>]
Sent: 18 September 2012 10:02 AM
To: 'Philip Rosenthal'
Subject: RE: Please comment if necessary on proposed extended transmission line

Dear Philip,

This is to confirm that the proposed transmission line link between the Augrabies Solar development and the Blouputs substation does not pose any significant threats to local fossil heritage resources.

Regards,

John Almond
Natura Viva cc

Ecological specialist

From: David Hoare [<mailto:dbhoare@iburst.co.za>]
Sent: 25 September 2012 02:50 PM
To: 'Philip Rosenthal'
Subject: RE: Please comment if necessary on proposed extended transmission line

Dear Philip

I apologise for not responding sooner. I have been in the field and have only returned to the office today.

My understanding from your communication is that any issues relate only to the new section of power line, indicated in red in the figure sent to me and approximately 380 m in length.

From Google imagery, the new section of power line does not cross any drainage lines, except at its northern end where it connects to the existing power line. The potential impact of concern is therefore not serious from the point of view of the specialist study that I undertook. I do not foresee that any modification to my report is required. However, if any tower structure are to be placed within this drainage line, then a permit would be required

and any other recommendations in the specialist study should be adhered to.

Regards

Dr David Hoare

David Hoare Consulting cc