

To: SRK Consulting Engineers and Scientists

Date: 18/05/2015

ATTENTION: Manda Hinch

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Reference: **Project Number: 465044**

Objections against the currently planned ESKOM expansion route and location of the Cashan Substation:

In addition to the Open Table meeting held on 30 April at the Hekpoort Community Hall my response is as follows:

AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY I RAISE THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIONS, AND SUPPORT THE PROPOSALS LISTED

During the meeting several of the affected parties raised their grievances and concerns on the location and the routing to the proposed Cashan substation. Based on the concerns it was collectively proposed that the substation be moved to a more appropriate location, and that the route layout be changed to reduce the environmental impacts. In addition the substation should support the local developments in the central Hekpoort area.

Alternative locations for the construction substation were pointed out to SRK and ESKOM that would better meet the requirements and reduce the environmental impact.

The major grievances raised by the affected parties were:

- That the location of the proposed power lines and the substation will have severe visual and environmental impacts on the scenery of Hekpoort. The natural scenery of Hekpoort is currently one of the main attractions for tourism to the area and needs to be protected by all means. It is proposed that the substation and power lines be moved to areas where it will be less visible. Specific locations having a lower visual impact were proposed by the parties and should be considered.
- The proposed routes have a huge footprint as it traverses several properties and passes by the doorsteps of several homesteads. The value of properties will also be negatively affected. The footprint can be reduced significantly by locating the substation on one of the proposed sites, and changes are done to the routing in order to avoid the infringement to households. Existent routings should be followed for the re-routing of lines from the substation into the current network from the substation.
- A need exists for electricity supply to support current and planned developments in the central area of Hekpoort. Oostermoed Beleggings (PTY) LTD is currently working in a close relationship with Mogale City in the development of the Hekpoort area and should be supported and consulted in this regard. The proposed location of the substation is not in close proximity of these projects and should be moved closer in order to support these developments. Oostermoed has offered a site for the location of the substation that would better serve these requirements. The proposed site will



also mitigate the visual impact of the substation and power lines in the area. An alternative option would be to locate the substation at the Vogelzang development as was initially anticipated by ESKOM and Mogale City, having an even lower environmental impact.

- From a farming perspective, several sections of the proposed route crosses agricultural properties. The proposed location of the substation is also located on arable land. This will negatively impact on farming activities. By relocating the substation to one of the proposed sites the impact can be reduced significantly.
- The power lines will also pose a safety threat to certain tourism activities such as hot air ballooning currently performed and being a major tourism attraction in the area. Properties over which the power lines are planned are currently used as launching and landing sites that will be exposed to high voltage electrical related hazards.
- The proposed construction will contribute to the destruction of a current natural habitat for several animals and birds on the route. The proposed routes crosses the Magalies River being a sensitive area that needs to be protected and preserved.

Proposals to address the grievances and mitigate the environmental impacts:

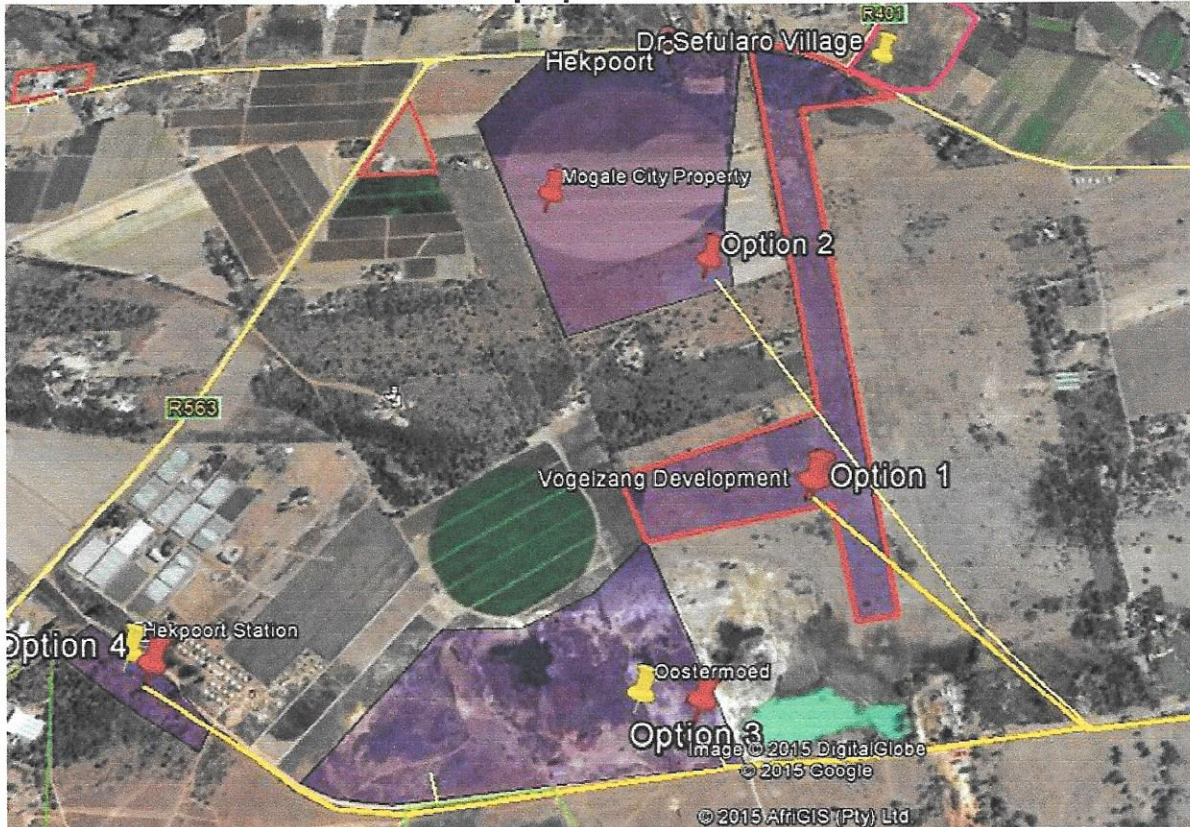
- The affected members were in agreement that the current layouts have several negative impacts that need to be addressed. Mitigation of most of the negative impacts can be done by relocation of the substation to a more suitable site and that route changes be done to reduce the footprint and environmental impacts
- Alternative sites were identified and proposed to reduce the visual impact and reduce the environmental footprint of the planned activity. Properties on these sites are environmentally less sensitive, currently in disuse and less visible / being located out of sight.
- The impact of further expansions should be mitigated by following existent routes and by improvement and strengthening of the existent grid
- Oostermoed Beleggings (PTY) LTD is currently actively involved with developments in the Hekpoort area with the blessing of Mogale City in line with the Hekpoort Spatial / and Long Term Development Plan. These development initiatives need electricity and should be supported.
- Mr. Oosthuizen from Oostermoed has offered assistance in the provision of land on one of their properties for the location of the substation in order to resolve the conflict, reduce impact and better support current developments in the area.



Alternative options for substation location to be considered:

The following alternative locations were identified for location of the substation in order to mitigate the environmental impacts. The options are discussed in more detail below. The proposal is that the substation be located at a suitable location on one of the blue shaded sites areas.

Alternative locations identified and proposed for the Cashan Substation



Option 1 & 2: Locate the substation at Vogelzang as was initially planned (The Preferred Option)

ESKOM and Mogale City initially planned for the construction of the substation on Portion 1 of Vogelzang 429 (**Option 1**) in order to support the Hekpoort Spatial Development Plan.

This option should be re-considered as it was previously anticipated and would well support the Hekpoort Spatial Development Plan and other developments currently planned and in progress in the Hekpoort central area.

From this location power can also be fed into the existing network to follow and support existent routings should eventual expansions be required.

The municipality recently purchased additional land adjacent to the Vogelzang development which could also be suitable for the location of the sub-station should a location on the Vogelzang property not be available (**Option 2**).

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Refer to the abstract from the final scoping report for the Vogelzang Residential Development Plan of Mogale City below, reflecting the need for electricity at the Vogelzang development and in the Hekpoort central development area.

Extract from: Final Scoping Report: RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT HEKPOORT

Ms Priscillia Mogomotsi - Eskom	18-Jul-13	ESKOM together with MCLM are planning a 88kV line and 100 x 100 substation site on the very Portion 1 Vogelzang 429 JQ Hekpoort.
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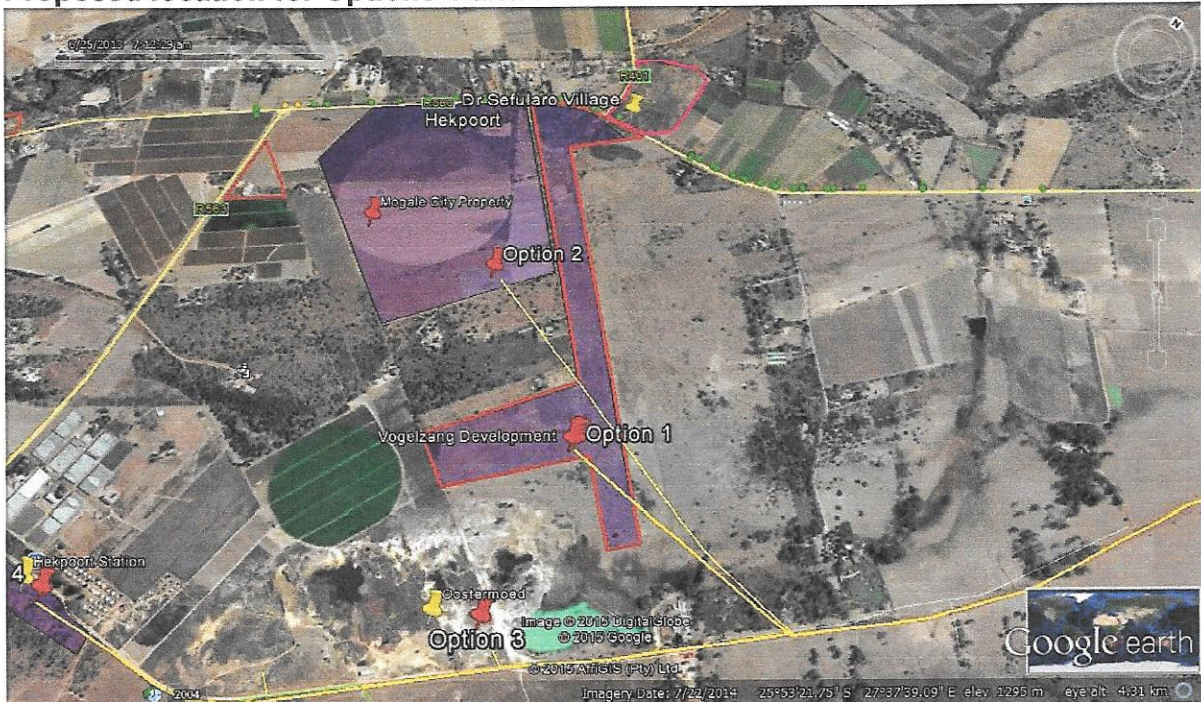
Electricity: Eskom is the electricity provider in the area. There is no electricity available to the project site. Eskom has confirmed that they are currently busy with the planning of a new substation and power lines in order to provide electricity to the area. Environmental consultants (SRK Consulting) were appointed to facilitate the Environmental Impact Assessment Process for the proposed Eskom Cashan-Hekpoort power line and Cashan substation servitude project.

Location of the planned Vogelzang and Dr. Sefularo developments



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Proposed location for Options 1 and 2

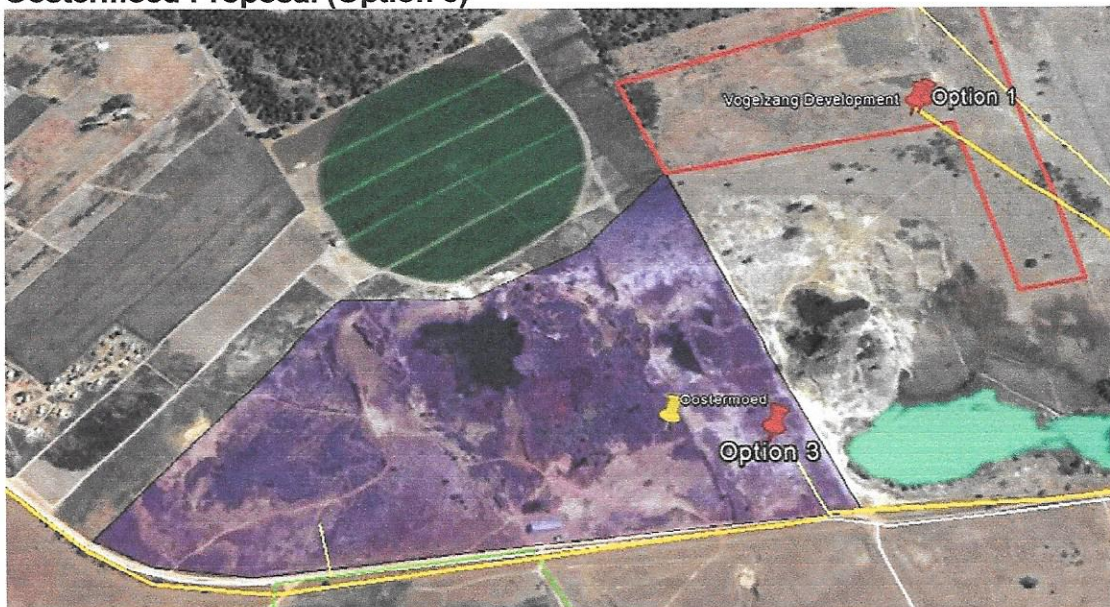


Option 3: Location of the substation at a premise provided by Oostermoed Beleggings (PTY) LTD

The location of the Substation will be on a previously mined-out and disturbed area, currently not in use. The property is crossed by the anticipated power line following the railway line.

The property is ideally suited as it is available, has a low environmental impact and is well located to serve the current developments anticipated in Hekpoort. . The specific location must be confirmed with Mr. Oostuizen

Oostermoed Proposal (Option 3)



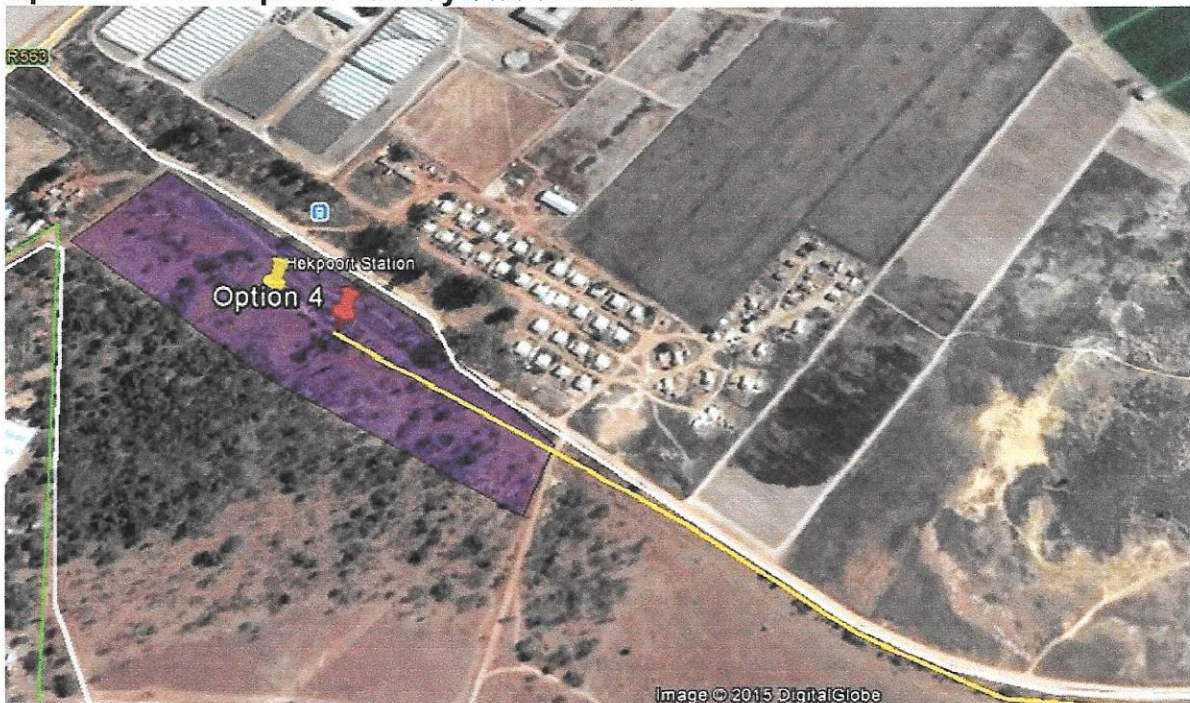
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Option 4: Locate the substation at the old Hekpoort Station Area a

The proposal for Option 4 is to locate the substation on at the old Hekpoort Railway station. This option was proposed by the affected parties as it is out of sight the land is current not in use and vacant. The property currently belongs to Transnet.

The property is well located off the main road and well hidden. The location will also allow the tie in into the existing power grid and serve the local area.

Option 4: Old Hekpoort Railway Station Area



Routing Concerns

The current routing crosses the Andriesse Sand Property and will encroach on their Transportation and excavation operations. Sand and crane trucks currently operate on the site. The anticipated power line will create a safety hazard for these activities. Diversion to the planned power line should be considered in order to sidestep these activities.

The proposed routing indicated in the figure below will be located on already disturbed, properties, will minimize the visual impact and will not interfere with the road running next to the railway line.

If Option 1 or Option 2 is selected there will be no impact on Andriesse Sand. Refer to proposed routing depicted below.

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Alternative routing proposed to avoid impact on Andriesse Sand, road and rail.



In conclusion:

The affected parties are of the opinion the planned location and routing of the power lines will have a major environmental impact on the Hekpoort area from a visual perspective and the other reasons listed.

The proposed location does also not support the need for electricity in the central Hekpoort area as the site is not located in close proximity of the current and planned developments.

The environmental footprint can significantly be reduced by locating of the substation at one of the proposed locations that are tabled. The placement of the substation at one of the proposed locations will reduce the environmental impact as these locations are reasonably well hidden and are located on environmentally insensitive properties currently in disuse.

The proposed locations will also support the local demand for power at the planned development areas.

I hereby demand that that the above options be evaluated and be considered for development in order to mitigate the foreseen environmental impacts and concerns as raised by the affected parties and as is listed above.

Regards
Signature:

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Marianne