



Government Gazette Staatskoerant

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
REPUBLIEK VAN SUID AFRIKA

Vol. 678

7

December
Desember 2021

No. 45605

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ISSN 1682-5845



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GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT**NO. 1572****7 December 2021****NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998
(ACT NO. 107 OF 1998)****CONSULTATION ON THE AMENDMENT OF THE IDENTIFICATION IN TERMS OF SECTION 24(5)(a) AND (b) OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998, OF THE PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED IN APPLYING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR LARGE SCALE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IDENTIFIED IN TERMS OF SECTION 24(2)(a) OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998 WHEN OCCURRING IN GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS OF STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE**

I, Barbara Dallas Creecy, Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment hereby, in terms of section 24(5)(a) and (b) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and regulation 15(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, give notice of the intention to amend the procedures published under Government Notice No. 113 of Government Gazette No. 41445 of 16 February 2018, as set out in the Schedule hereto.

The amendment is necessary as the intention of paragraph 5 of Government Notice No. 113 of Government Gazette No. 41445 of 16 February 2018 was to require a route which has been pre-negotiated with landowners to be submitted as part of the application for environmental authorisation. However, paragraph 5 referred to the activities identified in paragraph 3 of the same Notice, which included only activity 9 of Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 2 of 2014, as amended, which was the correct activity for the streamlining of the assessment process, but not correct in relation to the objectives of paragraph 5. This amendment therefore corrects the omission of activity 11 of Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended, and any other listed and specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, from the requirement to submit a route pre-negotiated with landowners as part of the environmental authorisation application.

Members of the public are invited to submit written comments or inputs to the Minister within 50 days after the publication of this Notice in the *Gazette*, to the following address:

By post to: The Director-General
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Attention: Dr D Fischer
Private Bag X447
PRETORIA
0001

By hand at: Environment House
473 Steve Biko Road
ARCADIA
0083

By e-mail: dfischer@environment.gov.za

Comments or inputs received after the closing date may not be considered.



BARBARA DALLAS CREECY
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

SCHEDULE**Substitution of paragraph 5 of Government Notice No. 113 published in Government Gazette No. 41445 of 16 February 2018**

1. The following paragraph is hereby substituted for paragraph 5:

- "5. For applications for environmental authorisation for large scale electricity transmission and distribution facilities, where such facilities trigger—
- activity 11 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended, and any other listed or specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities; or
 - activity 9 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 2 of 2014, as amended, and any other listed or specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities;

routes that have been pre-negotiated with landowners must be submitted as part of such applications for environmental authorisation."

Transitional arrangements

2. An application for environmental authorisation which is pending when these amendments take effect must be dispensed with as if these amendments have not yet taken effect.

Printed by and obtainable from the Government Printer, Bosman Street, Private Bag X85, Pretoria, 0001
Contact Centre Tel: 012-748 6200. eMail: info.egazette@gpw.gov.za
Publications: Tel: (012) 748 6053, 748 6061, 748 6065