

THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 66KV OVERHEAD POWERLINE FROM THE TRANSHEX SUBSTATION TO THE WORCESTER INDUSTRIAL SUBSTATION ON THE REMAINING EXTENT OF ERF NO. 1, ERVEN 13518, 3519, 13433 AND 5, WORCESTER.

EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT **CLOSURE** REPORT
IN TERMS OF REGULATION 34 OF THE NEMA EIA
REGULATIONS, 2014 (AS AMENDED).

DEA&DP EIA REF. NO. 16/3/3/1/B2/32/1021/23
NEAS REF. NO. WCP/EIA/0001251/2023



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KAPPEC

14 November 2025

DETAILS OF THIS REPORT

Status of this Report	Final Regulation 34 External Compliance Audit Report.
Date Submitted	14 November 2025
Public Review Period	Not Applicable
Report Title	The Construction of a 66kv Overhead Powerline from The Transhex Substation to the Worcester Industrial Substation on the Remaining Extent of Erf No. 1, Erven 13518, 3519, 13433, and 5, Worcester.
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DISCLAIMER

This report has been prepared for the Breede Valley Municipality represented by Mr. Pieter Hartzenburg and is subject to and issued in accordance with the agreement with Kapp Environmental Consultant (Pty) Ltd. (KAPPEC).

The opinions expressed in this report have been based on the information supplied to KAPPEC by the Client and the relevant Environmental Assessment Practitioner. The Author has exercised all due care in reviewing the supplied information, but conclusions from the review are reliant on the accuracy and completeness of the supplied data. KAPPEC does not accept responsibility for any errors or omissions in the supplied information and does not accept any consequential liability arising from commercial decisions or actions resulting from them. KAPPEC accepts no liability or responsibility whatsoever for it in respect of any use of or reliance upon this report by any third party.

Opinions presented in this report apply to the site conditions and features as they existed at the time of the writing of this report, and those reasonably foreseeable.

Copying of this report without the permission of the Client and KAPPEC is not permitted.

LETTER OF UNDERTAKING AND STATEMENT OF INDEPENDENCE

I Renier Kapp, as the appointed independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) hereby declare that I:

- Will perform the work relating to the appointment in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant;
- Other than fair remuneration for work performed/to be performed in terms of this application, have no business, financial, personal or other interest in the activity or application and that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity;
- Work performed for this study was done in an objective manner irrespective of how such findings may be favourable or not to the applicant;
- declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work;
- All facts and findings will be presented in an objective manner in accordance with my professional experience and information derived from the study;
- have expertise in conducting the independent audit, including knowledge of the relevant legislation and any guidelines that have relevance to the development; and
- All particulars furnished in this report are true and correct.



(Renier Kapp)

Signature of the Principle Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Kapp Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd (KAPPEC)

Name of Company

14 November 2025

Date

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	2
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	3
LISTED ACTIVITIES	4
CONDITIONS OF AUTHORISATION.....	11
SITE AUDIT FINDINGS	17
CONCLUSION	38
ANNEXURE A – SITE PHOTOGRAPHS.....	39

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE 1: SITE LAYOUT PLAN	8
FIGURE 2: PYLON FOOTING STRUCTURE.....	9
FIGURE 3: ZONES OF REGULATION IN TERMS OF NEMA AND GN509 AS IT RELATES TO THE NWA	10

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE 1: COMPLIANCE RATING	2
TABLE 2: ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION CONDITIONS AND COMPLIANCE	11
TABLE 3: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN COMPLIANCE	19

ABBREVIATIONS

MMP	Maintenance Management Plan
DEFF	Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries
DWS	Department of Water Affairs and Sanitation
EA	Environmental Authorization
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
ECO	Environmental Control Officer
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMP	Environmental Management Programme
DEO	Designated Environmental Officer
KAPPEC	Kapp Environmental Consultants
I&AP	Interested and Affected Parties
RE	Resident Engineer

APPENDICES

Appendix A:	Site Photographs
Appendix B:	Site Development Plan
Appendix C:	Copy of EA
Appendix D:	Copy of EMPr
Appendix E:	Commencement Notification and I&AP Database
Appendix F:	ECO reports
Appendix G:	Method Statements

INTRODUCTION

Kapp Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd. (KAPPEC) has been appointed on behalf of the Breede Valley Municipality (the Applicant) as the independent environmental practitioners to undertake the final closure external compliance audit in fulfilment of Condition 15 of the Environmental Authorization (the EA) and Regulation 34 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

An Environmental Authorisation (EA) was granted to the Breede Valley Municipality on August 10, 2023 (DEA&DP EIA Ref: 16/3/3/1/B2/32/1021/23) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 Of 1998) and The Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

This purpose of this external audit, conducted in alignment with the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), is to increase the contractor's compliance rating in terms of the approved Environmental Authorization and the EMP. The body of this report will incorporate the auditable conditions and requirements contained in both the EA and the EMP. The conditions of the EA have been summarized in the report including its corresponding level of compliance with each condition.

The methodology followed for conducting the environmental audit included:

- Compilation of background information for site visit
- Site Visit (2 November 2025)
- Documentation audit
- Compilation of environmental audit report
- Submission of environmental audit report (14 November 2025)

The items have been included in table format and compliance will be indicated based on assigned color significance as per Table 1 below:

TABLE 1: COMPLIANCE RATING

Colour	Compliance Rating Significance
GREY	A grey item indicates that a compliance rating is not relevant. Item is listed for awareness although will not/cannot be rated.
GREEN	An item is marked green to indicate complete compliance in line with the EMP.
YELLOW	An item is marked yellow to indicate sufficient compliance although possibly not as prescribed in the EMP.
ORANGE	An item is marked orange to indicate a non-compliance although the resulting impact is not deemed significant.
RED	An item is marked red to indicate a significant or ongoing non-compliance which needs to be addressed as per the EAP instruction.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project involves the construction of a 66kV overhead powerline extending approximately 3 kilometres from the Transhex Substation to the Worcester Industrial Substation. This new powerline will be supported by 23 pylon footing structures, strategically positioned along the alignment to minimize environmental impact. The vertical heights of these pylons will vary from 18 meters to 29 meters, with the tallest structure measuring 28.60 meters. The overall development footprint for the pylon structures will cover an area of about 931.5 square meters.

Project Alignment and Technical Aspects

- Total Length: Approximately 3 kilometers.
- Pylon Structures: 23 in total, with 6 located within the substation boundaries and 17 along the powerline route.
- Pylon Footing Dimensions: Each pylon footing will have a footprint ranging between 9.6m² and 40.5m², with a total development footprint of up to 931.5m².
- Pylon Height: Structures will vary in height from 18m to 29m.

The powerline route will originate at the Worcester Industrial Substation on Erf 13518, running east-southeast for 500 meters before turning southwest and aligning alongside the western bank of the Hex River for approximately 1.5 kilometers. It will traverse the Hex River in a southeasterly direction, crossing the R60 and a railway line, before following the river's eastern bank for 650 meters to connect at the Transhex Substation.

Environmental and Technical Considerations

The pylons will be situated both within and near watercourses, including within 32 meters of the Hex River's delineated extent and below the 1:100-year flood lines. The overhead powerline will also pass through and near aquatic Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs), as well as braided channels and Environmental Drainage Lines (EDLs).

Given Worcester's rapid urban growth and the increasing demand for electricity, this infrastructure development is essential to expand the town's electrical service capacity. However, specialist studies have been conducted to assess and mitigate environmental impacts, particularly on botanical and freshwater ecosystems. Mitigation measures have been outlined to ensure that the project adheres to sustainable environmental practices and limits irreversible impacts on the natural surroundings.

The construction of the 66kV overhead powerline is crucial for meeting Worcester's rising electricity needs and ensuring adequate service delivery. The relatively small physical footprint of the pylon structures, combined with careful planning and environmental management, is expected to minimize disturbance to the Hex River and adjacent sensitive areas.

LISTED ACTIVITIES

The Amended EA subsequently authorised the applicant to undertake the underneath **listed activities**:

Listing Notice 1 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended):

Activity 11:

Activity Description:

The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity -

- (i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts; or
- (ii) inside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of 275 kilovolts or more;

excluding the development of bypass infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity where such bypass infrastructure is -

- (a) temporarily required to allow for maintenance of existing infrastructure;
- (b) 2 kilometres or shorter in length;
- (c) within an existing transmission line servitude; and
- (d) will be removed within 18 months of the commencement of development.

The powerline will have a capacity of 66 kilovolts.

Activity 12:

Activity Description:

The development of—

- (i) dams or weirs, where the dam or weir, including infrastructure and water surface area, exceeds 100 square metres; or
- (ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more;

where such development occurs -

- (a) within a watercourse;
- (b) in front of a development setback; or
- (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse; —

Excluding -

- (aa) the development of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour;
- (bb) where such development activities are related to the development of a port or harbour, in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies;
- (cc) activities listed in activity 14 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 or activity 14 in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, in which case that activity applies;
- (dd) where such development occurs within an urban area;

(ee) where such development occurs within existing roads, road reserves or railway lines; or
(ff) the development of temporary infrastructure or structures where such infrastructure or structures will be removed within 6 weeks of the commencement of development and where indigenous vegetation will not be cleared.

The footprint of the pylon footing exceeds 100m² in extent, within 32m of watercourse.

Activity 19:

Activity Description:

The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock or more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse;

but excluding where such infilling, depositing, dredging, excavation, removal or moving-

- (a) Will occur behind a development setback;
- (b) Is for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan;
- (c) Falls within the ambit of activity 21 in this Notice, in which case that activity applies.
- (d) Occurs within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour; or
- (e) Where such development is related to the development of a port or harbor, in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies.

The pylons to be located within a watercourse will result in the excavation and moving of more than 10 cubic metres of sand/soil/rock within a watercourse.

Listing Notice 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended):

Activity 12:

Activity Description:

The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.

(i) Western Cape:

i. Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004;

More than 300m² of endangered vegetation will be cleared.

REGULATION 34 EXTERNAL AUDIT REQUIREMENTS

This section will attempt to detail the content requirements to be included as part of a Regulation 34 Audit Report as outlined in terms of Appendix 7 of Regulation 982 of the 2014 EIA Regulations.

Environmental audit report

The environmental audit report must provide recommendations regarding the need to amend the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan.

Objective of the environmental audit report

The objective of the environmental audit report is to

- a) report on –
 - i. the level of compliance with the conditions of the environmental authorisation and the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan; and
 - ii. the extent to which the avoidance, management and mitigation measure provided for in the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan achieve the objectives and outcomes of the EMPr, and closure plan;
- b) identify and assess any new impacts and risks as a result of undertaking the activity;
- c) evaluate the effectiveness of the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan; and
- d) identify shortcomings in the EMPr, and where applicable the closure plan, and
- e) identify the need for any changes to the avoidance, management and mitigation measures provided for in the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan.

Content of environmental audit reports

(1) An environmental audit report prepared in terms of these Regulations must contain –

- a) details of the –
 - i. independent person who prepared the environmental audit report; and
 - ii. expertise of the independent person that compiled the environmental audit report;
- b) a declaration that the independent auditor is independent in a for as may be specified by the competent authority;
- c) an indication of the scope of, and purpose for which, the environmental audit report was prepared;
- d) a description of the methodology adopted in preparing the environmental audit report;
- e) an indication of the ability of the EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan to –
 - i. sufficiently provide for the avoidance, management and mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity on an on-going basis;
 - ii. sufficiently provide for the avoidance, management and mitigation of environmental

impacts associated with the closure of the facility; and

- iii. ensure compliance with the provisions of environmental authorisation, EMPr, and where applicable, the closure plan;
- f) a description of any assumptions made, and any uncertainties or gaps in knowledge;
- g) a description of any consultation process that was undertaken during the course of carrying out the environmental audit report;
- h) a summary and copies of any comments that were received during any consultation process; and
- i) any other information requested by the competent authority.

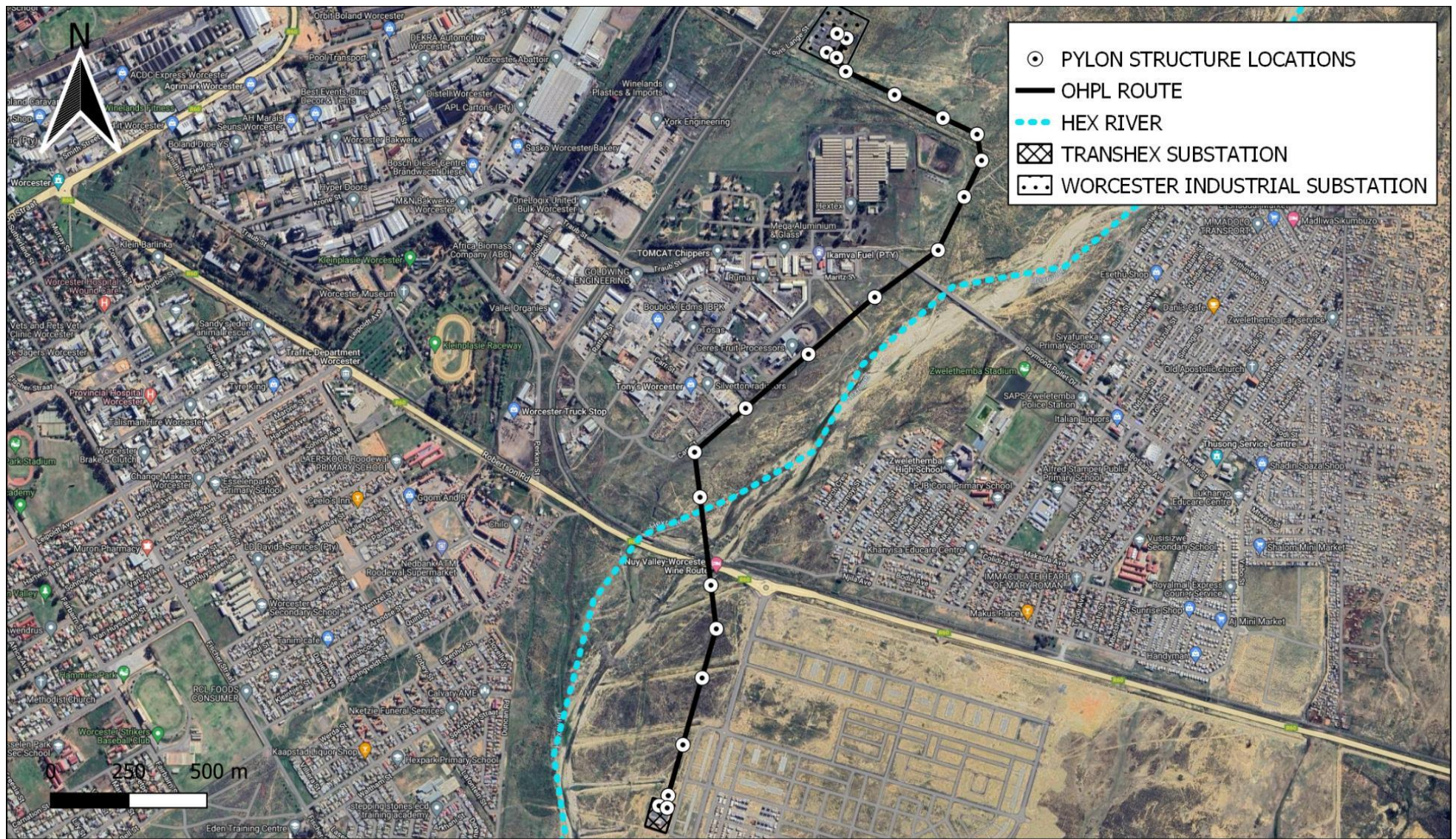


FIGURE 1: SITE LAYOUT PLAN

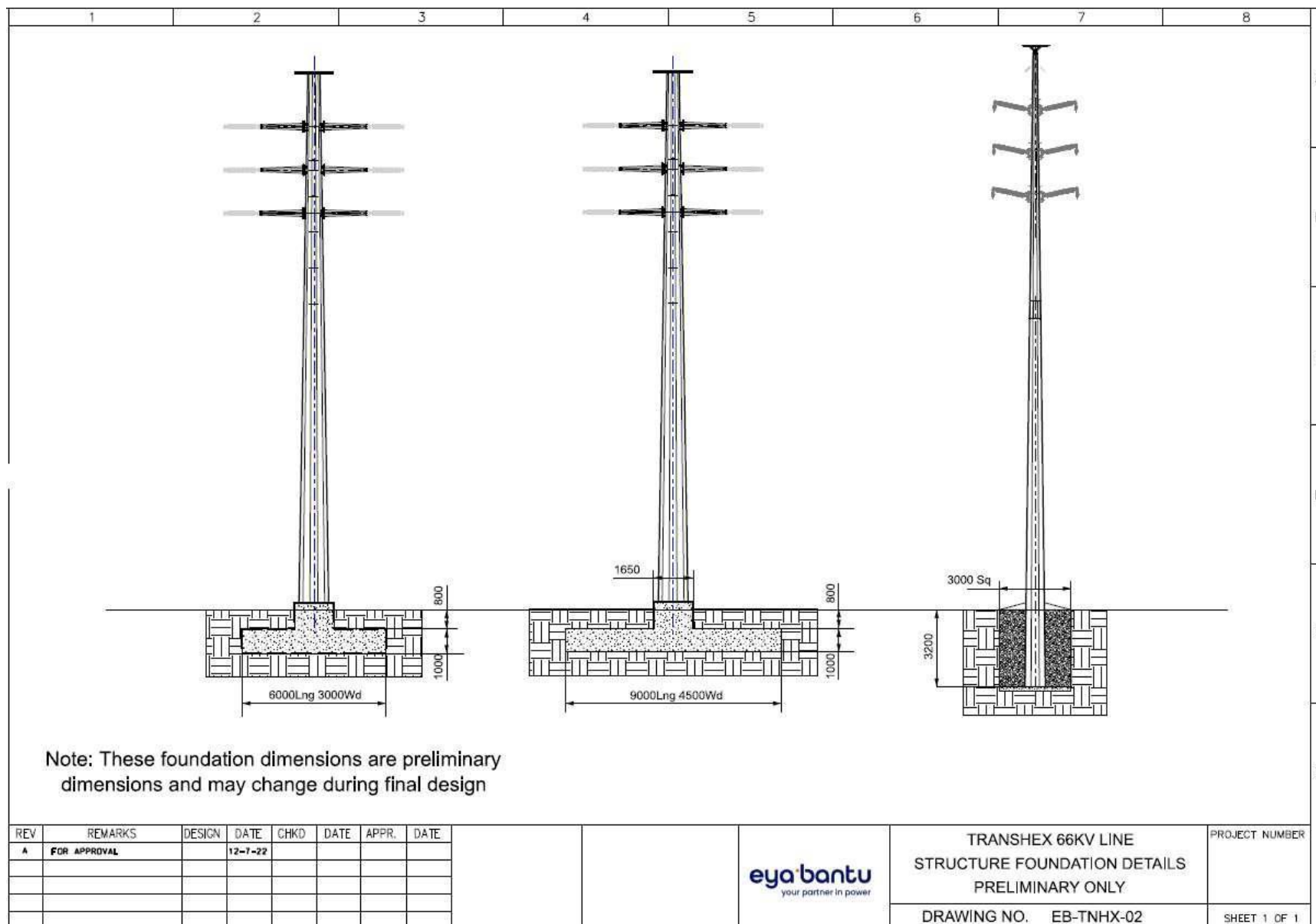


FIGURE 2: PYLON FOOTING STRUCTURE

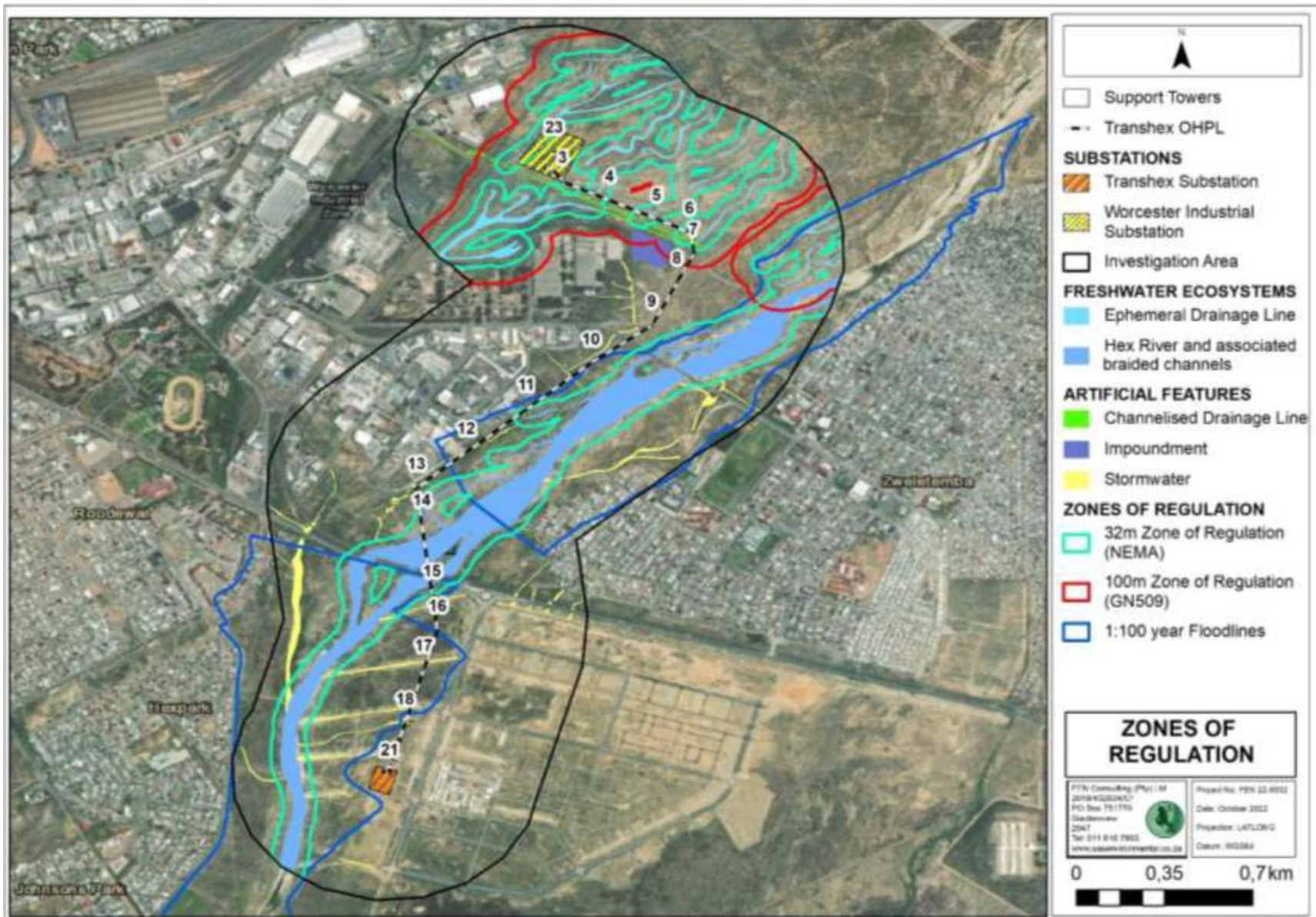


FIGURE 3: ZONES OF REGULATION IN TERMS OF NEMA AND GN509 AS IT RELATES TO THE NWA

CONDITIONS OF AUTHORISATION

TABLE 2: ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION CONDITIONS AND COMPLIANCE

No.	EA CONDITIONS	COMPLIANCE FINDING
1.	Scope of authorisation The holder is authorised to undertake the listed activities specified in Section B above in accordance with and restricted to the Preferred Layout 1 described in the BAR dated 2 June 2023 on the site as described in Section C above.	The preferred alternative, as authorised, has been implemented on-site.
2.	The holder must commence with the listed activities on the site within a period of five years from the date issue of this Environmental Authorisation.	A letter notifying the department of the intended commencement of activities was submitted on 10 June 2024. The holder commenced construction in July 2024, and the EA was granted on the 10 th of August 2023, thus within 5 years. Please refer to Appendix E for proof.
3.	The development must be concluded within ten years from the date of commencement of the listed activities.	Construction was completed in October 2025, two years after the EA was granted and within one year of commencement.
4.	The holder shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions by any person acting on his/her behalf, including an agent, sub-contractor, employee or any person rendering a service to the holder.	Noted, the holder held all responsibility for the actions undertaken by anyone on site, and no transgressions were reported.
5.	Any changes to, or deviations from the scope of the alternative described in section B above must be accepted or approved, in writing, by the Competent Authority before such changes or deviations may be implemented. In assessing whether to grant such acceptance/approval or not, the Competent Authority may request information in order to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations, and it may be necessary for the holder to	Noted. No changes or deviations from the scope of the project description have occurred since the EA was obtained/approved.

	apply for further authorisation in terms of the applicable legislation.	
6.	Written notice to the Competent Authority Seven calendar days' notice, in writing, must be given to the Competent Authority before commencement of construction activities. 6.1 The notice must make clear reference to the site details and EIA Reference number given above. 6.2 The notice must also include proof of compliance with the following conditions described herein: Conditions: 7, 8, 12 and 18.	A notification of commencement was sent to DEA&DP on the 10th of June 2024 and made clear reference to the site details and EIA Reference; it also included proof/comments of compliance with conditions 7, 8, 12, and 18. Condition 7: The I&AP Notification letter after the approval of the EA was sent on the 14th of August 2023 (4 days after the EA was granted). All the required information was provided as stipulated in this condition. Condition 8: The activities will commence outside the 20-day appeal period. The EA was granted on the 10th of August 2023, and commencement is proposed 11 months later. Condition 12: Guillaume Nel Environmental Consultants (GNEC) has been appointed as the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) to conduct monthly audits on environmental compliance and will subsequently submit monthly reports. Condition 18: Proof of the demarcation of the construction activities that has been demarcated will be submitted within the first ECO report submitted to the Department. Please refer to proof included as Appendix E to this report.
7.	Notification and administration of appeal The holder must in writing, within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this decision – 7.1 notify all registered Interested and Affected Parties ("I&APs") of – 7.1.1 the outcome of the application;	The I&AP Notification letter was sent on the 14th of August 2023 (4 days after the EA was granted). All of the required information was provided as stipulated in this condition. Please refer to the proof included as Appendix E to

	7.1.2 the reasons for the decision as included in Annexure 3; 7.1.3 the date of the decision; and 7.1.4 the date when the decision was issued. 7.2 draw the attention of all registered I&APs to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against the decision in terms of the National Appeals Regulations, 2014 detailed in Section F below; 7.3 draw the attention of all registered I&APs to the manner in which they may access the decision; 7.4 provide the registered I&APs with: 7.4.1 the name of the holder (entity) of this Environmental Authorisation, 7.4.2 name of the responsible person for this Environmental Authorisation, 7.4.3 postal address of the holder, 7.4.4 telephonic and fax details of the holder, 7.4.5 e-mail address, if any, of the holder, 7.4.6 the contact details (postal and/or physical address, contact number, facsimile and e-mail address) of the decision-maker and all registered I&APs in the event that an appeal is lodged in terms of the 2014 National Appeals Regulations.	this report. No appeals were lodged against the EA.
8.	The listed activities, including site preparation, may not commence within 20 (twenty) calendar days from the date of issue of this Environmental Authorisation. In the event that an appeal is lodged with the Appeal Authority, the effect of this Environmental Authorisation is suspended until the appeal is decided.	The holder commenced with the approved listed activities in July 2024, almost 10 months after the letter notifying the registered I&APs of this decision was sent. (The I&APs were notified on the 14th of August 2023, and the letter of commencement for site preparation was sent on the 10th of June 2024.) Please refer to proof included as Appendix E to this report.
9.	Management of activity The draft or Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr")	According to the supplied ECO reports, the contractor has

	submitted as part of the application for Environmental Authorisation is hereby approved and must be implemented.	successfully implemented the EMPr on-site, and the contractor had a copy of the approved EMPr at the site camp during the installation of the pylons.
10.	The MMP adopted as part of this Environmental Authorisation must be implemented.	According to the supplied ECO reports, the contractor has implemented the MMP on-site during the installation of the pylons.
11.	The EMPr and MMP must be included in all contract documentation for all phases of implementation.	The EMPr and MMP was included in the tender documentation as per the ECO reports.
12.	Monitoring The holder must appoint a suitably experienced environmental control officer ("ECO"), or site agent where appropriate, before commencement of construction activities to ensure compliance with the provisions of the EMPr and the conditions contained herein. The ECO must conduct site visits and must submit ECO reports on a monthly basis to the competent authority.	Nica Kotze from Guillaume Nel Environmental Consultants was appointed as ECO on the site and submitted monthly reports to DEA&DP.
13.	A copy of the Environmental Authorisation, EMPr, MMP, audit reports and compliance monitoring reports must be kept at the site of the authorised activities, and must be made available to anyone on request, including a publicly accessible website.	The ECO requested that an Environmental file be placed at the contractor's camp with hard copies of this documentation in 2024. The 2025 monitoring reports stipulated that this was complied with.
14.	Access to the site referred to in Section C above must be granted, and the environmental reports mentioned above must be produced, to any authorised official representing the Competent Authority who requests to see it for the purposes of assessing and/or monitoring compliance with the conditions contained herein.	Access to the site referred to in Section C was available.
15.	Auditing In terms of Regulation 34 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, the holder must conduct environmental audits to determine compliance with the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation, the EMPr and	Kapp Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd. (KAPPEC) has been appointed on behalf of Breede Valley Municipality (the Applicant) as the independent environmental practitioners to undertake the

	the MMP. The Environmental Audit Report must be prepared by an independent person (other than the appointed Environmental Assessment Practitioner or Environmental Control Officer) and must contain all the information required in Appendix 7 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014. The Audit Reports must be compiled and subsequently submitted to the Department in the following manner: • The holder must undertake an environmental audit and submit an Environmental Audit Report to the competent authority within 3 (three) months of commencement of construction; and • A final Environmental Audit Report must be submitted within 3 (three) months of completion of the proposed development. The holder must, within 7 days of the submission of each of the above-mentioned reports to the Competent Authority, notify all potential and registered I&APs of the submission and make the report available to anyone on request and on a publicly accessible website (if applicable).	required final closure audit in fulfilment of Condition 15 of the Environmental Authorization (the EA) and Regulation 34 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). The site visit for the first audit was conducted on the 6th of November 2024. The final closure audit was conducted on the 2nd of November 2025. Construction concluded in October 2025. The I&AP's will be notified within 7 calendar days after the submission of the audit reports to the Competent Authority.
16.	Special Conditions Should any heritage remains be exposed during excavations or any other actions on the site, these must immediately be reported to the Provincial Heritage Resources Authority of the Western Cape, Heritage Western Cape. Heritage remains uncovered or disturbed during earthworks must not be further disturbed until the necessary approval has been obtained from Heritage Western Cape. Heritage remains include: meteorites, archaeological and/or palaeontological remains (including fossil shells and trace fossils); coins; indigenous and/or colonial ceramics; any articles of value or	No heritage remains were discovered throughout the project timeline.

	antiquity; marine shell heaps; stone artifacts and bone remains; structures and other built features with heritage significance; rock art and rock engravings; and/or graves or unmarked human burials including grave goods and/or associated burial material.	
17.	A qualified archaeologist and/or palaeontologist must be contracted where necessary (at the expense of the holder) to remove any heritage remains. Heritage remains can only be disturbed by a suitably qualified heritage specialist working under a directive from the relevant heritage resources authority.	N/A. No heritage remains were discovered throughout the project timeline.
18.	The development areas must be clearly demarcated prior to the commencement of construction activities. All areas outside the demarcated areas must be regarded as “no-go” areas.	The construction footprint had not been demarcated prior to commencement. According to the ECO reports, demarcation of the pylon footprints had been requested, but not complied with.

SITE AUDIT FINDINGS

A final external environmental audit was conducted on the 2nd of November 2025 to assess the completed construction works associated with the 66kV overhead powerline between the Transhex Substation and the Worcester Industrial Substation. The audit was undertaken in accordance with Condition 15 of the Environmental Authorisation. The audit included a detailed walkthrough of the 3 km alignment, with observations made of the reinstated pylon footing sites, the general condition of the surrounding environment, and the reinstatement of the former contractor's site camp.

At the time of this final audit, construction and installation of the powerline infrastructure had been completed in full. The final powerline consists of 23 steel pylon structures, six of which are positioned within the substation boundaries and seventeen along the route alignment. Each pylon footing was completed and backfilled as per design, with the reinstated excavated areas observed to be stable, free of erosion, and well compacted. The contractor previously noted that limited topsoil was unearthed during excavations due to the rocky substrate, and available topsoil and finer material were replaced as the upper layer during backfilling. The reinstated areas now show good surface stability, and no erosion or sediment runoff was observed at any of the pylon footing locations.

Minor cement splashes and residues identified during the earlier audit have since been fully removed. No evidence of cement waste or batching residues was observed during the closure audit. Similarly, all construction-related debris and excess materials have been cleared from the powerline route. The former contractor's site camp, previously located at the Worcester Industrial Substation, has been fully dismantled. The camp area was clean, free of construction waste or materials, and adequately reinstated. Both the Worcester Industrial and Transhex Substations were locked at the time of the audit, with no access permitted inside the substation boundaries; however, visual inspection through the perimeter fencing confirmed that no waste or debris remained within these areas.

The Hex River, which the alignment traverses in its central section, remains in good condition. No signs of sedimentation, erosion, or turbidity associated with the construction activities were observed along the banks or within the channel. Vegetation within the adjacent riparian area appears undisturbed, and no evidence of concrete residue or spoil material was noted near the river crossing.

Throughout the route, no litter or construction waste was observed, apart from scattered domestic refuse linked to illegal dumping activities by neighbouring individuals in areas previously identified as disturbed. These occurrences are unrelated to the project's activities but were noted for completeness. All project-related waste, including packaging and construction materials, has been removed from the site.

Dust generation, which was monitored during active construction, is no longer a concern, and the surrounding area shows no signs of dust deposition. Access tracks used for the installation of pylons

have been naturally stabilised, with no visible soil displacement or rutting.

However, two outstanding corrective actions must still be addressed by the contractor before the site can be fully closed out:

- **Exposed steel wires** were observed immediately north of the completed Pylon 17. These must be either closed off or removed entirely to prevent potential injury or environmental hazard.
- **The installation of the anti-collision devices (bird flappers)** where the proposed powerline transverses the Hex River and 30m either side of the river. These must be Eskom-approved anti-collision devices that are durable as the area is prone to strong winds. Anti-collision devices must be installed as soon as the wires are strung. The devices must be installed 5m apart and alternate between a light and dark colour in order to increase the visibility of the earth wires

In summary, all construction and reinstatement activities for the 66kV overhead powerline have been satisfactorily completed with the exception of the two outstanding corrective actions listed above. The powerline route, pylon footing areas, and former site camp show no other environmental non-conformances. The Hex River and adjacent environments remain stable and undisturbed. Once the above corrective items are addressed, the site may be considered environmentally closed-out, with no residual impacts attributable to the construction phase.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN COMPLIANCE

TABLE 3: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN COMPLIANCE

No.	EMP REQUIREMENT	COMPLIANCE FINDING
1.	Site Demarcation and No-Go/Sensitive Areas	
1.1	The surveys for the overall project area and construction footprint as approved in the Environmental Authorisation (EA) must be clearly demarcated before the contractors set up their crew camps or begin construction.	Construction commenced in July 2024. The construction footprint had not been demarcated with droppers prior to commencement. According to the ECO reports, the demarcation of the pylon development footprint has been requested but not complied with.
1.2	Stockpiled topsoil should be demarcated with danger tape and seen as no-go areas.	Construction of the pylons and backfilling is now complete. No topsoil stockpiles remain on site.
1.3	These No-go areas must be demarcated with fencing/warning tape and signs before any construction activities commence. The EO and ECO must be on site in order to make sure the correct areas are fully demarcated.	Construction of the pylons and backfilling is now complete. No demarcations are necessary.
1.4	All construction activities must remain within the boundaries of the development area, as demarcated at the start of the construction phase. There must be no vehicular access to the drainage lines outside the development area thus reducing the infringement of the development on natural habitat.	All construction activities remained within the boundaries of the development footprint during construction. The condition of the riparian and bordering natural habitat has remained the same with no infringement into these areas.
1.5	The construction footprint must be kept to a minimum by constructing boundaries and demarcated areas not to be disturbed.	The construction footprint has remained within the designated development footprint areas; however, these were not demarcated prior to the commencement of construction activities.
1.6	The reaches of the freshwater ecosystems where no OHPL activities are planned must be considered no-go areas.	The condition of the riparian and bordering natural habitat has remained the same with no infringement into these areas.
2.	Flora	
2.1	Locally indigenous plants must be used in the landscaping of the	No landscaping was necessary; natural regrowth of indigenous

	site.	vegetation is occurring successfully.
2.2	Plants that are proclaimed as problem plants or noxious weeds must be excluded from the landscaping plan and these must be removed immediately, should they occur on site.	No invasive or declared weed species were observed during the final audit.
2.3	No plants/trees may be destroyed prior to notify the ECO about the plan. The ECO is to approve all plants to be removed.	No plants or trees were required to be removed.
2.4	The contractor must rehabilitate the construction camp and any other disturbed areas once construction activities have terminated. Compacted areas will be ripped and mulched in order to ensure recovery of the natural vegetation cover.	The contractor's site camp and disturbed areas were rehabilitated post-construction; compacted areas were loosened to aid natural vegetation recovery, and topsoil was spread over the works areas.
2.5	Once construction is complete, rehabilitation of un-built areas must be undertaken in order to restore the aesthetic & ecological value of the area. It is recommended that a qualified landscape architect, qualified botanist, aquatic specialist and the ECO be consulted with regard to the most appropriate rehabilitation of vegetation and structures, where agricultural land uses are not proposed. Active re-vegetation must take place with locally indigenous vegetation under the supervision of the ECO.	No landscaping was necessary; natural regrowth of indigenous vegetation is occurring successfully. <i>According to the ECO "The ECO which is also a Rehabilitation Specialist is of the opinion that sufficient topsoil management has been done on site and there is no additional need for rehabilitation. The contractor should be on the lookout for any weeds or aliens coming up in the development areas but only indigenous vegetation was seen growing back on site."</i>
2.6	No open fires shall be allowed on site under any circumstances, fires will only be permitted in adequate facility within the crew camp, Forest Act, 1984 (Act No. 122 of 1984).	No evidence of fires was observed during the site audit.
2.7	The bulbs in the sensitive area may not be removed and must be rehabilitated post-construction.	Sensitive bulb areas remained undisturbed.
3.	Stockpiles	
3.1	All stockpiled material must be easily accessible on site without any environmental damage of the surrounding properties.	All stockpiled materials have been removed.
3.2	All temporarily stockpiled material must be stockpiled in such a way	Stockpiles were managed appropriately during construction; no

	that the spread of materials is minimised. In the case of strong wind and/or rain all stockpiled material must be covered with a tarpaulin in order to prevent erosion. All exposed soils must be protected for the duration of the construction phase with a suitable geotextile (e.g. Geojute or hessian sheeting) in order to prevent erosion and sedimentation of the watercourses in close proximity to these stockpiles.	erosion evident.
3.3	The stockpiles may only be placed within the demarcated areas, outside of delineated watercourses, the location of which must be approved by the RE, EO or ECO.	All previous stockpile areas were located within demarcated zones; no placement within watercourses occurred.
3.4	Stockpiles may not exceed 2 metres in height and their footprint should be kept to a minimum.	Stockpiles complied with height limits during construction.
3.5	Stockpiling of removed materials may only be temporary and should be disposed of at a registered waste disposal facility.	All temporary materials were disposed of at licensed facilities; compliance confirmed.
3.6	Soils from different horizons must be stockpiled such that topsoil stockpiles do not get contaminated by sub-soil material.	Topsoil layers were stored separately to prevent contamination during works.
3.7	Stockpiles are to be stabilised if signs of erosion are visible.	No erosion was observed.
3.8	Topsoil stockpiles must be monitored for invasive exotic vegetation growth. Contractors must remediate.	No topsoil stockpiles were observed on site during the audit.
3.9	No plant, workforce or any construction related activities may be allowed onto the topsoil stockpiles.	No topsoil stockpiles were observed on site during the audit.
3.10	No stockpiles or construction of any hard infrastructure may occur near watercourses.	No stockpiles or any disturbances were observed within the drainage lines or watercourse.
4.	Topsoil Management	
4.1	All topsoil must be removed prior to the commencement of any development activities. Topsoil must be stockpiled. Stockpiled topsoil must be regarded as no-go areas.	Topsoil was stripped, stored, and reinstated post-construction.

4.2	Stockpiled topsoil must be monitored for invasive exotic vegetation growth. Contractors must remediate as and when required in consultation with the EO, RE and ECO.	No invasive vegetation observed on replaced topsoil.
4.3	No plant, workforce or any construction related activities may be allowed onto the windrowed topsoil.	No topsoil stockpiles were observed on site during the audit.
4.4	All topsoil must be replaced during the rehabilitation phase to ensure the re-establishment of natural vegetation.	The contractor noted that the topsoil was replaced on top of the backfilled material.
4.5	Handling of the topsoil should be minimised and should therefore only be handled before construction (to be windrowed) and after construction (topsoil to be replaced).	No topsoil stockpiles were observed on site during the audit.
5.	Oil and Chemicals	
5.1	These substances must be confined to specific and secured areas within the contractor's camp, and in a way that does not pose a danger of pollution even during times of high rainfall.	No fuel bowsers or storage tanks were observed during the audit.
5.2	Drip trays (minimum of 10cm deep) must be placed under all machinery and vehicles. The surface area of the drip trays will be dependent on the vehicle and must be large enough to catch any hydrocarbons that may leak from the vehicle while standing. The depth of the drip tray must be determined considering the total amount / volume of oil in the vehicle. The drip tray must be able to contain the volume of oil in the vehicle.	Drip trays were used during construction; no leaks observed.
5.3	Any spills larger than 100ℓ should be reported to all local authorities. Spill kits must be available on site and in all vehicles that transport hydrocarbons for dispensing to other vehicles on the construction site. Spill kits must be made up of material/product that is in line with environmental best practice (sunsorb is a recommended product that is environmentally friendly).	No spills were reported; spill kits were available during construction.
5.4	All spilled hazardous substances must be contained in	No contaminated soils or hazardous waste remain.

	impermeable containers for removal to a General & Hazardous Waste Landfill site, (this includes contaminated soils, and drenched spill kit material).	
5.5	Vehicles to be serviced at the contractor laydown area and all refuelling to take place outside of the watercourses and the applicable variable buffer.	No vehicles are serviced at the site camp and no fuel bowsers or storage tanks were observed during the audit.
6.	Method Statements The ECO will evaluate the method statement and ensure that it covers the handling of the following aspects: • Emergency spills procedures for the contamination of soils from spills and fire. • Handling & storage of oils and chemicals. • Cement and concrete batching, which includes the storage, washing & disposal of cement, packaging, tools and plant. • Diesel tanks and refuelling procedures. • Crew camps and construction lay down areas. • Workshop maintenance and cleaning of plant.	The ECO requested that digital method statements be submitted, addressing all the required construction aspects. The contractor supplied the following digital Method Statements: • Topsoil Management • Hazardous Storage and Waste Disposal • Management of Cement and the Pumping of Ready-Mix Concrete • Spillage Management
7.	Cement	
7.1	It is suggested that ready-mix cement be used as far as possible to minimize the possible impact on the surrounding environment.	Pre-mix concrete via trucks was utilized for the pouring of the pylon footings. No cement batching was active during the site audit.
7.3	Proper handling and disposal should minimise or eliminate discharges into watercourses.	Pre-mix concrete via trucks was utilized for the pouring of the pylon footings. No cement remains were observed during the site audit nor any pollution of the watercourse.
7.4	Fresh concrete and cement mortar should not be mixed below the modelled 1:100-year flood line and at least 32 m from the delineated extent of the Hex River. Mixing of cement may be done	All mixing took place off bare soil and outside the flood line

	within the construction camp, may not be mixed on bare soil, and must be within a lined, bound or bunded portable mixer. Consideration must be taken to use ready mix concrete.	
7.5	No mixed concrete shall be deposited directly onto the ground. A batter board or other suitable platform/mixing tray is to be provided onto which any mixed concrete can be deposited whilst it awaits placing.	Construction is complete, and no active cement batching or cement remains were observed during the site audit.
7.6	Cement bags must be disposed of in the demarcated hazardous waste receptacles and the used bags must be suitably disposed of.	No cement batching was active during the site audit. No cement bags were noted during the audit.
7.7	Spilled or excess concrete must be disposed of at a suitable landfill site.	No cement batching was active during the site audit. No physical cement remains nor spills were observed during the site audit.
7.8	Cement batching areas must be located in consultation with the RE, EO or ECO to ensure residues are contained and that the proposed location does not fall within sensitive areas such as drainage lines, storm water channels, etc.	No cement batching was active during the site audit and pre-mix concrete was utilized for the casting of the footings.
7.9	The mixing of concrete shall only be done at selected sites on mortarboards or similar structures to contain run-off into natural vegetation, soils and streams leading to the river. Cleaning of cement mixing and handling equipment shall be done using proper cleaning trays.	No cement batching was active during the site audit and pre-mix concrete was utilized for the casting of the footings.
7.10	Cleaning of cement mixing and handling equipment shall be done using proper cleaning trays.	No cement batching was active during the site audit and pre-mix concrete was utilized for the casting of the footings.
7.11	All empty containers must be stored in a dedicated area and later removed from the site for appropriate disposal at a Licensed Landfill site.	All containers and cement bags removed; no contamination observed.
7.12	All empty cement bags are to be picked up immediately to ensure that cement dust is not blown away. Empty cement bags are to be	All containers and cement bags removed; no contamination observed.

	stored in a weather and scavenger proof bin, in order to prevent leaching and groundwater contamination.	
7.14	Washing of the remains into the ground is unacceptable.	No cement remains were observed during the site audit or pollution of the watercourse.
8.	Dangerous and Toxic Materials	
8.1	Materials such as fuel, oil, paint, herbicide and insecticides must be sealed and stored in bermed areas or under lock and key, as appropriate, in well-ventilated areas.	No hazardous materials remain on site; storage facilities decommissioned.
8.2	Storage facilities should be bunded, roofed, secure, rain, wind and tamper-proof.	No hazardous materials remain on site; storage facilities decommissioned.
8.3	Storage areas shall display the required safety signs depicting “no smoking”, “No Naked lights” and “Danger” containers shall be clearly marked to indicate contents as well as safety requirements.	Appropriate signage and containment used during active works.
8.4	Sufficient care must be taken when handling these materials to prevent pollution. Training on the handling of dangerous and toxic materials must be conducted for all staff prior to the commencement of construction. In the case of pollution of any surface or groundwater, the Regional Representative of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) must be informed immediately.	No chemical pollutants or remains were observed during the site audit.
8.5	Paint, herbicide and insecticides will not be allowed on or near the site.	No paint, herbicides, or insecticides used on site.
9.	Bulk Storage of Fuels and Oils	
9.1	Bulk fuel storage tanks on the site shall be on an impervious surface that is bunded and able to contain at least 110% of the volume of the tanks.	No bulk fuel storage tanks or bowzers were observed on site during the audit.
9.2	Bulk fuel storage tanks shall be located in a portion of the	No bulk fuel storage tanks or bowzers were observed on site

	construction camp where they do not pose a high risk in terms of water pollution.	during the audit.
9.3	Bulk fuel storage tanks shall be placed so that they are out of the way of traffic, so that the risk of the tanks being ruptured or damaged by vehicles is minimised.	No bulk fuel storage tanks or bowzers were observed on site during the audit.
9.4	Bulk fuel storage should be covered during the rainy season.	No bulk fuel storage tanks or bowzers were observed on site during the audit.
10.	Use of Dangerous and Toxic Materials	
10.1	The contractor shall keep the necessary materials and equipment on-site to deal with spills/fires of the materials present should they occur.	Spill response equipment was maintained throughout the project.
10.2	The contractor shall set up a procedure for dealing with spills/fires, which will include notifying the ECO and the relevant authorities prior to commencing with construction. These procedures must be developed in consultation and approval by the appointed EO. All staff should receive some form of fire training.	No incidents recorded.
10.3	Fire buckets and hoses shall be in good working order and easily accessible on site.	Fire equipment removed post-construction.
11.	Contractors Camp Site and Crew Camps	
11.1	The Contractor shall, in conjunction with the EO, designate the restricted eating area for eating during normal working hours. Two refuse bins with lids must be provided and cleaned on a daily basis. The bins are to be secure, wind, weather and scavenger proof. Designated areas for smoking must be provided.	Camp area removed; site cleared of waste and debris.
11.2	No fires are to be lit outside of a facility designed to contain fires. The adequacy and positioning of these structures must be determined in consultation with the EO and ECO.	No evidence of fires was observed during the site audit.

11.3	No animals, domestic or otherwise are allowed on the premises. The feeding, or leaving of food, for stray or other animals in the area is strictly prohibited.	No evidence of domestic animals was observed during the site audit.
11.4	Litter (even if originating outside the camp) and concrete bags etc. must be picked up and put into suitably closed bins. The contractor shall provide labourers to clean up the contractor's camp and construction site on a daily basis. These areas shall then be inspected by the contractor or his/her ESO to ensure compliance with this requirement. Rubble and litter must be removed every two weeks or more often as the need arises and be disposed of at a registered landfill site as designated by the Breede Valley Municipality, Solid Waste removal department.	All waste removed to licensed landfill; no litter remains.
11.5	Accommodation for members of the workforce will not be permitted on site unless authorisation has been given in terms of the Environmental Authorisation issued for the site.	Noted, no accommodation for members of the workforce was provided.
11.6	Dedicated wash areas must be situated away from surface water sources.	Noted, no washing areas was required.
11.7	The contractor's camp shall be monitored for dust fallout and dust suppression applied as required. This may include the laying of gravel, the use of grey water can be considered as an option if the required permits have been acquired.	No dust fallout was reported.
11.8	The contractor's camp, offices and storage facilities shall be located within the site boundaries. If this is not feasible an alternative should be designated in consultation with the ECO.	The contractors site camp was located at the existing Worcester Industrial substation.
11.9	The contractor shall provide labourers to clean up the contractor's camp and construction site on a daily basis. These areas shall then be inspected by the contractor or his/her ESO to ensure compliance with this requirement.	All waste removed to licensed landfill; no litter remains.

12.	Ablution Facilities	
12.1	The contractor will be responsible for providing all sanitary arrangements for his and the sub-contractors team. It is proposed that that one toilet for 15 people will be established on site.	All chemical toilets that were provided and maintained during construction have been removed from site following the completion of construction activities, and no ablution facilities remain within the project area.
12.2	Sanitary arrangements shall be to the satisfaction of the ECO and the local authority. The contractor shall keep the toilets in a clean, neat and hygienic condition. The contractor shall supply toilet paper at all toilets at all times. Toilet paper dispensers shall be provided in all toilets.	All chemical toilets that were provided and maintained during construction have been removed from site following the completion of construction activities, and no ablution facilities remain within the project area.
12.3	Toilets provided by the contractor must be easily accessible and a maximum of 150m from the works area to ensure they are utilised. All toilets will be located within the contractor's camp. Should toilets be needed elsewhere, their location must first be approved by the ER, ECO.	All chemical toilets that were provided and maintained during construction have been removed from site following the completion of construction activities, and no ablution facilities remain within the project area.
12.4	The contractor (who must use reputable toilet-servicing company) shall be responsible for the cleaning, maintenance and servicing of the toilets. The contractor (using reputable toilet-servicing company) shall ensure that all toilets are cleaned and emptied before the builders' or other public holidays.	All chemical toilets that were provided and maintained during construction have been removed from site following the completion of construction activities, and no ablution facilities remain within the project area.
12.5	Toilets out on site must be secured to the ground and have a sufficient locking mechanism operational at all times.	All chemical toilets that were provided and maintained during construction have been removed from site following the completion of construction activities, and no ablution facilities remain within the project area.
12.6	The natural surrounding area may NOT be used for any ablution activities.	Noted. This has not been observed or reported on.
13.	Dust	
13.1	Water extraction from the non-perennial stormwater channel will	Noted, no water abstraction from any watercourses has occurred

	not be allowed.	on site.
13.2	Potable water may not be used as a means of dust suppression, alternative measures must be sourced. The use of 'grey' water must be investigated as an alternative. The contractor will be responsible to source this water and obtain the required approvals. Dust mitigation measures to include the use of chemical dust suppressants, such as Lignosulphonates; and the use of soil stabilisers such as straw for large open ground areas.	No dust generation was noted at the time of audit.
13.3	The construction camp shall be treated with dust suppression during dry and windy conditions to control dust fallout. Dust production must be controlled by regular dust suppression of roads and works area, should the need arise. (NB: Concrete dust is toxic and damages soil properties. Therefore dust suppression to prevent dust spread must not be done where concrete dust has fallen or it will infiltrate into the soil. Concrete bags must not be allowed to blow around the site and spread cement dust.)	No dust fallout was reported.
13.4	At the end of construction, the site camp must be fully rehabilitated by removing the temporary surface, and ripping the area to loosen the soil and the area must be re-vegetated with locally indigenous vegetation only, according to the landscape development plan for the project.	The contractor's site camp and disturbed areas were rehabilitated post-construction; compacted areas were loosened to aid natural vegetation recovery, and topsoil was spread over the works areas.
13.5	All vehicles transporting material that can be blown off (e.g. soil, rubble etc.) must be covered with a tarpaulin, and speed limits of 20 km/h must be adhered to.	No vehicles carrying material was noted during the site audit, since construction has been completed.
14.	Noise	
14.1	Work hours during the construction phase shall be strictly enforced unless permission is given (07H00 – 18H00). Permission shall not be granted without consultation with the local industries and	All construction activities were restricted to normal working hours.

	businesses by the EO. No work to be done on Sundays. The EO must inform the residents of houses and businesses adjacent to the development in writing 24 hours prior to any planned activities that will be unusually noisy or any other activities that could reasonably have an impact on the adjacent sites. These activities could include, but are not limited to use of pneumatic jack-hammers and compressors etc. No noise louder than 70dB from the ambient noise level.	
14.2	Noise reduction is essential, and contractors shall endeavour to limit unnecessary noise, especially loud talking, shouting or whistling, radios, sirens or hooters, motor revving, etc. The use of silent compressors is a specific requirement. All machinery to be muffled where possible.	Noted, no noise complaints were noted or received.
15.	Visual Management	
15.1	Shade cloth must be utilised to conceal and minimise the visual impact of contractor camps, lay down and storage areas.	The contractors' site camp was located at the existing Worcester Industrial substation; no shade netting for screening was necessary.
15.2	Unified materials must be used in the construction of the buildings on-site	Noted, no buildings were constructed.
16.	Fires	
16.1	Fire training and equipment to be nearby to put fires out. The Contractor shall ensure that there is appropriate fire-fighting equipment available on site at all times.	The necessary fire-fighting was available during construction.
16.2	Fires must be within designated areas and must be in small scale. Absolutely no burning of waste is permitted.	No evidence of fires was observed during the site audit.
16.3	Fires will only be allowed in facilities especially constructed for this purpose within fenced Contractor's camps. Wood and/or charcoal are the only fuels permitted to be used for fires. The contractor must provide sufficient wood (fuel) for this purpose.	No evidence of fires was observed during the site audit.

	Fires in the designated areas must be small in scale so as to prevent excessive smoke being released into the atmosphere. Heavy smoke may not be released into the air.	
16.4	No felling of trees or wood collection is allowed from private or public property.	No felling of trees or wood collection was undertaken.
17.	Erosion and Sedimentation	
17.1	To reduce the loss of material by erosion, the contractor shall ensure that disturbance on site is kept to a minimum. The disturbance especially includes the movement of heavy vehicles. These areas must be cordoned off so that vehicles or construction personnel cannot gain access to these areas.	No erosion or sedimentation was observed during the site audit. Most of the works areas were accessed through the tar roads from the industrial area, and the existing “tweespoor” roads on site.
17.2	The contractor shall be responsible for rehabilitating all eroded areas in such a way that the erosion potential is minimised after construction has been completed. These areas are to be filled with mulch or funnels constructed to route the water. All disturbed areas that will not be rehabilitated within the construction phase, must be mulched to encourage vegetation re-growth. Mulch used must be free from alien seed.	No erosion or sedimentation was observed during the site audit.
18.	Fauna	
18.1	All possible sensitive faunal species present on the site must be rescued and relocated to another suitable location prior to the commencement of construction activities. They can be re-located to the wetland area in the Wellington Industrial Park.	No reports of any faunal encounters were conveyed or recorded.
18.2	All construction workers must be informed that the intentional killing of any animal is not permitted as faunal species are a benefit to society.	No killing, hunting, or trapping of animals has occurred.
18.3	If avian SCC nests are located, a qualified avifaunal specialist must be consulted to determine the best management options. If nests	No avian SCC nests or nests in general were reported on or observed.

	are known to have nestlings or eggs within, these should be allowed to fledge prior to the nest removal.	
18.4	Should any nests of avifaunal species protected under the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004) or the Western Cape Nature Conservation Laws Amendment Act, 2000 (Act No. 3 of 2000) be encountered, construction should be halted to determine if there is activity at the nest, if there is then construction should be moved further away until the nesting attempt has failed or succeeded.	No avian SCC nests or nests in general were reported on or observed.
18.5	Any structures which may act as perching sites for birds should be installed with anti-perching spikes.	Noted, the ECO has not reflected on this, nor were perching sites observed during the site audit.
18.6	Anti-collision devices (bird flappers) should be installed where the proposed powerline transverses the Hex River and 30m either side of the river. These must be Eskom-approved anti-collision devices that are durable as the area is prone to strong winds. Anti-collision devices must be installed as soon as the wires are strung. The devices must be installed 5m apart and alternate between a light and dark colour in order to increase the visibility of the earth wires.	Due to budget constraints, no anti-collision devices (bird flappers) were installed on the cables traversing the Hex River.
18.7	Bird nests on powerlines are potential fire hazards and should be removed from structures regularly (should nests be those of SCC species permits from Cape Nature or DFFE will be required before disturbing the nests).	No nests were observed during the site audit.
19.	Hydrology	
19.1	Increased run-off during construction must be managed using berm and other suitable structures as required to ensure flow velocities are reduced; this must be done in consultation with the Resident engineer as well as the ECO. The Contractor shall take reasonable measures to control the erosive effects of storm water runoff.	No run-off structures have been required to manage runoff from the footings during construction. This is due to the very limited footprint which has been hardened, and the water is still allowed to soak into the land in the area on which the water fell.

19.2	Storm water, wherever possible, should be allowed to soak into the land in the area on which the water fell.	Due to the very limited footprint, which has been hardened, the water is still allowed to soak into the land in the area on which the water fell.
19.3	Clear areas for the proposed construction in a phased manner and retain as much indigenous vegetation as possible.	Only the required footprint was cleared.
19.4	In the event of pollution caused as a result of construction activities, the contractor, according to section 20 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) shall be responsible for all costs incurred by organisations called to assist in pollution control and/or to clean up polluted areas and water courses.	No pollution was observed during the site audit, and no work was undertaken within the watercourse.
19.5	The contractor shall ensure that excessive quantities of sand, silt and silt-laden water do not enter the non-perennial watercourse found on site. No wastewater may run freely into the surrounding area.	No sedimentation was observed during the site audit. No works in watercourses are proposed in the project. No wastewater runs freely on the site.
19.6	Construction in the Watercourse must be done during the drier months of the year.	Pylon installation over the Hex River is complete. 2025 experienced limited rainfall with footings constructed on dry soil.
19.7	Small scale rehabilitation of the banks must be done. This includes alien vegetation clearance and active revegetation.	This was not necessary; the area surrounding the pylon footings was backfilled appropriately and shaped.
20.	Soil	
20.1	Topsoil must be stripped from all areas that are to be utilized during the construction period and where permanent structures and access is required. These areas will include comprising the permanent works, pipeline trenches, stockpiles, access roads, construction camps and lay down areas.	Topsoil stripped, stockpiled, and reused for rehabilitation. No alien seed contamination observed.
20.2	Topsoil must be deemed to be the top layer of soil containing organic material, nutrients and plant grass seed. For this reason, it is an extremely valuable resource for the rehabilitation and vegetation of disturbed areas. At the beginning of the construction	Topsoil stripped, stockpiled, and reused for rehabilitation. No alien seed contamination observed.

	phase, topsoil removed for vegetation clearance must be stripped to a minimum depth of 300 mm and windrowed.	
20.3	All topsoil must be removed and stockpiled on the site. However, the use of topsoil for rehabilitation contaminated by the seed of alien vegetation must not be permitted unless a programme to germinate the seed and eradicate the seedlings is drawn up and approved, or some other mitigatory feature is found. This must be approved by the ECO.	Topsoil stripped, stockpiled, and reused for rehabilitation. No alien seed contamination observed.
20.4	Backfill will require contouring to ensure that it blends in with the surrounding environment.	Backfilling of the excavated areas has been completed.
20.5	Soil removed for excavating the foundation pit must be used as backfill material. Any remaining soil following the completion of backfilling of the foundation pits are to be spread out thinly surrounding the installed support structures (outside of the delineated freshwater ecosystems) to aid in the natural reclamation process.	Soil excavated has been stockpiled adjacent to the excavation of each footing site and reused to backfill the site after the casting of the footings. Backfilling completed and contoured; surfaces stable.
20.6	The construction footprint must be limited to the foundation pit area and an additional 5 m buffer (to allow for the stockpiling and movement of personnel).	Work footprint remained within the designated buffer.
20.7	All developed areas associated with the support towers must be compacted to natural soil compaction levels to prevent the formation of preferential surface flow paths and subsequent erosion. Conversely, areas compacted as a result of construction activities must be loosened to natural soil compaction levels. Support tower vertices must be stabilised against soil erosion by piling cobbles around the vertices and these piles must be monitored during the operation phase and repacked if necessary.	Tower bases are stable and cobbled for erosion protection.
21.	Freshwater Management Measures	

21.1	Contractor laydown areas, vehicle re-fuelling areas and material storage facilities to remain outside of the freshwater ecosystems and their associated 32 m NEMA exclusion buffer and outside of the 100 m GN509 ZoR (due to the potential risk of pollution associated with these dangerous goods).	The contractor's camp was located at the existing Worcester Industrial Substation and far outside the 32m regulation zone of the water course and drainage lines.
21.2	Removed vegetation must be stockpiled outside of the delineated boundary of the freshwater ecosystem. The footprint areas and height of these stockpiles must be kept to a minimum. Should the vegetation not be suitable for reinstatement after the construction phase or be alien/invasive vegetation species; the material must be disposed of at a registered garden refuse site a.s.a.p. and may not be burned or mulched on site;	No vegetation stockpiles were observed during the site audit, and this is not mentioned in any of the audits.
21.3	The clearing of vegetation must be limited to woody vegetation above a certain minimum clearance height within a strip width not exceeding 4 m wide and must remain within the proposed road/jeep track servitude only and may not extend beyond this area. No unnecessary disturbance within the active channel of the EDLs will be acceptable and lower lying shrub growth must be retained both within the freshwater ecosystems as well as their immediate catchment to afford them protection from erosion and sedimentation.	No vegetation stockpiles were observed during the site audit. No works within the watercourse has occurred. The vegetation clearance on site has been limited to the footprints and of the pylon footings and their required buffers.
21.4	The EDL and braided channel must be suitably rehabilitated in terms of erosion control, alien vegetation removal and reinstatement of indigenous vegetation.	EDL crossing rehabilitated; vegetation regrowth visible.
21.5	Excavation of foundation pits for the support structure foundations may result in loose sediments within the landscape, specifically if works are taken during a period of rainfall. As such, sediment traps should also be installed downstream/downgradient of the	At the time of the audit the backfilling of the footings had been completed. No sediment traps have been installed nor have been required.

	construction area (where practically feasible). Sediment traps can be created by pegging an appropriate geotextile across the entire width of the work area at the specified support tower, held down by cobbles/boulders or by geotextile wrapped hay bales spanning the width of the work area and staked into position.	
21.6	During excavation activities, soil must be stockpiled upgradient of the excavated area and not in close proximity to the freshwater ecosystem. Mixture of the lower and upper layers of the excavated soil must be kept to a minimum, so as to ensure successful revegetation using the top layer after construction. Local soil must be used to backfill the foundation pits (support structures), immediately after installation of the support structures and/or other infrastructure.	Soils managed correctly; backfilled and stabilised.
21.7	Bedding material (at the bottom of the excavated foundation pit) must be stockpiled outside of the 32 m NEMA ZoR but as close as possible to the support structures footprint area and backfilled immediately after excavation has been completed.	No bedding material was utilized or stockpiled on site.
21.8	When the powerline is strung between the support structures, no vehicles may indiscriminately drive through the freshwater ecosystems, use must be made of the dedicated access roads.	No unauthorised vehicle access was recorded through freshwater areas.
22.	Botanical	
22.1	Site access routes- The sites for the pylon construction should be accessed from the existing road, immediately to the east of the high sensitivity portion of the study area, south of the R60. A new road should not be constructed.	No new roads were constructed south of the R60. Only short gravel service accesses were created from the existing tar road in the east to the pylon footings (shortest distance). Please refer to the photo pages attached as Appendix A.
22.2	The vegetation is relatively low, meaning that with some care in selecting the exact access routes, it should not be necessary to brush-cut the vegetation or engage in earthworks when	No new roads were constructed south of the R60. Only short gravel service accesses were created from the existing tar road in the east to the pylon footings (shortest distance). Please refer to

	establishing the access routes.	the photo pages attached as Appendix A.
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CONCLUSION

Based on the documentation obtained and the detailed site visit conducted on the 2nd of November 2025, the applicant has sufficiently complied with the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation and EMPr. Furthermore, the EMP is considered adequate and effective to manage and mitigate the activities.

No specific contradictions between the EA and EMP were noted. The EA has, likely due to a typographical error, incorrectly listed two instances of Activity 12 from Listing Notice 1, while omitting Activity 11.

This external audit report did not identify any significant non-compliance with the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation. It must be noted that while the site is in good condition and all construction activities have been completed, two corrective actions remain outstanding: the removal or securing of exposed steel wires north of Pylon 17, and the installation of anti-collision devices (bird flappers) on the cables traversing the Hex River.

The outcome of this audit has not found insufficient mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the listed activities, nor has it found insufficient levels of compliance with the Environmental Authorisation. As such a public participation process in terms of Regulation 34(5) will not be undertaken.

In compliance with regulation 34(6) the holder of the EA must within 7 days of the date of submission of an environmental audit report to the competent authority, notify all potential and registered interested and affected parties of the submission of that report, and make such report immediately available –

(a) to anyone on request; and

(b) on a publicly accessible website, where the holder has such a website.

Compiled by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Renier Kapp', written over a light blue grid background.

Renier Kapp
for KAPPEC

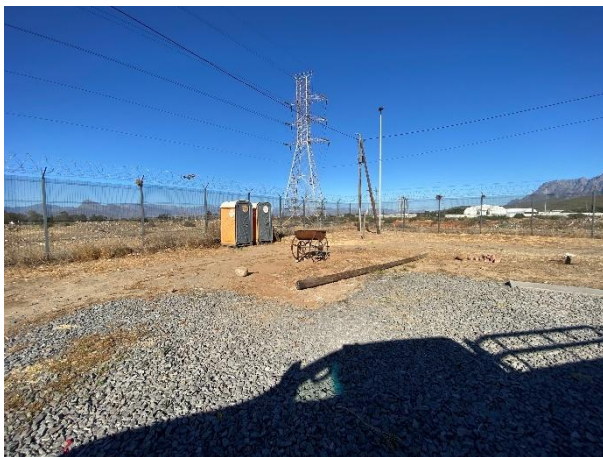
ANNEXURE A – SITE PHOTOGRAPHS



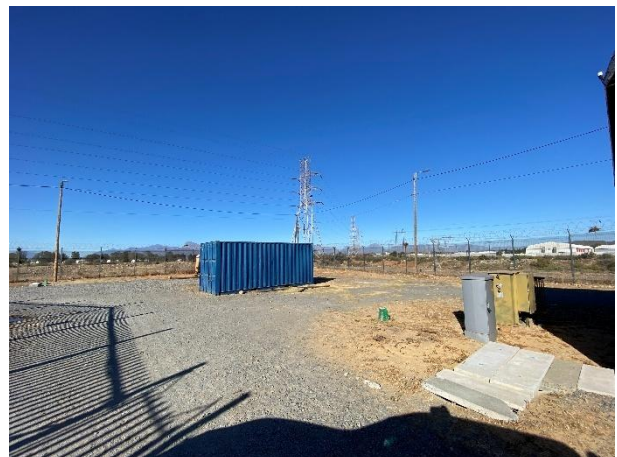
The Worcester Industrial substation, where the contractors camp was located.



Notice board at the entrance to the Worcester Industrial substation.



Chemical toilets remain in place within the Worcester Industrial substation, to be removed.



One lockable storage container has remained on site, to be removed.



Contractors camp has been deestablished, and area rehabilitated.



Contractors camp has been deestablished, and area rehabilitated.



Contractors camp has been deestablished, and area rehabilitated.



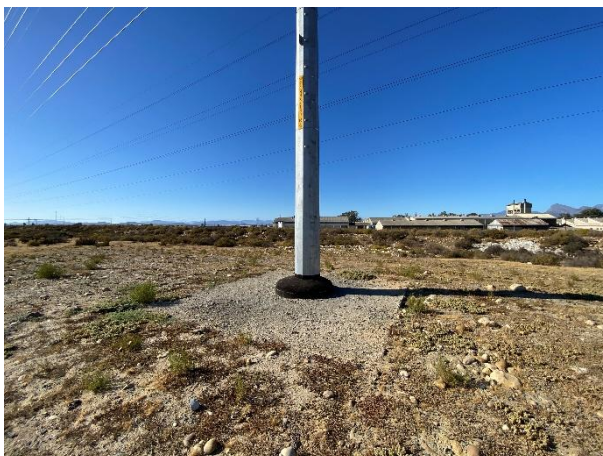
Pylon 5 adjacent to the Worcester Industrial substation erected as seen towards the northwest.



Completed Pylon 5 as seen along the substation fence in an eastern direction.



One of the existing gravel roads on site leading between Pylon 5 and Pylon 7 as seen towards the east.



Completed Pylon footing 6 per Figure 3 as seen towards the south.



Completed Pylon footing 6 per Figure 3 as seen towards the east towards Pylon 7.



Completed Pylon footing 7 per Figure 3 as seen towards the east.



Completed Pylon footing 7 per Figure 3 as seen towards the west towards Pylon 6.



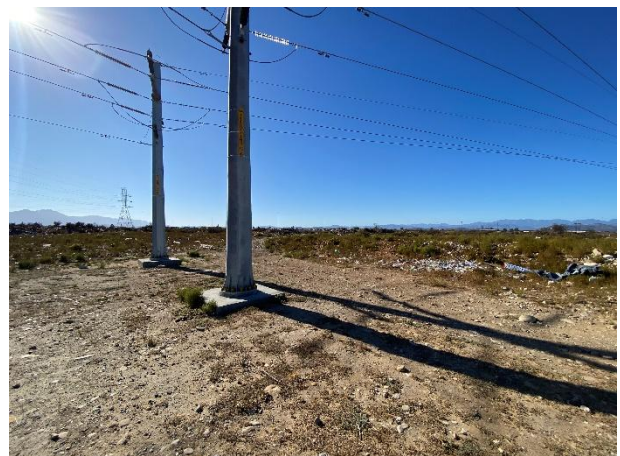
Completed Pylons 8 as seen towards the southeast towards Pylon 9.



The condition of the site as seen from Pylon 8 southeast towards Pylon 9, area has been rehabilitated.



Completed Pylons 9 as seen towards the south. Significant dumping by the public occurs in this location.



Completed Pylons 9 as seen towards the east. Significant dumping by the public occurs in this location.



Litter dumping by the public immediately south of Pylons 9 as seen towards the south.



Rubble dumping by the public along the gravel road south of Pylons 9 as seen towards Pylon 10.



Completed Pylon 10 and footing as seen towards the south with public rubble dumping evident.



Completed Pylon 10 and footing as seen towards the east with public rubble dumping evident.



Condition of the site as seen from Pylon 10 towards Pylons 9 seen towards the north.



Completed Pylon 11 footing seen towards the south towards Raymond Pollet Drive.



Completed Pylon 11 footing seen towards the north towards Pylon 9.



Gravel access road from Pylon 11 towards Raymond Pollet Drive.



Public littering surrounding Pylon 11, as the area is used for waste disposal.



Completed Pylon 12 and footing seen towards the east towards the Hex River.



Completed Pylon 12 and footing seen towards the south towards Pylon 12.



The site seen from Pylon 12 towards the north towards Raymond Pollet Drive.



The tweespoor gravel road used as access immediately east of the industrial area seen towards the south.



Excavated rock and stockpile on site north of Pylon 13 as seen towards the east (not part of this project).



The site with the stockpile north of Pylon 13 as seen towards the north immediately east of the industrial area.



Pylon location 13 erected on a small platform along the boundary of Ceres Fruit Processors seen to the south.



Completed Pylon 13 erected on a small platform along the Ceres Fruit Processors as seen to the south.



Pylon location 13 erected on a small platform as seen to the east towards the Hex River.



Existing stormwater drainage channels still in place along the south of Pylon 13.



Existing stormwater drainage channels still in place along the south of Pylon 13.



Completed Pylon 14 along the eastern boundary of the Worcester Industrial area.



Completed Pylon 14 along the eastern boundary of the Worcester Industrial area.



From the Pylon 14 footing seen towards the east towards the Hex River.



Existing gravel access road leading west of Pylon 15 as seen towards the south leading towards the R60.



Pylon 15 as seen towards the southeast towards Pylon 16. An existing gravel access road in front of picture.



Completed footing of Pylon 15 as seen towards the southeast towards Pylon 16.



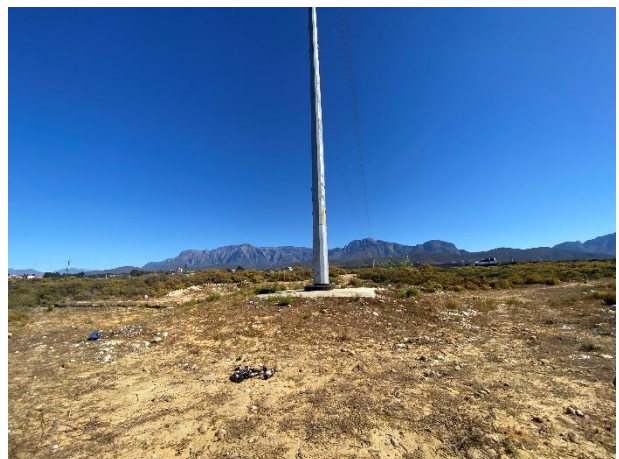
Completed Pylon 16 seen towards the southeast towards the R60.



Completed Pylon 16 seen towards the north towards Pylon 15 and the Worcester Industrial area.



South of completed Pylon 16 seen south across the Hex River towards the R60 and Pylon 17 in back of picture.



Completed Pylon 17 as seen from the south towards the north towards the R60 in the back of picture.



Completed Pylon 17 as seen towards the south. Pylon 17 is located immediately south of the R60.



Exposed steel wires which need to closed or removed immediately north of completed Pylon 17.



Condition of eastern bank of the Hex River at the R60 near Pylon 17 seen towards the northwest.



Condition of eastern bank of the Hex River at the R60 near Pylon 17 seen towards the southwest.



Pylon 18 footing and surrounds as seen towards the south.



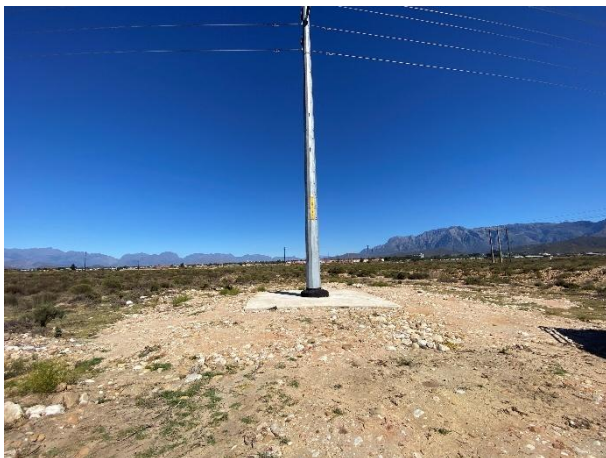
Completed Pylon 18 as seen towards the south towards Pylon 19.



From completed Pylon 19 as seen towards the south towards Pylon 20.



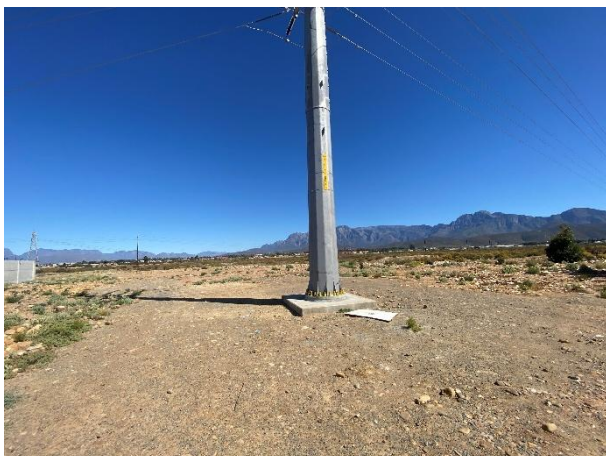
From completed Pylon 19 as seen towards the north towards Pylon 18.



Completed footing at Pylon 20 as seen towards the west.



Brush cut vegetation between Pylon 20 and Pylon 21 as seen towards the south towards Pylon 21.



Completed Pylon 21 and footing immediately north of the Transhex Substation as seen towards the west.



Completed Pylon 21 and footing immediately north of the Transhex Substation as seen from the tar road.



Condition of the site surrounding the Transhex substation.



Entrance to the Transhex substation.