

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

NO. 6447

25 July 2025

DECLARATION OF STATUTORY BODY IN TERMS OF THE SUBDIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND ACT, ACT NO. 70 OF 1970

NOTICE FOR PUBLIC

I, John Henry Steenhuisen, Minister for Agriculture has in terms of the power vested on me by section 1 (V) (C) of the Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act (SALA), Act No. 70 of 1970, declare the Eskom National Transmission Company of South Africa (NTCSA) as a statutory body for the purpose of the said Act as from the date of publication hereof.

These conditions must apply:

1. The Eskom NTCSA is exempted as statutory body as prescribed in Section 1 (c) of SALA. However, should the property in question at any given time, be transferred into private ownership, the prescripts of SALA will apply.
2. The Department acknowledges the role of Eskom NTCSA of enabling the transmission of electricity across the country including agriculture. However, the inclusion of substation as a transmission activity in the application is not supported due to its direct and indirect impact on the productive agricultural land i.e loss of productive land. Hence, applicable law to assess the magnitude of such impact are crucial to guide the development. Therefore, no substation must be in the Protected Agricultural Areas (PAA) without been subjected to its applications in terms of SALA on each basis due to its implications to spatial footprint with cumulative negative impacts and permanent land sealing and loss of finite land resource.
3. Transmission lines must be located within a registered servitude area, granting access for construction and maintenance.

4. Clearing vegetation within a specified radius around towers is mandatory, including removal of trees that could potentially come into contact with conductors.
5. Tower positioning is carefully planned to minimize environmental impacts, often using micro-positioning techniques to avoid sensitive areas.
6. Consultation with landowners and local communities is necessary to address concerns and reach agreements regarding the transmission line route.
7. Construction and operation of transmission lines must adhere to the "Standard for the Development and Expansion of Electricity Transmission and Distribution Power Lines" which outlines detailed requirements.

For more information, please contact the Executive Officer for Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act (SALA), Act No. 70 of 1970, using the details below:

Attention: The Acting Director: Land and Soil Management, Attention Mr R.K. Mampholo.

Post to: Private Bag X 120, Pretoria, 0001; or

Deliver To: 20 Steve Biko Street, Acadia, PRETORIA.

or Enquiries may be emailed to: SydneyS@dalrdd.gov.za alternatively (012) 319 7563.

