	Plan	Medupi Power Station Project
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Title: **Medupi Alien and Invasive Plant Species Management Plan**

Document Identifier: **PPZ 200-85677**

Alternative Reference Number: **N/A**

Area of Applicability: **Medupi Power Station Construction Project**

Functional Area: **Environment**


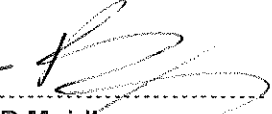
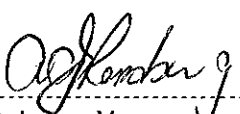
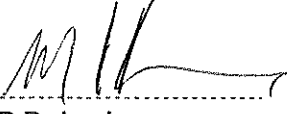
Revision: **02**

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Current Change Note **CN100183**

Compiled by	QA, Interface & Governance Review	Functional Responsibility	Authorized by
			
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Date: 20/05/2019	Date: 2019-05-20	Date: 2019/05/21	Date: 21/05/2019

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1. Introduction

1.1 Supporting Clauses

1.1.1 Scope

The objective of this document is to set out the viable methods for the control and eradication of alien and invasive plant species (AIPS) that occurs on the Medupi construction site and areas surrounding and related to Project activities. This document describes the approach of Team Medupi (TM) to effectively manage, control and eradicate alien and invasive plant species (AIPS) from the Medupi Construction Site and areas and activities deemed to form part of such, under relevant Contractual arrangements.

Principal Contractors shall (at a minimum) undertake the following activities in support of this Procedure:

- Eradicate and/ or control all existing AIPS on their respected construction areas by means of approved eradication and control methods;
- Establish a sufficient control and monitoring programme for maintaining an AIPS-free site;
- Record, notify and report all incidents and actions regarding the management of AIPS on their sites; and
- Deliberate and discuss AIPS Incidents and Lessons Learnt at Health, Safety and Environmental Committee meetings.

1.1.2 Purpose

This document describes the approach of Team Medupi (TM) to effectively manage, control and The objective of this document is to set out the viable methods for the control and eradication of alien and invasive plant species (AIPS) that occurs in the project.

1.1.3 Applicability

This document shall apply to Medupi Project Power Station construction phase only, excluding all parts of the project handed over to the client.

1.1.4 Effective date

This plan shall be effective from date of approval.

1.2 Normative/Informative References

Parties using this document shall apply the most recent edition of the documents listed in the following paragraphs.

1.2.1 Normative

Document Title	Document Number
The Environmental Management Plan for the Medupi Coal-fired Power Station in the Lephalale Area, Limpopo Province – The Construction Phase(200, Rev2)	200-35208

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Document Title	Document Number
Medupi Alien Invasive Plant Assessment Report	200-89743
Medupi Prohibited Alien and Invasive Species Report	200-168282
Medupi Alien and Invasive Plant Species Programme	200-97898
Alien and Invasive Plants Information Sheet	200-97894
Medupi Environmental Management System(EMS) Scope and Manual	200-73971
Medupi Identification and Application of Environmental Operational Control Procedure	200-73969

1.2.2 Informative

Document Title	Document Number
Project Execution Plan	200-5919
Project Quality Plan	200-1679
Development and Change of Medupi QMS Documents	200-5665
Document and Record Management Procedure	200-1680
Unit Construction Procedure Manual	200-163680
National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998)	Act 107 of 1998
National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act 10 of 2004)	Act 10 of 2004
Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act 43 of 1983)	Act 43 of 1983
Fertilisers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act (Act 36 of 1947)	Act 36 of 1947
Medupi Environmental Policy Statement	200-73979
Eskom Land and Biodiversity Standard	32-815
Eskom Land and Biodiversity Policy	32-736
Medupi Power Station, s.4 Employer Policy and Procedures – Part 9; Safety, Health and Environmental Requirements Schedule	200-10609
Record of Decision for the Medupi Project	12/12/20/695
Alien and Invasive Species Regulations, 2014	GN. R598
Government notice GN R1048:	GN R1048
Government notice 2485	GN 2485
Medupi Land and Stockpile Management Plan	200-7930

1.3 Definitions

Term	Definition
Principal Contractor	An employer who performs construction work and includes principal contractors. Contracted companies are specifically viewed as employers in their own right, as per the OHS Act.
Invasive Species	Any species whose establishment and uncontrolled and excessive spread outside of its natural distribution range: (a) threaten ecosystems, habitats or other species or have demonstrable potential to threaten ecosystems, habitats or other species; and (b) may result in economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.
Alien Species	(a) a species that is not an indigenous species; or (b) an indigenous species translocated or intended to be translocated to a place outside its natural distribution range in nature, but not an indigenous species that has extended its natural distribution range by natural means of migration or dispersal without human intervention;

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Weed	Any kind of plant which has under section 2 (3) been declared a weed, and includes the seed of such plant and any vegetative part of such plant which reproduces itself asexually (Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983)
Category 1b:	Invasive species requiring compulsory control as part of an invasive species control programme. Remove and destroy. These species are listed as such by notice in terms of section 70(1)(a) of the NEMBA
Control	(a) to combat or eradicate an alien or invasive species; or (b) where such eradication is not possible, to prevent, as far as may be practicable, the recurrence, re-establishment, re-growth, multiplication, propagation, regeneration or spreading of an alien or invasive species;
Coppice	A thicket or grove of small trees or shrubs, especially one maintained by periodic cutting or pruning to encourage suckering
Encroachers	A plant which advance steadily and stealthily beyond its former and proper limits.
Forbs	An herbaceous flowering plant that is not a graminoid (grasses, sedges and rushes).
Herbicide	A chemical substance used to destroy or inhibit the growth of plants, especially weeds.
Incident	Any unplanned event, which could, or does, result in harm, damage and/or environmental pollution or degradation.
Landowner	Refers to TM(Eskom) as main site owner, however responsibilities lies with those who has authority.

1.4 Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Explanation
AIPS	Alien and Invasive Plants Species
DWA	Department of Water Affairs
DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
ECO	Environmental Control Officer
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EMS	Environmental Management System
EO	Environmental Officer
GPS	Global Positioning System
HCS	Hazardous Chemical Substances
HIA	Heritage Impact Assessment
LEDET	Limpopo Economic Development, Environment and Tourism
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act
TM	Team Medupi
RoD	Records of Decision
SAHRA	South African Heritage Resource Agency
SANS	South African National Standards
SP	Stockpile

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1.5 Roles and Responsibilities

a) Responsible

Those who do the work to achieve the task. There is at least one role with a participation type of responsible, although others can be delegated to assist in the work required.

b) Accountable (also approver or final approving authority)

The one ultimately answerable for the correct and thorough completion of the deliverables or task, and the one who delegates the work to those responsible. In other words, an accountable must sign off (approve) work that responsible provides. There **must** be only one accountable specified for each task or deliverable.

c) Consulted (sometimes counsel)

Those whose opinions are sought, typically subject matter experts; and with whom there is two-way communication.

d) Informed

Those who are kept up-to-date on progress, often only on completion of the task or deliverable; and with whom there is just one-way communication.

Table 1: RACI Matrix

RACI Matrix								
Process Step/Activity	TM Project Director	TM Construction Manager	TM Unit Area Managers	TM Contracts Manager	TM Environmental Manager	TM Environmental Practitioners	ECO	TM Environmental Practitioners
Distribution to contractors	I	I	I	R	A	I	I	I
Monitoring compliance	I	C,I	C,I	C,I	A	R	C	I
Implementing the plan	I	I	C,I	C,I	A	R	I	R

2. Process Definition

2.1 Process Map / Flowchart

This plan does not use a flow chart.

3. Procedure

3.1 General

Monitoring the potential spread of declared weeds and invasive alien vegetation to neighbouring land, and vice versa, and protecting the agricultural resources along with soil conservation works, are regulated by the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (No 43 of 1983) and National Environmental Management

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Biodiversity Act (No 10 of 2004) and must be addressed on a continual basis, through an alien invasive vegetation control and monitoring program.

In view of the fact that the presence of declared weeds is illegal, it is recommended that the landowner/manager comply with the following legally prescribed requirements (refer to Sections 1, 2, 5 and 6 of the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (No 43 of 1983), as well as government notice GN R1048:

- a) The landowner/manager must take steps to eradicate the declared weeds by using the methods prescribed in the regulations, namely:
- It is illegal to have declared weeds species or invasive alien vegetation on one's property;
 - The landowner must immediately take steps to remove alien vegetation as per Conservation of Agricultural Resource Act namely:
 - Uprooting, felling or cutting;
 - Treatment with a weed killer that is registered for use in connection with such plants in accordance with the directions for the use of such a weed killer;
 - The application of control measures regarding the utilisation and protection of veld in terms of regulation 9 of the Act;
 - Any other method or strategy that may be applicable and that is specified by the executive officer by means of a directive.
- b) One may not uproot or remove such plants and dump or discard them elsewhere to re-grow or to allow their seeds to be spread or blown onto other properties.
- c) If the land user does not comply with the requirements under a) and b) above, he/she is guilty of a criminal offence.

All alien vegetation on the Medupi site, as listed in the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (No 43 of 1983) and National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act (No 10 of 2004), will be controlled as directed by the TM Environmental Department in consultation with the ECO.

An AIPS control and monitoring programme shall be developed during construction phase and will be carried over into the operational phase.

Landowner refers to TM (Eskom) as main site owner. However, the responsibilities of removing declared weeds species or invasive alien vegetation in contractor's areas lies with the Principal Contractors.

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3.2 Assessment of AIPS on Medupi Site

TM will secure the service of a registered specialist to assess the prevalence of AIPS on the Medupi Construction.

This Alien and Invasive Plant Species Assessment will be utilised to:

- Identify species of AIPS found on Site;
- Identify any potential risk and liability for the project;
- Identify potential pathways and drivers of found AIPS;
- Identify high priority areas;
- Find adequate corrective actions and rate of implementation required;
- Monitoring and follow up programme of AIPS on site.

The AIPS specialist that will conduct the assessment will assess areas of the site that are not under Principle Contractors (PCs) control. TM Environmental Practitioners shall then assist PC's in assessing their own sites.

Once all data and information are obtained from specialist assessment, this document will be reviewed and updated accordingly to form the Medupi Alien and Invasive Monitoring and Control Programme and will be relayed to PC's, who will then compile and implement their own Alien and Invasive Monitoring and Control Programme, based on data provided by TM, to eradicate and manage these species in areas of the site that are under their control.

The following elements (as a minimum) should be included in such a programme:

- The active control of all alien invasive species by means of manual removal, ring barking, chemical control or a combination of these methods.
- The bigger trunks and branches must be removed while the smaller branches can be used as soil stabiliser against wind erosion in exposed areas while providing micro habitat for seedling establishment.
- Rehabilitation of the cleared areas, starting with the establishment of a grass cover and phasing in the re-establishment of bushveld vegetation.
- All emergent seedlings must be removed by hand and re-sprouting from existing rootstock must be chemically treated in continual monitoring and follow up programme.
- The control of alien and invasive species will be an on-going process, especially if the source of invasion is not removed.

All information pertaining to AIPS found and eradicated on site, by both the TM and PC's will be captured on the Medupi Alien and Invasive Plant Species Programme and Register (200-97898). PC's will submit all relevant information, as required by this register, to the TM Environmental Department, on an annual basis

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or as requested from TM. All AIPS information received shall be shared with ECOs and records of such be kept.

The control methods used for the clearing of alien plants shall include a full long-term eradication programme.

3.3 Control of Alien and Invasive Plant Species

All forms of AIPS controls will be in accordance to relevant legislation and the requirements of the Medupi EMP. The exact methods of control that will be utilized specifically for the species found on the Medupi Site will be described in the specialist assessment report and Medupi Alien and Invasive Plant Species Programme and Register (200-97898).

These controls will, however, comprise one or more of the following:

3.3.1 Control: Prevention

Prevention measures will be applied to areas of the Medupi Site that has not yet been affected by AIPS, but may be susceptible to it.

Such areas are predominately barren areas/patches of earth, where little construction activities are taken place. Such areas include:

- Near fences;
- Along fire-breaks;
- Along roadways, especially dirt roads on the perimeter of site;
- In open storage areas;
- In and around soil/rock stockpiles;
- Areas where rehabilitation is inadequate; and
- Disturbed soil areas, especially where erosion is evident.

Areas of barren earth/patched soils shall be covered by native vegetation, as far as reasonably practical.

If the soil cannot be covered/ protected against the potential invasion of AIPS, an AIPS inspection schedule shall be instituted to ensure that AIPS to not establish in the area, and if any are found, to be eradicated as soon as possible before a colony establishes.

3.4 Control: Mechanical

This entails physical actions of removing the AIPS, or severely damaging seed translocation mechanisms.

The physical actions include:

- Uprooting
- Clear-felling
- Slashing
- Mowing

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- Ring-barking; and
- Bark –stripping

All seedlings and young plants can be removed by hand, ensuring that roots are removed with the plant.

Follow up clearing must be implemented following the initial alien removal (after approximately two months), to eradicate all the seedlings that will germinate following the removal of the mature specimens.

Follow-up clearing is required (at a minimum) on an annual basis to prevent aliens and invasive vegetation from re-establishing.

After prevention controls, mechanical means of eradication will be the first choice of the project, as it is the method that yields the less risk to environmental contraventions. However, mechanical control options are only feasible in sparse or small-scale infestations and for controlling species that do not coppice after cutting.

Mechanical control is labour intensive and may be expensive. It also has the potential to cause soil disturbance and erosion, due diligence is therefore required.

3.5 Control: Chemical

The use of herbicides will comply with the Fertilisers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act (No 36 of 1947). In terms of this Act, a registered pest control operator will apply herbicides, or will supervise the application of herbicides. According to the Conservation of Agricultural Resource Act (No. 43 of 1983), as amended, the person applying herbicide must be adequately qualified and certified as well as registered with the appropriate authority to apply herbicides.

Herbicide use will only be allowed with the approval of the TM Environmental Department, after a proper investigation into necessity, the type to be used, the long-term effects and effectiveness of the agent. The application will be according to set specifications and under supervision of a qualified technician. Therefore, the PC will:

- Ensure a registered pest control operator applies or supervises the application of all herbicides;
- Ensure all procedures on the use and application of herbicides, will be adhered to;
- Ensure all herbicides are stored in a well-ventilated demarcated storage area;
- Ensure that a register of all contents of the storage area is kept and updated on a regular basis;
- Ensure that a daily register of all relevant details of herbicide usage is kept, and that such a register is maintained by the relevant TM custodian.

In the case of the positive AIPS identification of mature woody plants, these can be cut down to a height as specified by the specialist and herbicide shall be applied to all exposed surface. A dye must be mixed with the herbicide to assist with identifying plants where it has been applied

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3.6 Control: Biological Mycoherbicides

These control methods are the most environmentally friendly, however it is not recommended as the infestation rate of AIPS that can be controlled by Biological control is very limited at Medupi Power station,

3.7 Disposal of AIPS from Medupi site

All AIPS material shall be removed from site to reduce seeds from spreading. Species that are known to spread via vegetative material, need to be appropriately contained, treated or disposed to prevent vegetative regrowth in disposal areas. Due diligence shall be practiced ensuring, as far as possible, that no removed AIPS will be able to re-grow or disperse via wind to other properties through any reproductive or vegetative means.

The disposal of any vegetation by burying or burning is strictly prohibited on Medupi site .

Details of the AIPS removal programme shall be established once specific species onsite is identified and the specialist consulted on their disposal.

4. Quality Records

The following quality records are utilised to record necessary process data required to verify process conformity:

- a) Assessment Records;
- b) Registers of captured data

The revision status of Medupi Project Quality Record templates is defined in the Medupi QMS Index LRD 200-47329 maintained by Medupi Quality Department.

Retention and storage of records generated as a result of this document shall follow the process defined in the Procedure 200-1680 "Document and Control Management Procedure"

5. Process for Monitoring

5.1 Key Performance Areas and Indicators

The following Key Performance Areas / Indicators (KPA's / KPI's) shall be measured, analysed and reported. The Process Owner shall be accountable, and assign the responsibility at the frequency as indicated below, documented as part of the QMS measurement, analysis and improvement initiative.

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Table 2:KPAs/KPI

Key Performance Area	Key Performance/ Indicator	Measure/ Frequency	Responsibility	Records
Site wide (TM and Contractor) Monitoring of Alien and Invasive Species	Send Medupi AIPS Control and Monitoring Program to contractors, so that they can develop their own site-based procedure	As required	Environmental Practitioners	Request Letters sent via the Contracts managers
	TM (and Contractor) AIPS Control and Monitoring Program in place and verified through Audits	Annually or as required	TM Environmental Practitioners	AIPS Control and Monitoring Programs, and applicable Audit Reports
Document control	Retain and store records generated as a result of this document as defined in the Procedure 200-1681 "Control of Records".	Annually or as required	EMS Co-ordinator	As generated by the procedure
Revision of Document	Revision requirements in line with PPZ 200 1680 "Document and Record Management"	Three yearly	Environmental Manager	New revised document

5.2 Document Review and Self-Assessment

5.2.1 Document Self-Assessment

The "Process Owner" identified on the front page of this document along with departmental personnel and the project QMS Engineer shall undertake a "self-check" review of the process defined in this document at six monthly intervals, commencing from the effective date of this document, to check:

- the process / procedure operational integrity
- process efficiency
- the level of stakeholder knowledge and implementation.

Participants and results of the "self-check" review shall be documented by the Process Owner in the "Self-Assessment Checklist" (*QMS Template No. QMS PTZ 200 - 75592*) included as an Appendix to this procedure which shall be issued to medupiq@eskom.co.za by the Process Owner once completed.

Process Owner shall proceed with any revision requirements in line with Medupi Procedures

PPZ 200 5665 "Development and Change of Medupi QMS Documents" and PPZ 200 1680 "Document and Record Management"

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5.2.2 Revision Period

All QMS documents shall undergo a 6-monthly compulsory revision(self-assessment) and three yearly review.

5.3 Training Requirements

No project specific training required to implement the process documented in this document beyond normal job function.

6. Acceptance

This document has been seen and accepted by:

Name	Designation
Emile Marell	Environmental Manager
Brenda Mgidlana	Quality Manager
Barry Janse Van Rensburg	Senior Construction Manager
Phillip Dukashe	General Manager Group Capital -Medupi

7. Revisions

Date	Rev.	Compiler	Remarks
15/05/2019	02	Johan Koekemoer	Three yearly review
2015/0715	01	Lebogang Ramono	Annual review
2013/04/18	00	Louis Badenhorst	New document

8. Development Team

The following people were involved in the development of this document:

- Mumsy Boshomane
- Mathews Sebonego
- Sakutanya Mamabolo
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- Mathews Sebonego
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- Calvin Teffo
- Johan Koekemoer

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9. Attachments

- Appendix-A Document Self-Assessment Checklist(200 – 75592)

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Appendix A: Process Self-Assessment Checklist

Discipline: Environmental		Applicable Document No.: PPZ 200 - 85677		Self Assessment Date: / /	
Item No	Ref Section	Self-Assessment Question	Compliant		Comment
			Yes	Part	No
1	3.4	Has the Medupi Alien and Invasive Plant Species Monitoring and Control Program been communicated to the Principle Contractors?			
2	3.5	Has the PC established their own AIPS Monitoring and Control Program based on the requirements of this document?			
3	3.6	Is the correct method of AIPS Control utilized for each species as described in Attachment 2?			
4	3.7	Is a registered herbicide operator used in the case of chemical control applications?			
5	3.8	Are AIPS Monitoring and Follow-up Programs instituted and adhered to?			
6	3.9	Are records kept and the AIPS Register completed after each control activity?			
7	3.10	Has the Medupi Alien and Invasive Plant Species Monitoring and Control Program been communicated to the Principle Contractors?			
Comments:					
Self-Assessment by: Name:		Position:		Revision Required? (Yes / No)	Planned Revision Date:
Attendees:					

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