

PART 4: SITE INFORMATION

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Site :	Grootvlei Power Station
Regional Authority :	Dipaliseng Town Council, Mpumalanga Province
Nearest Towns:	Balfour – 18km northeast of power station Villiers – 30km south of power station Heidelberg – 40km north of power station  There are informal settlements within a 10 km radius of the power station.
Infrastructure :	Grootvlei Power Station is situated approximately 3km from the N3 highway and is connected to it by means of a tarred road. There is also a secondary tarred road connecting the site with the R51 and R53. Water is supplied to the adjoining township, and sewage is returned to the sewerage Works of the power station.  The railway line from Balfour to Bethlehem passes the station.  400kV and 88kV power lines cross the existing road network in the area.
Latitude & longitude :	26° 46' S & 28° 29' E
Landowner :	The power station is situated on the farm Grootvlei Power Station, ERF 458 IR, Title deed number CCT50784/1983.  Eskom is the landowner.
River catchment :	Mid-Vaal

Regional Climate

Grootvlei Power Station is situated on the Highveld in the western part of Mpumalanga province on the escarpment, at an average height of 1551 m above sea level. The winters are generally dry and cold with regular frost and temperatures varying between -7°C and 23°C.

The summers are mild with most of the rainfall occurring during this season. Temperatures vary between 12° & 32° C.

Wind direction

Data from the Heidelberg weather station shows that Grootvlei Power Station is sited in such a way that for most of the year (291 days) the wind direction is from the power station in a direction that is North West.

Rainfall

Based on information recorded at the Heidelberg weather station, the average annual rainfall for the Heidelberg area is approximately 691 mm. (Weather Bureau, Pretoria).