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Project Name: Provision of Meter Reading Services for Eskom in KwaZulu Natal

Project Address: Central East Cluster- KwaZulu Natal

Scope of the project: Meter Reading in Central East Cluster- KZN

Eskom Contract's Manager
Name: Siphelele Hlatshwayo

Eskom's Health and Safety Manager
Name : Phumla Siswana


Eskom's Procurement Manager
Name: Thandi Xaba

Eskom's Safety Officer
Name: Noxolo Mkhwanazi

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1. INTRODUCTION

Eskom’s responsibility and commitment is to ensure a safe working environment is in line with its Safety, Health, Environmental and Quality Policy, along with legislative obligations.

This SHE specification is Eskom’s minimum requirements which are required to be met for the specific contract and for the duration of the contract period by contractors and where required, the delivery organisation.

The contractor is expected to develop a SHE plan which meets these requirements as well as all the relevant applicable legislation they conform to.

Eskom in no way assumes the contractor’s legal responsibilities. The contractor is and remains accountable for the quality and the execution of his/her health and safety programme for his/her employees and appointed contractor employees.

This SHE specification reflects minimum requirements and should not be construed as all encompassing.

Note 1: All the requirements listed hereunder are in relation to the contract and do not supersede or replace any organizational SHE requirements.

Note 2 : In terms of Eskom requirements, a section of this professional contract falls within the requirements of the Construction Regulations.

Although there are requirements listed in this specification that do not pertain directly to air charter, the requirements are expect of an air charter contractor business to conform to. These requirements are in line with Eskom’s Zero Harm value.

Where requirements listed are already in place, then the organisational requirements must be taken cognisance of and listed in the respective SHE plans. If there are any additional Eskom and or legislative requirements listed in the SHE specification, then these must be addressed.

2. SUPPORTING CLAUSES

2.1 SCOPE

This SHE specification lists the legislative and Eskom requirements and where applicable, any requirements pertaining to Local Authorities / Municipal by-laws / Environmental legislation that must be met by the contractor.


2.1.1 Purpose

This document will provide a standardised SHE specifications throughout Eskom for meter reading contract.

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2.1.2 Applicability

This SHE specification is applicable to any contracting organisation who intends tendering for the contract.

2.2 NORMATIVE/INFORMATIVE REFERENCES

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

2.2.1 Normative

- [1] Basic Conditions of Employment Act No 75 of 1997.
- [2] Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations No 85 of 1993.
- [3] National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998.
- [4] National Road Traffic Act 93 of 1996.
- [5] 32-37 Eskom Substance Abuse Procedure.
- [6] Civil Aviation Act 13 of 2009.
- [7] Air Services Licence Act 115 of 1990.


2.2.2 Informative

- [8] 32-726 Mandatory SHE Requirements for Eskom Procurement and Supply Chain Management
- [9] 240-62196227 Eskom Life Saving Rules
- [10] Tobacco Products Control Act 83 of 1993 (Updated 2011.05.19)
- [11] SANS 1186 Symbolic Safety Signs
- [12] Constitution of the Republic of South Africa No 108 of 1996
- [13] 32-95 Eskom Procedure Manual for Performing Occupational Health & Safety Management & Environmental Management : Conducting EH&S Incident Management,

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2.3 Definitions

Definition	Explanation
Appointed contractor	Means a contractor appointed by the principal contractor
Baseline risk assessment	(32-520) baseline operational risks refer to the health and safety risks associated with all standard processes and routine activities in the business
Client	Eskom representative (Internal – Asset Owner), also referred to as the contract administrator/custodian or agent or project manager (as defined in the contract). He/she is the person responsible for ensuring that the works or services are executed in terms of the contract, as well as adherence to legislation pertaining to the contract.
Competent person	(OHS Act) means any person having the knowledge, training, experience, and qualifications, specific to the work or task being performed, provided that, where appropriate, qualifications and training are registered in terms of the South African Qualifications Authority Act, 1995 (Act No. 58 of 1995)
Contractor – includes appointed contractor	means an employer as defined in section 1 of the Act who performs contract work and includes principal contractors
Consultant	means a person providing professional advice
Duty of care to the environment	(32-136) anybody who causes or has caused or may cause significant pollution or degradation of the environment must take reasonable measures to prevent such pollution or degradation from occurring, continuing, or recurring. If such harm to the environment is authorised by law or cannot reasonably be avoided or stopped, such person must minimise and rectify such pollution or degradation of the environment
Employee	(OHS Act) means, subject to the provisions of subsection (2), any person who is employed by or works for an employer and who receives or is entitled to receive any remuneration or who works under the direction or supervision of an employer or any other person
Employer	(OHS Act) means, subject to the provisions of subsection (2), any person who employs or provides work for any person and remunerates that person or expressly or tacitly undertakes to remunerate him/her, but excludes a TES (ex labour broker) as defined in section 1(1) of the Labour Relations Act 1956 (Act No. 28 of 1956)
Eskom requirements	a) Eskom requirements flowing from directives, policies, standards, procedures, specifications, work instructions, guidelines, or manuals
Hazard	(OHS Act) means a source of, or exposure to, danger
Hazard identification	(OHS Act) means the identification and documenting of existing or expected hazards to the health and safety of persons, which are normally associated with the type of construction work being executed or to be executed
Health and safety file	(OHS Act) means a file or other record, containing the information in writing required by the construction regulations.
Health and safety plan	(OHS Act) means a site, activity or project specific document plan in accordance with the client's health and safety specifications.

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Definition	Explanation
Health and safety specification	(OHS Act) means a site, activity or project specific document prepared by the client pertaining to all health and safety requirements related to construction work.
Health and safety requirements	means comprehensive health and safety requirements for a contract, project, site, and scope of work. This specification is intended to ensure the health and safety of persons, both workers and the public, and the duty of care to the environment. The health and safety requirements must be specific to each contract, project, site, and scope of work
Medical certificate of fitness	(OHS Act) means a certificate specific to the work to be performed and issued by an occupational health practitioner in the form of Annexure 3 of the construction regulations.
Medical surveillance	(OHS Act) means a planned programme or periodic examination (which may include clinical examinations, biological monitoring, or medical tests) of employees by an occupational health practitioner or, in prescribed cases, by an occupational medicine practitioner
Method statement	(OHS Act) means a written document detailing the key activities to be performed in order to reduce, as reasonably as practicable, the hazards identified in any risk assessment
Organisation	may be defined as a group of individuals (large of small) that is cooperating under the direction of executive leadership in accomplishment of certain common objects
Pre-job meetings	(34-227) means a meeting that is held prior to the commencement of the day's work and that is attended by all the relevant employees associated with the work task
Principal contractor	(In the text of this document) Means an employer, as defined in section 1 of the OHS Act, who intends to tender for or has signed a contract with Eskom for services rendered.
Provincial director	(OHS Act) means the provincial director as defined in Regulation 1 of the General Administrative Regulations under the Act
Responsible Manager	Is a Manager of a department, section or operating/business unit who has been appointed as part of the Eskom delegation of authority process with the aim to assist the applicable 16(2) assigned person in executing his/her duties in terms of the Occupational Health and Safety Act
Risk assessment	(OHS Act) means a programme to determine any risk associated with any hazard at a construction site in order to identify the steps needed to be taken to remove, reduce, or control such hazard.
Site	(34-228) means an Eskom department, unit, complex, building, specific project, work site, or the site where agents, clients, principal contractors, contractors, suppliers, vendors, and service providers provide a service to Eskom, directly or indirectly
Service provider	any private person or legal entity that provides any service(s) to Eskom for compensation
Task	(34-227) a segment of work that requires a set of specific and distinct actions for its completion

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Definition	Explanation
Toolbox talks	(34-227) where the team leader, after conducting pre-task planning, shares all the tasks at hand and discusses task allocation, the identified risks, and the control measures with all his/her team members on site before commencing a specific task and documenting the agreed strategy. (This shall be done to ensure common understanding of the tasks, risks, and control measures required.)
The Act	(OHS Act) means the Occupational Health and Safety Act No. 85 of 1993, as amended, and the Regulations thereto
Visitor	any person visiting a workplace with the knowledge of, or under the supervision of, an employer.


2.4 Abbreviations

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>Description</i>
BU	Business Unit
CE	Chief Executive
COID Act	Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act
CR	Construction Regulations
DMR	Driven Machinery Regulations
DoL	Department of Labour (Inspection and Enforcement services – Provincial office)
EP	Emergency Preparedness
EAP	Employee Assistance Program
ERfW	Environmental Regulations for Workplaces
GAR	General Administrative Regulations
GSR	General Safety Regulations
HCS	Hazardous Chemical Substances
LDV	Light Delivery Vehicle
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheets
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act
OHS Act	Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations, 85 of 1993
SABS	South African Bureau Standard
SANS	South African National Standard

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2.5 Related/Supporting Documents

Eskom OHS Act section 37 (2) agreement (to be completed by the contract responsible manager).

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3. Specification

3.1 Scope of work

1.1 The Contractor is required to obtain meter readings of all Small Power Users (SPU) Meters for the KwaZulu Natal Operating Unit, as specified on the predetermined route schedule that will be provided to them by Eskom. Each reading is to be accompanied by a photograph of the reading. The reading will not be paid for unless it is accompanied by a photograph. The reading with the photograph will be paid for as one unit. If a photograph of the actual read cannot be supplied then a photograph indicating why it could not be taken is to accompany it (e.g. Meter box could not be opened, a customer took the reading, etc.) The rate for the payment of no accesses will be lower than that of where an actual read is obtained.

1.2 All Small Power User (SPU) meters will be read on a quarterly basis on predetermined routes generated by Eskom's automated Billing System as amended from time to time. This schedule and or number of customers can be changed by Eskom as new customers are added or removed from the system. The meters can be identified by means of a physical address, Installation Number as well as a meter identification number or badge number visible on or in the meter kiosk and on the meters.

1.3 Once appointed the contractor will have to develop knowledge of the geographical area, the Eskom network, the different reading routes as well as the dates on which these routes should be read. The Contractor will be expected to read and understand Eskom's single line diagrams, route maps, and GPS co-ordinates to find installations where necessary.

1.4 Note: Eskom pay per customer installation readings i.e. an installation could have one or three meters but payment is only made for the single installation.

1.5 All SPU meter readings will be captured on Hand Held Data Capture devices (HHU) which will be provided by Eskom.

1.6 All documentation / equipment / Downloads etc. to perform the required meter reading must be collected from the relevant Eskom office.


1.7 On completion of each route, readings are to be uploaded into the Route Master System at the relevant Eskom office on the end read date or as stipulated.

1.8 ALL INSTALLATIONS ON THE ROUTE including Terminated points of delivery within a route must be read and if any movement or tampering is noted this must be reported immediately to the relevant accountable Eskom Official.

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1.9 The routes are classified as either Rural or Urban depending on the geographical area with different rates as agreed in this contract being charged for each of the categories. Urban Routes and Rural Routes routes will be as defined in the enquiry document and in this agreement.

1.10 If the Contractor fails to complete a route or to submit readings that are accepted and used by the automated billing system, unless as a direct result of an Eskom act or omission, no payment will be made for the unusable readings.

1.11 Where access is not gained due to, vicious dogs, bad roads, locked premises etc., payment will be considered if the Hand Held Unit remarks section is updated with the appropriate comment. A Digital photograph is also to be taken and provided to Eskom electronically. Such photographs are to comply with the requirements as specified under the heading *Special Conditions of Contract*, Eskom will audit the remarks and photographs for validity. Where Eskom finds that readings could have been taken, the Contractor will not be paid for such readings.

1.12 If it is found at a later stage that a reading could have been obtained or the meter was in fact accessible or where discrepancies have been identified by Eskom staff, Eskom may deduct an amount from the next invoice payable for the incorrect no accesses paid for previously. The amount deducted will be the number of incorrect no accesses submitted multiplied by the no access rate applicable to the contract at the time of the deduction.

1.13 The Contractor is to read and validate each meter badge number as required by the route master system whilst on site reading the meters. This may require opening meter boxes in many cases and the Contractor is to ensure that all staff are adequately trained and authorized by Eskom to do so.

1.14 Timeline schedule:


- o The relevant Eskom official is responsible for the co-ordination of the reading dates with the Contractor.
- o These dates are determined by the Eskom Billing system billing window.
- o The Contractor has 4 days to read the Meter route.
- o All readings must be captured directly into the hand held unit whilst in the field at the respective meter/s.

1.15 Whatever information is provided to or by Eskom belongs to Eskom & should the Contractor leave Eskom for any reason, information must be returned to Eskom and not to any other third party.

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1.16 The Contractor must update / correct the data on the HHU on site in cases where data in the HHU is different from that in the meter box. Any tampering on meters must be recorded on the HHU

1.17 Eskom reserves the right to change the meter reading cycles from time to time as needed to optimize the reading routes.

1.18 Eskom will provide magnetic stickers, for vehicle identification, that clearly indicates that the Contractor is an Eskom Contractor.

3.2 LEGAL COMPLIANCE

3.2.1 Section 37(2) (Legal) Agreement

A section 37(2) agreement must be signed between Eskom and the principal contractor at the time of awarding the contract. The principal contractor must ensure that a section 37(2) agreement is compiled between the principal contractor and all their appointed contractors for the contract.

The original copy of the section 37(2) agreement must be retained by the contractor and a copy retained by the responsible manager.

A copy all the agreements must form part of the respective contractor’s SHE file.

3.2.2 Hazardous Work by Children (Child Labour)

The constitution of the Republic of South Africa, in the “Bill of Rights” is clear on the rights of children, especially when it comes to:

- 1. being protected from exploitative labour practices;
- 2. not to be required or permitted to perform work or provide services that
 - i. are inappropriate for a person of that child’s age; or
 - ii. place at risk the child’s well-being, education, physical or mental health or spiritual, moral or social development;


and the Basic Conditions of Employment Act, Chapter six Section 43 “Prohibition of employment of children”.

Before resorting to the use of child labour, due consideration must be given to the rights of the child in terms of the constitution. Where work is being performed which is not prohibited in terms of the constitution, then such work must be conducted in terms of the OHS Act “Regulations on Hazardous Work by Children in South Africa” with emphasis on paragraph 2 Purpose and Interpretation. Eskom does not condone the use of child labour and therefore all effort must be exercised and child labour should not be used.

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3.2.3 OHS Act

The principal contractor and appointed contractors shall have an up to date copy of the OHS Act and regulations which will be available to all employees.

3.2.4 Legislative Compliance

All contractors will comply with all the legislation pertaining to this contract being:

- The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (particularly Section 24 of the Bill of Rights).
- Occupational Health and Safety Act 1993 (Act 85 of 1993) and its Regulations.
- Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act.

3.3 Eskom requirements

All contractors shall, before commencement of the charter insure that all their employees are familiar with the relevant Eskom SHE documentation that is applicable to charter services.

3.3.1 Appointment of a Contractor

The principal contractor will be appointed by Eskom on the awarding of the contract and will be responsible and accountable for all legislative and Eskom requirements for the duration of the contract.

3.3.2 Appointment of sub-contractors

The principal contractor may appoint contractors to assist in the contract. All appointments shall be done in writing and will form part of the SHE plan that is required to be submitted to Eskom. Adequate training and instruction must be given to the appointees and the principal contractor must ensure that all the appointed contractors understand their roles and responsibilities.

Note: Copies of contractor appointments must be kept in the respective SHE file.

3.3.3 SHE Policy


A SHE policy is a statement of intent and a commitment by the organisation's CE and senior management in relation to the relevant SHE roles and responsibilities, the achievement of their strategic objectives, values of integrity, customer satisfaction, excellence, and innovation.

The principal contractor and all appointed contractors, if already not in place, will be required to compile an organisational SHE policy in line with their SHE responsibilities. The policy must be signed by the organisation's CE or the appointed assistant to the CE OHS Act Section 16(2). The policy must be displayed in a prominent place within the workplace. A copy of the policy must be filed in all the contract SHE files and as an annexure the SHE Plans

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3.3.4 COID

The principal contractor and all his/her appointed contractors shall be registered with an appropriate employment compensation commissioner and have available a valid letter of good standing (LoGS) from such commissioner. The obligation lies with the contractors to ensure that the LoGS remains valid throughout the contract period. A copy of the LoGS must be filed in the entire contract SHE files and as an annexure the SHE Plans.

3.4 PERSONNEL HEALTH / HYGIENE FACILITIES

3.4.1 Dining areas

Where Eskom employees are required to consume food and refreshments at your premises, the following must be complied with:

1. The contractor must in possession of the Certificate of acceptability, comply with Regulation 916 (Food
2. Undergone Safety Audit as per SANS 10049: Water Sample tests done, Microbiological tests done, Audit of the food Safety process done.
3. Dining areas shall have suitable and sufficient tables and chairs for seating whilst eating.
4. Adequate provision must be provided for washing cooking and eating utensils.

Dining and kitchen areas shall be kept in a clean, tidy and hygienic manner.

3.4.2 Ablution facilities

At the workplace, where possible, the all contractors must attempt to provide sufficient portable ablution facilities for the employees. Such facilities must be serviced regularly

3.4.3 Drinking Water

All contractors shall provide suitable drinking water for all their employees I (free of charge) whilst working in the field. Every effort must be made to keep the water as cold as possible.

3.4.4 Changing areas and Lockers

All contractors shall provide suitable changing facilities for employees, irrespective if they change at the premises or at the workplace. Once again, cognisance must be taken of the dignity of fellow workers and members of the public.

3.4.5 Camp / Office Welfare


The following welfare facilities must be provided for in a clean and suitable condition, unless agreement with the Client/Agent's representative has been confirmed regarding the use of existing facilities:

- a. Shower facilities.

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- b. Sanitary facilities.
- c. Changing facilities.
- d. Eating areas.
- e. Drinking water at strategic locations on site.
- f. Safe pedestrians walk ways.

1. Water for drinking/consumption purposes shall be drawn only from taps in dining areas and ablution blocks and at points on Site marked “drinking water”.
2. No equipment or system shall be connected onto the drinking water system without prior approval of the Client/Agent’s representative.
3. All contractors must supply a sufficient amount of (cool) potable water on each worksite and in vehicles
4. The Contractor will be required to provide their own accommodation for the workers.

3.5 FOOD HANDLING HYGIENE

3.5.1 Storage

Where camps are established, adequate cold storage must be supplied for the storage of food.

3.5.2 Transportation

Where bulk purchasing is carried out, all food must be transported in appropriate sealable containers.

3.5.3 Handling

Where camp cooks are employed the appropriate hygienic conditions within the kitchen and utensil washing facilities must be maintained.

3.6 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH, HYGIENE AND REHABILITATION,

All contractors are required to develop an Occupational Health, Hygiene and Rehabilitation program. The program is intended to ensure that the risks to health are identified and controlled.

3.6.1 Medicals


Note: Eskom will only accept medical surveillances conducted by an Occupational Health Practitioner who holds a qualification in occupational health.

1. Principle contractors must ensure that their and their appointed contractors have a medical surveillance program whereby their employees under go entry, periodic and exit medical fitness examinations.
2. In order for the appropriate medical examinations to be conducted, each employee must have a person job specification (profile), which must indicate the description of

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work, list of hazards and potential occupational exposure limits, physical hazards and required physical attributes.

3. For employees working on the contract, medical fitness certificates shall be renewed annually for employees who are not office bound including drivers and once every 3 years for employees that are office bound. This shall be maintained until completion of the contract.
4. The Principal Contractor must ensure that his / her employees and sub-contractor employees have undergone pre-entry medical examination before starting work on the contract, should it be for longer than three (3) days.
5. The principal contractor shall provide a documented process for managing those employees who are issued with a conditional certificate of fitness.

3.6.2 Health and wellness HIV / Aids

Contractors shall submit details of their Employee Health and Wellness Programme as part of their Health and Safety Plan which should include awareness training, support for contracted illness and sharing knowledge with members of the public in the immediate work environment

3.7 APPOINTMENTS

For the duration of the contract, the principal contractor and all appointed contractors shall appoint competent employees who will meet the requirements of the OHS Act. Where appointments are made, contractors shall ensure that the appointees have been suitably trained and or informed of their responsibilities before getting them to accept such appointment. The relevant statutory appointments shall be made in accordance with the requirements of the OHS Act which includes the requirement of a competent person being appointed in the relevant roles. The statutory appointments should include but not limited to: Fire Fighter and Evacuation warden, First Aider, 16(2) appointment.

3.8 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

All contractors are required to list employee's roles and responsibilities pertaining to the contract.

3.9 RISK ASSESSMENTS


It is a legal requirement in terms of Section 8 (2)(d) of the OHS Act for an employer to carry out risk assessments to establish what hazards to the health and safety of persons are attached to any work which is performed, any article or substance which is, handled, stored, transported. COVID 19 A risk assessment is defined as an identification of the hazards present in an organisation and an estimate of the extent of the risks involved, taking into account whatever precautions are already being taken. It is essentially a three stage process:

- identification of all hazards;

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	<p align="center">SHE SPECIFICATION Provision of Meter Reading</p>	Template Identifier	240-73418055	Rev	2
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- evaluation of the risks;
- measures to control the risks.

Risk assessments are required to be maintained. This means that significant changes to a process or activity, or any new process or activity should be subjected to a risk assessment and that if new hazards come to light during the work process, then these should also be subjected to risk assessments. Risk assessments for long term processes should be periodically reviewed and updated. Method statements or written safe work procedures are an effective method as information and record of the way jobs / tasks must be performed. Prior to start of work, risk assessments on every job / task are ideal to allow managers and employees to assess any inherent risks that could have been overlooked during the initial risk assessment or any changes that might have occurred in a period of absence. In particular, if a job / task is extended over a day or halted due to inclement weather.

3.10 INCIDENT INVESTIGATION

All incidents shall be investigated in terms of OHS Act General Administrative Regulations 8 and 9, using Eskom Procedure 32-95 as a reference, and where injuries as contemplated in sections 24 and 25 have been sustained, be reported to the Department of Labour.

Contractors shall use the standard General Administrative Regulation Annexure 1 “Recording of an Incident” form for all incident investigation reports. The objective of incident investigation, not only being a legal requirement, is to establish why and how the incident occurred, but to find out the real causes of the incident and to decide on precautionary measures that are required to address the causes to prevent any further recurrences of the same or similar incidents.

3.11 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

1. The art of emergency preparedness and response is to minimise the effects of any emergency and to restore normal activities as soon as practical. The supplier must develop their own emergency response in their work premises. The Eskom employees attending training must be made aware of the emergency process and the assembly points. Where any office and or site is located within any Local Authorities area, then the plans must include their involvement. Emergency preparedness

Periodic emergency drills must be undertaken to test the effectiveness of the plan. This must be recorded and provided on request.


3.11.1 Non-Conformance and Compliance

1. Any non-compliance to any health and safety requirement in this SHE specification is subject to discipline in terms of the Eskom Procurement and Supply Management Procedure.

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2. Principal contractors are required to implement a non-conformance procedure (if not already in place) for issuing to contractors for transgressions. The procedure can include “quality” related non-conformance issues. Similarly, appointed contractors must implement a non-conformance procedure.
3. The procedure for the issuing and closing off of non-conformance reports shall be strictly adhered to.
4. Contract management must close out non-conformances issued, in not doing so, will not ensure that any recommendations made have been carried out and or implemented.
5. Where non-conformances are issued by Eskom, then one of the close-out steps of the procedure will be for the offender to be called on by the contractor responsible manager to explain the non-conformance issued and what they intend doing to prevent a recurrence of the non-conformance.
6. Contractor failure to provide adequate PPE to their employees for the tasks being performed and/or to visitors and failure to enforce the wearing of such PPE will be viewed as a transgression of the legislative and Eskom requirements.

4. AUTHORIZATION

Nil

5. REVISIONS

Date	Rev.	Compiler	Remarks
August 2015	0	F Poee	This provides the initial SHE specification requirements that must be met by the relevant contractors who have been awarded a contract for the work to be performed for Eskom.
July 2023	1	P Siswana	New revision

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