

Strategic Plan for Integrating Future Renewable Energy Generators in South Africa

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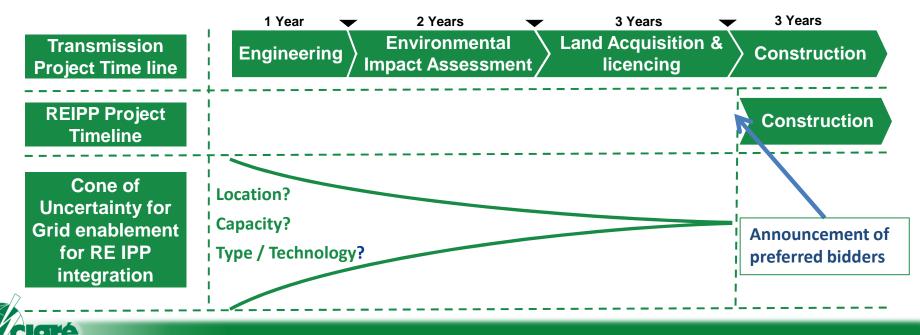


Introduction and Background

- In 2010, South Africa embarked on a process to diversify its energy sources by introducing renewable energy (RE) as part of the energy mix.
- Following the IRP 2010, a Draft IRP was released in December 2016, which shows ambitions to integrate substantial RE generation in the country up to 2050 with the REIPPPP as an implementation vehicle.
- The IRP only specifies the quantity and technology to be connected without prescribing geographical location. This presents spatial uncertainty and difficulty in formulating associated grid connection plans.
- This paper presents a South African case on strategic planning using the least-regret approach to effectively deal with RE spatial dispersion and capacity challenges

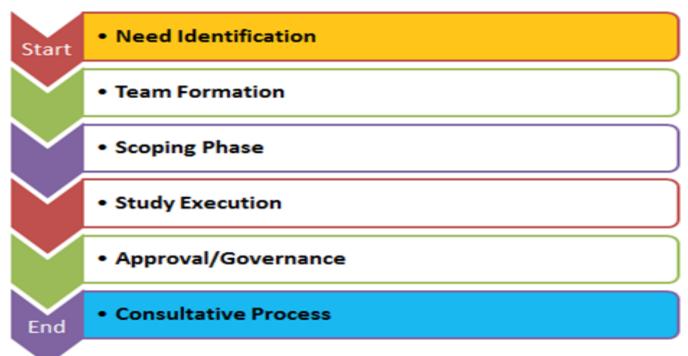
Problem statement

- The initial rounds (up to 4B) of the REIPPP programme have consumed much of the available connection capacity on the national grid; hence an urgent need to create additional capacity for the future IPP programmes
- Other challenges pertaining the enablement future RE programs are as follows:
 - Sub-optimal network design and deployment of resources
 - Spatial disparity between load centres and RE generation areas
 - Plans can only be finalised upon announcement of preferred bidders
 - Longer lead times for network development compared to RE plant development



Approach (Framework)

- A framework favoring the long term transmission and distribution network development to facilitate the integration of generation from RE resources was adopted.
- An overall approach guiding the process was both deterministic (i.e. decided upfront)
 and emergent (i.e. certain elements were deemed necessary during the study), as per
 diagram.





Approach (Study execution)

All stakeholders

Transmission & Distribution

Transmission & Distribution

Transmission

Distribution & Distribution

All stakeholders

Adoption of the Plan

(consultative with industry stakeholders)

Governance Approval

(internal Approvals)

Consolidation of studies (Iterative Process)

Review and alignment

Transmission integration studies (Global level)

- Capacity factor calculation & Load Balancing
- Corridor Sizing

Sub-transmission & Transmission studies (Local level)

- Installed capacity based
- Connection infrastructure requirements assessment

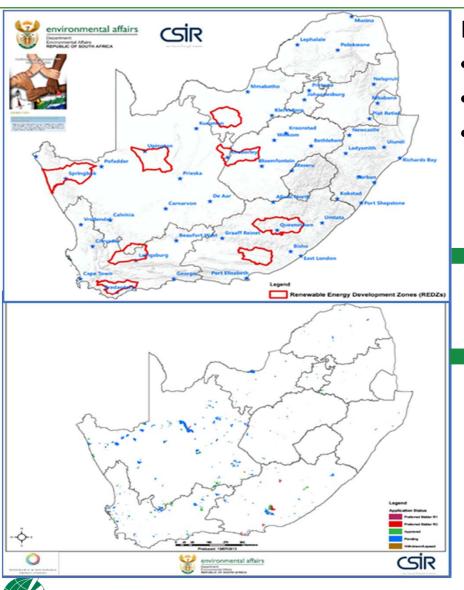
Formulation and adoption of assumptions

- ICE Applications database since REIPPPP inception
- Prospective REIPP EIA EA database

Transmission and Distribution Network Codes

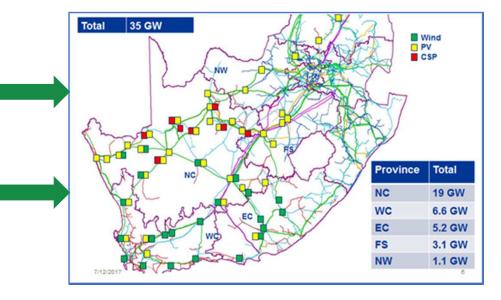


Assumptions



Location and Volume (multiple sources):

- Connection Requests From IPPs
- IPP EIA applications
- REDZ Research



Assumptions - Transmission Corridor

Determination of Capacity Factors

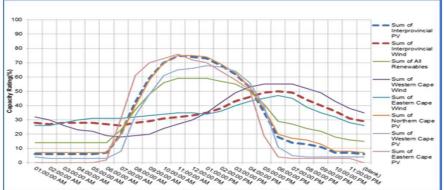
- RE is intermittent, which yields diversity between geographical areas.
- Power flow scenarios were formulated based on the generally accepted practice (midday, peak load, and light load scenarios) as per table
- Metered data verification showed that assumptions were within reasonable range as shown in graph.

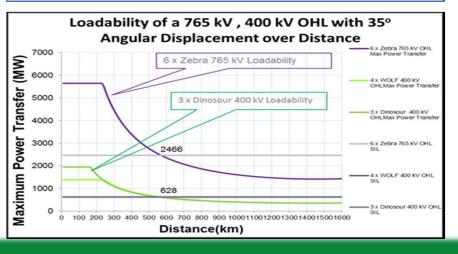
Transmission line loadability

 Corridor sizing was based on line loadability characteristics at angular displacement of 35 degrees

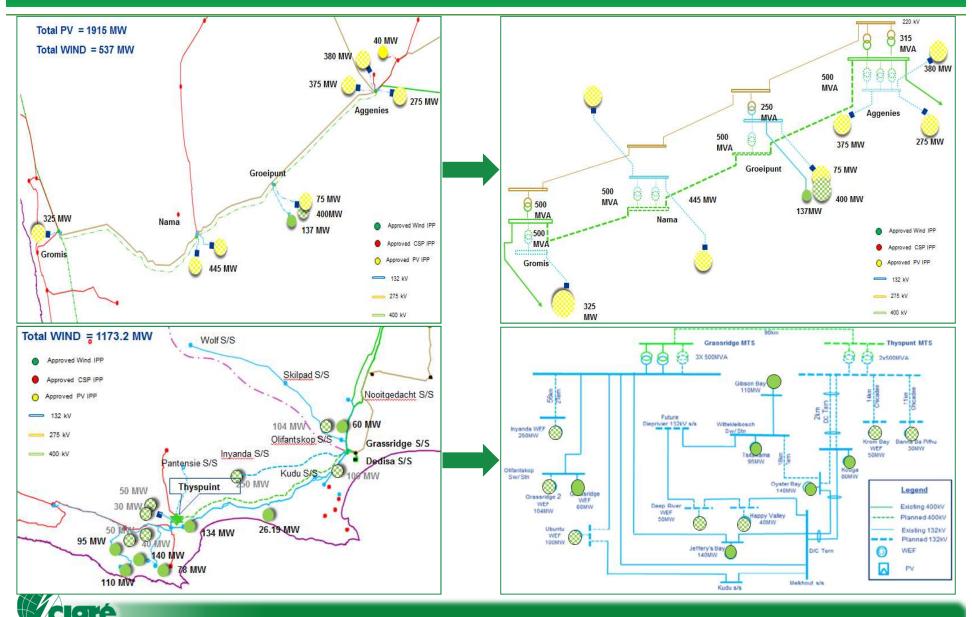
$$P_{\text{max}} = (V_{s.p.u})(V_{r.p.u})(SIL) \frac{\sin(\delta)}{\sin(360^{\circ} \frac{Length}{\lambda})} = (V_s)(V_r) \frac{\sin(\delta)}{x}$$

CSP	PV	CSP	WIND	Load
1. Midday RES generation	100%	100%	30%	75 % TOSP Load
2. Time of Daily System Peak	30%	0%	100%	100% TOSP Load
RES generation				
3. Midnight RES generation	0%	0%	100%	50% TOSP Load





Network Studies (Local level): Illustrations



Network Studies (Global level): Illustrations

Transmission

Three Scenario analysis (midday, peak & light)

400 kV Power evacuation scenario

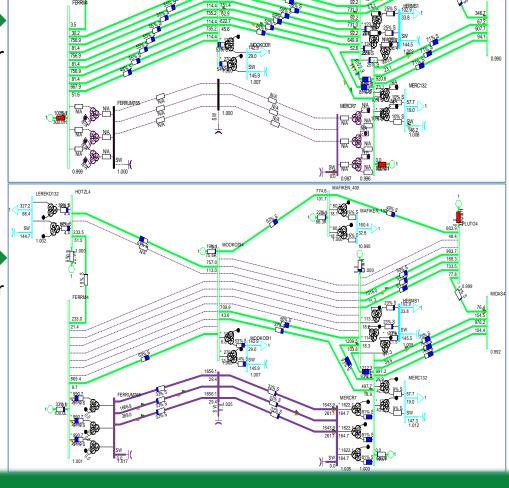


- Ten transmission lines required for power evacuation
- Most environmental impact

765 & 400 kV Power evacuation scenario



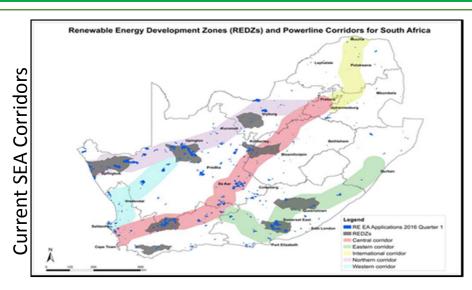
- Five Six transmission lines required for power evacuation
- Least environmental impact

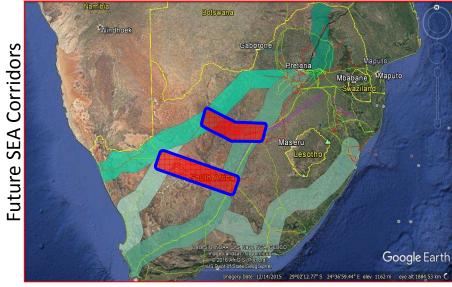




Findings of the study

- Future transmission corridors, transmission substations, distribution lines and distribution substations (collectors & satellites) were identified.
- This yields a "blueprint" on which additional Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) for future distribution and transmission infrastructure will be based.
- This work will enhance process that had already been started by Eskom, CSIR and DEA on SEAs based on a Strategic Grid Plan as shown in graph







Conclusions and Recommendations

The following recommendations were made:

- Development trigger points: It was evident that geographical areas require varying degrees of grid development. It is better for the industry to systematically develop in blocks of developmental phases, with infrastructure investment triggered at each bid-window, and the developmental phases, ranked according to the overall cost to the economy
- To enable expeditious rollout of infrastructure, certain strategic activities need to take place in advance; these include EIAs, acquisitions and concept designs. It is recommended that funding be approved for these strategic initiatives.
- To optimally implement the strategic plan, various stakeholders such as DoE's IPP Office, Eskom, IPPs, NERSA, and other parties need to be aligned.
- The blueprint emanating from this plan should be used for future infrastructure development plans and IRP's.

