

SUBMISSION TO THE  
COMMISSION ON REGIONS -

o e o , , /.2.5

Â® Regional government  
| N  
South Africa

PROPOSAL TO THE  
COMMISSION ON REGIONS

PROPOSAL FOR THE DEMARCATION OF  
REGION F  
AS A  
REGION/PROVINCE | STATE  
IN A

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL DISPENSATION

PROPOSED BY  
THE REGIONAL SERVICES COUNCILS  
OF  
LOWVELD AND ESCARPMENT  
HIGHVELD  
OOSVAAL  
ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY OF  
  
THE EASTERN TRANSCAAL

10

11

## INDEX

Proposal for the demarcation of the Eastern Transvaal as a Region.

Map: Eastern Transvaal in relation to the rest of Southern Africa.

Map: Boundaries of Region F nodal points, main towns and routes

Map: The boundaries of the three Regional Services Councils of the Eastern Transvaal

Description: Magisterial districts in the Regional Services Councilsâ\200\231 areas

Map indicating the magisterial districts

Description of magisterial districts not in Region F but part of the Regional Services Councilsâ\200\231 areas

Map indicating those magisterial districts not in Region F but part of the Regional Services Councilsâ\200\231 areas

Areas of doubt

Map indicating the areas of doubt

Notes on criteria for demarcation

111 Historical boundaries

11.2 Administrative considerations

11.3 Rationalisation of existing structures

11.4 Limitation of financial costs

11.5 Minimising inconvenience to the people

11.6 Minimising the dislocation of services

11.7 Demographic considerations

11.8 Economic viability

11.9 Development potential

11.10 Cultural and language realities

## Â¥ Â£ PROPOSAL FOR THE DEMARCATION OF EASTERN TRANSVAAL AS A REGION

The proposal of the Eastern Transvaal as a region is based on the boundaries of Development Region F as demarcated in 1975 which, inter alia, includes the Self Governing Territories of Kangwane, the Mhala district of Gazankulu and the Bushbuck Ridge area of Lebowa. The latter two areas were excluded from Region F by the National Physical Development Plan of 1984.

In addition to this one other magisterial district (Delmas in the west), parts of two other magisterial districts (Soutpansberg and Phalaborwa in the north) as well as a small number of farms of the Nigel magisterial districts in the south should be included. These areas form part of the three Regional Services Councils situated in the Eastern Transvaal.

With reference to the above it must be placed on record that Delmas has requested to be included in the Eastern Transvaal as it has functionally been part of this region for a number of years. So has the management of the Kruger National Park indicated that the park as a whole should form part of the Eastern Transvaal as it is part of the Lowveld and Escarpment Regional Services Council. From a functional point of view the park should not be divided between two regions. Furthermore its head office is situated at Skukuza which has always been part of Region F.

What follows is a detailed description of the proposal.

### DESCRIPTION:

#### 1 REGION F:

All magisterial districts

1.1, Sub Region 26 (Coincides with the area of jurisdiction of the Lowveld and Escarpment Regional Services Council excluding Kangwane):

- 1 Lydenburg
- 2 Pilgrimâ\200\231s Rest 1
- 3 Pilgrimâ\200\231s Rest 2
- 4 Witrivier
- 5 Nelspruit
- 6 Barberton
- 7 Nsikazi (Kangwane)
- 8 Kamhlushwa (Kangwane)

12 Sub Region 27 (Coincides with the area of jurisdiction of the Highveld Regional Services Council)

- 9 Witbank
- 10 Middelburg
- 11 Groblersdal
- 12 Belfast
- 13 Waterval Boven

13

14

15

Sub Region 28 (Coincides with the area of jurisdiction of the Oosvaal Regional Services Council excluding Kangwane):

14 Bethal

15 Standerton

16 Hoërvelldrif (Secunda)

17 Balfour

18 Ermelo

19 Amersfoort

20 Volksrust

21 Wakkerstroom

22 Piet Retief

23 Carolina

24 Kriel

25 Eerstehoek (Kangwane)

Mahla area of Gazankulu

Bushbuck Ridge Area of Lebowa

Â»

X

VOIH4dV NHIHLNOS 40 LS3H FHIL OL NOLLVT3IH NI TVVASNVHL

A

1/

J//v/â\200\231

PROPOSAL FOR

EASTERN TRANSVAAL AS A REGION

NA X TBIE

)  
X E

E-d &P P RO VI NS-I.R

i S A

s

g

BOTS VW ANA

(RRRERARY j;  
TRANSVAAL

&  
.

M  
VR

TSANA

>

\r\Â»hv/fï¬\201f\\fh\Nâ\200\234"!â\200\231\yb

â\202¬ 98eq

S3LNOYH ANV SNMO.L NIV â\200\230SLNIOd TYAON HLIM 4 NOIDIH 40 SIIHVANNOY

PROPOSAL FOR EASTERN TRANSVAAL AS A REGION

MABBLE HALL

KOMATIEPOORT

STREEK F

y o9eq



Â®  
 PROPOSAL FOR EASTERN TRANSVAAL AS A REGION

STREEK F  
 00SVAAL  
 HOEVELD  
 LAEVELD

)  
 .I ,.â\200\224â\200\224-â\200\224\\ /h" \\_z \_/S . =  
 - =T

A =  
 S - B p  
 ST @

THE BOUNDARIES OF THE THREE REGIONAL SERVICES COUNCILS OF THE  
 EASTERN TRANSVAAL

5 DESCRIPTION: MAGISTERIAL DISTRICTS IN THE REGIONAL SERVICES

COUNCILS AREAS

1 Sub Region 26 (Lowveld and Escarpment Regional Services Council):

1 Lydenburg

2 Pelgrimsrus 1

3 Pilgrimâ\200\231s Rest 2

4 Witrivier

5 Nelspruit

6 Barberton

7 Nsikazi

8 Phalaborwa (Part of)

9 Soutpansberg (Part of)

2 Sub Region 27 (Highveld Regional Services Council)

10 Witbank

11 Middelburg

12 Groblersdal

13 Belfast

14 Waterval Boven

3 Sub Region 28 (Oosvaal Regional Services Council)

15 Bethal

16 Standerton

17 Hogveldrif (Secunda)

18 Balfour

19 Ermelo

20 Amersfoort

21 Volksrust

22 Wakkerstroom

23 Piet Retief

24 Carolina

25 Delmas

26 Nigel (part of)

27 Kriel

Â®  
PROPOSAL FOR EASTERN TRANSVAAL AS A REGION

PHALABORNA \â\200\224

>  
&

\\iuuczn RATIONAL ?â\200\230lï¬\2011)

\  
y  
Vi  
A  
A S | eaicrinseos 1  
: sâ\200\231  
S \  
| e  
L WAL ï¬\201  
oy  
el PELGRINSRUS Â°\ ol  
26t~  
LA & L o  
1 HITRIVIER  
MNSIEA  
N  
NELSPRUIT \  
RS  
\ B RARBRRTON  
H OFE V s AL S  
UIDDBLBURE \ )Td  
Y o  
FITBANE Y o

N

â\200\224\_â\200\224 SMEKK P

28 â\200\224\_â\200\224 BOEVELD

o kÂ¥ TR T â\200\224\_â\200\224 " LAEVELD

LANDROSDISTRIKTE

STANDERTON

AMERSFOORT

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICTS IN THE REGIONAL SERVICES COUNCILS AREAS

Page 8

THOSE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICTS NOT IN REGION F BUT BEING PART  
OF THE REGIONAL SERVICES COUNCILS. THESE ARE:

7.1

72

LOWVELD ESCARPMENT REGIONAL SERVICES COUNCIL

Those parts of the Magisterial districts of:

T3

7.12

Soutpansberg  
Phalaborwa

which fall within the boundaries of the Kruger National Park.

721

122

OOSVAAL REGIONAL SERVICES COUNCIL:

Delmas

The following farms of the Nigel Magisterial district:

Nooitgedacht 286 IR  
Nooitgedacht 294 IR  
Bosmanskop 293 IR  
Leeukop 299 IR  
Winterhoek 314 IR  
Palmietfontein 316 IR  
Palmietfontein 337 IR  
Palmietfontein 322 IR  
Malkop 317 IR  
Wonderfontein 342 IR  
Groenkuil 318 IR

Honigfontein 339 IR  
Wolvenbank 338 IR  
Klippan 324 IR  
Langzeekoegat 323 IR  
Langzeekoegat 325 IR  
Potfontein 285 IR  
Morea 331 IR

Witkop 330 IR  
Vrisgewaag 501 IR  
Vrisgewaag 329 IR  
Modderbult 332 IR

i3

Â® >

L

PROPOSAL FOR BEASTERN TRANSVAAL AS A REGION SOUTPLNSERS

M-U\/\â\200\231/>\

N

' PHALABORYA

(KRUGBR NATIONAL PARK)

1

DRLUAS

X S e

Â«,Ã©.â\200\230:"â\200\230 e inf;)ERKOS;lSTRIKTE

o,

PLASE

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICTS NOT IN REGION F BUT PART OF THE REGIONAL  
SERVICES COUNCILS

POSSIBLE AREAS OF DOUBT:

9.1

02

9.3

9.4

The Pongola corridor between Swaziland and Natal.

The Mhala area being part of Gazankulu

The Bushbuck Ridge area being part of Lebowa

The farms being part of the Nigel magisterial District which district is only partly included in the Oosvaal Regional Services Council area.

Â®

PROPOSAL FOR EASTERN TRANSVAAL AS A REGION

SOUTPANSBERG

PHALABORWA  
(KRUGER NATIONAL PARK)

DELMAS  
Â\200\230 REGION F +

X STREEK F +  
\_ ONSEKER GEBIEDE

AREAS OF DOUBT



## 11 NOTES ON CRITERIA FOR DEMARCATION

### 11.1

#### BOUNDARIES

##### 1111

##### 1112

#### HISTORICAL BOUNDARIES

Eastern Transvaal is bordered in the east by the international boundaries of Mozambique and Swaziland and by the province of Natal. In the south it is bordered by the province of the Orange Free State and Development Region H.

In the west Eastern Transvaal is bordered partly by Development Regions G and H as well as the Self Governing Territory of KwaNdebele.

Kangwane (originally a tribal authority) has been the subject of investigation for demarcation since mid 1970. It achieved Executive status in 1977 and Self Governing Status in 1979. The same applies to the Mhala district of Gazankulu.

The proposed region was part of the Republic of Transvaal and since 1910 part of the Province of Transvaal.

All magisterial boundaries are honoured except that of Nigel, Phalaborwa and Soutpansberg which, due to other functional reasons such as the boundaries of the Oosvaal Regional Services Council and the Kruger National Park, are only partially included.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

Eastern Transvaal has a highly developed infrastructure in respect of transportation, communication, water schemes, the industrial, mining, electricity generation and agricultural sectors all serving the growing economy.

An indication of this is found in the background report prepared by the Highveld Services Regional Council. Of significance is the GGP of Eastern Transvaal and its economic growth over the last decade and its development potential. These factors justify the infrastructure and is due to the large variety of products being produced or manufactured.

## ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION

## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES RENDERED BY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

The Central Government has over the past few years decentralised the activities of several of its departments. The boundaries of operation of these decentralised departments, with one exception, coincide exactly with the boundaries of Region " F ". If region " F " is delimited as a separate region/state/province, it will be clear from the undermentioned state departments which have offices in the region, that the second tier government would be in a position to commence and continue to govern the region/state/province with the minimum of administrative adjustment and expenditure in respect of those services which may be devolved to this tier of government. In many cases there are sub-offices in larger centres and most of the towns in the region have local offices of many of

the departments.

The following departments of state have regional offices

in Region "F":

Internal Affairs Nelspruit  
 Water Affairs & Forestry Nelspruit  
 Finance ( Receivers of Revenue ) Nelspruit  
 Witbank  
 Standerton  
 Correctional Services Witbank  
 S A Police - Regional & Divisional Middelburg  
 S A Police - Divisional Secunda  
 Nelspruit  
 Ermelo  
 Standerton  
 Lydenburg  
 S A Defence Force Nelspruit  
 Central Statistical Service Nelspruit  
 Regional and Land Affairs Nelspruit  
 Manpower Witbank  
 Mineral and Energy Affairs Witbank  
 National Health & Population Dev. Nelspruit

National Education

Middelburg

1122 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES RENDERED BY THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS  
(TRANSSVAAL PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION AND KANGWANE )

The Transvaal Provincial Administration has sub-divided the Transvaal into various regions for the decentralisation of its activities. The boundaries of the Eastern Transvaal region of the Transvaal Provincial Administration coincides exactly with that of Region " F ". Regional offices is situated at Witbank with a sub-regional office at Nelspruit. If Region " F " is delimited a separate region/state/province the present second tier government will be in a position to very easily adjust administratively and at a minimum additional expenditure.

The Kangwane Self Governing State is situated within Region " F " and has its own administrative structures which render all the services in its area of jurisdiction. This area is capable of being incorporated into a new regional government with equal ease and minimum expenditure.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration has the following branches situated in Region " F " with seats of administration indicated next to each :

Community Development - Witbank  
Roads - Lydenburg  
Works - Middelburg  
Hospital Services - Nelspruit  
Health Services - Nelspruit  
  
Nature Conservation - Nelspruit

## 11.2\200\230THE MORE IMPORTANT SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

### 11.2.3.1 HOSPITALS

The following provincial hospitals are situated in Region " F "with the number of beds as indicated.

LOWVELD REGION - CONTROL HOSPITAL  
OTHER

HIGHVELD REGION - CONTROL HOSPITAL  
OTHER

EAST VAAL REGION - CONTROL HOSPITAL  
OTHER

KANGWANE REGION

- Rob Ferreira
- Waterval Boven
- Sabie
- Barberton
- Lydenburg
- Middelburg
- Witbank
- Carolina
- Belfast
- Groblersdal
- Bethal

Total

Total

- Majuba Gedenk
- Elsie Ballot
- Ermelo
- Evander
- Itshelejiba
- Piet Retief
- Standerton
- Temba
- Shongwe
- Embuleni

Total

Total

- 266 beds.
- 11 beds.
- 116 beds.

- 298 beds.
- 159 beds.

850 beds.

- 349 beds.
- 380 beds.
- 84 beds.
- 16 beds.
- 35 beds.

784 beds.

- 233 beds.
- 98 beds.
- 12 beds.
- 243 beds.
- 70 beds.
- 134 beds.
- 227 beds.
- 219 beds.

1 236 beds.

558 beds.  
218 beds.  
192 beds.

968 beds.

GRAND TOTAL 4 418 BEDS.

. There are also four private hospitals in Region " F " situated at Middelburg, Witbank, Ne  
lspruit and

Trichardt.

## 11.23.2 AMBULANCE SERVICES

The Transvaal Provincial Administration has appointed the three Regional Services Councils in Region " F " as its agents to render the ambulance services which is the responsibility of the Province in terms of the Health Act. In KanGwane the Government renders this service. The three Regional Service Councils render the service in their respective sub-regions - Highveld, Lowveld and Oosvaal. The T P A subsidises the service to the standards set by them. The Regional Services Councils have, however, extended the service to cover all of their area of jurisdiction and carries this additional financial burden.

### 11233 CLINICS

The following clinics serve Region " F " :

#### KANGWANE REGION:

##### KANGWANE GOVERNMENT

- 58 Clinics spread over the whole sub-region.

#### HIGHVELD REGION:

##### TRANSCAAL PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION:

- 11 Clinics for primary health care spread over the whole sub-region.
- 11 Clinics for mouth care spread over the whole sub-region.

##### LOCAL AUTHORITIES:

- All the local authorities in the sub-region have clinics serving their communities.

#### LOWVELD REGION:

##### TRANSCAAL PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION:

- 10 Clinics for primary health care spread all over the sub-region.
- 7 Clinics for mouth care spread all over the whole sub-region.

##### LOCAL AUTHORITIES

- All the local authorities in the sub-region have clinics serving their communities.

#### OOSVAAL REGION:

##### TRANSCAAL PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION

- 23 Clinics for primary health care spread all over the sub-region.
- 18 Clinics for mouth care spread all over the sub-region.

##### LOCAL AUTHORITIES

- All the larger local authorities have clinics serving their communities.

#### 112.3.4 EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The proposed region is excellently served with educational and training facilities provided by first and second tier governments. The following facilities are available :

Pre-primary Schools - 9  
Primary Schools - 800  
Secondary School - 93  
Private Schools - 11  
Technical Colleges AT  
Technicon Satelllites 2562

2

University Satelllites

#### 1124 NODAL POINTS

There are three clearly identifiable nodal points which render services to Region " F ". One of these nodal points is situated in each of the sub-regions.

#### HIGHVELD

- Middelburg/Witbank. This nodal point has an population of more than 300 000 and could be defined as a metropole. In a recent study this nodal point was identified as one of South Africa's five future secondary cities.

#### LOWVELD

- Nelspruit/Witrivier. This nodal point has an urban population of 28 600. In close proximity to this nodal point is situated the urban population of several KanGwane towns.

#### EAST VAAL

- The TEKS - Area consisting of the towns of Trichardt, Evander, Kinross and Secunda. The nodal point has an urban population of more than 300 000 and could be described as a metropole.



1125 LOCAL GOVERNMENT

11.2.5.1 REGIONAL SERVICES COUNCILS:

The following Regional Services Councils have been established and are functioning within the boundaries of development Region F:

Highveld Regional Services Council, within the boundaries of the magisterial districts of Belfast, Groblersdal, Middelburg, Waterval Boven and Witbank, and consisting of the following constituting bodies:

Belfast Town Council

Dullstroom Village Council  
Eastdene Management Committee  
eMgwenya Town Committee  
Emthonjeni Town Committee  
Groblersdal Town Council  
Hendrina Village Council

Kwaguga Town Council  
Kwazamokuhle Town Committee  
Machadodorp Village Council  
Marble Hall Town Council

Mhluzi Town Council

Middelburg Town Council

Nasaret Management Committee  
Ogies Local Area Committee

Phola Town Committee  
Roosenekal Local Area Committee  
Sakhelwe Town Committee  
Schoongezicht Management Committee  
Siyathuthuka Town Committee  
Vandyksdrift Local Area Committee  
Waterval Boven Village Council  
Witbank Town Council

Hoërveld Rural Council

Kragveld Rural Council  
Loskopvallei Rural Council

Oosvaal Regional Services Council, within the boundaries of the magisterial districts of, Balfour, Bethal, Carolina, Delmas, Ermelo, Highveld Ridge, Piet Retief, Standerton, Volksrust, Wakkerstroom and the Eastern part of the magisterial district of Nigel which is situated outside the proposed guideplan boundary of East Rand/Far East Rand.

The Oosvaal Regional Services council consists of the following constituting bodies:

Amersfoort Village Council  
Amsterdam Village Council  
Acalea Management Committee  
Badplaas Local Area Committee  
Balfour Village Council

Balfour Indian Management Committee  
Bethal Town Council

Botleng Town Council

Breyten Village Council

Carolina Town Council

Caropark Management Committee  
Cassimpark Management Committee  
Charl Cilliers Local Area Committee  
Chrissiesmeer Local Area Committee  
Davel Local Area Committee  
Delmas Town Council

Devon Village Council

Eloff Village Council

eMbalenhle Town Council  
eMzinoni Town Council

Ermelo Town Council

eSizameleni Town Committee  
eThandakukanya Town Committee  
Evander Town Council  
eZamokuhle Town Committee  
Greylingstad Village Council  
Hogveldrif Rural Council  
Impumelelo Town Committee  
Kempville Management Committee  
Kinross Town Council

Kriel Town Council  
KwaChibukhulu Town Committee  
Kwadela Town Committee  
Kwathandeka Town Committee  
Kwazanele Town Committee  
Leandra Village Council

Lebohang Town Committee  
Lothair Local Area Committee  
Mineral Rural Council

Morgenzon Village Council  
Nthorwane Town Committee  
Perdekop Local Area Committee  
Piet Retief Town Council  
Platorand Rural Council

Pongola Village Council



Sakhile Town Committee

Secunda Town Council

Silindile Town Committee

Silobela Town Committee

Sivukhile Town Committee

Siyazenzele Town Committee

Standerton Town Council

Stanwest Management Committee

Sundra Local Area Committee

Thistle Grove Indian Management Committee

Thistle Grove Management Committee

Thubelihle Town Committee

Trichardt Town Council

Volksrust Town Council

Volksrust Management Committee

Vukuzakhe Town Committee

Wakkerstroom Village Council

Wesselton Town Council

Lowveld and Escarpment Regional Services Council, within the boundaries of the

230 magisterial districts of Barberton, Pilgrimsrest, Lydenburg, Nelspruit and Witrivier,

112.6

consisting of the following constituting bodies:

Nelspruit Town Council  
Barberton Town Council  
Lydenburg Town Council  
Witrivier Town Council  
Graskop Village Council  
Sabie Village Council  
Komatipoort Village Council  
Malelane Village Council  
Emjindini Village Council  
Mashishing Town Committee  
Town Committee of Simile

11.2.5.2 FORMAL JOINT ADMINISTRATIONS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED BY THE  
FOLLOWING LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN DEVELOPMENT REGION F:

Barberton/Emjindini  
Sabie/Simile  
Lydenburg/Mashishing  
Dullstroom/Sakhelwe  
Breyten/Kwazenele  
Hendrina/Kwazamokuhle  
Standerton/Sakhile  
Volksrust/Vukuzakhe  
Wakkerstroom/eSizameleni

A further 19 communities are negotiating joint administrations

#### 11.2.5.3 MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATIONS

The Secretariat of the Association of Eastern and South Eastern Transvaal Local Authorities, one of the four regional associations of the Transvaal Municipal Association and consisting of 33 local authorities is at present situated in Bethal, while the Secretariat of the Transvaal Local Government Association (East) one of the four regional associations of TRALOGA consisting of 52 Local Authorities is situated in Nelspruit.

#### 11.2.5.4 SANCO:

South African National Civic Organisation has recently established an Eastern Transvaal Branch with head office in Carolina and local branches in all black towns.

#### SPORT AND RECREATION:

The provincial headquarters of the following sporting bodies are inter alia situated in the Region:

#### RUGBY:

South Eastern Transvaal: Witbank  
Lowveld: Nelspruit

ROAD RUNNING:

Qastem Transvaal Road  
unning Association: Nelspruit

HOCKEY:

Eastern Transvaal: Witbank

BADMINTON:

South Eastern Transvaal: Witbank

WRESTLING:

South Eastern Transvaal: Evander/Secunda

DEEP-SEA ANGLING:

Eastern Transvaal: Delmas

TENNIS:

Eastern Transvaal: Witbank

1127 RECREATION AND TOURISM:

Eastern Transvaal is an international tourist destination with a large number of resorts, hotels and other accommodation as well as the Kruger National Park and private game parks. It is indeed a mecca for inland tourism and recreation.

113 RATIONALIZATION OF EXISTING STRUCTURES

1 SECOND TIER OF GOVERNMENT (REGIONAL LEVEL)

The boundaries of the proposed Region coincide exactly with that of the Transvaal Provincial Administration region for the Eastern Transvaal, with the exception of Kangwane.

The Self Governing Territory of Kangwane and the Transvaal Provincial Administration are at present involved in negotiations to establish a joint authority. The establishment of such a joint authority on regional level speaks for itself.

2 THIRD TIER OF GOVERNMENT (LOCAL LEVEL)

The area is already sub-divided into three Regional Services Councils. Although Kangwane is not part of any of the three Regional Services Councils, limited assistance is given by the Lowveld and Escarpment Regional Services Council. It is foreseen that Kangwane will be served in total by Lowveld and Escarpment Regional Services Council in a new constitutional dispensation.

Reference is made under the heading Administrative Considerations to the joint administrations for local authorities which already exists in some or other form as agreed upon locally as well as to the number of those in the process of being established by means of local negotiations. This is regarded as a significant contribution towards effective rationalisation of administrative structures.

As was stated in paragraph 11,2,5,2 of this document local government is also decentralised at regional level, which coincides with the proposed regional boundaries.

THE NECESSITY OF LIMITING THE FINANCIAL AND OTHER COSTS AS MUCH AS IS  
REASONABLY POSSIBLE

One of the prime objectives of negotiating a new political dispensation based on regions, is to bring government closer to the people. This is expected to result in more effective government with better voter control as well as considerable cost savings due to an elimination of duplicated structures.

The retention of the boundaries of Region F as a basis for new region/state/province will make financial sense.

The two existing regional governments of Kangwane and the Transvaal Provincial Administration, will be replaced by one new regional government and regional administration. This will obviously result in cost savings.

Because region F is a compact region although covering 66 000 km<sup>2</sup> (6% of the area of South Africa), travelling distance and time of politicians and officials will be minimised with the resultant cost benefits.

The large geographic area which will result from the combination of Regions F and for example G will necessitate its subdivision into subregions and most of the advantages of regionalisation will be lost.

The argument that less regions will lead to cost savings, through the elimination of government structures, should be balanced by the necessity for effective government in manageable sized regions. Bearing in mind the well developed infrastructure and development potential of the Eastern Transvaal, this balance will be most effectively implemented in a region as proposed.



115 THE NEED TO MINIMISE INCONVENIENCE TO PEOPLE

The boundaries for the new state/region/province will cause the minimum inconvenience to the people.

There is at present a widely accepted sense of belonging among the inhabitants of Region F, which should be maintained in any new delimitation.

Although the Mhala/Bushbuck Ridge areas are indicated as possible areas of doubt, a strong sense of belonging to the Eastern Transvaal already prevails in these areas and they should thus be included.

The geographic area of the proposed region is such that the government and administration of the people of the Region will be able to be carried out on the existing sub-regional and a regional basis with a minimum of inconvenience.

The existing nodal points referred to in paragraph 11.2.4 of the report, together with the present social infrastructure, are so situated that the people of the region could be effectively served without major changes.

#### 11.6 THE NEED TO MINIMISE THE DISLOCATION OF SERVICES

The present decentralisation of services on first, second and third tier government level f or the Eastern Transvaal, coincide exactly with the proposed boundaries for a new region/state/pro vince and will thus cause no dislocation of services at these levels.

In respect of infrastructural services the area of the Eastern Transvaal to a large extent relies on existing regional services, but is also effectively linked by national services such as roa d, rail, telecommunication and water. The latter should not cause any disruption, but rather support the provision of services.

The service Eastern Transvaal is rendering to the rest of South Africa in respect of electr icity generation and distribution, will continue as it is at present, and should not cause any di slocation of services in other regions.

Other energy sources generated in the proposed region are coal and fuel/petroleum and likew ise this provision will continue to the benefit of other regions.

#### 11.7 EMOGRAPHIC CONSIDERATIONS

The attention of the commission is drawn to the background report referred to as the Working Document, which is already in possession of the Commissioners and in particular to paragraph 5.4 on page 71, and all the maps and tables following this paragraph. (Pages 71 through 86)

Although there is a diversity of language groups, ethnicity, religion and level of education in the population of the proposed region, experience over the past decade has already clearly indicated an acceptance of each other as part of a geographic region.

It should thus not be difficult to create a microcosm of the broader South Africa in the proposed region.

## 11.8 ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF THE REGION

### 11.9

#### 11.8.1

1182

1183

#### 11.8.4

#### 11.9.1

#### 119.2

The Eastern Transvaal contributes 10% of the national GGP. In relation to other regions it is the fourth highest. The Eastern Transvaal is surpassed only by the PWV (37%), Natal (14%) and Region A (13%).

The Eastern Transvaal contributes 53% of production in the energy sector in South Africa.

Over the last decade the Eastern Transvaal recorded the highest growth rate of all the regions (5,5%), this growth being due mainly to the enormous boom in the manufacturing sector of the region.

The Eastern Transvaal has the lowest unemployment rate of all the regions in South Africa (8,7%)

## DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

### PRESENT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

The Eastern Transvaal has enormous development potential and the following projects are at present under construction or consideration:

119.1.1 The extension of the Columbus Stainless Steel factory near Middelburg with a capital investment of R4,5 billion;

11.9.1.2 The completion of a Gas Pipeline between Secunda and the Middelburg/Witbank-area;

11.9.1.3 The building of the Driekoppies Dam in the Onderberg-area in the Lowveld subregion with a capital investment of R488-million;

119.1.4 The building of the Inhaca Dam in the Lowveld with a capital investment of R250-million;

119.1.5 The merging of SASOL and AECI as far as certain of the industrial capabilities (plastic) are concerned.

THE EASTERN TRANSVAAL HAS THE LOWEST UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF ALL THE REGIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA (8.7%)

### â\200\2301.9.3 FURTHER POTENTIAL

Other sectors in which the Eastern Transvaal have enormous development growth potential are:

#### 11.9.3.1 TOURISM

The enormous tourism potential of the Eastern Transvaal is well-known with specific reference to the Kruger National Park and the Lowveld-area. Currently two new hotels are being built in Nelspruit. Further expansion is being planned on the border of the Kruger National Park. Also refer to paragraph 11.2.7 of this report.

#### 11.9.3.2 AGRO-INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

The agro-industrial potential of the region has not yet been fully developed. For instance final planning is being done to develop the agro-industrial capacity of the Loskopdam-area (Groblersdal/Marble Hall) in particular the processing of tobacco, citrus and cotton.

#### 11.9.3.3 MOZAMBIQUE PEACE TREATY

The signing of a Peace Treaty in Mozambique augers well for the development axis between Pretoria and Maputo which will benefit all the major towns along the route Witbank, Middelburg, Nelspruit, and Komatipoort. The latter is already benefiting from the development of the second sugar mill and the building of the Driekoppies Dam. Obviously the tourism potential along the route will also be stimulated.

#### 11.9.3.4 AIRPORT

There are existing airports at Witbank, Middelburg, Secunda, Nelspruit, Skukuza and various other towns.

#### 11.9.3.5 ENERGY

Export of high quality processed coal also has high development potential as sanctions against the RSA are lifted.

The attention of the commission is drawn to the background report referred to as the Working Document, which is already in possession of the Commissioners and in particular to pages 66 - 70 as well as the map on page 73.

From this it is clear that there are four dominant language groups in the Eastern Transvaal - Afrikaans, Zulu, Si-swazi and Northern-Sotho. Great acceptance of each already exists.