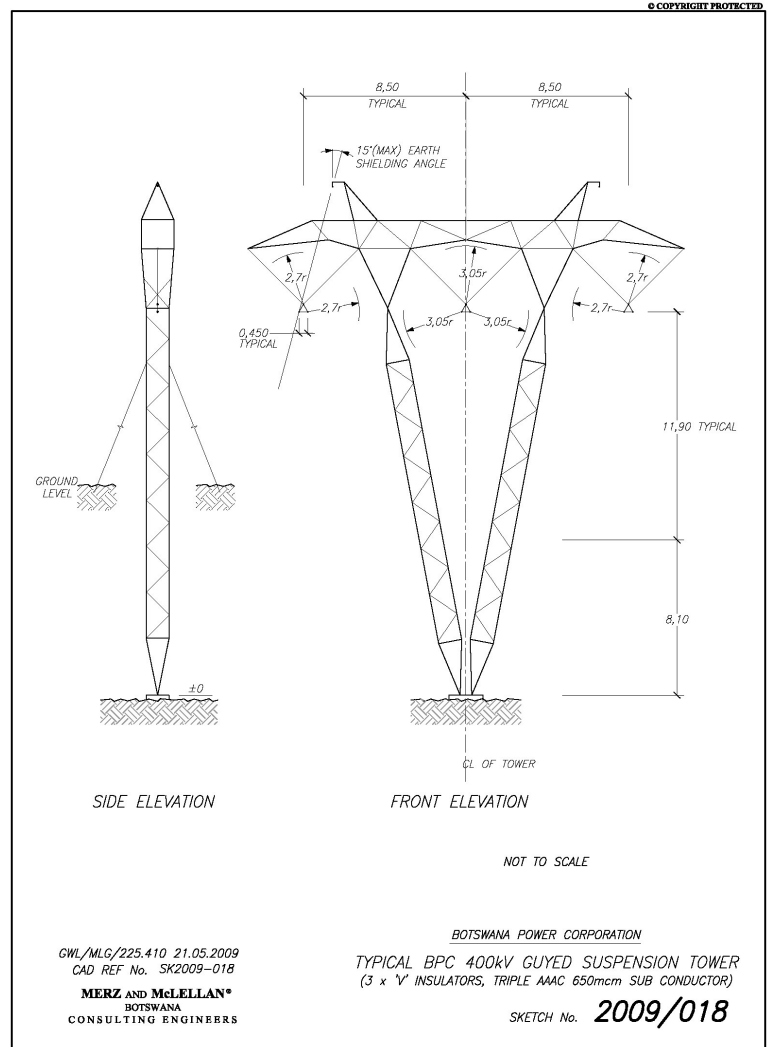


BOTSWANA POWER CORPORATION 400kV TRANSMISSION LINE

Merz and McLellan has been appointed by Botswana Power Corporation as Owner's Engineer for the 215 km long Morupule 'B' Power Station to Isang Substation 400 kV transmission line. The Scope of Work included the line route selection in conjunction with BPC and the firm entrusted with conducting and minimising the environmental and sociological impacts on affected communities.

The principal design and specification of the 400 kV transmission line was done in the traditional way whereby Merz selected the conductor size, bundle arrangement, proposed ruling span, specified minimum insulation withstand levels, insulator type creepage distances, tower design loadings, minimum safety factors under balanced and unbalanced conditions etc. Based on these parameters tenderers nominate which suite of towers are proposed to be utilised or a new design is offered if this has the most economic advantage. The design and specification methodology adopted being the same as was done for the ± 750 km of existing 220 kV transmissions line engineered by Merz on the BPC Transmission System.



The enquiry document complied with the African Development Bank (ADB) requirements as the ADB provide international financing for the project.

The tenders have been floated and 17 tenders were received. Whilst tender prices varied over a wide range, the bottom third of tender prices received were adjudged to be very competitive.

Tender adjudication is presently in progress and Merz look forward to the implementation stage of the project proceeding on site.