



ARCUS

APPENDIX C

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT

for the

**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE UP TO 400 kV DE
AAR 2 SOUTH TRANSMISSION LINE AND SWITCHING
STATION, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

on behalf of

MULILO DE AAR 2 SOUTH (PTY) LTD

June 2021



Prepared By:

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1 INTRODUCTION

Mulilo De Aar 2 South (Pty) Ltd ('Mulilo') is applying for environmental authorisation of the proposed up to 400 kV De Aar 2 South Transmission Line and Switching Station (the proposed development), located approximately 15 to 26 km east of the town of De Aar, Northern Cape Province. The proposed development site is situated within the Central Strategic Transmission Corridor and aims to connect the authorised De Aar 2 South Wind Energy Facility ('DA2S WEF') (DFFE Ref. No.: 12/12/20/2463/1/AM6) to the existing Eskom Hydra Substation, either following a direct route, or an alternative route via an approved solar PV project (Mulilo De Aar PV, DFFE Ref. No.: 12/12/20/2499), north west of the Eskom Hydra Substation.

Arcus Consultancy Services South Africa (Ltd) Pty ('Arcus') has been appointed to act as project manager and to undertake the environmental impact assessment process for Environmental Authorisation under Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998 – NEMA) as amended, for the Proposed Development.

2 THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The sharing of information forms the basis of a Public Participation Process (PPP), with an aim to encourage the public to have meaningful input into the decision-making process from the project initiation until the final report is submitted to the DFFE for a decision. The primary aims of the public participation process are:

- To inform Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) of the proposed development;
- To identify issues, comments and concerns as raised by I&APs;
- To promote transparency and an understanding of the project and its potential consequences;
- To facilitate open dialogue and liaise with all I&APs;
- To assist in identifying potential environmental (biophysical and socio-economic) impacts associated with the proposed development; and
- To ensure that all I&AP issues and comments are accurately recorded, addressed and documented in a Comments & Response Report.

This Public Participation Report has been compiled as Appendix C to the Basic Assessment Report that has been prepared in support of the above application for Environmental Authorisation. This report has been updated to include all comments received up until submission of the Final Basic Assessment Report.

3 METHODOLOGY

The Public Participation Process (PPP) follows the requirements of Section 24 (5) and Chapter 6 (41, 42, 43, and 44) of GN R. 326 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended), as well as the Public Participation Guidelines in terms of NEMA, 1998 EIA Regulations, 2014.

Due to the National COVID-19 Pandemic the DFFE published Government Notice 43412 on 5 June 2020. Included in this notice was the requirement to submit a Public Participation (PP) Plan to the DFFE prior to the commencement of a PP Process. A PP Plan, designed to show how we aim to provide sufficient and accessible information to all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) in an objective manner during National COVID-19 Pandemic and the Basic Assessment (BA) process, was submitted and approved by the DFFE. A copy of this has been submitted with the application form to the DFFE on 22 April 2021. If any new regulations or notices are published before the commencement of the PP Process for this application, these will be taken into consideration.

3.1. Initial Notification Phase

Notification during the initial notification period of the PPP has been undertaken in the following manner:

- A2 Correx board notices were placed on the boundary of the site at -30.542265,24.107852; -30.656082,24.057274 and -30.675407,24.222615 in English and Afrikaans between 10 – 14 February 2020 (see Appendix C1).
- A4 posters were placed at ten local public gathering places in De Aar between 10 – 14 February 2020 (see Appendix C1). Posters were in both English and Afrikaans.
- Newspaper Advertisements were placed in the Echo and Volksblad newspapers (in English and Afrikaans) on the 10 July 2020 (see Appendix C2).
- Initial notification e-mails were distributed on 27 August 2020 to all pre-identified key I&APs including landowners, surrounding landowners, government organisations, NGOs, relevant municipalities, ward councillors and other organisations that might be affected. The notification informed I&APs of the intention of the applicant to apply for Environmental Authorisations for the proposed development (see Appendix C3 and C4). This included a locality map, brief proposed development plan and project description.
- The latest I&AP database of the authorised DA2S WEF was used as the baseline for the pre-identified key I&APs. This database is extensive and has been compiled and revised over a number of years since 2011, and most recently updated and revised as part of an amendment process for the WEF (DFFE Ref. No.: 12/12/20/2463/1/AM7) and the Draft BA process (see Appendix C5). *This database will be updated throughout the duration of the basic assessment process and anyone with an interest in the proposed development is encouraged to register.*

The notices and notifications also afforded all pre-identified I&APs the opportunity to submit their issues/queries/concerns, and indicate the contact details of any other potential I&APs that should be contacted and registered. The contact person at Arcus, contact number, email and fax details will be clearly stated on the notifications.

3.2. Basic Assessment Phase

3.2.1 First Submission: Draft Basic Assessment Report for Public Review

A first submission of the draft BA Report (Arcus, September 2020) was subjected to a 30 day comment period from the 17 October 2020 to the 19 November 2020 (both days inclusive). During the public comment period, the application process was suspended.

Written Notification (in English) regarding the availability of the Draft Basic Assessment Report for Public Review and Comment was sent to all registered I&APs via e-mail (Appendix C7.1). The written notification also advised I&APs of the following:

- How and where they can access the Draft Basic Assessment Report (electronic and hardcopy);
- The safety measures to consider when accessing the hard copy of the Draft Basic Assessment Report (due to the National COVID-19 Pandemic), such as the precautions to be taken for handling of the document (sanitizing / handwashing / wearing of gloves); and
- It afforded all I&APs the opportunity to submit their issues/queries/concerns/suggestions regarding the proposed development and content of the Draft Basic Assessment Report; and
- Informed the I&APs the duration that the Draft Basic Assessment Report was made available for public comment and the dates in which comments must be submitted.

Comments received during this period have been captured in the Comments and Responses table below.

3.2.2 Second Submission: Draft Basic Assessment Report for Public Review

The Draft Basic Assessment report was amended slightly from the first submission to the second submission. The draft BA Report (Arcus, April 2021) was therefore subjected to another 30 day comment period from 22 April 2021 to 24 May 2021 (both days included).

Written Notification (in English) regarding the availability of the Draft Basic Assessment Report for Public Review and Comment was sent to all registered I&APs via e-mail (Appendix C7.2). The written notification also advised I&APs of the following:

- How and where they can access the Draft Basic Assessment Report (electronic and hardcopy);
- The safety measures to consider when accessing the hard copy of the Draft Basic Assessment Report (due to the National COVID-19 Pandemic), such as the precautions to be taken for handling of the document (sanitizing / handwashing / wearing of gloves); and
- It afforded all I&APs the opportunity to submit their issues/queries/concerns/suggestions regarding the proposed development and content of the Draft Basic Assessment Report; and
- Informed the I&APs the duration that the Draft Basic Assessment Report was made available for public comment and the dates in which comments must be submitted.

Comments received during this period have been captured in the Comments and Responses table below.

3.2.3 Submission of the Final Basic Assessment Report

Notification regarding the submission of the Final Basic Assessment Report to DFFE for a decision will be sent to all registered I&APs in the following manner:

- Written Notification (English and / or Afrikaans) will be sent to all registered I&APs (pre-identified key I&APs, I&APs registered during the initial and draft report period, as well as affected landowners, surrounding landowners and their occupiers) via e-mail and post (registered mail);
- SMS notifications will be sent to I&APs and / or land occupiers that have supplied mobile phone numbers and who does not have a postal or email addresses; and
- If written notification cannot be sent to an I&AP, notification will be provided telephonically.
- The notification will inform all registered I&APs of the submission of Final Basic Assessment Report to the competent authority for their decision making.

4 DECISION AND APPEAL PHASE

All registered I&APs will be provided with access to the decision and the reasons for such decision. Attention of all registered I&APs will be drawn to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against the decision in terms of the NEMA 1998 National Appeal Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

Notifications regarding the decision made by the DFFE will be provided in the following manner to all registered I&APs:

- Via e-mail, which will include an attachment of the decision, reasons for the decision, and appeal procedure;

- Via SMS, which will be sent to I&APs and / or land occupiers that have supplied mobile phone numbers and who does not have a postal or email addresses. The SMS will advise the I&AP that access to the decision, reasons for the decision, and appeal procedure must be accessed from the Arcus website: <https://arcusconsulting.co.za/projects/>;
- Via registered mail, which will include a complete hard copy of the decision, reasons for the decision and appeals procedure; and
- Courtesy telephone calls will be made to those who cannot receive access by either of the above-mentioned methods to advise them of the decision made by the DFFE and to confirm if and / or how they wish to receive access to the decision, reasons for decision, and appeal procedure.

I&APs will be provided with access to the decision, reasons for the decision by the DFFE and the process for appeals within 14 days of date of receipt of the decision.

5 COMMENTS AND RESPONSES TRAIL

This comments and responses table was updated throughout the duration of the basic assessment process. This table has comments collated by thread and not by date.

Table 5.1: Comments and Responses Table

Ref	Name and Organisation	Date and Method	Phase of PPP	Comment	EAP Response
1	Diederik Albertyn Farm Rusoord, De Aar	17 February 2020 E-mail	Initial Phase	<p>From: Diederik Albertyn Sent: Monday, 17 February 2020 12:54 To: De Aar Subject: 3457 De Aar 2 South</p> <p>Hi Aneesah I wish to be registered as an I&AP as a new power line will be build on my farm Rusoord, De Aar. My postal address is PO Box 217, De Aar,7000. Cell phone no is 082 926 9088. Thank you Diederik Albertyn Farm Rusoord, De Aar</p>	<p>From: De Aar Sent: Tuesday, 03 March 2020 14:36 To: Diederik Albertyn Subject: Re: 3457 De Aar 2 South</p> <p>Good Day Diederik</p> <p>Thank you for your email. You have been added to the I&AP database and will get notifications / updates throughout the EIA process of this project. Thank You Aneesah Alwie</p>
2	Wim van der Merwe Farm Ebenezer, De Aar	10 March 2020 E-mail	Initial Phase	<p>From: lemoenkloof Sent: Tuesday, 10 March 2020 11:37 To: De Aar Subject: Registrasie B&GP</p> <p>Goeie dag Kan u my asb registreer as n B&GP by die voorgestelde 400 kv De Aar South 2 projek. (verwysing 3457 De Aar 2 South) Ek besit die aangrensende plaas Ebenezer (Farm 180 portion 4). Ek het ook n mynpermit op die plaas. Dit word bedryf deur De Aar Quarry en kan materiale verskaf aan die voorgestelde projek. Ons is ook in proses om n ontwikkelaar te soek vir PV ontwikkeling op Ebenezer. (kaart aangeheg) My besonderhede: WJ van der Merwe Posbus 612 De Aar 7000</p>	<p>From: De Aar Sent: Thursday, 27 August 2020 15:08 To: lemoenkloof Subject: RE: Registrasie B&GP</p> <p>Dear Wim Thank you for your e-mail. Your contact details has been included on the I&AP Database. De Aar Quarry Details has been sent onto the Applicant. Thank You Kind Regards Aneesah Alwie Environmental Consultant, South Africa</p>

Ref	Name and Organisation	Date and Method	Phase of PPP	Comment	EAP Response
				Epos : lemoenkloof@lantic.net Selno : 0834410225 Kontakbesonderhede De Aar Quarry: Thabiso Mosia 0828046353 Roy Rudman 0792767771 Groete Wim van der Merwe	
3.	Kobus Rust Councilor at Emthanjeni Municipality	10 July 2020 E-mail	Initial Phase	From: Kobus Rust Sent: Friday, 10 July 2020 11:50 To: De Aar Subject: (B&GP's) 3457DeAar South. Geagte Aneesha, U uitnodiging in die Volksblad van vandag het betrekking. As Raadslid van Emthanjeni Munisipaliteit en besorgde inwoner met 'n hoe prioriteit op die herstel en groei van plaaslike- en streekse ekonomie, sal ek dit waardeer indien u my op jul adreslys kan plaas. Met dank Die uwe H.J.Rust (Kobus)	From: De Aar Sent: Thursday, 27 August 2020 15:18 To: Kobus Rust Subject: RE: (B&GP's) 3457DeAar South. Good Day Kobus Thank you for your e-mail and interest in the Proposed Developments near the town of De Aar, Northern Cape Province. Your contact details has been included on the I&AP database. Thank You Kind Regards Aneesah Alwie Environmental Consultant, South Africa
4.	John Geeringh Eskom	27 August 2020 E-mail	Initial Phase	From: John Geeringh Sent: Thursday, 27 August 2020 14:25 To: De Aar Subject: RE: Initial Notification: Proposed De Aar 2 South WEF Associated Infrastructure Developments, Northern Cape Province The BID documents states that you are doing the BA in terms of Listing Notice 1 (GN R327), however 400kV is a Listing 2 activity requiring scoping / EIA. You forgot to mention in the BID that the GN R 113 process applies to this application since it falls within a geographical area although you do mention the strategic corridors? Do you have a pre-negotiated route for the Power lines to be constructed as per GN R 113 requirements? Kind regards John Geeringh (Pr Sci Nat)(EAPASA)	From: De Aar Sent: 01 September 2020 12:25 PM To: John Geeringh Subject: RE: Initial Notification: Proposed De Aar 2 South WEF Associated Infrastructure Developments, Northern Cape Province Good Morning John, Thank you for your email and interest in the Proposed De Aar 2 South WEF Associated Infrastructure Developments. With regards to your comment on the 400 KV substation, you are correct. A Basic Assessment process is being followed. The project falls within the Central Strategic Transmission Corridor, and is thus considered a EGI SEA project. The MEC promulgated GNR 787 on the 17 July 2020 which is said to repeal GN 113, however, mention of the legislative requirements and framework for the project

Ref	Name and Organisation	Date and Method	Phase of PPP	Comment	EAP Response
-	John Geeringh Eskom	27 August 2020 E-mail	Initial Phase	<p>Senior Consultant Environmental Management</p> <p>From: John Geeringh Sent: Thursday, 27 August 2020 14:29 To: De Aar Subject: RE: Initial Notification: Proposed De Aar 2 South WEF Associated Infrastructure Developments, Northern Cape Province</p> <p>A second point to consider is if Eskom has capacity to receive 400kV lines at Hydra substation or if a new substation at 400kV will have to be constructed? Can you please indicate if Eskom has agreed to the proposed connection?</p> <p>Kind regards John Geeringh (Pr Sci Nat)(EAPASA) Senior Consultant Environmental Management</p>	<p>will be contained within the Basic Assessment Report.</p> <p>In terms of the Grid Connection, the proposed project is located in a EGI corridor, and the applicant would like to have an option to connect to a higher voltage up to 400kV if it is required. The proposed project application is for "up to 400kV", and therefore would also be authorised to connect at a lower voltage (e.g. 132kV) if required. There will be no separate application for a 400 kV substation.</p> <p>In terms of correspondence with Eskom, Eskom has agreed to the connection at Hydra in their Cost Estimate Letter (CEL) dated: 28 July 2020. The Applicant and Eskom have discussed the proposed grid connection and the result is outlined in the CEL.</p> <p>I trust you will find our response to your satisfaction. Kindly contact me should you have any further comment/question.</p> <p>Kind Regards Ashleigh Blackwell</p>
-	John Geeringh Eskom	1 September 2020 E-mail	Initial Phase	<p>From: John Geeringh Sent: Tuesday, 01 September 2020 12:29 To: De Aar Subject: RE: Initial Notification: Proposed De Aar 2 South WEF Associated Infrastructure Developments, Northern Cape Province</p> <p>Thanks for the response and clarification.</p> <p>Kind regards</p>	
-	John Geeringh Eskom	8 September 2020 E-mail	Initial Phase	<p>From: John Geeringh Sent: Tuesday, 08 September 2020 10:41 To: De Aar Subject: RE: Initial Notification: Proposed De Aar 2 South WEF Associated Infrastructure Developments, Northern Cape Province</p> <p>Please keep me informed about the progress and documentation regarding this application. I have no specific comments now apart from the questions previously posed and answered by you.</p> <p>Kind regards John Geeringh (Pr Sci Nat)(EAPASA)</p>	<p>From: De Aar Sent: Friday, 11 September 2020 14:03 To: John Geeringh Subject: RE: Initial Notification: Proposed De Aar 2 South WEF Associated Infrastructure Developments, Northern Cape Province</p> <p>Good Day John</p> <p>Thank you for your e-mail. You are a registered I&AP and will receive all notifications regarding the applications.</p> <p>Thank You Kind Regards Aneesah Alwie</p>
-	John Geeringh Eskom	19 November 2020	BAR Phase	<p>From: John Geeringh Sent: Thursday, 19 November 2020 14:13 To: De Aar</p>	<p>From: De Aar Sent: Tuesday, 24 November 2020 15:05 To: John Geeringh</p>

Ref	Name and Organisation	Date and Method	Phase of PPP	Comment	EAP Response																
		By E-mail	(First public comment review period)	<p>Subject: RE: Notification of the Availability of Draft Basic Assessment Reports for the De Aar 2 South WEF Associated Developments</p> <p>Please send me KMZ files of the proposed developments. Please find attached Eskom requirements for works at or near Eskom infrastructure, as well as the latest version of the renewable energy development setback guideline including BESS.</p> <p>Kind regards</p> <p>John Geeringh (Pr Sci Nat)(EAPASA)</p>	<p>Subject: RE: Notification of the Availability of Draft Basic Assessment Reports for the De Aar 2 South WEF Associated Developments</p> <p>Good Day John,</p> <p>Thank you for the e-mail as received below.</p> <p>The Proposed Construction of the up to 400 kV De Aar 2 South Transmission Lines and Associated Infrastructure, Northern Cape Province, application for Environmental Authorisation forms part of the Electricity Grid Infrastructure as per GN 113 Central Strategic Transmission Corridor (see GN 113 attached). Paragraph 5 of GN 113 states that “<i>For applications for environmental authorisation for large scale electricity transmission and distribution facilities contemplated in paragraph 3, routes that have been pre-negotiated with landowners must be submitted as part of such application for environmental authorisation</i>”. The route of the proposed transmission lines traverses land which is owned by Eskom (provided in Table 1 below). Can you advise the form in which Eskom provides such pre-negotiations to the Applicant?</p> <p>Table 1: route of the proposed transmission lines which traverses land owned by Eskom</p> <table><tr><th>Name of Landowner</th><th>Farm Name</th><th>Portion No.</th><th>Farm No.</th><th>Contact Details</th></tr><tr><td rowspan="3">Eskom Holdings Ltd</td><td>Wag 'n Bietje</td><td>3</td><td>5</td><td rowspan="3">hardind@eskom.co.za</td></tr><tr><td>Wag 'n Bietje Annex C</td><td>1</td><td>137</td></tr><tr><td>Farm Hydra</td><td>RE</td><td>144</td></tr></table> <p>Would it be acceptable if the route is sent to Eskom in an email and response is provided to confirm that the route is approved?</p>	Name of Landowner	Farm Name	Portion No.	Farm No.	Contact Details	Eskom Holdings Ltd	Wag 'n Bietje	3	5	hardind@eskom.co.za	Wag 'n Bietje Annex C	1	137	Farm Hydra	RE	144
Name of Landowner	Farm Name	Portion No.	Farm No.	Contact Details																	
Eskom Holdings Ltd	Wag 'n Bietje	3	5	hardind@eskom.co.za																	
	Wag 'n Bietje Annex C	1	137																		
	Farm Hydra	RE	144																		

Ref	Name and Organisation	Date and Method	Phase of PPP	Comment	EAP Response
					Note that the initial public comment period (from the 19 October 2019 to the 17 November 2019 (both days inclusive)) for the proposed developments as named in the email below was retracted. The applicant is currently preparing to submit a new application to the competent authority which will include a 30 day public comment period, comments received during the initial 30 day comment period will still be used for the resubmission. Thank You Kind Regards Aneesah Alwie Environmental Consultant, South Africa
-	John Geeringh Eskom	24 November 2020 By E-mail	BAR Phase (First public comment review period)	From: John Geeringh Sent: Tuesday, 24 November 2020 15:15 To: De Aar Subject: RE: Notification of the Availability of Draft Basic Assessment Reports for the De Aar 2 South WEF Associated Developments Please send the route so that we can check it. Eskom does not register servitudes on our properties if the line belongs to us, so if these lines will belong to Eskom in future it should not be a problem to get a letter from Eskom stating that the line is OK and will belong to Eskom.. Kind regards John Geeringh	From: De Aar Sent: Thursday, 10 December 2020 15:58 To: John Geeringh Subject: RE: Notification of the Availability of Draft Basic Assessment Reports for the De Aar 2 South WEF Associated Developments Good Day John Thank you for the e-mail below. Mulilo Renewable Project Developments is participating in the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy's Risk Mitigation Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme and is making use of a powerline route that enters Eskom's Hydra Main Transmission Substation near De Aar. To enter Hydra MTS, the powerline for the Mulilo De Aar 2 South project must cross over Eskom land as per the diagram in the attached PDF. I am writing to request an 'in principle' acceptance of the powerline route for bidding purposes. As requested, please find attached a KMZ of the Proposed De Aar 2 South Transmission Lines and Switching Station. Please could you provide a letter to confirm that Eskom is happy with the route of the proposed Transmission Lines. To note, although two lines were assessed (Transmission Line Route 1 and Transmission Line Route 2), the applicant will be applying for authorisation of Transmission Line Route 2 (Part 1 and 2).

Ref	Name and Organisation	Date and Method	Phase of PPP	Comment	EAP Response
-	John Geeringh Eskom	24 February 2021 By E-mail	BAR Phase (First public comment review period)	<p>From: John Geeringh Sent: Wednesday, 24 February 2021 10:53 To: Aneesah Alwie Subject: FW: Letter of consent to cross Eskom property Hydra Subs.pdf Here is the letter, sorry for all the delays. Regards John</p> <p>From: Michael Taffa Sent: Wednesday, 24 February 2021 10:19 To: John Geeringh Subject: Letter of consent to cross Eskom property Hydra Subs.pdf Hi John Attached is the requested letter. Regards Mike</p>	<p>Thank You Kind Regards Aneesah Alwie</p> <p>From: De Aar Sent: Wednesday, 24 February 2021 13:39 To: John Geeringh Subject: RE: Letter of consent to cross Eskom property Hydra Subs.pdf Good Day John, Thank you for the letter. I will send it on to the client. It looks correct to me. Notification will be sent to all I&APs once the application is submitted to the Competent Authority. Thank You Kind Regards Aneesah Alwie</p>
5.	Lizell Stroh Obstacle Inspector PANS-OPS Section Air Navigation Services Department	15 September 2020 E-mail	Initial Phase	<p>From: De Aar Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 4:43 PM To: Lizell Stroh Subject: Initial Notification: Proposed De Aar 2 South Associated Infrastructure Developments, Northern Cape Province Dear Stakeholder Project Title 1: Proposed Construction of the up to 400 kV De Aar 2 South Transmission Lines and Switching Station, Northern Cape Province and Project Title 2: Proposed Construction of the up to 400 kV On-Site Substation and Battery Energy Storage System, Northern Cape Province You have been identified as a Stakeholder of the Proposed Development(s), titled above, close to the town of De Aar in the Northern Cape Province. This notification is to inform you that the Applicant, Mulilo</p>	<p>From: Lizell Stroh Sent: Tuesday, 15 September 2020 14:38 To: De Aar Cc: Gawie Bestbier; Mailbox for WebPage; Doris Khoza; Gugulethu Khanyile; Simphiwe Masilela Subject: RE: Initial Notification: Proposed De Aar 2 South Associated Infrastructure Developments, Northern Cape Province Good day Ashleigh, you would be required to follow the SACAA Obstacle application process for this office, providing the (Comments you require) Approval with Conditions (CAA Process provide) to assist in your proposed project. http://www.caa.co.za/Documents/Obstacle%20Application%20Process%2020180105.pdf process, http://www.caa.co.za/Obstacles%20Forms/CA139-27.pdf application form, http://www.caa.co.za/Pages/Obstacles/Urgent-</p>

Ref	Name and Organisation	Date and Method	Phase of PPP	Comment	EAP Response
				<p>De Aar 2 South (Pty) Ltd will be submitting two (2) separate applications to the competent authority, the Department of Environment Forestry and Fisheries, for a decision.</p> <p>Attached is an Initial Notification Letter and Background Information Document for each Proposed Development. Notification of submission of the Application Form(s) and Draft Report(s) will be sent to all registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs). The Draft Basic Assessment Report(s) will be made available on the website: https://arcusconsulting.co.za/projects/ and for public review and comment once submitted (exact date and location of availability of each application to be confirmed in notification to all registered I&APs).</p> <p>Civil Aviation is considered a High Sensitivity by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries Screening Tool. Please can you confirm if a comment will be received from CAA during this initial notification phase.</p> <p>All correspondence can be submitted as advised below:</p> <p>Arcus Reference: 3457 De Aar 2 South Transmission Lines and Switching Station Arcus Reference: 3457 De Aar 2 South Substation and Battery Energy Storage System Person: Aneesah Alwie and Ashleigh Blackwell Email: deaar@arcusconsulting.co.za Post Address: Office 607 Cube Workspace, Icon Building, Cnr Long Street and Hans Strijdom Avenue, Cape Town, 8001 Telephone: +27 21 412 1529</p> <p>Note: Due to the National COVID-19 Pandemic, measures will be put in place when the Draft Report(s) is available for public review in hard copy.</p> <p>Thank You Kind Regards</p>	<p>notices.aspx find fees related to the application, Please feel free contacting the inspectorate if more information are required.</p> <p>Kind regards Lizell Stroh Obstacle Inspector PANS-OPS Section Air Navigation Services Department</p>

Ref	Name and Organisation	Date and Method	Phase of PPP	Comment	EAP Response
				<p>Aneesah Alwie Environmental Consultant, South Africa</p> <p>From: De Aar Sent: Tuesday, 15 September 2020 13:55 To: De Aar ; Lizell Stroh Cc: Gawie Bestbier ; Mailbox for WebPage Subject: RE: Initial Notification: Proposed De Aar 2 South Associated Infrastructure Developments, Northern Cape Province Importance: High</p> <p>Good Morning Lizell, I trust that you are well? I am just following up on my pervious email below sent on 24 August 2020. In accordance with Government Notice No. 648, Government Gazette 45421 of 10 may 2019 (find attached): <i>6(a) - protocol for the assessment and reporting of environmental impacts on civil aviation installations</i> - Arcus are required to supply a Civil Aviation Compliance Statement which includes "A comment, in writing, from the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), which may include inputs from the Obstacle Evaluation Committee (OEC), if appropriate, confirming no unacceptable impact on civil aviation installations".</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the De Aar 2 South Wind Energy Facility Proposed Grid Connection and Switching Station, the DEA Screening Tool identified the proposed development as having a High Sensitivity with the potential for negative impacts on the civil aviation installation that can potentially be mitigated. In this instance the tool stated that further assessment may be required to investigate potential impacts and mitigation measures. De Aar 2 South Wind Energy Facility Proposed Substation and Battery Storage, DEA Screening Tool identified the proposed development as having a Medium Sensitivity with a low potential for negative impacts on the civil aviation 	

Ref	Name and Organisation	Date and Method	Phase of PPP	Comment	EAP Response
				<p>installation, and if there are impacts there is a high likelihood of mitigation. In this regard, it is suggested that further assessment of the potential impacts may not be required.</p> <p>Could you kindly provide us with your written comment for (1) the De Aar 2 South Wind Energy Facility Proposed Grid Connection and Switching Station, as well as (2) De Aar 2 South Wind Energy Facility Proposed Substation and Battery Storage. Please give me a call should you wish to discuss further.</p> <p>Kind Regards, Ashleigh Blackwell Senior Environmental Assessment Practitioner</p>	
6.	<p>Natasha Higgitt</p> <p>Heritage Officer: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit</p> <p>South African Heritage Resources Agency</p>	<p>19 October 2020</p> <p>e-mail</p>	<p>BAR Phase</p> <p>(First public comment review period)</p>	<p>From: Natasha Higgitt Sent: Monday, 19 October 2020 16:15 To: De Aar Subject: RE: Notification of the Availability of Draft Basic Assessment Reports for the De Aar 2 South WEF Associated Developments</p> <p>Good afternoon, Please note that all development applications are processed via our online portal, the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS) found at the following link: http://sahra.org.za/sahris/. We do not accept emailed, posted, hardcopy, faxed, website links or DropBox links as official submissions. Please create an application on SAHRIS and upload all documents pertaining to the Environmental Authorisation Application Process. As per section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA), an assessment of heritage resources must form part of the process and the assessment must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA. Once all documents including all appendices are uploaded to the case application, please ensure that the status of the case is changed from DRAFT to</p>	<p>From: De Aar Sent: Monday, 19 October 2020 18:09 To: Natasha Higgitt Subject: RE: Notification of the Availability of Draft Basic Assessment Reports for the De Aar 2 South WEF Associated Developments</p> <p>Dear Natasha Application 1: For The Proposed Construction of the up to 400 kV De Aar 2 South Transmission Lines And Associated Infrastructure, Northern Cape Province, for Environmental Authorisation, has been uploaded onto the SAHRIS website for the Statutory Comment as Required. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding. Thank You Kind Regards Aneesah Alwie</p>

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-	<p>Natasha Higgitt</p> <p>Heritage Officer: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit</p> <p>South African Heritage Resources Agency</p>	<p>12 November 2020</p> <p>via online portal, the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS) found at the following link: http://sahra.org.za/sahris/ </p>	<p>BAR Phase</p> <p>(First public comment review period)</p>	<p>SUBMITTED. Please ensure that all documents produced as part of the EA process are submitted as part of the application.</p> <p>Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt Date: Thursday November 12, 2020 Tel: 021 462 4502 Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za CaseID: 15647</p> <p>Final Comment</p> <p>In terms of Section 38(4), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) Attention: Mulilo De Aar 2 South (Pty) Ltd</p> <p>A basic assessment process is being followed for environmental authorisation (EA). The draft application has been submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (Competent Authority). The EA is being applied for the proposed development of up to 400 kV transmission lines and a switching station located approximately 15 to 26 km east of the town of De Aar, Northern Cape Province.</p> <p>Arcus Consultancy Services South Africa (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Mulilo De Aar 2 South (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application process for the proposed construction of a 400kV Transmission Line and Switching Station near De Aar, Northern Cape Province.</p> <p>A draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include 400 kV transmission lines between the authorised De Aar 2 South Wind Energy Facility and the existing Eskom Hydra Substation. A corridor of 200 m and two route options (23 km and 30 km) was assessed.</p>	<p>The EAP acknowledges comment received from the South African Heritage Resource Authority (SAHRA) and confirms that the project description and summary of findings provided by SAHRA are accurate.</p> <p>All recommendations and mitigation measures have been taken into consideration and included in the BAR and EMPr.</p>

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				<p>ACO Associates cc have been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EA application report as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).</p> <p><i>Bamford, M. 2020. Palaeontological Impact Assessment for the proposed Mulilo De Aar grid connections, Northern Cape Province.</i></p> <p>The proposed routes are underlain by the Permian Karoo sediments, unfossiliferous Jurassic Dolerites and Quaternary sands. Parts of Route 2 option 2 part (and Route 1) are underlain by Quaternary sands and Adelaide Subgroup rocks, the latter may contain fossils of vertebrates and silicified wood. Route option 2 part 1 is underlain by the Tierberg formation that may contain trace fossils and wood fragments. As the foundations of the monopole or lattice tower structures will have a small impact footprint, the significance of the impact of the development would be small. A Fossil Chance Finds Protocol should be added to the EMPr and is provided in the report.</p> <p><i>Gribble, J and Euston-Brown, G. 2020. Heritage Impact Assessment: Proposed Grid Connection for the De Aar 2 South Wind Energy Facility, De Aar, Northern Cape.</i></p> <p>It is noted that some sections of the proposed routes could not be surveyed due to access constraints. A total of 113 heritage resources were identified within the proposed route. These include Middle and Later Stone Age artefacts scatters, one pottery sherd, circular stone packed kraals and features, an engraves boulder (possibly modern), historical artefacts scatters that include ceramics, glass and metal, British shovel head, and a stone packed "wolwehok. A total of 13 heritage resources were rated as having a Grade 3A</p>	<p>The Fossil Chance Finds Protocols has been added to the Generic EMPr (Volume I, Appendix B1 under Part C).</p>

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				<p>significance rating, while the others were of lower heritage significance.</p> <p>Recommendations provided in the report include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The archaeological assessment recommended that three archaeological sites require mitigation prior to the commencement of construction of the grid connections. These include JG050-JG052/GEB013-GEB014, JG067-JG072/GEB025 and JG077. It is recommended that the mitigation take the form of the mapping, recording and collection by the archaeologist of exposed artefactual material prior to the commencement of any activities related to the installation of the grid connections; A 40 m no-go buffer must be adhered to around sites JG040; JG064; JG066; JG081-JG090; A 20 m no-go buffer must be adhered around sites JG036 and JG044; Lastly, the archaeologist must review the positions of the individual pylons once these have been determined, to ensure that they will not impact on any recorded heritage resources. The micro-siting of pylon positions may be required, which should also be done in consultation with the archaeologist; A Chance Finds Procedure is recommended to be implemented. <p>Final Comment</p>	<p>Recommendations as provided in the SAHRA comment is accurate and correct according to the Heritage Impact Assessment Report complied (Volume II).</p>
				<p>The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the Final BAR and EMP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology 	<p>Comments from SAHRA has been noted and the further specific conditions has been added to the basic assessment report for inclusion in the conditions of the environmental authorisation.</p>

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				<p>and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed amendment of the authorised development;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38(4)b – The recommendations of the specialists are supported and must be adhered to. Further additional specific conditions are provided for the development as follows: • The buffers recommended by the specialist must be adhered to. Should it not be possible to avoid the identified heritage resources, a permit in terms of section 35 of the NHRA must be applied for from SAHRA prior to the construction phase. No mitigation work may commence without a permit issued in this regard. • Permits in terms of section 35 of the NHRA must be applied for the recommended mitigation work for sites JG050-JG052/GEB013-GEB014, JG067–JG072/GEB025 and JG077 prior to construction; • The recommended walk-down of the micro-siting of pylons must be submitted to SAHRA for review and comment. No construction may commence without comment from SAHRA in this regard; • A Heritage Management Plan (HMP) must be developed in order to manage the in-situ heritage resources for the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the development; • 38(4)c(i) – If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM Unit (Natasha Higgitt/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) must be alerted as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule; 	

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule; 38(4)d – See section 51(1) of the NHRA; 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists: i) If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA; The Final BAR and EMPr must be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes; The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application. <p>Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.</p> <p>Yours faithfully Natasha Higgitt Heritage Officer South African Heritage Resources Agency</p> <p>Phillip Hine Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit South African Heritage Resources Agency</p>	<p>Arcus will be submitting a new application for environmental authorisation to the DFFE. Once submitted, all documentation will be submitted to SAHRA for additional comment.</p> <p>Once the Final BAR and EMPr is submitted to the DFFE, this will be submitted to SAHRA for record purposes. Upon receipt of the decision regarding the EA application, this will be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS case application.</p>

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				<p>ADMIN</p> <p>Direct URL to case: http://www.sahra.org.za/node/542380 (DEA, Ref: TBC)</p> <p>Terms and Conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work. 2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately. 3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required. 	
-	<p>Natasha Higgitt</p> <p>Heritage Officer: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit</p> <p>South African Heritage Resources Agency</p>	<p>30 April 2021</p> <p>via online portal, the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS) found at the following link: http://sahra.org.za/sahris/</p>	<p>BAR Phase</p> <p>(Second public comment review period)</p>	<p>Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt Date: Friday April 30, 2021 Tel: 021 462 4502 Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za CaseID: 15647</p> <p>Final Comment</p> <p>In terms of Section 38(4), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) Attention: Mulilo De Aar 2 South (Pty) Ltd</p> <p>Arcus Consultancy Services South Africa (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Mulilo De Aar 2 South (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application process for the proposed construction of a 400kV Transmission Line and Switching Station near De Aar, Northern Cape Province.</p> <p>A draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR) had been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, no 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the 2017 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed development will include 400kv transmission lines between the authorised</p>	<p>The EAP acknowledges comment received from the South African Heritage Resource Authority (SAHRA) and confirms that the project description and summary of findings provided by SAHRA are accurate.</p> <p>All recommendations and mitigation measures have been taken into consideration and included in the Final BAR and EMPr.</p> <p>The EAP has taken into account the recommendations made in the Final Comment issued on 12/11/2020 and implemented such recommendations throughout the report and EMPr.</p> <p>The EAP is in compliance with both Final Comments made by SAHRA.</p>

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				<p>De Aar 2 South Wind Energy Facility and the existing Eskom Hydra Substation. A corridor of 200 m and two route options (23 km and 30 km) was assessed.</p> <p>A Final Comment was issued by SAHRA on the 12/11/2020 (https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/544549), noting no objections to the proposed development and provided site specific conditions to be complied with. Since the issuing of the Final Comment a cover letter and revised Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) have been submitted for review. The application has been updated to request authorisation for only one transmission line route (Route 1 as described in the original BAR). There are no changes to the results of the HIA as only one proposed powerline route (the one route now under application) had been assessed.</p> <p>Final Comment As there are no changes to the results of the assessment of the impact to heritage as portrayed in the heritage reports, the Final Comment issued on the 12/11/2020 (https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/544549) is still valid and must be adhered to. This comment must be read with the Final Comment issued on 12/11/2020. Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted.</p>	
7.	Seoka Lekota Deputy Director: Biodiversity Mainstreaming EIA Department of Forestry,	17 November 2020 By E-mail	BAR Phase (First public comment review period)	<p>From: Seoka Lekota Sent: Tuesday, 17 November 2020 23:32 To: De Aar Cc: Aulicia Maifo; Portia Makitla Subject: PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF UP TO 400kV DE AAR 2 SOUTH TRANSMISSION LINES AND SWITCHING STATION, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE</p> <p>Good Day Attached find our comments for implementation.</p>	EAP acknowledges receipt of the email and comment.

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	Fisheries and the Environment			<i>Regards</i> Seoka Lekota	
		Attachment		<p>Reference: De Aar 2 South Transmission Lines Enquiries: Ms Aulicia Maifo / Portia Makitla Telephone: 012 399 9411 E-mail: pmakitla@environment.gov.za</p> <p>Aneesah Alwie Arcus Consultancy Services South Africa (Pty) Ltd Office 607 Cube Workspace Cnr Long Street and Hans Strijdom Ave Cape Town 8001 Telephone Number: +27 (21) 412 1529 Email Address: deaar@arcusconsulting.co.za PER E-MAIL Dear Sir/Madam COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF UP TO 400kV DE AAR 2 SOUTH TRANSMISSION LINES AND SWITCHING STATION, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE</p> <p>The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the aforementioned report. According to the Draft Basic Assessment Report, the proposed development is to take place on the two vegetation types namely: The Northern Upper Karoo (NKu3) and the Besemkaree Koppies Shrubland (Gh4), and the area also falls within the Ecological Support Area (ESA) due to the presence of the large large Platberg-Karoo Conservancy Important Bird Area (IBA). The following recommendations must be implemented during the final EIA phase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High sensitive areas i.e. (CBA, IBA) in close proximity to the development footprint must be demarcated as no-go area i.e. drainage lines; 	
					A mitigation measure is included to demarcate sensitive areas in close proximity to the development footprint as no-go areas with construction tape or similar and clearly marked as no-go areas. This is stipulated in the BAR

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8	EIA Admin	26 April	BAR		(Volume I) and Ecology Report (Volume II).
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to minimize loss of biodiversity, the proposed powerline route must run parallel with the existing infrastructure; 	<p>The proposed powerline route runs parallel with existing infrastructure for most of the route.</p> <p>The entire proposed route follows and is adjacent to the existing Eskom Hydra Roodekuil 220 kV transmission line. From the authorised DA2S WEF on-site substation on the plateau, the proposed line follows a direct route south-west to the existing Eskom Hydra Substation. For approximately 12 km of this route, the proposed line also follows the existing grid connection transmission route of the operational Longyuan Mulilo De Aar 2 North WEF</p>
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Avifaunal specialist must determine the final pylon positions on the proposed layout plan and where bird flight diverters are required and the installation of power line pylons must be away from ecological sensitive systems; 	Bird flight diverters, flappers and bird perches are recommended to be installed on the full length of the proposed lines, including areas classified as Medium and Low sensitivity. This is stipulated in the BAR (Volume I) and Avifauna Report (Volume II).
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The breeding site of a Verreaux's Eagle and any other important bird's species on site must be demarcated as a NO-GO Zone; 	It is recommended in the BAR that no construction activities within 500 m of the identified Verreaux's Eagle nest (-30.595564, 24.265331) should proceed during the breeding season (i.e., May, June, July and August); and no construction activities or personnel should be permitted to enter the 300 m no-go nest buffer around the identified Verreaux's Eagle nest at any time.
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development must conform to all Eskom standards in terms of bird friendly pole monopole structures with bird perches on every pole-top. 	The grid infrastructure considered conforms to Eskom standards and will be bird friendly.
				Yours faithfully Mr Seoka Lekota Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries Date:17/11/2020	
8	EIA Admin	26 April	BAR	From: EIAadmin	The EAP acknowledges receipt of the acknowledgment of

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	DFFE Integrated Environmental Authorisations	2021 By e-mail	Phase (Second public comment review period)	<p>Sent: Monday, 26 April 2021 14:55 To: Aneesah Alwie Cc: Matlhodi Mogorosi; EIAadmin Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2330</p> <p>Dear Aneesah 14/12/16/3/3/1/2330</p> <p>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE UP TO 400 KV DE AAR 2 SOUTH TRANSMISSION LINE AND SWITCHING STATION, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.</p> <p>The Department confirms having received the Application and draft Basic Assessment Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 22 April 2021. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended. Kindly note that your application for Environmental Authorisation falls within the ambit of an application applied for in terms of Part 2 of Chapter 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. You are therefore referred to Regulation 19 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.</p> <p>Please take note of Regulation 40(3) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that potential Interested & Affected Parties, including the Competent Authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in Regulation 40(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, prior to the submission of an application but must be provided an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the Competent Authority.</p> <p>Note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA</p>	<p>receipt received.</p> <p>Confirmation that the documents were submitted to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended and regulations have been complied with in. See Volume I including Appendix A – C and Volume II of the Basic Assessment Report.</p>

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				Regulations, 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the time-frames prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted by the Department in terms of Regulation 3(7) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department. Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application. Yours in admin EIA Applications Integrated Environmental Authorisations Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries			
-	EIA Admin DFFE Integrated Environmental Authorisations	20 May 2021 By E-mail	BAR Phase (Second public comment review period)	From: EIA Admin Sent: Thursday, 20 May 2021 11:35 To: Ashlin Bodasing, deaar@arcusonsulting.co.za ; Constantin Hatzilambros; Bryan Fisher Copy: Matlhodi Mogorosi; EIAadmin Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2330 Good day. Please find the attached letter for your attention. I hope you find all in order. Thank you.			
Email attachment DFFE Comment DFFE Reference No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2330				No.	Comment from DFFE	EAP Response	Section in Final BAR
				The application form and draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) dated April 2021 and received by this Department on 22 April 2021, refer. <u>This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the final BAR:</u>			
				a)	Listed Activities		

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				i. Please ensure that all relevant listed activities applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description. Only activities applicable to the development must be applied for and accessed.	The relevant listed activities as applied for are specific and will be required for the development activity and infrastructure. See Table 2.1 of the FBAR and the Section 7 of the revised application form.
				ii. Please note that a substation transformer itself is not defined as a container or a storage facility. The storage of oil in the transformer itself therefore does not constitute the storage of dangerous goods in containers envisioned in Activity 14 of Listing Notice Activity 1 and would therefore not trigger that activity. Therefore, please indicate whether this activity would still apply and expand the description to indicate how, as well as the capacities of the storage facilities to be developed.	Activity 14 of LN 1 has been removed from the list of listed activities which the applicant is applying for in this application. This Activity therefore no longer applies. See Table 2.1 of the FBAR and the Section 7 of the revised application form.

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				iii.	<p>It is noted that Activity 11 of Listing Notice 1 has also been applied for, since the distribution of electricity from the proposed project may be less than 275 kV. Please note that it is the capacity of the infrastructure which determines the applicability of the listed activity, and not the actual distribution voltage. Therefore, please clarify whether the intention in applying for both Activity 11 of Listing Notice 1 and Activity 9 of Listing Notice 2 is to seek authorisation for the construction of either a 400kV power line, or a lesser 275kV/132kV line (applicable option to be determined at the time of implementation), and if so, please include both/all power line options (with specified capacities) in the project description and assessment.</p>	<p>It is the intention of the Applicant to apply for both Activity 11 of Listing Notice 1 and Activity 9 of Listing Notice 2 to ensure authorisation is sought regardless of the kV power line proposed to be constructed. The Applicant is seeking authorisation for the construction of an up to 400 kV line i.e., with an infrastructure capacity ranging between 66 kV and 400 kV (i.e., either 66 kV, 132 kV, 220 kV, 275 kV or 400 kV, <u>depending on the final design and Eskom requirements</u>). The more practical option to be determined at the time of implementation.</p> <p>The project description in the report and application form has been updated to reflect the range of specified capacities.</p>	<p>See Table B: Executive Summary and Section 8 of the FBAR for updated description. Description of Activity has also been updated in Table 2.1 of the FBAR and Section 7 of the revised application form.</p>
				iv.	<p>If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final BAR, an amended application form must be submitted. Please note that the Department's application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following link https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms.</p>	<p>Listed activity description has taken place in the Application Form and FBAR. The revised application will be submitted with this FBAR. All application appendices have also been included.</p>	<p>See Table 2.1 of the FBAR and the Section 7 of the revised application form.</p>

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				v.	It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the basic assessment process as the development property possibly falls within geographically designated areas in terms of numerous GN R. 985 Activities. Written comments must be obtained from the relevant authorities and submitted to this Department. In addition, a graphical representation of the proposed development within the respective geographical areas must be provided.	Relevant stakeholders and authorities have been contacted throughout the application process. Proof of correspondence to obtain written comments and responses, as received, is included in the FBAR for a decision. A figure is included to show the the proposed development within the respective geographical area.	See Volume I: Appendix C for Public Participation undertaken during the application process, to date. See Figure 8.1. for figure showing the facility within the respective Central Transmission Corridor.
				vi.	It is indicated in the description of some of the listed activities applied for that construction of roads and other structures and the expansion of bridges is proposed. Kindly expand the description in the application form to include footprints and/or thresholds of these proposed structures.	These descriptions have been updated in a revised application form.	See Table 2.1 of the FBAR and the Section 7 of the revised application form.
				vii.	Please also ensure that the BAR includes a description of the project components and all associated infrastructure indicated in the listed activities, including capacities and development footprints (e.g. the length, width, route and location of the roads etc.) and that these assessed are in the report. It is imperative to ensure that all applied for listed activities are fully described and assessed in the report (e.g. which bridges will be expanded, how and what will be the impact be. Please also provide a summarised list of all project components for inclusion in the decision.	Table A to I in the FBAR provides a description of the project components and all associated infrastructure indicated in the listed activities, including capacities and development footprints (e.g. the length, width, route and location of the roads etc.). Further, these are assessed are in the FBAR. Table A to H in the FBAR provides summarised list of all project components.	Refer to Table A – I as well as Section 7 and Section 8 of the FBAR.

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				b) <u>Layout and Sensitivity Maps</u>	
				<p>Please provide a layout map, overlain by a sensitivity map, which indicates the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed powerlines corridor or servitude with all supporting associated infrastructure The proposed grid infrastructure in relation to the authorized De Aar 2 South Wind Energy Facility All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g., roads (existing and proposed); The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g., CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected.; Buffer areas; and All "no-go" areas. Google maps will not be accepted. 	<p>A new layout map has been produced to reflect all required.</p>
					<p>Please see Volume I: Figure 8.1: Site Development Plan; Figure 11: Environmental Sensitivity and Cumulative Map; and Figure 12: Locality and Sensitivity Map.</p>
				c) <u>Coordinates</u>	
				<p>Please provide the bend-point coordinates of the powerline alignment and all linear activities e.g. roads (in degrees, minutes and seconds), as well as the corner point coordinates of the substation site.</p>	<p>A new development plan map has been produced to reflect all required co-ordinates of the powerline and the corner point coordinates of the substation site.</p>
				d) <u>Specialist Assessments</u>	<p>Please see Volume I: Figure 8.1: Site Development Plan</p>

Ref	Name and Organisation	Date and Method	Phase of PPP	Comment	EAP Response
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please ensure that the specialist studies provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for the authorisation. 	Specialist studies included in Volume II of this report includes the methodology undertaken and any other infrastructure which they have assessed. See Volume II Specialist Studies.
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The specialist studies must also provide a detailed description of all limitations to their studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation, will not be accepted. 	Specialist studies included in Volume II of this report includes the limitations, if any, to their studies for the proposed development. See Volume II Specialist Studies.
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice. 	This is provided in the FBAR. See Section 11: Summary of Findings and Recommendations of the FBAR.
				e) <u>Environmental Management Programme</u>	
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please upload the two substation and overhead electricity transmission and distribution Infrastructure generic EMPs (contemplated in Regulations 19(4)) separately, when submitting the final BAR to the Department, to facilitate reviewing. 	These have been produced and submitted to the DFFE with the DBAR. They will be submitted separately when included with the FBAR. See Volume I: Appendix B1 and B2: EMPs
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please also ensure that any specific mitigation measures Identified in the BAR and specialist reports are incorporated into the generic EMPs 	This has been included and/or appended to the Generic EMPs. See Volume I: Appendix B1 and B2: EMPs

Ref	Name and Organisation	Date and Method	Phase of PPP	Comment	EAP Response
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the generic EMPs please recommend a frequency for the auditing of compliance with the conditions of the environmental authorization and the EMP (for the construction and rehabilitation/post-construction monitoring phases), and for the submission of such compliance reports to the competent authority. 	<p>The EAP has indicated in the EMP how often the environmental control officer (ECO) must audit the project against the conditions of the EA and the EMP; and how often the audit reports must be submitted to the competent authority (Compliance section).</p> <p>See Volume I: Appendix B1: EMP Part C: Section 9 and Volume I: Appendix B2: EMP Part C: Section 9.</p>
				f) Cumulative Assessment	
				i. Should there be any other similar projects within a 30km radius of the proposed development site, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined to indicate the following:	
				a) Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land	<p>An assessment of cumulative impacts has been included in Section 3.5 and Section 10 of the FBAR.</p> <p>See Section 3.5 and Section 10 of the FBAR.</p>
				b) Detailed process followed and proof must be provided to indicate how the specialists' recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.	<p>This have been included in the individual independent specialist reports.</p> <p>See Volume II: Specialist Reports</p>
				c) The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.	<p>The need and desirability of the proposed project takes into account the cumulative impacts of surrounding developments of the area.</p> <p>See Section 6 of the FBAR.</p>

Ref	Name and Organisation	Date and Method	Phase of PPP	Comment	EAP Response
				d) A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed	This has been included. See Section 3.5 of the FBAR.
				g) Public Participation Process	
				i. The following information must be submitted with the final BAR:	
				a) A list of registered interested and affected parties as per Regulation 42 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended;	This has been provided for in the Public Participation Chapter of the Final BAR. See Volume I: Appendix C5: I&AP Database.
				b) Copies of all comments received during the draft BAR comment period; and	This has been provided for in the Public Participation Chapter of the Final BAR. See Volume I: Appendix C6.2 and 6.3: Original Comments and Responses.
				c) A comment and response report which contains all comments received and responses provided to all comments and issues raised during the public participation process for the draft BAR. Please note that comments received from this Department must also form part of the comment and response report.	This has been provided for in the Public Participation Chapter of the Final BAR. See Volume I: Appendix C: Section 4 (Comments and Response Table) and Appendix C6.2 and 6.3: Original Comments and Responses.

Ref	Name and Organisation	Date and Method	Phase of PPP	Comment		EAP Response	
				ii.	Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft BAR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final BAR.	All comments received from stakeholders and organs of state has been adequately addressed. This has been provided for in the Public Participation Chapter of the Final BAR.	See Volume I: Appendix C: Section 4 (Comments and Response Table) and Appendix C6.2 and 6.3: Original Comments and Responses.
				iii.	Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final BAR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.	This has been provided for in the Public Participation Chapter of the Final BAR. Any correspondence with relevant organs of state and stakeholders has been included in the comments and response table. Where no correspondence has been received, the proof of attempts to retrieve a comment has been provided for the DFFE.	See Volume I: Appendix C: Section 4 (Comments and Response Table) and Appendix C6.2 and 6.3: Original Comments and Responses.
				h) Validity Period			
				i.	Please also ensure that the final BAR includes the period for which the Environmental Authorisation (EA) is required, the date on which the activity will be concluded, and the post construction monitoring requirements finalised, as per Appendix 1(3)(1)(q) of the NEMA EIA Regulations,2014, as amended	Please refer to Table I of the FBAR. This has been included to indicate the period for which the Environmental Authorisation (EA) is required, the date on which the activity will be concluded, and the post construction monitoring requirements finalised, as per Appendix 1(3)(1)(q) of the NEMA EIA Regulations,2014, as amended.	Refer to Table I and Section 3: Table 3.1 of the FBAR.
				General			

Ref	Name and Organisation	Date and Method	Phase of PPP	Comment	EAP Response
				You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 19(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that: <i>"Where basic assessment must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority -</i>	
				a) <i>a basic assessment report, inclusive of specialist reports, an EMP, and where applicable a closure plan, which have been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority".</i>	<div>This has been compiled and the DBAR, inclusive of the EMP and specialist reports was subjected to a public participation process.</div> <div>See Volume I: Section 4 and Appendix C: Public Participation.</div>
				Should there be significant changes or new information that has been added to the BAR or EMP which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process, you are required to comply with Regulation 19(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: <i>"the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority-</i>	

Ref	Name and Organisation	Date and Method	Phase of PPP	Comment	EAP Response
				<p>b) a notification in writing that the basic assessment report, inclusive of specialist reports, an EMP, and where applicable, a closure plan, will be submitted within 140 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the basic assessment report or EMP, or, where applicable, a closure plan, which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process contemplated in subregulation (1)(a) and that the revised reports or, EMP, or, where applicable, a closure plan will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days".</p>	<p>No significant changes were made from the draft to final versions of the report.</p> <p>The Project Details of the FBAR reflects the changes made from DBAR to FBAR.</p>
				<p>Should you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 19 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your application will lapse.</p>	<p>Timeframes stipulated are being adhered to in this application.</p> <p>n/a</p>
				<p>You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.</p>	<p>The Applicant / EAP takes note of this and confirms that no activity has / will commence without a positive environmental authorisation.</p> <p>n/a</p>
9	Thato Nape Square Kilometer	20 May 2021 By E-mail	BAR Phase (Second	<p>From: Thato Nape Sent: Thursday, 20 May 2021 7:07 To: Ashleigh von der Heyden Copy: Selaelo Matlhane, Adrian Tiplady, Busang</p>	<p>From: Ashleigh von der Heyden Sent: Wednesday, 02 June 2021 8:00 To: Thato Nape Copy: Selaelo Matlhane, Adrian Tiplady, Busang Sethole,</p>

Ref	Name and Organisation	Date and Method	Phase of PPP	Comment	EAP Response
	Array (SKA)		public comment review period)	<p>Sethole, Musa Baloye Subject: Fwd: FW: Notification of Availability of two Draft Basic Assessment Reports: DA2S WEF On-Site Substation and BESS and DA2S 400kV Transmission Line and Switching Station</p> <p>To whom it may concern RE: BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF UP TO 400KV DE AAR 2 SOUTH TRANSMISSION LINE AND SWITCHING STATION, NORTH- ERN CAPE PROVINCE. This letter is in response to the basic assessment report for the above mentioned wind energy facility and its possible impact on the Square Kilometre Array radio telescopes. Based on the information provided, it is anticipated that the construction of the transmission line and switching station will not cause radiated emissions that will negatively impact the SKA through the expected radiation of electromagnetic emissions. Therefore, SARAO considers the project to be low risk of interference to the SKA and therefore we do not object to the development of the project, we would, however, appreciate if we can be kept informed of the project developments so that measures to control the electromagnetic emission could be put in place if necessary. Thank you for your correspondence and our office remains open in relation to any issue relating to the above matter.</p>	<p>Musa Baloye Subject: Fwd: FW: Notification of Availability of two Draft Basic Assessment Reports: DA2S WEF On-Site Substation and BESS and DA2S 400kV Transmission Line and Switching Station</p> <p>Dear Thato,</p> <p>Arcus Acknowledges your letter and wishes to thank you and the SKA for your participation in this project. We note your comment of No objection to both DA2S WEF On-Site Substation and BESS and DA2S 400kV Transmission Line and Switching Station. Following receipt of Record of Decision by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment, Mulilo De Aar 2 South (Pty) Ltd will keep you informed of the project developments. For the remainder of the environmental processes for both project, you will be kept informed as a member of our I&AP database. Have a great day.</p>

6 SUMMARY OF COMMENTS

Initial Notification Phase

The main correspondence received was from I&APs requesting to be registered on the I&AP database. A comment from a stakeholder was for clarity on the proposed development and agreements with the respective parties, and correspondence is included between Arcus and SACAA.

Basic Assessment Phase¹

During the 30 day public comment period comment was received from Eskom, DFFE: BDC Directorate; SAHRA; DFFE: Integrated Authorisations Directorate and the SARAO. These comments have been addressed and responded to in the Comments and Response Trail (Section 4) above.

¹ The draft BA Report (Arcus, September 2020) was subjected to a 30 day comment period from the 17 October 2020 to the 19 November 2020 (both days inclusive). During the public comment period the application process was suspended. A second submission of the draft BA Report was finalised and subjected to a further 30 day comment period from 22 April 2021 to 24 May 2021 (both days included).

APPENDIX C1: SITE NOTICES AND POSTER PLACEMENT PROOF

APPENDIX C2: NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT PROOFS

APPENDIX C3: INITIAL PHASE - NOTIFICATIONS

APPENDIX C4: PROOF OF DELIVERY – INITIAL NOTIFICATIONS

APPENDIX C5: I&AP DATABASE

APPENDIX C6: CORRESPONDENCE: ORIGINAL COMMENTS & RESPONSES

- 6.1 Initial Notification**
- 6.2 First Submission Phase of DBAR PPP Notification**
- 6.3 Second Submission Phase of DBAR PPP Notification**

APPENDIX C7: NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT PHASE

7.1 First Submission Phase of DBAR PPP Notification

7.2 Second Submission Phase of DBAR PPP Notification

APPENDIX C8: PROOF OF DELIVERY – DBAR NOTIFICATION

8.1 First Submission Phase of DBAR PPP Notification

8.2 Second Submission Phase of DBAR PPP Notification

