



ESIZAYO WIND (RF) (PTY) LTD

PROPOSED ESIZAYO WIND ENERGY FACILITY EXPANSION AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR LAINGSBURG, WESTERN CAPE DRAFT STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT REPORT

06 MAY 2022

DRAFT





PROPOSED ESIZAYO
WIND ENERGY
FACILITY EXPANSION
AND ASSOCIATED
INFRASTRUCTURE
NEAR LAINGSBURG,
WESTERN CAPE
DRAFT STAKEHOLDER
ENGAGEMENT REPORT

ESIZAYO WIND (RF) (PTY) LTD

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION

APPLICANT

Esizayo Wind (RF) (Pty) Ltd

PROJECT NAME

Esizayo WEF Expansion and Associated Infrastructure, Western Cape, South Africa

PRE-APPLICATION REFERENCE NUMBER

2022-03-0020

DFFE REFERENCE NUMBER

Not yet issued

REPORT TYPE

Draft Stakeholder Engagement Report

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ACRONYMS

BA	Basic Assessment
BAR	Basic Assessment Report
BioTherm	BioTherm Energies (Pty) Ltd
CA	Competent Authority
CBA	Critical Biodiversity Areas
CRR	Comment and Response Report
DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs
DEA&DP	Department Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
EA	Environmental Authorisation
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMPr	Environmental Management Programme
ESA	Ecological Support Areas
I&APs	Interested & Affected Parties
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998)
NPAES	National Protected Area Expansion Strategy
PPP	Public Participation Process
REDZ	Renewable Energy Development Zones
RI&AP	Registered Interested & Affected Parties
WEF	Wind Energy Facility
WSP	WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd



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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

On 14 July 2017, BioTherm Energy (Pty) Ltd (BioTherm) (Trading as BTE Renewables) received an EA (DFFE Ref no: 14/12/16/3/3/2/967) for the proposed Esizayo Wind Energy Facility (WEF) to be constructed on Portion 1 of Aanstoot Farm No 72, Annex Joseph's Kraal Farm No 84 and Aurora Farm No 285.

The EA holder was amended in September 2021 to Esizayo Wind (RF) (Pty) Ltd (Esizayo) (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/967/AM1). Therefore, the applicant for this project will also be Esizayo.

Esizayo now proposes to expand the existing authorised Esizayo WEF extent by adding three new land parcels. The Esizayo WEF Expansion Project is proposed to be constructed on Portion 1 of Farm Leeuwenfontein, 71, Remainder of the Farm Leeuwenfontein, 71 and Portion 2 of Farm Aanstoot, 72 (**Figure 1-1**).

The Esizayo WEF Expansion Project lies approximately 30km north-west of Laingsburg in the Western Cape, and falls within the Laingsburg Local Municipality, which is located within the Central Karoo District Municipality.

On 16 February 2018, the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), now the DFFE, gazetted the Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ) and Strategic Transmission Corridors and procedures for the assessment of large-scale wind and solar photovoltaic energy development activities (Government Notice (GN) 114) and grid infrastructure (GN 113). The proposed Esizayo WEF Expansion Project falls within the Central Strategic Transmission Corridor as well as the Komsberg REDZ.

The WEF falls within a Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA 1) and Ecological Support Areas (ESA 1 and ESA 2) and falls within the Western Karoo National Protected Area Expansion Strategy (NPAES) focus area.

The proposed Esizayo WEF Expansion requires an EA in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998), as amended (NEMA) and the associated Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2014, as amended).

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed by Esizayo as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to facilitate the Basic Assessment (BA) process in accordance with the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended).

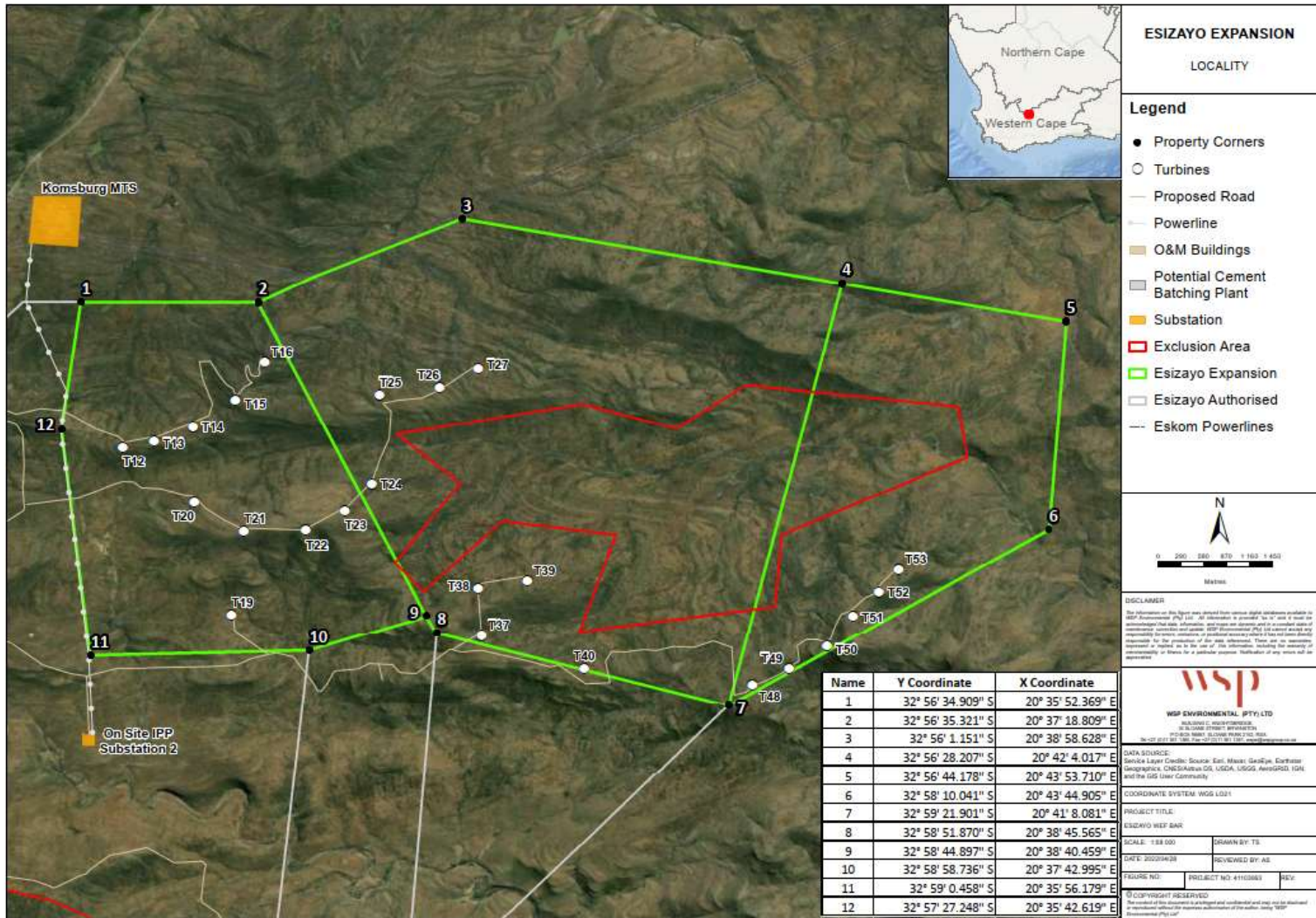


Figure 1-1: Location of the proposed Esizayo WEF Expansion Project

1.2 TERMS OF REFERENCE AND DETAILS OF THE EAP

WSP was appointed in the role of Independent EAP to undertake the BA processes for the proposed Project. This Stakeholder Engagement Report was compiled as part of the BA process and must be read in conjunction with the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) in support of the EA application. **Table 1.1** details the relevant contact details of the EAP.

Table 1.1 Details of the EAP

EAP	WSP GROUP AFRICA (PTY) LTD
Contact Person:	Ashlea Strong
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To adequately identify and assess potential environmental impacts, the EAP was supported by a number of specialists, the details of which are provided in the BAR.

STATEMENT OF INDEPENDENCE

Neither WSP nor any of the authors of this Report have any material present or contingent interest in the outcome of this Report, nor do they have any business, financial, personal, or other interest that could be reasonably regarded as being capable of affecting their independence. WSP has no beneficial interest in the outcome of the assessment.

1.3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation is understood to be a series of inclusive and culturally appropriate interactions aimed at providing stakeholders with opportunities to express their views, so that these can be considered and incorporated into the decision-making process. Effective public participation requires the prior disclosure of relevant and adequate project information to enable stakeholders to understand the risks, impacts, and opportunities of the proposed Project.

Basic reasons why the public are involved in the BA Process:

- The environment is held in public trust, therefore use of environmental resources is everyone's concern;
- To ensure that projects meet the citizens' needs and are suitable to the affected public;
- The project carries more legitimacy, and less hostility, if interested and affected parties (I&APs) are able to influence the decision-making process; and
- The final decision is deemed informed when local knowledge and values are included and when expert knowledge is publicly examined.

1.3.1 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the public participation process (PPP) can be summarised as follows:

- Identify relevant individuals, organisations and communities who may be interested in or affected by the proposed Project;
- Clearly outline the scope of the proposed Project, including the scale and nature of the existing and proposed activities;
- Identify viable proposed Project alternatives that will assist the relevant authorities in making an informed decision;
- Identify shortcomings and gaps in existing information;
- Identify key concerns, raised by I&APs that should be addressed in the subsequent specialist studies;
- Highlight the potential for environmental impacts, whether positive or negative; and
- To inform and provide the public with information and an understanding of the proposed Project, issues and solutions.

1.3.2 WHAT IS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY?

An I&AP is defined as any person, group of persons or organisations interested in or affected by an activity, and any organ of state that may have jurisdiction over any aspect of the activity.

The difference between an I&AP and a registered I&AP (RI&AP):

- An I&AP can be directly or indirectly impacted on by a proposed activity.
- A RI&AP is a person whose name has been placed on the register of RI&APs. According to the PPP Guidance document, 2017, only RI&APs will be notified:
 - Of the availability of reports and other written submissions made to the competent authority (CA) by the Applicant, and be entitled to comment on these reports and submissions; and
 - Of the outcome of the application, the reasons for the decision, and that an appeal may be lodged against a decision.

For the purpose of this report, RI&APs will be referred to as Stakeholders.

RIGHTS, ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STAKEHOLDER

Registered stakeholders have the right to bring to the attention of the CA any issues that they believe may be of significance to the consideration of the application. The rights of stakeholder are qualified by certain obligations, namely:

- Stakeholders must ensure that their comments are submitted within the timeframes that have been approved by the DFFE, or within any extension of a timeframe agreed by the Proponent, EAP or competent authorities;
- Serve a copy of the comments submitted directly to the competent authorities, the Proponent or the EAP; and
- Disclose to the EAP any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that they might have in the approval or refusal of the application.

The roles of stakeholders in a public participation process usually include one or more of the following:

- Assisting in the identification and prioritisation of issues that need to be investigated;
- Making suggestions on alternatives and means of preventing, minimising and managing negative impacts and enhancing proposed Project benefits;
- Assisting in or commenting on the development of mutually acceptable criteria for the evaluation of decision options;
- Contributing information on public needs, values and expectations;
- Contributing local and traditional knowledge; and
- Verifying that their issues have been considered.

In order to participate effectively, stakeholders should:

- Become involved in the process as early as possible;

- Register as a stakeholder;
- Advise the EAP of other stakeholders who should be consulted;
- Contribute towards the design of the public participation process (including timeframes) to ensure that it is acceptable to all stakeholders;
- Follow the process once it has been accepted;
- Read the material provided and actively seek to understand the issues involved;
- Give timeous responses to correspondence;
- Be respectful and courteous towards other stakeholders;
- Refrain from making subjective, unfounded or ill-informed statements; and
- Recognise that the process is confined to issues that are directly relevant to the application.

1.4 APPROACH TO STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Our approach to stakeholder engagement is based on the following principles:

- Undertake meaningful and timely participation with stakeholders;
- Focus on important issues during the process;
- Undertake due consideration of alternatives;
- Take accountability for information used;
- Encourage co-regulation, shared responsibility and a sense of ownership over the proposed Project lifecycle;
- Apply “due process” particularly with regard to public participation as provided for in the EIA Regulations; and
- Consider the needs, interests and values of stakeholders.

The Public Participation guideline in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations, drafted by the DEA (now DFFE) in 2017, tabulates the level of Public Participation required for various levels of anticipated project impacts. This table has been used to identify additional Public Participation methods which are required for the Project. Highlighted cells indicate the applicable response to the anticipated impacts. Results of the process are shown in **Table 1.2** below.

Table 1.2 Level of Public Participation as per Public Participation Guideline (DEA, 2017)

SCALE OF ANTICIPATED IMPACTS	RECOMMENDED RESPONSE	
	IF “YES”	IF “NO”
Are the impacts of the project likely to extend beyond the boundaries of the local municipality?	Formal Consultation with other affected municipalities should be carried out during the PPP.	No need to have a formal consultation with other municipalities during PPP. Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to EIA must be met.
Are the impacts of the project likely to extend beyond the boundaries of the province?	Formal Consultation with other affected provinces should be carried out during the PPP.	No need to have a formal consultation with other provinces during PPP. Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to EIA must be met.
Is the project a greenfields development (a new development in a previously undisturbed area)?	Extensive consultation with Registered Interested and Affected Parties (RI&APs)	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to EIA Regulations must be met.

SCALE OF ANRICPATED IMPACTS	RECOMMENDED RESPONSE	
	IF “YES”	IF “NO”
	might be required before a decision is taken on the project to in order to gather more information, and to ensure that there is minimal impact on the environment.	
Does the area already suffer from socio-economic problems (e.g. job losses) or environmental problems (e.g. pollution), and is the project likely to exacerbate these?	Extensive consultation with RI&APs within the area should be undertaken, to gather more information on both the socio-economic and environmental problems.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to EIA Regulations must be met.
Is the project expected to have a wide variety of impacts (e.g. socio-economic and ecological)?	Thorough consultation needs to be conducted with RI&APs, in order to address variety of impacts.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to EIA Regulations must be met.
Public and environmental sensitivity of the project:		
Are there widespread public concerns about the potential negative impacts of the project?	Broader consultation with all RI&APs will need to be undertaken.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to EIA Regulations must be met.
Is there a high degree of conflict among RI&APs?	There might need to be more consultation to ensure that there is consensus reached among RI&APs.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to EIA Regulations must be met.
Will the project impact on private land other than that of the applicant?	Consultation with the private land owner must be done, and all their concerns need to be addressed.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to EIA Regulations must be met.
Does the project have the potential to create unrealistic expectations (e.g. that a new factory would create a large number of jobs)?	Thorough consultation that addresses the perceptions of unrealistic expectations needs to be carried out.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to EIA Regulations must be met.
Potentially affected parties:		
Has very little previous public participation taken place in the area?	More thorough public participation should take place within the area, to ensure that all potential and RI&APs participate.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to EIA Regulations must be met.

SCALE OF ANRICPATED IMPACTS	RECOMMENDED RESPONSE	
	IF “YES”	IF “NO”
Did previous public participation processes in the area result in conflict?	Additional consultation might be needed to ensure that issues of conflict are addressed effectively.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to EIA Regulations must be met.
Are there existing organisational structures (e.g. local forums) that can represent I&APs?	Organizational structures might minimise conflict whilst maximising the participation.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to EIA Regulations must be met.
Is the area characterised by high social diversity (i.t.o. socio-economic status, language or culture)	Proper consultations that address language and cultural diversity should be promoted.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to EIA Regulations must be met.
Were people in the area victims of unfair expropriations or relocation in the past?	PPP should be extensive and address any unfair practices that occurred in the past.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to EIA Regulations must be met.
Is there a high level of unemployment in the area?	The PPP should ensure that there are no unrealistic expectations created due to the project. The consultation should ensure that any unrealistic expectations are adequately addressed before the project starts.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to EIA Regulations must be met.
Do the RI&APs have special needs (e.g. a lack of skills to read or write, disability, etc)?	Consultation should include mechanisms that will ensure full participation by people with special needs.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to EIA Regulations must be met. Minimum requirements for PP in accordance to the Act must be met as well as best practices relating to PP.

1.5 COVID-19 SCENARIO

Given the spread of the COVID-19 virus to various parts of the world, including to South Africa, on 15 March 2020, in terms of Section 27 of the Disaster Management Act (Act 57 of 2002), President Cyril Ramaphosa declared a national state of disaster in South Africa. From 01 May 2020 the Alert Level has been adjusted according to the risk-adjusted strategy, as and when required reflecting the level of risk associated with Covid-19 infections throughout the country.

Due to the restrictions imposed by the various Alert Levels, restrictions were imposed on public participation associated with COVID-19 on 31 March 2020, which meant that the PPP required by Regulation 41 of the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended) could not reasonably be adhered to. On 05 June 2020, new Directions were issued by the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, “*Directions Regarding Measures to Address, Prevent and Combat the Spread of COVID-19 relating to National Environmental Management Permits and Licences*”, in respect of the undertaking and administration of EIA and related processes during Lockdown Alert Level 3. The Directions of 05 June 2020 repealed the Directions of 31 March 2020. On 09 September 2020, new

Directions were again issued by the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment in respect of the undertaking and administration of EIA and related processes during Lockdown Alert Level 2 and lower.

It is now possible to proceed with public participation in accordance with the “*Directions Regarding Measures to Address, Prevent and Combat the Spread of COVID-19 relating to National Environmental Management Permits and Licences*” (GN 650) published on 05 June 2020 and the “*Directions Regarding Measures to Address, Prevent and Combat the Spread of COVID-19 relating to National Environmental Management Permits and Licences*” (GN 970) published on 09 September 2020.

Annexure 2 of the Directions require that “*At all times it must be ensured that reasonable opportunity is provided for public participation and that all administrative actions are reasonable. While the COVID-19 pandemic is a unique circumstance, the specific circumstances in each case must be considered in order to determine what will be reasonable. If in the circumstances of a particular case reasonable alternative methods to give notice to potential interested and affected parties are available, then the relevant competent authority can be approached for an agreement in this regard as provided for in regulation 41(2)(e) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.*”

In line with the Directions, a public participation plan was compiled and presented to DFFE for approval at the outset of the assessment process (as detailed in Section 1.6). Due to the risks associated with COVID-19, as far as possible, the focus of the PPP has shifted from physical public engagements to digital and electronic communication (including e-mail and websites). No provision was made for public or focus group meetings due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

As of the 04 April 2022, the restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 Virus and placed some limitations on the commencement and continuation of the public consultation as part of an EIA process have been lifted.

1.6 APPROVED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

As part of the pre-application consultation meeting held with DFFE on **01 April 2022**, the proposed plan for public participation was discussed. A public participation plan was subsequently submitted to DFFE, along with the meeting minutes, for approval on **11 April 2022**. The meeting minutes and public participation plan were approved by DFFE on **21 April 2022**. **Table 1.3** below outlines the approved Public Participation Plan for The Esizayo WEF Expansion Project. Proof of Approval of the Public Participation Plan is included in **Appendix C**.

Table 1.3 Approved Public Participation Plan

SUMMARY OF PPP REQUIREMENT (GNR 326 OF EIA REGULATIONS)

41(2) The person conducting a PPP must give notice to all potential I&APs by-

(a) fixing a notice board at a place conspicuous to and accessible by the public at the boundary, on the fence or along the corridor of—

(i) the site where the activity to which the application or proposed application relates is or is to be undertaken; and

(ii) any alternative site;

PROPOSED PLAN/ACTIVITIES

- Placement of site notices (in English and Afrikaans) at appropriate locations on site and in the surrounding area.
- This will include the boundary to the site as well as additional public places in the closest towns within the project area, such as grocery stores, municipality, and/or local public library.

<p>(b) giving written notice, in any of the manners provided for in section 47D of the Act, to—</p> <p>(i) the occupiers of the site and, if the proponent or applicant is not the owner or person in control of the site on which the activity is to be undertaken, the owner or person in control of the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;</p> <p>(ii) owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;</p> <p>(iii) the municipal councillor of the ward in which the site and alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area;</p> <p>(iv) the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area;</p> <p>(v) any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity; and</p> <p>(vi) any other party as required by the competent authority;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Written notification (in English and Afrikaans) will be sent to owners and occupiers on or adjacent to the proposed project site, municipality ward councillor, local and district municipality, and relevant state departments. — General communication (written notification) with stakeholders (public and government departments/authorities) throughout the Basic Assessment (BA) process — Stakeholders will be added to the database on request as the project progresses.
<p>(c) placing an advertisement in—</p> <p>(i) one local newspaper; or</p> <p>(ii) any official Gazette that is published specifically for the purpose of providing public notice of applications or other submissions made in terms of these Regulations;</p>	<p>An advert will be published in one local newspaper (Die Courier - in Afrikaans), formally announcing the commencement of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) application process, requesting stakeholders to register their interest in the project, and informing them of the release of the Draft BAR and EMPr for public review and comment.</p>
<p>(d) placing an advertisement in at least one provincial newspaper or national newspaper, if the activity has or may have an impact that extends beyond the boundaries of the metropolitan or district municipality in which it is or will be undertaken</p>	<p>One advert will be placed in a regional newspaper (Cape Times - in English).</p>
<p>(e) using reasonable alternative methods, as agreed to by the competent authority, in those instances where a person is desirous of but unable to participate in the process due to—</p> <p>(i) illiteracy;</p> <p>(ii) disability; or</p> <p>(iii) any other disadvantage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — The existing database for the Esizayo WEF project will be verified and updated for the purposes of the BA process. As part of the verification process, existing I&APs will be contacted telephonically and asked to confirm their preferred method of communication. The POPI act will also be put into consideration to confirm all the relevant POPI requirements for the database. — The relevant ward councillors will be contacted to ensure that community-based organisations are aware of the Project and can assist in distributing and communicating relevant Project information to community members. — No public meetings or focus group discussions have been provided for. Meetings will be held should there be a request from Registered I&APs.

<p>(42) A proponent or applicant must ensure the opening and maintenance of a register of interested and affected parties and submit such a register to the competent authority,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Stakeholders with a potential interest in the Project will be identified at the outset of the Project. As noted above, the existing database for the Esizayo WEF project will be verified and updated for the purposes of the BA process. The database will also be updated to include landowners and other stakeholders relevant to the Projects. — All stakeholders identified will be registered on the project stakeholder database, and the database will be maintained throughout the BA process.
<p>(43) & (44) Registered Interested and affected parties (I&APs) must be given 30 days to comment on the draft Report</p>	<p>The Draft BAR and EMPr will be made available to all stakeholders for a 30-day comment period. The Draft BAR and EMPr will be made available to stakeholders as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — From WSP on request — Online on the WSP website — Public Libraries in Matjiesfontein and Laingsburg <p>A Comment and Response Report (CRR) will be generated for inclusion in Final BAR and EMPr for consideration by the competent authority (DFFE).</p>
<p>Regulation 44 (2) The applicant must, in writing, within 14 days of the date of the decision on the application ensure that—</p> <p>(a) all registered interested and affected parties are provided with access to the decision and the reasons for such decision; and</p> <p>(b) the attention of all registered interested and affected parties is drawn to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against the decision in terms of the National Appeal Regulations, if such appeal is available in the circumstances of the decision.</p>	<p>Written notification of the decision on the EA will be sent to all registered I&APs (via sms and email). Registered I&APs will be provided with the EA decision and will be informed of the appeal procedure.</p>

2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TO DATE

2.1 PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION

A pre-application meeting was held on **01 April 2022** with the DFFE in order to discuss the proposed Project. The minutes of this meeting are included in **Appendix C**.

2.2 IDENTIFICATION OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Section 41 of the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended) states that written notices must be given to identified stakeholders as outlined in **Table 2.1**.

Relevant authorities (Organs of State) have been automatically registered as I&APs. In accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), all other persons must request in writing to be placed on the register, submit written comments, or attend meetings to be registered as stakeholders, and included in future communication regarding the Project.

Table 2.1 Interested and Affected Parties

NEMA REQUIREMENT	DISCUSSION
I. The owner or person in control of that land if the applicant is not the owner or person in control of the land	The project activity is located on three portions of privately owned land. The landowners have been included on the stakeholder database.
II. The occupiers of the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken	All landowners have been contacted to confirm whether there are any occupiers on the land portions. Where applicable, occupiers have been included on the database.
III. Owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken	Adjacent landowner details were collected and have been included on the stakeholder database. Where applicable, occupiers have been included on the database.
IV. The municipal councillor of the ward in which the site or alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area	Ward Councillors of Ward 2 (Laingsburg Local Municipality) have been included on the stakeholder database.
V. The municipality which has jurisdiction in the area	The Laingsburg Local Municipality, which is located in the Central Karoo District Municipality (Western Cape) has been included on the stakeholder database.
VI. Any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity	DFFE has been, and will continue to be, consulted. The Western Cape Department Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) are included on the stakeholder database.

NEMA REQUIREMENT

DISCUSSION

VII. Any other party as required by the competent authority.	All tiers of government, namely, national, provincial, local government and parastatals have been included on the stakeholder database. Inclusive of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">— DFFE— DFFE: Biodiversity Conservation Unit— Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)— Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE)— Department of Transport— National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)— Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS)— South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA)— South African heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)— South African National Roads Agency SOC Ltd (SANRAL)— Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP)— Western Cape Department of Agriculture, (DoA)— Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works— Heritage Western Cape (HWC)— Eskom— CapeNature— BirdLife
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Appendix A provides a list of stakeholders registered on the Project database. The stakeholder database will be updated throughout the BA process.

2.2.1 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

AUTHORITY CONSULTATION

A pre-application meeting was held on **01 April 2022** with the DFFE in order to discuss the proposed project. The minutes of this meeting are included in **Appendix C**. The application form was submitted to DFFE on **6 May 2022**. In addition, WSP notified the Western Cape Government: Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, as well as the DWS of the proposed project via a notification letter.

DIRECT NOTIFICATION

Notification of the proposed project was issued to potential Stakeholders, via direct correspondence (i.e. SMSs and e-mail) on **6 May 2022**. The purpose of the notification was to offer potential I&APs and stakeholders the opportunity to register on the project database and provide input into the process to ensure the major concerns had been considered adequately, reducing the potential for amendments to the report.

The notification letter that was circulated is included in **Appendix B-3** of this report. Proof of e-mail and SMS notification will be included in the Final SER.

ADVERTISEMENT

Notification of the proposed Project was issued to the general public via an advertisement on **6 May 2022**. The purpose of the advertisement was to notify the general public of the proposed application and provide an opportunity to register on the Project database and provide input into the process. A copy of the advertisements are included as **Appendix B-1**. The advertisement publication details are provided in **Table 2.2**.

Table 2.2 **Dates on which the advert was published**

NEWSPAPER	PUBLICATION DATE
Die Courier	6 May 2022
The Cape Times	6 May 2022

SITE NOTICES

In accordance with GNR 326 Section 41(2)(a-b) site notices were developed (see **Appendix B-2**) to be placed at four (4) strategic points in close proximity to the proposed Project site, as well as in public places within the town of Laingsburg and Matjiesfontein. Site notices were placed on site on **6 May 2022**.

Proof of display and the mapped locations of the site notice placements along the route will be included in the Final BAR.

AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

The Draft BAR will be placed on public review for a period of 30 days from **6 May 2022 to 6 June 2022**, at the venues as follows:

- Laingsburg Public Library
- Matjiesfontein Community Centre

Additionally, an electronic version of the report was placed on the WSP website to be accessed by the public at the following link: <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>.

2.2.2 STAKEHOLDER REGISTRATION

All stakeholders that either called in or send written correspondence, such as emails, fax, or post, to the EAP will be added to the database.

2.3 COMMENTS RECEIVED

No comments have been received to date. Comments received from registered stakeholders will be captured and responded to within the comments and response report, which will form part of the Final BAR.

APPENDIX

A STAKEHOLDER DATABASE

Name	Surname	Organisation	Designation
Stefanus	Jooste	Central Karoo District Municipality	Municipal Manager
Gustav	von Mollendorf	Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality	
Jan	Jacobs	Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality	Council member
Jeremy	Dauids	Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality	Council member
Veruschska	Wentzel	Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality	Mayor
Alida	Groenewald	Laingsburg Local Municipality	Acting Municipal Manager
A	Marthinus	Laingsburg Local Municipality	Mayor
Bertie	van As	Laingsburg Local Municipality	
Brain	Kleinbooi	Laingsburg Local Municipality	
Gwynne	Harding	Laingsburg Local Municipality	IDP Manager
Irene	Brown	Laingsburg Local Municipality	
J	Mouton	Laingsburg Local Municipality	
J	Venter	Laingsburg Local Municipality	
Kay	Mokgobo	Laingsburg Local Municipality	
Mike	Gouws	Laingsburg Local Municipality	
Noeline	Gouws	Laingsburg Local Municipality	
Petro	Buys	Laingsburg Local Municipality	
Pietie	Williams	Laingsburg Local Municipality	
R	Hendricks	Laingsburg Local Municipality	
W	Theron	Laingsburg Local Municipality	
Immanuel	Smith	Namakwa District Municipality	Head of Department
Madeleine	Brandt	Namakwa District Municipality	
Mashudu	Marubini	Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries	
Thoko	Buthlezi	Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries	AgriLand Liason Office
Ompi	Aphane	Department of Energy	Deputy Director General
Wolsey Otto	Barnard	Department of Energy	Deputy Director General
Makhosi	Yeni	Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries	
Olivia	Letlalo	Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries	
Thando	Booi	Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries	
Thembisile	Hlatshwayo	Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries	
Thivhulwani	Nethononda	Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries: Protected Areas	
Rofhiwa	Magodi	Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries: Protected Areas	
Garrith	Bezuidenhoudt	Department of Mineral Resources	Chief Director
Jacob	Mbele	Department of Mineral Resources	Director General
Khayaletu	Matrose	Department of Mineral Resources	Director General Office
Mziwonke	Dlabantu	Department of Public Works	Director General Office
Karen	Van Schalkwyk	Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	
Malebo	Baloi	Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	
Mduduzi	Shabane	Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Director General Office
Nozizwe	Makgalemele	Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Deputy Director General
Phil	Mjwara	Department of Science and Technology	Director General Office
Ompi	Aphane	Department of Energy	Deputy Director General
Wolsey Otto	Barnard	Department of Energy	Deputy Director General
Brian	Fisher	Department of Environment and Nature Conservation	Director
Adri	La Meyer	Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	
Etienne	Roux	Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	
Gavin	Benjamin	Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	
Gunther	Frantz	Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	
Jasper	Nieuwoudt	Department of Mineral Resources	Regional Manager
Pieter	Swart	Department of Mineral Resources	Regional Manager
Fredrick	Johnson	Department of Public Works	Chief Directorate
Sylvia	Moholo	Department of Public Works	Chief Directorate
Abe	Abrahams	Department of Water and Sanitation	Chief Directorate

Kelebogile	Moalosi	Department of Water and Sanitation	
Lerato	Mokhoantle	Department of Water and Sanitation	
Lindiwe	Franks	Department of Water and Sanitation	
Melinda	Jansen	Department of Water and Sanitation	
Ntombizanele	Feni	Department of Water and Sanitation	
Rashid	Khan	Department of Water and Sanitation	Chief Director
Shaun	Cloete	Department of Water and Sanitation	
Tendamudzimu	Rasikhanya	Department of Water and Sanitation	
Ziyanda	Ngidi	Department of Water and Sanitation	
Andrew	September	Heritage Western Cape	
Errol	Myburg	Heritage Western Cape	Acting CEO
Stephanie	Barnardt	Heritage Western Cape	
Troy	Smuts	Heritage Western Cape	
Ratha Andrew	Timothy	Ngwao-Boswa Ya Kapa Bokone (Northern Cape Provincial Heritage Agency)	Heritage Officer
Viljoen	Mothibi	Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Land Reform & Rural Development	Head of Department
Faisal	Fakier	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works	
Grace	Swanepoel	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works	
Malcolm	Watters	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works	
Marco	Haupt	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works	
Nametshego	Gumbi	Astronomy Management Authority	Deputy Director
Colin	Fordam	CapeNature	
Rhett	Smart	CapeNature	
John	Geeringh	Eskom Transmission	
Phindile	Nzimande	National Energy Regulator South Africa (NERSA)	CEO
Ramotholo	Sefako	South African Astronomical Observatory	
Ted	Williams	South African Astronomical Observatory	Director
Lizell	Stroh	South African Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)	
Barry	Bredenkamp	South African National Energy Development Institute (sanedi)	General Manager
Luthando	Dziba	South African National Parks (SANParks)	Acting CEO
Kobus	van der Walt	South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL)	Regional Manager
Adrian	Tiplady	Square Kilometer Array (SKA) South Africa	South African SKA Site BID Manager
Douglas	Calldo	Calldo Douglas Joesph	Land Owner
Okkie & Dotjie	Conradie	Wolwekop Trust	Land Owner
Francois	Conradie	Conradie Pieter Jacobus	Land Owner
Maryna	Cursi	Rietfontein Familie Trust	Land Owner
Kallie	Freysen	Standvastigheid Familie Trust	Land Owner
Gielie and Gido	Hanekom	Gielie Hanekom Familie Trust	Land Owner
Susanna	Jordaan	Jordaan Hillelje Susanna Maria	Land Owner
Andries	Le Roux	Le Roux Familie Trust	Land Owner
Jacques	Le Roux	Le Roux Familie Trust	Land Owner
Jacques	Le Roux	Le Roux Familie Trust	Land Owner
Zigfried	Loots	Z B Loots Familie Trust	Land Owner
Nickie & Corlia	Paulsen	Paulsen Nicolaas	Land Owner
Izak	van der Vyfer		Land Owner
Japie	van Dyk		Land Owner
Eldri	Van Zyl	Eldri Van Zyl Trust	Land Owner
Erasmus & Nadine		Dirk Van Zyl Trust	Land Owner
Linksfield Prop Ltd			Land Owner
Morgan	Griffiths	Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)	
Antonia	De Barros	Botanical Society of South Africa	General Manager
Samantha	Ralston	BirdLife South Africa	Birds and Renewable Energy Project Manager
Constant	Hoogstad	Endangered Wildlife Trust	Programme Manager
Anne	Flynn	Falcon Oil and Gas	Financial Controller
Sas	Nel	Falcon Oil and Gas	Local Company Representative

Anelia	Marais	Galileo Cottage	
Jonathan	Deal	Treasure Karoo Action Group	CEO
		Karoo newsgroup	
Makhosi	Mthimkhulu	Breede-Gouritz Batchment Management Agency	Stakeholder
Makala	Masibulele	Breede-Gouritz Batchment Management Agency	Stakeholder
Sam	Andiswa	Breede-Gouritz Batchment Management Agency	Stakeholder
Stephan	Pienaar		Stakeholder
Warren	Petterson		Stakeholder
William	Kruger		
Dirk	Olivier	Farm Uitvlugt	
Graham	Harding	Invader Plant Specialists (Pty) Ltd	
Karen	de Bruyn	G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd	
Ben	Brimble	Windlab Development South Africa	
Steve	Swanepoel	Paalfontein and Keurkloof Farms	
Gail	Louw		
Jonathan	Visser	Wind-Energy Enercon South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Sales Manager - South Africa
Lucia	Rodrigues	Western Cape Black Eagle Project	
Renee	Rust		
Marshall	Mabin	Mainstream Renewable Energy	
Mike	Mangnall	Mainstream Renewable Energy	
Richard	Gordon	AIIM Africa	
Mantwa	Mathebula	Enel Green Power	Business Development
Trenisha	Hardev	Enel Green Power	
Cristiano	Fornaini	Enel Green Power	
Alexander	Bianchi	Enel Green Power	
James	Cummings	African Clean Energy Developments	
Haafiza	Sukhai	African Clean Energy Developments	
Shaun	Taylor	Enel Green Power	Environment, Archaeology and Biodiversity

APPENDIX

B NOTIFICATIONS



APPENDIX

B-1 ADVERTISEMENT

BASIC ASSESSMENT (BA) PROCESS

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE ESIZAYO WIND ENERGY FACILITY EXPANSION PROJECT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR LAINGSBURG, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of applications for environmental authorisations (EAs) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended)

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

Esizayo Wind (RF) (Pty) Ltd, proposes to expand the previously authorised Esizayo Wind Energy Facility (WEF) located near Laingsburg in the Western Cape Province. The expansion project will add up to 200MW of generating capacity and will be located on three additional land parcels. The project is located within the Laingsburg Local Municipality in the Western Cape Province. Furthermore, the proposed Esizayo WEF Expansion is located within the Komsberg REDZ as per GN 114 of 2018. The following farm portions are affected by the project:

- Portion 1 of Farm Leeuwenfontein, 71
- Remainder of the Farm Leeuwenfontein, 71
- Portion 2 of Farm Aanstoot, 72

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS

A Basic Assessment (BA) Process is required for the project. The listed activity numbers associated with the Proposed Projects are reflected below. Should you wish to obtain a complete copy of these listed activities, please contact the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), details provided below.

- GNR 983 (as amended) Listed Activities: 12, 19, 24, 28, 48 and 56
- GNR 984 (as amended) Listed Activities: 1 and 15
- GNR 985 (as amended) Listed Activities: 4, 10, 12, 14, 18 and 23

REGISTRATION

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent and suitably qualified Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Esizayo Wind (RF) (Pty) Ltd, to manage and undertake the BA Process. Parties wishing to formally register as interested and affected parties in order to receive more information and/ or raise their comment(s) on the proposed project, are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP and disclose their direct business, financial, personal or other interest in the project. Any comments on the proposed project may be submitted to the EAP via the details provided below. Registered interested and affected parties will be forwarded all future project related correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Basic Assessment Report will be made available at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from **06 May 2022 to 06 June 2022**:

- Majtiesfontein – Majtiesfontein Community Hall (Tel: 023 551 1019)
- Laingsburg - Laingsburg Library (Van Riebeeck street, Tel: 023 551 1019)
- WSP Website - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>

Kindly ensure that all comments on the proposed project or requests to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party are submitted to the contact details provided herewith, by **06 June 2022**. Should you have any queries/comments, please do not hesitate to contact the EAP.

The contact details of the EAP: Lukanyo Kewana (T) 011 361 1400 (E) Lukanyo.Kewana@wsp.com (A) PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an interested and affected party (I & AP) for purposes of enabling your registration as an I & AP and for purposes of storing your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP uses these details to contact you about other projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I & AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.



BASIESE ASSESSERINGSPROSES

KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE ESIZAYO WINDENERGIE FASILITEIT UITBREIDINGSPROJEK EN GEASSOSIEERDE INFRASTRUKTUUR NABY LAINGSBURG, WES-KAAP PROVINSIE

Kennis word gegee ingevolge Regulasie 41(2) van GNR 982, soos gewysig, gepubliseer kragtens artikel 24 en 24D van die Nasionale Wet op Omgewingsbestuur (No. 107 van 1998) (NEMA), soos gewysig, vir 'n aansoekproses vir omgewingsmagtiging (OM) ten opsigte van aktiwiteite geïdentifiseer in terme van GNR 983, GNR 984 en GNR 985 van die 2014 Omgewingsimpakbepaling (OIB) Regulasies (soos gewysig) (OIB Regulasies)

BESKRYWING EN LIGGING

Esizayo Wind (RF) (Edms) Bpk, beplan om die voorheen gemagtigde Esizayo Windenergie Fasiliteit (WF), wat naby Laingsburg geleë is in die Wes-Kaap Provinsie, uit te brei. Die uitbreidingsprojek sal 200MW van opwekkingskapasiteit verskaf en sal op drie bykomende eindomme geleë wees. Die projek is geleë binne die Laingsburg Plaaslike Munisipaliteit in die Wes-Kaap Provinsie. Verder is die voorgestelde Esizayo WEF-uitbreiding binne die Komsberg REDZ geleë soos per GN 114 van 2018. Die volgende eindomme word deur die projek geraak:

- Gedeelte 1 van Plaas Leeuwenfontein, 71
- Restant van Plaas Leeuwenfontein, 71
- Gedeelte 2 van Plaas Aanstoot, 72

OMGEWINGSAANSOEK

'n Basiese assesseringsproses word vir die projek vereis. Die gelyste aktiwiteitsnommers wat met die voorgestelde projek geassosieer word, word hieronder aangedui. Indien u 'n volledige kopie van hierdie aktiwiteite op die lys wil bekom, kontak asseblief die Omgewingsevalueringspraktisyn (EAP), besonderhede hieronder verskaf.

- GNR 983 Gelyste Aktiwiteite: 12, 19, 24, 28, 48 en 56
- GNR 984 Gelyste Aktiwiteite: 1 en 15
- GNR 985 Gelyste Aktiwiteite: 4, 10, 12, 14, 18 en 23

REGISTRASIE

WSP Group Africa (Edms) Bpk (WSP) is aangestel deur Esizayo Wind (RF) (Edms) Bpk as die onafhanklike en toepaslik gekwalifiseerde Omgewingsevalueringspraktisyn (OBP) om die Basiese Assesseringsproses te onderneem. Partye wat formeel wil registreer as belanghebbende en geaffekteerde partye ten einde meer inligting te ontvang en/of hulle kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projek te lewer, word versoek om hulle volledige kontakbesonderhede aan die EAP te stuur en hulle direkte sake, finansiële, persoonlike inligting of ander belangstelling in die projek bekend te maak. Enige kommentaar op die voorgestelde projek kan aan die EAP voorgelê word via die besonderhede hieronder verskaf. Geregistreerde belanghebbende en geaffekteerde partye sal van alle toekomstige projekverwante korrespondensie voorsien word en individueel in kennis gestel word van bykomende geleenthede om aan die proses deel te neem.

KONSEP-WYSIGINGSVERSLAG OORSIGTYDPERK

Die Konsep Basiese Assesseringsverslag sal vir 30 dae beskikbaar gestel word, vanaf **06 Mei 2022 to 06 Junie 2022**, vir hersiening en kommentaar by die lokale hieronder aangedui:

- Majtiesfontein – Majtiesfontein Gemeenskapsaal (Tel: 023 551 1019)
- Laingsburg - Laingsburg Biblioteek (Van Riebeeckstraat, Tel: 023 551 1019)
- WSP Webwerf - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>

Maak asseblief seker dat alle kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projek of versoeke om geregistreer te word as 'n Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Party ingedien word by die kontakbesonderhede wat hiermee verskaf word, teen **06 Junie 2022**. Indien jy enige navrae/opmerkings het, moet asseblief nie huiwer om die EAP te kontak nie.

Die kontakbesonderhede van die EAP: Lukanyo Kewana (T) 011 361 1400 (E) Lukanyo.Kewana@wsp.com (A) PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

WSP sal sekere persoonlike inligting oor jou as 'n belanghebbende en geaffekteerde party verwerk (B&GP) vir doeleindes om jou registrasie moontlik te maak as 'n B & GP en vir doeleindes om jou besonderhede op ons databasis te stoor. WSP gebruik hierdie besonderhede om jou te kontak oor ander toekomstige projekte. WSP sal altyd jou persoonlike inligting verwerk in ooreenstemming met die Wet op die Beskerming van Persoonlike Inligting 4 van 2013. Jy is geregtig om jou regte as 'n datasubjek uit te oefen en ons te laat weet as jy as 'n B&GP gederegistreer wil word of as jy nie meer wil hê dat jou kontakbesonderhede op ons databasis ingesluit moet word nie.



APPENDIX

B-2 *SITE NOTICES*

BASIC ASSESSMENT (BA) PROCESS

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE ESIZAYO WIND ENERGY FACILITY (WEF) EXPANSION PROJECT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR LAINGSBURG, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

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DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

Esizayo Wind (RF) (Pty) Ltd, proposes to expand the previously authorised Esizayo Wind Energy Facility (WEF) located near Laingsburg in the Western Cape Province. The expansion project will add up to 200MW of generating capacity and will be located on three additional land parcels. The project is located within the Laingsburg Local Municipality in the Western Cape Province:

Project	Location	Local Municipality	Province	Strategic Corridor	Process
Esizayo Wind Energy Facility Expansion Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Portion 1 of Farm Leeuwenfontein, 71Remainder of the Farm Leeuwenfontein, 71Portion 2 of Farm Aanstoot, 72	Laingsburg	Western Cape	Komsberg REDZ as per GN 114 of 2018	BA - Esizayo Wind Energy Facility Expansion and Associated Infrastructure

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS

The listed activity numbers associated with the Proposed Projects are reflected in the table below. Should you wish to obtain a complete copy of these listed activities, please contact the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), details provided below.

Project Name	Listing Notice	Activities Triggered					
Esizayo Wind Energy Facility Expansion Project	GNR 983	12	19	24	28	48	56
	GNR 984	1	15	-	-	-	-
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14	18	23

REGISTRATION

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent and suitably qualified Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Esizayo Wind (RF) (Pty) Ltd, to manage and undertake the Basic Assessment process. Parties wishing to formally register as interested and affected parties in order to receive more information and/ or raise their comment(s) on the proposed project, are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP and disclose their direct business, financial, personal or other interest in the project. Any comments on the proposed project may be submitted to the EAP via the details provided below. Registered interested and affected parties will be forwarded all future project related correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

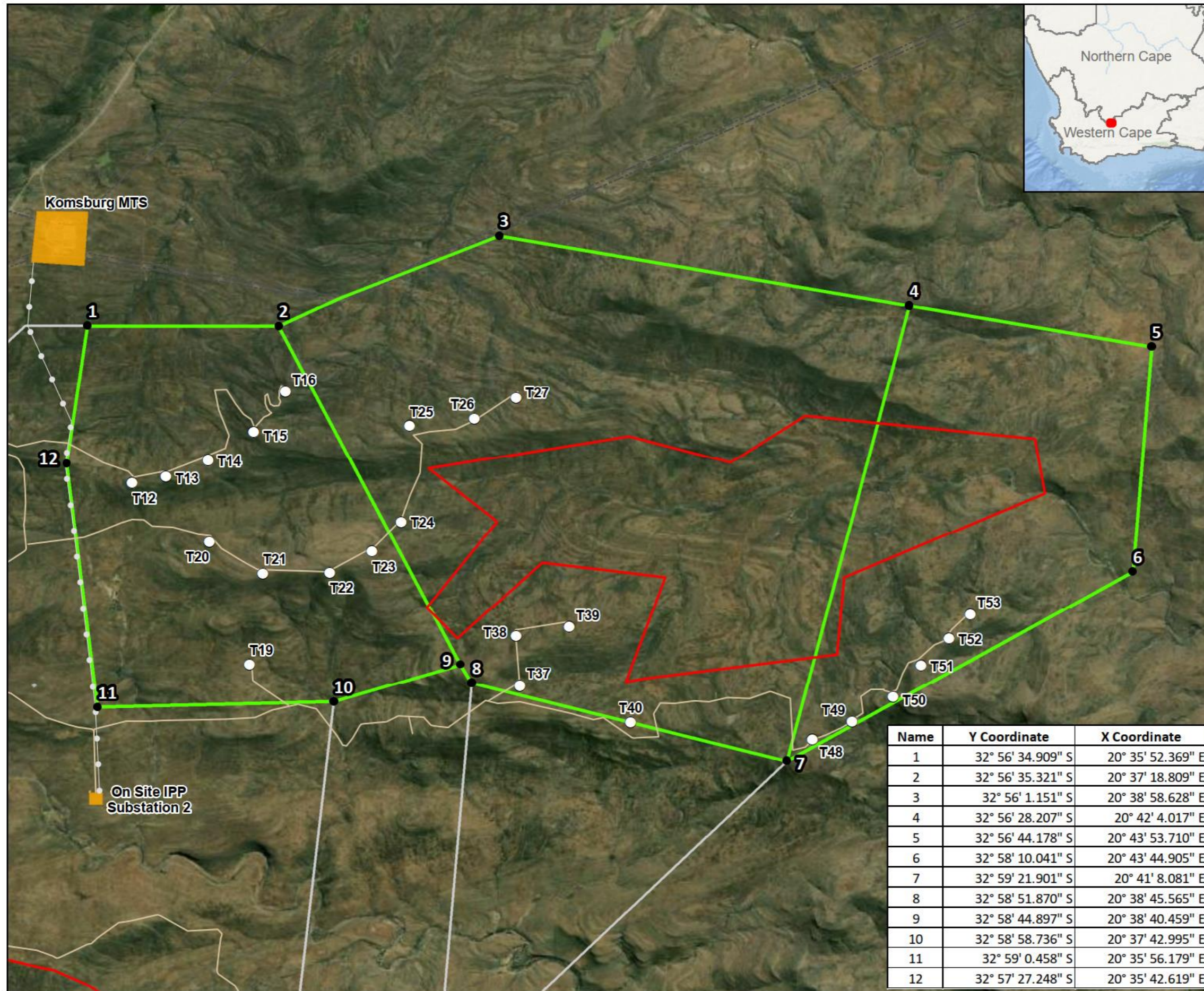
The Draft Basic Assessment Report will be made available at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from **06 May 2022 to 06 June 2022**.

- Majtiesfontein – Majtiesfontein Community Hall (Tel: 023 551 1019)
- Laingsburg - Laingsburg Library (Van Riebeeck street, Tel: 023 551 1019)
- WSP Website - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>

Kindly ensure that all comments on the proposed project or requests to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party are submitted to the contact details provided herewith, by **06 June 2022**. Should you have any queries/comments, please do not hesitate to contact the EAP.

The contact details of the EAP: Lukanyo Kewana (T) 011 361 1400 (E) Lukanyo.Kewana@wsp.com (A) PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

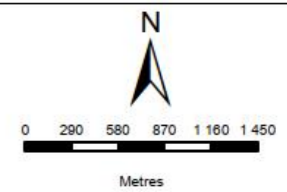
WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an interested and affected party (I & AP) for purposes of enabling your registration as an I & AP and for purposes of storing your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP uses these details to contact you about other projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I & AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database



ESIZAYO EXPANSION
LOCALITY

Legend

- Property Corners
- Turbines
- Proposed Road
- Powerline
- O&M Buildings
- Potential Cement Batching Plant
- Substation
- Exclusion Area
- Esizayo Expansion
- Esizayo Authorised
- Eskom Powerlines



DISCLAIMER
The information on this figure was derived from various digital databases available to WSP Environmental (Pty) Ltd. All information is provided "as is" and it must be acknowledged that data, information, and maps are dynamic and in a constant state of maintenance, correction and update. WSP Environmental (Pty) Ltd cannot accept any responsibility for errors, omissions, or positional accuracy where it has not been directly responsible for the production of the data referenced. There are no warranties, expressed or implied, as to the use of this information, including the warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. Notification of any errors will be appreciated.



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DATA SOURCE:
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

COORDINATE SYSTEM: WGS LO21

PROJECT TITLE:
ESIZAYO WEF BAR

SCALE: 1:58 000 **DRAWN BY:** TS
DATE: 2022/04/28 **REVIEWED BY:** AS

FIGURE NO: **PROJECT NO:** 41103063 **REV:**

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Name	Y Coordinate	X Coordinate
1	32° 56' 34.909" S	20° 35' 52.369" E
2	32° 56' 35.321" S	20° 37' 18.809" E
3	32° 56' 1.151" S	20° 38' 58.628" E
4	32° 56' 28.207" S	20° 42' 4.017" E
5	32° 56' 44.178" S	20° 43' 53.710" E
6	32° 58' 10.041" S	20° 43' 44.905" E
7	32° 59' 21.901" S	20° 41' 8.081" E
8	32° 58' 51.870" S	20° 38' 45.565" E
9	32° 58' 44.897" S	20° 38' 40.459" E
10	32° 58' 58.736" S	20° 37' 42.995" E
11	32° 59' 0.458" S	20° 35' 56.179" E
12	32° 57' 27.248" S	20° 35' 42.619" E

BASIESE ASSESSERINGPROSES

KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE ESIZAYO WINDENERGIE FASILITEIT UITBREIDINGSPROJEK EN AND GEASSOSIEERDE INFRASTRUKTUUR NABY LAINGSBURG, WES-KAAP PROVINSIE

Kennis word gegee ingevolge Regulasie 41(2) van GNR 982, soos gewysig, gepubliseer kragtens artikel 24 en 24D van die Nasionale Wet op Omgewingsbestuur (No. 107 van 1998) (NEMA), soos gewysig, vir 'n aansoekproses vir omgewingsmagtiging (OM) ten opsigte van aktiwiteite geïdentifiseer ingevolge GNR 983, GNR 984 en GNR 985 van die 2014 Omgewingsimpakbepaling (OIB) Regulasies (soos gewysig) (OIB Regulasies)

BESKRYWING EN LIGGING

Esizayo Wind (RF) (Edms) Bpk, beplan om die voorheen gemagtigde Esizayo Windenergie Fasiliteit (WF) uit te brei, wat naby Laingsburg geleë is in die Wes-Kaap Provinsie. Die uitbreidingsprojek sal 200MW van opwekkingskapasiteit verskaf en sal op drie bykomende eindomme geleë wees. Die projek is geleë binne die Laingsburg Plaaslike Munisipaliteit in die Wes-Kaap Provinsie:

Projek	Ligging	Plaaslike Munisipaliteit	Provinsie	Strategiese Korridor	Proses
Esizayo Windenergie Fasiliteit Uitbreidingsprojek	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Gedeelte 1 van Plaas Leeuwenfontein, 71Restant van Plaas Leeuwenfontein, 71Gedeelte 2 van Plaas Aanstoot, 72	Laingsburg	Wes-Kaap Provinsie	Komsberg REDZ geleë soos per GN 114 van 2018	BA - Esizayo Windenergie Fasiliteit Uitbreidingsprojek En Geassosieerde Infrastruktuur

OMGEWINGSTOEPASSINGS

Die gelyste aktiwiteitsnommers wat met die voorgestelde projekte geassosieer word, word hieronder aangedui. Indien u 'n volledige kopie van hierdie aktiwiteite op die lys wil bekom, kontak asseblief die Omgewingsevalueringspraktisyn (EAP), besonderhede hieronder verskaf.

Projek Naam	Noteringskennisgewing	Aktiwiteite geaktiveer					
Esizayo Windenergie Fasiliteit Uitbreidingsprojek	GNR 983	12	19	24	28	48	56
	GNR 984	1	15	-	-	-	-
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14	18	23

REGISTRASIE

WSP Group Africa (Edms) Bpk (WSP) is aangestel deur Esizayo Wind (RF) (Edms) Bpk as die onafhanklike en toepaslik gekwalifiseerde Omgewingsevalueringspraktisyn (OBP) om die Basiese Assesseringsproses te onderneem. Partye wat formeel wil registreer as belanghebbende en geaffekteerde partye ten einde meer inligting te ontvang en/of hulle kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projek te lewer, word versoek om hulle volledige kontakbesonderhede aan die EAP te stuur en hulle direkte sake, finansiële, persoonlike inligting of ander belangstelling in die projek bekend te maak. Enige kommentaar op die voorgestelde projek kan aan die EAP voorgelê word via die besonderhede hieronder verskaf. Geregistreeerde belanghebbende en geaffekteerde partye sal van alle toekomstige projekverwante korrespondensie voorsien word en individueel in kennis gestel word van bykomende geleenthede om aan die proses deel te neem.

KONSEP-WYSIGINGSVERSLAG OORSIGTYDPERK

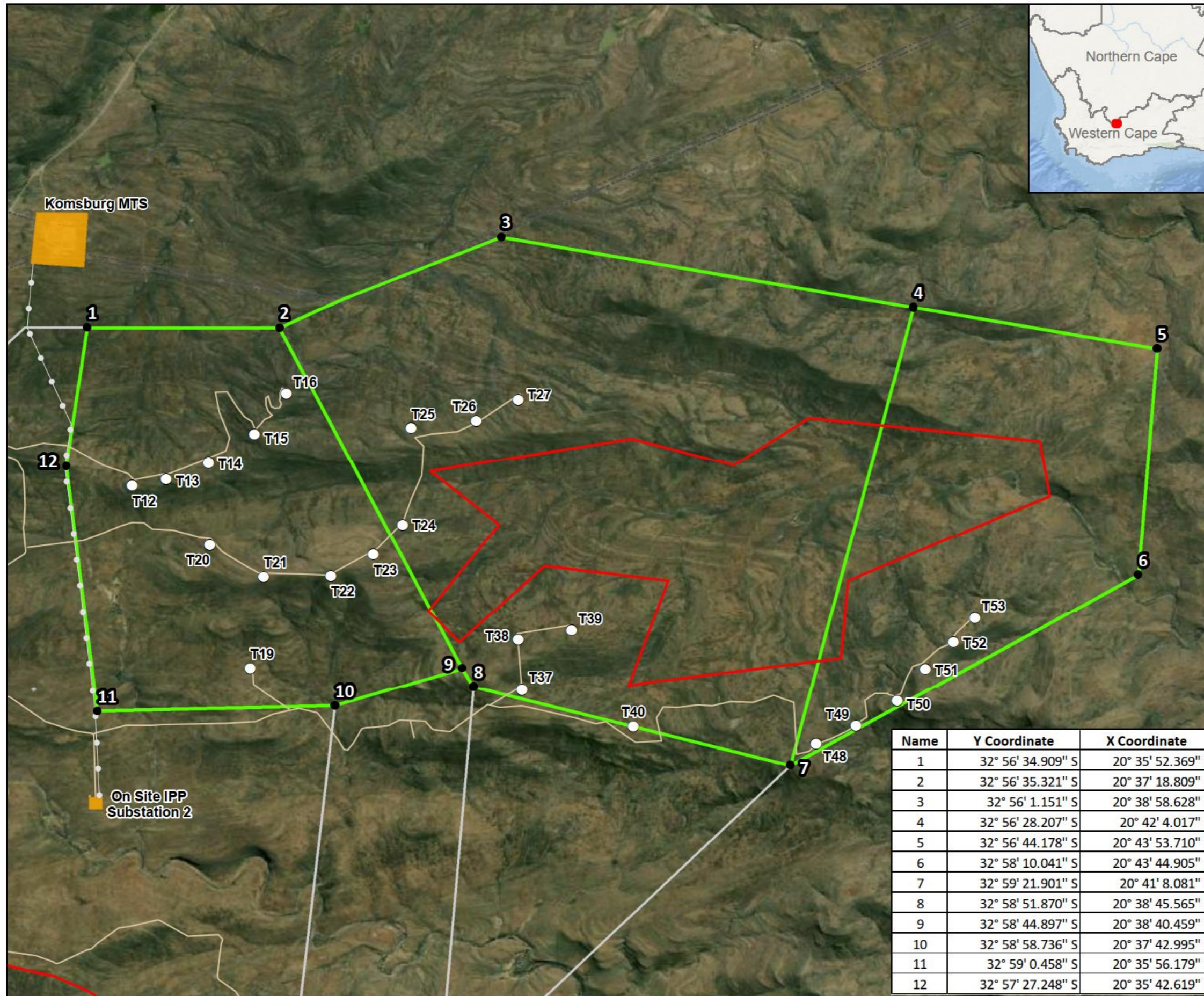
Die Konsep Basiese Assesseringsverslag sal vir 30 dae beskikbaar gestel word, vanaf 06 Mei 2022 to 06 Julie 2022, vir hersiening en kommentaar by die lokale hieronder aangedui.

- Majtiesfontein – Majtiesfontein Gemeenskapsaal (Tel: 023 551 1019)
- Laingsburg - Laingsburg Biblioteek (Van Riebeeckstraat, Tel: 023 551 1019)
- WSP Webwerf - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>

Maak asseblief seker dat alle kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projek of versoeke om geregistreer te word as 'n Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Party ingedien word by die kontakbesonderhede wat hiermee verskaf word, teen 06 Julie 2022. Indien jy enige navrae/opmerkings het, moet asseblief nie huiwer om die EAP te kontak nie.

Die kontakbesonderhede van die EAP: Lukanyo Kewana (T) 011 361 1400 (E) Lukanyo.Kewana@wsp.com (A) PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

WSP sal sekere persoonlike inligting oor jou as 'n belanghebbende en geaffekteerde party verwerk (B&GP) vir doeleindes om jou registrasie moontlik te maak as 'n B & GP en vir doeleindes om jou besonderhede op ons databasis te stoor. WSP gebruik hierdie besonderhede om jou te kontak oor ander toekomstige projekte. WSP sal altyd jou persoonlike inligting verwerk in ooreenstemming met die Wet op die Beskerming van Persoonlike Inligting 4 van 2013. Jy is geregtig om jou regte as 'n datasubjek uit te oefen en ons te laat weet as jy as 'n B&GP gederegistreer wil word of as jy nie meer wil hê dat jou kontakbesonderhede op ons databasis ingesluit moet word nie.



ESIZAYO EXPANSION
LOCALITY

Legend

- Property Corners
- Turbines
- Proposed Road
- Powerline
- O&M Buildings
- Potential Cement Batching Plant
- Substation
- ▭ Exclusion Area
- ▭ Esizayo Expansion
- ▭ Esizayo Authorised
- Eskom Powerlines

N
0 290 580 870 1160 1450
Metres

DISCLAIMER
The information on this figure was derived from various digital databases available to WSP Environmental (Pty) Ltd. All information is provided "as is" and it must be acknowledged that data, information, and maps are dynamic and in a constant state of maintenance, correction and update. WSP Environmental (Pty) Ltd cannot accept any responsibility for errors, omissions, or positional accuracy where it has not been directly responsible for the production of the data referenced. There are no warranties, expressed or implied, as to the use of this information, including the warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. Notification of any errors will be appreciated.

Name	Y Coordinate	X Coordinate
1	32° 56' 34.909" S	20° 35' 52.369" E
2	32° 56' 35.321" S	20° 37' 18.809" E
3	32° 56' 1.151" S	20° 38' 58.628" E
4	32° 56' 28.207" S	20° 42' 4.017" E
5	32° 56' 44.178" S	20° 43' 53.710" E
6	32° 58' 10.041" S	20° 43' 44.905" E
7	32° 59' 21.901" S	20° 41' 8.081" E
8	32° 58' 51.870" S	20° 38' 45.565" E
9	32° 58' 44.897" S	20° 38' 40.459" E
10	32° 58' 58.736" S	20° 37' 42.995" E
11	32° 59' 0.458" S	20° 35' 56.179" E
12	32° 57' 27.248" S	20° 35' 42.619" E

wsp
WSP ENVIRONMENTAL (PTY) LTD
BUILDING C, KNIGHTSBRIDGE,
33 SLOANE STREET, BRYANSTON
P O BOX 95887, SLOANE PARK 2152, RSA
Tel +27 (0)11 361 1380, Fax +27 (0)11 361 1381, wsp@wspgroup.co.za

DATA SOURCE:
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

COORDINATE SYSTEM: WGS LO21

PROJECT TITLE:
ESIZAYO WEF BAR

SCALE: 1:58 000 DRAWN BY: TS

DATE: 2022/04/28 REVIEWED BY: AS

FIGURE NO: PROJECT NO: 41103063 REV:

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APPENDIX

B-3 NOTIFICATION LETTER



WSP ref.: 41103063

06 May 2022

Dear Stakeholder,

Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE ESIZAYO WIND ENERGY FACILITY EXPANSION PROJECT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR LAINGSBURG, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of applications for environmental authorisations (EAs) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

Esizayo Wind (RF) (Pty) Ltd, proposes to expand the previously authorised Esizayo Wind Energy Facility (WEF) located near Laingsburg in the Western Cape Province. The expansion project will add up to 200MW of generating capacity and will be located on three additional land parcels. The project is located within the Laingsburg Local Municipality in the Western Cape Province. Furthermore, the proposed Esizayo WEF Expansion is located within the Komsberg REDZ as per GN 114 of 2018. The following farm portions are affected by the project:

- Portion 1 of Farm Leeuwenfontein, 71
- Remainder of the Farm Leeuwenfontein, 71
- Portion 2 of Farm Aanstoot, 72

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS

A Basic Assessment (BA) Process is required for the project. The listed activity numbers associated with the Proposed Projects are reflected below. Should you wish to obtain a complete copy of these listed activities, please contact the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), details provided below.

- GNR 983 (as amended) Listed Activities: 12, 19, 24, 28, 48 and 56
- GNR 984 (as amended) Listed Activities: 1 and 15
- GNR 985 (as amended) Listed Activities: 4, 10, 12, 14, 18 and 23

REGISTRATION

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent and suitably qualified Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Esizayo Wind (RF) (Pty) Ltd, to manage and undertake the BA Process. Parties wishing to formally register as interested and affected parties in order to receive more information and/ or raise their comment(s) on the proposed project, are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP and disclose their direct business, financial, personal or other interest in the project. Any comments on the proposed project may be submitted to the EAP via the details provided below. Registered

Building C, Knightsbridge
33 Sloane Street
Bryanston, 2191
South Africa

T: +27 11 361 1300
F: +27 11 361 1301
wsp.com

interested and affected parties will be forwarded all future project related correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Basic Assessment Report will be made available at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from 06 May 2022 to 06 June 2022:

- Majtiesfontein – Majtiesfontein Community Hall (Tel: 023 551 1019)
- Laingsburg - Laingsburg Library (Van Riebeeck Street, Tel: 023 551 1019)
- WSP Website - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>

Kindly ensure that all comments on the proposed project or requests to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party are submitted to the contact details provided herewith, by 06 June 2022. Should you have any queries/comments, please do not hesitate to contact the EAP.

The contact details of the EAP:

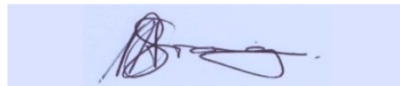
Lukanyo Kewana

(T) 011 361 1400

(E) Lukanyo.Kewana@wsp.com

(A) PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

Yours sincerely,



Ashlea Strong
Associate

Tel: 011 361 1392

E-mail: Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com

Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an interested and affected party (I & AP) for purposes of enabling your registration as an I & AP and for purposes of storing your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP uses these details to contact you about other projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I & AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database.



WSP ref.: 41103063

06 Mei 2022

Geagte belanghebbende,

Onderwerp: KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE ESIZAYO WINDENERGIE FASILITEIT UITBREIDINGSPROJEK EN GEASSOSIEERDE INFRASTRUKTUUR NABY LAINGSBURG, WES-KAAP PROVINSIE

Kennis word gegee ingevolge Regulasie 41(2) van GNR 982, soos gewysig, gepubliseer kragtens artikel 24 en 24D van die Nasionale Wet op Omgewingsbestuur (No. 107 van 1998) (NEMA), soos gewysig, vir 'n aansoekproses vir omgewingsmagtiging (OM) ten opsigte van aktiwiteite geïdentifiseer in terme van GNR 983, GNR 984 en GNR 985 van die 2014 Omgewingsimpakbepaling (OIB) Regulasies (soos gewysig) (OIB Regulasies)

BESKRYWING EN LIGGING

Esizayo Wind (RF) (Edms) Bpk, beplan om die voorheen gemagtigde Esizayo Windenergie Fasiliteit (WF), wat naby Laingsburg geleë is in die Wes-Kaap Provinsie, uit te brei. Die uitbreidingsprojek sal 200MW van opwekkingskapasiteit verskaf en sal op drie bykomende eindomme geleë wees. Die projek is geleë binne die Laingsburg Plaaslike Munisipaliteit in die Wes-Kaap Provinsie. Verder is die voorgestelde Esizayo WEF-uitbreiding binne die Komsberg REDZ geleë soos per GN 114 van 2018. Die volgende eindomme word deur die projek geraak:

- Gedeelte 1 van Plaas Leeuwenfontein, 71
- Restant van Plaas Leeuwenfontein, 71
- Gedeelte 2 van Plaas Aanstoot, 72

OMGEWINGSAANSOEK

'n Basiese assesseringsproses word vir die projek vereis. Die gelyste aktiwiteitsnommers wat met die voorgestelde projek geassosieer word, word hieronder aangedui. Indien u 'n volledige kopie van hierdie aktiwiteite op die lys wil bekom, kontak asseblief die Omgewingsevalueringspraktisyn (EAP), besonderhede hieronder verskaf.

- GNR 983 Gelyste Aktiwiteite: 12, 19, 24, 28, 48 en 56
- GNR 984 Gelyste Aktiwiteite: 1 en 15
- GNR 985 Gelyste Aktiwiteite: 4, 10, 12, 14, 18 en 23

REGISTRASIE

WSP Group Africa (Edms) Bpk (WSP) is aangestel deur Esizayo Wind (RF) (Edms) Bpk as die onafhanklike en toepaslik gekwalifiseerde Omgewingsevalueringspraktisyn (OBP) om die Basiese Assesseringsproses te onderneem. Partye wat formeel wil registreer as belanghebbende en geaffekteerde partye ten einde meer inligting te ontvang en/of hulle kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projek te lewer, word versoek om hulle volledige kontakbesonderhede aan die EAP te stuur en hulle direkte sake, finansiële, persoonlike inligting of ander belangstelling in die projek bekend te maak. Enige kommentaar op die

Building C, Knightsbridge
33 Sloane Street
Bryanston, 2191
South Africa

T: +27 11 361 1300
F: +27 11 361 1301
wsp.com

voorgestelde projek kan aan die EAP voorgelê word via die besonderhede hieronder verskaf. Geregisteerde belanghebbende en geaffekteerde partye sal van alle toekomstige projekverwante korrespondensie voorsien word en individueel in kennis gestel word van bykomende geleenthede om aan die proses deel te neem.

KONSEP-WYSIGINGSVERSLAG OORSIGTYDPERK

Die Konsep Basiese Assesseringsverslag sal vir 30 dae beskikbaar gestel word, vanaf 06 Mei 2022 to 06 Junie 2022, vir hersiening en kommentaar by die lokale hieronder aangedui:

- Majtiesfontein – Majtiesfontein Gemeenskapsaal (Tel: 023 551 1019)
- Laingsburg - Laingsburg Biblioteek (Van Riebeeckstraat, Tel: 023 551 1019)
- WSP Webwerf - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>

Maak asseblief seker dat alle kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projek of versoeke om geregistreer te word as 'n Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Party ingedien word by die kontakbesonderhede wat hiermee verskaf word, teen 06 Junie 2022. Indien jy enige navrae/opmerkings het, moet asseblief nie huiwer om die EAP te kontak nie.

Die kontakbesonderhede van die EAP:

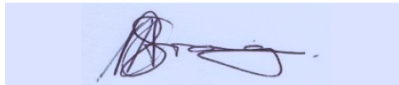
Lukanyo Kewana

(T) 011 361 1400

(E) Lukanyo.Kewana@wsp.com

(A) PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

Die uwe,



Ashlea Strong
Associate

Tel: 011 361 1392

E-mail: Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com

Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

WSP sal sekere persoonlike inligting oor jou as 'n belanghebbende en geaffekteerde party verwerk (B&GP) vir doeleindes om jou registrasie moontlik te maak as 'n B & GP en vir doeleindes om jou besonderhede op ons databasis te stoor. WSP gebruik hierdie besonderhede om jou te kontak oor ander toekomstige projekte. WSP sal altyd jou persoonlike inligting verwerk in ooreenstemming met die Wet op die Beskerming van Persoonlike Inligting 4 van 2013. Jy is geregtig om jou regte as 'n datasubjek uit te oefen en ons te laat weet as jy as 'n B&GP gederegistreer wil word of as jy nie meer wil hê dat jou kontakbesonderhede op ons databasis ingesluit moet word nie.

APPENDIX

C MEETINGS



Govender, Megan

From: Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 21 April 2022 08:19
To: Strong, Ashlea
Cc: Maanda Maseli; Werner Engelbrecht; Kewana, Lukanyo; Olivia Letlalo; Thando Booii; Makhosi Yeni; Danie Brummer; Mohamed Ibrahim; Tseliso Mahao; Thembisile Hlatshwayo
Subject: 2022-03-0020 - Esizayo WEF Expansion - Pre-Application Meeting Minutes and PP Plan for Approval
Attachments: 41103063_20220414_Esizayo WEF Expansion_Public Participation Plan_Final for Approval.pdf
Importance: High

Dear Ashley,

The amended Public Participation (PP) Plan received by this Department on 14 April 2022, refers.

Based on the information provided this Department decided to approve the PP Plan for the proposed project. You may proceed with the PP process in accordance with tasks contemplated in the PP plan. Should you wish to deviate from the submitted PP Plan, the amended PP Plan must be submitted to the Department for approval prior commencement.

A copy of the PP Plan and this approval must be submitted as part of the application form when the application is lodged.

Also note that submission of a PP Plan and approval thereof do not negate your responsibility to comply with the requirements for public participation in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

Best regards,



MEETING NOTES

JOB TITLE	BioTherm_Esizayo WEF Expansion_Pre-App Meeting
PROJECT NUMBER	41103063
DATE	01 April 2022
TIME	10h00
VENUE	Online (MS Teams)
SUBJECT	Pre-Application Meeting with DFFE
CLIENT	BioTherm Energy (Pty) Ltd (trading as BTE Renewables)
PRESENT	Maanda Maseli (BTE) – MM Werner Engelbrecht (BTE) –WE Danie Brummer (BTE) – DB Tseliso Mahao (BTE) –TM Mohamed Ibrahim (BTE) – MI Mahlatse Shubane (DFFE) –MS Thando Booï (DFFE) – TB Makhosi Yeni (DFFE) –MY Portia Makitla (DFFE - Biodiversity) – PM MMatlala Rabothata (DFFE - Biodiversity) – MR Seoka Lekota (DFFE - Biodiversity) – SL Thembisile Hlatshway (DFFE) – TH Ashlea Strong (WSP) – AS Lukanyo Kewana (WSP) – LK
APOLOGIES	None
DISTRIBUTION	As above See Appendix A

MATTERS ARISING	ACTION
1.0 INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME	
— AS welcomed everyone followed by a round of introductions and an overview of the meeting agenda. — A PowerPoint presentation was presented to all attendees to provide information and mapping. <i>* AS received consent from all parties present to record the meeting.</i> <i>** A copy of the PowerPoint presentation has been attached hereto for reference (Appendix B).</i>	-
2.0 PROJECT BACKGROUND	

The Pavilion, 1st Floor
Cnr Portsworld and Beach Road, Waterfront
Cape Town, 8001
South Africa

T: +27 21 481 8700
F: +086 606 7121
www.wsp.com

MATTERS ARISING

ACTION

<p>2.1 Project Background and Description</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – AS provided a brief overview of the Project including the location as well as the technical descriptions and noted that the Client (BTE) proposes to include the Esizayo WEF Expansion as part of their submissions for the Round 6 REIPPPP Bidding Window. – AS noted that the BTE received an environmental authorisation (EA) for the Esizayo WEF in 2017 and now proposes to add three new land parcels to the previously authorised Esizayo WEF. At this stage, this is considered as a separate project, and a separate EA for these three land parcels will be applied for as the land parcels exceed 20 hectares – Even though there is an existing EA, the expansion project triggers listing activities in its own right and therefore a Part 2 Amendment cannot be considered. Therefore an EIA Process must be followed (either Basic Assessment (BA) or full S&EIA must be followed based on the applicable listed activities). The project would typically required a Full S&EIA process, however, due to the fact that the site is located within the Komsberg REDZ, a BA process can be followed. – The location of this project is in the Western Cape within the Laingsburg Local Municipalities – The expansion area traverses 3 neighbouring farm portions – The project will utilize a lot of the infrastructure that has already been authorized for the Esizayo WEF, such as the O&M buildings, laydown areas and the substation and the power lines for the exporting of electricity to the national grid. – Key considerations noted include the expansion project traverses CBAs, ESAs, NPAES, and is located in the Komsberg Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ). <p>2.2 Assessment Process and Competent Authority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – AS ran through the applicable Listed Activities of the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended), noting that a BA process is required for the application for EA for the Esizayo WEF Expansion. – AS indicated that DFFE had been identified as the Competent Authority (CA). <p>2.3 Specialist Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – AS ran through the identified sensitivities identified as per the DEA Online Screening Tool report, and specialist assessments noted therein. – AS identified the specialist assessments that are to be undertaken as part of the BA process, as well as the studies that are not being undertaken as part of the assessment and supporting reasons for their exclusion. <p>2.4 Public Participation Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – AS provided an overview of the proposed public participation process in accordance with the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended). – AS noted that a draft Public Participation Plan (PPP) will be issued to DFFE along with the meeting minutes for consideration and approval. <p>2.5 Timeframes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – AS noted the application process will follow the legislated BA process; however, as the expansion project is located within the Komsberg REDZ it would benefit from the shortened decision-making timeframes i.e. 57 days instead of 107 days as outlined in GN 114. – The authority’s decision-making timeframe will be 57 days for the Basic Assessment Process. 	
<p>3.0 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS</p>	
<p>AS opened the floor for any comments or questions. The following items were raised and discussed.</p> <p>3.1 Listed Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – TB queried what the project components will be for the proposed project except for the turbines? – AS confirmed that the project components will be the turbines and their hard standings, the internal 33 kV powerlines that are required to get the power from the turbines to the substation as well as the access roads. – AS also noted that the substation is not included as it forms part of a separate EA. – TB noted that since the triggered activities have not been totally confirmed to date, when the application is being made, terminology like “may” should be avoided in the motivation as this tell the reviewer of the application that there is some level of uncertainty. – TB also noted that if Listing Notice 3: Activity 12 will be applied for, which has a sub-activity that speaks the clearance of 300 square meters or more of indigenous vegetation within any critically endangered ecosystem, then the name of the critically endangered ecosystem must be included in the application, and if you say that the activity is triggered because of an identified bioregional 	

MATTERS ARISING

ACTION

- plan, name the bioregional plan that has been identified and confirm that the plan is in fact adopted.
- TB also noted that for Listing Notice 3 Activities for instance Activity 23 Sub activity (f) which speaks to critical biodiversity areas or ecosystem areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in the bioregional plans, for such activities you are required to provide the name of the plan that is adopted and confirm that the plan is in fact adopted.
 - AS confirmed that the that the majority of these activities are the same activities that were approved on the currently authorised Esizayo WEF.
 - MS queried how many megawatts will be generated from the Esizayo WEF Expansion project?
 - WE confirmed that 140 MW will be generated.
 - MS queried why the geotechnical study will not be commissioned now but only during the designing phase? MS noted that the objectives of a geotechnical study need to be taken into consideration, a geotechnical study looks at whether the soil would be able to hold the turbines or not, what happens if the geotechnical study does not support the development and BTE already has an EA? Can I suggest that this study is commissioned now with all the other specialist studies?
 - AS noted that this will be considered. AS also noted that she will have a discussion with the client., and that she believes that they may already be some geotechnical information available. If there is, this will be used.
 - AS also noted that the client has already confirmed that the neighbouring farms are suitable.
 - WE added that BTE usually undertakes geotechnical studies after the EIA phase, however, it is also a cost consideration, he mentioned that he will have the discussion internally and see what can be considered.
 - PM noted that looking at the very high sensitivity ratings from the DEA screening tool, seen for the following themes (Avifauna, Terrestrial, and Bats), she foresees that DFFE will not support the project unless the specialist will be able to prove to the department that the impacts can move from a very high rating to a medium or even a low rating, with mitigation.
 - PM noted it will depend on what species trigger a CBA and ESA and the design of the layout plan. PM suggested that BTE needs to be very careful when deciding on the layout plan. Try to move away from features that trigger the very high sensitivities. Again, I am aware that this proposed development is situated in the red zone but still considering that this is an expansion of the already authorized facility another issue will be the cumulative impacts. If we can try to work around the layout plan to move out of the red flag areas, which is the very high and high sensitivity areas, then that way we'll be safe.
 - PM noted that in terms of their plans, you please don't forget to use the Birdlife renewable energy guidelines.
 - AS confirmed that these guidelines are in fact being used together with the relevant protocols.
 - PM further queried that in terms of the birds on site, there's another Verroux Eagle and wind farm guideline that you can also use from bed life which is very helpful when it comes to adequate mitigation measures which could help lowering the very high sensitivity rating.
 - AS noted that the specialist are using all the relevant guidelines and protocols that they need to look at. We have already commenced with the one-year bird monitoring or rather the pre-construction bird monitoring has also been done. There was also an additional six months' worth of bat monitoring that was done. There has been additional monitoring being ongoing for the last year to six months depending on the aspect, so we are well aware of those guidelines and protocols and they are being used.
 - TB queried if the preliminary layout was available at this stage?
 - AS replied that the preliminary layout is what was presented earlier on the presentation. The specialists are still busy, so we can't overlay it on a sensitivity map at this stage. It was noted a layout plan will be overlain onto the sensitivities etc in the BA report.
 - TB requested clarity regarding the map presented slide 7 of the PowerPoint presentation, does this map include the actual sensitivities?
 - AS replied that this was just a high level map showing some sensitivities such as watercourses. It was one of the original maps that was compiled where sensitivities around watercourses were taken in account to try and make sure that the turbines were outside of these sensitive areas.
 - AS confirmed that she does not have more information for TB at this stage, and that, this information will be in the BA report but this is what they have tried to do to initially, to at least take the water courses into account as these are key sensitive areas for birds as well as bats as well as the aquatic environment.

MEETING NOTES

MATTERS ARISING

ACTION

- TB noted that he was thinking about what PM said earlier on with regards to shifting certain things around depending on the sensitivity farms and that can maybe result in a reduced sensitivity rating.
- AS confirmed that they are still developing that knowledge at this point, the specialists are still busy compiling their reports .
- AS again noted that the client would like to include the Esizayo WEF Expansion project as part of their submissions for the Round 6 REIPPPP Bidding Window.
- WE added that the submission dates have not been released as yet, however, they believe it's imminent and that apparently the IPP office is fighting for the Eskom GCC document which has been promised to be published this week and then the RFP will be issued, so if it gets issued next week, they expect a bid submission timeline of a four months which will take us to the end of July.
- MS noted that with regards to the REDZ, there is a requirement from the department that a clear demonstration of where the proposed development is situated in relation to the REDZ.
- AS confirmed that there will be a very clear map showing that the proposed development is within the REDZ.
- MR advised that when submitting the reports electronically, the biodiversity conservation directory must be included.
- AS confirmed that this would be included.
- AS queried whether the department is happy to receive a one drive link for downloading of documentation instead of a WeTransfer link which is valid on for 7 days and after that the link expires?
- MR confirmed that, that should not be a problem, and should it happen that the department experiences any problem, they will just let AS know to send an alternative way to access their report.

3.2 Minutes and PPP

- AS queried, that with the withdrawal of the COVID-19 regulations etc that happened a couple of weeks ago, do we still need to submit a PP plan for approval because seemingly, regulation wise, we don't need to, but I wanted to get confirmation?
- MS noted that as far as he knows, the department has not yet ruled this out and the PP Plan is still a requirement. The Department is planning to do away with PP Plan from the 1st of May 2022
- AS replied that this has been noted. The query was raised because last week EAPs received a notification that all the COVID-19 regulations, including that the one including the one that includes the requirement for the PP Plan, have been repealed.
- MY added that it will be best to do it because it has happened before that the requirement was removed and then later is changed again. So, to be safe. just do it so that we don't have to delay your project for minor things.
- AS confirmed that she was very happy with that approach.
- AS noted that the PP Plan and pre-application meeting minutes will be sent together for approval

3.3 Summary of Decisions:

- The reports will be sent through a one-drive link to all the commenting authorities.
- The draft report, BA application and the final report will be submitted via the DFFE's online portal

4.0 WAY FORWARD

- WSP to formalise meeting minutes and distribute, along with PPP, for approval.

AS closed the meeting at 10h50

NEXT MEETING

No additional meetings have been scheduled.

Signed



DFFE



Digitally signed by Strong, Ashlea
(ZAAS02685)
DN: cn=Strong, Ashlea
(ZAAS02685), ou=Active,
email=Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com
Date: 2022.04.14 14:47:48 +0200

WSP


MEETING NOTES

APPENDIX A: ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Meeting Summary				
Total Number of Participants	13			
Meeting Title	2022-03-0020 - Esizayo WEF Expansion Project			
Meeting Start Time	4/1/2022, 9:56:03 AM			
Meeting End Time	4/1/2022, 10:49:27 AM			
Meeting Id	89c61591-cc0a-4fc2-b660-ed669d9765b			
Full Name	Join Time	Leave Time	Duration	Email
Strong, Ashlea	4/1/2022,	4/1/2022,	53m 20s	Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com
Thembisile Hlatshwayo	4/1/2022,	4/1/2022,	52m 31s	THLATSHWAYO@dffe.gov.za
Danie Brummer	4/1/2022,	4/1/2022,	51m 4s	dbrummer@bterenewables.com
Thando Boo	4/1/2022,	4/1/2022,	50m 30s	TBooi@dffe.gov.za
Makhosi Yeni	4/1/2022,	4/1/2022,	49m 57s	MYeni@dffe.gov.za
Mahlatse Shubane	4/1/2022,	4/1/2022,	49m 43s	MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za
Werner Engelbrecht	4/1/2022,	4/1/2022,	49m 20s	wengelbrecht@bterenewables.com
Kewana, Lukanyo	4/1/2022,	4/1/2022,	49m 55s	Lukanyo.Kewana@wsp.com
Maanda Maseli	4/1/2022,	4/1/2022,	47m 53s	MMaseli@bterenewables.com
Tseliso Mahao	4/1/2022,	4/1/2022,	47m 34s	tmahao@bterenewables.com
MMatlala Rabothata	4/1/2022,	4/1/2022,	43m 20s	MRABOTHATA@dffe.gov.za
Mohamed Ibrahim	4/1/2022,	4/1/2022,	40m 36s	MIbrahim@bterenewables.com
Portia Makitla	4/1/2022,	4/1/2022,	32m 47s	PMakitla_environment.gov.za#EXT#@PiousandLloydEngineering.onmicrosoft.com

MEETING NOTES

APPENDIX B: PRESENTATION



DFFE Pre-Application Meeting


Esizayo WEF Expansion, Western Cape

1 April 2022

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Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Overview of the Project
 - Background
 - Location
 - Technical Description
3. Overview and Confirmation of Permitting Process
 - Basic Assessment
 - Listed Activities
 - Specialist Assessments as identified by DEA Screening Tool
 - Specialist Studies commissioned
 - Competent Authority
4. Public Participation Process
5. Timeframes
6. Questions and Discussions
7. Way Forward



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1. Introductions



- BioTherm Energy (Pty) Ltd (Trading as BTE Renewables):
 - Maanda Maseli
 - Werner Engelbrecht
 - Danie Brummer
 - Tseliso Mahao
 - Mohamed Ibrahim
- WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd:
 - Lukanyo Kewana (Environmental Consultant)
 - Ashlea Strong (Project Manager)
- Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE):
 - Mahlatse Shubane
 - Olivia Letlalo
 - Thando Booie
 - Makhosi Yeni
 - Portia Makitla
 - MMatlala Rabothata
 - Seoka Lekota
 - Thembisile Hlatshwayo

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2. Overview of the Project



Background

- On 14 July 2017, BioTherm Energies (Pty) Ltd (BioTherm) received EA (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/967) for the Esizayo WEF proposed to be constructed on Portion 1 of Aanstoot Farm No 72, Annex Joseph's Kraal Farm No 84 and Aurora Farm No 285.
- BioTherm now proposes to add three new land parcels to the previously authorised Esizayo WEF.
- This will constitute the undertaking a new Basic Assessment Process for the Esizayo WEF Expansion as well as the compilation of a new EMPr.

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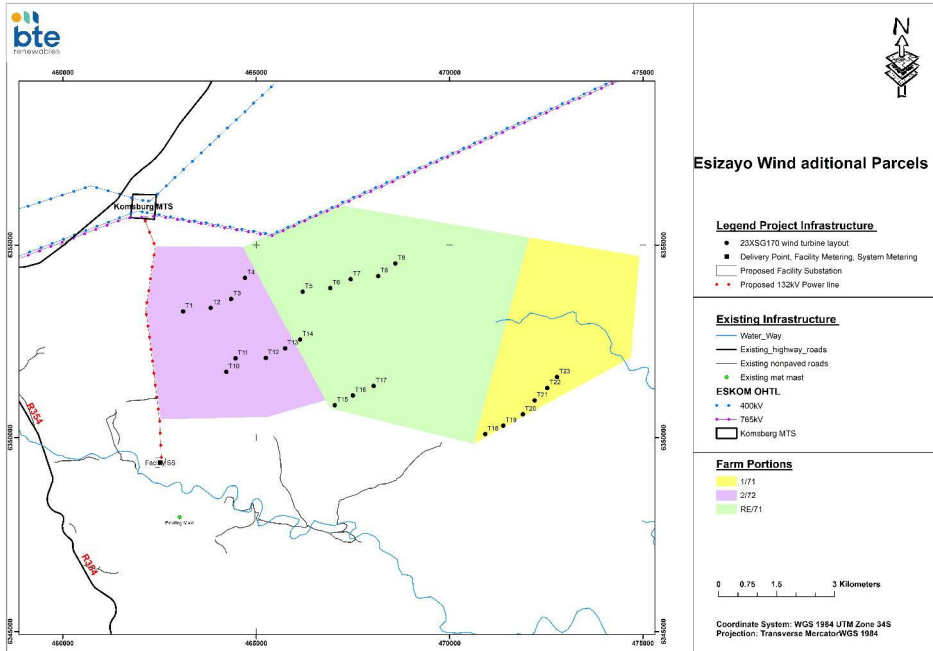
2. Overview of the Project

Location

Esizayo WEF Expansion	
Province:	Western Cape
Local Municipality:	Laingsburg
Farms:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm Leeuwenfontein, 71 • Remainder of the Farm Leeuwenfontein, 71 • Portion 2 of Farm Aanstoot, 72



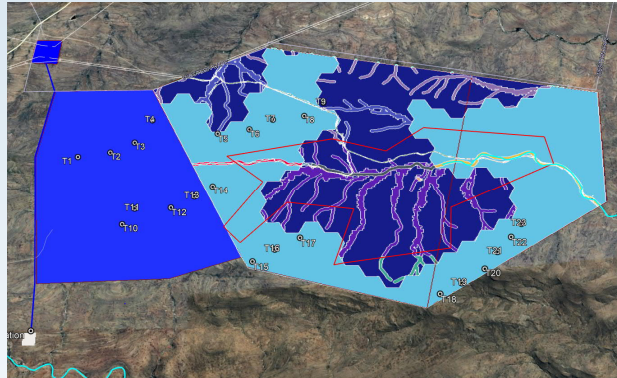
2. Overview of the Project



2. Overview of the Project

Key Considerations

- The WEF falls within Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) and Ecological Support Areas (ESA) in the Western Cape Province
- Falls within the Central Strategic Transmission Corridor
- Falls within the Komsberg Renewable Energy Development Zone



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3. Permitting Processes

Basic Assessment Process

- The Basic Assessment Process (BA) process will be undertaken in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (107 of 1998) (NEMA)
- The project triggers activities in Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983), 2 (GNR 984) and 3 (GNR 985), as amended.
- A BA process and reduced authority review timeframes are anticipated as the project falls within the Komsberg REDZ

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3. Permitting Processes



Listed Activities

- Listing Notice 1 - GNR 983, as amended

LISTED ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT ACTIVITY
Activity 12 (i), (a) and (c): The development of— (i) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more, where such development occurs— (a) within a watercourse; or (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse	The construction of Esizayo WEF Expansion Project may result in construction activities occurring within 32 metres of a watercourse. Internal access roads and powerlines may need to traverse watercourses.
Activity 19 The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse	The construction of Esizayo WEF Expansion may result in construction occurring within 32 metres of a watercourse. Internal access roads and powerlines may need to traverse watercourses.
Activity 24 : The development of- (i) a road with a reserve wider than 13,5 meters, or where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 metres;	Internal access roads will be required for access to Esizayo WEF Expansion. These roads may be wider than 8m.
Activity 28 (ii): Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development: (ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare;	Esizayo WEF Expansion is proposed to be developed outside an urban area with a development footprint of more than 1 ha
Activity 30: Any process or activity identified in terms of section 53(1) of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004).	Esizayo WEF Expansion is located within a Critical Biodiversity Area and National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus Area.

3. Permitting Processes




Listed Activities

- Listing Notice 2 - GNR 984, as amended

LISTED ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT ACTIVITY
Activity 1: The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more, excluding where such development of facilities or infrastructure is for photovoltaic installations and occurs within an urban area.	The Esizayo WEF Expansion Project will generate electricity from a renewable resource with an electricity output of more than 20MW.
Activity 15 The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for- (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.	The Esizayo WEF Expansion Project is proposed to be developed outside an urban area and the proposed development footprint will be greater than 20ha.

3. Permitting Processes

A Basic Assessment Process is therefore proposed for the Project



Listed Activities (Cont.)


- Listing Notice 3 - GNR 985, as amended

LISTED ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT ACTIVITY
Activity 4: The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres. (i) Western Cape: (ii) areas outside urban areas (aa) containing indigenous vegetation	Internal access roads will be required for access to Esizayo WEF Expansion. These roads may be wider than 8m. Esizayo WEF Expansion is located within a Critical Biodiversity Area and National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus Area.
Activity 10: The development of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 30 but not exceeding 80 cubic metres — (g) in Western Cape: i. Areas outside urban areas	Esizayo WEF Expansion Project may require the storage of more than 30m ³ of dangerous goods on site which will be located outside an urban area. The dangerous goods referred to above will include cement and diesel that will be required on site in quantities of more than 30m ³
Activity 12: The clearance of 300 square meters or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearances of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan. (i) Western Cape - (i) Within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004. Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans.	The Esizayo WEF Expansion Project is proposed to be developed outside an urban area and the proposed development footprint will be greater than 20ha. Esizayo WEF Expansion is located within a Critical Biodiversity Area and National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus Area.

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3. Permitting Processes

A Basic Assessment Process is therefore proposed for the Project



Listed Activities (Cont.)

- Listing Notice 3 - GNR 985, as amended

LISTED ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT ACTIVITY
Activity 14: The development of— (i) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more: where such development occurs— (a) within a watercourse; or (c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse; Western Cape i. Outside urban areas: (bb) National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus areas; (ff) Critical biodiversity areas or ecosystem service areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans.	The construction of Esizayo WEF Expansion may result in construction occurring within 32 metres of a watercourse. Internal access roads and powerlines may need to traverse watercourses. Esizayo WEF Expansion is located within a Critical Biodiversity Area and National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus Area.
Activity 18: The widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 km. (i) In Western Cape: i. All areas outside urban areas: (ea) Areas containing indigenous vegetation	Esizayo WEF Expansion Project may require the widening of existing internal access roads by more than 4m. The project area is located outside an urban area containing indigenous vegetation.
Activity 23: The expansion of: (iii) Bridges where the bridge is expanded by 10 square metres or more in size — (g) in Western Cape: i. Outside an urban area (f) Critical biodiversity areas or ecosystem service areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans.	Esizayo WEF Expansion Project is located within a Critical Biodiversity Area and National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus Area, and the upgrading of existing access roads located over watercourses may be required for access.

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3. Permitting Processes



DEA Screening Tool Identified Sensitivities

	Very High Sensitivity	High Sensitivity	Medium Sensitivity	Low Sensitivity
Agriculture Theme			X	
Animal Species Theme		X		
Aquatic Biodiversity Theme	X			
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme		X		
Avian Theme	X			
Bats Theme		X		
Civil Aviation Theme				X
Defence Theme				X
Flicker Theme	X			
Landscape Theme	X			
Palaeontology Theme	X			
Noise Theme	X			
Plant Species Theme			X	
RFI Theme		X		
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme	X			

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3. Permitting Processes



DEA Screening Tool Specialist Assessments

- Agricultural
- Landscape/Visual
- Archaeological & Cultural Heritage
- Palaeontology
- Terrestrial Biodiversity
- Aquatic Biodiversity
- Avian
- Civil Aviation
- Defence
- Radio Frequency Interference (RFI)
- Noise
- Flicker
- Traffic

No	Specialist Assessment	Assessment Protocol
1	Agricultural Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_WindAndSolar_Agriculture_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
2	Landscape/Visual Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
3	Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
4	Palaeontology Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
5	Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Terrestrial_Biodiversity_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
6	Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Aquatic_Biodiversity_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
7	Avian Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Avifauna_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
8	Civil Aviation Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Civil_Aviation_Installations_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
9	Defence Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Defence_Installations_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
10	RFI Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
11	Noise Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Noise_Impacts_Assessment_Protocol.pdf
12	Flicker Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
13	Traffic Impact Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf

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3. Permitting Processes

DEA Screening Tool Specialist Assessments

- Geotechnical
- Socio-Economic
- Plant Species
- Animal Species

1.4	Geotechnical Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
1.5	Socio-Economic Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_General_Requirement_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
1.6	Plant Species Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Plant_Species_Assessment_Protocols.pdf
1.7	Animal Species Assessment	https://screening.environment.gov.za/ScreeningDownloads/AssessmentProtocols/Gazetted_Animal_Species_Assessment_Protocols.pdf



3. Permitting Processes

Specialist Studies Commissioned

SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT	COMMENT
Soils and Agricultural Potential Assessment	A soils and agricultural survey will be undertaken.
Archaeological and Cultural heritage Desktop Assessment	The WEF could potentially negatively impact on heritage and archaeological resources. An Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment will be undertaken.
Palaeontology	The WEF could potentially negatively impact on Palaeontological resources. A Palaeontological Impact Assessment will be undertaken.
Visual Impact Assessment	The WEF could potentially negatively impact sensitive visual receptors. A Visual Impact Assessment will therefore be undertaken.
Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	A large portion of the route falls within a CBA and NPAES focus areas. A Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment has therefore been included in the BA process.
Freshwater Impact Assessment	The proposed route falls within an FEPA and a wetland occurs within the Project area. A Freshwater Impact Assessment will therefore be undertaken.
Avifauna Impact Assessment	Due to the potential impacts on birds as a result of the Overhead Powerline, an Avifauna Assessment will be undertaken as part of the BA Process.
Social Impact Assessment	A detailed social assessment will be prepared. The social statement will be based on a desktop review and telephonic interviews with key stakeholders.
Traffic Statement	The transport of large components to the WEF expansion area could negatively affect road users. A traffic statement will be compiled
Noise	The WEF could potentially have a negative impact with regards to noise. A noise impact Assessment will be undertaken



3. Permitting Processes

Specialist Studies NOT Commissioned

SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT	COMMENT
Geotechnical	A Geotechnical Assessment will not be undertaken as part of the BA Process as this will be undertaken during the design phase, once preferred bidder status is obtained.
RFI	A Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) Study will not be undertaken. During the previous EIA and BA processes the SKA-SA confirmed that Esizayo WEF Expansion area is located within the Western Cape, and will have no impact on the SKA.
Civil Aviation	The Civil Aviation Authority will be included on the project stakeholder database. They will be informed of the proposed Project, and comment will be sought. An Application for the Approval of Obstacles will also be submitted to SACAA once preferred bidder status is obtained.

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3. Permitting Processes

Competent Authority

- Section 24C(2)(a) of NEMA
 - The Minister must be identified as the CA if the activity has implications for international environmental commitments or relations
- GN 779 of 01 July 2016
 - Identifies the Minister as the CA for the consideration and processing of environmental authorisations and amendments thereto for activities related the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) 2010 – 2030
- DFFE is therefore deemed to be the Competent Authority

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4. Public Participation Process



Public Participation Plan

- Site notices:
 - English and Afrikaans
- Compilation and management of I&AP Database
- Written notification:
 - Owners and occupiers on or adjacent to the proposed project site
 - Municipality Ward Councillor
 - District Municipality
 - Relevant State Departments
- Advertisement (One English and one Afrikaans in local newspaper)
- Draft Report Review for 30 days
 - WSP on request
 - Online on the WSP website
 - WSP will confirm with local Public Libraries as to whether they are open and able to accept documents for public review
- No provision has been made for public or focus group meetings

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5. Timeframes




- Basic Assessment
 - Falls within the Komsberg REDZ (GN 114) therefore the authority decision making timeframe is anticipated to be 57 days

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6. Questions and Discussion



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7. Way forward



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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE BIOTHERM ESIZAYO WIND ENERGY FACILITY EXPANSION PROJECT

DFFE REF NUMBER: 2022-03-0020

As of the 04 April 2022, the restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 Virus and placed some limitations on the commencement and continuation of the public consultation as part of an EIA process have been lifted.

The Public Participation Plan (PPP) requirements as per the General Provisions of Annexure 2 of the Regulations issued in terms of Section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No.57 of 2002) and published on 05 June 2020 in Government Notice No R560 of Government Gazette No 43412 have been repealed as of the 22nd of March 2022, however, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) has requested that a PPP be compiled and submitted for approval.

This plan has been developed for the new Basic Assessment Application required for Esizayo WEF Expansion Project.

The following consultation process has been designed and will be implemented, on approval by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), to cater for the facilitation of the public participation process (PPP). The PPP includes Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), the competent authority, directly impacted landowners/occupiers, adjacent landowners/occupiers, relevant Organs of State departments, Municipalities, ward councillors and other key stakeholders and all other parties that may have interest on this project.

According to Section (2)(4)(f) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), the participation of all Interested and Affected parties (I&APs) must be promoted and all potential I&APs must be informed early and in an informative and proactive way regarding applications that may affect their lives or livelihood in order to give effect to the above sections, and that it is essential to ensure that there is adequate and appropriate opportunity for public participation in decisions that may affect the environment.

The existing Esizayo WEF Project interested and affected party (I&AP) database will also be utilised for this amendment processes. I&APs will be provided with opportunity to review and make comments on the amendment application.

Table 1 below, provides the competent authority with the detailed process of the public participation process that will be undertaken by the project.

Table 1: Proposed Public Participation Plan

SUMMARY OF PPP REQUIREMENT (GNR 326 OF EIA REGULATIONS)

PROPOSED PLAN/ACTIVITIES

<p>41(2) The person conducting a PPP must give notice to all potential I&APs by-</p> <p>(a) fixing a notice board at a place conspicuous to and accessible by the public at the boundary, on the fence or along the corridor of—</p> <p>(i) the site where the activity to which the application or proposed application relates is or is to be undertaken; and</p> <p>(ii) any alternative site;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Placement of site notices (in English and Afrikaans) at appropriate locations on site and in the surrounding area. — This will include the boundary to the site as well as additional public places in the closest towns within the project area, such as grocery stores, municipality, and/or local public library.
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**SUMMARY OF PPP REQUIREMENT
(GNR 326 OF EIA REGULATIONS)**

PROPOSED PLAN/ACTIVITIES

<p>(b) giving written notice, in any of the manners provided for in section 47D of the Act, to—</p> <p>(i) the occupiers of the site and, if the proponent or applicant is not the owner or person in control of the site on which the activity is to be undertaken, the owner or person in control of the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;</p> <p>(ii) owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;</p> <p>(iii) the municipal councillor of the ward in which the site and alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area;</p> <p>(iv) the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area;</p> <p>(v) any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity; and</p> <p>(vi) any other party as required by the competent authority;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Written notification (in English and Afrikaans) will be sent to owners and occupiers on or adjacent to the proposed project site, municipality ward councillor, local and district municipality, and relevant state departments. — General communication (written notification) with stakeholders (public and government departments/authorities) throughout the Basic Assessment (BA) process — Stakeholders will be added to the database on request as the project progresses.
<p>(c) placing an advertisement in—</p> <p>(i) one local newspaper; or</p> <p>(ii) any official Gazette that is published specifically for the purpose of providing public notice of applications or other submissions made in terms of these Regulations;</p>	<p>An advert will be published in one local newspaper (Die Courier - in Afrikaans), formally announcing the commencement of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) application process, requesting stakeholders to register their interest in the project, and informing them of the release of the Draft BAR and EMPr for public review and comment.</p>
<p>(d) placing an advertisement in at least one provincial newspaper or national newspaper, if the activity has or may have an impact that extends beyond the boundaries of the metropolitan or district municipality in which it is or will be undertaken</p>	<p>One advert will be placed in a regional newspaper (Cape Times - in English).</p>
<p>(e) using reasonable alternative methods, as agreed to by the competent authority, in those instances where a person is desirous of but unable to participate in the process due to—</p> <p>(i) illiteracy;</p> <p>(ii) disability; or</p> <p>(iii) any other disadvantage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — The existing database for the Esizayo WEF project will be verified and updated for the purposes of the BA process. As part of the verification process, existing I&APs will be contacted telephonically and asked to confirm their preferred method of communication. The POPI act will also be put into consideration to confirm all the relevant POPI requirements for the database. — The relevant ward councillors will be contacted to ensure that community-based organisations are aware of the Project and can assist in distributing and communicating relevant Project information to community members. — No public meetings or focus group discussions have been provided for. Meetings will be held should there be a request from Registered I&APs.
<p>(42) A proponent or applicant must ensure the opening and maintenance of a register of interested and affected parties and submit such a register to the competent authority,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Stakeholders with a potential interest in the Project will be identified at the outset of the Project. As noted above, the existing database for the Esizayo WEF project will be verified and updated for the purposes of the BA process. The database will also be updated to include landowners and other stakeholders relevant to the Projects. — All stakeholders identified will be registered on the project stakeholder database, and the database will be maintained throughout the BA process.



**SUMMARY OF PPP REQUIREMENT
(GNR 326 OF EIA REGULATIONS)**

PROPOSED PLAN/ACTIVITIES

<p>(43) & (44) Registered Interested and affected parties (I&APs) must be given 30 days to comment on the draft Report</p>	<p>The Draft BAR and EMPr will be made available to all stakeholders for a 30-day comment period. The Draft BAR and EMPr will be made available to stakeholders as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — From WSP on request — Online on the WSP website — Public Libraries in Matjiesfontein and Laingsburg <p>A Comment and Response Report (CRR) will be generated for inclusion in Final BAR and EMPr for consideration by the competent authority (DFFE).</p>
<p>Regulation 44 (2) The applicant must, in writing, within 14 days of the date of the decision on the application ensure that—</p> <p>(a) all registered interested and affected parties are provided with access to the decision and the reasons for such decision; and</p> <p>(b) the attention of all registered interested and affected parties is drawn to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against the decision in terms of the National Appeal Regulations, if such appeal is available in the circumstances of the decision.</p>	<p>Written notification of the decision on the EA will be sent to all registered I&APs (via sms and email). Registered I&APs will be provided with the EA decision and will be informed of the appeal procedure.</p>

Table 2: Meetings

PROJECT MEETINGS

<p>Pre-Application Meeting</p>	<p>A pre-application consultation with DFFE was held on 01 April 2022 to discuss the proposed projects, proposed approach, and confirm the process.</p>
<p>Public and/or Focus Group Meetings</p>	<p>No provision has been made for public or focus group meetings. Should significant interest be obtained in this project, a public meeting will be included as part of the PPP..</p>