



DALMANUTHA WEF (RF) PTY LTD

DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY (UP
TO 300MW)

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT REPORT

DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2243

10 FEBRUARY 2023

FINAL





DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY (UP TO 300MW)

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING REPORT

DALMANUTHA WEF (RF) PTY LTD

TYPE OF DOCUMENT (VERSION)
FINAL

PROJECT NO.: 41103722
DATE: FEBRUARY 2023

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QUALITY MANAGEMENT

ISSUE/REVISION	FIRST ISSUE	REVISION 1	REVISION 2	REVISION 3
Remarks	Stakeholder Engagement Report			
Date	February 2023			
Prepared by	Thirushan Nadar			
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Signature				
Project number	41104000			
Report number	01			
File reference	\\corp.pbwan.net\za\Central_Data\Projects\41100xxx\41103722 - Dalmanutha WEF\41 ES\01-Reports\03-Scoping			

SIGNATURES

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DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION

APPLICANT

Dalmanutha WEF (RF) Pty Ltd

PROJECT NAME

Proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility, Mpumalanga, South Africa

DFFE REFERENCE NUMBER

14/12/16/3/3/2/2243

REPORT TYPE

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT REPORT

WSP PROJECT NUMBER

41103722

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

The proposed Dalmanutha WEF will have a project area of approximately 9400 hectares (ha). Within this project area the extent of the buildable area will be approximately 400 ha subject to finalization based on technical and environmental requirements.

The proposed Dalmanutha WEF is located south-east of Belfast in Mpumalanga and falls within the jurisdiction of the Emakhazeni and Albert Luthuli Local Municipalities, Nkangala and Gert Sibande District municipalities. The Dalmanutha WEF and Dalmanutha West WEF are located adjacent each other.

The focus of this report is the Dalmanutha WEF (project under consideration for this FSR)

In order for the proposed project to proceed, it will require an Environmental Authorisation (EA) from the Competent Authority (CA) (i.e. the National of Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)).

1.2 TERMS OF REFERENCE AND DETAILS OF THE EAP

WSP was appointed in the role of Independent EAP to undertake the S&EIA processes for the proposed Project. This Stakeholder Engagement Report was compiled as part of the Scoping process and must be read in conjunction with the Scoping 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
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Qualifications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Masters in Environmental Management, University of the Free State– B Tech, Nature Conservation, Technikon SA– National Diploma in Nature Conservation, Technikon SA
EAPASA Registration Number:	EAPASA (2019/1005)

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 EIA.

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 EIA 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.
- 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 AN 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:

- An I&AP can be directly or indirectly impacted on by a proposed activity.
- A registered I&AP is a person whose name has been placed on the register of registered I&APs. According to the PPP Guidance document, 2017, only registered I&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, registered I&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) 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.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance to EIA Regulations must be met.

SCALE OF ANTICIPATED IMPACTS:	RECOMMENDED RESPONSE	
	IF “YES”	IF “NO”
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 landowner 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.
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.

SCALE OF ANTICIPATED IMPACTS:	RECOMMENDED RESPONSE	
	IF “YES”	IF “NO”
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 APPROVED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

As part of the pre-application consultation meeting held with DFFE on **14 June 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. The public participation plan was approved by DFFE on **03 August 2022**.

The approved public participation plan is included in Appendix E. **Table 1-3** below outlines the approved Public Participation Plan for the Dalmanutha WEF.

Table 1-3: Approved Public Participation Plan

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39 (1) If the proponent is not the owner or person in control of the land on which the activity is to be undertaken, the proponent must, before applying for an environmental authorisation in respect of such activity, obtain the written consent of the landowner or person in control of the land to undertake such activity on that land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Landowner consent letters will be obtained for each of the farms portions where the proposed activities will be undertaken. Consent letters will be included in the Application forms for Environmental Authorisation.
39 (2) Subregulation (1) does not apply in respect of— <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) linear activities; b) activities constituting, or activities directly related to prospecting or exploration of a mineral and petroleum resource or extraction and primary processing of a mineral or petroleum resource; and c) strategic integrated projects as contemplated in the Infrastructure Development Act, 2014. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Landowner Consent Letters are not required for linear activities. – Notification letters of the Environmental Assessment Processes undertaken for the linear projects will be distributed via email and/or hand delivery (as required) to the directly impacted landowners or occupiers of the land.

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<p>40 (1) The public participation process to which the—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) basic assessment report and EMPr, and where applicable the closure plan, submitted in terms of regulation 19; and b) scoping report submitted in terms of regulation 21 and the environmental impact assessment report and EMPr submitted in terms of regulation 23; <p>was subjected to must give all potential or registered interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, a period of at least 30 days to submit comments on each of the basic assessment report, EMPr, scoping report and environmental impact assessment report, and where applicable the closure plan, as well as the report contemplated in regulation 32, if such reports or plans are submitted at different times.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Notification of the availability of the Scoping and Environmental Impact (S&EIA) Reports as relevant for the Dalmanutha WEF, as well as the period for review will be sent to all identified and registered stakeholders via email and SMS. — The Draft Reports will be made available to all stakeholders for a 30-day comment period as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — From WSP on request and electronic copies can be shared via secure links that will be emailed. — On the WSP website as well as on a data free website for download. — Hard copies of the Reports will be placed at the relevant public places such as libraries, community halls, ward councillor offices etc. — CDs and/or Hard Copies submitted to the relevant Organs of State. — Electronic copy Submitted to the DFFE on the DFFE website portal <p><i>Note: Should the COVID-19 level be level 3 or higher at time of disclosure, WSP will confirm with the local libraries, as to whether they are open and able to accept documents for public review. In the event that public places are not available due to COVID restrictions WSP will provide the Local Ward Councillors with copies of the reports to ensure that I&APs without access to the internet are provided access to the required documentation. Furthermore, the data free website will be available to all I&APs</i></p>
<p>40 (2) The public participation process contemplated in this regulation must provide access to all information that reasonably has or may have the potential to influence any decision with regard to an application unless access to that information is protected by law and must include consultation with—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the competent authority. b) every State department that administers a law relating to a matter affecting the environment relevant to an application for an environmental authorisation. c) all organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the activity to which the application relates; and d) all potential, or, where relevant, registered interested and affected parties. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Provision has been made to ensure all project information will be made available to all I&APs, and that they are afforded the opportunity to participate in the projects, as well as submit comments and raise any concerns and/or issues with regards to the proposed projects. This will include: — Identification of stakeholders with a potential interest in the project will be at the outset of the project. — All stakeholders identified will be registered on the project stakeholder database, and the database will be maintained throughout the S&EIA process. — The stakeholder database will include all relevant authorities (government departments and relevant district and local municipalities), ward councillors, relevant conservation bodies and non-governmental organisations (NGO's), as well as neighbouring landowners and the surrounding community. — General communication (written notification) with identified stakeholders (public and other government departments/authorities) on the proposed projects. — Distribution of the Background Information Document (BID), inclusive of a Registration and Comments Form, to allow stakeholders to register and ensure all comments and queries regarding the projects are captured for inclusion in the relevant Stakeholder Engagement Reports. — Consultation of relevant communities via the Ward Councillor and/or community representative, in a manner determined and/or required during stakeholder engagement.
<p>40 (3) Potential or registered interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in subregulation (1) prior to submission of an</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Reports will be made available to all potential or registered I&APs following the submission of the applications to the DFFE, that is during the legislated relevant report

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<p>application but must be provided with an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the competent authority</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Reports will be available on request, on the WSP website, and in hard copy at appropriate public places in the study area such as public libraries and municipal officers. — All I&APs will be provided an opportunity to comment on the reports and submit comments directly to the EAP. Comments can be submitted in the following ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Comments Forms via comment form booklets at public places or via fax or email — Written comments via email or fax — Telephonically for capturing by the EAP; and — Via Whatsapp or SMS (including the use of “please call me”).
<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 style="margin-left: 40px;">I. the site where the activity to which the application or proposed application relates is or is to be undertaken; and</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">II. any alternative site;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Placement of site notices (in English, Afrikaans and IsiZulu) at appropriate locations on site (at the GH&A facility and at various points along the OHPL routes) and in the surrounding area. — This will include the boundary/access road to the sites, as well as additional public places within the greater Belfast and Carolina area, such as grocery stores, municipality, and/or local public libraries.
<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) (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"> — A written notification (in English, Afrikaans, and Isizulu) will be sent to owners and occupiers on or adjacent to the proposed project sites, municipality ward councillors, local and district municipality, and relevant state departments. — General communication (written notification) with stakeholders (public and government departments/authorities) throughout the respective environmental impact assessment (EIA). — 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>An advert will be published in relevant local newspapers (in English, Afrikaans and IsiZulu), formally announcing the commencement of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) applications, requesting stakeholders to</p>

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<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>register their interest in the project, and informing them of the release of the Draft Scoping, EIA Reports 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>It has been established that advertising in provincial and national newspapers is not required as the impact of the activities do not extend beyond the boundaries of the district municipality or province in which the Project will be undertaken.</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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. illiteracy; II. disability; or III. any other disadvantage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — A consolidated I&AP database will be compiled for the project. Any existing I&AP databases for other projects in the area known to the applicant will be utilised as a basis for the database. These I&APs will be contacted to request formal consent to be included in the projects’ database, in line with the POPI Act. As part of the verification process, existing I&APs will be contacted telephonically and asked to confirm their preferred method of communication. — 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. — Virtual focus group meetings will be held in each phase of the project. — In the event that face-to-face meetings are requested, these will be arranged on a case by case basis, taking into account the relevant COVID restrictions at the time of the request. — I&APs will be able to contact the EAP via email, fax, telephone, WhatsApp or SMS (Including the use of “please call me”).
<p>41 (3) A notice, notice board or advertisement referred to in subregulation (2) must—</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) give details of the application or proposed application which is subjected to public participation; and (b) state— <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. whether basic assessment or S&EIR procedures are being applied to the application; ii. the nature and location of the activity to which the application relates; iii. where further information on the application or proposed application can be obtained; and iv. the manner in which and the person to whom representations in respect of the application or proposed application may be made. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — An advert will be published in relevant local newspapers (in English, Afrikaans and IsiZulu), formally announcing the commencement of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) applications, requesting stakeholders to register their interest in the project, and informing them of the release of the Draft Scoping, EIA Reports for public review and comment. — Site notices (in English, Afrikaans and IsiZulu) will be placed at appropriate locations on site) and in the surrounding area. The size and content of the site notices will be in line with Regulation 41 (3) and 41(4) as contained herein.
<p>41 (4) A notice board referred to in subregulation (2) must—</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) be of a size of at least 60cm by 42cm; and (b) display the required information in lettering and in a format as may be determined by the competent authority. 	

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<p>41 (5) Where public participation is conducted in terms of this regulation for an application or proposed application, subregulation (2)(a), (b), (c) and (d) need not be complied with again during the additional public participation process contemplated in regulations 19(1)(b) or 23(1)(b) or the public participation process contemplated in regulation 21(2)(d), on condition that—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) such process has been preceded by a public participation process which included compliance with subregulation (2)(a), (b), (c) and (d); and b) written notice is given to registered interested and affected parties regarding where the— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. revised basic assessment report or, EMPr or closure plan, as contemplated in regulation 19(1)(b); ii. revised environmental impact assessment report or EMPr as contemplated in regulation 23(1)(b); or iii. environmental impact assessment report and EMPr as contemplated in regulation 21(2)(d); <p>may be obtained, the manner in which and the person to whom representations on these reports or plans may be made and the date on which such representations are due.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — If the revised reports are required to undergo additional review, the requirements of Regulation 41(5) will be followed.
<p>41 (6) When complying with this regulation, the person conducting the public participation process must ensure that—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application or proposed application is made available to potential interested and affected parties; and b) participation by potential or registered interested and affected parties is facilitated in such a manner that all potential or registered interested and affected parties are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the application or proposed application. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Provision has been made to ensure all project information will be made available to all I&APs, and that they are afforded the opportunity to participate in the projects, as well as submit comments and raise any concerns and/or issues with regards to the proposed projects. — A Notification Letter and BID will be compiled to provide preliminary information regarding the project and its location, as well as to invite comments from I&APs during the 30-day public review period of the Draft Reports. — All registered I&APs will be included in any communication regarding the application processes for the projects throughout the respective S&EIA process.
<p>41 (7) Where an environmental authorisation is required in terms of these Regulations and an authorisation, permit or licence is required in terms of a specific environmental management Act, the public participation process contemplated in this Chapter may be combined with any public participation processes prescribed in terms of a specific environmental</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Applications for the proposed projects will also be made under the National Water Act (NWA), through a Water Use Licence Application (WULA) or General Authorisation (GA) processes as applicable for the purposes of Water Use Authorisation under the National Water Act. A Public Participation Process (PPP) in terms of the EIA Regulations (contained herein) and the NWA will be undertaken

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

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<p>management Act, on condition that all relevant authorities agree to such combination of processes.</p>	
<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, which register must contain the names, contact details and addresses of—</p> <p>a) all persons who, as a consequence of the public participation process conducted in respect of that application, have submitted written comments or attended meetings with the proponent, applicant or EAP;</p> <p>b) (b) all persons who have requested the proponent or applicant, in writing, for their names to be placed on the register; and</p> <p>c) all organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the activity to which the application relates.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Stakeholders with a potential interest in the Project will be identified at the outset of the Project and will include all relevant authorities (government departments and the local and district municipalities), relevant conservation bodies and non-governmental organisations (NGO’s), as well as landowners, neighbouring landowners and the surrounding community. — This stakeholder database will be updated on an ongoing basis as new stakeholders request to be registered. — All stakeholders identified will be registered on the project stakeholder database, and the database will be maintained throughout the EIA process. — The EAP will continue to ensure that individuals/organisations from referrals and networking are notified of the proposed project.
<p>(43) (1) A registered interested and affected party is entitled to comment, in writing, on all reports or plans submitted to such party during the public participation process contemplated in these Regulations and to bring to the attention of the proponent or applicant any issues which that party believes may be of significance to the consideration of the application, provided that the interested and affected party discloses any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which that party may have in the approval or refusal of the application. (2) In order to give effect to section 24O of the Act, any State department that administers a law relating to a matter affecting the environment must be requested, subject to regulation 7(2), to comment within 30 days.</p>	<p>All Draft Reports will be made available to all stakeholders for a 30-day comment period. Strict adherence to all COVID-19 protocols and regulations as well as best practice measures will be ensured throughout PPP. As a result, the Draft Reports will be made available to stakeholders as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — From WSP on request and electronic copies can be shared via secure links that will be emailed. — On the WSP website and on a data free website for download. — Hard copies of the Reports will be placed at the relevant public places such as libraries, community halls, ward councillor offices — CDs and/or Hard Copies submitted to the relevant Organs of State. — Electronic copy Submitted to the DFFE on the DFFE website portal <p>Comment forms (in a bound booklet) will be placed with the Draft Reports at the abovementioned public places. These booklets will be collected at the end of the public review period as required. In addition, the contact details of EAP will be provided should the I&AP wish to contact the EAP directly.</p> <p><i>Note: Should the COVID-19 level be level 3 or higher at time of disclosure, WSP will confirm with the local libraries as to whether they are open and able to accept documents for public review. In the event that public places are not available due to COVID restrictions WSP will provide the Local Ward Councillors with copies of the reports to ensure that I&APs without access to the internet are provided access to the required documentation. Furthermore, the data free website will be available to all I&APs.</i></p> <p>A Comment and Response Report (CRR) will be generated for inclusion in Final Reports for consideration by the competent authority.</p>
<p>44 (1) The applicant must ensure that the comments of interested and affected parties are recorded in reports and plans and that such written comments, including responses to such comments and records of meetings, are attached to the reports and plans that are submitted to the</p>	<p>All I&APs will be able to submit comments directly to the EAP in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Comments Forms via comment form booklets at public places or via fax or email — Written comments via email or fax — Telephonically for capturing by the EAP; and

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

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<p>competent authority in terms of these Regulations.</p> <p>(2) Where a person desires but is unable to access written comments as contemplated in subregulation (1) due to—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a lack of skills to read or write; b) disability; or c) any other disadvantage; reasonable alternative methods of recording comments must be provided for. 	<p>— Via WhatsApp or SMS.</p> <p>Comments received telephonically will be transcribed and captured as formal comments in the Comments and Responses Report. I&APs that do not have access to internet or emails will also be able to submit via the consultation process that includes engaging with the Ward Councillor and/or Community Representative.</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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) all registered interested and affected parties are provided with access to the decision and the reasons for such decision; and b) the attention of all registered interested and affected parties is drawn to the fact that an appeal maybe lodged against the decision in terms of the National Appeal Regulations, if such appeal is available in the circumstances of the decision. 	<p>Written notification of the decision on the EAs will be sent to all registered I&APs, as well as communicated via Ward Councillors to I&APs that do not have access to internet and emails. Registered I&APs will be informed of the appeal procedure as well as advised that copies of the EA decisions can be provided on request.</p>

Table 1-4: Meetings

PROJECT MEETINGS

<p>Pre-Application Meeting</p>	<p>A virtual pre-application meeting was held on 14 June 2022 with the DFFE to discuss the proposed projects, proposed approach, and confirm the processes.</p>
<p>Public and/or Focus Group Meetings</p>	<p>Virtual focus group meetings were held with MTPA (23 September 2022) and BLSA (26 October 2022).</p> <p>No Virtual focus group meetings have been requested during the Scoping Phase by the I&APs as stipulated in the BID and other notification documents.</p>

2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TO DATE

2.1 PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION

A virtual pre-application meeting was held on **14 June 2022** with the DFEE to discuss the proposed Hendrina GH&A Facility project. The minutes of the meeting (inclusive of the proposed public participation plan) are included in **Appendix C-1**.

Furthermore, meetings were held with with MTPA and BLSA on 23 September 2022 and 26 October 2022 respectively.

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 Table

NEMA REQUIREMENT	DISCUSSION
<i>(i) the owner or person in control of that land if the applicant is not the owner or person in control of the land</i>	The project activity is located on multiple portions of privately owned land. The landowners have been included on the stakeholder database.
<i>(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</i>	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.
<i>(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</i>	Adjacent landowner details were collected and have been included on the stakeholder database. Where applicable, occupiers have been included on the database.
<i>(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</i>	Ward Councillors of Ward 8 of Emakazeni Local Municipality & Ward 12 of Albert Luthuli Local Municipality have been included on the stakeholder database.
<i>(v) the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area</i>	The Emakhazeni and Albert Luthuli Local Municipalities, Nkangala and Gert Sibande District municipalities (Mpumalanga Province), both Local and District Municipalities have been included on the stakeholder database.
<i>(vi) any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity</i>	MDARDLEA has been, and will continue to be, consulted. The DFEE has been included on the stakeholder database.
<i>(vii) any other party as required by the competent authority.</i>	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"> – Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) – Mpumalanga Departments of Water and Sanitation (DWS) – DFEE – Department of Rural Development and Land Reform – Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)

NEMA REQUIREMENT	DISCUSSION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – DFFE: Biodiversity – DFFE: Protected Areas – Mpumalanga Department of Water and Sanitation: Oliphant's Proto-CMA – Mpumalanga Department of Social Development – Mpumalanga Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport (DPWR) – Mpumalanga Department of Co-Operative Governance and Traditional Affairs – Mpumalanga Heritage Resources Authority – Department of Defence Force – South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA) – Transnet Freight Rail – Emakazeni Local Municipality – Albert Luthuli Local Municipality – Nkangala District Municipality – Gert Sibande District Municipality – Eskom – BirdLife South Africa (BLSA) – South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) – Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA) – South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) – Air Traffic Navigation Services (ATNS) – South African National Defense Force (SANDF) – Square Kilometer Array (SKA)

Appendix A provides a list of stakeholders registered on the Project database. The stakeholders along with the date on which they registered and reference to comments received, where applicable, are indicated in **Table 2-4**. The stakeholder database has been updated throughout the EIA process.

2.2.1 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

DIRECT NOTIFICATION

Notification of the proposed Project was issued to potential Stakeholders, via direct correspondence (i.e. SMSs and e-mail) on **12 December 2022**. The notification letter that was circulated is included in **Appendix B-3** of this report. Proof of e-mail and SMS notification are included in **Appendix B-4** and **Appendix B-5**.

ADVERTISEMENT

Notification of the proposed Project was issued to the general public via an advertisement on **9 December 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 and proof of their publication 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	LANGUAGE
Middelburg Observer	9 December 2022	Afrikaans
Highvelder	9 December 2022	English

SITE NOTICES

In accordance with GNR 326 Section 41(2)(a-b) site notices were developed (see **Appendix B-2**) and placed at strategic points in close proximity to the proposed site, as well as public places within the Emakhazeni and Chief Albert Luthuli Local Municipalities. The site notices were placed on site on **12 December 2022**.

Table 2-3 below shows details and proof of display.

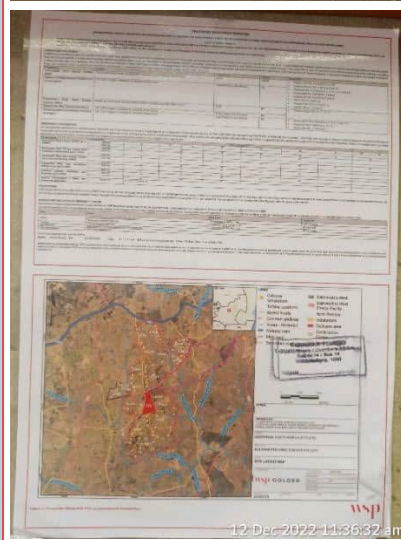
Table 2-3: Site Notice Locations

LOCATION	PHOTOGRAPHS
<p>Klipfontein Library, eMalahleni, Mpumalanga</p>	

LOCATION

PHOTOGRAPHS

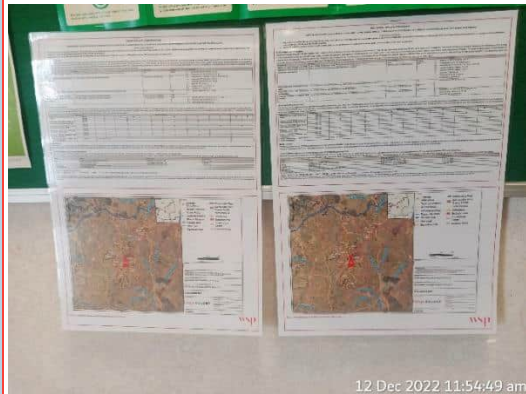
Gerard Sekoto Library, Mpumalanga



LOCATION

PHOTOGRAPHS

Municipal Health Services & Environmental Management, Mpumalanga

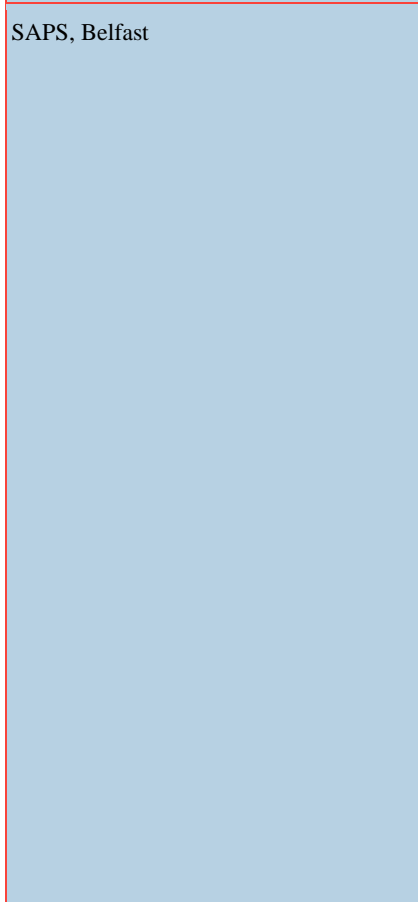
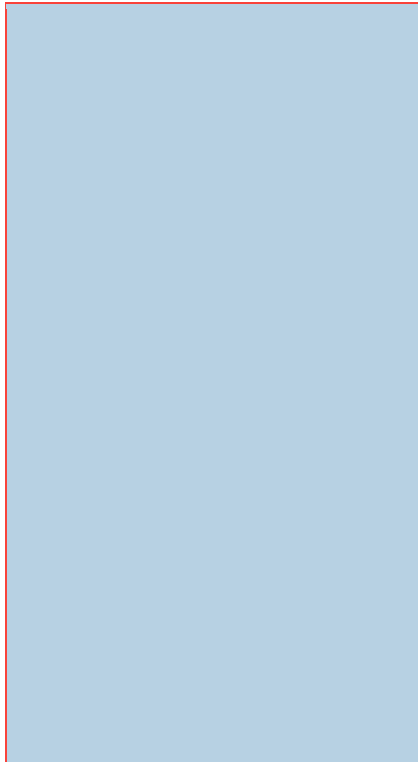


Belfast library, Mpumalanga



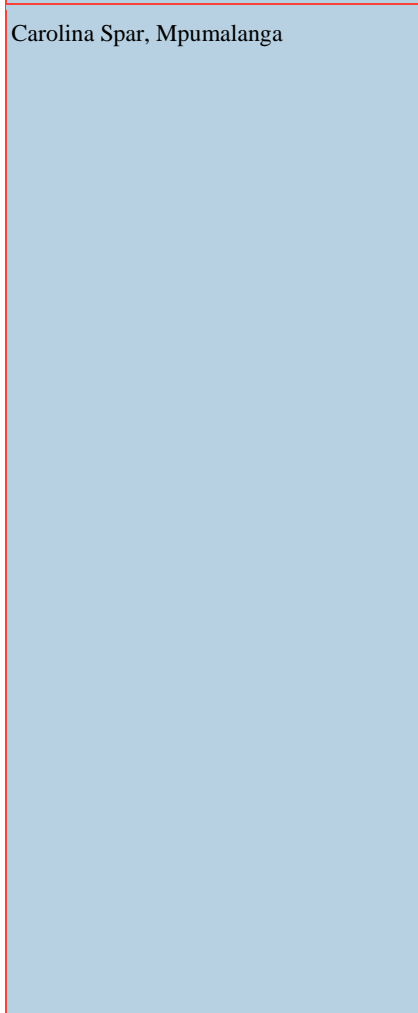
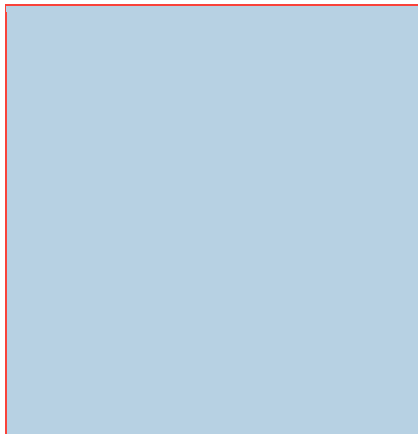
LOCATION

PHOTOGRAPHS

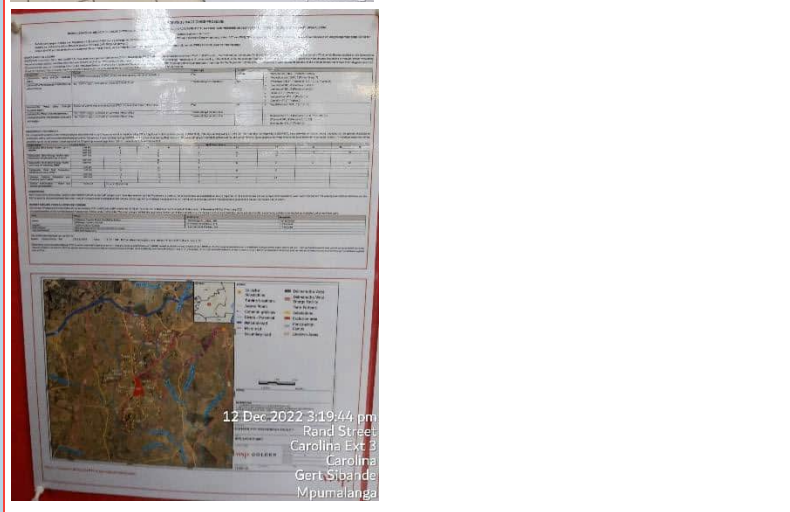
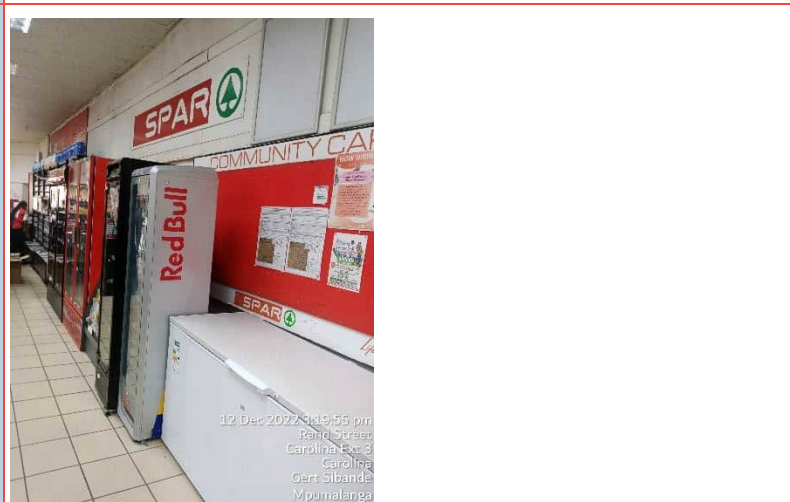


LOCATION

PHOTOGRAPHS



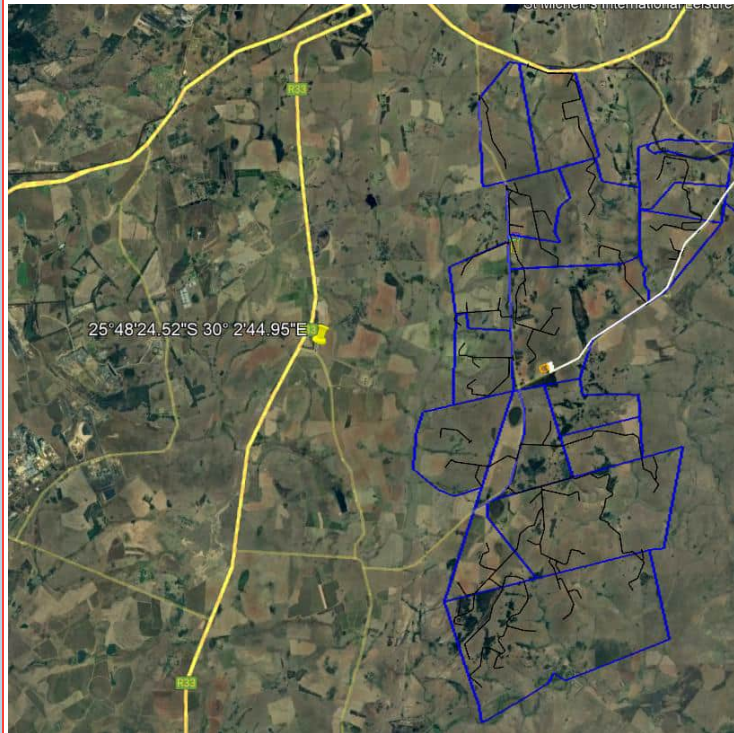
Carolina Spar, Mpumalanga



LOCATION

PHOTOGRAPHS

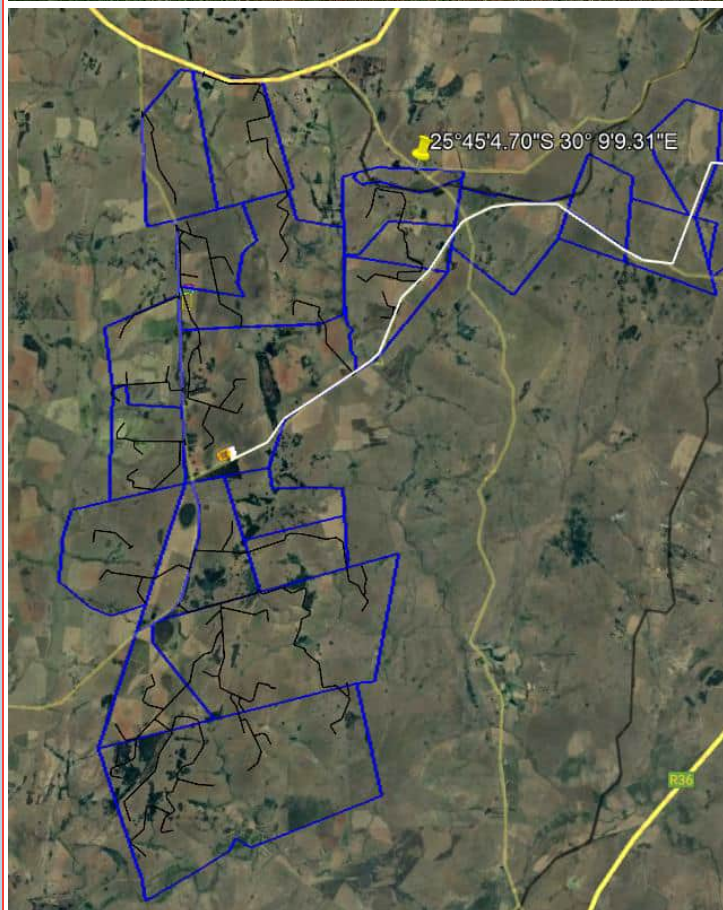
Site notice 1, Emakhazeni Local Municipality
25°48'24.52"S: 30° 2'44.95"E



LOCATION

PHOTOGRAPHS

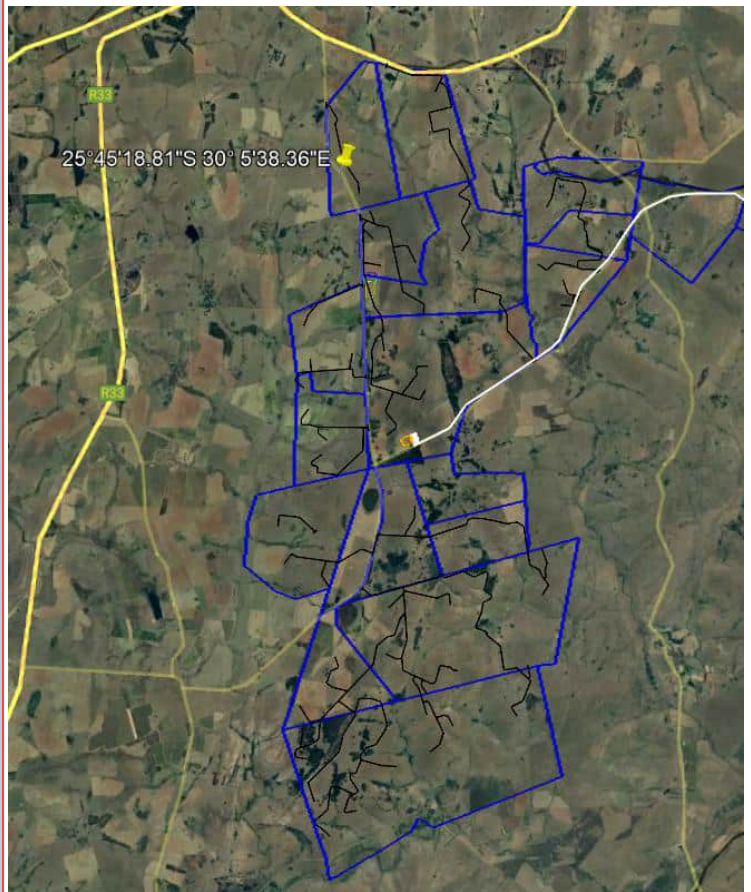
Site notice 2, Emakhazeni Local
Municipality
25°45'4.70"S: 30° 9'9.31"E



LOCATION

PHOTOGRAPHS

Site notice 3
25°45'18.81"S: 30° 5'38.36"E



LOCATION

PHOTOGRAPHS

Site notice 4, Chief Albert Luthuli Local
municipality
25°53'27.47"S: 30° 6'17.77"E



AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT SCOPING REPORT

The Draft Scoping Report was placed on public review for a period of at least 30 days from **12 December 2022 to 2 February 2023**, at the venues as follows:

- Emakhazeni Local Municipality, Belfast Office
- Emakhazeni Public Library
- Carolina Public Library
- WSP website (<https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>); and
- Data free Website (<https://wsp-engage.com/>)

The Draft Reports were made available to Commenting Authorities and I&APS via a One Drive link (**Appendix B-4**)

Proof of display of the Draft Scoping Report is provided in **Appendix B-6**.

2.2.2 STAKEHOLDER REGISTRATION

All stakeholders that either called in or sent written correspondence, such as emails, fax, or post, to the EAP have been added to the database and their comments and/or queries have been responded to.

2.3 COMMENTS RECEIVED

Comments received from registered stakeholders to date have been captured and responded to within the comments and response tables included in **Table 2-4** below. The original comments and responses are included in **Appendix D**.

Table 2-4: Comments received to date

DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE	REPORT REFERENCE
Eskom Transmission Division			
<p>12 December 2022, Email correspondence John Geeringh (Pr Sci Nat) Reg. EAP (EAPASA) Senior Consultant Environmental Management Grid Planning: Land and Rights</p>	<p>Please send me a KMZ file of the affected property, proposed development footprint and proposed grid connection.</p> <p>Please find attached Eskom requirements for work at or near Eskom servitudes and infrastructure, as well as a setbacks guideline for renewable energy developments.</p> <p>Kind regards</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Dear John,</p> <p>Received, Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>Please see attached KMZ as requested.</p> <p>Kind regards</p>	<p>Appendix D of this SER</p>
Endangered Wildlife Trust			
<p>13 December 2022 Email correspondence Dr. Ian T. Little Head of Conservation Endangered Wildlife Trust</p>	<p>Dear WSP</p> <p>Please register the EWT as an I&AP for this proposed development. We are concerned that this proposed site will pose a significant risk to various crane and bustard species.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Dear Ian,</p> <p>Thank you for the response, it is duly noted.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that we have your contact details on the I&AP database for future communication regarding the proposed project.</p> <p>Kind regards</p>	<p>Appendix A of this SER</p>
Dullstroom Bird of Prey and Rehabilitation Centre			
<p>12 December 2022 Email correspondence Frith Douglas Manager</p>	<p>Please could you register us as an interested and affected party in the above proposal.</p> <p>We are a registered wildlife rehabilitation centre specialising in birds of prey but deal with all indigenous wildlife in the province. We have dealt with many TOPS species from the proposed area.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Dear Frith,</p> <p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that we have your contact details on the I&AP database for future correspondence.</p>	<p>Appendix A of this SER</p>

**DATE OF COMMENT,
FORMAT OF
COMMENT, NAME OF
ORGANISATION/I&AP COMMENTS**

RESPONSE

**REPORT
REFERENCE**

<p>Dullstroom Bird of Prey and Rehabilitation Centre Managed by the Wildlifesos Trust (IT000101/2015) 169-719 NPO 930053148 PBO</p>		<p>Kind regards</p>	
<p>Carabex (Pty) Ltd</p>			
<p>06 January 2023 Email correspondence Sibusiso Dlamini Carabex (Pty) Ltd</p>	<p>Good evening Mr Strong I am a resident in the Emakhazeni Municipality and also a professional Civil Engineer running a construction company. Would like to participate in the Dalmanutha West Wind Facility as a service provider and as a member of the community (IAP). My details are as follows Mr Sibusiso Dlamini Company: Carabex (Pty) Ltd Email: sameleconsulting@gmail.com and sibusiso@carabex.co za Contact Numbers: +27731116485/+27744594727 Affice address; 19 River Street Machadodorp - Emakhazeni Home address: lot 330A Dullstroom - Emakhazeni Municipality Regards Sibusiso Dlamini</p>	<p>EAP: Dear Sibusiso, Thank you for your response. WSP can confirm that we have added your details on to our I&AP database for future communication regarding the Dalmanutha WEF project. Kind regards</p>	<p>Appendix A of this SER</p>

**DATE OF COMMENT,
FORMAT OF
COMMENT, NAME OF
ORGANISATION/I&AP COMMENTS**

RESPONSE

**REPORT
REFERENCE**

Bird Life South Africa			
<p>26 January 2023 Official Letter Dr Kyle Lloyd Wetland Conservation Project Manager Samantha Ralston-Paton Birds and Renewable Energy Project Manager</p>	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Scoping Report for the proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility. We attended a pre-application meeting with Enertrag regarding the proposed project on 26 October 2022. Unfortunately, the avifaunal specialist, Jon Smallie, was unable to attend the meeting, but we summarised our concerns and recommendations in subsequent emails to Jon.</p> <p>Our recommendations are not, however, reflected in the Scoping Report or Plan of Study for EIA. Many of our comments are therefore repeated below.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment.</p>	
	<p>BirdLife South Africa supports the responsible development of renewable energy infrastructure.</p> <p>However, we are concerned that the location of the proposed facility(ies) is not compatible with the desired state of the habitat by local, provincial and national stakeholders. The proposed development site borders an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area, and includes threatened ecosystems, critical biodiversity areas, ecological support areas, protected area expansion strategy areas and habitat for a number of threatened species.</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist: Jon Smallie</p> <p>Early avifaunal screening and pre-construction bird monitoring highlighted these risks to the proponent. It is noted that the site falls within areas classified as critical biodiversity areas. The layout presented in the scoping report will be optimized by the developer to minimise the location of infrastructure within critical biodiversity areas and will be presented within the EIA Report.</p> <p>Furthermore, a biodiversity offset report will be prepared in support of the EA application to compensate for the net loss of biodiversity from the proposed development. This approach ensures the application of the of the mitigation hierarchy to the proposed development, by the developer.</p>	-
	<p>The highveld of Mpumalanga hosts globally and regionally threatened species that are not found in similar abundances in other provinces. Several species are becoming locally extinct, some of which are found at the proposed site (e.g., Wattled Crane). These high-elevation habitats are often used for breeding during the wet season. Given the relatively small remaining portion of untransformed Grasslands and Wetlands in the highveld of</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist: Jon Smallie</p> <p>Pre-construction bird monitoring data has confirmed the presence of a number of globally and regionally Red Listed bird species, some of which breed on site. These are mostly grassland and wetland habitat specialist species. The areas identified as sensitive for these species have been avoided by the project layout. The proponent is investigating various compensation initiatives and offsets to mitigate the risk of the proposed development to</p>	Section 8 of the FSR

**DATE OF COMMENT,
FORMAT OF
COMMENT, NAME OF
ORGANISATION/I&AP COMMENTS**

RESPONSE

**REPORT
REFERENCE**

	<p>Mpumalanga, every step should be taken to safeguard what is left of these habitat types for biodiversity.</p>	<p>bird species and the overall biodiversity of the site. These initiatives will be detailed in the EIA Phase.</p>	
	<p>We suggest alternative sites should be considered for development. For example, development west of Ermelo, where land is already heavily transformed, is less likely to impact biodiversity, whereas the Eastern Escarpment should be avoided.</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist: Jon Smallie Mapping of sensitive avifaunal features within the proposed site has allowed the refinement of the project layouts within the area, or in other words the consideration of micro alternatives.</p> <p>Applicant: Identifying locations for wind energy facilities are guided by many factors but at the forefront are wind resource and available grid capacity. We are currently in an energy crisis in South Africa and finding locations where there is both a suitable resource and capacity to connect to the grid is challenging and essential. This specific site is at a high elevation and has the best wind speed in the Belfast area. The wind speed at the site is already marginal, so if we were to move the development to a different site, the projects will no longer be economical. Unlike the Cape Provinces of South Africa, where there is abundant wind resources but no available grid capacity, the project site provides the opportunity to connect to the Eskom grid. For this reason, ENERTRAG South Africa are developing a number of projects within the Mpumalanga area, include the Hendrina area and south of Ermelo. ENERTRAG recognises the potential of the Mpumalanga province to shift away from the current coal mining land use which dominates the region and promote renewable energy expansion. We have been actively assessing the wind data in the province, including the installation of a meteorological mast at the Dalmanutha site which has collected over two years of data. Although an alternative site has not been considered as part of the application for environmental authorisation, the location was assessed during the site feasibility assessment. ENERTRAG South Africa would like to investigate the removal of further turbines from the layout and consider technology alternatives in the EIA phase, to alleviate the impact of the project on biodiversity in the area.</p>	<p>Section 8 of the FSR</p>

**DATE OF COMMENT,
FORMAT OF
COMMENT, NAME OF
ORGANISATION/I&AP COMMENTS**

RESPONSE

**REPORT
REFERENCE**

	<p>Given the sensitivity of the biodiversity within the Project Area of Influence, we are pleased to note that two years of data collection will be conducted for the avifaunal impact assessment. However, it is unclear from the Scoping Report if the data collection methods will be adequate to verify the sensitive features and questions that have been scoped thus far, or those raised below.</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist: Jon Smallie The second year of monitoring will be reported on in the EIA phase report. Second year monitoring began in May 2022, prior to the submission of the below comments from BLSA. The trigger for the second year of monitoring was primarily the Cape Vulture risk identified on site. The second year will collect further data on bird abundance and movement on site, in particular for Cape Vulture.</p>	-
	<p>We are concerned that the Project Area of Influence is not well defined in the context of different impact receptors. Please see SANBI's Species Environmental Assessment Guidelines for more guidance in this regard. It may be necessary to conduct surveys outside of the development footprint (e.g., to identify and quantify the use of roosts and breeding sites) and this should be clearly defined during scoping.</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist: Jon Smallie We will endeavour to address this aspect in the EIA phase report</p>	-
	<p>We are further concerned that the development site is along the Eastern Escarpment of South Africa.</p> <p>This geographical feature is a flyway for latitudinal (north to south) and altitudinal (east to west) migrants of species moving within (e.g., cranes, bustards, Southern Bald Ibis, Blue Swallow) and beyond the continent (e.g., White Stork, Amur Falcon). The extensive wetland system at the site would offer stop-over sites for migrants transitioning through the landscape. Tracking data should be acquired from past studies/literature to identify which migrants are using this area and when.</p> <p>Alternatively, other methods (e.g., radar or tracking studies) should be included in the plan of study for impact assessment in order to assess the risk to migratory birds.</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist: Jon Smallie Pre-construction monitoring has collected data on diurnal bird abundance and flight behaviour on site.</p> <p>Although the second year of the monitoring is still underway, no evidence of migration over the site has been recorded. We will endeavour to obtain and utilise tracking data for the EIA phase. Nocturnal bird movement has not been monitored and would require specialised use of radar. We will consult further with BLSA on this in the EIR phase.</p>	Section 8 of the FSR
	<p>We suggest that the scoping report and plan of study should place greater focus on potential risks to the globally Critically Endangered</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist: Jon Smallie</p>	Section 8 of the FSR

**DATE OF COMMENT,
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	<p>White-winged Flufftail. South Africa and Ethiopia are the only two countries with confirmed breeding records of this highly cryptic species. It is unlikely to be found from observations and we discourage flushing the bird from wetlands. Not far to the north of the proposed site is a stronghold for the species in the Greater Lakenvlei Protected Environment and Middelpunt Nature Reserve. It is likely that the bird is also using the wetlands at the proposed site.</p> <p>Not much is known about where and when the species migrates to breed in high-elevation wetlands during the wet season (October-March), but birds have been found all along the Eastern Escarpment from the Steenkampsberg in Mpumalanga to southern KZN. Three other species of flufftail have been recorded as fatalities at South African wind farms and we are concerned that it is unlikely that shutdown-on-demand will be an effective mitigation for this small and cryptic species.</p>	<p>We are aware of the Middelpunt stronghold for White-winged Flufftail (approximately 20km north of the proposed site). We have completed almost 24 months of pre-construction monitoring on site, and not recorded the species on site. We will consult further with BLSA on this in the EIR phase.</p> <p>BLSA's concern regarding the effectiveness of shutdown on demand is noted. Alternative measures will be investigated in the EIA Phase. The offset strategy referred to above will also address any anticipated residual impact.</p> <p>We agree that observer led shutdown on demand will not mitigate the risk to this and other species which fly at night. The EIA phase risk assessment will elaborate on this point, and following the mitigation hierarchy, if a residual impact is anticipated an appropriate measure will be designed to compensate for this.</p>	
	<p>BirdLife South Africa encourages the use of shutdown-on-demand as mitigation to address residual negative impacts associated with fatalities of larger bodied birds. However, we caution that this approach is not appropriate for turbines proposed in areas where they will pose a significant risk to threatened species (where avoidance would be more effective and appropriate). Shutdown-on-demand can be fraught with challenges related to implementation and human (or technological) error and is poorly enforced.</p> <p>While shutdown-on-demand can be helpful to reduce the risk of fatalities, it does not eliminate it. Fatalities of large-bodied birds, including vultures, Secretarybird and raptors have occurred at wind farms in South Africa implementing this approach.</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist: Jon Smallie</p> <p>BLSA's concern regarding the effectiveness of shutdown on demand is noted. Alternative measures will be investigated in the EIA Phase. The offset strategy referred to above will also address any anticipated residual impact.</p> <p>A risk assessment of all proposed turbine locations was conducted and the highest risk category turbines were removed from the layout. The layout will be further optimised during the EIA phase.</p>	<p>Section 6.13 of the FSR</p>
	<p>The ecosystem status of the vegetation types reflected in the draft Scoping Report and Biodiversity Scoping Report appear to be incorrect or outdated. Both Eastern Highveld Grassland and</p>	<p>Biodiversity Specialist: Aisling Dower</p> <p>Thank you for the comment. Available official information on the threat status of vegetation types was utilised to inform the scoping report. These</p>	<p>-</p>

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	<p>KaNgwane Montane Grassland are Endangered (not Vulnerable and Least Threatened as indicated in the Scoping Report, respectively). The Scoping Report and Impact Assessment need to be updated to accurately reflect the status of these ecosystems.</p>	<p>included the gazetted documents provided on SANBI's website (http://biodiversityadvisor.sanbi.org/planning-and-assessment/environmental-assessments/orientation/working-with-threatened-ecosystems/threatened-ecosystems/) including the most recent National Gazette (National Gazette No 34809 of 09 December 2011 Volume 558); the SANBI BGIS (2011) threatened ecosystems spatial dataset (https://bgis.sanbi.org/SpatialDataset); and the SANBI National biodiversity assessment (2018) http://biodiversityadvisor.sanbi.org/planning-and-assessment/national-biodiversity-assessment-nba-2018/).</p> <p>We have interrogated the websites once more and have not seen any newer available information. We welcome any newer information that BLSA could share/direct us to source; and the most up-to-date datasets will be utilised in the Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist Assessment at EIA stage.</p>	
	<p>The Screening Report does indicate the likely presence of an Endangered ecosystem. To avoid similar mistakes, all biodiversity specialists should be encouraged to pay careful attention and verify the rich information and many sensitivity layers included in the National Environmental Screening Tool.</p>	<p>Biodiversity Specialist: Aisling Dower</p> <p>The screening reports downloaded on 13/02/2022 indicate the presence of both Vulnerable and Endangered ecosystems; while this is acknowledged in Section 5.1, the available SANBI (2018) NEMBA threatened ecosystems spatial dataset did not align with the screening report – the threat status of the ecosystems will be updated in the Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist Assessment at baseline phase and will be taken into account for impact assessment, mitigation planning and biodiversity offset report development.</p>	-
	<p>In conclusion, we are of the opinion that there is sufficient data to suggest the site (or a large proportion of the site) is inappropriate for wind farm development due to the significant risks posed to biodiversity. It is unlikely that additional studies will reduce the site sensitivity and the applicant risks “throwing good money after bad”.</p> <p>However, if they wish to pursue development in this area, we strongly suggest that</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist: Aisling Dower</p> <p>We take note of this position expressed by BLSA and will discuss the approach to further studies if any with the proponent and BLSA in the EIA Phase. In line with the mitigation hierarchy an offset will be investigated to address any residual impacts to ensure no net loss.</p> <p>Biodiversity Specialist: Aisling Dower</p>	Section 8 of the FSR

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	<p>a) more attention is paid to reduce risks, uncertainties discussed above and flagged in the Site Screening Tool;</p> <p>b) the effectiveness and feasibility of proposed mitigation measures must be robustly assessed; and</p> <p>c) biodiversity offsets should be considered, as it is unlikely that mitigation alone will ensure that there is no net loss of biodiversity.</p>	<p>Biodiversity offsets are being considered. A biodiversity offset strategy will be prepared in support of the EA application. Stakeholders including BLSA will be consulted to inform the development of the biodiversity offset report.</p>	
Emakhazeni Local Municipality			
<p>5 January 2023 Official letter Mr. W. J Shabangu Municipal Manager</p>	<p>The Emakhazeni Local Municipality (ELM) has assessed the above-mentioned report prepared by WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd on behalf of Dalmanutha WEF (RF) (Pty) Ltd and wish to comment as follows:</p> <p>Waste management: The applicant had indicated that "the hazardous waste generated on site will be collected and disposed at appropriately licenced landfill site and proof of disposal will be retained by the contractors and the facility ‘ operators” (page 176) therefore, the municipality would like to commend that.</p> <p>In addition, ELM would like to emphasize that general waste that will be generated on site must be disposed of at an appropriate licenced disposal facility as well, and a signed copy of waste disposal permit must be made available when required.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>WSP acknowledges this comment, furthermore WSP can confirm that the general waste generated on site will indeed be disposed of at a registered landfill with the appropriate disposal slips retained as proof thereof. Mitigation measures to ensure appropriate waste management will form part of the EMPr submitted during the EIA stage of the project.</p>	<p>Section 7.8 of the FSR</p>
	<p>Water supply: The ELM would like to state that, should it happen that the applicant will use water from Municipal water supply; the applicant must have the letter of service level agreement with the Municipality.</p> <p>On the other hand, any potential ‘ impact on localized surface water must be prevented, and any pollution problems that may arise should be addressed by the applicant.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>WSP acknowledges this comment. The applicant will engage with the municipality regarding any service agreements required.</p> <p>Furthermore, surface water impacts will be addressed accordingly via mitigation measures prescribed by the surface water specialties. This will form part of the EMPr submitted during the EIA stage of the project, although it is also present in the DSR in Section 7.5.</p>	<p>Section 7.5 of the FSR</p>

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	<p>Ablution facilities: The applicant must note that the use of any chemicals or fertilizers, herbicides, insecticide as well as temporary and chemical toilet facilities must not cause any pollution to a water resource or pose any health hazard. Should it happen that the applicant would dispose the waste at the municipal waste-water treatment works, the applicant must have a service level agreement with the ELM. Any pollution problems that may arise from the above should be addressed immediately by the applicant.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is duly acknowledged.</p> <p>The usage of any chemicals or fertilizers, herbicides, insecticide as well as temporary and chemical toilet facilities, if any, will be managed according to the waste management plan which will deal with the management of hazardous chemicals.</p> <p>This will form part of the EMPr submitted during the EIA stage of the project, containing appropriate mitigation measures to be implemented for the above-mentioned practice.</p>	<p>Section 7.8 of the FSR</p>
	<p>For enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Anza Nefale on the contact details listed above, alternatively on e-mail address: anza.nefale@emakhazeni.gov.za</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the contact details provided have been added to the I&AP database.</p>	<p>Appendix A of this SER</p>
<p>Geoff Lockwood- Shareholder in the De Rust Trout Farm</p>			
<p>25 January 2023 Email correspondence Geoff Lockwood Farm shareholder in property located within the project site- De Rust Trout</p>	<p>Good afternoon Thirusan</p> <p>Please find attached my responses to the scoping report.</p> <p>I am also copying these to BirdLife South Africa, and also to Mervyn Lotter at Mpumalanga Parks and Tourism Authority for their information.</p> <p>Please also keep me informed as to any developments regarding the project.</p> <p>Regards Geoff Lockwood</p>	<p>Dear Geoff,</p> <p>Thank you for your response and comment on the Draft Scoping report for the Proposed Dalmanutha Wind Project.</p> <p>Your concerns and comments have been acknowledged.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that you will be kept informed on further developments regarding the project.</p> <p>Kind regards</p>	<p>Appendix D of this SER</p>

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<p>25 January 2023 Official letter</p> <p>Geoff Lockwood Farm shareholder in property located within the project site- De Rust Trout</p>	<p>As a long-term shareholder in the De Rust Trout Farm, I've explored much of the northern-western section of the proposed development recording biodiversity over more than thirty years – both on De Rust, and on surrounding farms.</p> <p>The primary focus of these studies was initially birds, but broadened out to include orchids and other taxa, most recently Odonata (dragonflies and damselflies). For several years, I have been forwarding all records for Red Data bird species, and also of orchids, to MTPA with the co-ordinates of the sightings. I've also submitted sightings data to the various atlas projects administered by the Virtual Museum, and also to SABAP2</p> <p>All my records of Red Data bird species and orchid sightings were also made available to the specialists involved in the scoping exercise. Two recent sightings however need to be added to the material already supplied to the consultants.</p> <p>Note: At the time I made these data available, the layout shown to me was significantly different to that laid out in the Scoping Report.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment. During the scoping phase the layout was updated taking into account the sensitive areas identified by the specialists and an optimised layout at the end of the scoping report was revised to take into account the avifaunal sensitivities (dropping 7 turbines in the northern highly sensitive portion of the site.)</p> <p>In addition to the above revision, the EIA phase will explore alternative technologies (e.g., solar) as well the option of further reducing turbines to minimize impacts to birds and the overall biodiversity.</p>	<p>Figure 6-21 in the FSR Section 8 of the FSR</p>
	<p>Pallid Harrier – <i>Circus macrourus</i> (Near-Threatened)</p> <p>On 19 November 2022, I had a sighting of an adult male Pallid Harrier at approximate co-ordinates -25.765134°; 30.118627° (decimal degrees). The bird was hunting over the valley heading in a NW direction towards the Geluk Road and was observed for about 15 minutes over the valley – mainly over the western section.</p> <p>This is the second November record in four years of an adult male of this species, and the possibility that it is the same bird returning cannot be ruled out. The previous sighting was at approximate co-ordinates -25.757903°; 30.121521°, with the bird heading W towards the Geluk Road.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	<p>-</p>

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	<p>Note: This sighting of this species was not forwarded to the scoping assessment team as I did not include sightings of possible vagrants in that submission.</p>		
	<p>Secretarybird – <i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i> (Vulnerable) On 15 December 2022, a single adult bird was seen swallowing a snake at approximate co-ordinates -25.748908°; 30.123378, adding to the records of this Red-listed species within the project area.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	-
	<p>My primary objections and concerns regarding the proposed development are as follows:</p> <p>A significant number of WTG’s are proposed for the valley running SE from the Berg-en-Dal War Memorial.</p> <p>This area has a known, high occurrence of Red-listed avifauna including Wattled Cranes (Critically Endangered); Cape Vulture (Endangered); Secretarybird (Vulnerable); White-bellied Bustard (Vulnerable); Southern Bald Ibis (Vulnerable); Black-rumped Buttonquail (Vulnerable); Yellow-breasted Pipit (Vulnerable), Lanner (Vulnerable); Peregrine (Near-Threatened) and Pallid Harrier (Near-threatened). In addition, I’ve recorded Denham’s Bustard (Vulnerable) on the western side of the valley on one occasion.</p> <p>The proposed sites for these WTG’s pose a real risk to the local, and in some cases, the national populations of these species.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment.</p> <p>The layout provided in the DSR is a preliminary layout and is subject to change.</p> <p>The optimised layout at the end of the scoping report was revised to take into account the avifaunal sensitivities (dropping 7 WTG in the northern highly sensitive portion of the site.)</p> <p>In addition to the above revision, the EIA phase will explore alternative technologies (e.g., solar) as well the option of further reducing turbines to minimize impacts to birds and the overall biodiversity.</p>	Section 6.13 of the FSR
	<p>In the case of the Wattled Crane in particular, up to four birds have been recorded in this valley – a significant part of South Africa’s wild population.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase. As noted, the EIA phase will explore alternative technologies (e.g., solar) as well the option of further reducing turbines to minimize impacts to birds, including the Wattled Crane.</p>	-

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	<p>Barn Swallows and Amur Falcons occur in numbers during mid-to-late summer, with the swallows frequently roosting in the Phragmites reedbeds at the inflow to the De Rust dam. In some years this roost contains an estimated 10,000 birds. Both species could sustain significant losses.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>While a remote sensing and emergency shut-down procedure has been proposed to detect approaching birds and to rapidly stop the affected turbine(s), I have no information as to the efficacy of this mitigation. I am also unaware whether the proposed system will detect and respond effectively to the smaller species such as Black-rumped Buttonquail and Yellow-breasted Pipit.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment. Further impact assessments will be carried out in the EIA phase. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	<p>Section 8 of the FSR</p>
	<p>The former species probably undertakes long-distance movements at night (the related Common Buttonquail does), while the latter undertakes display flights which would put it at risk of collision with the turbine blades. The valley is prone to episodes of thick mist, with visibility falling to less than 10 m on occasion (pers. obs.), and this could also increase the risk of collisions with the installations for all bird species.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>Noise impacts on birds While the scoping report discusses noise impacts in respect of human receptors i.e. at people at dwellings etc. there appears to have been no recognition or investigations as to the possible negative impacts of turbine noise on the surrounding bird populations.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Acoustic, Avifaunal and Biodiversity Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>Research in Holland for example has shown that traffic noise caused a decline in the nesting populations of Willow Warbler – <i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i> in an adjacent wood, with the cause put down to sonic interference with vocalisations of the males – particularly those used in territorial defence and mate attraction.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Acoustic, Avifaunal and Biodiversity Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	<p>-</p>

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	<p>If turbine noise falls in the same frequency range as say that of the deep hooting calls of Black-rumped Buttonquail, collision risks apart, this could render the area completely unsuitable for this species.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Acoustic, Avifaunal and Biodiversity Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	-
	<p>Sound pressure for some distance around the WTG's could drown out or suppress any communications between conspecifics, again making large parts of the valley unsuitable for a variety of bird species. Based on this, I would question a number of the risk level assessments in the scoping report and strongly suggest that these be revisited.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Acoustic, Avifaunal and Biodiversity Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	-
	<p>Some scientific papers on the impacts of noise on birds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Y. Teff-Seker; O. Berger-Tal; Y. Lenhardt, and N. Teshner 2022: Noise pollution from wind turbines and its effects on wildlife: A cross-national analysis of current policies and planning regulations. Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews, Science Direct. — Conomy, J.T.; Dubovsky, J.A.; Collazo, J.A. and Fleming, W.J. 1998. Do Black Ducks and Wood Ducks Habituate to Aircraft Disturbance? The Journal of Wildlife Management, Vol. 62, No 3 (Jul. 1998): 1135 – 1142. — Grubb, M.M. 1979. Effects of Noise Levels on Nesting Herons and Egrets. Proceedings of the Colonial Waterbird Group, Vol. 2 (1979): 49 – 54. — Habib, L.; Bayne, M.E. and Boutin, S. 2007. Chronic industrial noise affects pairing success and age structure of ovenbirds <i>Seiurus aurocapilla</i>. Journal of Applied Ecology (2007) 44: 176 – 184 — Reijnen, R. & Foppen, R. 1994. The Effects of Car Traffic on Breeding Bird Populations in Woodland. 1. Evidence of Reduced Habitat Quality for Willow Warblers <i>Phylloscopus</i> 	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Acoustic, Avifaunal and Biodiversity Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	-

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	<p>trochilus breeding Close to a Highway. Journal of Applied Ecology, Vol. 31, No. 1 (Feb., 1994): 85 -94</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Reijnen, R.; Foppen, R. & Meeuwsen, H. 1996. The effects of traffic on the density of breeding birds in Dutch agricultural grasslands. Biological Conservation 75 (1996): 255 – 260 — Trimper, P.G.; Standen, N.M.; Lye, L.M.; Lemon, D.; Chubbs, T.E. & Humphries, G.W. 1998. Effects of Low-Level Jet Aircraft Noise on the Behaviour of Nesting Osprey. Journal of Applied Ecology, Vol. 35, No. 1 (Feb., 1998), pp. 122-130 — Vos, D.K.; Ryder, R.A. & Graul, W.D. 1985. Response of breeding Great Blue Herons to human disturbance in North-central Colorado. Colonial Waterbirds, Vol. 8, No. 1 (1985): 13 - 22 		
	<p>For the reasons given above, I WOULD NOT SUPPORT THE INSTALLATION OF ANY WTG's IN THIS VALLEY! In particular, all of the following WTG sites are either in, or within dangerous proximity to places where I have recorded Wattled Cranes and/or other Red Data bird species.</p> <p>Problematic WTG sites WTG 02 WTG 03 WTG 04 WTG 05 WTG 06 WTG 07 WTG 08 WTG 12 WTG 13 WTG 14 WTG 15 WTG 16 WTG 17</p> <p>In addition, the following sites may pose a threat to Red-listed bird species and I request that a detailed evaluation is performed to determine the extent of any risk. WTG 18 WTG 30 WTG 37</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment. WSP notes that the only layout map in the Scoping report with numbering on the WTG, is the pre-optimised layout. Therefore, this comment is based on the pre-optimised layout, as the optimised layout does not have turbine numbers on it. From the WTG listed as problematic, the following are no longer on the optimised layout, which is included in the FSR in Figure 6-21:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — WTG 06 — WTG 07 — WTG 08 — WTG 14 — WTG 15 — WTG 16 — WTG 17 	<p>Section 6.13 of the FSR Figure 6-21</p>

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		<p>The optimised layout at the end of the scoping report was revised to take into account the avifaunal sensitivities (dropping 7 turbines in the northern highly sensitive portion of the site.)</p> <p>In addition to the above revision, the EIA phase will explore alternative technologies (e.g., solar) as well the option of further reducing turbines to minimize impacts to birds and the overall biodiversity.</p>	
	<p>Odonata diversity. I have recorded a significant diversity of Odonata within the project area – primarily around the De Rust dam. Endemic/limited-range species such as Springwater Sprite – Pseudagrion caffrum, Sapphire Bluet – Africallagma sapphirinum and Round-winged Bluet – Proischura rotudipennis amongst others have been identified and photographed.</p> <p>Such diversity is considered an indicator of a healthy aquatic ecology and good water quality.</p> <p>It is essential therefore that any development of roads, CWT sites etc. involved in the installation or operation of the project does not alter current flow patterns or compromise water quality in any way.</p>	<p>Biodiversity Specialist: Aisling Dower</p> <p>Thank you for the comment and information. High flow and low flow baseline aquatic ecosystem surveys of streams and rivers within the study area have been conducted; the results of these studies will be presented in the baseline reports at EIA phase and will take these findings into consideration.</p> <p>Mitigation planning for any new road crossings of watercourses will adhere to the mitigation hierarchy, first seeking to avoid and then minimise any potential impacts on the watercourse.</p>	-
	<p>At least two orchid species – Habenaria anguiceps and Disa aconitoides are likely to be extirpated should the installation of WTG 14 and 15 go ahead.</p> <p>The co-ordinates of these populations were provided to the scoping phase ecologist and both sites are likely to experience significant disturbance during the construction phase. D. aconitoides is an uncommon orchid in Mpumalanga and is usually recorded either as single plants, or in small colonies, while there are very few localities know for H. anguiceps in the province.</p> <p>Efforts to remove these populations and re-establish them elsewhere are unlikely to prove successful.</p>	<p>Biodiversity Specialist: Aisling Dower</p> <p>Layouts have not yet been finalised. Layouts will be optimised to avoid/minimise significant impacts on species of conservation concern.</p> <p>Any significant impacts on flora species of conservation concern will be the subject of detailed additional mitigation measures. Should any significant residual impacts remain, these would be addressed via the biodiversity offset report.</p>	-
	<p>Noise</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>WSP acknowledges these comments.</p>	-

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	<p>From the scoping report it appears that the farm house – (Receptor 16 in Figure 5-31) is between 500 and 850 m from the closest turbine, with at least two others that appear to be within 1000 m of the house (WTG’s 13, 14 & 15 to the west of the house).</p> <p>There is also the possibility of noise disturbance arising from WTG’s 19, 20 & 21 situated to the SE of the house. Site topography might mitigate noise to a certain extent but it is likely that the people using De Rust will experience negative impacts due to turbine noise (operational phase), and also during the construction phase.</p> <p>Note: Most shareholders of De Rust have invested in the enterprise for its tranquillity and this experience is likely to be significantly degraded if these WTG’s are deployed at the proposed locations.</p>	<p>This will be further investigated during the EIA phase in the acoustic impact assessment.</p> <p>We confirm that this information has been shared with the acoustic specialist.</p>	
	<p>De Rust’s water supply</p> <p>All water for the house and staff housing is drawn from a spring just N of the farm’s northern boundary at approximate co-ordinates (decimal degrees) – 25.754225°; 30.129224°.</p> <p>It is essential that any activity, including the development of roads, CWT sites etc. involved in the installation or operation of the project does not compromise either water flow or water quality and safety.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>This comment is acknowledged.</p> <p>Mitigation planning for any new road crossings of watercourses will adhere to the mitigation hierarchy, first seeking to avoid and then minimise any potential impacts on the watercourse.</p>	-
DFFE- Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment- Biodiversity Conservation			
<p>12 December 2022 Email correspondence</p> <p>Kamogelo Mathetja DFFE-Biodiversity Conservation</p>	<p>Dear Sir/Madam</p> <p>DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation to review and comment on the project mentioned on the subject line. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Mrs P Makitla and Ms M Mudau (Both copied on this email).</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Dear Kamogelo,</p> <p>Thank you for you feedback.</p> <p>WSP hereby acknowledges this response and can confirm that our database has been updated with Mrs P Makitla and Ms M Mudau email addresses.</p>	<p>Appendix A of this SER</p>

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	<p>Please note: All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries will be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@environment.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota</p> <p>Regards, Kamogelo</p>	<p>Furthermore, WSP can confirm Mr Seoka Lekota email is also on our database and will receive all correspondence.</p> <p>Kind regards</p>	
<p>2 February 2023 Official letter</p> <p>Mr. Seoka Lekota Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation</p>	<p>The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the reports.</p> <p>According to the information provided in the report, a significant area of the proposed site falls under CBA 1, with several wetlands within the site. Mammal and birds species of conservation concern have been confirmed to be present within the site.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged.</p> <p>The EIA phase of the project will provide further mitigation measures regarding these highlighted areas. In, the EIA phase will explore alternative technologies (e.g., solar) as well the option of further reducing turbines to minimize impacts to birds and the overall biodiversity.</p> <p>Furthermore, a biodiversity offset strategy to mitigate any residual impact is being prepared and will accompany the draft EIA.</p>	<p>Appendix H & I of the FSR</p>
<p>Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment</p> <p>Letter signed by: Portia Makitla</p> <p>Designation: Control Biodiversity Officer Grade A</p>	<p>And as per the Avifauna specialist report the impacts of collision of birds with turbines and electrocution with powerlines have been rated to have high significance before mitigation, furthermore the report stipulates that several avifaunal features have been identified on site which require spatial protection in the form of no-go buffers.</p> <p>Several current turbine positions infringe on these areas and will require micro siting, with mitigation measures to be reviewed during the EIA phase. The high sensitivity theme is further supported by a stakeholder in the specialist report, that the area has sightings of birds of species of conservation concern, especially in the valley/ the gorge where Southern Bald Ibis roost.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged to be correct.</p> <p>The EIA phase of the project will further investigate the avifaunal impacts which have been identified in the FSR.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that the layout provided will be subject to change and micro siting of the turbine positions will be included as an important mitigation measure.</p> <p>Further turbine reductions are being considered during the EIA phase.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>The Directorate has noted highly sensitive themes as per the EIA screening tool. Kindly take note that any development within highly</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged.</p>	<p>Section 6 of FSR</p>

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	<p>sensitive areas that will result in significant negative impacts prior mitigation measures is prohibited.</p> <p>Furthermore, the final report must comply with all the requirements as outlined in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) guideline for renewable energy projects and the Best Practice Guideline for Birds & Solar Energy for assessing and monitoring the impact of solar energy facilities on birds in Southern Africa.</p>	<p>Please refer to Section 6 of the FSR for the verification of sensitivities on site. It is noted that the following themes were identified as very high sensitivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Agriculture — Aquatic biodiversity — Archaeology and cultural heritage — Flicker — Landscape — Palaeontology — Noise — Terrestrial biodiversity <p>From the above-mentioned themes both Terrestrial biodiversity and Aquatic biodiversity have been confirmed as very high sensitivity in certain areas on the site. Relevant mitigation measures will be recommended during the EIA phase taking cognisance of the mitigation hierarchy.</p> <p>WSP confirms that the final report will comply with all the requirements as outlined in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) guideline for renewable energy projects and the Best Practice Guideline for Birds & Solar Energy for assessing and monitoring the impact of solar energy facilities on birds in Southern Africa.</p>	
	<p>In conclusion, the Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA for review and queries should be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email; BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za for the attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. WSP can confirm that all the Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA will be submitted to ; BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za for the attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota.</p>	<p>Appendix A of this SER</p>

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DFFE- Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment			
27 January 2023 Official letter Mr Vusi Skosana Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	(a) Specific Comments (i) Please provide a concise, but complete, summary and bullet list of the project description and associated infrastructure (or project scope). This must include a list of all development components and associated infrastructure.	EAP: This comment is acknowledged. Section 2.3 of the FSR provides the project infrastructure in bullet form. Section 2.1 of the FSR provides the project description.	Section 2.3 & Section 2.1 of the FSR
Signed by: Mr Coenrad Agenbach Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects	Kindly ensure the development footprints (hectares/square metres) and specifications of all proposed infrastructure and associated infrastructure during all phases are included in the final SR.	EAP: This comment is acknowledged. The FSR includes the development footprints (hectares/square metres) and specifications of all proposed infrastructure and associated infrastructure in Section 2.3.	Section 2.3 of the FSR
	The co-ordinates must be specific to each activity and infrastructure that is proposed on the site. The co-ordinates for substations and the battery energy storage systems (BESS) must be included in the report, i.e., we require that you provide us with the specific development footprints for each development parameter, and not an area outlining the entire site.	EAP: This comment is acknowledged. The coordinates of the application site have been included in the FSR in Table 2.2. The Draft EIAr will further include the coordinates of specific development footprints for each development parameter such as laydown areas, substations, access roads etc..	Section 2.1 of the FSR Table 2.2
	Several activities applied for in the application form is said to occur within protected areas, such as Activity 4(f)(i) (aa)(bb) and Activity 10(f)(i) (aa)(bb) of Listing Notice 3 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. Therefore, approval from the Management Authority in terms of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003; Section 50(5) for commercial and community activities in the National Park, and/or World Heritage Site may be required. Comments from this Department's Protected Areas Directorate must be obtained to confirm whether Approval from the Management	EAP: This comment is acknowledged, however there are no Protected areas on the project site in terms of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003; Section 50(5). Therefore, this is not applicable. It has been noted to be an error on the Application form and the DSR that Activity 4(aa), Activity 10(aa), Activity 14(aa), Activity 18(aa), Activity 23(aa) were listed. This has been updated and removed in the FSR and the application form, which will be re submitted.	Section 3 of the FSR Appendix A of this SER

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	<p>Authority in terms of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003; Section 50(5) is required.</p>	<p>WSP confirm that Mr Rofiwa Magodi and Tshwanelo Leballo are included on the project database and were provided with the opportunity to comment on the DSR.</p>	
	<p>Find below the contact details for personnel at this Department's Protected Areas Directorate: a) Name: Mr Rofiwa Telephone no: (012) 399 8801 Email: RMagodi@dffe.gov.za; and b) Name: Tshwanelo Leballo Telephone no: (012) 399 9561 Email: tleballo@dffe.gov.za.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP confirm that Mr Rofiwa Magodi and Tshwanelo Leballo are included on the project database and were provided with the opportunity to comment on the DSR.</p>	<p>Appendix A of this SER</p>
	<p>Kindly take note that when finalising the layout plan the position of all proposed infrastructure and linear activities, which includes but not limited to the following must be illustrated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Wind turbines (the proposed 70 turbines should be numbered on the layout plan); — Access roads and internal roads; — IPP portion onsite substation; — Battery energy storage systems (BESS); — Operation and maintenance buildings; and — Construction camp laydown areas. 	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. WSP can confirm that all of the proposed infrastructure and linear activities will be indicated on the layout map in the Draft EIAR. However, it should be noted that this layout plan is subject to change during the detailed design phase. The final layout plan that is submitted to the Department for approval post EA will include all infrastructure and linear activities.</p>	<p>Section 6.13 of the FSR</p>
	<p>According to the Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan, 2015, Wind Farms are not compatible land-use activities to be undertaken in areas classified as CBA 1. Therefore, the mitigation hierarchy should be applied in full, and a Biodiversity Offset should be considered to ensure that significant residual impacts of the development are remedied.</p>	<p>Biodiversity Specialist: Biodiversity offsets are being considered. A biodiversity offset strategy is being prepared in support of the EA application and will be included in the draft EIAR. Stakeholders including DFFE, MDARDLEA, MTPA and BirdLife SA will be consulted to inform the development of the biodiversity offset strategy.</p>	<p>Section 8.6.3 of the FSR</p>

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	Further to the above, this must be included and addressed in the Plan of Study of the final SR.	Biodiversity Specialist: The biodiversity offset strategy has been included in the Plan of Study of the FSR	Section 7.9 and Section 8.6.3 of the FSR
	(b) Listed Activities (i) Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description.	EAP: This comment is acknowledged. WSP can confirm that all the listed activities applied for are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description, in Section 3 of the FSR. The application form will be resubmitted with the FSR.	Section 3 of the FSR
	(ii) If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final SR, an amended application form must be submitted. Please note that the Department's application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following link https://www.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms .	EAP: WSP Acknowledges this comment and can confirm that the amended application form will be submitted with the revised listed activities to the department.	Section 3 of the FSR
	(c) Layout & Sensitivity Maps (i) The final SR must provide coordinate points for the proposed development site (note that if the site has numerous bend points, at each bend point coordinates must be provided) as well as the start, middle and end point of all linear activities.	EAP: WSP Acknowledges this comment. The coordinates of the boundary of the properties have been included in Section 2.1 of the FSR. Linear activities co-ordinates will be confirmed in the dEIAR., however please note that the required 132kV grid connection will be assessed as part of a separate BA process.	Section 2.1 of the FSR
	(ii) All preferred turbine positions must be clearly numbered. The turbine position numbers must be consistently used in all maps to be included in the reports.	EAP: WSP Acknowledges this comment, the optimised layout map has been revised to include turbine numbers. Turbine numbers will be included all maps for the draft EIA phase	Section 6.13 of the FSR
	(iii) Please provide a layout map which indicates the following: a) The proposed position of the 70 wind energy turbines, laydown areas, internal and external roads, substations, BESS, operational and maintenance buildings etc.;	EAP: WSP Acknowledges this comment. The layout map has been revised to include infrastructure mentioned in the comment. See Figure 6.26.	Section 6.13 of the FSR Figure 6.26 of the FSR

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	<p>b) The proposed WEF and associated infrastructure, overlain by the sensitivity map;</p> <p>c) All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g. roads (existing and proposed);</p> <p>d) The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;</p> <p>e) Buffer areas; and</p> <p>f) All “no-go” areas.</p>		
	<p>(iv) The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments and existing grid infrastructure.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged.</p>	<p>Section 6.13 of the FSR</p>
	<p>(v) Google maps will not be accepted.</p>	<p>A consolidated sensitivity map overlain by the layout has been included in the Figure 6.23 in the FSR.</p> <p>There are two renewable facilities identified within a 30km radius including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — 14MW Machadodorp PV1 solar facility (10km northeast of the site); and — Haverfontein WEF (9km south of the site)..I <p>WSP can confirm that no google maps will be provided in the draft EIAR.</p>	<p>Figure 6.23 of the FSR</p>
	<p>(d) Alternatives</p> <p>(i) Please provide a description of any identified alternatives for the proposed activity that are feasible and reasonable, including the advantages and disadvantages that the proposed activity or alternatives will have on the environment and on the community that may be affected by the activity as per Appendix 2 of GN R.982 of 2014 (as amended).</p>	<p>EAP: Section 2.5.1 of the FSR outlines the alternatives that will be under consideration in the EIA phase such as layout alternatives. Furthermore, alternative technologies (e.g., solar) and the option of reducing turbines to minimize impacts to birds and the overall biodiversity of the site will be investigated in the EIA Phase.</p> <p>Applicant: Although an alternative location has not been considered as part of the application for environmental authorisation, the site was assessed during the site feasibility analysis. Identifying locations for wind energy facilities</p>	<p>Section 2.5 of FSR</p>

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	are guided by many factors but at the forefront are wind resource and available grid capacity. We are currently in an energy crisis in South Africa and finding locations where there is both a suitable resource and capacity to connect to the grid is challenging and essential. This specific site is at a high elevation and has the best wind speed in the Belfast area. The wind speed at the site is already marginal, so if we were to move the development to a different site, the projects will no longer be economical. Unlike the Cape Provinces of South Africa, where there is abundant wind resources but no available grid capacity, the project site provides the opportunity to connect to the Eskom grid..	
(ii) Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 2.	EAP: Please see Section 2.5 for the alternative's discussion. This section will be amended as required as a result of any technology and layout changes in the EIA phase.	Section 2.5 of FSR
(e) Public Participation Process (i) The newspaper advertisement attached under Appendix F-3 is deemed inadequate. Kindly include an actual copy of the newspaper advertisement that formed part of the public participation process for this project in the final SR. The newspaper advert provided should depict the name of the newspaper and date of publication of the advert. It should also be clear and legible.	EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment. Please note the FSR has been updated to include the newspaper adverts proof. This SER includes the proof of advert placement in Appendix B-1	Appendix B-1 of this SER
(ii) Please provide photographs of the erected site notices placed around the boundaries of the proposed site.	EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment. Proof of the site notice placement has been included in Appendix B-2 of the SER.	Appendix B-2 of this SER
(iii) Comments must be obtained from this Department's Biodiversity Conservation Directorate at BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za and this Department's Protected Areas Directorate at RMagodi@dffe.gov.za.	EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment. Comments from DFFE Biodiversity conservation unit have included in this SER.	Appendix D of this SER

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	<p>WSP can confirm that DFFE Protected Areas Directorate were on the database and were provided with the opportunity to comment on the DSR, however no comment was received.</p> <p>DFFE biodiversity and protected Ares unit will continue to be engaged throughout the EIA process.</p>	
<p>(iv) Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the SR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final SR, including comments from this Department, and must be incorporated into a Comments and Response Report (CRR).</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment, and can confirm that all comments received to date from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in this FSR.</p>	<p>Section 2.3 of this SER</p>
<p>(v) Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final SR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment. The proof of correspondence with the registered stakeholders is included in Appendix B-4 and Appendix D of the SER.</p>	<p>Appendix B-4 & Appendix D of this SER</p>
<p>(vi) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40 41, 42, 43 and 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP confirms that the Public Participation Process has been conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40 41, 42, 43 and 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p>	<p>Section 1.4 and Section 1.5 of this SER</p>
<p>(vii) A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Annexure 1 of this comments letter. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as “Noted” is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP’s comments.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment, this report is the C&R containing all the comments received to date from all registered I&APs.</p>	<p>Appendix D of this SER Table 2.1 of this SER</p>

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	<p>(viii) The final SR must provide evidence that all identified and relevant competent authorities have been given an opportunity to comment on the proposed development.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment. Appendix B-4 & Appendix A shows relevant competent authorities which were identified and given the opportunity to comment.</p>	<p>Appendix B-4 & Appendix A of this SER</p>
	<p>(f) Specialist Assessments (i) A detailed description as well as any associated assessments related to the technology required for the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) must be included in the Plan of Study of the final SR.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. the plan of study for the Qualitative Risk Assessment for the BESS installation is outlined in Section 8.5 & 8.6.12 of the FSR.</p>	<p>Section 8.5 & 8.6.12 of the FSR</p>
	<p>(ii) The specialists undertaking the Terrestrial and Aquatic Biodiversity Report and the Geotechnical Desktop Assessment failed to submit signed Specialist Declaration of Interest forms. All Specialist Declaration of Interest forms must be signed by the relevant specialists and attached to the final SR. The forms are available on the Department's website (please use the Department's template).</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. The Terrestrial & Aquatic Biodiversity and the Geotechnical Specialists declaration will be included in the FSR in Appendix C.</p>	<p>Appendix C of the FSR</p>
	<p>(iii) The final EIAR and all the attached specialist studies must indicate and adequately assess a consistent number of turbines.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP can confirm that the final EIAR and attached specialist studies will adequately assess a consistent number of turbines.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>(iv) The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference for all the identified specialist studies include the following: a) A detailed description of the study's methodology; indication of the locations and descriptions of the development footprint, turbine positions and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisation.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP can confirm that the specialist studies to be undertaken in the EIA phase will be undertaken in line with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, or as required under the gazetted specialist protocols (GNR 320 of 20 March 2020 and GNR 1150 of 30 October 2020). Therefore, the requested information will be included.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>b) Provide a detailed description of all limitations to the studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation will not be allowed.</p>	<p>EAP:</p>	<p>Section 1.6 of the FSR</p>

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		All relevant specialist assumptions and limitations have been included Section 1.6 of the FSR. These will be updated as required during the EIA Phase.	
	c) Please note that the Department considers a ‘no-go’ area, as an area where no development of any infrastructure is allowed; therefore, no development of associated infrastructure including access roads is allowed in the ‘no-go’ areas.	EAP: WSP acknowledge the DFFE’s definition of ‘No-go’ areas. No-go areas will be re-evaluated and assessed during the EIA phase, based on further specialist field assessments. Where specialist definitions of ‘no-go’ areas differ from the Department’s definition; these will be clearly indicated.	-
	d) Should the specialist definition of ‘no-go’ area differ from the Department’s definition; this must be clearly indicated. The specialist must also indicate the ‘no-go’ area’s buffer if applicable	EAP: To date, specialists have clearly indicated where it is suitable for linear infrastructure (water pipelines, roads, powerline infrastructure etc.) to traverse a no-go area where required.	Section 5 of the FSR
	e) All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternative and recommendations, and must not recommend further studies to be completed post EA.	EAP: All specialist studies to be appended to the Final EIA Report will be final. Specialist reports will provide detailed/practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternative and recommendations and will not recommend further studies to be completed post EA with the exception of pre-construction walkthroughs, search and rescue and micro-siting. The Specialist Studies will sufficiently inform the EA decision phase.	-
	f) Bird and Bat specialist studies must have support from Birdlife South Africa and SABAA.	Biodiversity Specialist: The comments already provided by BLSA are acknowledged. These stakeholders will be further consulted as part of the EIA process.	-
	g) Should a specialist recommend specific mitigation measures, these must be clearly indicated.	EAP: All specific mitigation measures, will be clearly indicated and included in the EMPr during the EIA Phase.	Section 7 of the FSR
	(v) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable	EAP:	-

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	recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice.	In the EMPr, WSP will clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons should any specialist recommendations be contradictory. To date no contradictory recommendations have been received.	
	(vi) Please ensure that all mitigation recommendations are in line with applicable and most recent guidelines.	EAP: This comment is acknowledged. The specialist's mitigation measures prescribed will be in line with applicable and most recent guidelines.	Section 7 of the FSR
	(vii) It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.	EAP: WSP can confirm that the Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes (as per the Screening Report), which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols") are being considered as applicable.	Appendix G to S of the FSR
	(viii) As such, the Specialist Declaration of Interest forms must also indicate the scientific organisation registration/member number and status of registration/membership for each specialist.	EAP: Specialist Declarations included in the FSR do indicate the name of scientific organisation/council and member number and the status of the registration/membership of each specialist.	Appendix C of the FSR
	(ix) Please also ensure that the final SR includes the Site Verification Report as required by the relevant environmental themes and assessments.	EAP: This comment is acknowledged. Section 6 of the FSR included the site verifications of the relevant environmental themes and assessments.	Section 6 of the FSR

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	<p>(x) Please note further that the protocols, if applicable, require certain specialists' to be SACNASP registered. Please ensure that the relevant specialist certificates are attached to the relevant reports.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. WSP can confirm that where required, SACNASP certificates of the relevant specialist will be included to the reports.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>(xi) We note that the screening tool indicates that seventeen specialist studies need to be undertaken or conducted. We note that the SR does not include seventeen specialist reports. Please kindly peruse the protocols and provide in the SR site sensitivity reports for each theme/study listed, as well as compliance statements for assessments not needed to be conducted based on your site sensitivity verification.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. The following specialist assessments have been commissioned for the project based on the environmental sensitivities identified by the Screening Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Soils and Agricultural Potential Assessment — Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Assessment — Palaeontology Impact Assessment — Visual Impact Assessment (inclusive of landscape and flicker) — Biodiversity Impact Assessment (inclusive of terrestrial biodiversity, plant species and animal species) — Surface water Assessment — Avifauna Impact Assessment — Bat Impact Assessment — Environmental Acoustic (Noise) Impact Assessment — Social Impact Assessment — Qualitative Risk Assessment (specific to the BESS) — Desktop Geotechnical Assessment — Desktop Traffic Assessment <p>As per section 4.2.1 we motivate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — A desktop Geotechnical study will be undertaken, however a detailed geotechnical study will not be undertaken as this will only be undertaken during the detailed design phase of the project. 	<p>Appendix C-1 of this SER Section 4.2.1 of the FSR Section 6 of the FSR</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The defence and RFI themes are considered low sensitivity and therefore compliance statements are not required. However the relevant stakeholders have been included on the project stakeholder database i.e. Department of Defence, SARAO, SKA and SAWS. In the event that any high sensitivity issues are raised by the stakeholders the required compliance statement will be included in the draft EIAR. – The Civil Aviation and RFI themes are considered high – the required compliance statement will be included in the draft EIAR. <p>The studies included are as agreed to during the pre-app meeting with the DFFE on 14 June 2022. Meetings minutes included in Appendix C-1 of the SER</p>	
	<p>(g) Cumulative Assessment</p> <p>(i) Should there be any other similar projects within a 30km radius of the proposed development site, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined to indicate the following:</p> <p>a) Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>This comment is acknowledged.</p> <p>The EIA phase of the project will include the cumulative impacts identified as a result of the surrounding projects within 30km radius.</p> <p>However, at this stage there only two renewable facilities identified within a 30km radius including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 14MW Machadodorp PV1 solar facility (10km northeast of the site); and – Haverfontein WEF (9km south of the site). 	<p>Section 2.1 of FSR</p>
	<p>b) Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist's recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>This comment is acknowledged.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that the specialists appointed to undertake the studies will provide reports inclusive of this for the EIA phase.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>c) The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>This comment is acknowledged.</p>	<p>Section 8.5 of the FSR</p>

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		The draft EIA report will include cumulative impacts significance rating informing the need and desirability of the proposed development.	
	d) A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.	EAP: This comment is acknowledged, This information will be included in the EIA Report to be compiled in the EIA Phase, along with the related impact and cumulative assessments, and concluding remarks.	Section 8.5 of the FSR
	General You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that: “If S&EIR must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 44 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority a scoping report which has been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority” You are are further reminded that the final SR to be submitted to this Department must comply with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of scoping reports in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.	EAP: WSP confirms that the FSR will be submitted to the DFFE within 44 days of the receipt of the application, in line with the regulated timeframes.	-
	Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7).	EAP: WSP notes that the application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations.	-
	You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended,	EAP:	-

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	that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.	WSP acknowledges this comment. The applicant is fully aware that that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.	
SAHRA-South African Heritage Resources Agency			
13 January 2023 Email correspondence Natasha Higgitt Heritage Officer	<p>Good day, Please note that all development applications are processed via our online portal, the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS) found at the following link: http://sahra.org.za/sahris/. We do not accept emailed, posted, hardcopy, faxed, website links or DropBox links as official submissions.</p> <p>Please create an application on SAHRIS and upload all documents pertaining to the Environmental Authorisation Application Process. As per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA), an assessment of heritage resources must form part of the process and the assessment must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA. If a case already exists on SAHRIS regarding the development, please upload the documents to that case.</p> <p>Once all documents including all appendices are uploaded to the case applications, please ensure that the status of the case is changed from DRAFT to SUBMITTED. Please ensure that all documents produced as part of the EA process are submitted as part of the application.</p> <p>**PLEASE NOTE** An application fee is now required for all section 38 applications. Please ensure that the SAHRIS application contains a proof of payment as per the notice at the following link: https://sahris.sahra.org.za/content/what-are-sahra-processing-fees-and-banking-details. A payment of R 2 000.00 for this application is</p>	<p>Dear Natasha</p> <p>Thank you for your email – Please note that a SAHRIS Application was created and submitted on Monday, December 12, 2022 - CaseID: 20349. We trust that as the case was submitted prior to 1 January 2023 that the Application Fee will not be required.</p> <p>Kind regards Ashlea Strong</p>	Appendix B-6 of this SER

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	<p>required. Applications that do not include a proof of payment will be considered incomplete and will not be processed until proof of payment is provided.</p>		
	<p>Good afternoon, Thank you for the clarification. No payment is required as the application was submitted in 2022. Please take of the payment requirements for all future applications. Kind regards,</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this response.</p>	<p>Appendix D of this SER</p>
<p>26 January 2023 Official letter CaseID: 20349 Natasha Higgitt Heritage Officer & Phillip Hine Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit</p>	<p>ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd (ENERTRAG SA), under two Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) Dalmanutha Wind RF (Pty) Ltd and Dalmanutha West Wind RF (Pty) Ltd, proposes to develop the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Complex, comprising the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility and the Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility, including the respective grid connection infrastructure for each project, and common grid connection infrastructure for both projects, near Belfast, in the Mpumalanga Province. The projects aim to supply suitable private off-taker initiatives (direct supply or wheeling agreements, as applicable), or be bid into the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) or similar procurement programme under the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP). Once built, the projects are intended to connect either directly to nearby off-takers or to the 132/400kV Eskom Gumeni Main Transmission Substation through a Common Collector Substation and powerline of up to 132kV. WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Dalmanutha WEF (RF) (Pty) Ltd to undertake an Environmental Authorisation Application for the proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility (WEF), near Belfast, Mpumalanga Province. A Draft Scoping Report (DSR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed activities will include the construction of up to 77 turbines,</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this information to be correct.</p>	<p>-</p>

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	<p>permanent hardstanding area for each turbine, IPP portion onsite substation and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), operation and maintenance buildings, construction camp and laydown areas, sewage facilities, cement batching plant, access and internal roads, underground cabling between components, fencing, storm water channels, water pipelines, ablution facilities and gatehouse within an application area of 400 ha.</p> <p>Beyond Heritage was appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EA process as per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).</p> <p>Van der Walt, J. 2022. Heritage Scoping Report for the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility and associated infrastructure, Mpumalanga Province, South Africa.</p>		
	<p>Several heritage resources are located within and in close proximity to the proposed development area.</p> <p>These include several burial sites, a war memorial, the Berg en Dal Monument.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this information to be correct.</p>	-
	<p>Recommendations provided in the report include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — It is recommended that the study area should be subjected to a field-based Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and a VIA; — The study area is of low to very high palaeontological sensitivity and according to the SAHRIS palaeontological sensitivity map must be subjected to a palaeontological assessment in the impact assessment phase. 	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this information to be correct.</p>	-
	<p>Interim Comment</p> <p>The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit notes the Heritage Scoping Report and the recommendations of the specialist.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment and can confirm that all comments regarding the direct and indirect impacts to heritage resources, including the Berg en Dal monument, will be considered in the HIA.</p>	-

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	<p>The HIA must consider any comments provided during the public participation phase with regards to direct and indirect impacts to heritage resources, including the Berg en Dal monument.</p>		
	<p>Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above pending reports and draft EIA inclusive of appendices. Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this comment.</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>MTPA-Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency</p>			
<p>03 October 2022 <i>Email correspondence prior to submission of Draft Scoping Report</i> Thirushan Nadar WSP Consultant</p>		<p>EAP: Dear Mervyn, I trust you are keeping well. Following our meeting, we agreed that we would send MTPA all available information regarding the Avifaunal data for the Dalmanutha site that we have to date. Please see attached the Avifaunal Scoping report and shapefile for Avifaunal sensitive areas identified. I'm sure this will give you a better understanding of what we are dealing with. Do not hesitate to reach out to us if any further information is required. Please let us know when we can have a follow up meeting to discuss a way forward. We look forward to hearing from you soon. Kind regards Thirushan Nadar</p>	<p>Appendix D of this SER</p>

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<p>04 October 2022 Email correspondence</p> <p>Mervyn Lotter Control Scientist: Biodiversity Planning</p>	<p>Dear Thirushan</p> <p>Thank you for the email and report. Unfortunately, you only sent me part of a shapefile, not the full shapefile itself. A shapefile is in fact made up of several files with the same name but different extensions. So the .shp file is one of the required files that make up a shapefile. A .dbf file is another one that contains the actual attributes. You also need a .shx and .sbn etc. Could you please send all the file files that make up the shapefile Avifaunal no-go_100622 or you can send me the KMZ file.</p> <p>Kind regards Mervyn</p>	<p>EAP: Dear Mervyn,</p> <p>Apologies for this, please see attached the files as requested. Kindly confirm if all is in order.</p> <p>Kind regards Thirushan Nadar</p>	<p>Appendix D of this SER</p>
<p>6 October 2022 Email correspondence</p> <p>Mervyn Lotter Control Scientist: Biodiversity Planning</p>	<p>Dear Thirushan</p> <p>Thank you for the shapefile, it loads perfectly. This shapefile represents the sensitive features that need to be avoided (as polygons), as identified in the environmental study. Is it possible to share with us the raw birding observation data (not the processed data)?</p> <p>Kind regards</p>	<p>EAP: Hi there Mervyn ,</p> <p>I hope you are keeping well.</p> <p>Apologies on getting back to you late.</p> <p>Please see attached the file containing the Raw bird observation data, please confirm you can access this and if this is what you are looking for.</p> <p>Kind regards Thirushan Nadar</p>	<p>Appendix D of this SER</p>
<p>14 October 2022 Email correspondence</p>	<p>Dear Thirushan</p> <p>I confirm that I received the shapefiles, thank you.</p>	<p>EAP: Dear Mervyn,</p>	<p>Appendix D of this SER</p>

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<p>Mervyn Lotter Control Scientist: Biodiversity Planning</p>	<p>After reviewing all the data that I have now at hand, I am afraid I believe this project is fatally flawed. I have been in discussion with other ornithologists, like Birdlife, EWT, and Geoff Lockwood. The concern is pretty unanimous.</p> <p>St the heart of our concern is the large-bodied birds of conservation concern that will, eventually, collide with a blade from the wind turbines. The relatively regular occurrence of between 1-4 Wattled Crane is significant. This bird is regionally Critically Endangered and globally Endangered. In Mpumalanga these populations are declining and we now only have somewhere between 3 and 6 pairs of birds. There is no way that we can afford to loose a single bird.</p> <p>In terms of the wind energy, this property is not the highest priority in Mpumalanga, there are many other options. So if I weigh up the risk to the birds, and other wind opportunities that are available, I can't see the MTPA supporting this application once we formally receive it to comment on.</p> <p>I am not sure what to suggest as a way forward.</p> <p>Kind regards Mervyn</p>	<p>Thank you for your response and input to the project.</p> <p>We have further engaged with the client regarding the provisional layout for the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility based on the MTPAs comments and concerns.</p> <p>The intention is to look at adjusting the layout based on further investigations and a risk assessment to be undertaken by the Avifaunal specialist.</p> <p>Furthermore, the client will be contacting you to set up a site visit to the project area.</p> <p>Kind regards Thirushan Nadar</p>	
<p>31 January 2023 Email correspondence</p> <p>Thirushan Nadar WSP Consultant</p>		<p>EAP: Dear Mervyn and Frans,</p> <p>I hope you guys are keeping well.</p> <p>Please note that the Draft Scoping Report for the proposed Dalmanutha WEF project comes out of the public comment period on the 2 February 2023.</p>	<p>Appendix D of this SER</p>

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<p>Reminder for outstanding comment from MDARDLEA</p>		<p>We still have not received comment on the DSR from MTPA.</p> <p>Kind regards Thirushan Nadar</p>	
<p>31 January 2023 Email correspondence Mervyn Lotter Control Scientist: Biodiversity Planning</p>	<p>Dear Thirushan Thank you for the reminder. We are working on it and hope to get you our comments to you by tomorrow, although you may need to wait a bit longer for a signed copy. We have had email troubles and no emails through my official email address for more than 2 weeks. Regards Mervyn</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledges this response.</p>	<p>Appendix D of this SER</p>
<p>02 February 2023 Official letter Ref: LUA 22/3315 Unit: LUA/SS MR M.H. VILAKAZI ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER</p>	<p>Your correspondence with WPS reference 41103722 of November 2022 refer. The applicant proposes the development of a Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility (WEF) under two Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV) that entails the Dalmanutha Wind Renewable Facility (RF) and Dalmanutha West Wind RF that will extend over an area that is approximately 9400 ha. The project entails the establishment of 70 wind turbines, each with a permanent hard standing area; the establishment of an internal gravel road, approximately 60km long and 6m wide, that will connect the wind turbines; development of buildings that will act as the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and maintenance facilities; a site substation; a temporary construction camp and laydown area as well as sewage and ablution facilities. The applicant will erect fencing around the development area of up to 4m high. The proposed directly impacted development footprint is approximately 400 ha. The Dalmanutha site was selected due to its proximity to Gumeni MTS located approximately 17.5 km from the proposed project site.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged.</p>	<p>-</p>

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	<p>The MTPA has reviewed the application and objects to the proposed wind farm. However, our comments should be viewed in context to our approach on commenting on the renewable energy applications in the province, and the extreme sensitivity of the receiving area. The MTPA is committed to ensuring a just transition from coal fired coal power stations to green energy, however, we are mindful of the potential impacts of this largely ‘new’ technology within the province, particularly on species that are already at risk of extinction.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>The MTPA is currently working with several the Independent Power Producers (IPP) that will be leasing land from Eskom for renewable energy projects. There are 17 projects and we don’t foresee any fatal flaws at this stage of the assessment. Furthermore, the DFFE’s Renewable Energy EIA Application database has 21 projects occurring in the province of which only 1 may have some impacts on biodiversity. WSP and Enertrag have also submitted 5 applications to the MTPA wherein we have supported the development of the Camden 1 and 2 projects, even though there were some sensitivities. This context is important because the MTPA has until now not objected to any of the renewable energy applications. Unfortunately, the location of the proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility (DWEF) is in an area where the risk of collision with many threatened bird species is simply too great to be supported by us. The project is fatally flawed. We have sought counsel with Birdlife, Endangered Wildlife Trust, VulPro, bird specialists, and our local Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Rural Development Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA), and we are all in agreement that the location of the proposed DWEF should not be approved.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. We would welcome further engagement with MTPA in the EIA phase to input into the investigation of alternative technologies (e.g., solar) as well the option of further reducing turbines to minimize impacts to birds.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>Before getting into the reasons for the objection, it is important to note that each pylon may be up to 200m high with a rotor blade 100m long. Although the standing area of the turbines may only be 4 ha in size, the area impacted by the blades will be a lot larger, in fact,</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	<p>-</p>

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	<p>the area covered by the blades (as a sphere) is around 418 ha (see Figure 1).</p>		
	<p>Reasons for our objection There are several reasons for our objection, and many of which can be mitigated and perhaps offset, but there are handful of fatal flaws that we will mention below. We are a bit fortunate that several wind farms have been established in the Western and Eastern Cape and we can learn from these processes.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	-
	<p>To pre-empt a response from the developer that these impacts can be mitigated, this is not always possible. We learnt this week from VulPro that two threatened vultures recently perished after colliding with a rotor blade at a wind farm in the Eastern Cape. This was with the mitigation measures in place. The risk of a single failure could have devastating impacts on some of the species we are concerned about. A 1km buffer is simply not adequate as birds are very mobile and the 100m long rotor blades are spinning and unseen and undetected by the birds (see Figures 1 and 3). If we consider what buffers are being proposed for some species, like the Cape Vulture, then research proposes a 50km buffer around frequently used roost sites. As far as we can tell, there is absolutely no scientific basis for the small buffers proposed as mitigation measures in the scoping report. Birds do not frequent small areas, they cover large areas and a more adequate buffer of 15-20 km would probably be a minimum for species threatened with extinction (in our opinion).</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	-
	<p>Avifaunal Sensitivity Unlike areas that are no longer natural, that bird and bat species can avoid, a wind farm located in an important areas for birds, and as an important regional flyway, will be a death trap to the species moving through it. Mitigation measures may reduce the impacts, but they will still occur as has been observed in many of the current wind farms in South Africa. Even with mitigation, birds and bats do die. I</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged to be correct. The EIA phase of the project will further investigate the avifaunal impacts which have been identified in the FSR. WSP can confirm that the layout provided will be subject to change and micro siting of the turbine positions will be included as an important mitigation measure.</p>	Section 6.13 of the FSR

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	<p>do not believe we can afford to lose even a handful of individual birds based on the following.</p>	<p>Layouts have not yet been finalised. Layouts will be optimised to avoid/minimise significant impacts on species of conservation concern.</p> <p>Any significant impacts on species of conservation concern will be the subject of detailed additional mitigation measures. Should any significant residual impacts remain, these would be addressed via the biodiversity offset strategy.</p> <p>The optimised layout at the end of the scoping report was revised to take into account the avifaunal sensitivities (dropping 7 turbines in the northern highly sensitive portion of the site.)</p> <p>Further turbine reductions are being considered during the EIA phase.</p> <p>In addition to the above revision, the EIA phase will explore alternative technologies (e.g., solar) as well the option of further reducing turbines to minimize impacts to birds and the overall biodiversity.</p>	
	<p>Significant regional diversity and density of threatened bird species.</p> <p>The MTPA has for over the last 25 years been managing a database of threatened species observations, which it uses in the development of its biodiversity sector plan and protected area expansion strategies. This database was queried to identify the number of species of conservation concern (threatened or rare) occurring within the DWEF footprint area, and we have a total of 71 observations for 19 species. Of these, 14 are bird species and 5 are plant species. These are presented in Table 1 and exclude those species identified by the specialists for this draft scoping report.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>This comment is acknowledged.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	-
	<p>Many of the records in our database are based on collating observations from other scientists and research reports. This data is skewed towards areas which have been surveyed. In Figure 2, the map shows more records towards the north although we believe that if the same research effort was applied to the southern section, we would have a lot more observations for this area too as they are ecologically very similar.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>This comment is acknowledged. The avifaunal findings in the EIA phase report will be based on data collected from two years of bird monitoring which will adequately show the bird abundance and movement for both the northern and southern parts of the site.</p>	-

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	<p>The occurrence of the following specific bird species of concern</p> <p>The below sections highlights the occurrence of several bird species of conservation concern, where we feel that the proposed mitigation measures would be unable to protect these species from collisions</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>This comment is acknowledged.</p>	-
	<p>Cape Vulture, <i>Gyps coprotheres</i>, Endangered.</p> <p>Up to 100 individuals have been recorded on site at a time. The specialist report confirms that this species forages and roosts within footprint area (at least 43 roosting on the Eskom pylons).</p> <p>A local farmer even established a vulture restaurant to support the vultures. Wind farms are known to kill Cape Vultures and nationally Birdlife have developed guidelines for Cape Vultures and wind farms (Pfeiffer & Ralston-Paton 2018), and these recommend a 50km buffer around frequently used roosts.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>This comment is acknowledged.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	-
	<p>On the 11 November 2022, DFFE gazetted its intent establish protocols that provide the criteria for the specialist assessment and minimum report content requirements for determining impacts on Cape Vultures associated with the development of onshore wind energy generation facilities, which require environmental authorisation (Notice 2734, Government Gazette, 11 November 2022). The significance of some of these protocols, when gazetted, is that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — The site sensitivity verification must be for a period not less than 12 months. — The specialist undertaking the work must have demonstrated expertise in Cape Vulture observation and research. — Vantage point monitoring must be by two people at the same time for a duration of at least 72 hours per vantage point for the 12 months. Vantage point monitoring is to determine the level 	<p>EAP:</p> <p>This comment is acknowledged.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p> <p>WSP notes that this protocol has not yet been promulgated.</p>	-

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	<p>of Cape Vulture flight activity on the site and the height of flight.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Consultation with relevant non-governmental organisations with an interest in Cape Vulture protection including BirdLife South Africa, VulPro and the Endangered Wildlife Trust. 		
	<p>Where the significance rating for the Cape Vulture alone is Very High and High, then the area is potentially unsuitable for wind energy (as per protocol). There are several criteria proposed for an area to qualify as Very High to High significance, and one of these is if it is within 50 km of the proposed wind farm. As the frequently used roost is within the proposed wind farm, this criterion would be triggered and the sensitivity would be Very High to High. Application of the guidelines would then prohibit any wind farms within 50 km of the Cape Vulture roost.</p> <p>The Cape Vulture protocol lists a bunch of other required documentation, such as monitoring plans, a Cape Vulture Specialist Assessment, compliance statements, etc..</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	-
	<p>White-backed Vulture, <i>Gyps africanus</i>, Critically Endangered.</p> <p>Not resident but observed flying over area. We don't anticipate an impact on this species but it highlights the broader importance of this area and the likely occurrence of an important flyway for large bodied birds over this area.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	-
	<p>Wattled Crane, <i>Grus carunculata</i>, Critically Endangered.</p> <p>This species alone is a fatal flaw for this project, let alone all the numerous other sensitivities that we will mention. With the occurrence of between 1 and 4 individuals that are regularly seen within the footprint area, and that are reported to be breeding (according to farmer. but chicks have been observed by ornithologist), we cannot allow for a single adult bird to be lost due collision with a rotor blade from a wind farm. This species is</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase. Consideration will be given to the Wattled Crane during the investigation of alternative technologies (e.g., solar) as well the option of further reducing turbines to minimize impacts to this species.</p>	-

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	<p>Critically Endangered and the numbers of Wattle Crane are declining in the province and we currently only have between 3 and 6 pairs of Wattled Crane (EWT, pers com.). Therefore, we can afford to loose a single bird</p>		
	<p>In addition, the following Red data species too:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Grey Crowned Crane, <i>Balearica regulorum</i>, Endangered. Breeding pair within footprint area. — Black-rumped Buttonquail, <i>Turnix nanus</i>, Endangered. Several occurrences within footprint — Blue Crane, <i>Anthropoides paradiseus</i>, Vulnerable. Several birds forage within footprint and with 1 nest on site. — Southern Bald Ibis, <i>Geronticus calvus</i>, Vulnerable. Forages and roosts within footprint area. Up to 18 birds with 5 nesting birds in colony. — Yellow-breasted Pipit, <i>Anthus chloris</i>, Vulnerable. Three pairs observed over a number of years. — Denham’s Bustard, <i>Neotis denhami</i>, Vulnerable. Large bodied bird that forages within footprint area. — Secretary bird, <i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>, Vulnerable. Occurs within footprint area across all seasons. — White-bellied Korhaan, <i>Eupodotis senegalensis</i>, Vulnerable. Occurs within footprint area across all seasons. — Lanner Falcon, <i>Falco biarmicus</i>, Vulnerable. Occurs within footprint area across all seasons. — Blue Korhaan, <i>Eupodotis caerulescens</i>, Near Threatened. Observed within footprint area. — Greater Flamingo, <i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>, Near Threatened. Observed within footprint area. 	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	<p>-</p>

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	<p>— Lesser Flamingo, <i>Phoenicopterus minor</i>, Near Threatened. Probable (SABAP 2 data).</p>		
	<p>Located along important escarpment Flyway for Birds Although we don't have data to substantiate it, the high escarpment area that runs from Dullstroom down to Wakkerstroom is in all likelihood a flyway used by large birds that move and forage, or migrate, over large distances. We require satellite-tracking devices fitted to more birds to confirm this, but if we consider all of our current foraging areas, limited bird tracking data, and observations for these large bodied birds, then this eastern escarpment area is certainly an area in all likelihood an important flyway. The DWEF is located in the centre of this flyway and the birds utilising this corridor may collide with the blades of the turbines.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase. Avifaunal Specialist: Jon Smallie Pre-construction monitoring has collected data on diurnal bird abundance and flight behaviour on site. Although the second year of the monitoring is still underway, no evidence of migration over the site has been recorded. We will endeavour to obtain and utilise tracking data for the EIA phase. Nocturnal bird movement has not been monitored and would require specialised use of radar. We will consult further with BLSA on this in the EIR phase.</p>	
	<p>Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBBAS) IBBAs are Birdlife's demarcated areas that are globally important for the conservation of bird populations on the basis of an internationally agreed set of criteria. It is very significant that the proposed DWEF occurs in part of the Steenkampsberg IBBA. The Avian Demography UNIT from the University of Cape Town also manages a handful or Coordinated Avifaunal Road counts (CAR) throughout some of the priority birding areas of the country and two of these occur within the proposed DWEF (see Figure 5-28 of draft scoping report). In addition, the Avian wind farm sensitivity map also highlights the significant sensitivity of the pentad in which the DWEF occurs (see Figure 5-29 of draft scoping report). Therefore, from a national and international planning point of view, the proposed DWEF is partly located with a significant priority area for birds and any kind of development that may kill significant numbers of adult birds over a number of years, should not be authorised here.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. Section 5.2.1 of the FSR notes that the proposed wind farm partially overlaps the Steenkampsberg Important Bird and Biodiversity Area. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	<p>Section 5.2.1 of the FSR</p>

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	<p>There are also numerous pans and wetlands within the study area that will attract bird species, such as the Flamingos that move between pans (see Figure 5-25 of draft scoping report). The African March Harrier will frequent the wetlands areas, together with some of the cranes. A 1km buffer from these areas are grossly inadequate.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. WSP can confirm that the information has been shared with the Avifaunal Specialist for consideration during the EIA phase.</p>	
	<p>The DWEF, and the associated infrastructure, will have a direct impact on biodiversity in terms of land actually transformed from a natural to a transformed state. The draft Scoping report tries to address and mitigate these impacts. These impacts include impacts to our Critical Biodiversity Areas Irreplaceable sites (see Figure 4), however these can in part be addressed by the mitigation measures. However, it is the indirect and long-term indirect impacts from collisions with the blades on the avifaunal and bat diversity that is of most concern.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. Layouts have not yet been finalised. Layouts will be optimised and turbines will be removed to avoid/minimise significant impacts on species of conservation concern. Any significant impacts on species of conservation concern will be the subject of detailed additional mitigation measures. Should any significant residual impacts remain, these would be addressed via the biodiversity offset strategy.</p>	
	<p>Wind Resource The project site was selected based on proximity to grid, availability of land, and an acceptable wind resource (estimated 6 - 7 m/s). We are aware that the data source for these wind speed calculations is based on the interpolation of a number of very sparse weather stations that actually record wind speed (High-Resolution Wind Resource Map for South Africa 2020 March 2021). Most of the suitable stations are actually located in the southern half of South Africa. The values for Mpumalanga are also quite low when compared nationally, and it highlights the inherent uncertainty with a marginal wind resource that may result in the collision with many birds of conservation concern if approved.</p>	<p>Applicant: When identifying locations for wind energy facilities the wind resource is equally important as the available capacity to connect to the Eskom grid. We are currently experiencing an energy crisis in South Africa and finding locations where there is both a suitable resource and capacity to connect to the grid is challenging and essential. Unfortunately in the Cape Provinces of South Africa, where there is abundant wind resources, the available grid capacity is severely constrained, however the project site provides the opportunity to connect to the Eskom grid. ENERTRAG recognises the potential of the Mpumalanga province to shift away from the current coal mining land use which dominates the region and promote renewable energy expansion. We have been actively assessing the wind data in the province, including the installation of a meteorological mast at the Dalmanutha site which has collected over two years of data. This specific site is at a high elevation and has the best wind speed in the Belfast area.</p>	

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	<p>No Project Alternative</p> <p>It so reported that the “no project” alternative would be a missed opportunity to address the need for increases in renewable energy generation. We realise that but believe there are several other renewable energy applications trying to similarly address this need but that the risk to our vulnerable threatened bird and bat species is too grate to consider in this specific area. Perhaps the developer can consider alternative green energy solutions, such as hydrocarbons, for this area. However, a wind farm is not a suitable development model for this sensitive area.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The optimised layout at the end of the scoping report was revised to take into account the avifaunal sensitivities (dropping 7 WTG in the northern highly sensitive portion of the site.)</p> <p>In addition to the above revision, the EIA phase will explore alternative technologies (e.g., solar) as well the option of further reducing turbines to minimize impacts to birds and the overall biodiversity.</p>	<p>Section 6.13 of the FSR Section 2.5.3 of the FSR</p>
	<p>Terrestrial biodiversity assessment</p> <p>The draft scoping report acknowledges the significant occurrence of Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) Irreplaceable within the footprint area (Figure 4). The scoping report also acknowledges that the majority of the infrastructure is also placed within the National Protected Area Expansion Areas (2016) terrestrial priority focus areas. Both the desktop and specialist survey acknowledge the High Sensitivity of the terrestrial biodiversity. This sensitivity supports the concern we have around the difficulties of trying to mitigate impacts on provincial and national biodiversity priority areas. It is impossible to mitigate impacts on the CBA Irreplaceable areas.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>This comment is acknowledged. Should any significant residual impacts remain, these would be addressed via the biodiversity offset strategy in the EIA phase.</p>	
	<p>Errors or misleading information in the Draft Scoping report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — We noted that the elevation map in Figure 5-9 and Figure 5-16, do not include a legend for elevation and that the elevation symbology collar ramp has been reversed. Therefore, the colours that usually represent high altitude areas now represent low altitude areas. — In Figure 5-21, there is reference to the priority focus areas of the National Protected Area Development Areas (2016). This is incorrect. It is in fact the National Protected Area Expansion Areas (2016). 	<p>EAP:</p> <p>This comment is acknowledged.</p> <p>Section 5.1.3 clearly notes that the areas with high elevation are shown in green on Figure 5 9 and Figure 5.16. The concern has been raised with the relevant specialist and this will be amended in the EIAR.</p> <p>The labelling on Figure 5.21 is derived from the information provided in the shapefile. This will be amended in the Draft EIAR.</p> <p>The Avifauna specialist has been informed of the inconsistency and will ensure this is taken into account in the Draft EIAR.</p>	<p>Section 5.1.3 of the FSR Section 5.2.4 of the FSR Section 5.2.14 of the FSR</p>

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	<p>— Several species under the avifaunal section do not have the Latin names included. Some do, some do not, and a more consistent approach is requested.</p>		
	<p>In conclusion, we are very concerned about the proposed establishment of a wind farm, and if approved, the proposed wind farm will have devastating impact on the threatened bird species found within this area. Specialist study itself acknowledges that “The proposed WEF will pose a collision risk to several priority species which could occur regularly at the site. Species exposed to this risk are large terrestrial species and occasional long-distance fliers i.e., bustards, cranes, flamingos, storks, Southern Bald Ibis and Secretary bird”.</p> <p>The evidence available is overwhelming; it confirms the occurrence of a very special, important, and vulnerable high-altitude grassland area that is supporting a number of threatened bird species throughout the year. This includes the Critically Endangered Wattled Crane where we only have between 3 and 6 pairs left in the province. The impact of losing a single bird could have national and global consequences for the survival of this species.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. We would welcome further engagement with MTPA in the EIA phase to input into the investigation of alternative technologies (e.g., solar) as well the option of further reducing turbines to minimize impacts to birds.</p>	
	<p>Furthermore, the proposed mitigation measures are grossly inadequate and we feel strongly (convicted is perhaps a better word), that this application is fatally flawed due to its impacts on the avifauna. We advise the applicant to look into developing other forms of renewable energy or move the location of this proposed development much further away</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged.</p> <p>The EIA phase of the project will further investigate the avifaunal impacts which have been identified in the FSR, once the two years of bird monitoring is complete and confirms the bird abundance and movement in the area.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that the layout provided will be subject to change and micro siting of the turbine positions will be included as an important mitigation measure.</p> <p>Further turbine reductions are being considered during the EIA phase.</p> <p>Layouts have not yet been finalised. Layouts will be optimised to avoid/minimise significant impacts on species of conservation concern.</p>	

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		<p>Any significant impacts on species of conservation concern will be the subject of detailed additional mitigation measures. Should any significant residual impacts remain, these would be addressed via the biodiversity offset strategy.</p> <p>The optimised layout at the end of the scoping report was revised to take into account the avifaunal sensitivities (dropping 7 WTG in the northern highly sensitive portion of the site.)</p> <p>In addition to the above revision, the EIA phase will explore alternative technologies (e.g., solar) as well the option of further reducing turbines to minimize impacts to birds and the overall biodiversity.</p>	
Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs-MDARDLEA			
<p>15 December 2022 Email correspondence</p> <p>Dineo Tswai Deputy Director: Environmental Impact Management</p>	<p>Good morning Ms. Strong</p> <p>Please find attached above-mentioned letters.</p> <p>Please be advised that our offices have been experiencing numerous network connections and our network systems were down.</p> <p>Please note that our office received a draft Scoping Report for Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility dated 12/12/2022; I however have not received the application form for Dalmanutha. Is Dalmanutha the same project as Hendrina Green Hydrogen?</p> <p>If different an application form is required. Documents received on the 24 November 2022 did not include an application form for Dalmanutha.</p> <p>Kind Regards Dineo</p>	<p>EAP: Dear Dineo</p> <p>Please find attached our reply to your original email.</p> <p>Please note that DFFE is the Competent Authority for the Dalmanutha WEF project.</p> <p>The MDARDLEA will be the Competent Authority for the Dalmanutha West WEF project. This application will be submitted in May 2023.</p> <p>Kind regards Ashlea Strong</p>	<p>Appendix D of this SER</p>

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<p>01 February 2023 Email correspondence</p> <p>Dineo Tswai Deputy Director: Environmental Impact Management</p>	<p>Good morning Robyn</p> <p>Please see message below where I had inquired regarding the application form for Dalmanutha.</p> <p>I have not received the from yet. I only have an application for Hendrina Green Hydrogen.</p> <p>Regards Dineo</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>This comment is acknowledged. It is noted that this in an internal MTPA email and does not require a response from the EAP.</p>	<p>Appendix D of this SER</p>
<p>1 February 2023 Email correspondence</p> <p>Robyn Luyt Director: Environmental Impact Management</p>	<p>Dear Dineo,</p> <p>Thank you for this.</p> <p>Just to confirm - the document submitted on 24 Nov 2022 was the draft report submitted to MDARDLEA for comment (as DFFE is the CA), in which case the reference number allocated by DARDLEA must change as it is not an application for authorisation.</p> <p>Ashlea - I understand there to be significant concerns in terms impacts on endangered bird species associated with the Dalmanutha WEF project. Please can I request a link to the reports and I will work with Dineo on putting together our comment.</p> <p>Kind Regards Robyn</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Dear Robyn,</p> <p>I hope you are well.</p> <p>In response to your mail (attached), please see the mail below for the links to the draft scoping report for the proposed Dalmanutha wind energy facility.</p> <p>Although the commenting period does in fact close tomorrow (2 February 2023), we are happy to give MDARDLEA an extension to Monday 6 February CoB to submit the comments.</p> <p>Kindly confirm that you can access the documents from the links below.</p> <p>Kind regards Thirushan Nadar</p>	<p>Appendix D of this SER</p>
<p>02 February 2023</p>	<p>The Department confirms having received the draft scoping report from you for the abovementioned project on 12 December 2022.</p>	<p>EAP:</p>	<p>-</p>

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<p>Official letter Reference : 1I311116/5N-1</p> <p>Robyn Luyt Director: Environmental Impact Management</p>	<p>After reviewing the report, this Department has the following comments:</p> <p>1. The proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility is located in an area comprising a high diversity of Red Listed Birds, which as confirmed in the Scoping Report, use the full component of micro-habitats on the site.</p>	<p>This comment is acknowledged to be correct.</p>	
	<p>2. The Critically Endangered Wattled Crane has been reported to be breeding on site, and there are reports of regular sitings of between one and four individuals within the proposed development footprint.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged to be correct.</p>	-
	<p>3. The risk of collision of many threatened bird species and Red Listed bats on wind turbines, and the risk of collision and electrocution of these species on the MV network is high, with the scoping report assigning a high significance rating before mitigation.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. During the EIA phase suitable mitigation will be applied in the efforts to reduce the significance rating.</p>	-
	<p>4. On 11 November 2022, the Minister of the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment gazetted her intent to establish protocols that provide the criteria for the specialist assessment and minimum report content requirements for determining impacts on Cape Vultures associated with the development of onshore wind energy generation facilities, which require environmental authorisation (Notice 2734, Government Gazette, 11 November 2022).</p> <p>The draft protocol prescribes a High to Very High Sensitivity to sites that are located within 50km of a Cape Vulture roost, colony and/or vulture restaurant, and recommends abandoning proposals for wind energy in such areas. According to the scoping report, a number of roosts have been identified <i>on the site</i>.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged. However, WSP notes that this protocol has not yet been promulgated.</p>	-
	<p>5. Shutdown-on-demand is not considered an appropriate means to mitigate the residual negative impacts associated with fatalities of large bodied birds that are listed as threatened.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged.</p>	-

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		<p>The avifaunal specialist will further investigate mitigation measures during the EIA phase. The offset strategy which will be included in the EIA phase will also address any anticipated residual impact</p> <p>The applicant is also considering removing further turbines from the layout and alternative technologies such as Solar to reduce the risk to the avifaunal population on site.</p>	
	<p>6. The Scoping Report confirmed that mitigation to reduce or avoid turbine collisions is not possible through spatial avoidance (buffers), and it is our opinion that mitigation is not possible through shutdown-on demand or any other means. The potential loss of critically endangered species must therefore be regarded as a fatal flaw.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged.</p> <p>Layouts have not yet been finalised. Layouts will be optimised to avoid/minimise significant impacts on species of conservation concern. Any significant impacts on flora species of conservation concern will be the subject of detailed additional mitigation measures. Should any significant residual impacts remain, these would be addressed via the biodiversity offset report.</p> <p>The optimised layout at the end of the scoping report was revised to take into account the avifaunal sensitivities (dropping 7 turbines in the northern highly sensitive portion of the site.</p>	<p>Section 6.13 of the FSR</p>
	<p>According to Regulation 22(b)(i), the competent authority must, within 43 days of receipt of a scoping report - refuse environmental authorisation if — the proposed activity is in conflict with a prohibition contained in legislation.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged.</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>This Department recommends the refusal of the application in terms of 22(b)(i) on the following grounds:</p>	<p>EAP: WSP acknowledge the MDARDLEA’s recommendation, however, WSP is of the opinion that it would be premature to reject the application at the Scoping phase as the scoping report does not include all the required findings of the detailed studies that are currently being undertaken and therefore does not include sufficient information for the Competent Authority to make an informed decision.</p> <p>The EAP’s recommendation is that the DFFE accept the scoping report such that the EAP and specialists can further assess and mitigate the</p>	

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		potential impacts, through consideration of biodiversity offsets, reducing the number of turbines and considering the addition of alternative technologies as well as through engaging with the relevant officials.	
	<p>The Endangered Cape Vulture, Grey Crowned Crane and the Critically Endangered Wattled Crane, which are confirmed to occur on site (along with a host of Red Listed birds), will be impacted and even likely lost. Mitigation measures proposed to reduce the significance of this impact, which includes painting of blades or shutdown-on-demand, are not likely to result in avoidance of collisions.</p> <p>Since the outcome of such mitigation is unreliable, the potential loss of a critically endangered species must be regarded as a fatal flaw.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged.</p> <p>The avifaunal specialist will further investigate mitigation measures during the EIA phase.</p> <p>The applicant is also considering dropping further turbines from the layout. Furthermore, the applicant is also considering the option of alternative technologies such as Solar to reduce the risk to the avifaunal population on site.</p>	-
	<p>This Department is therefore of the opinion that the proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility is not in line with the National Environmental Management Principle that requires that sustainable development must consider the application of a risk-averse and cautious approach that takes into account the limits of current knowledge about the consequences of decisions and actions.</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged.</p> <p>The EAP confirms that the project is in line with the National Environmental Management Principle that requires that sustainable development must consider the application of a risk-averse and cautious approach that takes into account the limits of current knowledge about the consequences of decisions and actions.</p> <p>All current assumptions and limitations are outlined in Section 1.6. These will be amended and updated as the detailed studies progress.</p> <p>The applicant is also considering dropping further turbines from the layout. Furthermore, the applicant is also considering the option of alternative technologies such as Solar to reduce the risk to the avifaunal population on site.</p>	Section 1.6 of the FSR
	<p>It is this Department's opinion that, based on the above points, the project is not in line with the National Environmental Management Principle that specifically requires that a development must be socially, environmentally and economically sustainable, as the</p>	<p>EAP: This comment is acknowledged.</p> <p>The EAP is of the opinion that the project can be in line with the National Environmental Management Principle that specifically requires that a</p>	

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	<p>disturbance of 'ecosystems' and loss of biological diversity cannot be avoided, minimized or remedied.</p> <p>Please contact this office for any further enquiries.</p>	<p>development must be socially, environmentally and economically sustainable.</p> <p>The project will socially and economically address the need for increase in renewable energy generation to mitigate against concerns of climate change and exploitation of non-renewable resources. Furthermore, the specialist studies currently being undertaken will utilise the mitigation hierarchy to provide input into the environmental feasibility and sustainability of the project</p>	
<p>Annatjie Burke- Farmer on Vogelstruispoort 384 JT portion 8.</p>			
<p>02 February 2023 Email correspondence Annatjie Burke to Avifaunal specialist Jon Smallie</p>	<p>Hi Jon Sam Ralston from Birdlife Africa send me your contact details. I would like to register as a interested and affected party as I farm on Vogelstruispoort 384 JT portion 8. I had contact with Birdlife Africa a few years back as I suspect that there were white winged flufftails on my property. I photographed a breeding pair of secretary birds, that has been in the Dalmanutha area for years. I also kept track of a flock of bald ibisses that breed there. I also have evidence of blue crane, vultures and several raptors. The area is extremely sensitive - I had a professional plant survey done and we found more than 200 indigenous plant species on less than 100 ha. This includes a few red data species - Gladiolus malvinus etc. The area is dotted with pans and even in the drier areas the plant species indicates the presence of wetlands. Please contact me for more information or a site visit. I think a wind farm will be detrimental to the area. Kind regards Annatjie Burke</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist: Hi Annatjie Thanks for contacting me, and for your valuable input on the birds and plants occurring in the area. I am copying Thirushan Nadar from WSP, who I believe will be the right person to register you as an IAP. Thirushan will also share your mail with the botanist on the project If you have coordinates for the wetland potentially housing White-winged Flufftail, the Secbird nest, and the Southern Bald Ibis breeding site please could you send these to me? Kind regards Jon Smallie</p>	<p>Appendix D of this SER</p>

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<p>03 February 2023 Email correspondence</p> <p>Thirushan Nadar WSP</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>EAP: Dear Annatjie,</p> <p>Thank you for your response and interest in the proposed Dalmanutha WEF project.</p> <p>We have added your contact details on to our database for future correspondence regarding the project.</p> <p>@Jon Smallie thanks for forwarding the mail to us.</p> <p>Kind regards Thirushan Nadar</p>	<p>Appendix A of this SER</p>
<p>G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd</p>			
<p>07 February 2023 Email correspondence</p> <p>Colette Stander Market Analyst</p>	<p>Good morning Thirushan,</p> <p>I hope that this mail finds you well?</p> <p>Please register Caryn Clarke with email address eia@g7energies.com as an I&AP in the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility EA process going forward? Please also reply with confirmation of registration.</p> <p>Thank you very much, looking forward to future engagement.</p> <p>Kind regards, Colette Stander</p>	<p>EAP: Dear Colette,</p> <p>Thank you for the response.</p> <p>WSP can confirm that we have added Caryn Clarke (eia@g7energies.com) as an I&AP on the Dalmanutha WEF project.</p> <p>Kind regards Thirushan Nadar</p>	<p>Appendix D of this SER</p>

APPENDIX

A

STAKEHOLDER DATABASE



COMPANY/PROPERTY OWNED	POSITION
LAND OWNERS LIST	
1/378	Landowner
8,12,13/385 Waaikraal	Landowner
6,7/385	Landowner
6,7/385	Landowner
7/384	Landowner
7/384	Landowner
4,15,17/384	Landowner
3/405	Landowner
1/412	Simunye CPA Landowner
1,2/404	Landowner
467 & 3,4/404	Landowner
10/385	Landowner
9/378	Landowner
COMMENTING AUTHORITIES	
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Protected Areas
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Protected Areas
Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environment Affairs (DARDLEA)	Director: Environmental Impact Management
Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs	Deputy Director: Environmental Impact Management
Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs	
Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environment Affairs (DARDLEA)	Deputy Director: Environmental Impact Management
Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Environmental officer- EIA
Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS) - Lydenburg office	Head of Department
Mpumalanga region: Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE)	Deputy Director : Mine Environmental Management
NATIONAL AUTHORITIES	
Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport (DPWR) (National)	Chief Director in the Office of the DG
Department of Minerals and Resources (DMR) (National)	Director General's Office
Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)	Director: Water Allocation
Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)	Deputy Director: Compulsory Licensing
Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS) Head Office: Resource Protection & Waste	Deputy Director: Resource Protection & Waste
Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)	Instream Water Use Section
South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA)	Heritage Officer: Archaeology
South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA)	The Provincial Manager
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Air Quality Directorate

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Climate Change & Air Quality Management
Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development	Directorate: Land Use and Soil Management
PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES	
Mpumalanga region: Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE)	Deputy Director : Mine Environmental Management
Mpumalanga region: Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE)	Regional Manager – Mpumalanga Region
Mpumalanga Departments of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Acting Chief Director
Mpumalanga Departments of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Control Officer
Mpumalanga Departments of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Regional Director: Mpumalanga
Mpumalanga Departments of Water and Sanitation (DWS) - Lydenburg	Environmental Office
Mpumalanga Departments of Water and Sanitation (DWS) - Bronkhospruit	Head of Department
Mpumalanga Departments of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Civil and Designs
Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs - Ermelo	Deputy Director: Environmental Impact Management
Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA) - eMalahleni Office	Environmental officer- EIA
Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Head of Department
Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Chief Director (Environmental Services)
Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Chief Director: Land Restitution Support
Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Director: Quality Assurance
Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Information Management Support
Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Regional Land Claims Commissioner Mpumalanga
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Chief Directorate: Climate Change Monitoring, Evaluation and Mitigation
Mpumalanga Department of Water and Sanitation: Oliphant's Proto-CMA	Directorate: IE Water Quality Management
Mpumalanga Department of Social Development	Head of Department
Mpumalanga Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport (DPWR)	Head of Department
Mpumalanga Department of Public Works Road and Transport	
Mpumalanga Department of Public Works Road and Transport	
Mpumalanga Department of Public Works Road and Transport	Chief Engineer: Roads Design and Materials
Mpumalanga Department of Public Works Road and Transport	Public Works
Mpumalanga Department of Co-Operative Governance and Traditional Affairs	Head of Department
Mpumalanga Department of Co-Operative Governance and Traditional Affairs	Acting Head of Communications
Mpumalanga Heritage Resources Authority	Provincial Heritage Resources Officer
Mpumalanga Heritage Resources Agency	Heritage Officer
Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency	Development Assessment Officer
Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency	
Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency	Control Scientist for Biodiversity Planning
Department of Defence Force Mpumalanga	Officer Commanding
LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES	
Emakhazeni Local Municipality	
Emakhazeni Local Municipality	Office of the Mayor
Emakhazeni Local Municipality	Speakers Office
Emakhazeni Local Municipality	Municipal Manager
Emakhazeni Local Municipality	Enquiries
Emakhazeni Local Municipality	LED IPD Manager
Emakhazeni Local Municipality	Internal Auditor
Emakhazeni Local Municipality	Public Participation

Emakhazeni Local Municipality	Water and Storm
Emakhazeni Local Municipality	PMU Manager
Emakhazeni Local Municipality	Building Inspector
Emakhazeni Local Municipality	Finance Expenditure
Emakhazeni Local Municipality	Legal and Compliance
Emakhazeni Local Municipality	Asset Manager
Emakhazeni Local Municipality	HIV & Aids Coordinator
DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY	
Nkangala District Municipality	Executive Mayor
Nkangala District Municipality	Chief Whip
Nkangala District Municipality	Speaker
Nkangala District Municipality	Technical Services
Nkangala District Municipality	Coorporates Services
Nkangala District Municipality	Finance
Nkangala District Municipality	MMC-Provincial Economic Development Deputy
Nkangala District Municipality	MMC- Social Services
Nkangala District Municipality	MMC- Provincial Economic Development Lead
TRIBAL AUTHORITIES	
Simunye CPA	Secretary
Mpumalanga Provincial House of Traditional Leaders	Acting Chief Director

Transnet Freight Rail	Senior Manager: Risk Management / Coal BU / Transnet Freight Rail
Transnet Freight Rail	Co-ordinator
Eskom Transmission Grid Planning Land and Rights	Senior Consultant Environmental Management
Eskom Transmission Land and Rights	Mpumalanga Co-ordinator
Telkom/Blue Tech part of Telkom	Area Manager
Camden Power Station	

Gert Sibande District Municipality	Municipal Manager
Gert Sibande District Municipality	Senior Environmental Officer/ Air Quality
Gert Sibande District Municipality	Senior Manager:Planning& Economic Development
Gert Sibande District Municipality	Senior Manager:Municipal Health and Environmental Services
Gert Sibande District Municipality	Senior Manager Council Support
Gert Sibande District Municipality	Gert Sibande: Speaker
Gert Sibande District Municipality	Environmental Officer: Municipal Health and Environmental Services

Albert Luthuli Local Municipality	Executive Mayor
Albert Luthuli Local Municipality	Speaker
Albert Luthuli Local Municipality	Municipal Manager
Albert Luthuli Local Municipality	Director Technical Services
Albert Luthuli Local Municipality	Director: Planning & Economic Development
Albert Luthuli Local Municipality	Environmental Officer & Community Services

Federation of Sustainable Environment (FSE) & Mpumalanga Lakes District Protection Group	Representative
Federation of Sustainable Environment (FSE)	Chief Executive Officer
BirdLife South Africa	Head of Department
BirdLife South Africa	Birds and Renewable Energy Project Manager
BirdLife South Africa	Wetland Conservation Project Manager
Endangered Wildlife Trust	Chief Executive Officer
Endangered Wildlife Trust	Head of Conservation
Mpumalanga Agri SA	
Mpumalanga Landbou Unie	Chief Executive Officer
Transvaal Landbou Unie	
Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA) : Northern Region	
Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)	
Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)	
Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)	
Mpumalanga Wetland Forum	Chairperson
South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)	Chairperson
Waterval Forum	
Olifants River Forum	Olifants River Forum Coordinator
Inkomati-Usuthu Catchment Management Areas (CMA)	Chief Executive Officer
Inkomati Usuthu Catchment Agency (IUCMA)	Environmental Office: Water Resources Utilization
Inkomati Usuthu Catchment Agency (IUCMA)	Scientist
Belfast Fly Fishing Association	
Dullstroom Bird of Prey & Rehabilitation Centre	Manager
Delta Environmental Centre	Resident Manager
Mpumalanga District Farmers Association	
MEDIA	
Middelburg Oberver	Marketing and adverts
PUBLIC PLACES	
Emakhazeni Library	
Siyathuthuka Library	
CELL PHONE COMPANIES	
Vodacom	Regional Manager
MTN	Head of Department
Cell C	Area Manager
AIR TRAFFIC AND WEATHER COMPANIES	
South African Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)	Obstacle Inspector
Air Traffic and Navigation Service (ATNS)	Executive Engineering
SA Weather Service (SAWS)	Head of Technical Services
MINING RIGHT HOLDERS	
North Block Complex (Pty) Ltd	Environemntal Specialist
Northern Coal (Pty) Ltd	
Northern Coal (Pty) Ltd	

Businesses	
Sasol N4-Belfast	
TRANS AFRICAN CONCESSIONS N4(TRAC)	

Carabex (Pty) Ltd

owner/manager

G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd

APPENDIX

B

NOTIFICATIONS



APPENDIX

B-1 ADVERTISEMENT

Municipality repairs and resurfaces Horster Road

ERMELO - The Msukaligwa Local Municipality, in conjunction with the Gert Sibande District Municipality and Msobo Coal Mine, recently took action in Horster Road to resurface the road.

According to Mandla Zwane, the municipality's spokesperson, there was

a need to resurface the road from the traffic light to Chris de Villiers Street, as it provides easy access for community members who reside in the area between Ext 32, 33 and 34, and town.

The road is also used daily by parents and teachers from the nearby school, who expressed their frustrations with the dire state of it.

There was a need to resurface the road from the traffic light to Chris de Villiers Street

"The Gert Sibande District Municipality funded R3.5m for procuring materials and for hiring fleet, while Msukaligwa Local Municipality co-funded

R798 000 for the procurement of additional asphalt for the street to be resurfaced," Zwane said.

Msukaligwa, Gert Sidande and Msobo Coal Mine have also repaired

Breytenbach Street and three intersections, as well as Steyn Street.

"Msheveni Street, OR Tambo Taxi Collector Phase 1 and paved roads in Mthambama Street are in progress for construction and will be funded through the Municipal Infrastructure Grant," Zwane said.



Municipal workers during the construction of Horster Road.



ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES
NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY COMPLEX, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUHTORISATION PROCESSES, NEAR BELFAST, MPUMALANGA 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) (as amended) for submission of various applications for environmental authorisations (EAs) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended)
 • Section 39 or 41(4) of the National Water Act (36 of 1998) (NWA), for the submission of a General Authorisation or Water Use Licence (WUL) Application (as applicable)

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION
 ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd (ENERTRAG SA), under two Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) Dalmanutha Wind RF (Pty) Ltd and Dalmanutha West Wind RF (Pty) Ltd, proposes to develop the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Complex, comprising the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility and the Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility, including the respective grid connection infrastructure for each project, and common grid connection infrastructure for both projects, near Belfast, in the Mpumalanga Province. The projects aim to supply suitable private off-taker initiatives (direct supply or wheeling agreements, as applicable), or be bid into the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) or similar procurement programme under the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP). Once built, the projects are intended to connect either directly to nearby off-takers or to the 132/400kV Eskom Gumeni Main Transmission Substation through a Common Collector Substation and powerline of up to 132kV.

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process	Affected Farm Portions
Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility (WEF)	Up to 300MW Wind Energy Facility (WEF), including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR	• Berg-en-Dal 378 JT (Portions 1 and 9) • Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (Portion 5 and 7) • Waalkraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13 and 24) • Leeuwkloof 403 JT (Portions 3 and 4) • Leeuwkloof 404 JT (Portions 1 and 2) • Geluk 405 JT (Portion 3) • Welgevonden 412 JT (Portion 1) • Camelia 467 JT (Portion 0)
Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility Grid Connection Infrastructure	Up to 132kV Powerline, substation and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA	
Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility (WEF)	Up to, but not including, 20MW Wind Energy Facility (WEF), including associated infrastructure	Wind	BA	• Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (4, 15, 17)
Dalmanutha West Grid Connection Infrastructure	Up to 132kV Powerline, substation and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA	
Common Collector Substation and Powerline	Up to 132kV Powerline, common collector substation and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA	• Dalmanutha 376 JT (Portions 3, 4, 5, 7, 13, and 17) • Waalkraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 10, 12) • Dalmanutha 401 JT (Portion 0)

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS
 The proposed projects trigger several listed activities contained in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983), Listing Notice 2 (GNR 984) and Listing Notice 3 (GNR985), as amended, and therefore, authorisation to undertake the listed activities must be sought via respective Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) and/or Basic Assessment (BA) processes. The anticipated 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	Applicable Triggers									
		11	12	14	19	24	28	30	48	58	
Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility (up to 300MW)	GNR 983	11	12	14	19	24	28	30	48	58	
	GNR 984	1	15								
	GNR 985	4	11	12	14	15	18	23			
Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility Grid Connection Infrastructure (up to 132kV)	GNR 983	11	12	14	19	27	28				
	GNR 985	4	12	14							
Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility (up to, but not including, 20MW)	GNR 983	1	11	12	19	24	27	28			
	GNR 985	4	12	14							
Dalmanutha West Grid Connection Infrastructure (up to 132kV)	GNR 983	11	12	14	19	27	28				
	GNR 985	4	12	14							
Common Collector Substation and Powerline (up to 132kV)	GNR 983	11	12	14	19	27	28				
	GNR 985	4	12	14							
General Authorisation / Water Use Licence (as applicable)	Section 21	21 (a), 21 (c) and 21 (i)									

REGISTRATION
 WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the EAP by ENERTRAG SA, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the proposed projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT AND BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS REVIEW PERIODS
 The Draft Environmental Scoping Report for the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility will be made available from WSP on request and at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from 12 December 2022 to 2 February 2023.

The availability for the Draft Basic Assessment Reports for the Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility, the respective grid connection infrastructure for the two Wind Energy Facilities, and the Common Collection Substation and Powerline will be communicated in due course.

Area	Venue	Street Address	Contact No
Belfast	Emakhazeni Local Municipality Belfast Office	1086 Scheeper St, Belfast, 1100	013 253 7600
	eMakhazeni Public Library	25 Scheeper Street, Belfast, 1100	013 255 0437
Carolina	Carolina Public Library	11 Voortrekker St, Carolina, 1048	017 843 4000
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents		
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/		

The contact details of the EAP are:
Name: Ashlea Strong
Tel: 031 240 8804
Fax: 011 361 1361
E-mail: ashlea.strong@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

Protection of Personal Information: 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 storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant 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



DA claims corruption in Mkhondo Local Municipality

Wayne van der Walt

MKHONDO - The Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs (Cogta) intends to implement Section 106 of the Municipal Systems Act against Mkhondo Local Municipality, according to the DA.

The department's MEC, Mandla Msibi, will appoint a team to investigate claims of fraud, corruption, nepotism and bad administration. The department asked to meet with the executive mayor, Mthokozisi Simelane, and the acting municipal manager, Bheki Maseko, to discuss a number of claims of bad administration.

After allegedly being promised senior roles within the municipality, a number of ANC council members resigned from their positions. Several important positions have gone unfilled over the past few months, while temporary employees have been appointed to other posts. These include a municipal manager, general manager of technical services, corporate general manager and municipal town planner.

Some of these positions act as a link between the council and the municipality's administration.

"As a result of the large number of open positions, the

acting municipal manager has been unable to carry out his objective and operational evaluation, because the other departments lack managers," Irene Brussow, the DA's caucus leader in Mkhondo Local Municipality, claimed. "It's of importance to note that during Maseko's tenure as the municipality's chief financial officer, the auditor-general declared several payments in the municipality wasteful, fruitless and unauthorised expenditure. These were to the tune of R260m."

According to her, Simelane has manifestly failed to establish his authority and win the trust of Mkhondo's people. She said the locals deserve an honest, open government that puts service delivery first.

The DA believes that Cogta should get involved in this municipality's affairs at this point.

"We urge the MEC to expedite his planned investigation and take decisive action in dealing with this," Brussow concluded.

Highvelder will publish a follow-up article as soon as feedback has been received from Robert Kubheka, Mkhondo Local Municipality's spokesperson.

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY COMPLEX, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, NEAR BELFAST, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

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- 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) (as amended) for submission of various applications for environmental authorisations (EAs) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended)
- Section 39 or 41(4) of the National Water Act (36 of 1998) (NWA), for the submission of a General Authorisation or Water Use Licence (WUL) Application (as applicable)

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd (ENERTRAG SA), under two Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) Dalmanutha Wind RF (Pty) Ltd and Dalmanutha West Wind RF (Pty) Ltd, proposes to develop the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Complex, comprising the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility and the Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility, including the respective grid connection infrastructure for each project, and common grid connection infrastructure for both projects, near Belfast, in the Mpumalanga Province. The projects aim to supply suitable private off-taker initiatives (direct supply or wheeling agreements, as applicable), or be bid into the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) or similar procurement programme under the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP). Once built, the projects are intended to connect either directly to nearby off-takers or to the 132/400kV Eskom Gumeni Main Transmission Substation through a Common Collector Substation and powerline of up to 132kV.

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process	Affected Farm Portions
Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility (WEF)	Up to 300MW Wind Energy Facility (WEF), including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Berg-en-Dal 378 JT (Portions 1 and 9) • Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (Portion 5 and 7) • Waaikraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13 and 24) • Leeuwkloof 403 JT (Portions 3 and 4) • Leeuwkloof 404 JT (Portions 1 and 2) • Geluk 405 JT (Portion 3) • Welgevonden 412 JT (Portion 1) • Camelia 467 JT (Portion 0)
Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility Grid Connection Infrastructure	Up to 132kV Powerline, substation and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA	
Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility (WEF)	Up to, but not including, 20MW Wind Energy Facility (WEF), including associated infrastructure	Wind	BA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (4, 15, 17)
Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility Grid Connection Infrastructure	Up to 132kV Powerline, substation and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA	
Common Collector Substation and Powerline	Up to 132kV Powerline, common collector substation and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dalmanutha 376 JT (Portions 3, 4, 5, 7, 13, and 17) • Waaikraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 10, 12) • Dalmanutha 401 JT (Portion 0)

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS

The proposed projects trigger several listed activities contained in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983), Listing Notice 2 (GNR 984) and Listing Notice 3 (GNR985), as amended, and therefore, authorisation to undertake the listed activities must be sought via respective Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) and/or Basic Assessment (BA) processes. The anticipated 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	Applicable triggers									
		11	12	14	19	24	28	30	48	56	
Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility (up to 300MW)	GNR 983	11	12	14	19	24	28	30	48	56	
	GNR 984	1		15							
	GNR 985	4		11	12	14	15	18		23	
Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility Grid Connection Infrastructure (up to 132kV)	GNR 983	11		12	19	27	28				
	GNR 985	4		12	14						
Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility (up to, but not including, 20MW)	GNR 983	1		11	12	19	24	27		28	
	GNR 985	4		12	14						
Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility Grid Connection Infrastructure (up to 132kV)	GNR 983	11		12	19	27	28				
	GNR 985	4		12	14						
Common Collector Substation and Powerline (up to 132kV)	GNR 983	11		12	19	27	28				
		4		12	14						
General Authorisation / Water Use Licence (as applicable)	Section 21	21 (a), 21 (c) and 21 (i)									

REGISTRATION

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the EAP by ENERTRAG SA, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the proposed projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

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The availability for the Draft Basic Assessment Reports for the Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility, the respective grid connection infrastructure for the two Wind Energy Facilities, and the Common Collection Substation and Powerline will be communicated in due course.

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Belfast	Emakhazeni Local Municipality Belfast Office	1086 Scheeper St, Belfast, 1100	013 253 7600
	eMakhazeni Public Library	25 Scheeper Street, Belfast, 1100	013 255 0437
Carolina	Carolina Public Library	11 Voortrekker St, Carolina, 1048	017 843 4000
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents		
Data free Website	https://wsp-engage.com/		

The contact details of the EAP are:

Name: Ashlea Strong

Tel: 031 240 8804

Fax: 011 361 1381

E-mail: ashlea.strong@wsp.com

Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

Protection of Personal Information: 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 storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant 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



OMGEWINGS MAGTIGINGS PROSESSE

KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE DALMANUTHA WINDENERGIE FASILITEITE, WAT BESTAAN VERSKEIE OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSESSE, NABY BELFAST, MPUMALANGA

Notice is given in terms of:

- Kennis word gegee in terme van: Regulasie 41 (2) van GNR 982 (soos gewysig) gepubliseer onder artikel 24 en 24D van die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur (No. 107 van 1998) (NEMA) (soos gewysig) vir die indiening van verskeie aansoeke om omgewingsmagtigings (EA's) ten opsigte van aktiwiteite geïdentifiseer ingevolge GNR 983, GNR 984 (soos gewysig)
- Artikel 39 of 41 (4) van die Nasionale Waterwet (36 van 1998) (NWA), vir die indiening van 'n Algemene Magtiging of Watergebruiklisensie (WUL) Aansoek (soos van toepassing)

BESKRYWING EN LIGGING

ENERTRAG Suid-Afrika (Edms) Bpk (ENERTRAG SA), onder twee spesiale doelvoertuie (SPV's) (Dalmanutha Wind RF (Edms) Bpk en Dalmanutha West Wind RF (Edms) Bpk.), stel voor om die Dalmanutha Wind energie kompleks te ontwikkel, wat die Dalmanutha Wind behels Energie fasiliteit en die Dalmanutha Wes-wind energie fasiliteit, insluitend die onderskeie netwerk verbindings infrastruktuur vir elke projek, en gemeenskaplike netwerk verbindings infrastruktuur vir beide projekte, naby Belfast, in die Mpumalanga Provinsie. Die projekte het ten doel om geskikte private afnemer-inisiatiewe te verskaf (direkte verskaffing of ooreenkomste, soos van toepassing), of om by die Hernubare Energie Onafhanklike Kragprodusente-verkrygingsprogram (REIPPPP) of soortgelyke verkrygingsprogram ingevolge die Geïntegreerde Hulpbronplan (IRP) ingeskryf te word. Sodra dit gebou is, is die projekte bedoel om óf direk met nabygeleë afnemers óf met die 132/400kV Eskom Gumeni-hoof transmissie substasie deur 'n gemeenskaplike versamelaarsubstasie en kraglyn van tot 132kV te verbind.

Proponent	Projek	Tegnologie	Proses	Plaasname
Dalmanutha Wind energie fasiliteit (WEF)	Tot 300MW wind energie fasiliteit (WEF) insluitend geassosieerde infrastruktuur	Wind	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Berg-en-Dal 378 JT (Portions 1 and 9) • Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (Portion 5 and 7) • Waaikraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13 and 24)
Dalmanutha Wind Energie Fasiliteit Grid infrastruktuur	Tot 132kV Kraglyn, substasie en verwante infrastruktuur	Transmissie lyn en substasie	BA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leeuwkloof 403 JT (Portions 3 and 4) • Leeuwkloof 404 JT (Portions 1 and 2) • Geluk 405 JT (Portion 3) • Welgevonden 412 JT (Portion 1) • Camelia 467 JT (Portion 0)
Dalmanutha West Wind Energie Fasiliteit (WEF)	Minder as 20MW wind energie fasiliteit (WEF) insluitend verwante infrastruktuur	Wind	BA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (4, 15, 17)
Dalmanutha West Grid-infrastruktuur	Tot 132kV Kraglyn, substasie en verwante infrastruktuur	Transmissie lyn en substasie	BA	
Gemeenskaplike versamelaar substasie en kraglyn	Tot 132kV Kraglyn, substasie en verwante infrastruktuur	Transmissie lyn en substasie	BA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dalmanutha 376 JT (Portions 3, 4, 5, 7, 13, and 17) • Waaikraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 10, 12) • Dalmanutha 401 JT (Portion 0)

OMGEWINGS TOEPASSINGS

Die voorgestelde projekte lei tot verskeie gelyste aktiwiteite wat in die Omgewing vervat is Impakbepaling (OIB) Regulasies Noteringskennisgewing 1 (GNR 983), Noterings kennisgewing 2 (GNR 984) en Noterings kennisgewing 3 (GNR985), soos gewysig, en daarom moet magtiging om die gelyste aktiwiteite te onderneem verkry word via onderskeie Bestekopname en Omgewings impak Verslagdoening (S&OIV) en/of Basiese Assessering (BA) prosesse. Die verwagte gelyste aktiwiteits getalle wat met die voorgestelde projekte geassosieer word, word in die tabel hieronder weerspieël. Indien u 'n volledige kopie van hierdie aktiwiteite op die lys wil bekom, kontak asseblief die Omgewings evalueringspraktisyn (WHP), besonderhede hieronder verskaf.

Project Name	Listing Notice	Applicable triggers									
		11	12	14	19	24	28	30	48	56	
Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility (up to 300MW)	GNR 983	11	12	14	19	24	28	30	48	56	
	GNR 984	1		15							
	GNR 985	4	11		12	14	15	18	23		
Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility Grid Connection Infrastructure (up to 132kV)	GNR 983	11	12		19	27	28				
	GNR 985	4	12		14						
Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility (up to, but not including, 20MW)	GNR 983	1	11		12	19	24	27	28		
	GNR 985	4	12		14						
Dalmanutha West Grid Connection Infrastructure (up to 132kV)	GNR 983	11	12		19	27	28				
	GNR 985	4	12		14						
Common Collector Substation and Powerline (up to 132kV)	GNR 983	11	12		19	27	28				
		4	12		14						
General Authorisation / Water Use Licence (as applicable)	Section 21	21 (a), 21 (c) and 21 (i)									

REGISTRASIE

WSP Group Africa (Edms) Bpk (WSP) is deur ENERTRAG SA as die EAP aangestel om die onderskeie BA- en S&OIV-prosesse te bestuur. Partye wat formeel as belanghebbendes wil registreer om hul kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projekte te lewer, word versoek om hul volledige kontakbesonderhede aan die EAP te stuur by die besonderhede hieronder verskaf. Geregisteerde belanghebbendes sal alle toekomstige korrespondensie aangestuur word en individueel in kennis gestel word van bykomende geleenthede om aan die proses deel te neem.

KONSEP OMWANG VERSLAG RESENSIE PERIODE

Die Konsep Omgewing Omvangverslae sal op aanvraag by WSP beskikbaar gestel word en by die lokale hieronder vir hersiening en kommentaar vir 30 dae vanaf **12 Desember 2022 to 2 February 2023**.

Die beskikbaarheid vir die Konsep Basiese Assesserings verslae vir die Dalmanutha-Wes-wind energie fasiliteit, die onderskeie netwerk verbindings infrastruktuur vir die twee wind energie fasiliteite, en die gemeenskaplike versameling substasie en kraglyn sal mettertyd gekommunikeer word.

Area	Venue	Straat adres	Kontak No
Belfast	Emakhazeni Plaaslike Munisipaliteit Belfast Kantoor	1086 Scheeper St, Belfast, 1100	+27132537600
	eMakhazeni Publieke biblioteek	25 Scheeper Street, Belfast, 1100	013 255 0437
Carolina	Carolina Publieke biblioteek	11 Voortrekker St, Carolina, 1048	017 843 4000
WSP Webwerf	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents		
Data free Webwerf	https://wsp-engage.com/		

Die kontak besonderhede van die EAP is:

Naam: Ashlea Strong
Tel: 031 240 8804 **Faks:** 011 361 1381
E-Pos: ashlea.strong@wsp.com **Adres:** PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

Beskerming van persoonlike inligting: WSP sal sekere persoonlike inligting oor jou as 'n belanghebbende en geaffekteerde party (B&GP) verwerk vir doeleindes om jou registrasie as 'n B&GP en die stoor van jou besonderhede op ons databasis, indien jy daartoe instem dat ons dit doen. WSP sal hierdie besonderhede gebruik om jou te kontak oor ander relevante projekte in die toekoms. 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 data-onderwerp en laat ons weet of jy as 'n B & GP gederegistreer wil word of as jy nie meer wil hê dat jou kontak besonderhede op ons databasis ingesluit moet word nie.



APPENDIX

B-2 *SITE NOTICES*

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY COMPLEX, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUHTORISATION PROCESSES, NEAR BELFAST, MPUMALANGA 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) (as amended) for submission of various applications for environmental authorisations (EAs) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended)
- Section 39 or 41(4) of the National Water Act (36 of 1998) (NWA), for the submission of a General Authorisation or Water Use Licence (WUL) Application (as applicable)

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd (ENERTRAG SA), under two Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) (Dalmanutha Wind RF (Pty) Ltd and Dalmanutha West Wind RF (Pty) Ltd), proposes to develop the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Complex, comprising the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility and the Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility, including the respective grid connection infrastructure for each project, and common grid connection infrastructure for both projects, near Belfast, in the Mpumalanga Province. The projects aim to supply suitable private off-taker initiatives (direct supply or wheeling agreements, as applicable), or be bid into the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) or similar procurement programme under the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP). Once built, the projects are intended to connect either directly to nearby off-takers or to the 132/400kV Eskom Gumeni Main Transmission Substation through a Common Collector Substation and powerline of up to 132kV.

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process	Affected Farm Portions
Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility (WEF)	Up to 300MW Wind Energy Facility (WEF), including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Berg-en-Dal 378 JT (Portions 1 and 9) • Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (Portion 5 and 7) • Waaikraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 7, 8, 10, 12,13 and 24) • Leeuwkloof 403 JT (Portions 3 and 4) • Leeuwkloof 404 JT (Portions 1 and 2) • Geluk 405 JT (Portion 3) • Welgevonden 412 JT (Portion 1) • Camelia 467 JT (Portion 0)
Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility Grid Connection Infrastructure	Up to 132kV Powerline, substation and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA	
Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility (WEF)	Up to, but not including, 20MW Wind Energy Facility (WEF), including associated infrastructure	Wind	BA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (4, 15, 17)
Dalmanutha West Grid Connection Infrastructure	Up to 132kV Powerline, substation and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA	
Common Collector Substation and Powerline	Up to 132kV Powerline, common collector substation and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dalmanutha 376 JT (Portions 3, 4, 5, 7,13, and 17) • Waaikraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 10, 12) • Dalmanutha 401 JT (Portion 0)

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS

The proposed projects trigger several listed activities contained in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983), Listing Notice 2 (GNR 984) and Listing Notice 3 (GNR985), as amended, and therefore, authorisation to undertake the listed activities must be sought via respective Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) and/or Basic Assessment (BA) processes. The anticipated 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	Applicable triggers									
		11	12	14	19	24	28	30	48	56	
Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility (up to 300MW)	GNR 983	11	12	14	19	24	28	30	48	56	
	GNR 984	1		15							
	GNR 985	4		11	12	14	15	18	23		
Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility Grid Connection Infrastructure (up to 132kV)	GNR 983	11		12	19	27	28				
	GNR 985	4		12	14						
Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility (up to, but not including, 20MW)	GNR 983	1		11	12	19	24	27	28		
	GNR 985	4		12	14						
Dalmanutha West Grid Connection Infrastructure (up to 132kV)	GNR 983	11		12	19	27	28				
	GNR 985	4		12	14						
Common Collector Substation and Powerline (up to 132kV)	GNR 983	11		12	19	27	28				
		4		12	14						
General Authorisation / Water Use Licence (as applicable)	Section 21	21 (a), 21 (c) and 21 (i)									

REGISTRATION

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the EAP by ENERTRAG SA, to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the proposed projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT AND BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS REVIEW PERIODS

The Draft Environmental Scoping Report for the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility will be made available from WSP on request and at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from **12 December 2022 to 2 February 2023**.

The availability for the Draft Basic Assessment Reports for the Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility, the respective grid connection infrastructure for the two Wind Energy Facilities, and the Common Collection Substation and Powerline will be communicated in due course.

Area	Venue	Street Address	Contact No
Belfast	Emakhazeni Local Municipality Belfast Office	1086 Scheeper St, Belfast, 1100	013 253 7600
	eMakhazeni Public Library	25 Scheeper Street, Belfast, 1100	013 255 0437
Carolina	Carolina Public Library	11 Voortrekker St, Carolina, 1048	017 843 4000
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents		
Data free Website	https://wsp-engage.com/		

The contact details of the EAP are:

Name: Ashlea Strong **Tel:** 031 240 8804 **Fax:** 011 361 1381 **E-mail:** ashlea.strong@wsp.com **Address:** PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

Protection of Personal Information: 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 storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant 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

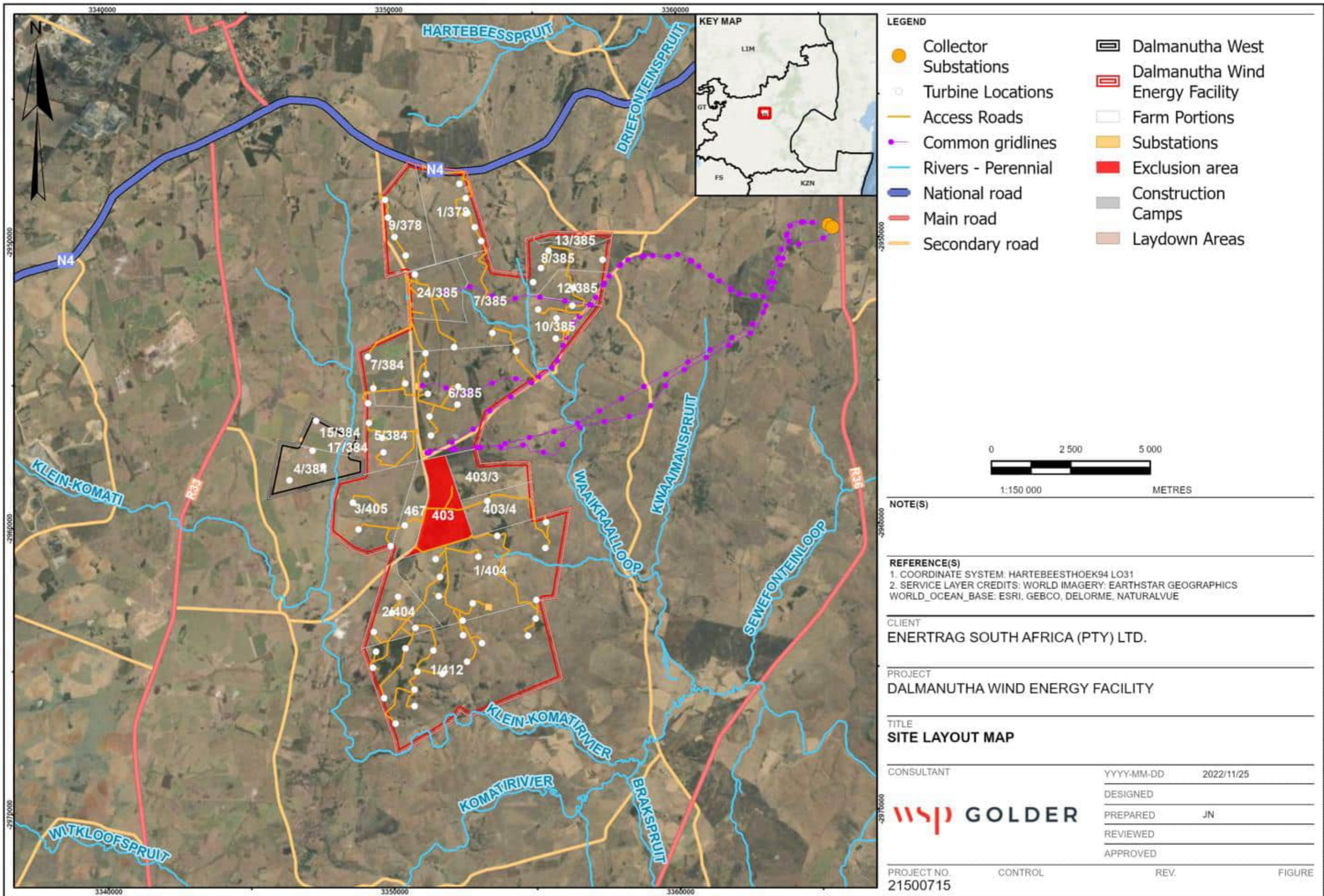


Figure 1: Proposed Dalmanutha WEF and associated infrastructure

OMGEWINGS MAGTIGINGS PROSESSE

KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE DALMANUTHA WINDENERGIE FASILITEITE, WAT BESTAAN VERSKEIE OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSESSE, NABY BELFAST, MPUMALANGA

Notice is given in terms of:

- Kennis word gegee in terme van: Regulasie 41 (2) van GNR 982 (soos gewysig) gepubliseer onder artikel 24 en 24D van die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur (No. 107 van 1998) (NEMA) (soos gewysig) vir die indiening van verskeie aansoeke om omgewingsmagtigings (EA's) ten opsigte van aktiwiteite geïdentifiseer ingevolge GNR 983, GNR 984 (soos gewysig)
- Artikel 39 of 41 (4) van die Nasionale Waterwet (36 van 1998) (NWA), vir die indiening van 'n Algemene Magtiging of Watergebruiklisensie (WUL) Aansoek (soos van toepassing)

BESKRYWING EN LIGGING

ENERTRAG Suid-Afrika (Edms) Bpk (ENERTRAG SA), onder twee spesiale doelvoertuie (SPV's) (Dalmanutha Wind RF (Edms) Bpk en Dalmanutha West Wind RF (Edms) Bpk.), stel voor om die Dalmanutha Wind energie kompleks te ontwikkel, wat die Dalmanutha Wind behels Energie fasiliteit en die Dalmanutha Wes-wind energie fasiliteit, insluitend die onderskeie netwerk verbindings infrastruktuur vir elke projek, en gemeenskaplike netwerk verbindings infrastruktuur vir beide projekte, naby Belfast, in die Mpumalanga Provinsie. Die projekte het ten doel om geskikte private afnemer-inisiatiewe te verskaf (direkte verskaffing of ooreenkomste, soos van toepassing), of om by die Hernubare Energie Onafhanklike Kragprodusente-verkrygingsprogram (REIPPPP) of soortgelyke verkrygingsprogram ingevolge die Geïntegreerde Hulpbronplan (IRP) ingeskryf te word. Sodra dit gebou is, is die projekte bedoel om óf direk met nabygeleë afnemers óf met die 132/400kV Eskom Gumeni-hoof transmissie substasie deur 'n gemeenskaplike versamelaarsubstasie en kraglyn van tot 132kV te verbind.

Proponent	Projek	Tegnologie	Proses	Plaasname
Dalmanutha Wind energie fasiliteit (WEF)	Tot 300MW wind energie fasiliteit (WEF) insluitend geassosieerde infrastruktuur	Wind	S&EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Berg-en-Dal 378 JT (Portions 1 and 9) • Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (Portion 5 and 7) • Waaikraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 7, 8, 10, 12,13 and 24) • Leeuwkloof 403 JT (Portions 3 and 4) • Leeuwkloof 404 JT (Portions 1 and 2) • Geluk 405 JT (Portion 3) • Welgevonden 412 JT (Portion 1) • Camelia 467 JT (Portion 0)
Dalmanutha Wind Energie Fasiliteit Grid infrastruktuur	Tot 132kV Kraglyn, substasie en verwante infrastruktuur	Transmissie lyn en substasie	BA	
Dalmanutha West Wind Energie Fasiliteit (WEF)	Minder as 20MW wind energie fasiliteit (WEF) insluitend verwante infrastruktuur	Wind	BA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (4, 15, 17)
Dalmanutha West Grid-infrastruktuur	Tot 132kV Kraglyn, substasie en verwante infrastruktuur	Transmissie lyn en substasie	BA	
Gemeenskaplike versamelaar substasie en kraglyn	Tot 132kV Kraglyn, substasie en verwante infrastruktuur	Transmissie lyn en substasie	BA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dalmanutha 376 JT (Portions 3, 4, 5, 7,13, and 17) • Waaikraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 10, 12) • Dalmanutha 401 JT (Portion 0)

OMGEWINGS TOEPASSINGS

Die voorgestelde projekte lei tot verskeie gelyste aktiwiteite wat in die Omgewing vervat is Impakbepaling (OIB) Regulasies Noteringskennisgewing 1 (GNR 983), Noterings kennisgewing 2 (GNR 984) en Noterings kennisgewing 3 (GNR985), soos gewysig, en daarom moet magtiging om die gelyste aktiwiteite te onderneem verkry word via onderskeie Bestekopname en Omgewings impak Verslagdoening (S&OIV) en/of Basiese Assessering (BA) prosesse. Die verwagte gelyste aktiwiteits getalle wat met die voorgestelde projekte geassosieer word, word in die tabel hieronder weerspieël. Indien u 'n volledige kopie van hierdie aktiwiteite op die lys wil bekom, kontak asseblief die Omgewings evalueringspraktisyn (WHP), besonderhede hieronder verskaf.

Project Name	Listing Notice	Applicable triggers									
		11	12	14	19	24	28	30	48	56	
Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility (up to 300MW)	GNR 983	11	12	14	19	24	28	30	48	56	
	GNR 984	1		15							
	GNR 985	4		11	12	14	15	18	23		
Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility Grid Connection Infrastructure (up to 132kV)	GNR 983	11		12	19	27	28				
	GNR 985	4		12	14						
Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility (up to, but not including, 20MW)	GNR 983	1		11	12	19	24	27	28		
	GNR 985	4		12	14						
Dalmanutha West Grid Connection Infrastructure (up to 132kV)	GNR 983	11		12	19	27	28				
	GNR 985	4		12	14						
Common Collector Substation and Powerline (up to 132kV)	GNR 983	11		12	19	27	28				
		4		12	14						
General Authorisation / Water Use Licence (as applicable)	Section 21	21 (a), 21 (c) and 21 (i)									

REGISTRASIE

WSP Group Africa (Edms) Bpk (WSP) is deur ENERTRAG SA as die EAP aangestel om die onderskeie BA- en S&OIV-prosesse te bestuur. Partye wat formeel as belanghebbendes wil registreer om hul kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projekte te lewer, word versoek om hul volledige kontakbesonderhede aan die EAP te stuur by die besonderhede hieronder verskaf. Geregistreeerde belanghebbendes sal alle toekomstige korrespondensie aangestuur word en individueel in kennis gestel word van bykomende geleenthede om aan die proses deel te neem.

KONSEP OMVANG VERSLAG RESENSIE PERIODE

Die Konsep Omgewing Omvangverslae sal op aanvraag by WSP beskikbaar gestel word en by die lokale hieronder vir hersiening en kommentaar vir 30 dae vanaf **12 Desember 2022 to 2 February 2023**.

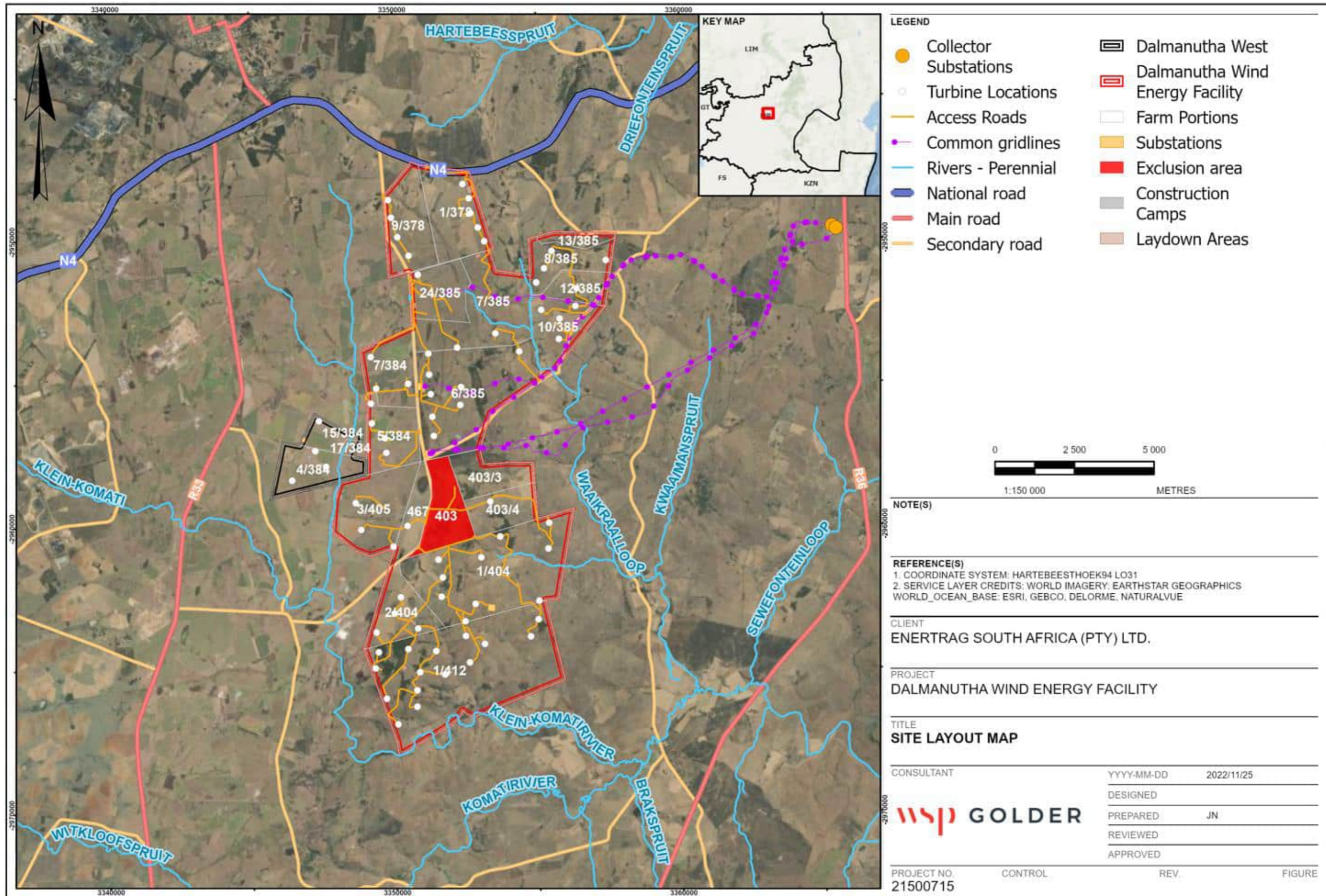
Die beskikbaarheid vir die Konsep Basiese Assesserings verslae vir die Dalmanutha-Wes-wind energie fasiliteit, die onderskeie netwerk verbindings infrastruktuur vir die twee wind energie fasiliteite, en die gemeenskaplike versameling substasie en kraglyn sal mettertyd gekommunikeer word.

Area	Venue	Straat adres	Kontak No
Belfast	Emakhazeni Plaaslike Munisipaliteit Belfast Kantoor	1086 Scheeper St, Belfast, 1100	+27132537600
	eMakhazeni Publieke biblioteek	25 Scheeper Street, Belfast, 1100	013 255 0437
Carolina	Carolina Publieke biblioteek	11 Voortrekker St, Carolina, 1048	017 843 4000
WSP Webwerf	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents		
Data free Webwerf	https://wsp-engage.com/		

Die kontak besonderhede van die EAP is:

Naam: Ashlea Strong **Tel:** 031 240 8804 **Faks:** 011 361 1381 **E-Pos:** ashlea.strong@wsp.com **Adres:** PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

Beskerming van persoonlike inligting: WSP sal sekere persoonlike inligting oor jou as 'n belanghebbende en geaffekteerde party (B&GP) verwerk vir doeleindes om jou registrasie as 'n B&GP en die stoor van jou besonderhede op ons databasis, indien jy daartoe instem dat ons dit doen. WSP sal hierdie besonderhede gebruik om jou te kontak oor ander relevante projekte in die toekoms. 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 B & GP gederegistreeer wil word of as jy nie meer wil hê dat jou kontak besonderhede op ons databasis ingesluit moet word nie.



Figuur 1: Voorgestelde Dalmanutha WEF en gepaardgaande infrastructuur



APPENDIX

B-3 NOTIFICATION LETTER



WSP ref.: 41103722

12 December 2022

Dear Stakeholder,

Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY, MPUMALANGA 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

ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd (ENERTRAG SA), under two Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) Dalmanutha Wind RF (Pty) Ltd and Dalmanutha West Wind RF (Pty) Ltd, proposes to develop the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Complex, comprising the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility and the Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility, including the respective grid connection infrastructure for each project, and common grid connection infrastructure for both projects, near Belfast, in the Mpumalanga Province. The projects aim to supply suitable private off-taker initiatives (direct supply or wheeling agreements, as applicable), or be bid into the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) or similar procurement programme under the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP). Once built, the projects are intended to connect either directly to nearby off-takers or to the 132/400kV Eskom Gumeni Main Transmission Substation through a Common Collector Substation and powerline of up to 132kV:

- Berg-en-Dal 378 JT (Portions 1 and 9)
- Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (Portion 5 and 7)
- Waaikraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 7, 8, 10, 12,13 and 24)
- Leeuwkloof 403 JT (Portions 3 and 4)
- Leeuwkloof 404 JT (Portions 1 and 2)
- Geluk 405 JT (Portion 3)
- Welgevonden 412 JT (Portion 1)
- Camelia 467 JT (Portion 0)
- Dalmanutha 376 JT (Portions 3, 4, 5, 7,13, and 17)
- Waaikraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 10, 12)
- Dalmanutha 401 JT (Portion 0)
- Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (4, 15, 17)

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

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F: +27 11 361 1301
wsp.com



ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS

A Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) 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 Listed Activities: 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14, 19, 24(ii), 28(ii), 30, 48(i)(a)(c) & 56(i)(ii)
- GNR 984 Listed Activities: 1(a), 15(i)
- GNR 985 Listed Activities: 4(f)(i)(aa)(bb)(cc)(ee)(gg), 10(f)(i)(aa)(bb)(cc)(ee)(gg)(hh), 12(f)(i)(ii), 14(ii)(a)(c)(f)(i)(aa)(bb)(cc)(dd)(ff)(hh), 15(d)(ii), 18(f)(i)(aa)(bb)(cc)(ee)(gg), 23(ii)(a)(c)(f)(i)(aa)(bb)(cc)(ee)(gg),
- National Water Act (No. 36 Of 2004)- The list of water uses applicable to the proposed Project under Section 21 of the NWA include: 21(a), (c), and (i).

REGISTRATION

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent and suitably qualified EAP by ENERTRAG SA (Pty) Ltd, to manage and undertake the S&EIR 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 SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Scoping Report will be made available at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from **12 December 2022** to **2 February 2023**:

- Emakhazeni Local Municipality, Belfast Office;
- Emakhazeni Public Library;
- Carolina Public Library
- Datafree Website - (<https://wsp-engage.com/>)
- 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 **2 February 2023**. Should you have any queries/comments, please do not hesitate to contact the EAP.

Contact details:

Thirushan Nadar

Tel: +27 11 300-6185

E-mail: thirushan.nadar@wsp.com

Address: Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand

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.

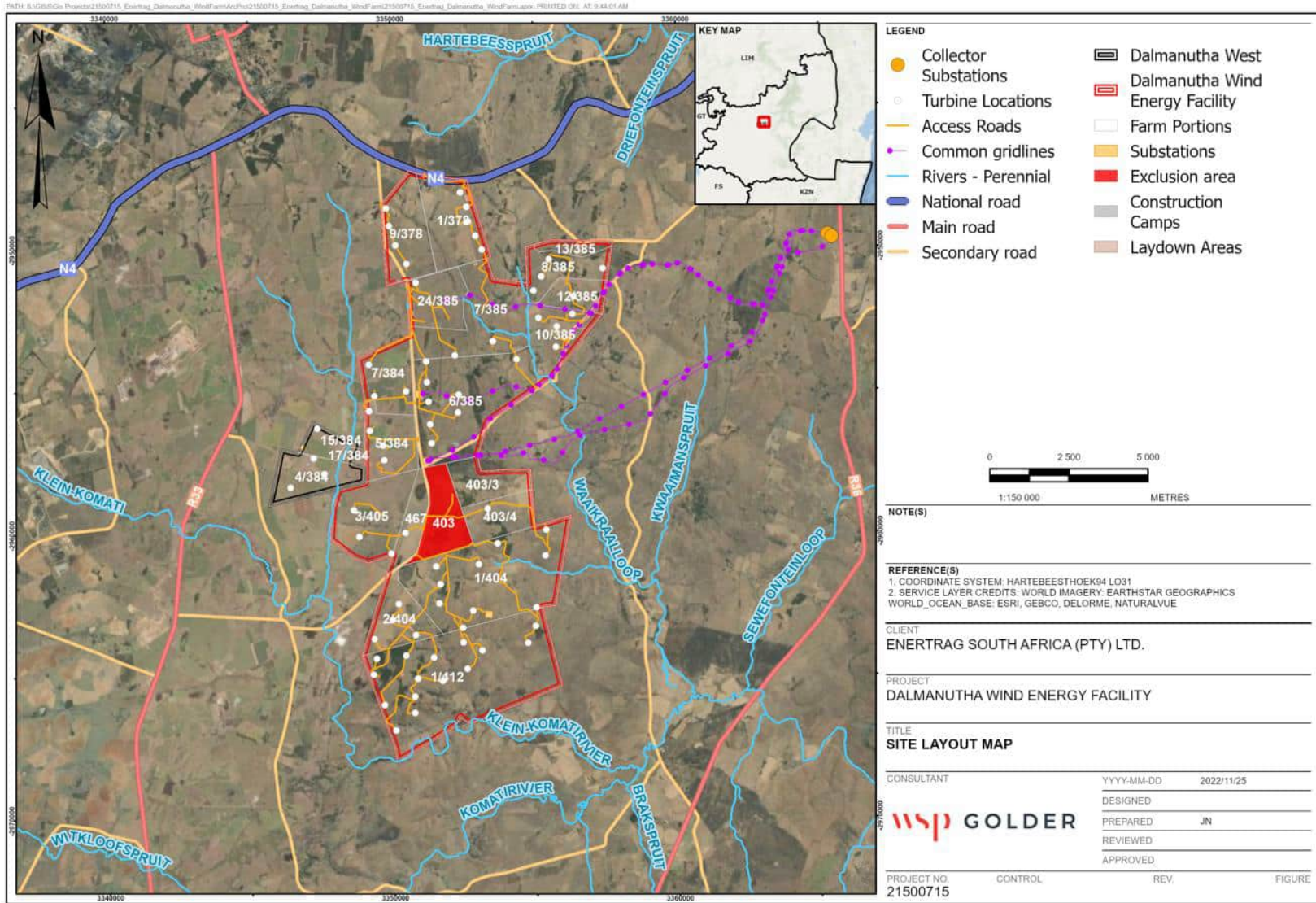


Figure 1: Proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility and associated infrastructure

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33 Sloane Street
Bryanston, 2191
South Africa

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F: +27 11 361 1301
wsp.com



WSP ref.: 41103722

12 Desember 2022

Geagte Belanghebbende,

Onderwerp: KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE DALMANUTHA WINDENERGIE FASILITEIT, MPUMALANGA PROVINSIE

Kennis word gegee ingevolge Regulasie 41(2) van GNR 982 (soos gewysig) gepubliseer onder artikel 24 en 24D van die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur (No. 107 van 1998) (NEMA) vir die indiening van aansoeke om omgewingsmagtigings (EA's) ten opsigte van aktiwiteite geïdentifiseer ingevolge GNR 983, GNR 984 en GNR 985 (soos gewysig).

BESKRYWING EN LIGGING

ENERTRAG Suid-Afrika (Edms) Bpk (ENERTRAG SA), onder twee spesiale doel voertuie (SPV's) Dalmanutha Wind RF (Edms) Bpk. en Dalmanutha West Wind RF (Edms) Bpk., beoog om die Dalmanutha Wind energie kompleks, bestaande uit die Dalmanutha Wind, te ontwikkel Energie fasiliteit en die Dalmanutha Wes-wind energie fasiliteit, insluitend die onderskeie netwerk verbindings infrastruktuur vir elke projek, en gemeenskaplike netwerk verbindings infrastruktuur vir beide projekte, naby Belfast, in die Mpumalanga Provinsie. Die projekte het ten doel om geskikte private afnemer-inisiatiewe te verskaf (direkte voorsiening of ooreenkomste, soos van toepassing), of om by die Hernubare Energie Onafhanklike Kragprodusente-verkrygingsprogram (REIPPPP) of soortgelyke verkrygingsprogram ingevolge die Geïntegreerde Hulpbronplan (IRP) ingeskryf te word. Sodra dit gebou is, is die projekte bedoel om óf direk met nabygeleë afnemers óf met die 132/400kV Eskom Gumeni-hoof transmissie substasie te verbind deur 'n gemeenskaplike versamelaar substasie en kraglyn van tot 132kV:

- Berg-en-Dal 378 JT (Portions 1 and 9)
- Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (Portion 5 and 7)
- Waaikraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 7, 8, 10, 12,13 and 24)
- Leeuwkloof 403 JT (Portions 3 and 4)
- Leeuwkloof 404 JT (Portions 1 and 2)
- Geluk 405 JT (Portion 3)
- Welgevonden 412 JT (Portion 1)
- Camelia 467 JT (Portion 0)
- Dalmanutha 376 JT (Portions 3, 4, 5, 7,13, and 17)
- Waaikraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 10, 12)
- Dalmanutha 401 JT (Portion 0)
- Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (4, 15, 17)

Building C, Knightsbridge
33 Sloane Street
Bryanston, 2191
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T: +27 11 361 1300
F: +27 11 361 1301
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OMGEWING AANSOEKE

'n Omvang- en Omgewings impakverslagdoening (S&OIV)-proses word vir die projek vereis. Die gelyste aktiwiteits nommers wat met die voorgestelde projekte geassosieer word, word hieronder weerspieël. Indien u 'n volledige kopie van hierdie aktiwiteite op die lys wil bekom, kontak asseblief die Omgewings evaluerings praktisyn (WHP), besonderhede hieronder verskaf.

- GNR 983 Listed Activities: 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 14. 19, 24(ii), 28(ii), 30, 48(i)(a)(c) & 56(i)(ii)
- GNR 984 Listed Activities: 1(a), 15(i)
- GNR 985 Listed Activities: 4(f)(i)(aa)(bb)(cc)(ee)(gg), 10(f)(i)(aa) bb)(cc) (ee)(gg)(hh), 12(f)(i)(ii), 14(ii)(a)(c)(f)(i)(aa)(bb) (cc)(dd)(ff)(hh), 15 (d)(ii), 18(f)(i)(aa) (bb)(cc)(ee)(gg), 23(ii)(a)(c)(f)(i)(aa)(bb)(cc)(ee)(gg),
- National Water Act (No. 36 Of 2004)- The list of water uses applicable to the proposed Project under Section 21 of the NWA include: 21(a), (c), and (i).

REGISTRASIE

WSP Group Africa (Edms) Bpk (WSP) is aangestel as die onafhanklike en toepaslik gekwalifiseerde EAP deur ENERTRAG SA (Edms) Bpk, om die S&OIV-proses te bestuur en te onderneem. Partye wat formeel as belanghebbende en geaffekteerde partye wil registreer om meer inligting te ontvang en/of hul kommentaar(s) oor die voorgestelde projek te lewer, word versoek om hul volledige kontakbesonderhede aan die WHP te stuur en hul direkte besigheid, finansiële, persoonlike of ander belangstelling in die projek. Enige kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projek kan by die WHP ingedien word via die besonderhede hieronder verskaf. Geregistreerde belangstellende en geaffekteerde partye sal alle toekomstige projekverwante korrespondensie aangestuur word en individueel in kennis gestel word van bykomende geleenthede om aan die proses deel te neem.

KONSEP OMFANGVERSLAG OORSIGTYDPERK

Die Konsep Omvangbepalingsverslag sal vir 30 dae vanaf **12 Desember 2022** tot **2 Februarie 2023** by die lokale hieronder beskikbaar gestel word vir hersiening en kommentaar:

- Emakhazeni Local Municipality, Belfast Office;
- Emakhazeni Public Library;
- Carolina Public Library
- Datafree Website - (<https://wsp-engage.com/>)
- WSP Website - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>

Maak asseblief seker dat alle kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projek of versoeke om as 'n Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Party geregistreer te word ingedien word by die kontakbesonderhede wat hiermee verskaf word, teen **2 Februarie 2023**. Indien u enige navrae/opmerkings het, moet asseblief nie huiwer om die WHP te kontak nie.

Contact details:

Thirushan Nadar

Tel: +27 11 300-6185

E-pos: thirushan.nadar@wsp.com

Adres: Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand

WSP sal sekere persoonlike inligting oor jou as 'n belanghebbende en geaffekteerde party (B & GP) verwerk vir doeleindes om jou registrasie as 'n B & GP moontlik te maak en vir doeleindes om jou besonderhede op ons databasis te stoor, indien jy daartoe instem dat ons dit doen . WSP gebruik hierdie besonderhede om jou te kontak oor ander projekte in die toekoms. 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 of jy as 'n B & GP gederegistreer wil word of as jy nie langer wil hê dat u kontakbesonderhede op ons databasis ingesluit moet word.

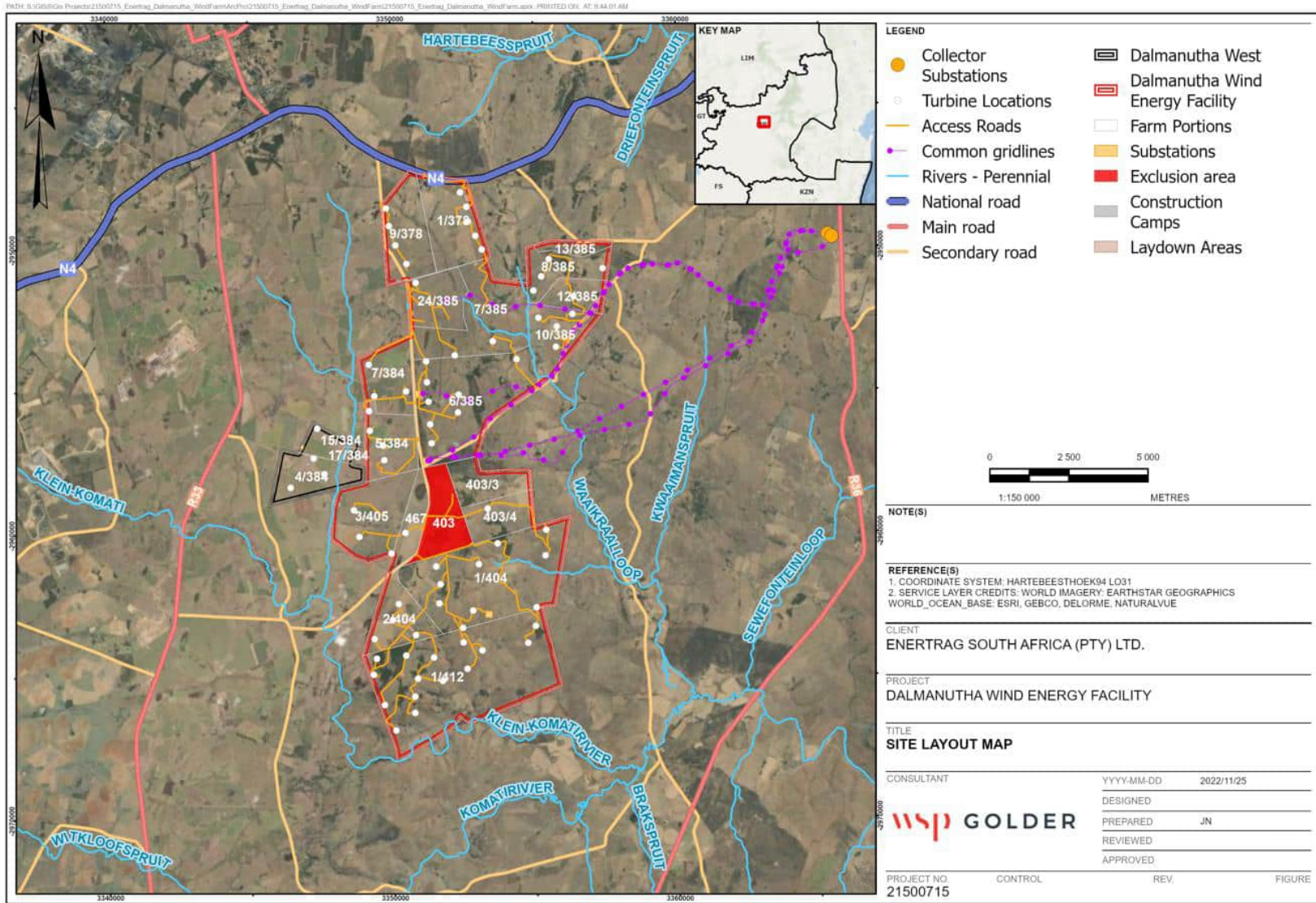


Figure 1: Voorgestelde Dalmanutha-wind energie fasiliteit en gepaardgaande infrastruktuur

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South Africa

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wsp.com

APPENDIX

B-4 E-MAIL NOTIFICATIONS

Nadar, Thirushan

From: Nadar, Thirushan
Sent: Monday, 12 December 2022 08:38
To: Nadar, Thirushan
Cc: Strong, Ashlea; Sean Maphosa; Mmakoena Mmola
Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review
Attachments: 41103722_Dalmanutha WEF_DSR_I&APNotification Letter_Afrikaans.pdf; 41103722_Dalmanutha WEF_DSR_I&AP_Notification Letter_English.pdf

Dear Commenting Authority,

PLEASE FIND ATTACHED NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY, MPUMALANGA

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 an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).
- Section 39 or 41(4) of the National Water Act (36 of 1998) (NWA), for the submission of a General Authorisation or Water Use Licence (WUL) Application (as applicable)

The Proponent, ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd (ENERTRAG SA), under the Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) Dalmanutha Wind RF (Pty) Ltd and Dalmanutha West Wind RF (Pty) Ltd, proposes to develop the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Complex, comprising the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility and the Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility, near Belfast, in the Mpumalanga Province. The project falls within the jurisdiction of the Emakhazeni & Albert Luthuli Local Municipalities and the Nkangala & Gert Sibande District Municipalities.

The following farm portions are affected by the project:

- Berg-en-Dal 378 JT (Portions 1 and 9)
- Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (Portion 5 and 7)
- Waaikraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 7, 8, 10, 12,13 and 24)
- Leeuwkloof 403 JT (Portions 3 and 4)
- Leeuwkloof 404 JT (Portions 1 and 2)
- Geluk 405 JT (Portion 3)
- Welgevonden 412 JT (Portion 1)
- Camelia 467 JT (Portion 0)

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent and suitably qualified EAP by ENERTRAG SA (Pty) Ltd, to manage and undertake the S&EIR Process. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Scoping Report has been made available for 30 days from **12 December 2022 to 02 February 2023** on the WSP website, a Datafree website, via One Drive Link for download and the following public places:

Area	Venue	Street Address
Belfast	Emakhazeni Local Municipality Belfast Office	1086 Scheeper St, Belfast, 1100

	eMakhazeni Public Library	25 Scheeper Street, Belfast, 1100
Carolina	Carolina Public Library	11 Voortrekker St, Carolina, 1048
OneDrive	 Dalmanutha Wind Energy facility Commenting Authority	
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder.

WSP contact details are:

Name: Thirushan Nadar
 Tel: +27 11 300-6185
 Fax: 011 361 1381
 E-mail: thirushan.nadar@wsp.com
 Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

Protection of Personal Information: 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 storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant 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.

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards



Thirushan Nadar
 Consultant

T +27 11 300-6185
 M +27 73 888-3727



WSP in Africa
 Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
 South Africa

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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building C, Knightsbridge, 33 Sloane Street, Bryanston, 2191, South Africa Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

Nadar, Thirushan

From: Nadar, Thirushan
Sent: Monday, 12 December 2022 08:38
To: Nadar, Thirushan
Cc: Strong, Ashlea; Sean Maphosa; Mmakoena Mmola
Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review
Attachments: 41103722_Dalmanutha WEF_DSR_I&APNotification Letter_Afrikaans.pdf; 41103722_Dalmanutha WEF_DSR_I&AP_Notification Letter_English.pdf

Dear Stakeholder,

PLEASE FIND ATTACHED NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY, MPUMALANGA

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 an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).
- Section 39 or 41(4) of the National Water Act (36 of 1998) (NWA), for the submission of a General Authorisation or Water Use Licence (WUL) Application (as applicable)

The Proponent, ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd (ENERTRAG SA), under the Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) Dalmanutha Wind RF (Pty) Ltd and Dalmanutha West Wind RF (Pty) Ltd, proposes to develop the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Complex, comprising the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility and the Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility, near Belfast, in the Mpumalanga Province. The project falls within the jurisdiction of the Emakhazeni & Albert Luthuli Local Municipalities and the Nkangala & Gert Sibande District Municipalities.

The following farm portions are affected by the project:

- Berg-en-Dal 378 JT (Portions 1 and 9)
- Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (Portion 5 and 7)
- Waaikraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 7, 8, 10, 12,13 and 24)
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- Geluk 405 JT (Portion 3)
- Welgevonden 412 JT (Portion 1)
- Camelia 467 JT (Portion 0)

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent and suitably qualified EAP by ENERTRAG SA (Pty) Ltd, to manage and undertake the S&EIR Process. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Scoping Report has been made available for 30 days from **12 December 2022 to 02 February 2023** on the WSP website, a Datafree website, via One Drive Link for download and the following public places:

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	eMakhazeni Public Library	25 Scheeper Street, Belfast, 1100
Carolina	Carolina Public Library	11 Voortrekker St, Carolina, 1048
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

WSP contact details are:

Name: Thirushan Nadar
 Tel: +27 11 300-6185
 Fax: 011 361 1381
 E-mail: thirushan.nadar@wsp.com
 Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

Protection of Personal Information: 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 storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant 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.

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards



Thirushan Nadar
 Consultant

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 M +27 73 888-3727



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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building C, Knightsbridge, 33 Sloane Street, Bryanston, 2191, South Africa Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

Nadar, Thirushan

From: Nadar, Thirushan
Sent: Monday, 12 December 2022 08:38
To: Nadar, Thirushan
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Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review
Attachments: 41103722_Dalmanutha WEF_DSR_I&APNotification Letter_Afrikaans.pdf; 41103722_Dalmanutha WEF_DSR_I&AP_Notification Letter_English.pdf

Dear Landowner,

PLEASE FIND ATTACHED NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY, MPUMALANGA

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 an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).
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DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

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Carolina	Carolina Public Library	11 Voortrekker St, Carolina, 1048
OneDrive	 Dalmanutha Wind Energy facility Landowners	
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder.

In order to assist with the completeness of our database, please can you provide us with the contact details (name, cell phone number and email address) of the below:

- 1. Tenants on your properties.**
- 2. Employees at your properties.**
- 3. Neighbouring land owner.**
- 4. Neighbouring tenants.**
- 5. Any other interested party.**

WSP contact details are:

Name: Thirushan Nadar
 Tel: +27 11 300-6185
 Fax: 011 361 1381
 E-mail: thirushan.nadar@wsp.com
 Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards



Thirushan Nadar
 Consultant

T +27 11 300-6185
 M +27 73 888-3727



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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building C, Knightsbridge, 33 Sloane Street, Bryanston, 2191, South Africa Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

APPENDIX

B-5 *SMS NOTIFICATIONS*

2022-12-12 09:00:34.0	Notice of Public Review of Draft Scoping Report for Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility from 12/12/22 - 02/02/23. Contact WSP on 011 300 6185.
2022-12-12 09:00:34.0	Notice of Public Review of Draft Scoping Report for Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility from 12/12/22 - 02/02/23. Contact WSP on 011 300 6185.

APPENDIX

B-6 *PROOF OF REPORTS AVAILABILITY*

Title of Project: Proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility

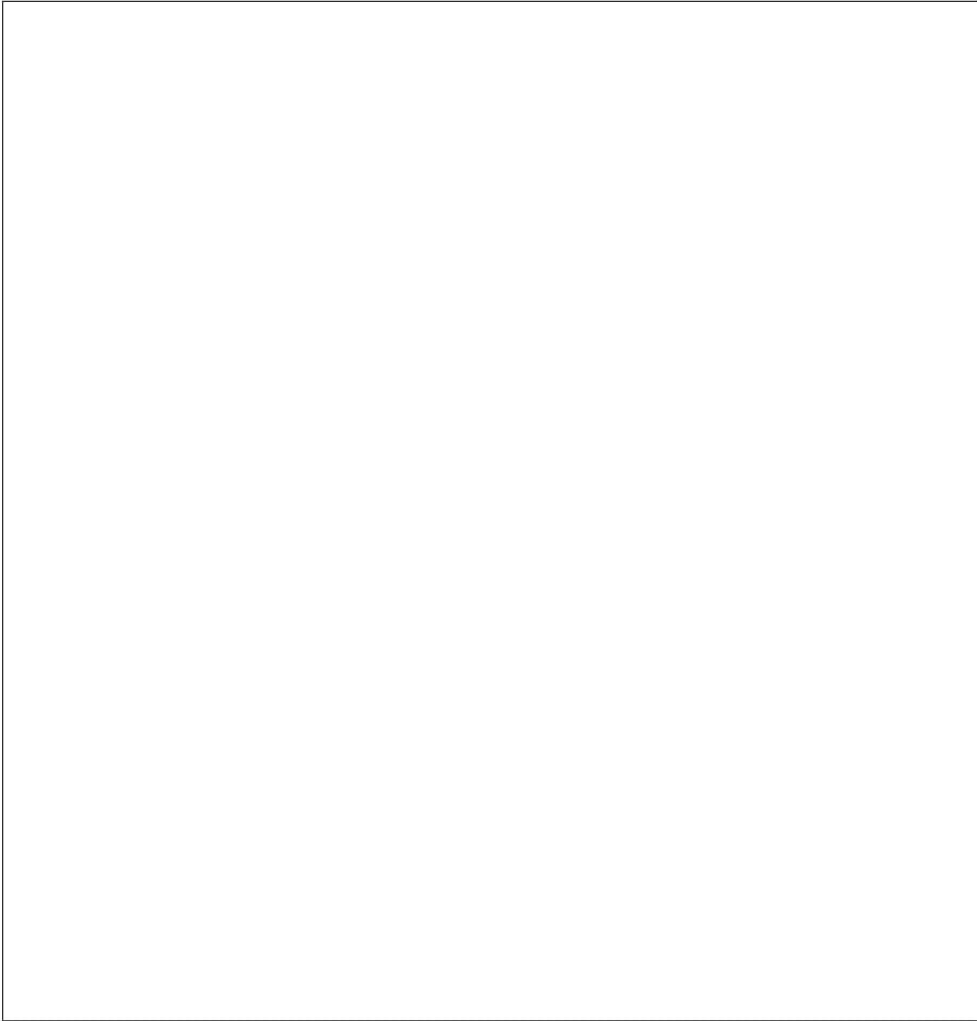
Public Review Period: 12 December 2022 to 02 February 2023

Document on Public Display: Draft Environmental Scoping Report

Contact Person: Thirushan Nadar (Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com)

- Draft Scoping Report Dalmanutha WEF
- Appendix A_EAP CV
- Appendix B_EAP Declaration
- Appendix C_Specialist Declaration
- Appendix D_DFFE Screening Report
- Appendix E_Pre-app meeting minutes & presentation
- Appendix F-1- I&AP Database_Public
- Appendix F-2_Notification letters
- Appendix F-3_Adverts-English and Afrikaans
- Appendix F-4_Site notices-English and Afrikaans
- Appendix G_Geotechnical report
- Appendix H_Biodiversity_scoping
- Appendix I_Avifauna_scoping
- Appendix J_Bats Scoping Report
- Appendix K_Visual scoping report
- Appendix L_Social impact scoping report
- Appendix M_Agricultural&Soils scoping report
- Appendix N_Surface water scoping report
- Appendix O_Traffic Scoping report
- Appendix P_Noise scoping report
- Appendix Q_SHE Risk
- Appendix R_Heritage scoping report





Proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility

Title of Project: Proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility

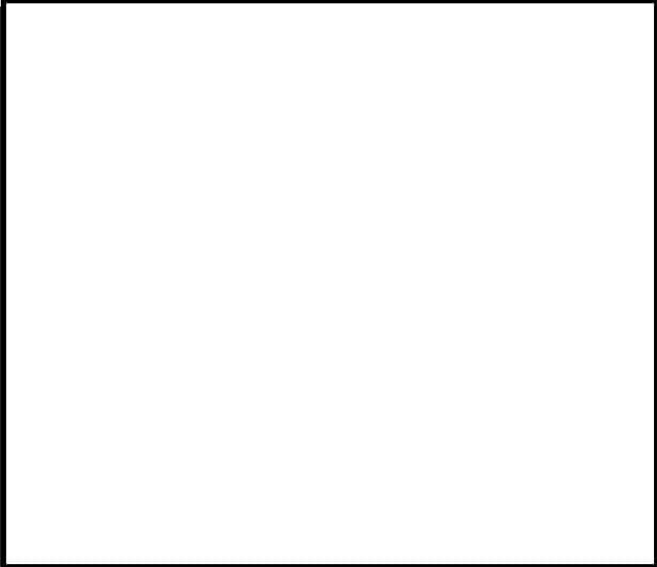
Public Review Period: 12 December 2022 to 02 February 2023

Document on Public Display: Draft Environmental Scoping Report

Contact Person: Thirusan Nadar (Thirusan.Nadar@wsp.com)


[Download Document](#)

-  [Appendix 2](#)
-  [Appendix 3](#)
-  [Appendix 4](#)
-  [Appendix 5](#)
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-  [Appendix 9](#)
-  [Appendix 10](#)
-  [Appendix 11](#)
-  [Appendix 12](#)
-  [Appendix 13](#)
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 Heritage Cases *Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility* has been created.

Heritage Cases

SAHRA Application Closure

Please note the following concerning applications submitted to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) during the December 2022 to January 2023 period.

The full notice is available here: [Notice](#)

Erratum: Please note that point 5 of the notice should be read as follows; "The last day for section 38(8) applications to receive comments in 2022 is the 15th November 2022 (not December). Any comments on section 38(8) applications submitted from the 16th November 2022 (not December) will be issued from the 6th January 2023". We apologise for any inconvenience.

Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility

- CaseHeader**
- LocationInfo
- Admin

ProposalDescription:

ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd (ENERTRAG SA), under two Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) Dalmanutha Wind RF (Pty) Ltd and Dalmanutha West Wind RF (Pty) Ltd, proposes to develop the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Complex, comprising the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility and the Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility, including the respective grid connection infrastructure for each project, and common grid connection infrastructure for both projects, near Belfast, in the Mpumalanga Province. The projects aim to supply suitable private off-taker initiatives (direct supply or wheeling agreements, as applicable), or be bid into the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) or similar procurement programme under the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP). Once built, the projects are intended to connect either directly to nearby off-takers or to the 132/400kV Eskom Gumeni Main Transmission Substation through a Common Collector Substation and powerline of up to 132kV.

ApplicationDate: Monday, December 12, 2022 - 09:46

CaseID: 20349

Applicants: [Enertrag South Africa \(Pty\) Ltd](#)

Consultants/Experts: [Ashlea Strong](#)

OtherReferences:


Heritage Reports: [HERITAGE SCOPING REPORT For the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility.](#)

ReferenceList:

AdditionalDocuments

- [Dalmanutha WEF draft scoping report](#)
- [02 Appendix A EAP CV.pdf](#)
- [03 Appendix B EAP Declaration.pdf](#)
- [04 Appendix C Specialist Declaration.pdf](#)
- [05 Appendix D DFFE Screening Report.pdf](#)
- [06 Appendix E Pre-app meeting minutes & presentation.pdf](#)
- [07 Appendix F-1 I&AP Database Public.pdf](#)
- [08 Appendix F-2 Notification letters.pdf](#)
- [09 Appendix F-3 Adverts-English and Afrikaans.pdf](#)
- [10 Appendix F-4 Site notices-English and Afrikaans.pdf](#)
- [11 Appendix G Geotechnical report .pdf](#)
- [12 Appendix H Biodiversity scoping .pdf](#)
- [13 Appendix I Avifauna scoping .pdf](#)
- [14 Appendix J Bats Scoping Report .pdf](#)
- [15 Appendix K Visual scoping report .pdf](#)
- [16 Appendix L Social impact scoping report.pdf](#)
- [17 Appendix M Agricultural&Soils scoping report.pdf](#)
- [18 Appendix N Surface water scoping report.pdf](#)
- [19 Appendix O Traffic Scoping report .pdf](#)
- [20 Appendix P Noise scoping report.pdf](#)
- [21 Appendix Q SHE Risk .pdf](#)

[Back to Top](#)

 Chat (11)

South African Heritage Resources Agency
(SAHRA)

111 Harrington Street
Cape Town
8001

PO Box 4637
Cape Town, 8000
Tel 021 462 4502/Fax 021 462 4509
Email info@sahra.org.za
Web www.sahra.org.za
(<http://www.sahra.org.za>)



An agency of the Department of Arts &
Culture



Site best viewed using [Google Chrome](#)
[Disclaimer](#)



APPENDIX

B-7 *COURIER PROOF*



PROOF OF DELIVERY

WSP GROUP AFRICA

13/12/2022 14:00

Page
1 of 2

Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks
N4 National Highway Mpumalanga Tour
ism and Parks 4 Hall's Gateway
1201 Nelspruit
Nelspruit
South Africa

Shipment number:	10100021583116
Shipment Reference:	P:20005885 W:41103722-D01
Total shipping units:	1
Delivered shipping units:	1
Damaged shipping units:	0
Failed shipping units:	0

Receiver:



PROOF OF DELIVERY

WSP GROUP AFRICA

13/12/2022 14:00

Page
2 of 2

Shipment number

10100021583116

Successful

Failed

101000000855346531

APPENDIX

C

MEETINGS



APPENDIX

C-1 *DFFE PRE- APPLICATION MEETING*



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: +27 86 625 1042

Reference: Dalmanutha WEF

Enquiries: [REDACTED]

Ms., Nadar, Thirushan
WSP
PO Box 98867,
Sloane Park,
2152

Telephone Number: +27 11 300 6185
Email Address: Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com

PER E-MAIL

Dear Ms., Thirushan

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOT THE PROPOSED DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY, LOCATED EAST OF BELFAST IN MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the reports.

According to the information provided in the report, a significant area of the proposed site falls under CBA 1, with several wetlands within the site. Mammal and birds species of conservation concern have been confirmed to be present within the site.

And as per the Avifauna specialist report the impacts of collision of birds with turbines and electrocution with powerlines have been rated to have high significance before mitigation, furthermore the report stipulates that several avifaunal features have been identified on site which require spatial protection in the form of no-go buffers. Several current turbine positions infringe on these areas and will require micro siting, with mitigation measures to being reviewed during the EIA phase. The high sensitivity theme is further supported by a stakeholder in the specialist report, that the area has sightings of birds of species of conservation concern, especially in the valley/ the gorge where Southern Bald Ibis roost.

The Directorate has noted highly sensitive themes as per the EIA screening tool. Kindly take note that any development within highly sensitive areas that will result in significant negative impacts prior mitigation measures is prohibited. Furthermore, the final report must comply with all the requirements as outlined in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) guideline for renewable energy projects and the Best Practice Guideline for Birds & Solar Energy for assessing and monitoring the impact of solar energy facilities on birds in Southern Africa.



Batho pele- putting people first.

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY, LOCATED EAST OF BELFAST IN MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

In conclusion, the Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA for review and queries should be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email; [REDACTED] for the attention of [REDACTED]

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

Mr. [REDACTED]
Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment
Letter signed by: [REDACTED]
Designation: Control Biodiversity Officer Grade A
Date: 02/02/2023



Nadar, Thirushan

From: Nadar, Thirushan
Sent: Monday, 12 December 2022 21:21
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your feedback.

WSP hereby acknowledges this response and can confirm that our database has been updated with Mrs P Makitla and Ms M Mudau email addresses.

Furthermore WSP can confirm [REDACTED] email is also on our database and will receive all correspondence.

Kind regards



Thirushan Nadar
Consultant

T +27 11 300-6185
M +27 73 888-3727

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 12 December 2022 17:03
To: Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review

Dear Sir/Madam

DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation to review and comment on the project mentioned on the subject line. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Mrs P Makitla and Ms M Mudau (Both copied on this email).

Please note: All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries will be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: [REDACTED] for attention of [REDACTED]

Regards,
[REDACTED]

From: Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>
Sent: Monday, 12 December 2022 08:38
To: Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>; Sean Maphosa <Sean.Maphosa@enertrag.com>; Mmakoena Mmola <Mmakoena.Mmola@enertrag.com>
Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review

Dear Commenting Authority,

PLEASE FIND ATTACHED NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY, MPUMALANGA

Notice is given in terms of:

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- Section 39 or 41(4) of the National Water Act (36 of 1998) (NWA), for the submission of a General Authorisation or Water Use Licence (WUL) Application (as applicable)

The Proponent, ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd (ENERTRAG SA), under the Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) Dalmanutha Wind RF (Pty) Ltd and Dalmanutha West Wind RF (Pty) Ltd, proposes to develop the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Complex, comprising the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility and the Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility, near Belfast, in the Mpumalanga Province. The project falls within the jurisdiction of the Emakhazeni & Albert Luthuli Local Municipalities and the Nkangala & Gert Sibande District Municipalities.


The following farm portions are affected by the project:

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- Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (Portion 5 and 7)
- Waaikraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 7, 8, 10, 12,13 and 24)
- Leeuwkloof 403 JT (Portions 3 and 4)
- Leeuwkloof 404 JT (Portions 1 and 2)
- Geluk 405 JT (Portion 3)
- Welgevonden 412 JT (Portion 1)
- Camelia 467 JT (Portion 0)

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent and suitably qualified EAP by ENERTRAG SA (Pty) Ltd, to manage and undertake the S&EIR Process. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Scoping Report has been made available for 30 days from **12 December 2022 to 02 February 2023** on the WSP website, a Datafree website, via One Drive Link for download and the following public places:

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Belfast	Emakhazeni Local Municipality Belfast Office	1086 Scheeper St, Belfast, 1100
	eMakhazeni Public Library	25 Scheeper Street, Belfast, 1100
Carolina	Carolina Public Library	11 Voortrekker St, Carolina, 1048
OneDrive	 Dalmanutha Wind Energy facility Commenting Authority	
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder.

WSP contact details are:

Name: Thirushan Nadar
Tel: +27 11 300-6185
Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: thirushan.nadar@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

Protection of Personal Information: 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 storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant 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.

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards



Thirushan Nadar
Consultant

T +27 11 300-6185
M +27 73 888-3727



WSP in Africa
Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
South Africa

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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building C, Knightsbridge, 33 Sloane Street, Bryanston, 2191, South Africa Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Nadar, Thirushan

From: Nadar, Thirushan
Sent: Monday, 12 December 2022 21:05
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review
Attachments: Dalmanutha Portions.kmz

Dear [REDACTED]

Received, Thank you for the feedback.

Please see attached KMZ as requested.

Kind regards



Thirushan Nadar
Consultant

T +27 11 300-6185
M +27 73 888-3727

From: John Geeringh <GeerinJH@eskom.co.za>
Sent: Monday, 12 December 2022 13:15
To: Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review

Please send me a KMZ file of the affected property, proposed development footprint and proposed grid connection. Please find attached Eskom requirements for work at or near Eskom servitudes and infrastructure, as well as a setbacks guideline for renewable energy developments.

Kind regard [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (Pr Sci Nat) Reg. EAP (EAPASA)
Senior Consultant Environmental Management
Grid Planning: Land and Rights
Eskom Transmission Division
Megawatt Park, D1Y42, Maxwell Drive, Sunninghill, Sandton.
P O Box 1091, Johannesburg, 2000.

Tel: [REDACTED]
Cell: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>
Sent: Monday, 12 December 2022 08:38
To: Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>; Sean Maphosa <Sean.Maphosa@enertrag.com>; Mmakoena Mmola <Mmakoena.Mmola@enertrag.com>
Subject: [CAUTION:EXTERNAL EMAIL] - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review

Dear Commenting Authority,

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- Camelia 467 JT (Portion 0)

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WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
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Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder.

WSP contact details are:

Name: Thirushan Nadar
Tel: +27 11 300-6185
Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: thirushan.nadar@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

Protection of Personal Information: 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 storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant 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.

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards



Thirushan Nadar
Consultant

T +27 11 300-6185
M +27 73 888-3727



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Nadar, Thirushan

From: Nadar, Thirushan
Sent: Wednesday, 14 December 2022 10:21
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Strong, Ashlea; Sean.Maphosa@enertrag.com; Mmakoena.Mmola@enertrag.com
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for the response, it is duly noted.

WSP can confirm that we have your contact details on the I&AP database for future communication regarding the proposed project.

Kind regards



Thirushan Nadar
Consultant

T +27 11 300-6185
M +27 73 888-3727

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 13 December 2022 21:14
To: Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>; [REDACTED]
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>; Sean.Maphosa@enertrag.com; Mmakoena.Mmola@enertrag.com
Subject: FW: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review

Dear WSP

Please register the EWT as an I&AP for this proposed development. We are concerned that this proposed site will pose a significant risk to various crane and bustard species.



Head Office: [REDACTED] | Johannesburg

W + [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]



Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment – BBBEE Level 4 Certificate & 95% Civil Society Organisation
PBO number: 930 001 777
NPO number: 015-502 NPO
IT number: IT 6247

Physical Address: 27 and 28 Austin Road, Glen Austin AH, Midrand, 1685, Gauteng, South Africa
Postnet Suite # 027, Postnet Suite 002, Private Bag X08, Wierda Park 0149, Gauteng, South Africa



"We all have one universal and inherent commonality and that is the turmoil and joy of being human." (Bryan Little, 2012)

Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>

Sent: Monday, 12 December 2022 08:38

To: Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>

Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>; Sean Maphosa <Sean.Maphosa@enertrag.com>; Mmakoena Mmola <Mmakoena.Mmola@enertrag.com>

Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review

Mimecast Attachment Protection has deemed this file to be safe, but always exercise caution when opening files.

Dear Stakeholder,

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	Carolina Public Library	11 Voortrekker St, Carolina, 1048
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WSP contact details are:

Name: Thirushan Nadar
Tel: +27 11 300-6185
Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: thirushan.nadar@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

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We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards



Thirushan Nadar
Consultant

T +27 11 300-6185
M +27 73 888-3727



WSP in Africa
Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
South Africa

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbkI

Nadar, Thirushan

From: Nadar, Thirushan
Sent: Monday, 12 December 2022 21:28
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY, MPUMALANGA

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for the feedback.

WSP can confirm that we have your contact details on the I&AP database for future correspondence.

Kind regards



Thirushan Nadar
Consultant

T +27 11 300-6185
M +27 73 888-3727

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 12 December 2022 10:24
To: Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>
Subject: THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY, MPUMALANGA

Please could you register us as an interested and affected party in the above proposal.

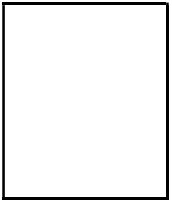
We are a registered wildlife rehabilitation centre specialising in birds of prey but deal with all indigenous wildlife in the province. We have dealt with many TOPS species from the proposed area.

The Wildlifesos Trust
P O Box 212, Dullstroom, Mpumalanga, 1110
info@wildlifesos.co.za

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
Manager
Dullstroom Bird of Prey and Rehabilitation Centre
Managed by the Wildlifesos Trust (IT000101/2015)
169-719 NPO
930053148 PBO
info@wildlifesos.co.za
www.birdsofprey.co.za

[Donate via PayPal](#)



Nadar, Thirushan

From: Nadar, Thirushan
Sent: Wednesday, 25 January 2023 14:13
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Objections/concerns regarding the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your response and comment on the Draft Scoping report for the Proposed Dalmanutha Wind Project.

Your concerns and comments have been acknowledged.

WSP can confirm that you will be kept informed on further developments regarding the project.

Kind regards



Thirushan Nadar
Consultant

T +27 11 300-6185
M +27 73 888-3727

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 25 January 2023 13:21
To: Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>
Subject: Objections/concerns regarding the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility

Good afternoon Thirushan

Please find attached my responses to the scoping report.

I am also copying these to BirdLife South Africa, and also to Mervyn Lotter at Mpumalanga Parks and Tourism Authority for their information.

Please also keep me informed as to any developments regarding the project.

Regards
[REDACTED]

Environmental Concerns regarding the proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Project

Respondent details

Geoff Lockwood – naturalist, shareholder in property located within the project site

Email – [REDACTED]

Telephone [REDACTED]

Background

As a long-term shareholder in the De Rust Trout Farm, I've explored much of the northern-western section of the proposed development recording biodiversity over more than thirty years – both on De Rust, and on surrounding farms.

The primary focus of these studies was initially birds, but broadened out to include orchids and other taxa, most recently Odonata (dragonflies and damselflies). For several years, I have been forwarding all records for Red Data bird species, and also of orchids, to MTPA with the co-ordinates of the sightings. I've also submitted sightings data to the various atlas projects administered by the Virtual Museum, and also to SABAP2

All my records of Red Data bird species and orchid sightings were also made available to the specialists involved in the scoping exercise. Two recent sightings however need to be added to the material already supplied to the consultants.

Note: At the time I made these data available, the layout shown to me was significantly different to that laid out in the Scoping Report.

Pallid Harrier – *Circus macrourus* (Near-Threatened)

On 19 November 2022, I had a sighting of an adult male Pallid Harrier at approximate co-ordinates -25.765134°; 30.118627° (decimal degrees). The bird was hunting over the valley heading in a NW direction towards the Geluk Road and was observed for about 15 minutes over the valley – mainly over the western section. This is the second November record in four years of an adult male of this species, and the possibility that it is the same bird returning cannot be ruled out. The previous sighting was at approximate co-ordinates -25.757903°; 30.121521°, with the bird heading W towards the Geluk Road.

Note: This sighting of this species was not forwarded to the scoping assessment team as I did not include sightings of possible vagrants in that submission.

Secretarybird – *Sagittarius serpentarius* (Vulnerable)

On 15 December 2022, a single adult bird was seen swallowing a snake at approximate co-ordinates -25.748908°; 30.123378, adding to the records of this Red-listed species within the project area.

My primary objections and concerns regarding the proposed development are as follows:

- 1.1 A significant number of WTG's are proposed for the valley running SE from the Berg-en-Dal War Memorial. This area has a known, high occurrence of Red-listed avifauna including Wattled Cranes (**Critically Endangered**); Cape Vulture (**Endangered**); Secretarybird (**Vulnerable**); White-bellied Bustard (**Vulnerable**); Southern Bald Ibis (**Vulnerable**); Black-rumped Buttonquail (**Vulnerable**); Yellow-breasted Pipit (**Vulnerable**), Lanner (**Vulnerable**); Peregrine (**Near-Threatened**) and Pallid Harrier (**Near-threatened**). In addition, I've recorded Denham's Bustard (**Vulnerable**) on the western side of the valley on one occasion. The proposed sites for these WTG's pose a real risk to the local, and in some cases, the national populations of these species.

In the case of the Wattled Crane in particular, up to four birds have been recorded in this valley – a significant part of South Africa's wild population.

Barn Swallows and Amur Falcons occur in numbers during mid-to-late summer, with the swallows frequently roosting in the Phragmites reedbeds at the inflow to the De Rust dam. In some years this roost contains an estimated 10,000 birds. Both species could sustain significant losses.

While a remote sensing and emergency shut-down procedure has been proposed to detect approaching birds and to rapidly stop the affected turbine(s), I have no information as to the efficacy

of this mitigation. I am also unaware whether the proposed system will detect and respond effectively to the smaller species such as Black-rumped Buttonquail and Yellow-breasted Pipit. The former species probably undertakes long-distance movements at night (the related Common Buttonquail does), while the latter undertakes display flights which would put it at risk of collision with the turbine blades.

The valley is prone to episodes of thick mist, with visibility falling to less than 10 m on occasion (pers. obs.), and this could also increase the risk of collisions with the installations for all bird species.

1.2 Noise impacts on birds

While the scoping report discusses noise impacts in respect of human receptors i.e. at people at dwellings etc. there appears to have been no recognition or investigations as to the possible negative impacts of turbine noise on the surrounding bird populations.

Research in Holland for example has shown that traffic noise caused a decline in the nesting populations of Willow Warbler – *Phylloscopus trochilus* in an adjacent wood, with the cause put down to sonic interference with vocalisations of the males – particularly those used in territorial defence and mate attraction.

If turbine noise falls in the same frequency range as say that of the deep hooting calls of Black-rumped Buttonquail, collision risks apart, this could render the area completely unsuitable for this species.

Sound pressure for some distance around the WTG's could drown out or suppress any communications between conspecifics, again making large parts of the valley unsuitable for a variety of bird species. Based on this, I would question a number of the risk level assessments in the scoping report and strongly suggest that these be revisited.

Some scientific papers on the impacts of noise on birds

Y. Teff-Seker; O. Berger-Tal; Y. Lenhhardt, and N. Teshner 2022: Noise pollution from wind turbines and its effects on wildlife: A cross-national analysis of current policies and planning regulations. Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews, Science Direct.

Conomy, J.T.; Dubovsky, J.A.; Collazo, J.A. and Fleming, W.J. 1998. Do Black Ducks and Wood Ducks Habituate to Aircraft Disturbance? The Journal of Wildlife Management, Vol. 62, No 3 (Jul. 1998): 1135 – 1142.

Grubb, M.M. 1979. Effects of Noise Levels on Nesting Herons and Egrets. Proceedings of the Colonial Waterbird Group, Vol. 2 (1979): 49 – 54.

Habib, L.; Bayne, M.E. and Boutin, S. 2007. Chronic industrial noise affects pairing success and age structure of ovenbirds *Seiurus aurocapilla*. Journal of Applied Ecology (2007) 44: 176 – 184

Reijnen, R. & Foppen, R. 1994. The Effects of Car Traffic on Breeding Bird Populations in Woodland. 1. Evidence of Reduced Habitat Quality for Willow Warblers *Phylloscopus trochilus* breeding Close to a Highway. Journal of Applied Ecology, Vol. 31, No. 1 (Feb., 1994): 85 -94

Reijnen, R.; Foppen, R. & Meeuwsen, H. 1996. The effects of traffic on the density of breeding birds in Dutch agricultural grasslands. Biological Conservation 75 (1996): 255 – 260

Trimper, P.G.; Standen, N.M.; Lye, L.M.; Lemon, D.; Chubbs, T.E. & Humphries, G.W. 1998. Effects of Low-Level Jet Aircraft Noise on the Behaviour of Nesting Osprey. Journal of Applied Ecology, Vol. 35, No. 1 (Feb., 1998), pp. 122-130

Vos, D.K.; Ryder, R.A. & Graul, W.D. 1985. Response of breeding Great Blue Herons to human disturbance in North-central Colorado. Colonial Waterbirds, Vol. 8, No. 1 (1985): 13 - 22

For the reasons given above, I WOULD NOT SUPPORT THE INSTALLATION OF ANY WTG's IN THIS VALLEY! In particular, all of the following WTG sites are either in, or within dangerous proximity to places where I have recorded Wattled Cranes and/or other Red Data bird species.

Problematic WTG sites

WTG 02	WTG 03	WTG 04	WTG 05	WTG 06	WTG 07
WTG 08	WTG 12	WTG 13	WTG 14	WTG 15	WTG 16
WTG 17					

In addition, the following sites may pose a threat to Red-listed bird species and I request that a detailed evaluation is performed to determine the extent of any risk.

WTG 18	WTG 30	WTG 37
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3. Odonata diversity

I have recorded a significant diversity of Odonata within the project area – primarily around the De Rust dam. Endemic/limited-range species such as Springwater Sprite – *Pseudagrion caffrum*, Sapphire Bluet – *Africallagma sapphirinum* and Round-winged Bluet – *Proischnura rotundipennis* amongst others have been identified and photographed.

Such diversity is considered an indicator of a healthy aquatic ecology and good water quality.

It is essential therefore that any development of roads, CWT sites etc. involved in the installation or operation of the project does not alter current flow patterns or compromise water quality in any way.

4. At least two orchid species – *Habenaria anguiceps* and *Disa aconitoides* are likely to be extirpated should the installation of WTG 14 and 15 go ahead. The co-ordinates of these populations were provided to the scoping phase ecologist and both sites are likely to experience significant disturbance during the construction phase. *D. aconitoides* is an uncommon orchid in Mpumalanga and is usually recorded either as single plants, or in small colonies, while there are very few localities known for *H. anguiceps* in the province. Efforts to remove these populations and re-establish them elsewhere are unlikely to prove successful.

5. Noise

From the scoping report it appears that the farm house – (Receptor 16 in Figure 5-31) is between 500 and 850 m from the closest turbine, with at least two others that appear to be within 1000 m of the house (WTG's 13, 14 & 15 to the west of the house). There is also the possibility of noise disturbance arising from WTG's 19, 20 & 21 situated to the SE of the house. Site topography might mitigate noise to a certain extent but it is likely that the people using De Rust will experience negative impacts due to turbine noise (operational phase), and also during the construction phase. **Note:** Most shareholders of De Rust have invested in the enterprise for its tranquillity and this experience is likely to be significantly degraded if these WTG's are deployed at the proposed locations.

6. De Rust's water supply

All water for the house and staff housing is drawn from a spring just N of the farm's northern boundary at approximate co-ordinates (decimal degrees) – 25.754225°; 30.129224°.

It is essential that any activity, including the development of roads, CWT sites etc. involved in the installation or operation of the project does not compromise either water flow or water quality and safety.



agriculture, rural development,
land & environmental affairs

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Litiko Letekulima, Kufutukiswa
Kwetindzawo Tasemakhaya, Temhlaba
Netesimondzawo

Departement van Landbou,
Landelike Ontwikkeling,
Grond en Ongewing Sake

umNyango weZelimo
UkuThuthukiswa kweNdawo zemaKhaya,
iNarha neeNdaba zeBhoduluko

Enquiries :
Telephone :
Reference :



Ms. Ashlea Strong
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 98867
Bryanston
2152

Email: Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com

Dear Madam,

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY ON VARIOUS PORTIONS OF THE FARMS BERG EN DAL 378 JT, VOGELSTRUISPOORT 384 JT, WAAIKRAAL 385 JT, LEEUWKLOOF 403 AND 404 JT, GELUK 405 JT, WELGEVONDEN 412 JT AND CAMELIA 467 JT, BELFAST, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

The Department confirms having received the draft scoping report from you for the abovementioned project on 12 December 2022. After reviewing the report, this Department has the following comments:

1. The proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility is located in an area comprising a **high diversity of Red Listed Birds**, which as confirmed in the Scoping Report, use the full component of micro-habitats on the site.
2. The **Critically Endangered** Wattled Crane has been reported to be breeding on site, and there are reports of regular sitings of between one and four individuals within the proposed development footprint.
3. The risk of collision of **many threatened bird species** and Red Listed bats on wind turbines, and the risk of collision and electrocution of these species on the MV network is **high**, with the scoping report assigning a high significance rating before mitigation.
4. On 11 November 2022, the Minister of the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment gazetted her intent to establish protocols that provide the criteria for the specialist assessment and minimum report content requirements for determining impacts on Cape Vultures associated with the development of onshore wind energy generation facilities, which require environmental authorisation (Notice 2734, Government Gazette, 11 November 2022). The draft protocol prescribes a High to Very High Sensitivity to sites that are located within 50km of a Cape Vulture roost, colony and/or vulture restaurant, and **recommends abandoning proposals for wind energy in such areas**. According to the scoping report, a number of roosts have been identified **on the site**.
5. Shutdown-on-demand is not considered an appropriate means to mitigate the residual negative impacts associated with fatalities of large bodied birds that are listed as threatened.
6. The Scoping Report confirmed that mitigation to reduce or avoid turbine collisions is not possible through spatial avoidance (buffers), and it is our opinion that mitigation is not possible through shutdown-on demand or any other means. The potential loss of critically endangered species must therefore be regarded as a fatal flaw.



According to Regulation 22(b)(i), the competent authority must, within 43 days of receipt of a scoping report – refuse environmental authorisation if – the proposed activity is in conflict with a prohibition contained in legislation.

This Department recommends the refusal of the application in terms of 22(b)(i) on the following grounds:

- The Endangered Cape Vulture, Grey Crowned Crane and the **Critically Endangered** Wattled Crane, which are confirmed to occur on site (along with a host of Red Listed birds), will be impacted and even likely lost. Mitigation measures proposed to reduce the significance of this impact, which includes painting of blades or shutdown-on-demand, are not likely to result in avoidance of collisions. Since the outcome of such mitigation is unreliable, the potential loss of a critically endangered species must be regarded as a fatal flaw.
- This Department is therefore of the opinion that the proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility is not in line with the National Environmental Management Principle that requires that sustainable development must consider the application of a risk-averse and cautious approach that takes into account the limits of current knowledge about the consequences of decisions and actions.
- It is this Department's opinion that, based on the above points, the project is not in line with the National Environmental Management Principle that specifically requires that a development must be socially, environmentally and economically sustainable, as the disturbance of 'ecosystems' and loss of biological diversity cannot be avoided, minimized or remedied.

Please contact this office for any further enquiries.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

DIRECTOR: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT

DATE: 02/02/2023

CC.

[Redacted]
Department of Fisheries, Forestry and the Environment
Email: [Redacted]



BirdLife South Africa is a partner of BirdLife International, a global partnership of nature conservation organisations.
Member of IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature).
Reg No: 001 – 298 NPO
PBO Exemption No: 930004518

WSP Group Africa
Attention: Thirushan Nadar
E-mail: Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com

26 January 2023

Dear Thirushan,

Re: Draft Scoping Report for the Proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Scoping Report for the proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility. We attended a pre-application meeting with Enertrag regarding the proposed project on 26 October 2022. Unfortunately, the avifaunal specialist, Jon Smallie, was unable to attend the meeting, but we summarised our concerns and recommendations in subsequent emails to Jon. Our recommendations are not, however, reflected in the Scoping Report or Plan of Study for EIA. Many of our comments are therefore repeated below.

BirdLife South Africa supports the responsible development of renewable energy infrastructure. However, we are concerned that the location of the proposed facility(ies) is not compatible with the desired state of the habitat by local, provincial and national stakeholders. The proposed development site borders an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area, and includes threatened ecosystems, critical biodiversity areas, ecological support areas, protected area expansion strategy areas and habitat for a number of threatened species.

The highveld of Mpumalanga hosts globally and regionally threatened species that are not found in similar abundances in other provinces. Several species are becoming locally extinct, some of which are found at the proposed site (e.g., Wattled Crane). These high-elevation habitats are often used for breeding during the wet season. Given the relatively small remaining portion of untransformed Grasslands and Wetlands in the highveld of Mpumalanga, every step should be taken to safeguard what is left of these habitat types for biodiversity.

We suggest alternative sites should be considered for development. For example, development west of Ermelo, where land is already heavily transformed, is less likely to impact biodiversity, whereas the Eastern Escarpment should be avoided.

Given the sensitivity of the biodiversity within the Project Area of Influence, we are pleased to note that two years of data collection will be conducted for the avifaunal impact assessment. However, it is unclear from the Scoping Report if the data collection methods will be adequate to verify the sensitive features and questions that have been scoped thus far, or those raised below.

We are concerned that the Project Area of Influence is not well defined in the context of different impact receptors. Please see [SANBI's Species Environmental Assessment Guidelines](#) for more guidance in this regard. It may be necessary to conduct surveys outside of the development footprint (e.g., to

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identify and quantify the use of roosts and breeding sites) and this should be clearly defined during scoping.

We are further concerned that the development site is along the Eastern Escarpment of South Africa. This geographical feature is a flyway for latitudinal (north to south) and altitudinal (east to west) migrants of species moving within (e.g., cranes, bustards, Southern Bald Ibis, Blue Swallow) and beyond the continent (e.g., White Stork, Amur Falcon). The extensive wetland system at the site would offer stop-over sites for migrants transitioning through the landscape. Tracking data should be acquired from past studies/literature to identify which migrants are using this area and when. Alternatively, other methods (e.g., radar or tracking studies) should be included in the plan of study for impact assessment in order to assess the risk to migratory birds.

We suggest that the scoping report and plan of study should place greater focus on potential risks to the globally Critically Endangered White-winged Flufftail. South Africa and Ethiopia are the only two countries with confirmed breeding records of this highly cryptic species. It is unlikely to be found from observations and we discourage flushing the bird from wetlands. Not far to the north of the proposed site is a stronghold for the species in the Greater Lakenvlei Protected Environment and Middelpunt Nature Reserve. It is likely that the bird is also using the wetlands at the proposed site. Not much is known about where and when the species migrates to breed in high-elevation wetlands during the wet season (October-March), but birds have been found all along the Eastern Escarpment from the Steenkampsberg in Mpumalanga to southern KZN. Three other species of flufftail have been recorded as fatalities at South African wind farms and we are concerned that it is unlikely that shutdown-on-demand will be an effective mitigation for this small and cryptic species.

BirdLife South Africa encourages the use of shutdown-on-demand as mitigation to address residual negative impacts associated with fatalities of larger bodied birds. However, we caution that this approach is not appropriate for turbines proposed in areas where they will pose a significant risk to threatened species (where avoidance would be more effective and appropriate). Shutdown-on-demand can be fraught with challenges related to implementation and human (or technological) error, and is poorly enforced. While shutdown-on-demand can be helpful to reduce the risk of fatalities, it does not eliminate it. Fatalities of large-bodied birds, including vultures, Secretarybird and raptors have occurred at wind farms in South Africa implementing this approach.

The ecosystem status of the vegetation types reflected in the draft Scoping Report and Biodiversity Scoping Report appear to be incorrect or outdated. Both Eastern Highveld Grassland and KaNgwane Montane Grassland are Endangered (not Vulnerable and Least Threatened as indicated in the Scoping Report, respectively). The Scoping Report and Impact Assessment need to be updated to accurately reflect the status of these ecosystems.

The Screening Report does indicate the likely presence of an Endangered ecosystem. To avoid similar mistakes, all biodiversity specialists should be encouraged to pay careful attention and verify the rich information and many sensitivity layers included in the National Environmental Screening Tool.

In conclusion, we are of the opinion that there is sufficient data to suggest the site (or a large proportion of the site) is inappropriate for wind farm development due to the significant risks posed to biodiversity. It is unlikely that additional studies will reduce the site sensitivity and the applicant risks “throwing good money after bad”. However, if they wish to pursue development in this area, we

strongly suggest that a) more attention is paid to reduce risks, uncertainties discussed above and flagged in the Site Screening Tool; b) the effectiveness and feasibility of proposed mitigation measures must be robustly assessed; and c) biodiversity offsets should be considered, as it is unlikely that mitigation alone will ensure that there is no net loss of biodiversity.

Please do not hesitate to contact us to clarify our position. Please use our emails below for further consultations related to this project.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Wetland Conservation Project Manager/Rockjumper Fellow of White-winged Flufftail Conservation

Email: [REDACTED]

and

[REDACTED]

Birds and Renewable Energy Project Manager

Email: [REDACTED]

Nadar, Thirushan

From: Nadar, Thirushan
Sent: Tuesday, 10 January 2023 09:24
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: DALMANUTHA WEST WIND FACILITY IAP

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your response.

WSP can confirm that we have added your details on to our I&AP database for future communication regarding the Dalmanutha WEF project.

Kind regards



Thirushan Nadar
Consultant

T +27 11 300-6185
M +27 73 888-3727

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 06 January 2023 01:50
To: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: DALMANUTHA WEST WIND FACILITY IAP

Good evening Mr Strong

I am a resident in the Emakhazeni Municipality and also a professional Civil Engineer running a construction company.

Would like to participate in the Dalmanutha West Wind Facility as a service provider and as a member of the community (IAP).

My details are as follows

[REDACTED]
Company: Carabex (Pty) Ltd

Email: [REDACTED]

Contact Numbers: [REDACTED]

Office address: [REDACTED]

Home address: [REDACTED]

Regards

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: [REDACTED]

South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: [REDACTED]

Tel: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

CaseID: 20349

Date: Thursday January 26, 2023

Page No: 1

Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Enertrag South Africa (Pty) Ltd

ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd (ENERTRAG SA), under two Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) Dalmanutha Wind RF (Pty) Ltd and Dalmanutha West Wind RF (Pty) Ltd, proposes to develop the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Complex, comprising the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility and the Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility, including the respective grid connection infrastructure for each project, and common grid connection infrastructure for both projects, near Belfast, in the Mpumalanga Province. The projects aim to supply suitable private off-taker initiatives (direct supply or wheeling agreements, as applicable), or be bid into the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) or similar procurement programme under the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP). Once built, the projects are intended to connect either directly to nearby off-takers or to the 132/400kV Eskom Gumeni Main Transmission Substation through a Common Collector Substation and powerline of up to 132kV.

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd has been appointed by Dalmanutha WEF (RF) (Pty) Ltd to undertake an Environmental Authorisation Application for the proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility (WEF), near Belfast, Mpumalanga Province.

A Draft Scoping Report (DSR) has been submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations. The proposed activities will include the construction of up to 77 turbines, permanent hardstanding area for each turbine, IPP portion onsite substation and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), operation and maintenance buildings, construction camp and laydown areas, sewage facilities, cement batching plant, access and internal roads, underground cabling between components, fencing, storm water channels, water pipelines, ablution facilities and gatehouse within an application area of 400 ha.

Beyond Heritage was appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EA process as per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Van der Walt, J. 2022. Heritage Scoping Report for the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility and associated infrastructure, Mpumalanga Province, South Africa.

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: [REDACTED]

South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
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www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: [REDACTED]

Tel: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

CaseID: 20349

Date: Thursday January 26, 2023

Page No: 2

Several heritage resources are located within and in close proximity to the proposed development area. These include several burial sites, a war memorial, the Berg en Dal Monument.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- It is recommended that the study area should be subjected to a field-based Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and a VIA;
- The study area is of low to very high palaeontological sensitivity and according to the SAHRIS palaeontological sensitivity map must be subjected to a palaeontological assessment in the impact assessment phase.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit notes the Heritage Scoping Report and the recommendations of the specialist. The HIA must consider any comments provided during the public participation phase with regards to direct and indirect impacts to heritage resources, including the Berg en Dal monument.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above pending reports and draft EIA inclusive of appendices.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Heritage Officer

South African Heritage Resources Agency

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: [REDACTED]

South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
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Tel: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

CaseID: 20349

Date: Thursday January 26, 2023

Page No: 3



[REDACTED]
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/611063>



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA 0001· Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia,· PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2243

Enquiries [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Ms Ashlea Strong
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
WSP House Building C Knightsbridge
33 Sloane Street
BRYANSTON
2191

Telephone Number: (011) 361 1392
Email Address: Ashlea.strong@wsp.com

PER E-MAIL

Dear Ms Strong

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY (WEF) AND ITS ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR BELFAST, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and draft Scoping Report (SR) dated December 2022, and received by the Department on 09 December 2022, refer.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the final SR:

(a) Specific Comments

- (i) Please provide a concise, but complete, summary and bullet list of the project description and associated infrastructure (or project scope). This must include a list of all development components and associated infrastructure.
- (ii) Kindly ensure the development footprints (hectares/square metres) and specifications of all proposed infrastructure and associated infrastructure during all phases are included in the final SR.
- (iii) The co-ordinates must be specific to each activity and infrastructure that is proposed on the site. The co-ordinates for substations and the battery energy storage systems (BESS) must be included in the report, i.e., we require that you provide us with the specific development footprints for each development parameter, and not an area outlining the entire site.
- (iv) Several activities applied for in the application form is said to occur within protected areas, such as Activity 4(f)(i) (aa)(bb) and Activity 10(f)(i) (aa)(bb) of Listing Notice 3 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. Therefore, approval from the Management Authority in terms of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003; Section 50(5) for commercial and community activities in the National Park, and/or World Heritage Site may be required. Comments from this Department's Protected Areas Directorate must be obtained to confirm whether Approval from the Management Authority in terms of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003; Section 50(5) is required.

JCA

Find below the contact details for personnel at this Department's Protected Areas Directorate:

- a) Name: Mr Rofhiwa
Telephone no: (012) 399 8801
Email: RMagodi@dffe.gov.za; and
 - b) Name: Tshwanelo Leballo
Telephone no: (012) 399 9561
Email: tleballo@dffe.gov.za.
- (v) Kindly take note that when finalising the layout plan the position of all proposed infrastructure and linear activities, which includes but not limited to the following must be illustrated:
- Wind turbines (the proposed 70 turbines should be numbered on the layout plan);
 - Access roads and internal roads;
 - IPP portion onsite substation;
 - Battery energy storage systems (BESS);
 - Operation and maintenance buildings; and
 - Construction camp laydown areas.
- (vi) According to the Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan, 2015, Wind Farms are not compatible land-use activities to be undertaken in areas classified as CBA 1. Therefore, the mitigation hierarchy should be applied in full, and a Biodiversity Offset should be considered to ensure that significant residual impacts of the development are remedied.
- (vii) Further to the above, this must be included and addressed in the Plan of Study of the final SR.

(b) Listed Activities

- (i) Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description.
- (ii) If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final SR, an amended application form must be submitted. Please note that the Department's application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following link <https://www.dffe.gov.za/documents/forms>.

(c) Layout & Sensitivity Maps

- (i) The final SR must provide coordinate points for the proposed development site (note that if the site has numerous bend points, at each bend point coordinates must be provided) as well as the start, middle and end point of all linear activities.
- (ii) All preferred turbine positions must be clearly numbered. The turbine position numbers must be consistently used in all maps to be included in the reports.
- (iii) Please provide a layout map which indicates the following:
 - a) The proposed position of the 70 wind energy turbines, laydown areas, internal and external roads, substations, BESS, operational and maintenance buildings etc.;
 - b) The proposed WEF and associated infrastructure, overlain by the sensitivity map;
 - c) All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g. roads (existing and proposed);
 - d) The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;
 - e) Buffer areas; and
 - f) All "no-go" areas.
- (iv) The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments and existing grid infrastructure.
- (v) Google maps will not be accepted.

(d) Alternatives

- (i) Please provide a description of any identified alternatives for the proposed activity that are feasible and reasonable, including the advantages and disadvantages that the proposed activity or alternatives will have on the environment and on the community that may be affected by the activity as per Appendix 2 of GN R.982 of 2014 (as amended).
- (ii) Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 2.

(e) Public Participation Process

- (i) The newspaper advertisement attached under Appendix F-3 is deemed inadequate. Kindly include an actual copy of the newspaper advertisement that formed part of the public participation process for this project in the final SR. The newspaper advert provided should depict the name of the newspaper and date of publication of the advert. It should also be clear and legible.
- (ii) Please provide photographs of the erected site notices placed around the boundaries of the proposed site.
- (iii) Comments must be obtained from this Department's Biodiversity Conservation Directorate at BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za and this Department's Protected Areas Directorate at RMagodi@dffe.gov.za.
- (iv) Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the SR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final SR, including comments from this Department, and must be incorporated into a Comments and Response Report (CRR).
- (v) Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final SR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- (vi) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40 41, 42, 43 and 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- (vii) A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Annexure 1 of this comments letter. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.
- (viii) The final SR must provide evidence that all identified and relevant competent authorities have been given an opportunity to comment on the proposed development.

(f) Specialist Assessments

- (i) A detailed description as well as any associated assessments related to the technology required for the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) must be included in the Plan of Study of the final SR.
- (ii) The specialists undertaking the Terrestrial and Aquatic Biodiversity Report and the Geotechnical Desktop Assessment failed to submit signed Specialist Declaration of Interest forms. All Specialist Declaration of Interest forms must be signed by the relevant specialists and attached to the final SR. The forms are available on the Department's website (please use the Department's template).
- (iii) The final EIAR and all the attached specialist studies must indicate and adequately assess a consistent number of turbines.
- (iv) The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference for all the identified specialist studies include the following:

- a) A detailed description of the study's methodology; indication of the locations and descriptions of the development footprint, turbine positions and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisation.
- b) Provide a detailed description of all limitations to the studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation will not be allowed.
- c) Please note that the Department considers a 'no-go' area, as an area where no development of any infrastructure is allowed; therefore, no development of associated infrastructure including access roads is allowed in the 'no-go' areas.
- d) Should the specialist definition of 'no-go' area differ from the Department's definition; this must be clearly indicated. The specialist must also indicate the 'no-go' area's buffer if applicable.
- e) **All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternative and recommendations, and must not recommend further studies to be completed post EA.**
- f) **Bird and Bat specialist studies must have support from Birdlife South Africa and SABAA.**
- g) Should a specialist recommend specific mitigation measures, these must be clearly indicated.
- (v) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice.
- (vi) Please ensure that all mitigation recommendations are in line with applicable and most recent guidelines.
- (vii) It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.
- (viii) As such, the Specialist Declaration of Interest forms must also indicate the scientific organisation registration/member number and status of registration/membership for each specialist.
- (ix) Please also ensure that the final SR includes the Site Verification Report as required by the relevant environmental themes and assessments.
- (x) Please note further that the protocols, if applicable, require certain specialists' to be SACNASP registered. Please ensure that the relevant specialist certificates are attached to the relevant reports.
- (xi) We note that the screening tool indicates that seventeen specialist studies need to be undertaken or conducted. We note that the SR does not include seventeen specialist reports. Please kindly peruse the protocols and provide in the SR site sensitivity reports for each theme/study listed, as well as compliance statements for assessments not needed to be conducted based on your site sensitivity verification.

(g) Cumulative Assessment

- (i) Should there be any other similar projects within a 30km radius of the proposed development site, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined to indicate the following:
 - a) Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land.
 - b) Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist's recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.
 - c) The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.

- d) A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

General

You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that:

“If S&EIR must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 44 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority a scoping report which has been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority”

You are further reminded that the final SR to be submitted to this Department must comply with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of scoping reports in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7).

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely

**Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment**

Signed by: 

Designation: Deputy Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects

Date: 27 January 2023

cc:	Mercia Grimbeek	Dalmanutha Wind (RF) Pty Ltd	Email: mercia.grimbeek@enertrag.com
	Charity Mthimunye	MDARDLEA	Email: cnmthimunye@mpg.gov.za

Annexure 1

Format for Comments and Response Report:

Date of comment, format of comment name of organisation/I&AP,	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
27/03/2021 Email Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment: Priority Infrastructure Projects (Joe Soap)	Please record C&R trail report in this format. Please update the contact details of the provincial environmental authority.	EAP: (Noted) The C&R trail report has been updated into the desired format, see Appendix K. EAP: Details of provincial authority have been updated, see page 16 of the Application form.



EMAKHAZENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

25 Scheepers Street
Belfast, 1100
P. O Box 17
Belfast, 1100

Tel: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]

E-mail: municipality@emakhazenilm.co.za

Office of the Municipal Manager

Enquiries: [REDACTED]

Date: 05 January 2023

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd

Building C

Knightsbridge

33 Sloane Street

Bryanston

2191

Attention: Thirushan Nadar

**SUBJECT: DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY (UP TO 300MW): DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING REPORT
EMAKHAZENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE**

The Emakhazeni Local Municipality (ELM) has assessed the above-mentioned report prepared by WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd on behalf of Dalmanutha WEF (RF) (Pty) Ltd and wish to comment as follows:

- 1. Waste management:** The applicant had indicated that "the hazardous waste generated on site will be collected and disposed at appropriately licenced landfill site and proof of disposal will be retained by the contractors and the facility operators" (page 176) therefore, the municipality would like to commend that. In addition, ELM would like to emphasize that general waste that will be generated on site must be disposed of at an appropriate licenced disposal facility as well, and a signed copy of waste disposal permit must be made available when required.
- 2. Water supply:** The ELM would like to state that, should it happen that the applicant will use water from Municipal water supply; the applicant must have the letter of service level agreement with the Municipality. On the other hand, any potential impact on localized surface water must be prevented, and any pollution problems that may arise should be addressed by the applicant.

Vision:

A developmental local municipality striving to accelerate provision of quality services to the satisfaction of our communities

**DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY (UP TO 300MW): DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING REPORT
EMAKHAZENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE**

3. Ablution facilities: The applicant must note that the use of any chemicals or fertilizers, herbicides, insecticide as well as temporary and chemical toilet facilities must not cause any pollution to a water resource or pose any health hazard. Should it happen that the applicant would dispose the waste at the municipal waste-water treatment works, the applicant must have a service level agreement with the ELM. Any pollution problems that may arise from the above should be addressed immediately by the applicant.

For enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Anza Nefale on the contact details listed above, alternatively on e-mail address: [REDACTED]

Trust you shall find the above in good order.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

MUNICIPAL MANAGER



Vision:
A developmental local municipality striving to accelerate provision of quality services to the satisfaction of our communities

Nadar, Thirushan

From: Nadar, Thirushan
Sent: Tuesday, 07 February 2023 13:47
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] RE: Registration as I&AP: Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility

Tracking:	Recipient	Delivery
	[REDACTED]	
	[REDACTED]	
	[REDACTED]y	
	Strong, Ashlea	Delivered: 2023/02/07 13:47

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for the response.
WSP can confirm that we have added [REDACTED] as an I&AP on the Dalmanutha WEF project.

Kind regards



Thirushan Nadar
Consultant

T +27 11 300-6185
M +27 73 888-3727

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 07 February 2023 12:00
To: Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Registration as I&AP: Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility

Good morning Thirushan,

I hope that this mail finds you well?

Please register [REDACTED] as an I&AP in the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility EA process going forward? Please also reply with confirmation of registration.

Thank you very much, looking forward to future engagement.

Kind regards,



Market Analyst
G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd

5th Floor, 125 Buitengracht Street
Cape Town 8001, South Africa

[REDACTED] tension)

www.g7energies.com

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agriculture, rural development,
land & environmental affairs

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Building 4, Aqua Street, Riverside Park, Mbombela, 1200, Mpumalanga Province, P.O Box 266, Mbombela, 1200
Tel: +27 (013) 759 4000

Litiko Letekulima, Kufutukiswa
Kwetindzawo Tasemakhaya, Temhlaba
Netesimondzawo

Departement van Landbou,
Landelike Ontwikkeling,
Grond en Ongewing Sake

umNyango weZelimo
UkuThuthukiswa kweNdawo zemaKhaya,
iNarha neeNdaba zeBhoduluko

Enquiries :
Telephone :
Reference :



Ms. Ashlea Strong
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 98867
Bryanston
2152

Email: Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com

Dear Madam,

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY ON VARIOUS PORTIONS OF THE FARMS BERG EN DAL 378 JT, VOGELSTRUISPOORT 384 JT, WAAIKRAAL 385 JT, LEEUWKLOOF 403 AND 404 JT, GELUK 405 JT, WELGEVONDEN 412 JT AND CAMELIA 467 JT, BELFAST, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

The Department confirms having received the draft scoping report from you for the abovementioned project on 12 December 2022. After reviewing the report, this Department has the following comments:

1. The proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility is located in an area comprising a **high diversity of Red Listed Birds**, which as confirmed in the Scoping Report, use the full component of micro-habitats on the site.
2. The **Critically Endangered** Wattled Crane has been reported to be breeding on site, and there are reports of regular sitings of between one and four individuals within the proposed development footprint.
3. The risk of collision of **many threatened bird species** and Red Listed bats on wind turbines, and the risk of collision and electrocution of these species on the MV network is **high**, with the scoping report assigning a high significance rating before mitigation.
4. On 11 November 2022, the Minister of the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment gazetted her intent to establish protocols that provide the criteria for the specialist assessment and minimum report content requirements for determining impacts on Cape Vultures associated with the development of onshore wind energy generation facilities, which require environmental authorisation (Notice 2734, Government Gazette, 11 November 2022). The draft protocol prescribes a High to Very High Sensitivity to sites that are located within 50km of a Cape Vulture roost, colony and/or vulture restaurant, and **recommends abandoning proposals for wind energy in such areas**. According to the scoping report, a number of roosts have been identified **on the site**.
5. Shutdown-on-demand is not considered an appropriate means to mitigate the residual negative impacts associated with fatalities of large bodied birds that are listed as threatened.
6. The Scoping Report confirmed that mitigation to reduce or avoid turbine collisions is not possible through spatial avoidance (buffers), and it is our opinion that mitigation is not possible through shutdown-on demand or any other means. The potential loss of critically endangered species must therefore be regarded as a fatal flaw.



According to Regulation 22(b)(i), the competent authority must, within 43 days of receipt of a scoping report – refuse environmental authorisation if – the proposed activity is in conflict with a prohibition contained in legislation.

This Department recommends the refusal of the application in terms of 22(b)(i) on the following grounds:

- The Endangered Cape Vulture, Grey Crowned Crane and the **Critically Endangered** Wattled Crane, which are confirmed to occur on site (along with a host of Red Listed birds), will be impacted and even likely lost. Mitigation measures proposed to reduce the significance of this impact, which includes painting of blades or shutdown-on-demand, are not likely to result in avoidance of collisions. Since the outcome of such mitigation is unreliable, the potential loss of a critically endangered species must be regarded as a fatal flaw.
- This Department is therefore of the opinion that the proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility is not in line with the National Environmental Management Principle that requires that sustainable development must consider the application of a risk-averse and cautious approach that takes into account the limits of current knowledge about the consequences of decisions and actions.
- It is this Department's opinion that, based on the above points, the project is not in line with the National Environmental Management Principle that specifically requires that a development must be socially, environmentally and economically sustainable, as the disturbance of 'ecosystems' and loss of biological diversity cannot be avoided, minimized or remedied.

Please contact this office for any further enquiries.

[REDACTED]
DIRECTOR: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT

DATE: 02/02/2023

[REDACTED]
Department of Fisheries, Forestry and the Environment
[REDACTED]

Nadar, Thirushan

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 01 February 2023 10:52
To: [REDACTED] Strong, Ashlea
Cc: [REDACTED] Nadar, Thirushan
Subject: Re: RE: 1/3/1/16/1N-347 Hendrina Green Hydrogen and Ammonia Facility Acknowledgement

Importance: High

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for this.

Just to confirm - the document submitted on 24 Nov 2022 was the draft report submitted to MDARDLEA for comment (as DFFE is the CA), in which case the reference number allocated by DARDLEA must change as it is not an application for authorisation.

Ashlea - I understand there to be significant concerns in terms impacts on endangered bird species associated with the Dalmanutha WEF project. Please can I request a link to the reports and I will work with Dineo on putting together our comment.

Kind Regards
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
*Director: Environmental Impact Management
Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land & Environmental Affairs
Mpumalanga Provincial Government
Riverside Office Park, Aqua Street (Cycad Building - Block 4)
Nelspruit, 1200
Tel: 0 [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]*

>>> "Strong, Ashlea" <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com> 02/01/23 9:23 AM >>>
Dear [REDACTED]

Please find attached our reply to your original email.

Please note that DFFE is the Competent Authority for the Dalmanutha WEF project. The MDARDLEA will be the Competent Authority for the Dalmanutha West WEF project. This application will be submitted in May 2023.

Kind regards

Ashlea Strong
Principal Associate

T +27 11 361-1392
M +27 82 786-7819

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 01 February 2023 09:01
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]hlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: Fwd: 1/3/1/16/1N-347 Hendrina Green Hydrogen and Ammonia Facility Acknowledgement

Good morning [REDACTED]

Please see message below where I had inquired regarding the application form for Dalmanutha.

I have not received the from yet. I only have an application for Hendrina Green Hydrogen.

Regards
[REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Thu, 15 Dec 2022 12:10:22 +0200
Subject: 1/3/1/16/1N-347 Hendrina Green Hydrogen and Ammonia Facility Acknowledgement
To: Ashlea.strong@wsp.com

Good morning Ms. Strong

Please find attached above-mentioned letters.

Please be advised that our offices have been experiencing numerous network connections and our network systems were down.

Please note that our office received a draft Scoping Report for Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility dated 12/12/2022; I however have not received the application form for Dalmanutha. Is Dalmanutha the same project as Hendrina Green Hydrogen?

If different an application form is required. Documents received on the 24 November 2022 did not include an application form for Dalmanutha.

Kind Regards
[REDACTED]

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Nadar, Thirushan

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 02 February 2023 11:23
To: Nadar, Thirushan
Cc: [REDACTED]; Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review

Thank you Thirushan,

We will endeavour to have comments to you this week, if not today.

Kind Regards
Robyn
Dear [REDACTED]

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>>> "Nadar, Thirushan" <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com> 2023/02/01 11:25 >>>

I hope you are well.

In response to your mail (attached), please see the mail below for the links to the draft scoping report for the proposed Dalmanutha wind energy facility.

Although the commenting period does in fact close tomorrow (2 February 2023), we are happy to give MDARDLEA an extension to Monday 6 February CoB to submit the comments.

Kindly confirm that you can access the documents from the links below.

Kind regards



Thirushan Nadar
Consultant
T +27 11 300-6185
M +27 73 888-3727

From: Nadar, Thirushan
Sent: Monday, 12 December 2022 08:38
To: Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>

Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>; Sean Maphosa <Sean.Maphosa@enertrag.com>; Mmakoena Mmola <Mmakoena.Mmola@enertrag.com>

Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review

Dear Commenting Authority,

PLEASE FIND ATTACHED NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY, MPUMALANGA

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 an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).
- Section 39 or 41(4) of the National Water Act (36 of 1998) (NWA), for the submission of a General Authorisation or Water Use Licence (WUL) Application (as applicable)

The Proponent, ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd (ENERTRAG SA), under the Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) Dalmanutha Wind RF (Pty) Ltd and Dalmanutha West Wind RF (Pty) Ltd, proposes to develop the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Complex, comprising the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility and the Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility, near Belfast, in the Mpumalanga Province. The project falls within the jurisdiction of the Emakhazeni & Albert Luthuli Local Municipalities and the Nkangala & Gert Sibande District Municipalities.

The following farm portions are affected by the project:

- Berg-en-Dal 378 JT (Portions 1 and 9)
- Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (Portion 5 and 7)
- Waaikraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 7, 8, 10, 12,13 and 24)
- Leeuwkloof 403 JT (Portions 3 and 4)
- Leeuwkloof 404 JT (Portions 1 and 2)
- Geluk 405 JT (Portion 3)
- Welgevonden 412 JT (Portion 1)
- Camelia 467 JT (Portion 0)

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent and suitably qualified EAP by ENERTRAG SA (Pty) Ltd, to manage and undertake the S&EIR Process. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Scoping Report has been made available for 30 days from **12 December 2022 to 02 February 2023** on the WSP website, a Datafree website, via One Drive Link for download and the following public places:

Area	Venue	Street Address
Belfast	Emakhazeni Local Municipality Belfast Office	1086 Scheeper St, Belfast, 1100
	eMakhazeni Public Library	25 Scheeper Street, Belfast, 1100
Carolina		
	Carolina Public Library	11 Voortrekker St, Carolina, 1048
OneDrive	<input type="checkbox"/> Dalmanutha Wind Energy facility Commenting Authority	
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder.

WSP contact details are:

Name: Thirushan Nadar
Tel: +27 11 300-6185
Fax: 011 361 1381
E-mail: thirushan.nadar@wsp.com
Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

Protection of Personal Information: 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 storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant 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.

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards



Thirushan Nadar
Consultant

T +27 11 300-6185
M +27 73 888-3727



WSP in Africa
Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
South Africa

wsp.com

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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building C, Knightsbridge, 33 Sloane Street, Bryanston, 2191, South Africa Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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-LAEmlHhHzdJzBITWfs4Hgs7pbKI

Nadar, Thirushan

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 13 January 2023 12:05
To: Strong, Ashlea; Nadar, Thirushan
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review

Good afternoon,

Thank you for the clarification. No payment is required as the application was submitted in 2022.

Please take of the payment requirements for all future applications.

Kind regards,

From: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Sent: 13 January 2023 12:02
To: [REDACTED] Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review
Importance: High

Dear Natasha

Thank you for your email – Please note that a SAHRIS Application was created and submitted on Monday, December 12, 2022 - CaseID: 20349.

We trust that as the case was submitted prior to 1 January 2023 that the Application Fee will not be required.

Kind regards



Ashlea Strong
Principal Associate
T +27 11 361-1392
M +27 82 786-7819

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 13 January 2023 08:37
To: Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review

Good day,

Please note that all development applications are processed via our online portal, the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS) found at the following link: <http://sahra.org.za/sahris/>. We do not accept emailed, posted, hardcopy, faxed, website links or DropBox links as official submissions.

Please create **an application on SAHRIS** and upload all documents pertaining to the Environmental Authorisation Application Process. As per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA), an assessment of heritage resources must form part of the process and the assessment must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA. If a case already exists on SAHRIS regarding the development, please upload the documents to that case.

Once all documents including all appendices are uploaded to the case applications, please ensure that the status of the case is changed from DRAFT to SUBMITTED. Please ensure that all documents produced as part of the EA process are submitted as part of the application.

****PLEASE NOTE****

An application fee is now required for all section 38 applications. Please ensure that the SAHRIS application contains a proof of payment as per the notice at the following link: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/content/what-are-sahra-processing-fees-and-banking-details>. A payment of R 2 000.00 for this application is required. Applications that do not include a proof of payment will be considered incomplete and will not be processed until proof of payment is provided.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 January 2023 18:39
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review

From: Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>
Sent: Monday, 12 December 2022 08:38
To: Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>; Sean Maphosa <Sean.Maphosa@enertrag.com>; Mmakoena Mmola <Mmakoena.Mmola@enertrag.com>
Subject: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY: Draft Scoping Report Review

Dear Commenting Authority,

PLEASE FIND ATTACHED NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY, MPUMALANGA

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 an application for environmental authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).
- Section 39 or 41(4) of the National Water Act (36 of 1998) (NWA), for the submission of a General Authorisation or Water Use Licence (WUL) Application (as applicable)

The Proponent, ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd (ENERTRAG SA), under the Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) Dalmanutha Wind RF (Pty) Ltd and Dalmanutha West Wind RF (Pty) Ltd, proposes to develop the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Complex, comprising the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility and the Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility, near Belfast, in the Mpumalanga Province. The project falls within the jurisdiction of the Emakhazeni & Albert Luthuli Local Municipalities and the Nkangala & Gert Sibande District Municipalities.

The following farm portions are affected by the project:


- Berg-en-Dal 378 JT (Portions 1 and 9)

- Vogelstruispoort 384 JT (Portion 5 and 7)
- Waaikraal 385 JT (Portions 6, 7, 8, 10, 12,13 and 24)
- Leeuwkloof 403 JT (Portions 3 and 4)
- Leeuwkloof 404 JT (Portions 1 and 2)
- Geluk 405 JT (Portion 3)
- Welgevonden 412 JT (Portion 1)
- Camelia 467 JT (Portion 0)

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent and suitably qualified EAP by ENERTRAG SA (Pty) Ltd, to manage and undertake the S&EIR Process. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process.

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Scoping Report has been made available for 30 days from **12 December 2022 to 02 February 2023** on the WSP website, a Datafree website, via One Drive Link for download and the following public places:

Area	Venue	Street Address
Belfast	Emakhazeni Local Municipality Belfast Office	1086 Scheeper St, Belfast, 1100
	eMakhazeni Public Library	25 Scheeper Street, Belfast, 1100
Carolina		
	Carolina Public Library	11 Voortrekker St, Carolina, 1048
OneDrive	 Dalmanutha Wind Energy facility Commenting Authority	
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents	
Datafree Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	

Please note that you will receive a separate email with the link to the one drive. This link will then request a verification number which will automatically be sent to your email address – if it doesn't seem to come through please check your "spam" folder.

WSP contact details are:

Name: Thirushan Nadar
 Tel: +27 11 300-6185
 Fax: 011 361 1381
 E-mail: thirushan.nadar@wsp.com
 Address: PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152

Protection of Personal Information: 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 storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant 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.

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards



Thirushan Nadar
Consultant

T +27 11 300-6185
M +27 73 888-3727



WSP in Africa
Building 1, Golder House, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
South Africa

wsp.com

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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building C, Knightsbridge, 33 Sloane Street, Bryanston, 2191, South Africa Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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J.AEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hqs7pbKI



Heritage Officer: APM



T: [Redacted]
M: [Redacted]
E: [Redacted]

A: SAHRA, 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town, 8001,
Western Cape, ZA
www.sahra.org.za

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Heritage Officer: Archaeology, Palaeontology and
Meteorites Unit



T: [Redacted]
M: [Redacted]
E: [Redacted]

A: SAHRA, 111 Harrington Street, Cape Town, 8001,
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T: [REDACTED]
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Western Cape, ZA
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Nadar, Thirushan

From: Nadar, Thirushan
Sent: Friday, 03 February 2023 08:12
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: Dalmanutha Wind farm

Tracking:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Strong, Ashlea

Delivered: 2023/02/03 08:13

Read: 2023/02/03 08:13

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your response and interest in the proposed Dalmanutha WEF project.

We have added your contact details on to our database for future correspondence regarding the project.

[REDACTED] thanks for forwarding the mail to us.

Kind regards



Thirushan Nadar
Consultant

T +27 11 300-6185
M +27 73 888-3727

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 03 February 2023 07:20
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Nadar, Thirushan <Thirushan.Nadar@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: Dalmanutha Wind farm

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for contacting me, and for your valuable input on the birds and plants occurring in the area.

I am copying Thirushan Nadar from WSP, who I believe will be the right person to register you as an IAP. Thirushan will also share your mail with the botanist on the project

If you have coordinates for the wetland potentially housing White-winged Flufftail, the Seabird nest, and the Southern Bald Ibis breeding site please could you send these to me?

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
c: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, 02 February 2023 16:58

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Dalmanutha Wind farm

Hi [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] from Birdlife Africa send me your contact details.

I would like to register as a interested and affected party as I farm on Vogelstruispoort 384 JT portion 8.

I had contact with Birdlife Africa a few years back as I suspect that there were white winged flufftails on my property.

I photographed a breeding pair of secretary birds, that has been in the Dalmanutha area for years. I also kept track of a flock of bald ibisses that breed there. I also have evidence of blue crane, vultures and several raptors.

The area is extremely sensitive - I had a professional plant survey done and we found more than 200 indigenous plant species on less than 100 ha. This includes a few red data species - Gladiolus malvinus etc. The area is dotted with pans and even in the drier areas the plant species indicates the presence of wetlands.

Please contact me for more information or a site visit.

I think a wind farm will be detrimental to the area.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

OFFICE OF THE CEO

Ref: LUA 22/3315

Unit: LUA/SS

Enquiries: [REDACTED]

Tel/ Fax: [REDACTED]

E-Mail: [REDACTED]

Ms. A. Strong
WSP Group Africa (PTY) Ltd
P.O. Box 98867
Sloane Park
BRYANSTONE
2152

E-mail: Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com

Dear Ms. Strong

SUBJECT: THE MTPA COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT EIR FOR THE PROPOSED DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY FACILITY FOR THE ENERTRAG UNDER TWO SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES (SPVs) – DALMANUTHA WIND RF (PTY)LTD AND DALMANUTHA WEST WIND RF INCLUDING THE GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR BOTH PROJECTS NEAR BELFAST IN MPUMALANGA PROVINCE. DFFE REF: TBC.

Your correspondence with WPS reference **41103722** of November 2022 refer.

The applicant proposes the development of a Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility (WEF) under two Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV) that entails the Dalmanutha Wind Renewable Facility (RF) and Dalmanutha West Wind RF that will extend over an area that is approximately 9400 ha. The project entails the establishment of 70 wind turbines, each with a permanent hard standing area; the establishment of an internal gravel road, approximately 60km long and 6m wide, that will connect the wind turbines; development of buildings that will act as the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and maintenance facilities; a site substation; a temporary construction camp and laydown area as well as sewage and ablution facilities. The applicant will erect fencing around the development area of up to 4m high. The proposed directly impacted development footprint is approximately 400 ha. The Dalmanutha site was selected due to its proximity to Gumeni MTS located approximately 17.5 km from the proposed project site.

The MTPA has reviewed the application and objects to the proposed wind farm. However, our comments should be viewed in context to our approach on commenting on the renewable energy applications in the province, and the extreme sensitivity of the receiving area. The MTPA is committed to ensuring a just transition from coal fired coal power stations to green energy, however, we are mindful of the potential impacts of this largely 'new' technology within the province, particularly on species that are already at risk of extinction.

The MTPA is currently working with several the Independent Power Producers (IPP) that will be leasing land from Eskom for renewable energy projects. There are 17 projects and we don't foresee any fatal flaws at this stage of the assessment. Furthermore, the DFFE's Renewable Energy EIA Application database has 21 projects occurring in the province of which only 1 may have some impacts on biodiversity. WSP and Enertrag have also submitted 5

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applications to the MTPA wherein we have supported the development of the Camden 1 and 2 projects, even though there were some sensitivities. This context is important because the MTPA has until now not objected to any of the renewable energy applications. Unfortunately, the location of the proposed Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility (DWEF) is in an area where the risk of collision with many threatened bird species is simply too great to be supported by us. The project is fatally flawed. We have sought counsel with Birdlife, Endangered Wildlife Trust, VulPro, bird specialists, and our local Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Rural Development Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA), and we are all in agreement that the location of the proposed DWEF should not be approved.

Before getting into the reasons for the objection, it is important to note that each pylon may be up to 200m high with a rotor blade 100m long. Although the standing area of the turbines may only be 4 ha in size, the area impacted by the blades will be a lot larger, in fact, the area covered by the blades (as a sphere) is around 418 ha (see Figure 1).



Figure 1 A 3D map drawn to scale in real world units that displays the proposed 70 wind turbines in transparent white, and the 7 sensitive ones that will be removed in reddish-orange. A 100m buffer is created around each wind turbine (based on the length of the rotor blades). The area impacted by the blades is an estimated 418 ha. From the map it is easier to visualise the proposed impact on a landscape with many threatened birds species, with some that are breeding/roosting.

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Reasons for our objection

There are several reasons for our objection, and many of which can be mitigated and perhaps offset, but there are handful of fatal flaws that we will mention below. We are a bit fortunate that several wind farms have been established in the Western and Eastern Cape and we can learn from these processes.

To pre-empt a response from the developer that these impacts can be mitigated, this is not always possible. We learnt this week from VulPro that two threatened vultures recently perished after colliding with a rotor blade at a wind farm in the Eastern Cape. This was with the mitigation measures in place. The risk of a single failure could have devastating impacts on some of the species we are concerned about. A 1km buffer is simply not adequate as birds are very mobile and the 100m long rotor blades are spinning and unseen and undetected by the birds (see Figures 1 and 3). If we consider what buffers are being proposed for some species, like the Cape Vulture, then research proposes a 50km buffer around frequently used roost sites. As far as we can tell, there is absolutely no scientific basis for the small buffers proposed as mitigation measures in the scoping report. Birds do not frequent small areas, they cover large areas and a more adequate buffer of 15-20 km would probably be a minimum for species threatened with extinction (in our opinion).

Avifaunal Sensitivity

Unlike areas that are no longer natural, that bird and bat species can avoid, a wind farm located in an important areas for birds, and as an important regional flyway, will be a death trap to the species moving through it. Mitigation measures may reduce the impacts, but they will still occur as has been observed in many of the current wind farms in South Africa. Even with mitigation, birds and bats do die. I do not believe we can afford to lose even a handful of individual birds based on the following.

Significant regional diversity and density of threatened bird species.

The MTPA has for over the last 25 years being managing a database of threatened species observations, which it uses in the development of its biodiversity sector plan and protected area expansion strategies. This database was queried to identify the number of species of conservation concern (threatened or rare) occurring within the DWEF footprint area, and we have a total of 71 observations for 19 species. Of these, 14 are bird species and 5 are plant species. These are presented in Table 1 and exclude those species identified by the specialists for this draft scoping report.

Many of the records in our database are based on collating observations from other scientists and research reports. This data is skewed towards areas which have been surveyed. In Figure 2, the map shows more records towards the north although we believe that if the same research effort was applied to the southern section, we would have a lot more observations for this area too as they are ecologically very similar.

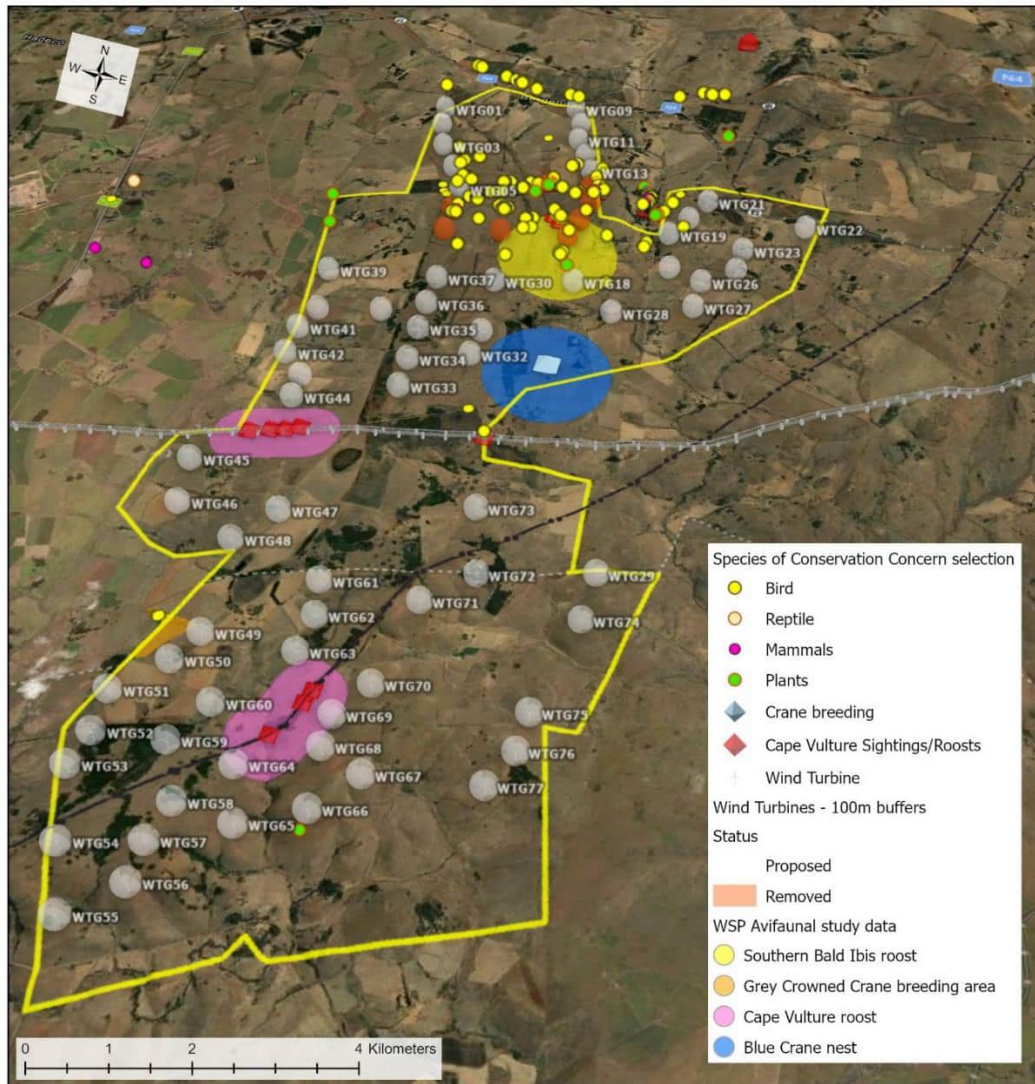


Figure 2: 3D map of the entire Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility showing the location of the wind turbines, MTPA species data, and the species data collected by the avifaunal specialist on behalf of the developer.

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Table 1: List of species of conservation concern recorded within Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility footprint area.

Taxonomic	Species	IUCN Status	Count of records
Bird	Wattled Crane	CR	17
Bird	Black-rumped Buttonquail	EN	1
Bird	Cape Vulture	EN	3
Bird	Grey Crowned Crane	EN	1
Bird	Blue Crane	VU	2
Bird	Bush Blackcap	VU	7
Bird	Denham's Bustard	VU	1
Bird	Secretary bird	VU	7
Bird	Southern Bald Ibis	VU	6
Bird	White-bellied Korhaan (Barrows Korhaan)	VU	10
Bird	Yellow-breasted Pipit	VU	1
Bird	Blue Korhaan	NT	2
Bird	Half-collared Kingfisher	NT	1
Bird	Pallid Harrier	NT	1
Plant	<i>Eulophia cooperi</i>	Rare	1
Plant	<i>Habenaria anguiceps</i>	Rare	1
Plant	<i>Habenaria humilior</i>	Rare	2
Plant	<i>Habenaria laevigata</i>	Rare	3
Plant	<i>Gladiolus malvinus</i>	VU	2

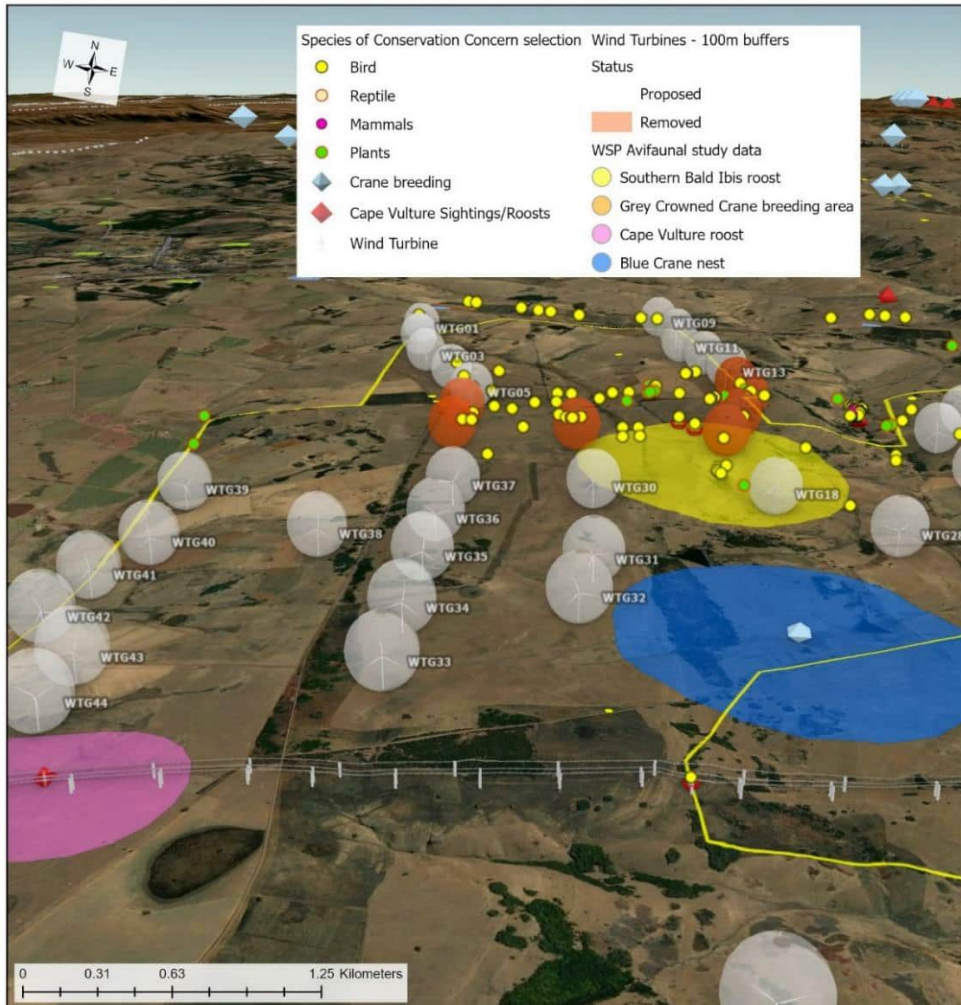


Figure 3: A close up 3D map of the northern section of the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility to better visualise the proximity of the species data to the wind turbines. The wind turbines were buffered by the distance of the rotor blades.

The occurrence of the following specific bird species of concern

The below sections highlights the occurrence of several bird species of conservation concern, where we feel that the proposed mitigation measures would be unable to protect these species from collisions.

Cape Vulture, *Gyps coprotheres*, Endangered.

Up to 100 individuals have been recorded on site at a time. The specialist report confirms that this species forages and roosts within footprint area (at least 43 roosting on the Eskom pylons). A local farmer even established a vulture restaurant to support the vultures. Wind farms are known to kill Cape Vultures and nationally Birdlife have developed guidelines for Cape Vultures and wind farms (Pfeiffer & Ralston-Paton 2018), and these recommend a 50km buffer around frequently used roosts.

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On the 11 November 2022, DFFE gazetted its intent establish protocols that provide the criteria for the specialist assessment and minimum report content requirements for determining impacts on Cape Vultures associated with the development of onshore wind energy generation facilities, which require environmental authorisation (Notice 2734, Government Gazette, 11 November 2022). The significance of some of these protocols, when gazetted, is that:

- The site sensitivity verification must be for a period not less than 12 months.
- The specialist undertaking the work must have demonstrated expertise in Cape Vulture observation and research.
- Vantage point monitoring must be by two people at the same time for a duration of at least 72 hours per vantage point for the 12 months. Vantage point monitoring is to determine the level of Cape Vulture flight activity on the site and the height of flight.
- Consultation with relevant non-governmental organisations with an interest in Cape Vulture protection including BirdLife South Africa, VulPro and the Endangered Wildlife Trust.

Where the significance rating for the Cape Vulture alone is *Very High* and *High*, then the area is potentially unsuitable for wind energy (as per protocol). There are several criteria proposed for an area to qualify as *Very High* to *High* significance, and one of these is if it is within 50 km of the proposed wind farm. As the frequently used roost is within the proposed wind farm, this criterion would be triggered and the sensitivity would be *Very High* to *High*. Application of the guidelines would then prohibit any wind farms within 50 km of the Cape Vulture roost.

The Cape Vulture protocol lists a bunch of other required documentation, such as monitoring plans, a Cape Vulture Specialist Assessment, compliance statements, etc..

White-backed Vulture, *Gyps africanus*, Critically Endangered.

Not resident but observed flying over area. We don't anticipate an impact on this species but it highlights the broader importance of this area and the likely occurrence of an important flyway for large bodied birds over this area.

Wattled Crane, *Grus carunculata*, Critically Endangered.

This **species alone is a fatal flaw for this project**, let alone all the numerous other sensitivities that we will mention. With the occurrence of between 1 and 4 individuals that are regularly seen within the footprint area, and that are reported to be breeding (according to farmer. but chicks have been observed by ornithologist), we cannot allow for a single adult bird to be lost due collision with a rotor blade from a wind farm. This species is Critically Endangered and the numbers of Wattle Crane are declining in the province and we **currently only have between 3 and 6 pairs of Wattled Crane** (EWT, pers com.). Therefore, we can afford to loose a single bird.

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In addition, the following Red data species too:

- Grey Crowned Crane, *Balearica regulorum*, **Endangered**. Breeding pair within footprint area.
- Black-rumped Buttonquail, *Turnix nanus*, **Endangered**. Several occurrences within footprint
- Blue Crane, *Anthropoides paradiseus*, **Vulnerable**. Several birds forage within footprint and with 1 nest on site.
- Southern Bald Ibis, *Geronticus calvus*, **Vulnerable**. Forages and roosts within footprint area. Up to 18 birds with 5 nesting birds in colony.
- Yellow-breasted Pipit, *Anthus chloris*, **Vulnerable**. Three pairs observed over a number of years.
- Denham's Bustard, *Neotis denhami*, **Vulnerable**. Large bodied bird that forages within footprint area.
- Secretary bird, *Sagittarius serpentarius*, **Vulnerable**. Occurs within footprint area across all seasons.
- White-bellied Korhaan, *Eupodotis senegalensis*, **Vulnerable**. Occurs within footprint area across all seasons.
- Lanner Falcon, *Falco biarmicus*, **Vulnerable**. Occurs within footprint area across all seasons.
- Blue Korhaan, *Eupodotis caerulescens*, **Near Threatened**. Observed within footprint area.
- Greater Flamingo, *Phoenicopterus ruber*, **Near Threatened**. Observed within footprint area.
- Lesser Flamingo, *Phoenicopterus minor*, **Near Threatened**. Probable (SABAP 2 data).

Located along important escarpment Flyway for Birds

Although we don't have data to substantiate it, the high escarpment area that runs from Dullstroom down to Wakkerstroom is in all likelihood a flyway used by large birds that move and forage, or migrate, over large distances. We require satellite-tracking devices fitted to more birds to confirm this, but if we consider all of our current foraging areas, limited bird tracking data, and observations for these large bodied birds, then this eastern escarpment area is certainly an area in all likelihood an important flyway. The DWEF is located in the centre of this flyway and the birds utilising this corridor may collide with the blades of the turbines.

Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBBAS)

IBBAs are Birdlife's demarcated areas that are globally important for the conservation of bird populations on the basis of an internationally agreed set of criteria. It is very significant that the proposed DWEF occurs in part of the Steenkampsberg IBBA. The Avian Demography UNIT from the University of Cape Town also manages a handful of Coordinated Avifaunal Road counts (CAR) throughout some of the priority birding areas of the country and two of these occur within the proposed DWEF (see Figure 5-28 of draft scoping report). In addition, the Avian wind farm sensitivity map also highlights the significant sensitivity of the pentad in which the DWEF occurs (see Figure 5-29 of draft scoping report). Therefore, from a national and international planning point of view, the proposed DWEF is partly located with a significant priority area for birds and any kind of development that may kill significant numbers of adult birds over a number of years, should not be authorised here.

There are also numerous pans and wetlands within the study area that will attract bird species, such as the Flamingos that move between pans (see Figure 5-25 of draft scoping report). The African March Harrier will frequent the wetlands areas, together with some of the cranes. A 1km buffer from these areas are grossly inadequate.

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The DWEF, and the associated infrastructure, will have a direct impact on biodiversity in terms of land actually transformed from a natural to a transformed state. The draft Scoping report tries to address and mitigate these impacts. These impacts include impacts to our *Critical Biodiversity Areas Irreplaceable* sites (see Figure 4), however these can in part be addressed by the mitigation measures. However, it is the indirect and long-term indirect impacts from collisions with the blades on the avifaunal and bat diversity that is of most concern.

Wind Resource

The project site was selected based on proximity to grid, availability of land, and an acceptable wind resource (estimated 6 - 7 m/s). We are aware that the data source for these wind speed calculations is based on the interpolation of a number of very sparse weather stations that actually record wind speed (High-Resolution Wind Resource Map for South Africa 2020 March 2021). Most of the suitable stations are actually located in the southern half of South Africa. The values for Mpumalanga are also quite low when compared nationally, and it highlights the inherent uncertainty with a marginal wind resource that may result in the collision with many birds of conservation concern if approved.

No Project Alternative

It so reported that the “no project” alternative would be a missed opportunity to address the need for increases in renewable energy generation. We realise that but believe there are several other renewable energy applications trying to similarly address this need but that the risk to our vulnerable threatened bird and bat species is too grate to consider in this specific area. Perhaps the developer can consider alternative green energy solutions, such as hydrocarbons, for this area. However, a wind farm is not a suitable development model for this sensitive area.

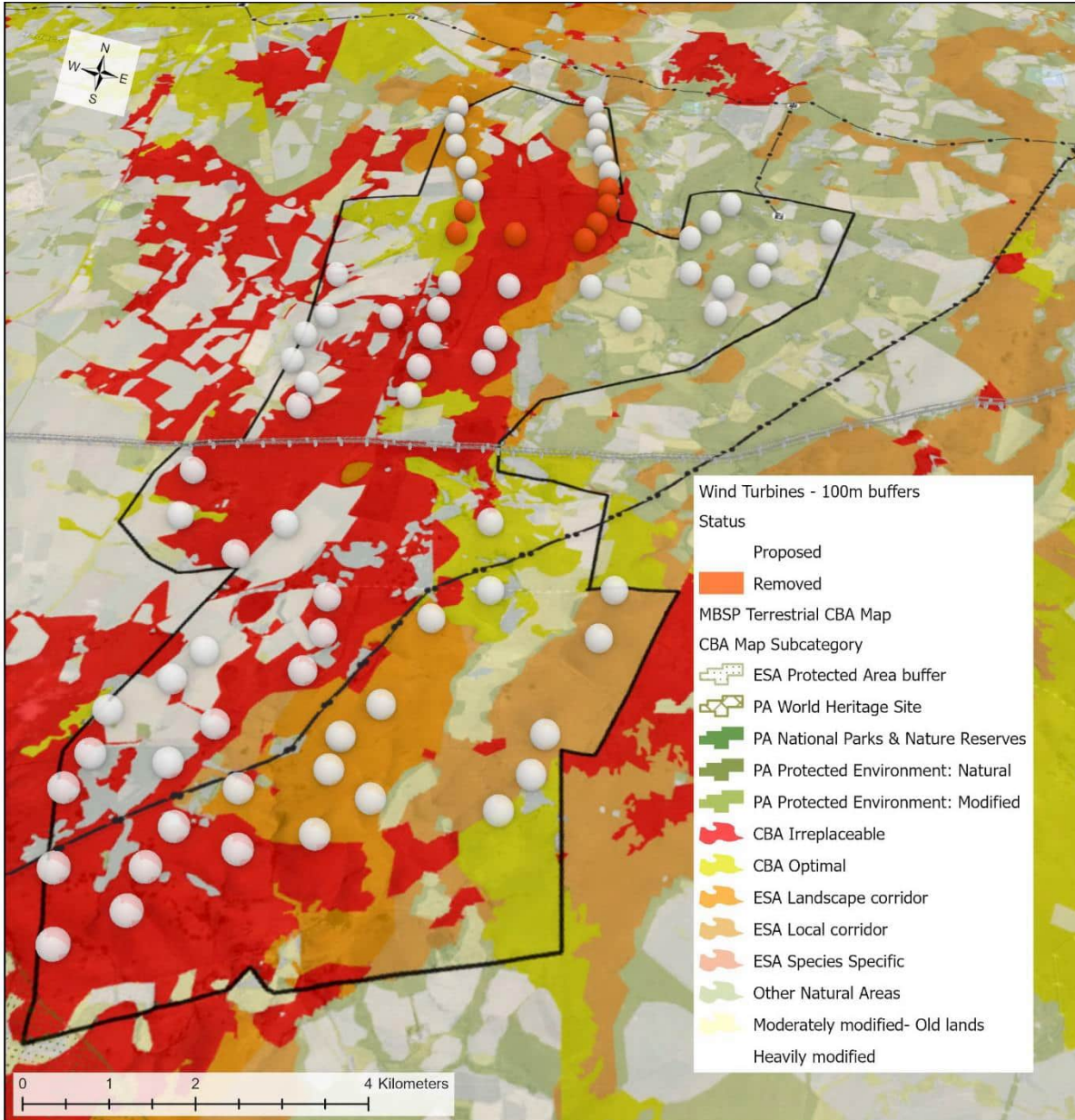


Figure 4: Map showing the *Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) Irreplaceable* areas, as well as other priority biodiversity areas within the proposed DWEF footprint area. The position of the wind turbines is indicated by means of spheres that represent a 100m buffer around each turbine (the length of the blades). The map is created using real world units so the scale is accurate.

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Terrestrial biodiversity assessment

The draft scoping report acknowledges the significant occurrence of *Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) Irreplaceable* within the footprint area (Figure 4). The scoping report also acknowledges that the majority of the infrastructure is also placed within the National Protected Area Expansion Areas (2016) terrestrial priority focus areas. Both the desktop and specialist survey acknowledge the High Sensitivity of the terrestrial biodiversity. This sensitivity supports the concern we have around the difficulties of trying to mitigate impacts on provincial and national biodiversity priority areas. It is impossible to mitigate impacts on the *CBA Irreplaceable* areas.

Errors or misleading information in the Draft Scoping report

We noted that the elevation map in Figure 5-9 and Figure 5-16, do not include a legend for elevation and that the elevation symbology collar ramp has been reversed. Therefore, the colours that usually represent high altitude areas now represent low altitude areas.

In Figure 5-21, there is reference to the priority focus areas of the National Protected Area Development Areas (2016). This is incorrect. It is in fact the National Protected Area **Expansion** Areas (2016).

Several species under the avifaunal section do not have the Latin names included. Some do, some do not, and a more consistent approach is requested.

In conclusion, we are very concerned about the proposed establishment of a wind farm, and if approved, the proposed wind farm will have devastating impact on the threatened bird species found within this area. Specialist study itself acknowledges that "*The proposed WEF will pose a collision risk to several priority species which could occur regularly at the site. Species exposed to this risk are large terrestrial species and occasional long-distance fliers i.e., bustards, cranes, flamingos, storks, Southern Bald Ibis and Secretary bird*". The evidence available is overwhelming; it confirms the occurrence of a very special, important, and vulnerable high-altitude grassland area that is supporting a number of threatened bird species throughout the year. This includes the Critically Endangered Wattled Crane where we only have between 3 and 6 pairs left in the province. The impact of losing a single bird could have national and global consequences for the survival of this species. Furthermore, the proposed mitigation measures are grossly inadequate and we feel strongly (convicted is perhaps a better word), that this application is fatally flawed due to its impacts on the avifauna. We advise the applicant to look into developing other forms of renewable energy or move the location of this proposed development much further away.

OFFICE OF THE CEO

Please do not hesitate to contact this office if there are any enquiries.

Regards,



ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DATE: _____ / _____ / 2023

References

MTPA. 2014. *Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan Handbook*. Compiled by Lötter M.C., Cadman, M.J. and Lechmere-Oertel R.G. Mpumalanga Tourism & Parks Agency, Mbombela (Nelspruit).

Pfeiffer, M & Ralston-Paton, S. 2018. *Cape Vulture and Wind Farms. Guidelines for impact assessment, monitoring and mitigation*. BirdLife South Africa.



MEETING NOTES

JOB TITLE	Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility
PROJECT NUMBER	41103722
DATE	14 June 2022
TIME	09h00
VENUE	MS Teams
SUBJECT	Pre-application Meeting with DFFE
CLIENT	Dalmanutha Wind (PTY) LTD
PRESENT	Ashlea Strong (AS) - WSP Thirushan Nadar (TN)- WSP Muhammad Essop (ME)- DFFE Coenrad Agenbach (CA)-DFFE Trisha Rene Pillay (TP)- DFFE Andrea Gibb (AG)- Enertrag SA Sean Maphosa (SM)- Enertrag SA Sandhisha Jay Narain (SJN)- Enertrag SA
APOLOGIES	Michael Barnes (MB) -Enertrag SA

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www.wsp.com \\corp.pbwan.net\za\Central_Data\Projects\41100xxx\41103722 - Dalmanutha WEF\41 ES\01-Reports\01-Pre-App\Pre-app Meeting\41103722_Dalmanutha pre-app Meeting_Meeting Notes_20220801_Final for Issue.docx

MEETING NOTES

MATTERS ARISING

ACTION

NOTE:

These notes constitute a summary of the key discussion points and decisions made during the discussion. They are not intended to reflect the exact discussions held.

1.0 INTRODUCTIONS

Muhammad Essop (ME) opened meeting welcoming everyone and handed over to WSP. Each team proceeded with introductions (WSP, DFFE & ENERTRAG SA)

Ashlea Strong (AS) noted that Michael Barnes gave apologies for not attending.

Approval was obtained to record the meeting for minute purposes.

None

2.0 PRESENTATION

ME requested that all questions should be raised with the “hand” function on MS teams

DFFE handed over to WSP for the presentation of the Dalmanutha wind farm project overview details and specifications.

Thirushan Nadar (TN) began presentation outlining the projects namely:

- Dalmanutha WEF (up to 300MW),
- Dalmanutha WEF grid infrastructure, (up to 132kV)
- Dalmanutha West WEF (less than 20MW)
- Dalmanutha West WEF grid infrastructure (up to 132kV)
- Common collector up to 132kV substation and powerline

The Presentation is included in **Appendix A**.

Location of the project and its respective district and local municipalities were presented.

AS further mentioned, that the project located, along the N4 running through towards Nelspruit on the northern boundary, (near the Bergendal Monument) the facility then runs southwards towards the next closest town, which is Carolina.

Coenrad Agenbach (CA) enquired on why the facility is being separated into WEF (up to 300MW) & West (less than 20MW) due to it sometimes problematic to later split and/or join the licence and authorisations.

Sean Maphosa (SM) replied, Dalmanutha West will possibly be off taken by EXXARO mine to supply power to them, just west from the location. If not it will connect to the main substation on the Dalmanutha facility, thereafter proceed to be Gumeni MTS.

ME noted that it was important to identify if the projects will be part of the IRP and or bidding programs, in order to find out who the Competent authority is for each. Thereafter, agreed to raise it at the end of the meeting.

TN noted that the project does not fall within a REDZ.

TN mentioned the projects will be applied for under a Special Purpose vehicles (SPV) allowing each to have its own EA

Scoping & EIA process

Dalmanutha WEF (up to 300MW),

Basic assessment process

Dalmanutha WEF grid infrastructure, (up to 132kV)

Dalmanutha West WEF (less than 20MW)

Dalmanutha West WEF grid infrastructure (up to 132kV)

Common collector up to 132kV substation and powerline

MEETING NOTES

WULA component also will be required.

ME enquired if CBA and ESA identified on site were from DFFE screening tool, TN confirmed the tool was done and a report was generated giving this result.

ME also asked if there were Bioregional plans, sector plans or CBA plans for Mpumalanga province.

AS replied, yes there is the Mpumalanga Biodiversity Plan which the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA) utilises.

ME noted that there is a need for finding out which particular CBA region the project falls under because the relative requirements will need to be adhered to for developments in those areas. *ME gave example of CBA area 1 requiring biodiversity offset and the need to include offsets thereafter.*

WSP confirmed

AS confirmed that this will be part of scope of work for the Ecology and terrestrial biodiversity studies.

ME mentioned that the specific listed activities triggered will need to be noted.

WSP confirmed

TN confirmed that only High-level Listed activities were outlined in the presentation and that the full scale of triggered activities will be listed later in Scoping and EIA phase.

WSP confirmed

CA enquired on Activity 11 in the project description referring to 3 wind farms, which was probably just a mistake? The error was confirmed, and TN noted that only 2 wind facilities will form part of the applications.

ME enquired if there are separate specialists for the different disciplines and if they are SACNASP accredited, and have all read and understood the protocols

AS confirmed, all of the above.

ME mentioned, Part A of protocols must be read, understood and included in reports of EIA phase, site verification and motivation component as well.

Sandhisha Jay Narain (SJN) enquired if terrestrial biodiversity and aquatic biodiversity study can be done by one specialist or must be two separate specialists.

AS Confirmed

ME answered it should ideally be two different specialists, AS further mentioned for this project will be separate specialists per discipline.

AS confirmed

Andrea Gibb (AG) enquired if fauna and flora should be different specialist as well.

ME outlined that according to regs the relative specialist must be registered in that specific field (i.e. aquatic specialist registered to produce aquatic studies), flora and fauna can be the same report. However, when encountering different threatened species then specific specialists will need to be appointed.

SM confirmed

ME enquired on Geotech study being included for all projects.

AS confirmed that a desktop Geotechnical Study is being included for all projects. Furthermore, AS mentioned, that studies identified by the screening tool for which external specialists were not appointed (i.e. low sensitivities), included the Aviation and Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) studies. In these cases the study/assessment will be done by WSP. WSP will be notifying the relevant stakeholders accordingly including Air Traffic Navigation Services (ATNS), Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), South African Weather Service (SAWS) and relevant telecommunication providers.

WSP to attach to minutes

AS noted, that the bigger facility will be Bid in the REIPPPP and the smaller facility ideally will be off taken by Exxaro mine (if not then will be bought into the REIPPPP Bid). SM agreed.

ME noted that 300MW facility is bidding application, and 20MW facility will be off taken, therefore the **300MW facility together with grid infrastructure, (up to 132kV) and Common Collector**

MEETING NOTES

132kV and substation power line will have the DFFE as the Competent authority (National) and the West 20MW facility together with the grid infrastructure (up to 132kV) will have MDARDLEA (Provincial) as Competent authority.

The Public Participation Plan (PPP) was presented and WSP noted that although not required a PPP will be made available with the minutes.

AG enquired on consolidated PP process despite different competent authorities. AS noted that the PP will be undertaken in a consolidated manner as far as possible so as to reduce the potential for stakeholder fatigue, especially considering the surrounding mining areas.

CA enquired if the language of the Project documents will be made available only in English and Afrikaans and not other languages. Possibility of having an executive summary in relative languages should be considered. AS confirmed that plans were already in place to ensure that adverts, site notices, notification letters and background information documents will be in English, Afrikaans and Zulu.

CA noted that Mining right holders must be considered as well as SANRAL and tourism sectors. Consult with biodiversity unit and protected areas unit and relative officials and protected parks. Visual impact assessment important as well.

AS confirmed all of the above. AS also noted that a Data free website will be used for access to project information

ME hesitant to agree to consolidated PPP. DFFE ok with it if MDARDLEA is on board as well. Furthermore, each project must have its own Stakeholder Engagement Report.

AS enquired if the DFFE would support combined specialist reporting, if they split impact assessment and mitigation for different projects?

CA replied DFFE don't support this. AS noted this response.

CA mentioned generic EMPr for substations etc are required in addition to the normal EMPrs. AS confirmed that these will be included in the EMPrs as required.

If Offsets are required as per mitigation hierarchy, DFFE requires draft Offset plan upfront with draft agreement in place for inclusion in Draft BAR or EIAR- time implications must be considered. Scoping report must have way forward if Offset plan is needed or not. This should be supported by specialists and authorities either agreeing or disagreeing if required.

Minutes to be sent to ME and TP

WSP to confirm with MDARDLEA

WSP noted

TN noted

3.0 CONCLUDING

- No further comments from attendees
- Meeting concluded


MEETING NOTES

APPENDIX A: PRESENTATION

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DFFE Pre-Application Meeting

Dalmanutha Wind Energy Complex




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Introductions

Developer	ENERTRAC South Africa (Pty) Ltd Michael Barnes (Senior Project Developer) Sandhisha Jay Narain (Senior Project Developer) Sean Maphosa (Junior Project Developer) Andrea Gibb (Senior Project Developer)
EAP	WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd Ashlea Strong (Project Manager) Thirushan Nadar (Consultant)
Authority	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) Muhammad Essop Trisha Pillay Coenrad Agenbach



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Agenda

- 1 **Overview of the Project**
Background
Location
- 2 **Overview & Confirmation of Permitting Processes**
Listed Activities
Specialist Assessments as identified by DFFE Screening Tool
Specialist Studies commissioned
Specialist Studies not commissioned
Competent Authority
- 3 **Public Participation Process**
- 4 **Timeframes**
- 5 **Discussion**
Clarification
Questions
Way Forward

3

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Overview of the Project

Background

ENERTRAG SA proposes to establish a renewable energy facility near Belfast Mpumalanga, known as the Dalmanutha Energy Complex, which requires various applications for environmental authorisations.

The proposed complex is divided into 5 subprojects:

- **Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility (WEF) (up to 300MW)**
- **Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility Grid infrastructure (up to 132kV)**
- **Dalmanutha West WEF (less than 20MW)**
- **Dalmanutha West Grid infrastructure (up to 132kV)**
- **Common Collection up to 132kV Substation and Powerline**

Each facility will include a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). The BESS will be used to store excess energy generated by the wind facilities. The BESS will have a storage capacity of up to 100MW/400MWh with up to four hours of storage.

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Overview of the Project

Location

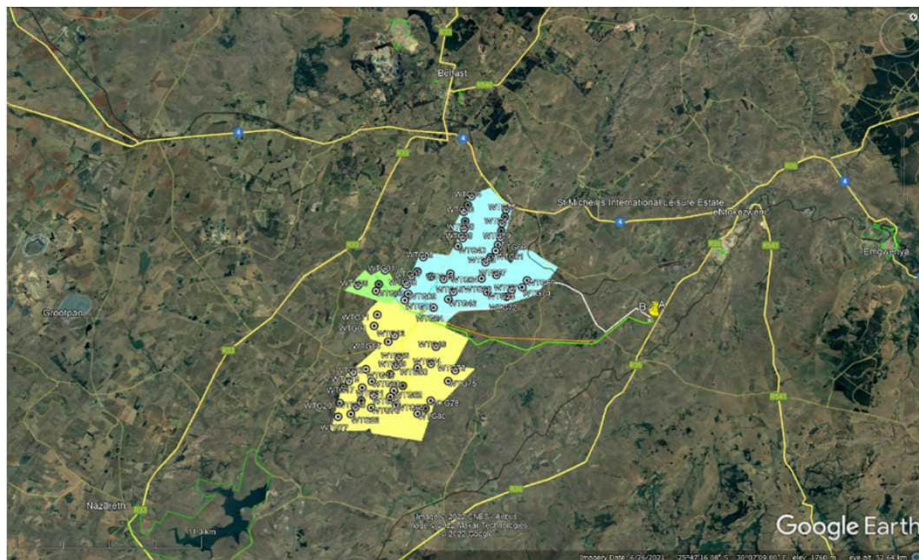
	Dalmanutha WEF & Grid Infrastructure	Dalmanutha West WEF & Grid Infrastructure	Common Grid Infrastructure
Province	Mpumalanga		
District Municipalities	Nkangala & Gert Sibande District Municipalities	Nkangala District Municipality	Nkangala District Municipality
Local Municipalities	Chief Albert Luthuli & Emakhazeni Local Municipalities	Emakhazeni Local Municipality	Emakhazeni Local Municipality
Farms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portions 1 and 9 of Farm Berg-en-dal 378 • Portions 5 and 7 of Farm Vogelstruispoort 384 • Portions 6, 7, 8, 10, 12 and 13 of Farm Waaikraal 385 • Waaikraal Portion 24 (a portion of Portion 7) • Portion 5 of Vogelstruispoort Farm 384 • Portions 3 and 4 of Farm Leeuwkloof 403 • Portion 1 and Portion 2 of Farm Leeuwkloof 404 • Portion 3 of Farm Geluk 405 • Portion 1 of Farm Welgevonden 412 • Portion 0 of Farm Camelia 467 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portions 4, 15 and 17 of Vogelstruispoort 384 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portions 6, 7, 10, 12 of Farm Waaikraal 385 • Portions 4 and 6 of Driekop 387

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Overview of the Project

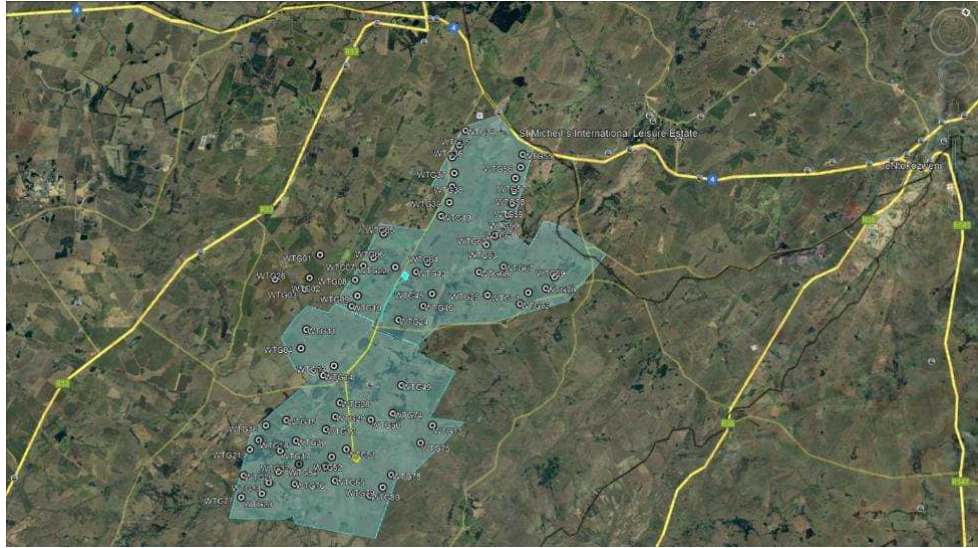


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Dalmanutha Wind Facility



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Dalmanutha West Wind Facility

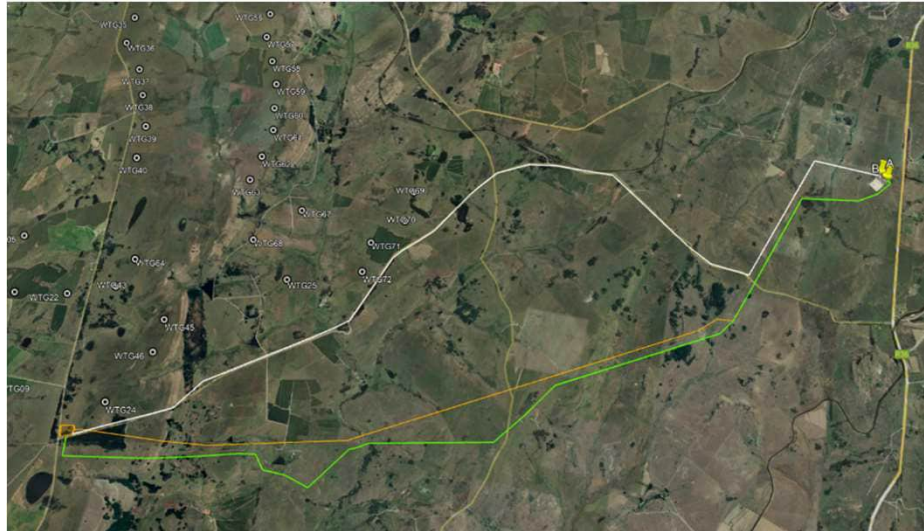


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**Common Collection up to 132kV
Substation and Powerline**



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Overview of the Project

Typical Infrastructure

Specifications	Dalmanutha WEF	Dalmanutha West
Total Project Area	9 400 ha	580 ha
Buildable Area	Approximately 400 ha	Approximately 15 ha
Wind Turbines	Up to 70	Up to 4
WEF capacity	Up to 300MW	Less than 20MW
Hub Height	Up to 200m	
Rotor Diameter	Up to 200m	
Powerline	Up to 132kV	
Powerline Length	Approximately 15km	
On-site Substation footprint including BESS	Up to 4ha	Up to 2ha
BESS capacity	100MW/400MWh	100MW/400MWh

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Overview of the Project

Typical Infrastructure

Specifications	Dalmanutha Wind Energy Common Grid Infrastructure
Total Project Area	Up to 5ha
Powerline	Single 132 kV double circuit
Powerline Length	Approximately 18km
Eskom substation expansion footprint	Up to 2ha

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Overview of the Project

Key Considerations

- The general project area falls within **Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA)** and **Ecological Support Areas (ESA)**. The CBA and ESA include both terrestrial and aquatic themes among other themes.
- The project are also falls within **National Protected Area Expansion Strategy (NPAES) Focus Areas**.
- The ecosystem of the project area is considered endangered and vulnerable, and is located within a **Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Area (FEPA)** sub-catchment.
- The Project Area does not fall with in any **Strategic Transmission Corridors** or **Renewable Energy Development Zones**.

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Permitting Processes

Environmental Authorisation Process

Each of the below will be applied for under a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), allowing each its own Environmental Authorisation

○ Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) Processes:

- Dalmanutha WEF (up to 300MW)

○ Basic Assessment Process:

- Dalmanutha West WEF (less than 20MW)
- Dalmanutha West WEF 132 kV grid infrastructure
- Dalmanutha WEF 132 kV grid infrastructure
- Common collector 132kV substation and powerline

○ Water Use Licence

- Water use Licences and/or General Authorisations will be applied for as required

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Permitting Processes

Listed Activities – Listing Notice 1

Listed Activity	Description of Project Activity
<p>Activity 1 The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where—</p> <p>(i) the electricity output is more than 10 megawatts but less than 20 megawatts; or</p> <p>(ii) the output is 10 megawatts or less but the total extent of the facility covers an area in excess of 1 hectare;</p> <p>excluding where such development of facilities or infrastructure is for photovoltaic installations and occurs—</p> <p>(a) within an urban area; or</p> <p>(b) on existing infrastructure.</p>	<p>The proposed Dalmanutha West WEF will generate less than 20 MW of electricity output from a renewable resource.</p>
<p>Activity 11 The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity—</p> <p>(i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts; or</p> <p>(ii) inside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of 275 kilovolts or more; excluding the development of bypass infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity where such bypass infrastructure is —</p> <p>(a) temporarily required to allow for maintenance of existing infrastructure;</p> <p>(b) 2 kilometres or shorter in length;</p> <p>(c) within an existing transmission line servitude; and</p> <p>(d) will be removed within 18 months of the commencement of development.</p>	<p>The Dalmanutha Wind Complex (all three wind farms) will connect to the nearby Gumeni MTS through a Common 132kV substation and a 132kV Powerline. The common powerline is approximately 18km in length.</p>

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Permitting Processes

Listed Activities – Listing Notice 1

Listed Activity	Description of Project Activity
<p><u>Activity 27</u> The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except 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.</p>	<p>The on-site Substation footprint including BESS facilities will utilise a footprint of up to 6ha for the North and South WEF, and up to 2 ha for the West WEF which will result in the clearance of less than 20 ha of indigenous vegetation.</p>

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Permitting Processes

Listed Activities – Listing Notice 2

Listed Activity	Description of Project Activity
<p><u>Activity 1</u> 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: (a) within an urban area; or (b) on existing infrastructure.</p>	<p>The proposed Dalmanutha WEF will generate up to 300 MW of electricity output from a renewable resource.</p>
<p><u>Activity 15</u> 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.</p>	<p>The proposed Dalmanutha WEF will result in the clearance of up to 200 ha of indigenous vegetation.</p>

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Permitting Processes

DEA Screening Tool Identified Sensitivities

	Very High Sensitivity	High Sensitivity	Medium Sensitivity	Low Sensitivity
Agriculture Theme	Dalmanutha WEF	Dalmanutha WEF and West WEF 132 kV Grid Connections		
Animal Species Theme		All projects		
Aquatic Biodiversity Theme	All projects			
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme	Dalmanutha WEF 132 kV Grid Connections			Dalmanutha WEF and West WEF 132kV Grid Connections
Avian (Wind) Theme				All WEFs
Bats (Wind) Theme		All WEFs		
Civil Aviation Theme		Dalmanutha WEF 132 kV Grid Connections	Dalmanutha WEF and West WEF & 132kV Grid Connections	
Defence Theme				All projects
Flicker Theme	All WEFs			
Landscape (Wind) Theme	All WEFs			
Palaeontology Theme	All projects			
Noise Theme	All WEFs			
Plant Species Theme			All projects	
RFI (Wind) Theme				All WEFs
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme	All projects			

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Permitting Processes

DEA Screening Tool Specialist Assessments

Specialist Study	Dalmanutha WEF	West WEF	132KV Grid Connection	Dalmanutha WEF 132kV	132kV West Grid Connection
Agricultural	X	X	X	X	X
Landscape / Visual	X	X	X	X	X
Archaeological and Cultural heritage	X	X	X	X	X
Palaeontological	X	X	X	X	X
Terrestrial Biodiversity	X	X	X	X	X
Aquatic Biodiversity	X	X	X	X	X
Avian Impact	X	X	X	X	X
Civil Aviation	X	X	X	X	X
Defence	X	X			
RFI	X	X	X	X	X
Noise	X	X			
Flicker	X	X			
Traffic	X	X			
Geotechnical	X	X	X	X	X
Socio-Economic	X	X			
Plant Species	X	X	X	X	X
Animal Species	X	X	X	X	X

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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 Impact Assessment	An Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment will be undertaken.
Palaeontology Impact Assessment	A Palaeontological Impact Assessment will be undertaken.
Visual Impact Assessment	The projects could potentially negatively impact sensitive visual receptors. A Visual Impact Assessment will therefore be undertaken. The Visual impact Assessment will consider impacts related to flicker.
Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	The projects could negatively affect CBA and NPAES Focus Areas. A Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment will be undertaken. This assessment will include both fauna and flora aspects.
Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment	The projects could negatively affect FEPA areas. An Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment will be undertaken.
Freshwater Impact Assessment	The projects could potentially negatively impact water resources. A Freshwater Impact Assessment will therefore be undertaken.
Avifauna Impact Assessment	Due to the potential impacts on birds as a result of the projects, an Avifauna Assessment will be undertaken.

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Permitting Processes

Specialist Studies Commissioned

SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT	COMMENT
Bat Impact Assessment	Due to the potential impacts on bats as a result of the projects, an Avifauna Assessment will be undertaken. This study will be specific to the WEFS.
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.
Noise Impact Assessment	Due to potential impacts on sensitive receptors with regards to noise generated from the wind turbines, a Noise Assessment will be undertaken.
Geotechnical Assessment	A preliminary Geotechnical Assessment will be undertaken as part of the S&EIA Process.
Traffic Assessment	A traffic assessment will be undertaken
Qualitative Risk Assessment	A hazard and risk identification assessment for the three BESS facilities will be undertaken

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Permitting Processes

Specialist Studies Not-Commissioned

SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT	COMMENT
RFI	A Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) Study will not be undertaken. The South African Weather Service (SAWS) and relevant telecommunications stakeholders will be engaged with as part of the Public Participation Process.
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. A compliance statement will be prepared by the EAP and included in the EIA Reports.
Defence	The Department of Defence will be included on the project stakeholder database. They will be informed of the proposed Project, and comment will be sought. A compliance statement will be prepared by the EAP and included in the EIA Reports for the three WEFs.

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Permitting Processes

Competent Authority

- **Section 24C(2)(a) of NEMA**
 - The Minister must be identified as the Competent Authority (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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Public Participation Process

Public Participation Plan

- A consolidated approach to the Public Participation (PP) Process for the S&EIA and BA processes respectively
- Site notices:
 - English, Afrikaans and Zulu
 - Onsite and in the surrounding areas
- 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 (English, Afrikaans and Zulu 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
- Public or focus group meetings will be held as required.

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Timeframes

Timeframes

- Authority Timeframes
 - Does not fall within a Strategic Transmission Corridor (GN 113)
 - Does not fall within a REDZ (GN 114)
 - Authority decision making timeframe is 107 days
- Key Milestones:
 - Submission of Application Forms – August 2022 and January 2023
 - Draft Scoping Report Public Review – August / September 2022
 - Submission of Final Scoping Reports – September 2022
 - Draft EIA and BA Report Public Review – February 2023
 - Submission of Final EIA and BA Reports - March 2023

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Discussion

○ Specific Clarification

- Combined specialist reporting: The propose to combine specialist reporting for linked infrastructure e.g. the WEF and associated grid connection. Specialist will be required to split the impact assessment and mitigation measures accordingly – is this approach acceptable to the DFFE?
- Given the workload – it is anticipated that two or more Case Officers may be allocated to the project?
- Given that ATNS are now the official party responsible for obstacle assessments and effectively subcontract CAA - is ATNS comment on the EIA sufficient for the purposes of informing the protocols as they relate to the CAA?

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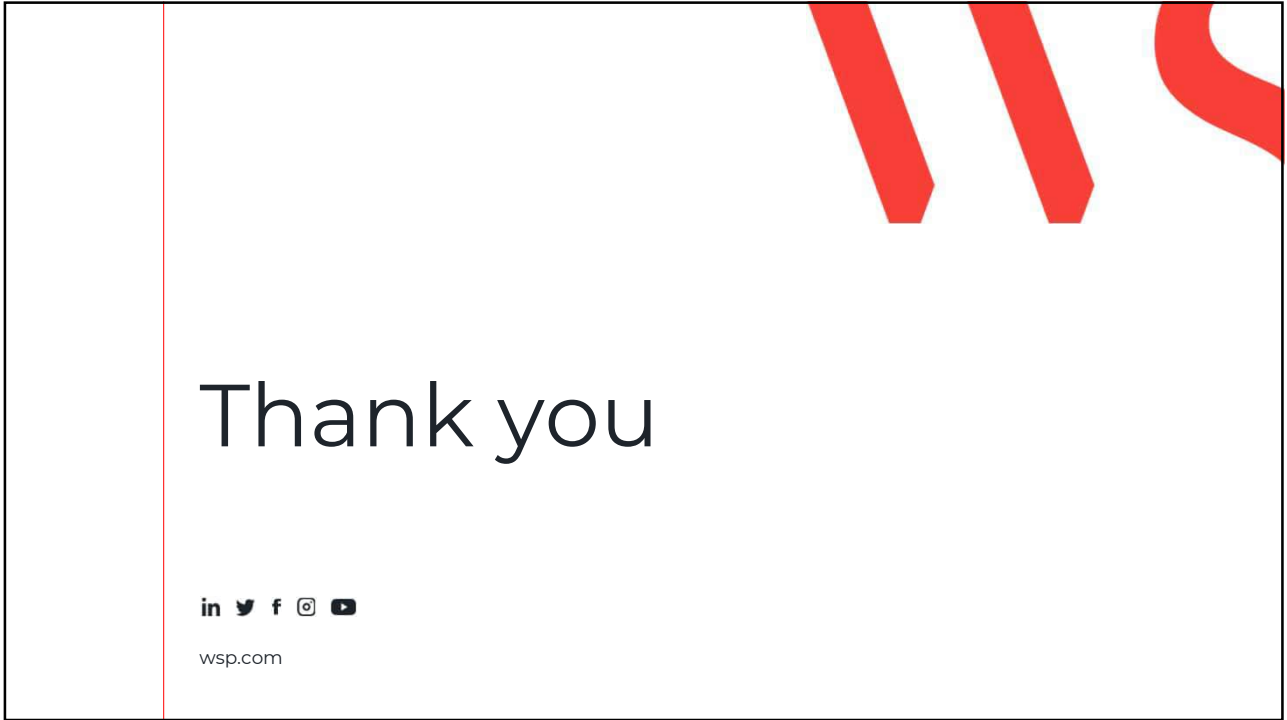


Discussion

- Questions
- Way Forward



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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AND BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESSES FOR THE DALMANUTHA WIND ENERGY COMPLEX

DFFE REF NUMBER: TO BE CONFIRMED ONCE RESPECTIVE APPLICATIONS ARE SUBMITTED

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 have placed some limitations on the commencement and continuation of the public consultation as part of an EIA process. Considering these limitations, the following consultation process has been designed and will be implemented, upon 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 an interest on this project.

The Public Participation Plan (PPP) was a requirement as per the requirements of 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). Which was published on 05 June 2020 in Government Notice No R560 of Government Gazette No 43412. It is noted that these regulations have since been released and as of 01 May 2022, it is no longer a prerequisite to submitting a PPP to the DFFE. However, WSP will still submit this plan to the DFFE to outline the planned public participation activities.

This plan has been developed for the environmental impact and basic assessment processes required for Dalmanutha Wind Energy Complex. The projects associated with this facility include:

- Environmental Impact Assessment for the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility (Up to 300MW)
- Basic Assessment for the Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility (less than 20 MW)
- Basic Assessment for the Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility Grid Infrastructure (up to 132kV)
- Basic Assessment for the Dalmanutha West Wind Energy Facility Grid Infrastructure (up to 132kV)

According to Section (2)(4)(f) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), the participation of all 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 an adequate and appropriate opportunity for public participation in decisions that may affect the environment.

A consolidated I&AP database will be compiled for these processes. The I&APs will be provided with the opportunity to review and make comments on all relevant documentation associated with the above-mentioned applications.

Table 1 provides the competent authority with a detailed outline of the public participation process that will be undertaken for the projects. **Table 2** provides the competent authority with an outline of the meetings

The requirements of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 14 of 2013) (POPIA) relating to registers of I&APs and the inclusion of comments in reports will be taken into consideration.

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Table 1: Proposed Public Participation Plan

SUMMARY OF PPP REQUIREMENT (GNR 326 OF EIA REGULATIONS)	PROPOSED PLAN/ACTIVITIES
<p>39 (1) If the proponent is not the owner or person in control of the land on which the activity is to be undertaken, the proponent must, before applying for an environmental authorisation in respect of such activity, obtain the written consent of the landowner or person in control of the land to undertake such activity on that land.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Landowner consent letters will be obtained for each of the farm portions where the proposed activities will be undertaken. Consent letters will be included in the Application forms for Environmental Authorisation.
<p>39 (2) Sub regulation (1) does not apply in respect of—</p> <p>(a) linear activities;</p> <p>(b) activities constituting, or activities directly related to prospecting or exploration of a mineral and petroleum resource or extraction and primary processing of a mineral or petroleum resource; and</p> <p>(c) strategic integrated projects as contemplated in the Infrastructure Development Act, 2014.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Landowner Consent Letters are not required for linear activities. — Notification letters of the Environmental Assessment Processes undertaken for the linear projects will be distributed via email and/or hand delivery (as required) to the directly impacted landowners or occupiers of the land.
<p>40 (1) The public participation process to which the—</p> <p>(a) basic assessment report and EMPr, and where applicable the closure plan, submitted in terms of regulation 19; and</p> <p>(b) scoping report submitted in terms of regulation 21 and the environmental impact assessment report and EMPr submitted in terms of regulation 23;</p> <p>was subjected to must give all potential or registered interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, a period of at least 30 days to submit comments on each of the basic assessment report, EMPr, scoping report and environmental impact assessment report, and where applicable the closure plan, as well as the report contemplated in regulation 32, if such reports or plans are submitted at different times.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Notification of the availability of the Scoping and Environmental Impact (S&EIA) and Basic Assessment (BA) Reports as relevant for the relevant Dalmanutha Wind Energy Facility projects, as well as the period for review will be sent to all identified and registered stakeholders via email and SMS. — The Draft Reports will be made available to all stakeholders for a 30-day comment period as follows: — From WSP on request and electronic copies can be shared via secure links that will be emailed. — On the WSP website as well as on a data-free website¹ for download. — Hard copies of the Reports will be placed at the relevant public places such as libraries, community halls, ward councillor offices etc. — Flash drives and/or Hard Copies submitted to the relevant Organs of State. — Submitted to the DFFE via the DFFE online portal. —
<p>40 (2) The public participation process contemplated in this regulation must provide access to all information that reasonably has or may have the potential to influence any decision with regard to an application unless access to that information is</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Provision has been made to ensure all project information will be made available to all I&APs, and that they are afforded the opportunity to participate in the projects, as well as submit comments and raise any concerns and/or issues with regards to the proposed projects. This will include:

¹ A data free website is a website that the public can access and download information without using their own data or incurring costs



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<p>protected by law and must include consultation with—</p> <p>(a) the competent authority.</p> <p>(b) every State department administers a law relating to a matter affecting the environment relevant to an application for an environmental authorisation.</p> <p>(c) all organs of the state which have jurisdiction in respect of the activity to which the application relates; and</p> <p>(d) all potential, or, where relevant, registered interested and affected parties.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Identification of stakeholders with a potential interest in the project will be at the outset of the project. — All stakeholders identified will be registered on the project stakeholder database, and the database will be maintained throughout the S&EIA and BA processes. — The stakeholder database will include all relevant authorities (government departments and relevant district and local municipalities), ward councillors, relevant conservation bodies and non-governmental organisations (NGO's), as well as neighbouring landowners and the surrounding community. — General communication (written notification) with identified stakeholders (public and other government departments/authorities) on the proposed projects. — Distribution of the Background Information Document (BID), inclusive of a Registration and Comments Form, to allow stakeholders to register and ensure all comments and queries regarding the projects are captured for inclusion in the relevant Stakeholder Engagement Reports. — Consultation of relevant communities via the Ward Councillor and/or community representative, in a manner determined and/or required during stakeholder engagement.
<p>40 (3) Potential or registered interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in sub-regulation (1) prior to submission of an application but must be provided with an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the competent authority.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Reports will be made available to all potential or registered I&APS following the submission of the applications to the DFFE, that is during the legislated relevant report review periods. — Reports will be available on request, on the WSP website, and in hard copy at appropriate public places in the study area such as public libraries and municipal officers. — All I&APs will be provided with an opportunity to comment on the reports and submit comments directly to the EAP. Comments can be submitted in the following ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Comments Forms via fax or email — Written comments via email or fax — Telephonically for capturing by the EAP; and — Via Whatsapp or SMS (including the use of “please call me”).
<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, Afrikaans and IsiZulu) at appropriate locations on-site (at the wind facilities and at various points along the grid infrastructure routes) and in the surrounding area. — This will include the boundary/access road to the sites, as well as additional public places within the greater Belfast area, such as grocery stores, municipality, and/or local public libraries.
<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</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — A written notification (in English, Afrikaans, and Isizulu) will be sent to owners and occupiers on or adjacent to the proposed project sites, municipality ward councillors, local and district municipality, and relevant state departments. — General communication (written notification) with stakeholders (public and government departments/authorities) throughout the respective environmental impact assessment (EIA) and basic assessment (BA) processes.

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<p>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>	<p>— Stakeholders will be added to the database on request as the project progresses.</p>
<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 relevant local newspapers (in English, Afrikaans and IsiZulu), formally announcing the commencement of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) applications, requesting stakeholders to register their interest in the project, and informing them of the release of the Draft Scoping, EIA and BA Reports for public review and comment. The adverts and notifications will be inclusive of the Heritage Impact Assessment and Water Use Licence Application information.</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>It has been established that advertising in provincial and national newspapers is not required as the impact of the activities do not extend beyond the boundaries of the district municipality or province in which the Project will be undertaken.</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"> — A consolidated I&AP database will be compiled for the project. Any existing I&AP databases for other projects in the area known to the applicant will be utilised as a basis for the database. These I&APs will be contacted to request formal consent to be included in the projects’ database, in line with the POPI Act. As part of the verification process, existing I&APs will be contacted telephonically and asked to confirm their preferred method of communication. — 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. — Virtual focus group meetings will be held as required. — In the event that face-to-face meetings are requested, these will be arranged on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the relevant COVID restrictions at the time of the request. — I&APs will be able to contact the EAP via email, fax, telephone, WhatsApp, or SMS (Including the use of “please call me”).
<p>41 (3) A notice, notice board or advertisement referred to in sub regulation (2) must—</p>	<p>— An advert will be published in relevant local newspapers (in English, Afrikaans and IsiZulu), formally announcing the commencement of the</p>

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<p>(a) give details of the application or proposed application which is subjected to public participation; and</p> <p>(b) state—</p> <p>(i) whether basic assessment or S&EIR procedures are being applied to the application;</p> <p>(ii) the nature and location of the activity to which the application relates;</p> <p>(iii) where further information on the application or proposed application can be obtained; and</p> <p>(iv) the manner in which and the person to whom representations in respect of the application or proposed application may be made.</p>	<p>Environmental Authorisation (EA) applications, requesting stakeholders to register their interest in the project, and informing them of the release of the Draft Scoping, EIA and BA Reports for public review and comment.</p> <p>— Site notices (in English, Afrikaans and IsiZulu) will be placed at appropriate locations on site) and in the surrounding area. The size and content of the site notices will be in line with Regulation 41 (3) and 41(4) as contained herein.</p>
<p>41 (4) A notice board referred to in sub regulation (2) must—</p> <p>(a) be of a size of at least 60cm by 42cm; and</p> <p>(b) display the required information in lettering and in a format as may be determined by the competent authority.</p>	<p>— If the revised reports are required to undergo additional review, the requirements of Regulation 41(5) will be followed.</p>
<p>41 (5) Where public participation is conducted in terms of this regulation for an application or proposed application, sub regulation (2)(a), (b), (c) and (d) need not be complied with again during the additional public participation process contemplated in regulations 19(1)(b) or 23(1)(b) or the public participation process contemplated in regulation 21(2)(d), on condition that—</p> <p>(a) such process has been preceded by a public participation process which included compliance with sub regulation (2)(a), (b), (c) and (d); and</p> <p>(b) written notice is given to registered interested and affected parties regarding where the—</p> <p>(i) revised basic assessment report or, EMPr or closure plan, as contemplated in regulation 19(1)(b);</p> <p>(ii) revised environmental impact assessment report or EMPr as contemplated in regulation 23(1)(b); or</p> <p>(iii) environmental impact assessment report and EMPr as contemplated in regulation 21(2)(d);</p>	



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<p>may be obtained, the manner in which and the person to whom representations on these reports or plans may be made and the date on which such representations are due.</p>	
<p>41 (6) When complying with this regulation, the person conducting the public participation process must ensure that—</p> <p>(a) information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application or proposed application is made available to potential interested and affected parties; and</p> <p>(b) participation by potential or registered interested and affected parties is facilitated in such a manner that all potential or registered interested and affected parties are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the application or proposed application.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Provision has been made to ensure all project information will be made available to all I&APs, and that they are afforded the opportunity to participate in the projects, as well as submit comments and raise any concerns and/or issues with regards to the proposed projects. — A Notification Letter and BID will be compiled to provide preliminary information regarding the project and its location, as well as to invite comments from I&APs during the 30-day public review period of the Draft Reports. — All registered I&APs will be included in any communication regarding the application processes for the projects throughout the respective S&EIA and BA processes.
<p>41 (7) Where an environmental authorisation is required in terms of these Regulations and an authorisation, permit or licence is required in terms of a specific environmental management Act, the public participation process contemplated in this Chapter may be combined with any public participation processes prescribed in terms of a specific environmental management Act, on condition that all relevant authorities agree to such combination of processes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Applications for the proposed projects will also be made under the National Water Act (NWA), through a Water Use Licence Application (WULA) or General Authorisation (GA) processes as applicable for the purposes of Water Use Authorisation under the National Water Act. A Public Participation Process (PPP) in terms of the EIA Regulations (contained herein) and the NWA will be undertaken as well as a Heritage Impact Assessment.
<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, which register must contain the names, contact details and addresses of—</p> <p>(a) all persons who, as a consequence of the public participation process conducted in respect of that application, have submitted written comments or attended meetings with the proponent, applicant or EAP;</p> <p>(b) all persons who have requested the proponent or applicant, in writing, for their names to be placed on the register; and</p> <p>(c) all organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the activity to which the application relates.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Stakeholders with a potential interest in the Project will be identified at the outset of the Project and will include all relevant authorities (government departments and the local and district municipalities), relevant conservation bodies and non-governmental organisations (NGO's), as well as landowners, neighbouring landowners, and the surrounding community. — This stakeholder database will be updated on an ongoing basis as new stakeholders request to be registered. — All stakeholders identified will be registered on the project stakeholder database, and the database will be maintained throughout the EIA and BA processes. — The EAP will continue to ensure that individuals/organisations from referrals and networking are notified of the proposed project.
<p>(43) (1) A registered interested and affected party is entitled to comment, in writing, on all reports or</p>	<p>All Draft Reports will be made available to all stakeholders for a 30-day comment period. Strict adherence to all COVID-19 protocols and regulations</p>

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<p>plans submitted to such party during the public participation process contemplated in these Regulations and to bring to the attention of the proponent or applicant any issues which that party believes may be of significance to the consideration of the application, provided that the interested and affected party discloses any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which that party may have in the approval or refusal of the application.</p> <p>(2) In order to give effect to section 24O of the Act, any State department that administers a law relating to a matter affecting the environment must be requested, subject to regulation 7(2), to comment within 30 days.</p>	<p>as well as best practice measures will be ensured throughout PPP. As a result, the Draft Reports will be made available to stakeholders as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – From WSP on request and electronic copies can be shared via secure links that will be emailed. – On the WSP website and on a data-free website for download. – Hard copies of the Reports will be placed at the relevant public places such as libraries, community halls, ward councillor offices – CDs and/or Hard Copies submitted to the relevant Organs of State. – Submitted to the DFFE via the DFFE online portal. <p>Comment forms (in a bound booklet) will be placed with the Draft Reports at the abovementioned public places. These booklets will be collected at the end of the public review period as required. In addition, the contact details of EAP will be provided should the I&AP wish to contact the EAP directly.</p> <p>A Comment and Response Report (CRR) will be generated for inclusion in Final Reports for consideration by the competent authority.</p>
<p>44(1) The applicant must ensure that the comments of interested and affected parties are recorded in reports and plans and that such written comments, including responses to such comments and records of meetings, are attached to the reports and plans that are submitted to the competent authority in terms of these Regulations.</p> <p>(2) Where a person desires but is unable to access written comments as contemplated in sub regulation (1) due to—</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a lack of skills to read or write; (b) disability; or (c) any other disadvantage; <p>reasonable alternative methods of recording comments must be provided for.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All I&APs will be able to submit comments directly to the EAP in the following ways: – Comments Forms via fax or email – Written comments via email or fax – Telephonically for capturing by the EAP; and – Via WhatsApp or SMS. <p>Comments received telephonically will be transcribed and captured as formal comments in the Comments and Responses Report.</p> <p>I&APs that do not have access to the internet or emails will also be able to submit via the consultation process that includes engaging with the Ward Councillor and/or Community Representative.</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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) all registered interested and affected parties are provided with access to the decision and the reasons for such decision; and (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>Written notification of the decision on the EAs will be sent to all registered I&APs, as well as communicated via Ward Councillors to I&APs that do not have access to internet and emails. Registered I&APs will be informed of the appeal procedure as well as advised that copies of the EA decisions can be provided on request.</p>



Table 2: Meetings

PROJECT MEETINGS

Pre-Application Meeting	A pre-application consultation with DFFE was held on 14 June 2022 to discuss the proposed projects, proposed approach, and confirm the processes.
Public and/or Focus Group Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Virtual focus group meetings will be held as required.– In the event that face-to-face meetings are requested, these will be arranged on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the relevant COVID restrictions at the time of the request.

APPENDIX

D

COMMENTS

