

Organs of State Correspondence

Notification of availability of BAR for review and comment

02 September 2020

Dear Interested and Affected Party,

**EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND ENERGY FACILITY,
NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

The Basic Assessment process notification for the development of a 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, has reference. The notification letter was accompanied by a registration and comment form and if you had not received these documents, please inform us accordingly or we encourage you to visit our website / online stakeholder engagement platform at <https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/> where the public documents for this project is available for your perusal.

AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

As a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), you are hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for your review and comment from **Friday, 04 September** until **Monday, 05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday, 05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

- Telephone: 011 656 3237
- Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)
- Fax: 086 684 0547
- Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
- E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards



Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

Email: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Sent to all registered I&APs on project database
(Refer to Appendix C1)

Template Revenue Budget Start Date Completion

Campaign Message Editor - [Gunstfontein OHL - BAR Notification]

Format: HTML

Normal Century Got... Size (CTRL+S) B I U A

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

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Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BARs, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain the BARs. The attached letter also provides further details regarding the availability of the BARs.

Design HTML Preview

HELP SAVE CLOSE

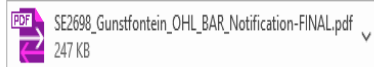
Gunstfontein WEF - Power Line Extension: Notification of the Availability of the Basic Assessment for review and comment



Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

To Rene de Kock

Cc Ronald Baloyi



Reply Reply All Forward

Wed 2020/09/02 09:49

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

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Kind regards

04 September 2020

Ms Thoko Buthelezi
AgriLand Liaison Office
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms Buthelezi,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only – no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5th of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you

to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit <https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/>.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

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AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

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Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards



Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

CC: Ms Mashudu Marubini, Ministerial Delegate, mashuduma@daff.gov.za
Ms Jacoline Mans, jacolinema@daff.gov.za

04 September 2020

Ms Jacoline Mans
Chief Forester: NFA Regulations
Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms Mans,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only – no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

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Ms Thoko Buthelezi: AgriLand Liaison Office, thokob@daff.gov.za

04 September 2020

Ms Mashudu Marubini
Ministerial Delegate
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

E-mail: [REDACTED]

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- Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)
- Fax: 086 684 0547
- Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
- E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards



Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

CC: Ms Thoko Buthelezi: AgriLand Liaison Office, thokob@daff.gov.za
Ms Jacoline Mans, jacolinema@daff.gov.za

Ronald Baloyi

From: Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:08
To: Thoko Buthelezi; Mashudu Marubini; Jacoline Mans
Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter
Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability
Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-DAFF MARUBINI Mashudu.pdf; SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-DAFF MANS Jacoline.pdf; SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-DAFF BUTHELEZI Thoko.pdf

Dear Messrs Mashudu, Buthelezi and Mans

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, please receive attached your Department's written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process.

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Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.

04 September 2020

Mr Nozizwe Makgalemele
Deputy Director General: Spatial Land Use and Management
Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Makgalemele,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only – no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
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The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5th of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you

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Kind regards



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Public Participation and Social Consultant
[E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

Ronald Baloyi

From: Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:08
To: Nozizwe Makgalemele
Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter
Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability
Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-DALR&RD-MAKGALEMELE Nozizwe.pdf

Dear Mr Makgelemele,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

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04 September 2020

Mr Stanley Tshitwamulomoni
Director: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Environmental Affairs

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Tshitwamulomoni,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

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Kind regards



Nicolene Venter
Public Participation and Social Consultant
[E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

Ronald Baloyi

From: Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:11
To: Stanley Tshitwamulomoni
Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter
Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability
Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-DEA BioDiv-TSHITWAMULOMONI Stanley.pdf

Dear Mr Tshitwamulomoni,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

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Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.

04 September 2020

Ms Samantha de la Fontaine
Production Scientist Grade A: District Ecologist
Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms De la Fontaine,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

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- Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
- E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards



Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

CC: Mr Bryan Fisher, Director: Environmental Quality Management, BFisher@ncpg.gov.za
Ms Dineo Moleko, Assistant Director: Impact Management, dmoleko@ncpg.gov.za

04 September 2020

Mr Bryan Fisher
Director: Environmental Quality Management
Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Fisher,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only – no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5th of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you

to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit <https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/>.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

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In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your Department is hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for review and comment from **Friday, 04 September** until **Monday, 05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the following link: <https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/>.

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Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday, 05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

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Kind regards



Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

CC: Ms Dineo Moleko, Assistant Director: Impact Management, dmoleko@ncpg.gov.za
Ms Samantha De la Fontaine, Production Scientist Grade A, sdelafontaine@gmail.com

04 September 2020

Ms Dineo Moleko
Assistant Director: Impact Management
Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms Moleko,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only – no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

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The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5th of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you

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Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday, 05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

- Telephone: 011 656 3237
- Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)
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Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards



Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

CC: Mr Bryan Fisher, Director Environmental Quality Management, BFisher@ncpg.gov.za
Ms Samantha De la Fontaine, Production Scientist Grade A, sdelafontaine@gmail.com

Ronald Baloyi

From: Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:19
To: Bryan Fisher; Samantha De la Fontaine; Dineo Moleko
Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter
Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability
Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-DENC FISHER Bryan.pdf; SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-DENC MOLEKO Dineo.pdf; SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-DENC DE LA FONTAINE Samantha.pdf

Dear Mr Fisher and Messrs Moleko and De la Fontaine,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, please receive attached your Department's written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process.

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Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.

04 September 2020

Mr Mthetheleli Maphinda
Regional Energy Director
Department of Mineral Resources & Energy: Northern Cape Province

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Maphinda,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

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Kind regards



Nicolene Venter
Public Participation and Social Consultant
[E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

Ronald Baloyi

From: Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:22
To: Mthetheleli Maphinda
Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter
Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability
Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-DMR&E MAPHINDA Mthetheleli.pdf

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Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.

04 September 2020

Mr Pheladi Masipa
Acting Project Manager: Renewable Energy Initiatives
Department of Energy

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Masipa,

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- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only – no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

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The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5th of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you

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Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday, 05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

- Telephone: 011 656 3237
- Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)
- Fax: 086 684 0547
- Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
- E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards



Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Ronald Baloyi

From: Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:24
To: Pheladi Masipa
Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter
Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability
Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-DOE MASIPA Pheladi.pdf

Dear Mr Masipa,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, please receive attached your Department's written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process.

The attached notification also serves to inform your Department that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from **Friday, 04 September 2020** until **Monday, 05 October 2020**. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: <https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.

04 September 2020

Mr Kobus Streuders
Acting: Provincial Head
Department of Water & Sanitation: Northern Cape Province

Per e-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Streuders,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
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In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

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Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards



Nicolene Venter
Public Participation and Social Consultant
[E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

Ronald Baloyi

From: Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:27
To: Alexia Hlongwane; Kobus Streuders
Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter
Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability
Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-DWS STREUDERS Kobus.pdf; SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-DWS HLONGWANE Alexia.pdf

Dear Mr Streuders and Ms Hlongwane,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, please receive attached your Department's written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process.

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Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.

04 September 2020

Mr Gustav von Mollendorf
Municipal Manager
Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Von Mollendorf,

**EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN
CAPE PROVINCE**

**NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF
BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

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- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
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Kind regards



Nicolene Venter
Public Participation and Social Consultant
[E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

Ronald Baloyi

From: Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:30
To: Gustav Von Mollendorf
Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter
Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability
Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-KHLM VON MOLLENDORF Gustav.pdf

Dear Mr Von Mollendorf,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

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Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.

04 September 2020

Mr Timothy Ratha
Heritage Officer: Ngwao-Boswa Ya Kapa Bokone

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Ratha,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

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The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

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The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

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Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday, 05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

- Telephone: 011 656 3237
- Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)
- Fax: 086 684 0547
- Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
- E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

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Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards



Nicolene Venter
Public Participation and Social Consultant
[E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

Ronald Baloyi

From: Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:30
To: Timothy Ratha
Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter
Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability
Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-NC HERITAGE-RATHA Timothy.pdf

Dear Mr Ratha,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, please receive attached your Department's written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process.

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Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.

04 September 2020

Mr Jaco Roelofse
Director: Roads
Northern Cape Department of Roads and Public Works

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Roelofse,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only – no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

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Kind regards



Nicolene Venter
Public Participation and Social Consultant
[E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

Ronald Baloyi

From: Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:30
To: Jaco Roelofse
Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter
Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability
Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-NC R&PW ROELOFSE Jaco.pdf

Dear Mr Roelofse,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

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04 September 2020

Mr Chris Fortuin
Municipal Manager
Namakwa District Municipality

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Fortuin,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

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Nicolene Venter
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[E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

Ronald Baloyi

From: Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:32
To: Chris Fortuin
Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter
Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability
Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-NDM FONTUIN Chris.pdf

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04 September 2020

Lieutenant Colonel Zondi
South African National Defence Force

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Lt Col Zondi,

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BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5th of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you

to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit <https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/>.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your Department is hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for review and comment from **Friday, 04 September** until **Monday, 05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the following link: <https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/>.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus and the Directions issued by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) on the 5th of June 2020, your Department is requested to download the Report from our website. Your Department can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday, 05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

- Telephone: 011 656 3237
- Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)
- Fax: 086 684 0547
- Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
- E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards



Nicolene Venter
Public Participation and Social Consultant
[E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

Ronald Baloyi

From: Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:35
To: Kebasenosi Zondi
Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter
Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability
Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-SANDF ZONDI Lt Cl.pdf

Dear Lt Cl Zondi,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, please receive attached your Department's written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process.

The attached notification also serves to inform your Department that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from **Friday, 04 September 2020** until **Monday, 05 October 2020**. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: <https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.

04 September 2020

Ms Nicole Abrahams
Environmental Coordinator: Western Region
South African National Roads Agency

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms Abrahams,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only – no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

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Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday, 05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

- Telephone: 011 656 3237
- Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)
- Fax: 086 684 0547
- Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
- E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards



Nicolene Venter
Public Participation and Social Consultant
[E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com](mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com)

Ronald Baloyi

From: Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:35
To: Nicole Abrahams
Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter
Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability
Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-SANRAL ABRAHAMS Nicole.pdf

Dear Ms Abrahams,

EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

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Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.

Savannah Environmental
Website Uploads

Gunstfontein Wind Farm

NOTICE OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS FOR THE EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Project Name	Applicant
Extension of grid connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm, Northern Cape Province	Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd

Project details: Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set of pylon structures.
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the powerline) and a 200m assessment area around the proposed start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic Assessment R
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height.
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km.
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide.
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only – no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area and construction camp.

Project Location: The proposed grid connection extension powerline traverses four (4) affected properties, namely:

1) Portion 1 of the Farm Orange Fontein No. 203;	2) RE of the Farm Annex Orange Fontein No. 185;	3) RE of the Farm Leeuwe Hoek No. 183	4) The Farm De Hoop No. 202
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Basic Assessment Process: In terms of Sections 24 and 24D of NEMA, as read with the EIA Regulations 2014 of GNR 324 - R327 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process is required to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the proposed project. An application for Environmental Authorisation for the project has been lodged with the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), as the competent authority. Savannah Environmental is undertaking the required basic assessment and public participation process.

Basic Assessment Report Available for Review & Comment: A BA Report for the project has been compiled and is available for download, review and comment on the Savannah Environmental website: <https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/>. The 30-day review and comment period of the BA Report is from **Friday, 4th of September until Monday, 5th of October 2020**. Please submit written comments to the contact person below on or before **Monday, 5th of October 2020**

To obtain further information and register on the project database, please submit your name, contact information and interest in the project in writing to:

Nicolene Venter at Savannah Environmental
P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157

Tel: 011 656 3237

Cell: 060 978 8396 (message or call)

Fax: 086 684 0547

Email: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Website: www.savannahsa.com

September 2020

Documents for public review are available for download.

DOWNLOADS TO BE UPLOADED

Downloads

Gunstfontein Wind Farm

Basic Assessment Report

Appendix A - EIA Project Consulting Team and Specialist CVs

Appendix B - Authority Consultation

Appendix C1 - I&APs Database

Appendix C2 - Site Notices and Newspaper Advertisements

Appendix C3 - Organs of State Correspondence

Appendix C4 - Stakeholder Correspondence

Appendix C5 - Comments Received

Appendix C6 - Comments and Responses Report

Appendix D - Ecological Impact Assessment

Appendix E - Avifauna Impact Assessment

Appendix F - Heritage Impact Assessment

Appendix G - Environmental Management Programme

Appendix H - Maps

Appendix I - Specialist Declarations

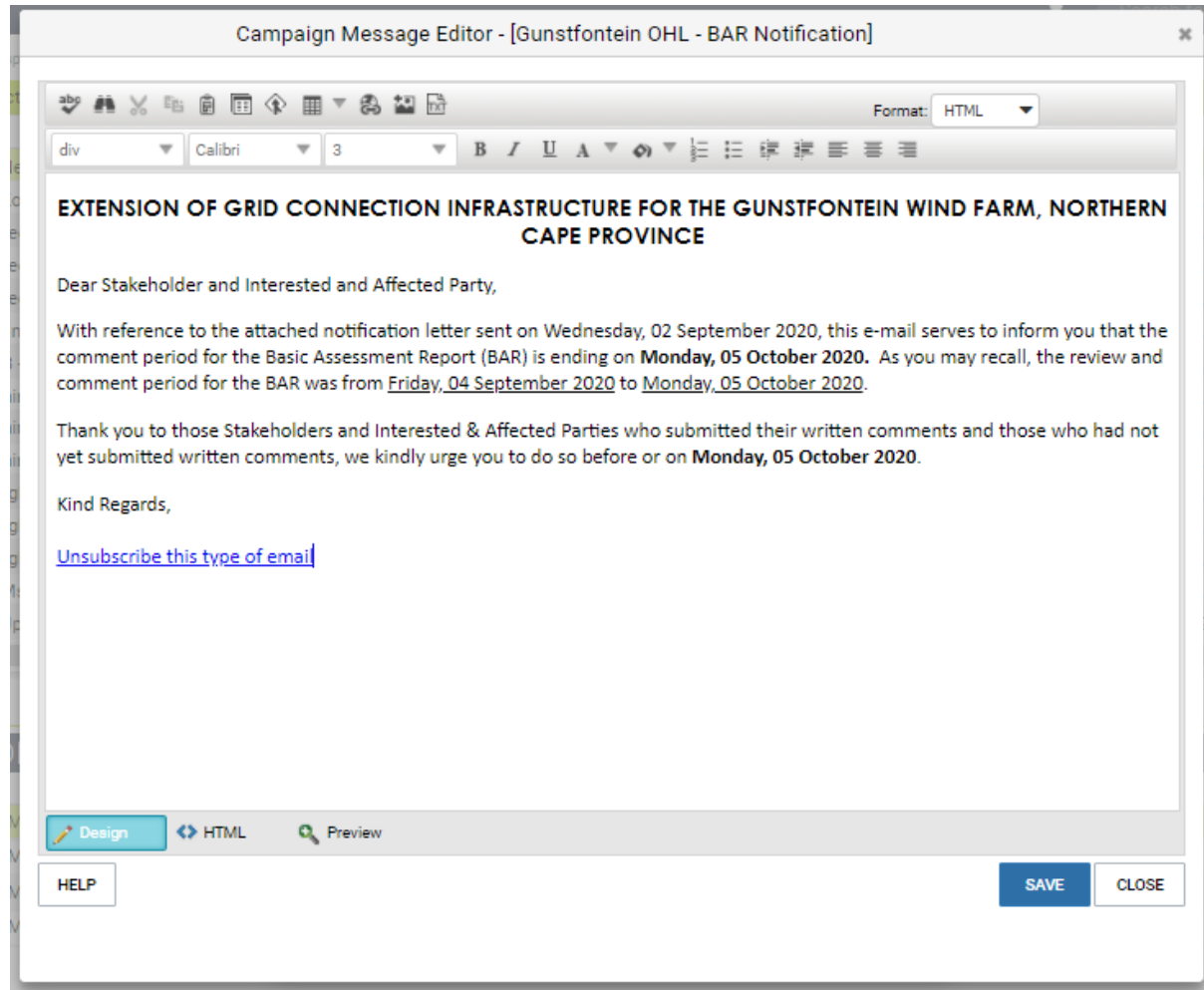
Appendix J - EAP Declaration of Independence and Affirmation

Appendix K - Screening Tool Report

Appendix L - IQ Query regarding the format of the specialist reports

**Sent to all registered I&APs on project database
(Refer to Appendix C1)**

Proof of email - Gunstfontein WEF - Power Line Extension: Reminder of Commenting period ending soon



SAHRIS
Website Uploads



SAHRA Application Closure

Please note the following concerning applications submitted to the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) during the December 2020 to January 2021 period.

You may, during this time, continue to log applications on SAHRIS, however please note applications will only be processed as per the following:

1. Section 38(1) applications will close from the 4th December 2020 and reopen on 4 January 2021.
2. The 30 days commenting period for Section 38(8) applications submitted to SAHRA from the 17th November 2020 will end in 2021. Please do not expect comments on these applications before the 15 December 2020. This is in line with section 3 of the NEMA EIA regulations with regards to Public Commenting Periods closing for the Festive Season i.e. no commenting period may include the days between 15 December and 5 January
3. Section 9 alienation applications submitted to the SAHRA Heritage Objects Unit will close on the 4th December 2020 and reopen on 4 January 2021

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

Official Decisions & Comments

Date	DecStatus
20/11/2020	Final Comment

[Like 0](#) [Tweet](#) [in](#)



Proposed Grid connection extension infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm, Northern Cape.

[Add new comment](#) [Subscribe to: This post](#) 68 reads

CaseHeader **LocationInfo** **Admin**

Status: **Closed (Approved)**

HeritageAuthority(s): SAHRA
NBKB

Case Type: Section 38 (8) - Statutory Comment Required

Development Type: Electrical Infrastructure

ProposalDescription:

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the construction and operation of a grid connection solution, known as the "grid extension infrastructure" for the authorised Gunstfontein Wind Farm (DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/826), near Sutherland, Northern Cape Province. The grid connection solution will include the development of a double-circuit 132kV overhead power line (known as the Gunstfontein 132kV OHL extension double-circuit power line) to connect the Gunstfontein Wind Farm to the national grid, via the Hidden Valley substation. The proposed 132kV OHL extension will be an extension of the already authorised Gunstfontein Grid Connection (14/12/16/3/3/1/1619). Other associated infrastructure will also be required for the grid connection solution, such as access tracks/roads and laydown areas. A corridor 300m wide and approximately 7.5km long along with an assessment zone of 200m around the starting and terminating substation boundaries (collectively known as the grid corridor) is being assessed to allow for the optimisation of the grid (i.e. eventual micro siting) and associated infrastructure and to accommodate environmental sensitivities and other energy infrastructure currently under construction on the properties. It must be noted that the assessed corridor route is located directly adjacent and parallel to the approved Soetwater power line routing (this powerline connects the Heuwels and Hidden Valley substations, and is currently under construction by Soetwater and Karusa Wind Farms respectively). The proposed development consists of: A double-circuit 132kV overhead power line (known as the Gunstfontein 132kV OHL extension double-circuit power line); and Associated infrastructure: Laydown areas. Access and service tracks. A corridor 300m wide and approximately 7.5km long as well as a 200m wide assessment zone around each of the two substations is being assessed to allow for the optimisation of the grid and associated infrastructure and to accommodate environmental sensitivities. The grid infrastructure (including the power line and associated infrastructure) will be developed within the assessed 300m wide corridor and a 200m assessment zone around each of the substations (known as the grid connection infrastructure). The grid connection infrastructure will be located within a grid connection corridor located directly parallel and approximately 15m west of the authorised Soetwater WEF power line routing. The height of the power line towers of the 132kV double-circuit power line will be up to 32m and the servitude width of the power line will be up to 40m. The entire extent of the corridor proposed for the development is located within the Komsberg Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ) and within the central corridor of the Strategic Transmission Corridors. Access to the grid connection corridor is possible via numerous existing smaller farm roads in close vicinity to the corridor, primarily off the Regional 354 (R354) tarred road running between Matjiesfontein and Sutherland towns. Apart from these existing roads, the authorised Gunstfontein 132kV powerline provides for an access/service track along its length that can also be used to access the corridor. In addition, existing access roads to the Heuwels and Hidden Valley substations (currently under construction) will be used to access the start- and end- point of the OHL extension. Formal roads will not be constructed underneath the power line for maintenance purposes, but rather access for maintenance purposes will be limited to jeep tracks running along the length of the line. Where possible, the existing service track for the Soetwater powerline will be utilised.

ApplicationDate: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 - 16:18

CaseID: 15175

Applicants: Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Consultants/Experts: Jenna Lavin

OtherReferences:












Heritage Reports: [Heritage Screener: Gunstfontein OHL Extension](#)

[AIA Hidden Valley WEF](#)

[PIA Hidden Valley WEF](#)

ReferenceList:

AdditionalDocuments

1.  Gunstfontein OHL BAR.pdf
2.  Appendix A - EIA Project Consulting Team and Specialist CVs.pdf
3.  Appendix B - Authority Consultation.pdf
4.  Appendix D - Ecological Impact Assessment.pdf
5.  Appendix E - Avifauna Impact Assessment.pdf
6.  Appendix G - Environmental Management Programme.pdf
7.  Appendix H - Maps.pdf
8.  Appendix I - Specialist Declarations.pdf
9.  Appendix J - EAP Declaration of Independence and Affirmation.pdf
10.  Appendix K - Screening Tool Report.pdf
11.  Appendix L - IQ Query regarding the format of the specialist reports.pdf

[Back to Top](#)

Revised Basic Assessment Report

Notification of availability of Revised BAR for review
and comment
(to be included in final BAR)

Savannah Environmental
Website Uploads

Proof of Revised BAR upload
(to be included in Final BAR)

SAHRIS Uploads

(to be included in the final Basic Assessment Report)