



APPENDIX F:

Pre-Application Consultation with the Competent Authority



APPENDICES

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province



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APPENDIX F.1: PRE-APPLICATION MEETING REQUEST FORM

App. F.1/...

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forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

PRE-APPLICATION MEETING REQUEST

Request for a pre-application meeting in terms of Regulation 8 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended (the Regulations)

PROJECT TITLE

- **PROJECT 1:** Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a 100 MWac Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 1), near De Aar, Northern Cape
- **PROJECT 2:** Scoping and EIA Process for the Proposed Development of a 100 MWac Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 2), near De Aar, Northern Cape
- **PROJECT 3:** Scoping and EIA Process for the Proposed Development of a 150 MWac Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 3), near De Aar, Northern Cape
- **PROJECT 4:** Scoping and EIA Process for the Proposed Development of a 100 MWac Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 4), near De Aar, Northern Cape
- **PROJECT 5:** Scoping and EIA Process for the Proposed Development of a 100 MWac Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 5), near De Aar, Northern Cape
- **PROJECT 6:** Scoping and EIA Process for the Proposed Development of a 100 MWac Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 6), near De Aar, Northern Cape
- **PROJECT 7:** Scoping and EIA Process for the Proposed Development of a 150 MWac Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 7), near De Aar, Northern Cape
- **PROJECT 8:** Scoping and EIA Process for the Proposed Development of a 150 MWac Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 8), near De Aar, Northern Cape
- **PROJECT 9:** Scoping and EIA Process for the Proposed Development of a 150 MWac Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 9), near De Aar, Northern Cape
- **PROJECT 10:** Scoping and EIA Process for the Proposed Development of a 150 MWac Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 10), near De Aar, Northern Cape
- **PROJECT 11:** Scoping and EIA Process for the Proposed Development of a 100 MWac Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 11), near De Aar, Northern Cape
- **PROJECT 12:** Scoping and EIA Process for the Proposed Development of a 100 MWac Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 12), near De Aar, Northern Cape
- **PROJECT 13:** Scoping and EIA Process for the Proposed Development of a 100 MWac Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 13), near De Aar, Northern Cape
- **PROJECT 14:** Scoping and EIA Process for the Proposed Development of a 100 MWac Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 14), near De Aar, Northern Cape
- **PROJECT 15:** Scoping and EIA Process for the Proposed Development of a 100 MWac Solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 15), near De Aar, Northern Cape
- **PROJECT 16:** Basic Assessment (BA) for the Proposed Development of a Switching Station and Collector Station, and a 132 kV Overhead Power Line from the Kudu Solar Facility 1 to the proposed Collector Station or the proposed Main Transmission Substation.
- **PROJECT 17:** BA for the Proposed Development of a Switching Station and Collector Station, and a 132 kV Overhead Power Line from the Kudu Solar Facility 2 to the proposed Collector Station or the proposed Main Transmission Substation.
- **PROJECT 18:** BA for the Proposed Development of a Switching Station and Collector Station, and a 132 kV Overhead Power Line from the Kudu Solar Facility 3 to the proposed Collector Station or the proposed Main Transmission Substation.
- **PROJECT 19:** BA for the Proposed Development of a Switching Station and Collector Station, and a 132 kV Overhead Power Line from the Kudu Solar Facility 4 to the proposed Collector Station or the proposed Main Transmission Substation.
- **PROJECT 20:** BA for the Proposed Development of a Switching Station and Collector Station, and a 132 kV Overhead Power Line from the Kudu Solar Facility 5 to the proposed Collector Station or the proposed Main Transmission Substation.
- **PROJECT 21:** BA for the Proposed Development of a Switching Station and Collector Station, and a 132 kV Overhead Power Line from the Kudu Solar Facility 6 to the proposed Collector Station or the proposed Main Transmission Substation.

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- **PROJECT 22:** BA for the Proposed Development of a Switching Station and Collector Station, and a 132 kV Overhead Power Line from the Kudu Solar Facility 7 to the proposed Collector Station or the proposed Main Transmission Substation.
- **PROJECT 23:** BA for the Proposed Development of a Switching Station and Collector Station, and a 132 kV Overhead Power Line from the Kudu Solar Facility 8 to the proposed Collector Station or the proposed Main Transmission Substation.
- **PROJECT 24:** BA for the Proposed Development of a Switching Station and Collector Station, and a 132 kV Overhead Power Line from the Kudu Solar Facility 9 to the proposed Collector Station or the proposed Main Transmission Substation.
- **PROJECT 25:** BA for the Proposed Development of a Switching Station and Collector Station, and a 132 kV Overhead Power Line from the Kudu Solar Facility 10 to the proposed Collector Station or the proposed Main Transmission Substation.
- **PROJECT 26:** BA for the Proposed Development of a Switching Station and Collector Station, and a 132 kV Overhead Power Line from the Kudu Solar Facility 11 to the proposed Collector Station or the proposed Main Transmission Substation.
- **PROJECT 27:** BA for the Proposed Development of a Switching Station and Collector Station, and a 132 kV Overhead Power Line from the Kudu Solar Facility 12 to the proposed Collector Station or the proposed Main Transmission Substation.
- **PROJECT 28:** BA for the Proposed Development of a Switching Station and Collector Station, and a 132 kV Overhead Power Line from the Kudu Solar Facility 13 to the proposed Collector Station or the proposed Main Transmission Substation.
- **PROJECT 29:** BA for the Proposed Development of a Switching Station and Collector Station, and a 132 kV Overhead Power Line from the Kudu Solar Facility 14 to the proposed Collector Station or the proposed Main Transmission Substation.
- **PROJECT 30:** BA for the Proposed Development of a Switching Station and Collector Station, and a 132 kV Overhead Power Line from the Kudu Solar Facility 15 to the proposed Collector Station or the proposed Main Transmission Substation.
- **PROJECT 31:** BA for the Proposed Development of an independent 400/132kV kV Main Transmission Substation (MTS), including associated infrastructure at the MTS such as 132 kV busbar and feeder bay(s), and 500 MVA 400/132 kV transformer(s) with transformer bay(s).
- **PROJECT 32:** BA for the Proposed Development of a 400 kV Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILO) from the existing Hydra-Perseus 400 kV Overhead Power Line to the proposed MTS

Note from the CSIR: This pre-application meeting request form is being submitted to discuss 32 projects (as listed above). Note that all 32 projects will be discussed in one pre-application meeting in order to maximise on efficiency. A request for combination of the projects, in terms of Regulation 11 of the 2014 National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended) (NEMA) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (as amended), and the issuing of multiple Environmental Authorisation (EAs) (should they be granted) in terms of Regulation 25 (1) and (2) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended) will be discussed with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) at the pre-application meeting. It is proposed to request for 32 EAs (should they be granted) for all of the projects listed above. Based on the outcome of the pre-application meeting and request for combination of reporting and multiple EAs, the required number of Application Forms for EA will be submitted to the DFFE once the projects commence. Note that the same process was recently followed by the CSIR for many other renewable energy projects, and this was accepted by the DFFE.

Kindly note the following:

1. This form must always be used for pre-application meeting requests where this Department is the Competent Authority.
2. This application form is current as of **April 2021**. It is the responsibility of the Applicant / Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to ascertain whether subsequent versions of the form have been published or produced by the Competent Authority. The latest available Departmental templates are available at <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>.
3. The onus on Applicant/EAP to determine all applicable listed activities that would require Environmental Authorisation prior to the commencement of the construction activities. Should any revision of your development comprise any other activities that constitute a listed activity/ies as defined in GN R983, R984 and R98 of 04 December 2014, as amended, it must also form part of the Application for Environmental Authorisation.
4. Be reminded that it is not compulsory in terms of the EIA Regulations that a pre-application meeting must take place prior to an application being lodged with the Department.
5. This form must be lodged with the Department at least **one (1) month** prior to the requested meeting date.
6. Please note that the proposed date and time will be confirmed prior to the meeting.
7. A detailed motivation and agenda must be appended to this meeting request.
8. This form must be marked **“for Attention: Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations”** and submitted to the Department via email.

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9. All fields are compulsory.
10. The required information must be typed within the spaces provided in the form. The sizes of the spaces provided are not necessarily indicative of the amount of information to be provided. Spaces are provided in tabular format and will extend automatically when each space is filled with typing. A legible font type and size must be used when completing the form. The font size should not be smaller than 10pt (e.g. Arial 10).
11. **Note that the EAP is required to submit minutes of the meeting to the Department for approval as per the timeframes agreed to in the meeting.**
12. The Department reserves the right to refuse the pre-application meeting based on the information provided in this request.

Departmental Details

Online Submission:

EIAApplications@environment.gov.za

Please read the process for uploading files to determine how files are to be submitted to this Department.

Physical address:

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Attention: Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Environment House
473 Steve Biko Road
Arcadia

Queries must be directed to the Directorate: Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support at:
Email: EIAAdmin@environment.gov.za

Note from the CSIR: The template of this form was downloaded from the DFFE website in April 2022. The template noted "Pre-Application Meeting Request – June 2020" in the footer. We have updated this to "Pre-Application Meeting Request – April 2021" as per point 2 above.

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1. APPLICANT CONTACT DETAILS

Name of the Applicant:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PROJECT 1: Kudu Solar Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd ▪ PROJECT 2: Kudu Solar Facility 2 (Pty) Ltd ▪ PROJECT 3: Kudu Solar Facility 3 (Pty) Ltd ▪ PROJECT 4: Kudu Solar Facility 4 (Pty) Ltd ▪ PROJECT 5: Kudu Solar Facility 5 (Pty) Ltd ▪ PROJECT 6: Kudu Solar Facility 6 (Pty) Ltd ▪ PROJECT 7: Kudu Solar Facility 7 (Pty) Ltd ▪ PROJECT 8: Kudu Solar Facility 8 (Pty) Ltd ▪ PROJECT 9: Kudu Solar Facility 9 (Pty) Ltd ▪ PROJECT 10: Kudu Solar Facility 10 (Pty) Ltd ▪ PROJECT 11: Kudu Solar Facility 11 (Pty) Ltd ▪ PROJECT 12: Kudu Solar Facility 12 (Pty) Ltd ▪ PROJECT 13: Kudu Solar Facility 13 (Pty) Ltd ▪ PROJECT 14: Kudu Solar Facility 14 (Pty) Ltd ▪ PROJECT 15: Kudu Solar Facility 15 (Pty) Ltd ▪ PROJECTS 16 - 32: ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd 		
RSA Identity/ Passport Number:	Not Applicable		
Name of contact person for applicant (if other):	Robert Invernizzi		
RSA Identity/ Passport Number:	7611035145082		
Responsible position, e.g. Director, CEO, etc.:	General Manager		
Company/ Trading name (if any):	Not Applicable		
Company Registration Number:	2011/135507/07		
BBBEE status:	Not Applicable		
Physical address:	Unit B1, Mayfair Square, Century Way, Century City, Cape Town, 7441		
Postal address:	Unit B1, Mayfair Square, Century Way, Century City, Cape Town		
Postal code:	7441	Cell:	073 265 8575
Telephone:	021 276 3620	Fax:	086 595 4668
E-mail:	Rob.Invernizzi@abo-wind.com Du-toit.malherbe@abo-wind.com		

2. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER CONTACT DETAILS

Company of Environmental Assessment Practitioner:	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)		
B-BBEE	Contribution level (indicate 1 to 8 or non-compliant)	1	Percentage Procurement recognition 135%
EAP name:	Paul Lochner		
EAP Qualifications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ B.Sc. Civil Engineering (awarded with Honours), University of Cape Town ▪ M. Phil. Environmental Science, University of Cape Town 		
Professional affiliation/registration:	Registered EAP (2019/745) with the Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association of South Africa (EAPASA)		
Physical address:	11 Jan Celliers Street, Stellenbosch, 7599		
Postal address:	PO Box 320, Stellenbosch		
Postal code:	7599	Cell:	084 442 3646
Telephone:	021 888 2486	Fax:	021 888 2693
E-mail:	PLochner@csir.co.za RABed@csir.co.za		

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3. COMPETENT AUTHORITY

Identified Competent Authority to consider the application:
Reason(s) in terms of S24C of NEMA:

	National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)
	The National DFFE, based in Pretoria, will be the Competent Authority (CA). This is based on a directive that was issued by the Department of Minerals and Energy in 2009 indicating that all energy-related Environmental Assessments must be fast-tracked and that the National Department of Environmental Affairs (now the DFFE) must be the CA. This is also based on the Government Gazette 40110, Government Notice 779, dated 1 July 2016, published by the then Minister of Environmental Affairs, which stipulates that the Minister of Environmental Affairs (now Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment) is the CA for the consideration and processing of EAs and amendments thereto for activities related to the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) 2010 – 2030, and any updates thereto.

4. MEETING DETAILS

Purpose of the meeting request	<p>The purpose of the meeting request is to introduce and discuss the following proposed 32 projects with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) and to obtain confirmation on the proposed scope, approach, and schedule of the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Basic Assessment (BA) processes to be undertaken. Refer to Pages 1 and 2 of this Pre-Application Request Form for the titles of the proposed projects.</p> <p>In particular, the purpose of the pre-application meeting includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To provide the DFFE with an overview of the project description for the abovementioned projects; ▪ To discuss and confirm the specialist assessments and compliance statements to be undertaken; ▪ To discuss and confirm the approach towards the specialist reporting; ▪ To discuss and confirm the approach towards the BA and Scoping and EIA reporting, including a request for combination of the projects, in terms of Regulation 11 of the 2014 National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended) (NEMA) EIA Regulations (as amended), and the issuing of multiple (i.e. 32) Environmental Authorisation (EAs) (should they be granted) in terms of Regulations 25 (1) and (2) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended); ▪ To confirm the approach towards including Lithium Ion or Redox Flow Battery Energy Storage Systems in the project description; ▪ To discuss the proposed Public Participation Plan (PPP) which will be submitted to the DFFE for approval; and ▪ To discuss and confirm the proposed project schedule and overall process for the EIAs and BAs, including the applicable Listed Activities and Cumulative Impact Assessment approach (i.e. assess cumulative impacts based on a 30 km buffer and based on Renewable Energy projects with a positive EA issued at the start of this BA and EIA (i.e. March 2022)).
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Any advice requested before from the Department on this project i.e. from IQ or via email (attached response received)		No ✓
Applicant Category	Application by Parastatal	
	Organ of State	
	Private Individual/Parties	✓
Application type	Application for EA	✓
	Application for Integrated EA	
	Application for Amendment EA	
Proposed meeting date and time-slot. Provide three alternative dates and time-slots (<i>note that the Department requires at least a month due to logistical arrangements</i>)		
<p>Note from the CSIR: The CSIR acknowledges that the DFFE has a considerable number of applications to process. We are humbly requesting alternative dates prior to the one-month clause above based on the strategic nature of the project and the approaching Bidding Window of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP).</p>		
Date	Time-slot	
	Start time	End time
1. 11 April 2022	10H00	12H00
2. 14 April 2022	10H00	12H00
3. 19 April 2022	10H00	12H00
Duration of the meeting	2 Hours	
Estimated number of people attending meeting	5 to 6	

Please attach a proposed agenda as **APPENDIX 1**. If the Applicant or EAP intends to discuss several projects in one meeting, separate agendas must be drafted for each proposed project and the project details for each project. Please note that a detailed agenda is required.

Note from the CSIR: This pre-application meeting request form is being submitted to discuss 32 projects (as listed above). Note that all 32 projects will be discussed in one pre-application meeting in order to maximise on efficiency. A request for combination of the projects, in terms of Regulation 11 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), and the issuing of multiple (i.e. 32) EAs (should they be granted) in terms of Regulations 25 (1) and (2) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), will be discussed with the DFFE at the pre-application meeting. Based on the outcome of the pre-application meeting and request for combination and multiple EAs, the required number of Application Forms for EA will be submitted to the DFFE once the projects commence. Note that the same process was recently followed by the CSIR for many other renewable energy projects, and this was accepted by the DFFE. The proposed Solar PV projects have the same project components, and they take place on adjacent farm properties. The same applies to the Electrical Grid Infrastructure (EGI) projects. Based on this, one single combined, detailed proposed agenda for the pre-application meeting has been compiled and included in **Appendix 1** of this pre-application meeting request form.

5. PROJECT DETAILS

Project description	ABO Wind renewable energies (PTY) Ltd ¹ (hereinafter referred to as ABO Wind), is proposing to develop the Kudu Solar Photovoltaic (PV) cluster and associated Electricity Grid Infrastructure (EGI) near De Aar in the Northern Cape. The Kudu project will entail the proposed development of up to 15 Solar PV Facilities, as well as associated infrastructure and EGI. The proposed projects will make use of PV solar technology to generate electricity from energy derived from the sun. Each solar PV facility will have a range of associated infrastructure, including, but not limited to, an on-site substation
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¹ ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd is the holding company. Various subsidiary companies will serve as the Project Applicants. Details of the subsidiary companies have been indicated in Section 1 of this Pre-Application Meeting Request Form and will be detailed in the Application Forms for Environmental Authorisation.

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	<p>complex, battery energy storage systems (BESS) and is proposed to connect to an existing 400 kV power line via dedicated 132 kV power lines.</p> <p>It is estimated that each PV facility will have a capacity of up to 150 MWac, resulting in a total combined generation capacity of 1 750 MWac. There will be 15 x "Up to 150 MWac" PV projects. Each of the PV facilities would be its own project and would require its own, separate Environmental Authorisation (EA) (i.e. Kudu PV1 to Kudu PV15). The same applies to the EGI projects. Each project will have a specific Project Applicant, as detailed below. The affected farm portions are listed at the end of this section.</p> <p>The following projects are being proposed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PROJECTS 1 TO 15: The proposed development of 15 x Up to 150 MWac Solar PV Facilities and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 1 to Kudu Solar Facility 15), near De Aar, Northern Cape. These projects require Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Processes. ▪ PROJECTS 16 TO 30: The proposed development of Switching Stations and Collector Stations at each On-Site Substation Complex at each of the 15 x Kudu Solar Facilities, and up to 15 x 132 kV Overhead Power Lines running from each Solar Facility to the proposed Collector Station(s) or up to the proposed Main Transmission Substation. All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors to be assessed. These projects require Basic Assessment (BA) Processes. ▪ PROJECT 31: The proposed development of an independent 400/132 kV Main Transmission Substation (MTS), including associated infrastructure at the MTS such as 132 kV busbar and feeder bay(s), and 500 MVA 400/132 kV transformer(s) with transformer bay(s). All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors to be assessed. This project requires a BA Process. ▪ PROJECT 32: The proposed development of a 400 kV Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILO) from the existing Hydra-Perseus 400 kV Overhead Power Line to the proposed MTS. All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors to be assessed. This project requires a BA Process. <p><u>REQUEST FOR COMBINATION AND MULTIPLE EA:</u></p> <p>A request for combination of the reports, in terms of Regulation 11 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), and the issuing of multiple (i.e. 32) EAs (should they be granted) <u>will be discussed with the DFFE at the pre-application meeting.</u> The proposed request for combination and multiple EA is noted below:</p>																																																				
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #d3d3d3;"> <th style="width: 5%;">No.</th> <th style="width: 45%;">Projects</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Applicant</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Number of Applications and Reports</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Number of EAs</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td rowspan="15" style="text-align: left; vertical-align: top;"> PROJECTS 1 TO 15: The proposed development of 15 x Up to 150 MWac Solar PV Facilities and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 1 to Kudu Solar Facility 15), near De Aar, Northern Cape. These projects require Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Processes. </td> <td>Kudu Solar Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd</td> <td rowspan="15" style="vertical-align: middle;"> 1 Combined Application for EA 1 Combined Scoping Report 1 Combined EIA Report </td> <td rowspan="15" style="vertical-align: middle;"> 15 EAs (i.e. one for each PV Facility, including the IPP substation) </td> </tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>Kudu Solar Facility 2 (Pty) Ltd</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>Kudu Solar Facility 3 (Pty) Ltd</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>Kudu Solar Facility 4 (Pty) Ltd</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>Kudu Solar Facility 5 (Pty) Ltd</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>Kudu Solar Facility 6 (Pty) Ltd</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>Kudu Solar Facility 7 (Pty) Ltd</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>Kudu Solar Facility 8 (Pty) Ltd</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>Kudu Solar Facility 9 (Pty) Ltd</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>Kudu Solar Facility 10 (Pty) Ltd</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>Kudu Solar Facility 11 (Pty) Ltd</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>Kudu Solar Facility 12 (Pty) Ltd</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>Kudu Solar Facility 13 (Pty) Ltd</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>Kudu Solar Facility 14 (Pty) Ltd</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>Kudu Solar Facility 15 (Pty) Ltd</td></tr> <tr> <td>16</td> <td rowspan="10" style="text-align: left; vertical-align: top;"> PROJECTS 16 TO 30: The proposed development of Switching Stations and Collector Stations at each On-Site Substation Complex at each of the 15 x Kudu Solar Facilities, and up to 15 x 132 kV Overhead Power Lines running from each Solar Facility to the proposed Collector Station(s) or up to the proposed Main Transmission Substation. All activities are proposed within the Grid </td> <td rowspan="10" style="vertical-align: middle;"> ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd </td> <td rowspan="10" style="vertical-align: middle;"> 1 Combined Application for EA 1 Combined BA Report </td> <td rowspan="10" style="vertical-align: middle;"> 15 EAs (i.e. one for each line, Switching Station and Collector Station) </td> </tr> <tr><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	No.	Projects	Applicant	Number of Applications and Reports	Number of EAs	1	PROJECTS 1 TO 15: The proposed development of 15 x Up to 150 MWac Solar PV Facilities and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 1 to Kudu Solar Facility 15), near De Aar, Northern Cape. These projects require Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Processes.	Kudu Solar Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	1 Combined Application for EA 1 Combined Scoping Report 1 Combined EIA Report	15 EAs (i.e. one for each PV Facility, including the IPP substation)	2	Kudu Solar Facility 2 (Pty) Ltd	3	Kudu Solar Facility 3 (Pty) Ltd	4	Kudu Solar Facility 4 (Pty) Ltd	5	Kudu Solar Facility 5 (Pty) Ltd	6	Kudu Solar Facility 6 (Pty) Ltd	7	Kudu Solar Facility 7 (Pty) Ltd	8	Kudu Solar Facility 8 (Pty) Ltd	9	Kudu Solar Facility 9 (Pty) Ltd	10	Kudu Solar Facility 10 (Pty) Ltd	11	Kudu Solar Facility 11 (Pty) Ltd	12	Kudu Solar Facility 12 (Pty) Ltd	13	Kudu Solar Facility 13 (Pty) Ltd	14	Kudu Solar Facility 14 (Pty) Ltd	15	Kudu Solar Facility 15 (Pty) Ltd	16	PROJECTS 16 TO 30: The proposed development of Switching Stations and Collector Stations at each On-Site Substation Complex at each of the 15 x Kudu Solar Facilities, and up to 15 x 132 kV Overhead Power Lines running from each Solar Facility to the proposed Collector Station(s) or up to the proposed Main Transmission Substation. All activities are proposed within the Grid	ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd	1 Combined Application for EA 1 Combined BA Report	15 EAs (i.e. one for each line, Switching Station and Collector Station)	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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26	Corridors to be assessed. These projects require Basic Assessment (BA) Processes.			
27				
28				
29				
30				
31	PROJECT 31: The proposed development of an independent 400/132 kV Main Transmission Substation (MTS), including associated infrastructure at the MTS such as 132 kV busbar and feeder bay(s), and 500 MVA 400/132 kV transformer(s) with transformer bay(s). All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors to be assessed. This project requires a BA Process.	ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd	1 Combined Application for EA	2 EAs (one for the MTS and one for the LILO)
32	PROJECT 32: The proposed development of a 400 kV Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILO) from the existing Hydra-Perseus 400 kV Overhead Power Line to the proposed MTS. All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors to be assessed. This project requires a BA Process.		1 Combined BA Report	

It is proposed that one specialist report will be compiled for the PV Projects (i.e. Projects 1 to 15) and one specialist report will be compiled for the EGI Projects (i.e. Projects 16 to 32).

Based on the outcome of the pre-application meeting and request for combination and multiple EAs, the required number of Application Forms for EA will be submitted to the DFFE once the projects commence. Note that the same process was recently followed by the CSIR for many other renewable energy projects, and this was accepted by the DFFE.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The proposed projects will each consist of the components listed below. It is important to note at the outset that the exact specifications of the proposed project components will be determined during the detailed engineering phase (subsequent to the issuing of an EA, should such an authorisation be granted for the proposed projects), but that the information provided below is seen as the worst-case scenario for the project.

PROJECTS 1 TO 15 – Kudu Solar Facility 1 to 15 and associated infrastructure:

These projects will include the following:

- **Solar Field**, comprising Solar Arrays with a maximum height of approximately 3.5 m, including the following infrastructure and specifications:
 - PV Modules.
 - Single Axis Tracking structures (aligned north-south); Dual Axis Tracking (aligned east-west and north-south); Fixed Tilt Mounting Structure; Mono-facial Solar Modules; or Bifacial Solar Modules.
 - Solar module mounting structures comprised of galvanised steel and aluminium.
 - Foundations which will likely be drilled and concreted into the ground.
 - Capacity of the PV Facility:
 - Kudu Solar Facility 1: 100 MWac
 - Kudu Solar Facility 2: 100 MWac
 - Kudu Solar Facility 3: 150 MWac
 - Kudu Solar Facility 4: 100 MWac
 - Kudu Solar Facility 5: 100 MWac
 - Kudu Solar Facility 6: 100 MWac
 - Kudu Solar Facility 7: 150 MWac
 - Kudu Solar Facility 8: 150 MWac
 - Kudu Solar Facility 9: 150 MWac
 - Kudu Solar Facility 10: 150 MWac
 - Kudu Solar Facility 11: 100 MWac

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 12: 100 MWac ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 13: 100 MWac ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 14: 100 MWac ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 15: 100 MWac ○ Area of the PV Array (i.e. proposed area occupied by <u>PV Modules only</u>): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 1: 141 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 2: 218 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 3: 269 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 4: 135 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 5: 199 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 6: 128 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 7: 268 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 8: 283 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 9: 227 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 10: 239 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 11: 199 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 12: 117 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 13: 185 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 14: 187 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 15: 203 ha ○ Total developable area i.e. the area that includes all associated infrastructure within the <u>fenced off</u> area of the PV facility: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 1: 147 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 2: 230 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 3: 284 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 4: 147 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 5: 214 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 6: 135 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 7: 283 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 8: 317 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 9: 242 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 10: 249 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 11: 209 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 12: 124 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 13: 192 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 14: 210 ha ▪ Kudu Solar Facility 15: 217 ha ▪ Building Infrastructure at each PV Facility: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On-site Substation Complexes: Each on-site substation complex at each PV Facility will be up to 4 ha in area, and will have a height of up to 10 m. The on-site substation complex area could also include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ On-site Independent Power Producer (IPP) or Facility Substation (+-1 ha). This will include the relevant section that will be maintained by the Independent Power Producer (i.e. the high voltage infrastructure leading up to the Point of Connection (the Project Applicant's section of the proposed on-site substation complexes)), and/or ▪ Switching Station and Collector Station (+-2 ha). This forms part of Projects 16 – 30 (refer to the description below) and/or ▪ Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (+-1 ha). <p>The capacity of the on-site substations varies according to detailed design and client requirements. Generally stepping up from 22kV or 33kV to 132kV and finally 400 kV for injection into the Eskom grid can be assumed.</p> ○ Inverter-Transformer stations (height of approximately 3 m each and footprint 0.5 ha per PV site. On average, 27 inverter-transformer stations are proposed at each PV site). ○ Auxiliary buildings to be developed include, but are not limited to: Operational and Maintenance (O&M) Control Centre, site offices, staff lockers, bathrooms, warehouses,
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	<p>etc. These buildings will have a cumulative footprint up to 0.5 ha (i.e. 5000 m²) per PV site. Additional detail is provided below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Warehouse/workshop (Maximum height of up to 10 m). ▪ Site Offices (Maximum height of up to 10 m). ▪ Operational and Maintenance (O&M) Control Centre (Maximum height of up to 10 m). ▪ Guard Houses (Maximum height of up to 10 m). ▪ Ablution facilities (Maximum height of up to 10 m). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Associated Infrastructure at the PV Facility: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lithium Ion or Redox Flow Battery Energy Storage System, which will each cover an area of approximately 1 ha (at the on-site substation complex) and a height of up to 10 m. Each battery will have a capacity of approximately 500 MW/ 500 MWh. ○ Temporary construction laydown area: Up to 7 ha each. ○ Length of internal roads within the PV Facility: Ranges between 5 km and 19 km. For all 15 PV sites, the total length of the roads equates to 170 km (preliminary internal roads). ○ Width of preliminary internal roads: Approximately 4 - 5 m during construction and operation. ○ Width of the main site access: Up to 8 m during construction and operation. ○ New internal service roads will need to be established and these would either comprise farm (compacted dirt/gravel) roads or be paved. ○ Upgrading of existing access roads: Existing roads will be used as far as practically achievable. These roads may need to be widened and upgraded. There are three potential access roads from the R48. Current width is approximately 5 m, and the upgraded width is approximately 8 m. ○ Site access points: Existing farm roads will be utilised as far as reasonably possible and upgraded where necessary. The PV sites would be accessed via existing unnamed farm roads. The details of the access would be as per the recommendations in the Transport Impact Assessment. Currently there are four site access points, as noted below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Site Access A – Access Road to PV 1. ▪ Site Access B 1 - Access Road to PV 2, PV 3, PV 4, and PV 5. ▪ Site Access B 2 - Access Road to PV 8, PV 9 and PV 15. ▪ Site Access C - Access Road to PV 6, PV 7, PV 10, PV 11, PV 12, PV 13 and PV 14. ○ Fencing: To be confirmed. ○ Stormwater channels: To be confirmed. ○ Panel maintenance and cleaning area. ○ Underground low voltage cables or cable trays: Maximum depth of up to 1.5 m; ○ Internal transmission and/or distribution lines on site: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Under or above-ground: Internal underground lines of up to 33 kV (22kV or 33kV). The overhead lines would be up to 132 kV (these lines would be those within the grid corridor). ▪ Capacity: 22 or 33kV ▪ If below-ground: Maximum depth of 1.5 m ○ Water requirements: Construction: ± 9 000 m³ over a ± 18-month construction period. Operation: ± 1 000 m³ per annum for a minimum of 20-year operational lifespan of the Solar PV Facility. Water will either be sourced from (a) the local municipality (most likely the water will be either trucked in, or otherwise made available for collection at the municipal Water Treatment Plant via a metered standpipe). Specific arrangements will be agreed with the local municipality in a Service Level Agreement (SLA); (b) a third-party water supplier which may include a private services company; or (c) existing boreholes on site, which will be based on the findings of the Geohydrological Assessment and relevant registration or licence requirements; or (d) a borehole drilled on site, which will be subject to complete geohydrological testing and a Water Use Licence Application (WULA).
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PROJECTS 16 TO 30 – Switching Stations and Collector Stations at each On-Site Substation Complex at each of the 15 x Kudu Solar Facilities, and up to 15 x 132 kV Overhead Power Lines from each Kudu Solar Facility to the proposed Collector Station(s) or up to the proposed Main Transmission Substation:

These projects will include the construction of a Switching Station and Collector Station (+2 ha each) at each on-site substation complex at each Solar Facility. This will include the relevant section that will be transferred from the Independent Power Producer to Eskom (i.e. the high voltage infrastructure extending from the Point of Connection (i.e. Eskom's section) of the proposed on-site substation complexes).

The 15 on-site substation complexes would each have the option to receive a Collector Station depending on the grid connection scenario. The Collector Station will be an expansion of the Switching Station (with additional feeder bays added to the Switching Station etc.) falling within the footprint of the overall on-site substation complex and/or Grid Corridor. In summary, the switching station could be expanded into a Collector Station where necessary. Both options will need to be assessed and authorised.

These projects will also include the construction of a 132 kV Overhead Power Line from each Kudu Solar Facility to the proposed Collector Station (which could be at any one of the 15 Substation complexes) or up to the proposed Main Transmission Substation. Therefore, up to 15 overhead power lines could be constructed and need to be assessed. All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors to be assessed. Details of the power lines are provided below.

Power Line Route Description	Capacity	Description
Kudu Solar Facility 1 to Collector Station or MTS	132kV	The proposed development of Switching Stations and Collector Stations (+2 ha each) at each On-Site Substation Complex at each of the 15 x Kudu Solar Facilities, and up to 15 x 132 kV Overhead Power Lines running from each Kudu Solar Facility to the proposed Collector Station(s) or up to the proposed Main Transmission Substation. All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors to be assessed.
Kudu Solar Facility 2 to Collector Station or MTS	132kV	
Kudu Solar Facility 3 to Collector Station or MTS	132kV	
Kudu Solar Facility 4 to Collector Station or MTS	132kV	
Kudu Solar Facility 5 to Collector Station or MTS	132kV	
Kudu Solar Facility 6 to Collector Station or MTS	132kV	
Kudu Solar Facility 7 to Collector Station or MTS	132kV	
Kudu Solar Facility 8 to Collector Station or MTS	132kV	
Kudu Solar Facility 9 to Collector Station or MTS	132kV	
Kudu Solar Facility 10 to Collector Station or MTS	132kV	
Kudu Solar Facility 11 to Collector Station or MTS	132kV	
Kudu Solar Facility 12 to Collector Station or MTS	132kV	
Kudu Solar Facility 13 to Collector Station or MTS	132kV	
Kudu Solar Facility 14 to Collector Station or MTS	132kV	
Kudu Solar Facility 15 to Collector Station or MTS	132kV	

PROJECT 31 – Independent 132 kV/400 kV Main Transmission Substation and associated infrastructure:

This project includes the construction of an independent 400/132 kV MTS, including associated infrastructure at the MTS such as 132 kV busbar and feeder bay(s), and 500 MVA 400/132 kV transformer(s) with transformer bay(s). All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors. The above is proposed if the Eskom Hydra B substation is not built.

If the Eskom Hydra B substation is built, then the additional upgrades of the Eskom Hydra B project would be undertaken by the Applicant in order to ensure that the substation can accommodate the power generated by the 15 Kudu Solar Facilities. It is not possible to determine exactly what expansions and upgrades of the EGI may be required at the time, however in terms of the worst case, it is estimated that this will entail additional feeder bays, busbars transformers, transformer bays at the Eskom Hydra B substation (once it is constructed). This would be seen as expansion to the existing Eskom Hydra B substation. Therefore, the scope of works as mentioned above may be reduced should the Eskom Hydra B substation be built. If this is the case, an amendment to the EA will be undertaken, if required. All expansion activities are expected to fall within the Grid Corridors proposed.

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	<p>PROJECT 32 – 400 kV Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILO) from the existing Hydra-Perseus 400 kV Overhead Power Line to the proposed MTS:</p> <p>This project includes the construction of a 6.5 km long 400 kV Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILO) from the existing Hydra-Perseus 400 kV Overhead Power Line to the proposed MTS. All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors. The above is proposed if the Eskom Hydra B substation is not built.</p> <p>If the Eskom Hydra B substation is built, then potentially upgrading the EGI as required at the time would be undertaken. If this is the case, an amendment to the EA will be undertaken. All activities are expected to fall within the Grid Corridors proposed.</p> <p>For all of the above EGI projects (i.e. Projects 16 – 32), the following applies:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="491 660 1380 1377"> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 660 667 974">Foundation</td> <td data-bbox="667 660 1380 974"> <p>The type of terrain will determine the choice of foundation.</p> <p>132 kV power lines (Projects 16 – 30):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The size of the footprint area will range from 0.6 m x 0.6 m to 1.5 m x 1.5 m (foundation width for the base of the towers). The minimum working area required around a structure position is 20 m x 20 m. <p>400 kV power lines (Project 32):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The size of the footprint area will be in the range of 8-10 m x 8-10 m (i.e. foundation width for the base of the towers). The minimum working area required around a structure position is 20 m x 20 m. </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 974 667 1003">Pylon</td> <td data-bbox="667 974 1380 1003">132 kV steel monopole or lattice towers</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 1003 667 1032">Tower type</td> <td data-bbox="667 1003 1380 1032">Self-supporting and Angle strain towers</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 1032 667 1122">Height</td> <td data-bbox="667 1032 1380 1122">132 kV power lines (Projects 16 – 30): 17.4 - 21 m</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 1122 667 1151">Span length</td> <td data-bbox="667 1122 1380 1151">400 kV power lines (Project 32): 27 – 40 m</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="491 1151 667 1377">Servitude width</td> <td data-bbox="667 1151 1380 1377"> <p>200, 250 or 375 m</p> <p>31 m for 132 kV power lines (i.e. 15.5 m on either side of the power line).</p> <p>47 m to 55 m for 400 kV power lines (i.e. 23.5 or 27.5 on either side of the power line).</p> <p>Note: A 300 m – 1000 m wide corridor for all the power lines listed above are to be assessed by specialists, in order to identify sensitivities and features that need to be avoided.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	Foundation	<p>The type of terrain will determine the choice of foundation.</p> <p>132 kV power lines (Projects 16 – 30):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The size of the footprint area will range from 0.6 m x 0.6 m to 1.5 m x 1.5 m (foundation width for the base of the towers). The minimum working area required around a structure position is 20 m x 20 m. <p>400 kV power lines (Project 32):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The size of the footprint area will be in the range of 8-10 m x 8-10 m (i.e. foundation width for the base of the towers). The minimum working area required around a structure position is 20 m x 20 m. 	Pylon	132 kV steel monopole or lattice towers	Tower type	Self-supporting and Angle strain towers	Height	132 kV power lines (Projects 16 – 30): 17.4 - 21 m	Span length	400 kV power lines (Project 32): 27 – 40 m	Servitude width	<p>200, 250 or 375 m</p> <p>31 m for 132 kV power lines (i.e. 15.5 m on either side of the power line).</p> <p>47 m to 55 m for 400 kV power lines (i.e. 23.5 or 27.5 on either side of the power line).</p> <p>Note: A 300 m – 1000 m wide corridor for all the power lines listed above are to be assessed by specialists, in order to identify sensitivities and features that need to be avoided.</p>
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Indicate if any screening has taken place on site	Screening has not taken place formally before initiating the EIA and BA Processes. However, the National Web-Based Environmental Screening Tool (Screening Tool) has been used by the specialists. The relevant findings of the Screening Tool will be verified by the specialists on site during the initial phases of the EIA and BA Processes.												
Physical Address where the development will take place	The proposed sites can be accessed via existing farm (gravel) roads off the R48. The proposed sites are located approximately 50 km north-east of De Aar, in the Northern Cape Province.												
Farm name(s)/ Erf No	<p>The proposed projects are located on the following farm portions:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="539 1691 1332 1897"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="539 1691 630 1724">Number</th> <th data-bbox="630 1691 1133 1724">Farm Portions Affected</th> <th data-bbox="1133 1691 1332 1724">Affected by</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="539 1724 630 1897">1</td> <td data-bbox="630 1724 1133 1897">Portion 0 (Remaining Extent) of Farm Basberg 88</td> <td data-bbox="1133 1724 1332 1897"> Projects 1 - 15 Project 21 Project 22 Project 23 Project 24 Project 25 </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Number	Farm Portions Affected	Affected by	1	Portion 0 (Remaining Extent) of Farm Basberg 88	Projects 1 - 15 Project 21 Project 22 Project 23 Project 24 Project 25						
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			Project 26 Project 27 Project 28 Project 29 Project 30
		2	Portion 3 of Farm Basberg 88 Projects 1 - 15 Project 16 Project 17 Project 18 Project 19 Project 20 Project 21 Project 22 Project 23 Project 24 Project 25 Project 26 Project 27 Project 28 Project 29 Project 30
		3	Portion 4 of Farm Basberg 88 Projects 1 - 15 Project 16 Project 17 Project 18 Project 19 Project 20 Project 21 Project 22 Project 23 Project 24 Project 25 Project 26 Project 27 Project 28 Project 29 Project 30
		4	Portion 2 of Farm Grass Pan 40 Projects 1 - 15 Project 23 Project 24 Project 30
		5	Portion 0 (Remaining Extent) of Farm Annex Wolve Kuil 41 Projects 1 - 15 Project 21 Project 22 Project 23 Project 24 Project 25 Project 26 Project 27 Project 28 Project 29 Project 30
		6	Portion 1 of Farm Annex Wolve Kuil 41 Projects 1 - 15 Project 22

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			Project 23 Project 24 Project 25 Project 26 Project 27 Project 28 Project 29 Project 30
	7	Portion 0 (Remaining Extent) of Farm Wolve Kuilen 42	Projects 1 - 15
	8	Portion 2 of Farm Wolve Kuil 43	Projects 1 - 15 Project 29
	9	Portion 5 of Farm Kopy Alleen 83	Project 16 Project 17 Project 18 Project 19 Project 20 Project 21 Project 22 Project 23 Project 24 Project 25 Project 26 Project 27 Project 28 Project 29 Project 30
	10	Portion 1 of Farm Kopy Alleen 83	Project 16 Project 17 Project 18 Project 19 Project 20 Project 21 Project 22 Project 23 Project 24 Project 25 Project 26 Project 27 Project 28 Project 29 Project 30
	11	Portion 4 of Farm Kopy Alleen 83	Project 32
Local Municipality	Renosterberg Local Municipality		
District Municipality	Pixley Ka Seme District Municipality		

Locality map:	<p>A locality map must be attached to the application form, as APPENDIX 2. The scale of the locality map must be at least 1:50 000. For linear activities of more than 25 kilometres, a smaller scale e.g. 1:250 000 can be used. The scale must be indicated on the map. The map must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an accurate indication of the project site position as well as the positions of the alternative sites, if any; • road names or numbers of all the major roads as well as the roads that provide access to the site(s) • a north arrow;
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a legend; • the prevailing wind direction; • site sensitivities, including but not limited to vegetation, wetlands, watercourses, heritage sites, critical biodiversity area/s, World Heritage Site, etc. and it must be overlaid by the study area; and • GPS co-ordinates (Indicate the position of the proposed activity with the latitude and longitude at the centre point for each alternative site. • The co-ordinates should be in degrees and decimal minutes. The minutes should be to at least three decimal places. The projection that must be used in all cases is the WGS-84 spheroid in a national or local projection)
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Note from the CSIR: Refer to Appendix 2 of this Pre-Application Meeting Request Form for a copy of the Locality Map, including preliminary site sensitivities.

6. ACTIVITIES APPLIED FOR

For an application for authorisation that involves more than one listed activity that, together, make up one development proposal, all the listed activities pertaining to this application must be provided below.

PROJECTS 1 TO 15 – Kudu Solar Facility 1 to 15 and associated infrastructure:

Note from the CSIR: The listed activities for all 15 of the Solar PV projects are identical at this stage of the process, as they have identical project components and infrastructure. Hence one list of listed activities has been provided below. Separate lists of listed activities for each project will be provided in the Application Form for EA and Scoping and EIA Reports, which will also take the environmental features on site into consideration.

Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant Basic Assessment Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.	Describe the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates.
Activity 11(i)	<p>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 more;</p> <p>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 proposed project will entail the construction of an on-site substation complex at each PV facility. Each on-site substation complex could include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ On-site Independent Power Producer (IPP) or Facility Substation. This will include the relevant section that will be maintained by the IPP (i.e. the high voltage infrastructure leading up to the Point of Connection (the Project Applicant's section of the proposed on-site substation complexes)), and/or ▪ Switching Station and Collector Station, and/or ▪ Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). <p>Each on-site substation complex will be up to 4 ha in area and will have a height of up to 10 m.</p> <p>Note that the Switching Station and Collector Station form part of Projects 16 – 30.</p> <p>It is assumed that the on-site substation complexes will generally step up from 22 kV or 33 kV to 132 kV and finally 400 kV for injection into the Eskom grid.</p>

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		The proposed project will take place outside of an urban area.
Activity 12 (ii) (a) (c)	<p>The development of:</p> <p>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more;</p> <p>where such development occurs -</p> <p>a) within a watercourse;</p> <p>b) in front of a development setback; or</p> <p>c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;</p> <p>excluding -</p> <p>(aa) the development of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour;</p> <p>(bb) where such development activities are related to the development of a port or harbour, in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies;</p> <p>(cc) activities listed in activity 14 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 or activity 14 in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, in which case that activity applies;</p> <p>(dd) where such development occurs within an urban area;</p> <p>(ee) where such development occurs within existing roads, road reserves or railway line reserves; or</p> <p>(ff) the development of temporary infrastructure or structures where such infrastructure or structures will be removed within 6 weeks of the commencement of development and where indigenous vegetation will not be cleared.</p>	<p>The proposed solar PV facilities will be constructed on various farm portions, approximately 50 km north-east of De Aar, in the Northern Cape Province. Hence the proposed project will take place outside of an urban area.</p> <p>The proposed Solar PV facilities will entail the construction of building infrastructure and structures (such as the solar fields, offices, workshops, ablution facilities, on-site substation complexes, laydown areas and security enclosures etc.). The infrastructure and structures are expected to exceed a footprint of 100 m² and some may occur within small drainage features and 32 m of the watercourses. The Screening Tool shows some rivers and wetlands are present within the study area. Refer to the map included in Appendix 2 of this form. This will be confirmed and verified by the specialists during the EIA Phase.</p>
Activity 19	<p>The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse;</p> <p>but excluding where such infilling, depositing, dredging, excavation, removal or moving-</p> <p>a) will occur behind a development setback;</p> <p>b) is for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan;</p> <p>c) falls within the ambit of activity 21 in this Notice, in which case that activity applies;</p> <p>d) occurs within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour; or</p> <p>e) where such development is related to the development of a port or harbour, in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies.</p>	<p>The proposed projects may entail the excavation, removal and moving of more than 10 m³ of soil, sand, pebbles or rock from nearby watercourses on site. The proposed project may also entail the infilling of more than 10 m³ of material into the nearby watercourses. The Screening Tool shows some rivers and wetlands are present within the study area. Refer to the map included in Appendix 2 of this form. This will be confirmed and verified by the specialists during the EIA Phase. Details of the infilling of and excavations from the drainage features will be confirmed during the detailed design phase.</p>
Activity 28(ii)	Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes, or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development.	The proposed projects will take place outside of an urban area, on several farm portions. According to desktop information, much of the study area is undeveloped with Northern Upper Karoo (Least Concern), Eastern Upper

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	(ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare	Karoo (Least Concern), and Besemkaree Koppies Shrubland (Least Concern) vegetation types. The proposed solar PV facilities, which are considered as commercial/industrial developments, will each have an estimated footprint of ranging from approximately 124 ha to 317 ha. The proposed projects will also entail the construction of an on-site substation complex at each PV facility, as well as a Battery Energy Storage System (either Lithium Ion or Redox Flow) each extending approximately 1 ha in extent, and various associated structures and infrastructure. This will constitute infrastructure with a physical footprint of more than 1 ha.
Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant Basic Assessment Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 3 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.	Describe the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates.
Activity 4 (g) (ii) (ee)	The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres. g. Northern Cape ii. Areas outside urban areas; (ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans	Internal roads will be constructed at each of the PV facilities. The internal roads are estimated to have a width ranging between 4 m and 5 m. The proposed projects will take place outside of an urban area in the Northern Cape, on sites that contain Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) in terms of the 2016 CBAs of the Northern Cape dataset.
Activity 12 (g) (ii)	The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan. g. Northern Cape ii. Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans;	The proposed solar PV facilities will each have an estimated footprint of ranging from 124 ha to 317 ha. As a result, more than 300 m ² of indigenous vegetation could be removed for the construction of the proposed Solar PV facilities and associated infrastructure. The proposed projects will take place outside of an urban area in the Northern Cape, on sites that contain ESAs in terms of the 2016 CBAs of the Northern Cape dataset.
Activity 14 (ii) (a) and (c); (g), (ii) and (ff)	The development of – (ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more; where such development occurs – (a) within a watercourse; (c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse; g. Northern Cape ii. Outside urban areas: (ff) Critical biodiversity areas or ecosystem service areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans	The proposed solar PV facilities will be constructed on various farm portions, approximately 50 km north-east of De Aar, in the Northern Cape Province. Hence the proposed project will take place outside of an urban area. The proposed Solar PV facilities will entail the construction of building infrastructure and structures (such as the solar fields, offices, workshops, ablution facilities, on-site substation complexes, laydown areas and security enclosures etc.). The infrastructure and structures are expected to exceed a footprint of 10 m ² and some may occur within small drainage features and 32 m of the watercourses. The Screening Tool shows some rivers and wetlands are present within

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	adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans	the study area. Refer to the map included in Appendix 2 of this form. This will be confirmed and verified by the specialists during the EIA Phase. The proposed projects will take place on sites that contain ESAs in terms of the 2016 CBAs of the Northern Cape dataset.
Activity 18	The widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre. g. Northern Cape ii. Outside urban areas: (ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;	Existing roads will be used as far as practically achievable, and will be upgraded where needed. The current width of existing access roads is approximately 5 m, and the upgraded width is proposed to be approximately 8 m. Therefore, there is a possibility that the existing roads will be widened by more than 4 m. The proposed projects will take place outside of an urban area in the Northern Cape, on sites that contain ESAs in terms of the 2016 CBAs of the Northern Cape dataset.
Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant Scoping and EIR Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 2 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.	Describe the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates.
Activity 1	The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more, excluding where such development of facilities or infrastructure is for photovoltaic installations and occurs: a) within an urban area; or b) on existing infrastructure.	The proposed project will entail the construction of 15 Solar PV facilities (i.e. facility for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource), each with a capacity as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kudu Solar Facility 1: 100 MWac • Kudu Solar Facility 2: 100 MWac • Kudu Solar Facility 3: 150 MWac • Kudu Solar Facility 4: 100 MWac • Kudu Solar Facility 5: 100 MWac • Kudu Solar Facility 6: 100 MWac • Kudu Solar Facility 7: 150 MWac • Kudu Solar Facility 8: 150 MWac • Kudu Solar Facility 9: 150 MWac • Kudu Solar Facility 10: 150 MWac • Kudu Solar Facility 11: 100 MWac • Kudu Solar Facility 12: 100 MWac • Kudu Solar Facility 13: 100 MWac • Kudu Solar Facility 14: 100 MWac • Kudu Solar Facility 15: 100 MWac The proposed project will take place outside of an urban area.
Activity 4	The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure, for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of more than 500 cubic metres.	The 15 proposed Solar PV facilities will each include the installation of a Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) (either Lithium Ion or Redox Flow). Each BESS will cover an area of approximately 1 ha at each PV facility and will have a maximum height of 10 m, with a capacity of 500 MW/500 MWh.

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		For the Redox Flow BESS, some of the electrolytes could potentially be stored separately in above ground storage tanks for use in the BESS during operations. There are various electrolytes that can be used for Redox Flow BESS's, such as but not limited to, Hydrochloric Acid, which is considered as a dangerous good in terms of the definition provided in the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). During the EIA Process, the capacity of the storage tanks and the applicability of this listed activity will be confirmed.
Activity 15	The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for: (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (i) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.	The proposed solar PV facilities will each have an estimated footprint of ranging from 124 ha to 317 ha. As a result, more than 20 ha of indigenous vegetation could be removed for the construction of the proposed Solar PV facilities.

PROJECTS 16 TO 30: Note from the CSIR: The listed activities for all of these Electrical Grid Infrastructure (EGI) projects are identical at this stage of the process, as they have identical project components and infrastructure. Hence one list of listed activities has been provided below. Separate lists of listed activities for each project will be provided in the Application Form for EA and BA Reports, which will also take the environmental features on site into consideration.

Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant Basic Assessment Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.	Describe the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates.
Activity 11(i)	The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity - (i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts or more; excluding the development of bypass infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity where such bypass infrastructure is — (a) temporarily required to allow for maintenance of existing infrastructure; (b) 2 kilometres or shorter in length; (c) within an existing transmission line servitude; and (d) will be removed within 18 months of the commencement of development.	The proposed project will include the construction of Switching Stations and Collector Stations at each on-site substation complex at each of the 15 x Kudu Solar Facilities. This will include the relevant section that will be transferred from the Independent Power Producer to Eskom (i.e. the high voltage infrastructure extending from the Point of Connection (i.e. Eskom's section) of the proposed on-site substation complexes). The 15 on-site substation complexes would each have the option to receive a Collector Station depending on the grid connection scenario. The Collector Station will be an expansion of the Switching Station (with additional feeder bays added to the Switching Station etc.) falling within the footprint of the overall on-site substation complex and/or Grid Corridor. In summary, the switching station could be expanded into a Collector Station where necessary. Both options will need to be assessed and authorised. The proposed project will entail the construction of a separate 132 kV overhead power line from each Kudu Solar Facility to the proposed Collector Station (which could be at

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		any one of the 15 on-site substation complexes) or up to the proposed Main Transmission Station (MTS). Therefore, up to 15 overhead power lines could be constructed and need to be assessed. All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors. The proposed project will take place outside of an urban area.
Activity 12 (ii) (a) (c)	<p>The development of:</p> <p>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more;</p> <p>where such development occurs -</p> <p>a) within a watercourse;</p> <p>b) in front of a development setback; or</p> <p>c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;</p> <p>excluding -</p> <p>(aa) the development of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour;</p> <p>(bb) where such development activities are related to the development of a port or harbour, in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies;</p> <p>(cc) activities listed in activity 14 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 or activity 14 in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, in which case that activity applies;</p> <p>(dd) where such development occurs within an urban area;</p> <p>(ee) where such development occurs within existing roads, road reserves or railway line reserves; or</p> <p>(ff) the development of temporary infrastructure or structures where such infrastructure or structures will be removed within 6 weeks of the commencement of development and where indigenous vegetation will not be cleared.</p>	<p>The proposed EGI projects will be constructed on various farm portions, approximately 50 km north-east of De Aar, in the Northern Cape Province. Hence the proposed project will take place outside of an urban area.</p> <p>The proposed EGI projects will also entail the construction of various structures and infrastructure (i.e. Switching Stations and Collector Stations), power lines (including pylons and associated infrastructure) and service roads. The infrastructure and structures are expected to exceed a footprint of 100 m² and some may occur within small drainage features and 32 m of the watercourses. The Screening Tool shows some rivers and wetlands are present within the study area. Refer to the map included in Appendix 2 of this form. This will be confirmed and verified by the specialists during the BA Phase.</p>
Activity 19	<p>The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse;</p> <p>but excluding where such infilling, depositing, dredging, excavation, removal or moving-</p> <p>a) will occur behind a development setback;</p> <p>b) is for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan;</p> <p>c) falls within the ambit of activity 21 in this Notice, in which case that activity applies;</p> <p>d) occurs within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour; or</p>	<p>The proposed projects may entail the excavation, removal and moving of more than 10 m³ of soil, sand, pebbles or rock from nearby watercourses on site. The proposed project may also entail the infilling of more than 10 m³ of material into the nearby watercourses. The Screening Tool shows some rivers and wetlands are present within the study area. Refer to the map included in Appendix 2 of this form. This will be confirmed and verified by the specialists during the BA Phase. The details of the Switching Station, Collector Station, and pylon placement, and infilling of and excavations from the drainage features will be confirmed during the detailed design phase.</p>

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	e) where such development is related to the development of a port or harbour, in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies.	
Activity 28 (ii)	Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes, or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development: (ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare	The proposed projects will take place outside of an urban area, on several farm portions. According to desktop information, much of the study area is undeveloped with Northern Upper Karoo (Least Concern), Eastern Upper Karoo (Least Concern), and Besemkaree Koppies Shrubland (Least Concern) vegetation types. The proposed EGI projects are considered as commercial/industrial developments. For the 132 kV power line pylons, the size of the footprint area will range from 0.6 m x 0.6 m to 1.5 m x 1.5 m. The minimum working area required around a pylon is 20 m x 20 m. This will constitute infrastructure with a cumulative physical footprint of more than 1 ha.
Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant Basic Assessment Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 3 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.	Describe the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates.
Activity 4 (g) (ii) (ee)	The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres. g. Northern Cape ii. Areas outside urban areas; (ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans	Service roads will be constructed below the power lines and these are estimated to have a width ranging between 4 m and 5 m (to be confirmed during the BA). The proposed projects will take place outside of an urban area in the Northern Cape, on sites that contain Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) in terms of the 2016 CBAs of the Northern Cape dataset.
Activity 12 (g) (ii)	The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan. g. Northern Cape ii. Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans;	The proposed EGI projects will also entail the construction of various structures and infrastructure (i.e. Switching Stations and Collector Stations), power lines (including pylons and associated infrastructure) and service roads. The infrastructure and structures are expected to exceed a footprint of 100 m ² . For the 132 kV power line pylons, the size of the footprint area will range from 0.6 m x 0.6 m to 1.5 m x 1.5 m. The minimum working area required around a pylon is 20 m x 20 m. This will constitute infrastructure with a cumulative physical footprint of more than 300 m ² . As a result, more than 300 m ² of indigenous vegetation could be removed for the construction of the proposed EGI. The proposed projects will take place outside of an urban area in the Northern Cape, on sites that contain ESAs in terms of the 2016 CBAs of the Northern Cape dataset.
Activity 14 (ii) (a) and	The development of –	The proposed EGI projects will be constructed on various farm portions, approximately 50 km north-east of De Aar, in the Northern Cape

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<p>(c); (g), (ii) and (ff)</p>	<p>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more;</p> <p>where such development occurs –</p> <p>(a) within a watercourse;</p> <p>(c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;</p> <p>g. Northern Cape</p> <p>ii. Outside urban areas:</p> <p>(ff) Critical biodiversity areas or ecosystem service areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans</p>	<p>Province. Hence the proposed project will take place outside of an urban area.</p> <p>The proposed EGI projects will also entail the construction of various structures and infrastructure (i.e. Switching Stations and Collector Stations), power lines (including pylons and associated infrastructure) and service roads. The infrastructure and structures are expected to exceed a footprint of 10 m² and some may occur within small drainage features and 32 m of the watercourses. The Screening Tool shows some rivers and wetlands are present within the study area. Refer to the map included in Appendix 2 of this form. This will be confirmed and verified by the specialists during the BA Phase.</p> <p>The proposed projects will take place on sites that contain ESAs in terms of the 2016 CBAs of the Northern Cape dataset.</p>
<p>Activity 18 (g) (ii) (ee)</p>	<p>The widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre.</p> <p>g. Northern Cape</p> <p>ii. Outside urban areas:</p> <p>(ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;</p>	<p>Existing roads will be used as far as practically achievable, and will be upgraded where needed. The current width of existing access roads is approximately 5 m, and the upgraded width is proposed to be approximately 8 m. Therefore, there is a possibility that the existing roads will be widened by more than 4 m.</p> <p>The proposed projects will take place outside of an urban area in the Northern Cape, on sites that contain ESAs in terms of the 2016 CBAs of the Northern Cape dataset.</p>
<p>Activity No(s):</p>	<p>Provide the relevant Scoping and EIR Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 2 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.</p>	<p>Describe the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates.</p>

PROJECTS 31 and 32: Note from the CSIR: The listed activities for these Electrical Grid Infrastructure (EGI) projects are very similar. Hence one list of listed activities has been provided below. Separate lists of listed activities for each project will be provided in the Application Form for EA and BA Reports, which will also take the environmental features on site into consideration.

<p>Activity No(s):</p>	<p>Provide the relevant Basic Assessment Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.</p>	<p>Describe the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates.</p>
<p>Activity 11(i)</p>	<p>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 more;</p>	<p>The proposed project (Project 31) includes the construction of an independent 400/132 kV MTS, including associated infrastructure at the MTS such as 132 kV busbar and feeder bay(s), as well as 500 MVA 400/132 kV transformer(s) with transformer bay(s). The above is proposed if the Eskom Hydra B substation is not built.</p>

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	<p>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>If the Eskom Hydra B substation is built, then the additional upgrades of the Eskom Hydra B project would be undertaken by the Applicant in order to ensure that the substation can accommodate the power generated by the 15 Kudu Solar Facilities. It is not possible to determine exactly what expansions and upgrades of the EGI may be required at the time, however in terms of the worst case, it is estimated that this will entail additional feeder bays, busbars transformers, transformer bays at the Eskom Hydra B substation (once it is constructed). This would be seen as expansion to the existing Eskom Hydra B substation. Therefore, the scope of works as mentioned above may be reduced should the Eskom Hydra B substation be built. If this is the case, an amendment to the EA will be undertaken, if required.</p> <p>All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors. The proposed project will take place outside of an urban area.</p>
<p>Activity 12 (ii) (a) (c)</p>	<p>The development of:</p> <p>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more;</p> <p>where such development occurs -</p> <p>a) within a watercourse;</p> <p>b) in front of a development setback; or</p> <p>c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;</p> <p>excluding -</p> <p>(aa) the development of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour;</p> <p>(bb) where such development activities are related to the development of a port or harbour, in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies;</p> <p>(cc) activities listed in activity 14 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 or activity 14 in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, in which case that activity applies;</p> <p>(dd) where such development occurs within an urban area;</p> <p>(ee) where such development occurs within existing roads, road reserves or railway line reserves; or</p> <p>(ff) the development of temporary infrastructure or structures where such infrastructure or structures will be removed within 6 weeks of the commencement of development and where indigenous vegetation will not be cleared.</p>	<p>The proposed EGI projects will be constructed on various farm portions, approximately 50 km north-east of De Aar, in the Northern Cape Province. Hence the proposed project will take place outside of an urban area.</p> <p>The proposed project (Project 31) includes the construction of an independent 400/132 kV MTS, including associated infrastructure at the MTS such as 132 kV busbar and feeder bay(s), and 500 MVA 400/132 kV transformer(s) with transformer bay(s). The above is proposed if the Eskom Hydra B substation is not built.</p> <p>If the Eskom Hydra B substation is built, then the additional upgrades of the Eskom Hydra B project would be undertaken by the Applicant in order to ensure that the substation can accommodate the power generated by the 15 Kudu Solar Facilities. It is not possible to determine exactly what expansions and upgrades of the EGI may be required at the time, however in terms of the worst case, it is estimated that this will entail additional feeder bays, busbars transformers, transformer bays at the Eskom Hydra B substation (once it is constructed). This would be seen as expansion to the existing Eskom Hydra B substation. Therefore, the scope of works as mentioned above may be reduced should the Eskom Hydra B substation be built. If this is the case, an amendment to the EA will be</p>

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		<p>undertaken, if required. All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors.</p> <p>The proposed project (Project 32) includes the construction of a 6.5 km long 400 kV Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILLO) from the existing Hydra-Perseus 400 kV Overhead Power Line to the proposed MTS.</p> <p>The infrastructure and structures are expected to exceed a footprint of 100 m² and some may occur within 32 m of the watercourses. The Screening Tool shows some rivers and wetlands are present within the study area. Refer to the map included in Appendix 2 of this form. This will be confirmed and verified by the specialists during the BA Phase.</p>
Activity 19	<p>The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse;</p> <p>but excluding where such infilling, depositing, dredging, excavation, removal or moving-</p> <p>a) will occur behind a development setback; b) is for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan; c) falls within the ambit of activity 21 in this Notice, in which case that activity applies; d) occurs within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour; or e) where such development is related to the development of a port or harbour, in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies.</p>	<p>The proposed projects may entail the excavation, removal and moving of more than 10 m³ of soil, sand, pebbles or rock from nearby watercourses on site. The proposed project may also entail the infilling of more than 10 m³ of material into the nearby watercourses. The Screening Tool shows some rivers and wetlands are present within the study area. Refer to the map included in Appendix 2 of this form. This will be confirmed and verified by the specialists during the BA Phase. The details of the pylon placement for the 400 kV Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILLO) (Project 32) and infilling of and excavations from the drainage features will be confirmed during the detailed design phase.</p>
Activity 27	<p>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 proposed MTS, as well as the 132 kV busbar and feeder bay(s) (Project 31) are expected to extend approximately 16 ha. As a result, more than 1 ha but less than 20 ha of indigenous vegetation could be removed for the construction of the proposed MTS and associated infrastructure.</p>
Activity 28 (ii)	<p>Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes, or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development:</p> <p>(ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare</p>	<p>The proposed projects will take place outside of an urban area, on several farm portions. According to desktop information, much of the study area is undeveloped with Northern Upper Karoo (Least Concern), Eastern Upper Karoo (Least Concern), and Besemkaree Koppies Shrubland (Least Concern) vegetation types. The proposed EGI projects are considered as commercial/industrial developments. For the pylons for the 400 kV Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILLO) (Project 32), the size of the footprint area will be in the range of 8-</p>

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		10 m x 8-10 m. The minimum working area required around a pylon is 20 m x 20 m. This will constitute infrastructure with a cumulative physical footprint of more than 1 ha.
Activity 47	The expansion of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity where the expanded capacity will exceed 275 kilovolts and the development footprint will increase.	<p>It is understood that this will not be applicable to Project 31 if the Eskom Hydra B is not built or if it is built. If the Eskom Hydra B is not built, then a new independent 400 kV MTS will be constructed. Hence, this is new infrastructure not seen as expansion of existing infrastructure.</p> <p>If the Eskom Hydra B is built, the capacity would be 400 kV, and if an additional transformer or upgrades are done, it would still remain as a 400 kV substation, thus capacity is not increased. A 400 kV substation will always be 400 kV notwithstanding the number of transformers, until such time as it is upgraded to a 765 kV substation. Furthermore, it is understood that Activity 47 only applies if there is both a capacity increase and development footprint increase. Therefore, since there will be no capacity increase, this listed activity is not seen as applicable.</p>
Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant Basic Assessment Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 3 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.	Describe the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates.
Activity 4 (g) (ii) (ee)	<p>The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres.</p> <p>g. Northern Cape</p> <p>ii. Areas outside urban areas; (ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans</p>	<p>Service roads will be constructed below the power lines and these are estimated to have a width ranging between 4 m and 5 m (to be confirmed during the BA).</p> <p>The proposed projects will take place outside of an urban area in the Northern Cape, on sites that contain Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) in terms of the 2016 CBAs of the Northern Cape dataset.</p>
Activity 12 (g) (ii)	<p>The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.</p> <p>g. Northern Cape</p> <p>ii. Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans;</p>	<p>The proposed EGI projects will also entail the construction of various structures and infrastructure, power lines (including pylons and associated infrastructure) and service roads. The infrastructure and structures are expected to exceed a footprint of 100 m². For the pylons, the size of the footprint area will be in the range of 8-10 m x 8-10. The minimum working area required around a pylon is 20 m x 20 m. This will constitute infrastructure with a cumulative physical footprint of more than 300 m².</p> <p>As a result, more than 300 m² of indigenous vegetation could be removed for the construction of the proposed EGI. The proposed projects will take place outside of an urban area in the Northern Cape, on sites that</p>

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		contain ESAs in terms of the 2016 CBAs of the Northern Cape dataset.
Activity 14 (ii) (a) and (c); (g), (ii) and (ff)	<p>The development of –</p> <p>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more;</p> <p>where such development occurs –</p> <p>(a) within a watercourse;</p> <p>(c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;</p> <p>g. Northern Cape</p> <p>ii. Outside urban areas:</p> <p>(ff) Critical biodiversity areas or ecosystem service areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans</p>	<p>The proposed EGI projects will be constructed on various farm portions, approximately 50 km north-east of De Aar, in the Northern Cape Province. Hence the proposed project will take place outside of an urban area.</p> <p>The proposed EGI projects will also entail the construction of various structures and infrastructure, power lines (including pylons and associated infrastructure) and service roads. The infrastructure and structures are expected to exceed a footprint of 10 m² and some may occur within small drainage features and 32 m of the watercourses. The Screening Tool shows some rivers and wetlands are present within the study area. Refer to the map included in Appendix 2 of this form. This will be confirmed and verified by the specialists during the BA Phase.</p> <p>The proposed projects will take place on sites that contain ESAs in terms of the 2016 CBAs of the Northern Cape dataset.</p>
Activity 18 (g) (ii) (ee)	<p>The widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre.</p> <p>g. Northern Cape</p> <p>ii. Outside urban areas:</p> <p>(ee) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans;</p>	<p>Existing roads will be used as far as practically achievable, and will be upgraded where needed. The current width of existing access roads is approximately 5 m, and the upgraded width is proposed to be approximately 8 m. Therefore, there is a possibility that the existing roads will be widened by more than 4 m.</p> <p>The proposed projects will take place outside of an urban area in the Northern Cape, on sites that contain ESAs in terms of the 2016 CBAs of the Northern Cape dataset.</p>
Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant Scoping and EIR Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 2 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.	Describe the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates.
Activity 9	<p>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kilovolts or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex 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 proposed project (Project 31) includes the construction of an independent 400/132 kV MTS, including associated infrastructure at the MTS such as 132 kV busbar and feeder bay(s), and 500 MVA 400/132 kV transformer(s) with transformer bay(s). The above is proposed if the Eskom Hydra B substation is not built.</p> <p>If the Eskom Hydra B substation is built, then the additional upgrades of the Eskom Hydra B project would be undertaken by the Applicant in order to ensure that the substation can accommodate the power generated by the 15 Kudu Solar Facilities. It is not possible to determine exactly what expansions and</p>

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		<p>upgrades of the EGI may be required at the time, however in terms of the worst case, it is estimated that this will entail additional feeder bays, busbars transformers, transformer bays at the Eskom Hydra B substation (once it is constructed). This would be seen as expansion to the existing Eskom Hydra B substation. Therefore, the scope of works as mentioned above may be reduced should the Eskom Hydra B substation be built. If this is the case, an amendment to the EA will be undertaken, if required.</p> <p>The proposed project (Project 32) includes the construction of a 6.5 km long 400 kV Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILO) from the existing Hydra-Perseus 400 kV Overhead Power Line to the proposed MTS.</p> <p><u>Note that GN 113 states that Applications for EA for large scale electricity transmission and distribution facilities, when such facilities trigger Activity 9 of Listing Notice 2 of 2014 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended) and any other listed and specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, and where the greater part of the proposed facility is to occur in one or more of the Strategic Transmission Corridors, must follow a BA Process, in order to obtain EA.</u></p>
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Be reminded that the onus is on the applicant to ensure that all applicable listed activities are included in the application. Environmental Authorisation must be obtained prior to commencement with each applicable listed activity.

Note from the CSIR: The listed activities indicated above are indicative and will be confirmed subsequent to the completion of the draft specialist studies. Note that the activities in Listing Notice 2 (GN R325) have been provided, however as captured in GN 113 of February 2018, a BA Process is required for large scale electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure within any of the Strategic Transmission Corridors. The proposed project falls within the Central Strategic Transmission Corridor.

7. ADDITIONAL INFO, IF ANY

Please attach any additional information as APPENDIX 3.

Note from the CSIR: A draft schematic diagram indicating the proposed PV projects and EGI projects has been provided in Appendix 3 in order to facilitate the discussions and illustrate the inter-related activities.

8. LIST OF APPENDICES

		SUBMITTED	
APPENDIX 1	Proposed Agenda	YES ✓	
APPENDIX 2	Locality map	YES ✓	
APPENDIX 3	Additional info	YES ✓	

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DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

APPENDIX 1 PRE-APPLICATION MEETING AGENDA

(Please note that a generic agenda will not be accepted. Please submit a detailed agenda)

Note from the CSIR: This pre-application meeting request form is being submitted to discuss 32 projects that require EA. All applications will be discussed in one pre-application meeting in order to improve efficiency. A request for combination of the projects, in terms of Regulation 11 of the 2014 National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended) (NEMA) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (as amended), and the issuing of multiple Environmental Authorisation (EAs) (should they be granted) will be discussed with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) at the pre-application meeting. It is proposed to request for 32 EAs (should they be granted) for all of the projects listed. Based on the outcome of the pre-application meeting and request for combination and multiple EAs, the required number of Application Forms for EA will be submitted to the DFFE once the projects commence. Note that the same process was recently followed by the CSIR for many other renewable energy projects, and this was accepted by the DFFE.

The proposed projects have the same project description and components, and they take place on adjacent farm properties. Based on this, one single combined, detailed proposed agenda for the pre-application meeting has been compiled and included below.

Item	Description	Time	Presenter
1	Welcome, Introduction and Outline of Meeting Proceedings	10H00 – 10H10	DFFE
2	<p>Description of the proposed projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PROJECTS 1 TO 15: The proposed development of 15 x Up to 150 MWac Solar PV Facilities and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 1 to Kudu Solar Facility 15), near De Aar, Northern Cape. These projects require Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Processes. ▪ PROJECTS 16 TO 30: The proposed development of Switching Stations and Collector Stations at each On-Site Substation Complex at each of the 15 x Kudu Solar Facilities, and up to 15 x 132 kV Overhead Power Lines running from each Solar Facility to the proposed Collector Station(s) or up to the proposed Main Transmission Substation. All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors to be assessed. These projects require Basic Assessment (BA) Processes. ▪ PROJECT 31: The proposed development of an independent 400/132 kV Main Transmission Substation (MTS), including associated infrastructure at the MTS such as 132 kV busbar and feeder bay(s), and 500 MVA 400/132 kV transformer(s) with transformer bay(s). All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors to be assessed. This project requires a BA Process. ▪ PROJECT 32: The proposed development of a 400 kV Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILO) from the existing Hydra-Perseus 400 kV Overhead Power Line to the proposed MTS. All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors to be assessed. This project requires a BA Process. <p><u><i>Note from the CSIR: All the PV projects have identical project components, hence will be discussed collectively in order to maximize on efficiency. The same applies to the EGI projects.</i></u></p>	10H10 – 10H30	CSIR and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
3	Discussion on the specialist assessments and compliance statements to be undertaken as part of the EIA and BA Processes; and to discuss and confirm the associated specialist reporting	10H30 – 10H40	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
4	Discussion on the approach towards the BA and Scoping and EIA reporting, including a request for combination of the projects, in terms of Regulation 11 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended),	10H40 – 11H00	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd

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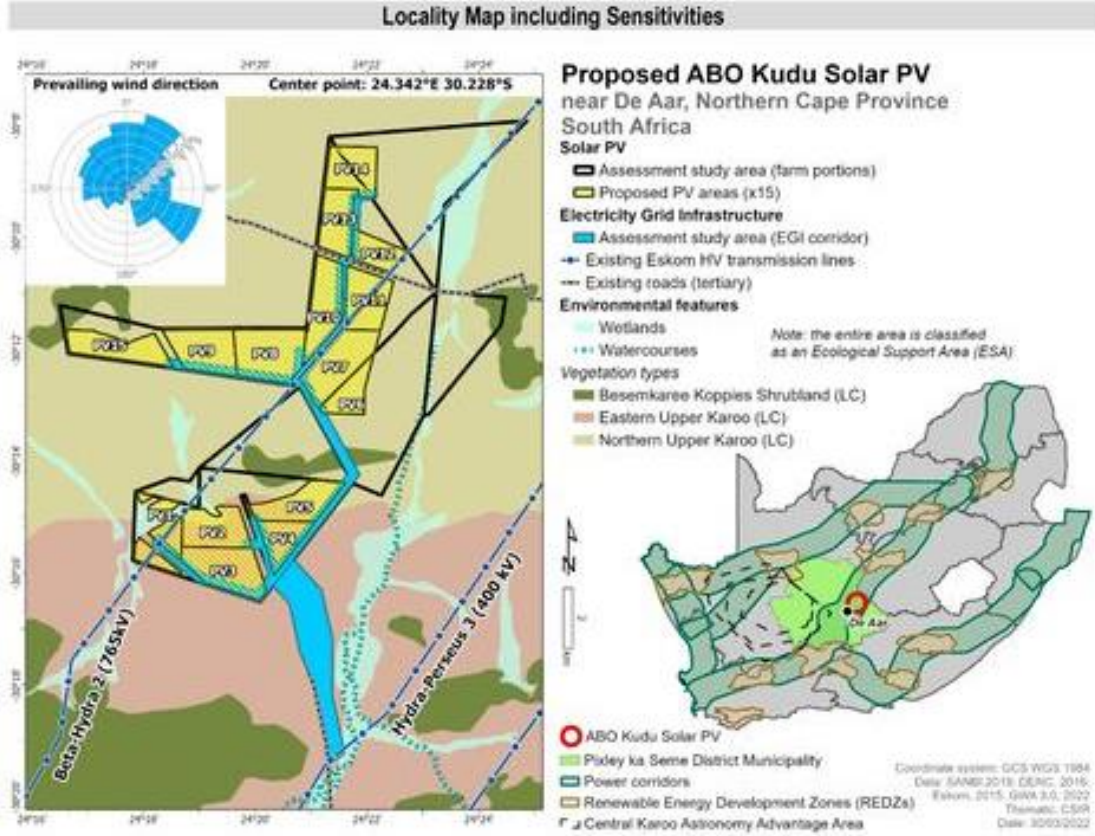
DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process
for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3)
and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

Item	Description	Time	Presenter
	and the issuing of multiple EAs (should they be granted) in terms of Regulations 25 (1) and (2) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended)		
5	Discussion on the approach towards including Lithium Ion or Redox Flow Battery Energy Storage Systems in the project descriptions	11H00 – 11H05	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
6	Discussion and confirmation of the proposed Public Participation Plan (PPP) which will be submitted to the DFFE for approval.	11H05 – 11H20	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
7	Discussion of the proposed schedule and overall process for the EIA and BA Processes, including applicable Listed Activities and Cumulative Impact Assessment Approach (i.e. assess cumulative impacts based on a 30 km buffer and based on Renewable Energy projects with a positive EA issued at the start of this EIA and BA (i.e. March 2022))	11H20 – 11H40	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
8	Questions	11H40 – 11H50	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
9	Way Forward and Closure	11H50 – 12H00	DFFE

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APPENDIX 2 LOCALITY MAP

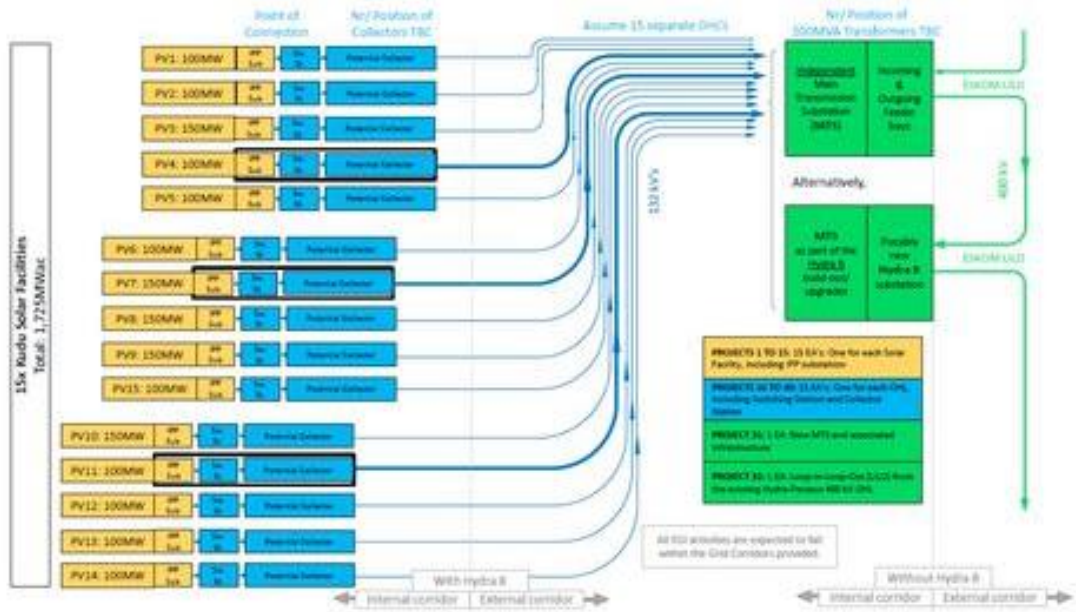


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APPENDIX 3 ADDITIONAL INFO, IF ANY

Note from the CSIR: The combination and multiple EA request will be discussed with the DFFE. Below is a draft schematic diagram indicating the proposed PV projects and EGI projects.



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APPENDIX F.2: PRE-APPLICATION MEETING PRESENTATION

App. F.2/...

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DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

Proposed Development of 15 Solar PV Facilities (i.e. Kudu Solar Facilities), Electricity Grid Infrastructure and various associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape

Applicant: ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
EAP: CSIR

Pre-Application Meeting

Reference: 2022-04-0005

26 April 2022
13H00 to 15H00
MS Teams



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DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

Points of Discussion / Agenda



Item	Description	Time	Presenter
1	Welcome, Introduction and Outline of Meeting Proceedings	13H00 – 13H10	DFFE
2	Description of the proposed projects	13H10 – 13H30	CSIR and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
3	Discussion on the approach towards the BA and Scoping and EIA reporting, including a request for combination of the projects, in terms of Regulation 11 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), and the issuing of multiple EAs (should they be granted) in terms of Regulations 25 (1) and (2) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended)	13H30 – 13H50	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
4	Discussion on the specialist assessments and compliance statements to be undertaken as part of the EIA and BA Processes; and to discuss and confirm the associated specialist reporting	13H50 – 14H00	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
5	Discussion on the approach towards including Lithium Ion or Redox Flow Battery Energy Storage Systems in the project descriptions	14H00 – 14H05	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
6	Discussion and confirmation of the proposed Public Participation Plan (PPP) which will be submitted to the DFFE for approval.	14H05 – 14H20	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
7	Discussion of the proposed schedule and overall process for the EIA and BA Processes, including applicable Listed Activities and Cumulative Impact Assessment Approach (i.e. assess cumulative impacts based on a 30 km buffer and based on Renewable Energy projects with a positive EA issued at the start of this EIA and BA (i.e. March 2022))	14H20 – 14H40	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
8	Questions	14H40 – 14H50	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
9	Way Forward and Closure	14H50 – 15H00	DFFE

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION



Project Description

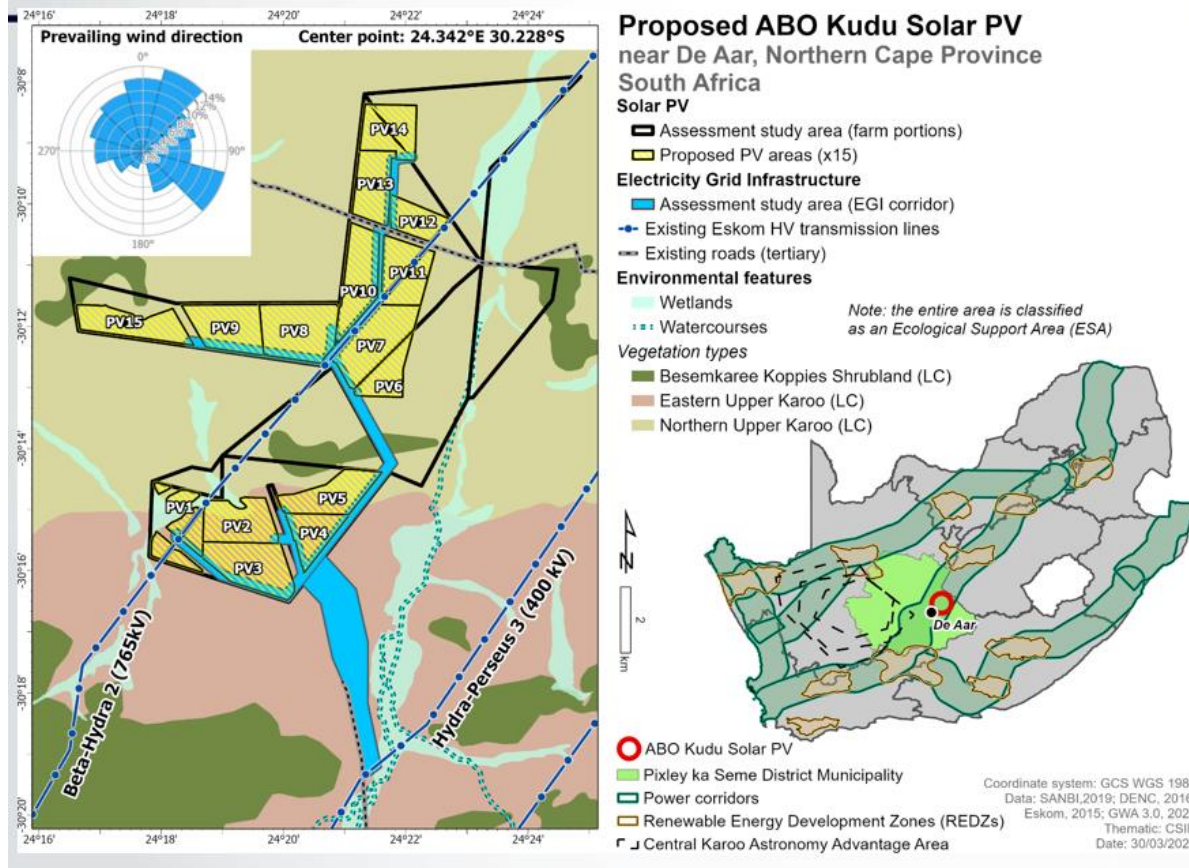


- **PROJECTS 1 TO 15:** 15 x Up to 150 MWac Solar PV Facilities and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 1 to Kudu Solar Facility 15). → **FULL SCOPING AND EIA**
- **PROJECTS 16 TO 30:** Switching Stations and Collector Stations at each On-Site Substation Complex at each of the 15 x Kudu Solar Facilities, and up to 15 x 132 kV Overhead Power Lines running from each Solar Facility to the proposed Collector Station(s) or up to the proposed Main Transmission Substation. All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors to be assessed. → **BASIC ASSESSMENT**
- **PROJECT 31:** Independent 400/132 kV Main Transmission Substation (MTS), including associated infrastructure at the MTS such as 132 kV busbar and feeder bay(s), and 500 MVA 400/132 kV transformer(s) with transformer bay(s). All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors to be assessed. → **BASIC ASSESSMENT (Due to location within the Central Strategic Transmission Corridor → GN 113)**
- **PROJECT 32:** 400 kV Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILO) from the existing Hydra-Perseus 400 kV Overhead Power Line to the proposed MTS. All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors to be assessed. → **BASIC ASSESSMENT (Due to location within the Central Strategic Transmission Corridor → GN 113)**

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DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

Project Description



- **PROJECTS 1 TO 32:** Not located within any of the REDZs (GN 114, Feb 2018)
- **PROJECTS 1 TO 32:** Located within the Central Strategic Transmission Corridor (GN 113, Feb 2018) → Projects 31 and 32 trigger LA 9 of LN2 (400 kV MTS and LILO) → BA Process and 57-day decision-making
- **PROJECTS 1 TO 15:** Assessment study area → full extent of the **Farm Portions**
- **PROJECTS 16 TO 32:** Assessment study area → full extent of the **EGI Corridor**
- **Sensitivities:**
 - LC vegetation types
 - Falls within an **ESA**
 - Few watercourses and wetlands

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DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

PROJECTS 1 TO 15 – KUDU SOLAR FACILITY 1 - 15



- **Solar Field**, comprising Solar Arrays with a maximum height of ~3.5 m, including:
 - PV Modules
 - Single Axis Tracking structures (aligned north-south); Dual Axis Tracking (aligned east-west and north-south); Fixed Tilt Mounting Structure; Mono-facial Solar Modules; or Bifacial Solar Modules.
 - Solar module mounting structures comprised of galvanised steel and aluminium.
 - Capacity of the PV Facilities: 100 MWac – 150 MWac
 - Area of the PV Array for each facility (i.e. proposed area occupied by PV Modules only): 117 ha – 283 ha
 - Total developable area for each facility i.e. the area that includes all associated infrastructure within the fenced off area of the PV facility: 124 ha – 317 ha

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DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

PROJECTS 1 TO 15 – KUDU SOLAR FACILITY 1 - 15



- **Building Infrastructure at each PV Facility:**
 - **On-site Substation Complexes:** Area: Up to 4 ha; Height: Up to 10 m; Capacity: *step up from 22kV or 33kV to 132kV. Could include the following:
 - On-site Independent Power Producer (IPP) or Facility Substation (+-1 ha). This will include the relevant section that will be maintained by the IPP, and/or
 - Switching Station and Collector Station (+-2 ha) **[Part of Projects 16 – 30]**, and/or
 - Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) (+-1 ha).
 - **Inverter-Transformer stations:** Height: ~ 3 m; Footprint: 0.5 ha per PV site.
 - **Auxiliary buildings:** Operational and Maintenance (O&M) Control Centre, site offices, staff lockers, bathrooms, warehouses. **Cumulative footprint:** Up to 0.5 ha (i.e. 5000 m²) per PV site; **Height:** Up to 10 m.

PROJECTS 1 TO 15 – KUDU SOLAR FACILITY 1 - 15



- **Associated Infrastructure at each PV Facility:**

- Lithium Ion or Redox Flow BESS – **Area:** ~1 ha; **Height:** Up to 10 m; **Capacity:** ~500 MW/ 500 MWh. ****DISCUSSION POINT**
- Temporary construction laydown area: Up to 7 ha each.
- Internal roads within the PV Facility: ~ 4 - 5 m wide. Compacted dirt/gravel or paved.
- Main site access road: Up to 8 m wide.
- Upgrading of existing access roads: Existing roads will be used as far as practically achievable. These roads may need to be widened and upgraded. There are three potential access roads from the R48. Current width is ~ 5 m, and the upgraded width is ~ 8 m.
- Fencing: To be confirmed.
- Stormwater channels: To be confirmed.
- Panel maintenance and cleaning area.
- Underground low voltage cables or cable trays: Maximum depth of up to 1.5 m.
- Internal distribution lines: Underground, up to 33 kV (22kV or 33kV), Maximum depth of 1.5 m.
- Water will either be sourced from (a) the local municipality; (b) a third-party water supplier; (c) existing boreholes on site; (d) a borehole drilled on site

PROJECTS 16 TO 30: SWITCHING STATIONS, COLLECTOR STATIONS AND OVERHEAD LINES



- Development of a **Switching Station** and **Collector Station** (+2 ha each) at each **On-site Substation Complex** at each **Solar Facility**:
 - High voltage infrastructure extending from the Point of Connection (i.e. Eskom's section) of the proposed on-site substation complexes. **To be transferred from the IPP to Eskom.**
 - The 15 **On-site Substation Complexes** would each have [the option to receive] a **Collector Station** depending on the grid connection scenario.
 - The **Collector Station** will be an extension of the **Switching Station** (with additional feeder bays added to the Switching Station etc.) located within the footprint of the **On-site Substation Complex** and/or **EGI Corridor**.
 - Both the Switching Station and Collector Station will be assessed and need to be authorised.
- Development of **132 kV Overhead Power Line** from each **Kudu Solar Facility** to the proposed **Collector Station** (which could be at any one of the 15 On-site Substation Complexes) or up to the proposed **Main Transmission Substation [Project 31]**. Up to 15 overhead power lines could be constructed and need to be assessed.
- All activities are proposed within the EGI Corridors to be assessed.

PROJECT 31: INDEPENDENT 400/132 KV MTS AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE



- **If the Eskom Hydra B Substation is not built, the following will be undertaken by the developer:**
 - Development of an independent 400/132 kV MTS, including associated infrastructure at the MTS such as 132 kV busbars and feeder bay(s), and 500 MVA 400/132 kV transformer(s) with transformer bay(s).
 - All activities are proposed within the EGI Corridors to be assessed.

- **If the Eskom Hydra B Substation is built, then the following will be undertaken by the developer:**
 - Additional upgrades of the Eskom Hydra B substation would be undertaken to ensure that the substation can accommodate the power generated by the 15 Kudu Solar Facilities.
 - In terms of the worst case, it is estimated that this will entail additional feeder bays, busbars transformers, transformer bays at the Eskom Hydra B substation (once it is constructed).
 - This would be seen as expansion to the existing Eskom Hydra B Substation.
 - Therefore, the scope of work may be reduced should the Eskom Hydra B substation be built.
 - All expansion activities are expected to fall within the EGI Corridors to be assessed.

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Both of the above will be assessed by the specialists and need to be authorised. If the Eskom Hydra B Substation is built after the EA is issued for this project (should it be granted), then relevant amendments to the EA will be undertaken, if required.

****DISCUSSION POINT**

PROJECT 32: 400 KV LILO



- **If the Eskom Hydra B Substation is not built, the following will be undertaken by the developer:**
 - Development of a 6.5 km long 400 kV Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILO) from the existing Hydra-Perseus 400 kV Overhead Power Line to the proposed MTS.
 - All activities are proposed within the EGI Corridors to be assessed.

- **If the Eskom Hydra B Substation is built, then the following will be undertaken by the developer:**
 - Upgrading the EGI as required at the time.
 - All expansion activities are expected to fall within the EGI Corridors to be assessed.

- **Both of the above will be assessed by the specialists and need to be authorised.** If the Eskom Hydra B Substation is built after the EA is issued for this project (should it be granted), then relevant amendments to the EA will be undertaken, if required.

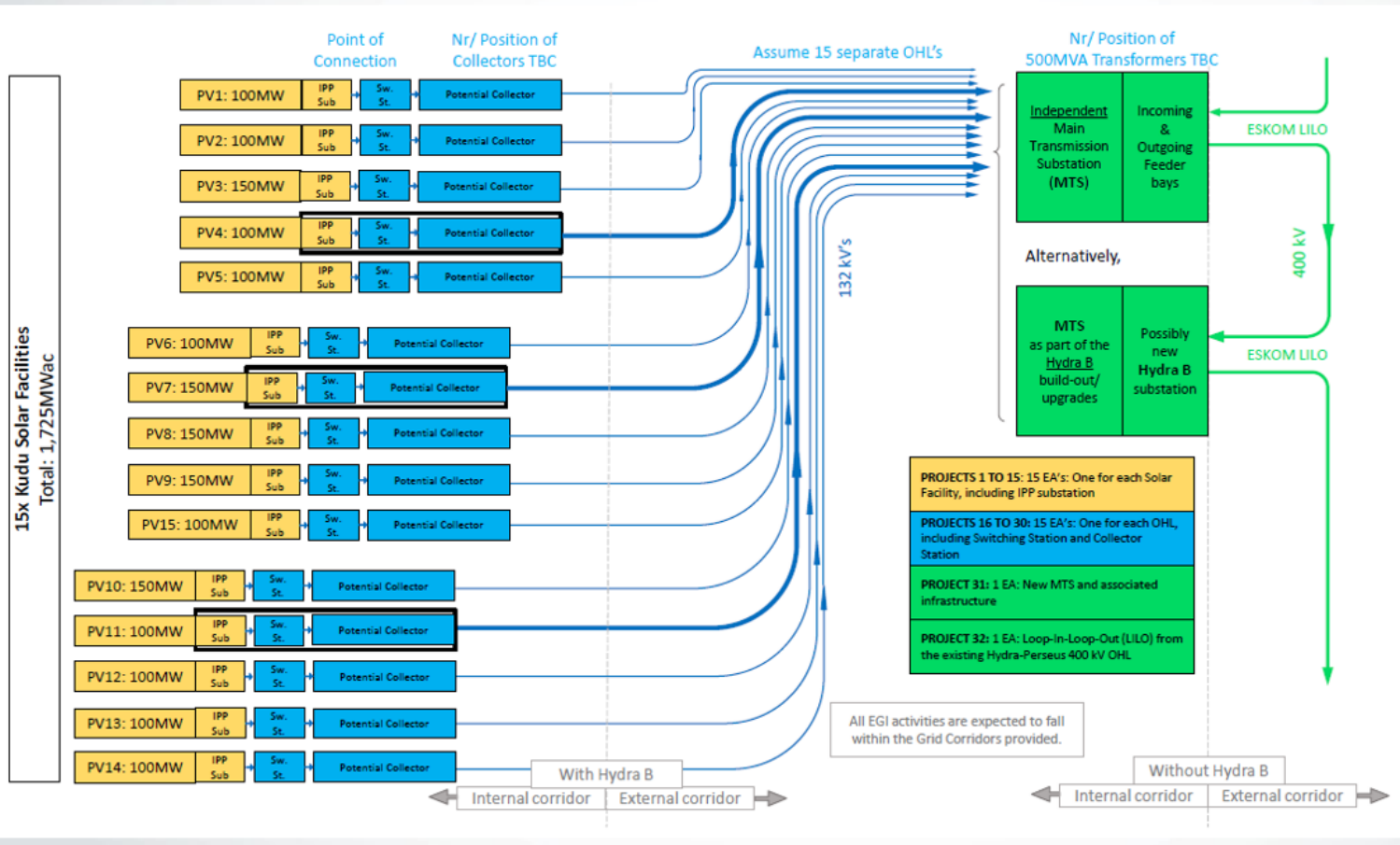
****DISCUSSION POINT**

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DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province



PROJECT DESCRIPTION



PROJECT DESCRIPTION



- **Summary of Discussion Points:**

- Lithium Ion or Redox Flow Battery Energy Storage Systems
 - Based on our understanding, Battery technology can be assessed as part of the EIAs or BAs
 - Projects are not located in a REDZs
 - Risks will be considered

- **Projects 31 and 32:** Both scenarios of whether the Eskom Hydra B Substation is developed or not will be assessed and need to be authorised. If the Eskom Hydra B Substation is built after the EA is issued for this project (should it be granted), then relevant amendments to the EA will be undertaken, if required.

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DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

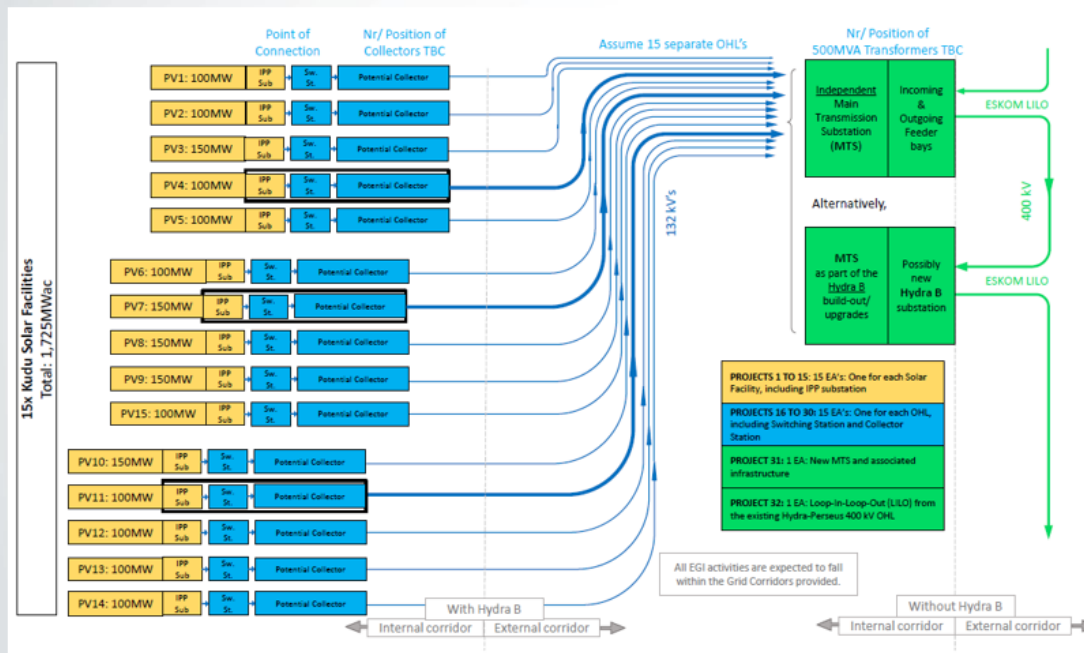
COMBINED REPORTING AND MULTIPLE EAs



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Combined Reporting and Multiple EAs



EIA Regulation 11:

(4) If one or more proponents intend undertaking **interrelated activities at the same or different locations** within the area of jurisdiction of a competent authority, the competent authority may, in writing, agree that the proponent or proponents submit a **single application in respect of all of those activities and to conduct a consolidated assessment process** but the potential environmental impacts of each activity, including its cumulative impacts, must be considered in terms of the location where the activity is to be undertaken.

(5) Where a combined application is submitted as contemplated in these Regulations, the proponent must, prior to submission of the application, confirm with the competent authority the fee payable in terms of the applicable regulations for such combined application.

EIA Regulation 25:

(1) If the competent authority decides to grant authorisation, the competent authority must issue an environmental authorisation or environmental authorisations complying with regulation 26 to, and in the name of, the applicant or applicants.

(2) If the competent authority decides to grant authorisation in respect of an application, the competent authority may issue a single environmental authorisation or **multiple environmental authorisations** in the name of the same or different applicants covering all aspects for which authorisation is granted.

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DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

Combined Reporting and Multiple EAs



No.	Projects	Applicant	Number of Applications and Reports	Number of EAs
1	<p>PROJECTS 1 TO 15: The proposed development of 15 x Up to 150 MWac Solar PV Facilities and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 1 to Kudu Solar Facility 15), near De Aar, Northern Cape. These projects require Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Processes.</p>	Kudu Solar Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	1 Combined Application for EA 1 Combined Scoping Report 1 Combined EIA Report	15 EAs (i.e. one for each PV Facility, including the IPP substation)
2		Kudu Solar Facility 2 (Pty) Ltd		
3		Kudu Solar Facility 3 (Pty) Ltd		
4		Kudu Solar Facility 4 (Pty) Ltd		
5		Kudu Solar Facility 5 (Pty) Ltd		
6		Kudu Solar Facility 6 (Pty) Ltd		
7		Kudu Solar Facility 7 (Pty) Ltd		
8		Kudu Solar Facility 8 (Pty) Ltd		
9		Kudu Solar Facility 9 (Pty) Ltd		
10		Kudu Solar Facility 10 (Pty) Ltd		
11		Kudu Solar Facility 11 (Pty) Ltd		
12		Kudu Solar Facility 12 (Pty) Ltd		
13		Kudu Solar Facility 13 (Pty) Ltd		
14		Kudu Solar Facility 14 (Pty) Ltd		
15		Kudu Solar Facility 15 (Pty) Ltd		

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Combined Reporting and Multiple EAs



No.	Projects	Applicant	Number of Applications and Reports	Number of EAs
16	<p>PROJECTS 16 TO 30: The proposed development of Switching Stations and Collector Stations at each On-Site Substation Complex at each of the 15 x Kudu Solar Facilities, and up to 15 x 132 kV Overhead Power Lines running from each Solar Facility to the proposed Collector Station(s) or up to the proposed Main Transmission Substation. All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors to be assessed. These projects require Basic Assessment (BA) Processes.</p>	<p>ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd</p>	<p>1 Combined Application for EA 1 Combined BA Report</p>	<p>15 EAs (i.e. one for each line, Switching Station and Collector Station)</p>
17				
18				
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Combined Reporting and Multiple EAs



No.	Projects	Applicant	Number of Applications and Reports	Number of EAs
31	PROJECT 31: The proposed development of an independent 400/132 kV Main Transmission Substation (MTS), including associated infrastructure at the MTS such as 132 kV busbar and feeder bay(s), and 500 MVA 400/132 kV transformer(s) with transformer bay(s). All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors to be assessed. This project requires a BA Process.	ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd	1 Combined Application for EA	2 EAs (one for the MTS and one for the LILO)
32	PROJECT 32: The proposed development of a 400 kV Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILO) from the existing Hydra-Perseus 400 kV Overhead Power Line to the proposed MTS. All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors to be assessed. This project requires a BA Process.		1 Combined BA Report	

Summary:

- **3 * Combined Applications for EA [instead of 32 separate Applications]**
- **1 * Combined Scoping Report for Projects 1 - 15 [instead of 15 separate reports]**
- **1 * Combined EIA Report for Projects 1 - 15 [instead of 15 separate reports]**
- **1 * Combined BA Report for Projects 16 – 30 [instead of 15 separate reports]**
- **1 * Combined BA Report for Projects 31 – 32 [instead of 2 separate reports]**

Combined Reporting and Multiple EAs



- **Motivation:**

- Separate EAs are required for the REIPPPP bidding requirements and to facilitate easier hand over of relevant infrastructure to Eskom later
- Separate EAs would reduce the likelihood and need for splitting of EAs in future, which is costly and time-consuming for all parties involved
- Aim towards a more efficient process for the EAP in terms of drafting reports; for the stakeholders in terms of reviewing reports and providing comments; as well as for the CA in terms of reviewing and decision-making
- Where information is the same for each facility or EGI project, it will be summarised as applicable to all, and where it differs, it will be separated into sections, for example, all proponents names, project names and portion numbers (as it should be reflected in each EA) can be indicated in the appendices for each project
- All impacts, sensitivities and legal requirements in terms of the EIA Regulations will still be met in the combined reporting and applications.
- Such consolidated or combined reporting is allowed for in the EIA Regulations (i.e. Regulation 11 (4))

Combined Reporting and Multiple EAs



Summary of Discussion Points:

- Can the Department provide feedback on the combined reporting and multiple EA approach?
- Process for approval? Letter to be compiled by the EAP and sent to the Department for approval? 30-day timeframe?
- Combined reporting has been undertaken previously and is regarded as beneficial and efficient
- Release the BID regardless of the combination approach to initiate the PPP as early as possible. BID will be kept generic in terms of the reporting structure.

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SPECIALIST STUDIES



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List of Specialist Studies and Specialists



Specialist Study	Specialist Company	Specialist Name	Type of Assessment
Agriculture and Soils	Private	<u>Johann Lanz</u>	Assessment Protocol GN320 (March 2020): Site Sensitivity Verification and Compliance Statement
Terrestrial Biodiversity, Terrestrial Plant Species, and Terrestrial Animal Species	Enviro-Insight	<u>Corne Niemandt</u>	Assessment Protocols GN320 (March 2020) and GN1150 (October 2020): Site Sensitivity Verification; Compliance Statement for Animals (excluding Birds); Full Assessment for Terrestrial Biodiversity and Plants (TBC)
Aquatic Biodiversity and Species	Private	Toni Belcher	Assessment Protocol GN320 (March 2020): Site Sensitivity Verification and Compliance Statement or Full Assessment
Avifauna Assessment	Chris van <u>Rooyen</u> Consulting	Chris van Rooyen and Albert Froneman	Assessment Protocol GN1150 (October 2020): Site Sensitivity Verification and Compliance Statement or Full Assessment (TBC)

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List of Specialist Studies and Specialists



Specialist Study	Specialist Company	Specialist Name	Type of Assessment
Visual Impact Assessment	<u>QARC</u> and BOLA	Quinton Lawson Bernard Oberholzer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part A of Assessment Protocol GN320 (March 2020): Site Sensitivity Verification • Appendix 6 of 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations
Heritage Impact Assessment	ASHA Consulting	Jayson Orton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part A of Assessment Protocol GN320 (March 2020): Site Sensitivity Verification • Appendix 6 of 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations
Palaeontology Assessment	Natura Viva	John Almond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part A of Assessment Protocol GN320 (March 2020): Site Sensitivity Verification • Appendix 6 of 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations
Socio-Economic Assessment (PV only)	Private	Tony Barbour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 6 of 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations
Traffic Impact Assessment (PV only)	Sturgeon Consulting	Annebet Krige	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 6 of 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations
Geohydrology Assessment (PV only)	<u>GEOSS</u>	Dale Barrow Christel van Staden Julian Conrad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 6 of 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations
BESS Risk Assessment (PV only)	Ishecon	Debbie Mitchell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Assessment (does not comply with Appendix 6 of 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations)

List of Specialist Studies and Specialists

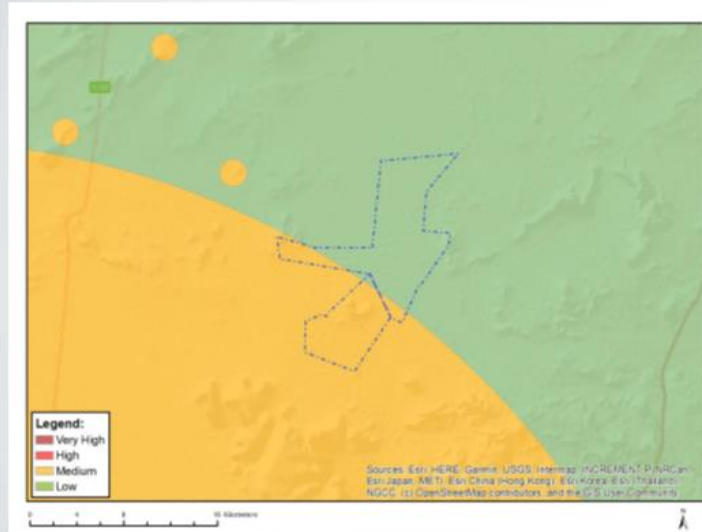


Specialist Study	Specialist Company	Specialist Name	Type of Assessment
Civil Aviation Assessment	CSIR	EAPs	Protocol: Compliance Statement (VH, H, M) or No Requirement (L) *
Defence Assessment <i>(PV only)</i>	CSIR	EAPs	Protocol: Compliance Statement (VH, H, M) or No Requirement (L) *

Motivation to exclude Geotechnical Assessment **DISCUSSION POINT

- Contractors and suppliers will only be selected and appointed after preferred bidder status is obtained (should it be granted).
- To ensure that all aspects are covered in the assessment, suppliers of sub-structures, inverters and transformers and civil sub-contractors are required to provide input into the scope of work of the Geotechnical Assessment.
- Therefore, Geotechnical Assessments can only be undertaken during detailed design, if preferred bidder status is obtained.

List of Specialist Studies and Specialists: EMI & RFI

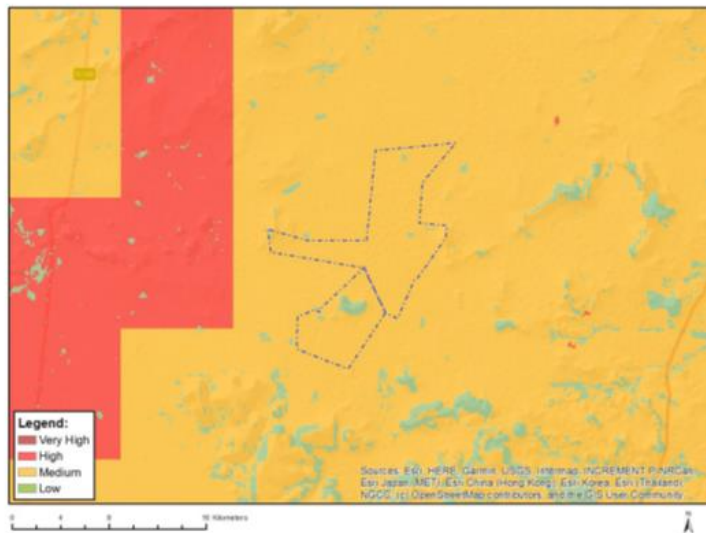


- The Screening Tool specifies the need for a Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) [and Electro-Magnetic Interference (EMI)] study.
- Proposed projects are located outside of the Karoo Central Astronomy Advantage Area (KCAAA) and Square Kilometre Array (SKA).
- The Screening Tool shows that the project area falls within a low and medium sensitivity in terms of RFI. The medium sensitivity is due to being located between 30 and 60 km from a Weather Radar installation and within the radar's line of sight.
- Therefore, it is motivated to exclude the need for a RFI and EMI assessment.
****DISCUSSION POINT**
- ABO Wind will engage with the SKA / SARAO to motivate that an EMI and RFI Assessment is not required as the site falls outside of the SKA and KCAAA.
- Further actions will be determined following response from the SKA / SARAO.
- Comments from the SKA / SARAO will be requested during the EIA Process.

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Key Sensitivities



Avifauna

- Screening Tool shows:
 - Medium sensitivity for *Neotis ludwigii* (Ludwig's Bustard)
 - Medium sensitivity for *Aquila verreauxii* (Verreaux's eagle)
- Medium Sensitivity sites according to the definition in the protocol will require a full Specialist Assessment Report or Compliance Statement.
- Species Environmental Assessment Guideline and BirdLife South Africa's (BLSA) Best Practice guidelines for assessing and monitoring the impact of solar energy facilities on birds (Jenkins et al., 2017) will be used.
- The site has been classified as a Regime 2 site, which requires a reconnaissance visit plus two surveys to be conducted within a period of 6 months.

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Specialist Combined Reporting



Specialist Study Number	Projects to cover in the Specialist Assessment
Report Number 1	PROJECTS 1 TO 15: Kudu Solar Facility 1 – 15 and associated infrastructure
Report Number 2	PROJECTS 16 TO 30: Switching Stations and Collector Stations at each On-Site Substation Complex at each of the 15 x Kudu Solar Facilities, and up to 15 x 132 kV Overhead Power Lines running from each Solar Facility to the proposed Collector Station(s) or up to the proposed Main Transmission Substation. PROJECT 31: Independent 400/132 kV Main Transmission Substation (MTS), including associated infrastructure at the MTS such as 132 kV busbar and feeder bay(s), and 500 MVA 400/132 kV transformer(s) with transformer bay(s). PROJECT 32: 400 kV Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILO) from the existing Hydra-Perseus 400 kV Overhead Power Line to the proposed MTS.

Specialist Combined Reporting



Motivation:

- Projects are in the same locality
- Clear sections will be provided in the reports showing information that is different or specific to certain projects. All relevant information will be provided
- Reduce the number of reports to be reviewed by the Competent Authority and Stakeholders
- Combined reporting has been undertaken previously and is regarded as beneficial and efficient

Discussion Points / Questions:

- Combined specialist reporting approved?
- Should the combined BA and EIA Reporting be approved, would it be suitable to provide the same specialist study for the various reports, for example for the EGI Projects 16 – 30 the same specialist study will be provided for all the Draft BA Reports?

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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, LISTED ACTIVITIES AND CUMULATIVE IMPACTS



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Public Participation



- Integrated PPP to be undertaken for all projects
 - BID to be compiled, distributed electronically and placed on the project website and similar online platforms (e.g. Google Drive).
 - Compilation of an I&AP database to be updated throughout
 - The following letters will be **emailed** to all I&APs on the database, where email addresses are available.
 - Letter 1 – Release of the BID
 - Letter 2 – Release of the Draft Scoping Report
 - Letter 3 – Submission of the Final Scoping Report
 - Letter 4 – Decision on the Final Scoping Report and commencement of the BA and EIA Phase
 - Letter 5 – Release of the Draft EIA Report and Draft BA Reports
 - Letter 6 – Submission of the Final EIA Report and Final BA Reports
 - Letter 7 – Decision on the Environmental Authorisation
 - Executive Summaries of the Draft Scoping Reports, Draft EIA Reports and Draft BA Reports will be emailed to all I&APs, where email addresses are available.
- 30 The Draft Scoping Reports, Draft EIA Reports and Draft BA Reports will be uploaded to the project website for I&APs to access it. The same will be undertaken for Final Reports.

Public Participation



- As a supplementary mechanism, the Draft Scoping Reports, Draft EIA Reports and Draft BA Reports will also be uploaded to other alternative web-platforms such as Dropbox or Google Drive. The same will be undertaken for Final BA Reports.
 - If an I&AP cannot access the report via the project website, via the alternative web-platforms such as Dropbox or Google Drive, and if additional information is required (other than what is provided in the Executive Summaries), then the I&AP can contact the EAP, who will then make an electronic copy available via courier or post (where possible).
 - SMS texts will also be sent to all I&APs on the database, where cell phone numbers are available, to inform them of the proposed project and how to access the Draft Scoping Reports, Draft EIA Reports and Draft BA Reports; as well as the notification of the EAs.
 - Where possible, communication will be made with the ward councillor or similar community forums to request that they send notifications of the project and report availability and executive summaries via their local networks (such as WhatsApp groups, Neighbourhood Watch groups, other social media mechanisms etc.).
 - In order to notify and inform the public of the proposed project, to invite I&APs to register on the project database, as well as to inform I&APs of the release of the Scoping Reports, Draft EIA Reports and Draft BA Reports for comment, the processes will be advertised in English and Afrikaans in one local newspaper at the commencement of the 30-day comment periods.
- 31 Site notice boards will be placed at the entrance of the key affected farm portions on which the proposed projects will be constructed, as well as at well-known retail or government facilities in De Aar (or similar).
- Submit all reports, applications and required information to DFFE via the S-Filer Novell System.

Listed Activities



- Any feedback based on pre-application meeting request form?
- For the MTS Project (i.e. Project 31), it is understood that the following listed activity is not applicable for upgrades at the Eskom Hydra B Substation (once constructed), as the proposed transformer and feeder bay extensions will not increase the capacity of the Eskom Hydra B Substation (i.e. it will remain at 400 kV) and it will not increase the development footprint (i.e. all work will take place within the fenced area of the substation). In order for this listed activity to apply, there needs to be both a capacity increase and development footprint increase:
 - LN 1: Activity 47: The expansion of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity where the expanded capacity will exceed 275 kilovolts **and** the development footprint will increase.

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Proposed Schedule



Key Milestones	Proposed Timeframe
Project Initiation and Pre-Application Consultation with the DFFE	Mid April 2022
Release BID	Mid April 2022 – Mid May 2022
Specialist Site Visits	March 2022 – Early May 2022
Specialist Assessments for Scoping Phase	March 2022 – Early May 2022
Submit Application Forms to DFFE for Projects 1 to 15 (Scoping and EIA Processes)	July 2022
Release Draft Scoping Report for Projects 1 to 15 (Scoping and EIA Processes)	July 2022 – August 2022
Submit Final Scoping Report for Projects 1 to 15 for Decision-Making	Early August 2022
Submit Application Forms to DFFE for Projects 16 to 32 (BA Processes)	Mid November 2022
Release Draft EIA Report for Projects 1 to 15; and Draft BA Reports for Projects 16 to 32 for 30 day commenting period	Mid November 2022 – Mid December 2022
Submit Final EIA Report for Projects 1 to 15; and Draft BA Reports for Projects 16 to 32 to DFFE for Decision-Making	Mid January 2023
DFFE Decision-Making on the Final BA Reports (Projects 16 to 32) and issue of Decision (i.e. grant or refuse EA): 57 days	Early March 2023
DFFE Decision-Making on the Final EIA Reports (Projects 1 to 15) and issue of Decisions (i.e. grant or refuse EA): 107 days	Early May 2023
EAP to Notify I&APs of Decisions (14 days)	Within 14 days of EAs being issued

Cumulative Impact Assessment Approach



- Within the Kudu project: cumulative assessment of each project in the context of all the other Kudu projects being developed (worst case scenario)
- With external projects: Include **all renewable energy projects** within a **30 km radius that have received an EA at the time of starting this BA and EIA (i.e. by March 2022), and not necessarily those EIAs and BAs in process?**
- Projects to be considered in the Scoping and EIA Projects to be capped at the acceptance of the Final Scoping Report
- Information mainly obtained from the SA Renewable Energy EIA Application Database (REEA) and SAHRIS; as well as specialists

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**Thank you
Questions?**



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APPENDIX F.3: PRE-APPLICATION MEETING NOTES

App. F.3/...

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DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province



MINUTES

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 15 SOLAR PV FACILITIES (I.E. KUDU SOLAR FACILITIES), ELECTRICITY GRID INFRASTRUCTURE AND VARIOUS ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR DE AAR, NORTHERN CAPE

PRE-APPLICATION MEETING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT (DFFE)

PRE-APPLICATION REFERENCE NUMBER: 2022-04-0005

MEETING NOTES

Version 1 for Review: 06 May 2022

Meeting:	Pre-Application Meeting: Meeting Notes	
Date of Meeting:	26 April 2022	
Meeting Platform:	Microsoft Teams	
Duration:	13H00 – 15H00	
Attendees:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mahlatse Shubane (MS), DFFE IEA ▪ Nyiko Nkosi (NN), DFFE IEA ▪ Lerato Mokoena (LM), DFFE IEA ▪ Thembisile Hlatshwayo (TH), DFFE IEA ▪ Makhosi Yeni (MY), DFFE IEA ▪ Zama Langa (ZL), DFFE IEA ▪ Constance Musemburi (CM), DFFE IEA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Azrah Essop (AE), DFFE IEA ▪ Jay-Jay Mpelane (JM1), DFFE IEA ▪ Julliet Mahlangu (JM2), DFFE IEA ▪ Du Toit Malherbe (DM), ABO Wind ▪ Paul Lochner (PL), CSIR ▪ Rohaida Abed (RA), CSIR
	<i>DFFE IEA = Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment Integrated Environmental Authorisations</i>	
Apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Olivia Letlalo (OL), DFFE IEA ▪ Wayne Hector (WH), DFFE IEA ▪ Rob Invernizzi (RI), ABO Wind ▪ Petrus Scheepers (PS), ABO Wind 	
Attendance Register	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Appendix A 	

1. Purpose of Meeting and Agenda

A pre-application meeting was held between the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd (ABO Wind), and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) on 26 April 2022 to discuss the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), and Basic Assessments (BAs) for the Proposed Development of 15 Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facilities (i.e. Kudu Solar Facilities), Electricity Grid Infrastructure (EGI) and various associated infrastructure, near De Aar, in the Northern Cape.

The meeting was chaired by RA and DM. The meeting took place according to the agenda below:

Item	Description	Time	Presenter
1	Welcome, Introduction and Outline of Meeting Proceedings	13H00 – 13H10	DFFE
2	Description of the proposed projects	13H10 – 13H30	CSIR and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
3	Discussion on the approach towards the BA and Scoping and EIA reporting, including a request for combination of the projects, in terms of Regulation 11 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), and the issuing of multiple EAs (should they be granted) in terms of Regulations 25 (1) and (2) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended)	13H30 - 13H50	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
4	Discussion on the specialist assessments and compliance statements to be undertaken as part of the EIA and BA Processes; and to discuss and confirm the associated specialist reporting	13H50 – 14H00	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
5	Discussion on the approach towards including Lithium Ion or Redox Flow Battery Energy Storage Systems in the project descriptions	14H00 – 14H05	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
6	Discussion and confirmation of the proposed Public Participation Plan (PPP) which will be submitted to the DFFE for approval.	14H05 – 14H20	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
7	Discussion of the proposed schedule and overall process for the EIA and BA Processes, including applicable Listed Activities and Cumulative Impact Assessment Approach (i.e. assess cumulative impacts based on a 30 km buffer and based on Renewable Energy projects with a positive EA issued at the start of this EIA and BA (i.e. March 2022))	14H20 – 14H40	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd

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Item	Description	Time	Presenter
8	Questions	14H40 – 14H50	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
9	Way Forward and Closure	14H50 – 15H00	DFFE

2. Presentation: Project Description; Inclusion of Battery Energy Storage Systems; Approach to the Combined Reporting and Request for Multiple Environmental Authorisations; Specialist Studies to be commissioned; Public Participation; Applicable Listed Activities; Cumulative Impact Assessment Approach; and Proposed Schedule

RA initiated introductions and explained that questions could be raised at any point and as required during the presentation. RA provided a presentation on the background of the proposed projects, which included feedback on the inclusion of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), as well as the proposed combined reporting approach. Key findings from the National Web-based Screening Tool were also discussed along with the specialist assessments and reporting proposed. Thereafter, the Public Participation Process, approach to cumulative impacts, and project schedule were presented. A copy of this presentation is separately attached to these meeting notes.

The following comments were raised, and corresponding responses provided.

Queries or Comments Raised	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RA: All the projects are located within the Central Strategic Transmission Corridor that was gazetted in February 2018. Kindly confirm that Projects 16 to 32 will be subjected to a 57-day decision making timeframe even though Projects 16 to 30 do not trigger any Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) listed activities in Listing Notice 2. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NN: Projects 16 to 32 fall within the gazetted EGI corridor, and if a project is within the gazetted EGI corridor, the reduced 57-day decision-making timeframe will apply. The Application Form for Environmental Authorisation (EA) stipulates the requirements that need to be met for projects within the gazetted EGI corridors, such as proof to confirm that the route of the proposed power line has been pre-negotiated with the landowners. When the Basic Assessment (BA) Report is submitted, a pre-negotiated route must be included, and landowner consent for the pre-negotiated route must be provided. RA: The requirements of GN 113 are understood, however is landowner consent strictly needed to confirm pre-negotiation or can a letter from the Applicant stating that the route has been pre-negotiated be provided? NN: For power line projects within the gazetted EGI corridors, we require landowner consent even though it is a linear development to prove that the route has been pre-negotiated with the relevant landowners. A letter from the Applicant will not serve as proof of pre-negotiation, as the Department needs to see that the landowner is aware and agreed to the power line on their property. RA: It is noted that landowner consent is required. DM: We have consent to develop on the properties affected by the PV and EGI that are outlined in black on the map presented. Hence, we have consent for the proposed internal grid lines (Projects 16 to 30). For the external grid lines and Main Transmission Substation (MTS) (Projects 31 and 32), which will be constructed in the southern end of the blue EGI corridor shown on the map, we have discussed the projects with the relevant landowners and have in principle agreement. However, a written consent of the pre-negotiation can be obtained.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MS: It is acknowledged that representatives from the DFFE Biodiversity Conservation Directorate should have been present at the pre-application meeting. Kindly ensure that these representatives are included in the stakeholder database and consulted with during the BA and EIA Processes. The same applies to representatives from DFFE Protected Areas Directorate, if the project is located in proximity to such areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RA: Noted with thanks, Contact details of these officials are on file based on previous projects; however recent details will be requested via email following the meeting. MS: Noted, these details will be provided via email. <p><i>Post-Meeting Note: MS provided these contact details to the CSIR.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RA: Both Lithium-Ion and Redox Flow Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) will be included in the project description and assessed in the EIA Processes. In addition, a high-level BESS Risk Assessment will be undertaken to understand the safety, health and environmental risks associated with the BESS, from a technical perspective. Please confirm if both the Lithium Ion BESS and Redox Flow BESS can be included in the EA, not as alternatives, but both technologies being authorised. Both technologies will be assessed by the specialists, and relevant listed activities will be included. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MS: This needs to be confirmed. There will be two options in the EIA Reports, and the EAP needs to note which is the preferred and alternative option and provide reasons. Please confirm if there is uncertainty on which options will be developed? RA: Both technologies will be fully assessed in the EIA. If there is some flexibility in the EA that would be appreciated to allow for selection of the available technology at the time. We have seen a recent EA where various BESS technologies were included and approved in the EA.

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DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

Queries or Comments Raised	Responses
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PL: The environmental impacts of both BESS options will certainly be considered in the EIA. Having both options authorised would assist from a technical and planning perspective, as the financial aspects, availability and efficiency of the different BESS options will keep changing as the markets change. So, the decision from the developer on which is technically and commercially the best option would only be made in the future, depending on the market situation. However, from an environmental point of view, we would make sure that the impacts are understood, acceptable and properly managed, whichever option is pursued. • DM: The Lithium-Ion would most likely be the preferred option, but from an EA point of view, if it is possible to have both technologies authorised then at least the technology can be selected later based on the market changes and practicality at the time. For now, we would like to keep our options open from an EA point of view. • MS: Currently we cannot confirm, and we do not want to pre-empt our decision. Your intentions and reasons for requesting both BESS technology options to be authorised are understood, however for now, it is confirmed that a motivation can be put forward in the report and a decision will be made accordingly. • RA: Noted, both BESS technology options will be assessed in the EIA and a motivation will be included in the EIA Report to potentially authorise both options. • NN: The feedback from MS is supported. In the EIA Report, the EAP must assess all alternatives and then indicate in a motivation that both options are preferred and viable for authorisation. The DFFE will then take a decision when the EA will be issued the EA. If both options cannot be authorised, and one is selected by the DFFE and if the technology changes based on the market post-EA, then the Applicant can apply for an Amendment to the EA, provided that both options were assessed in the EIA.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NN: Please clarify the number of power lines and substations per application? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RA: Projects 16 to 30 will each include the development of one Switching Station and Collector Station at each On-site Substation Complex, and it will also include the development of a 132 kV overhead power line from each Kudu Solar Facility to the proposed Collector Station or up to the proposed Main Transmission Substation. A total of 15 overhead power lines needs to be assessed based on the worst-case scenario, as the requirements of Eskom and the IPP office are not known at this stage, and it is not known which project will receive preferred bidder status, in reality, and once the uncertainties are confirmed, the number of power lines may be reduced. • NN: Noted with thanks.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NN: For Projects 31 and 32, will the BA include both alternatives of whether the Eskom Hydra B substation is not built or is built? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RA: They are not being proposed as alternatives for the preferred one to be selected at the end of the BA, but rather to limit the amount of EA Amendments later, we are requesting for both options to be included in the EA, if possible. The worst case is the option of the Eskom Hydra B substation not being built, resulting in a new MTS to be developed by the Applicant. The second option is if the Eskom Hydra B substation is built, then the project will only entail upgrading of the Eskom substation. All proposed infrastructure for these projects will fall in the proposed EGI corridor. The same applies to Project 32 for the Loop-in-Loop-out. Is it suitable to then have both options authorised in the EA, should they be granted? • NN: DFFE colleagues that have been allocated Projects 31 and 32 need to provide feedback. It is not possible to provide confirmation now based on the uncertainty around what needs to be upgraded at the Eskom substation. This can potentially be discussed with the relevant case officers via email. • LM: The second option is to expand the Eskom Hydra B Substation, if and when Eskom constructs such a substation. When is Eskom going to build this substation?

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Queries or Comments Raised	Responses
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DM: Eskom has proposed to develop the Hydra B substation, as noted in their Transmission Development Plan. It is unsure exactly when they will construct it. Some records refer to 2022, and other references state the estimated construction date as 2030. From the Applicant's perspective, this is a strategic concept as we know that Eskom wants to build the Hydra B substation, but we do not know when this will happen. Hence, we are requesting to cater for both options. The worst case is if the Hydra B substation is not built, which would mean we would need to develop a new independent connection point. However, if the Hydra B substation is built at the time, then we will just upgrade the relevant components at the substation. • LM: The first option of developing an independent MTS based on the worst case is understood. However, there are concerns around the second option of upgrading the Eskom Hydra B substation, as we cannot base a decision on something that has not been built yet, and without knowing whether Eskom will definitely build this substation, what the upgrades will entail, and whether Eskom will even allow connection once built. • DM: If Eskom does build the Hydra B substation, then the Applicant would approach Eskom to get confirmation and approval to connect into that substation. The worst-case scenario would be to develop an independent MTS ourselves, resulting in the biggest impact. So, if that is authorised, then the worst-case scenario is covered. From an EA perspective, we would like to see if it is possible to cover both options. • LM: Will the developer wait for Eskom to build the Hydra B Substation, to undertake the proposed expansion? • DM: Yes, that is likely. However, to an extent we will not wait for Eskom, as the option to build an independent MTS would be assessed as well. If Eskom has not built the substation, and the Applicant has already developed the PV projects then the Applicant would develop the independent MTS. • LM: The Department cannot authorise an expansion of infrastructure that is not in existence yet. • DM: Noted, this provides clarification needed, confirming that it will not be possible to authorise the expansion to the Eskom Hydra B substation as it does not exist currently. • RA: Noted, we will proceed with the worst case, which is to develop a new independent MTS if the Eskom Hydra B substation is not constructed. We will also discuss further via email with the relevant case officers.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CM: Is the DFFE the Competent Authority for these projects? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RA: Based on GN 779, these renewable energy projects are related to the Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) and will be entered into the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP). We are submitting the Applications for EA for the PV Facilities, EGI and associated infrastructure to the Department in parallel. We understand that the DFFE is the Competent Authority. This is also based on previous Applications for EA for similar projects, which received EA from the Department, where the PV or Wind project is part of the REIPPPP, and the EGI is needed to support the PV or Wind project.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AE: With regards to the request for combination of reports and multiple EAs, it depends on whether this is approved by the Department or not. If approval is granted, note that the report upload process must be undertaken for each EA being requested. For example, if you have 15 PV projects, and you have one combined report, you still must upload that report 15 times, because the EIA Admin team has to create a Reference Number for every single project and will expect separate zipped files. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RA: Noted with thanks. In the previous projects where combination was granted, we were allowed to submit one zipped file per combined report and label the zipped file according to the reference numbers. For example, one combined BA Report was compiled for three PV projects, which needed three EAs, and the zipped folder name included the three reference numbers. However, we can upload the combined reports in a way that would be beneficial to the Department and facilitate the allocation process.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NN: We do not support the option of a combination application because this project is a large number for one case officer to deal with. For example, with the 15 PV projects, that means one case officer would need to go through one report detailing all 15 PV projects, and issue 15 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RA: Please confirm if we can still apply for a combination request with a motivation as discussed, and for the DFFE to consider the motivation and then decide? Or is the Department explaining that we should not submit a request? Combination is allowed for in the regulations, and we feel, based on previous

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Queries or Comments Raised	Responses
<p>EAs. Some of the projects fall within the EGI corridors, and therefore have the reduced decision-making timeframe, which adds additional time pressure. In terms of the allocation process, for example, JM2 has been allocated Kudu Solar Facility 13, 14 and 15, and the other projects have been allocated accordingly to other case officers present at the meeting. Hence it is not advised to apply for a combination of reporting. It is not advised to do one specialist assessment that deals with all 15 PV projects. Separate reports are requested per project for clarity, including separate EMPRs that also include the generic EMPRs for power lines and substations.</p>	<p>projects, that it will improve efficiency for all parties involved, including stakeholders and case officers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CM: NN is providing advise on what the Department is experiencing with regards to combined applications. It does not necessarily mean that you cannot apply for a combination request. You will receive a response from the Department following your submission of the request for combination. • RA: Noted with thanks. We have proposed a combined reporting structure that takes the different assessment types and decision-making timeframes into account. For example, all the PV projects (Projects 1 to 15) that will be subjected to an EIA Process and 107 day decision-making timeframe will be dealt with in one report; and Projects 16 to 30 will be subjected to a BA Process with confirmed 57-day decision-making, which will be dealt with in one report; and then Projects 31 and 32 also captured in one report with a BA Process and 57-day decision-making. We understand the points regarding the project allocations to the case officers. Perhaps it would be possible to recommend for the case offices to be split according to the type of assessment and decision-making timeframe to avoid a situation where case officers are put under time pressures. • JM1: I advise that you submit separate applications, separate reports and separate EMPRs because separate EAs are being requested. In addition, the reports will be reviewed by different case officers and one report cannot be shared. One case officer might be completed with the review process in fewer days, whereas another case officer may take longer depending on their workload. Hence combining the report will result in administrative complications. However, the Public Participation Process can be combined for all 32 projects. • RA: Would it be possible for us to duplicate the reports during the upload process so that each case officer still gets a copy of the report, as recommended by AE, and they just focus on the relevant projects they have been assigned to? The projects have been clustered according to the infrastructure proposed and level of assessment. Previous experience is that requests for combinations have been approved. • NN: You noted that one EIA Report will be compiled to address all 15 PV projects. Since the 15 PV projects have been allocated to different case officers, the case officer then needs to go through the report that covers all 15 PV projects and only focus on the projects they have been assigned, for example PV7, PV8 and PV9. So, if the case officers can do this, why is it not possible for the EAP to separate the reports accordingly? We want to avoid confusion because if you give us one report, it will have information for all 15 PV projects, and will be a repetition of all information such as project description, farm portions, impact assessments, and specialist recommendations for all 15 PV projects. It will be a huge report detailing all the projects and significant repetition. We are trying to avoid a situation where one case officer needs to issue 15 EAs, so we have split the projects to various case officers in different departments. If you consider combination, then it should not be 15 projects in one report. Perhaps the projects can be grouped in a more suitable way to ensure that case officers do not sit with many projects. Perhaps they can be grouped in three or four projects in one report. • RA: In terms of the report structure, this will be compiled in a way to reduce the duplication. Where the information is the same for each facility or EGI project, it will be summarized in one section or table and stated that it is applicable to all, without repeating the information for each project. Where the information differs or needs to be specified for a specific project, it will be separated into sections, for example. The reporting will be clear in terms of what applies to all projects and what applies to a specific project. For example, if the terrestrial ecology specialist identifies an impact of habitat fragmentation that applies to all 15 PV projects and it has the identical impact management actions, we will not copy and paste that impact

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Queries or Comments Raised	Responses
	<p>table 15 times, but we will have one table and note in a header that this applies to projects 1 to 15. It reduces the amount of material to be compiled, reviewed by case officers and stakeholders, and therefore reduces the burden on the case officers. We will take the Department's concerns into account and try to re-group or re-combine the projects so that it is more manageable for the case officer. We are also following a similar combined reporting process for the Aardvark project, which MS is involved in.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MS: I would like to discourage the combination but there is nothing that stops the EAP and Applicant from applying for a combination. Will it save the EAP time to write a combined report rather than compiling separate reports, as all the information will be repeated in one combined report anyway? There are many projects being combined in one report, and this may result in administrative errors in the EAs, such as including a farm portion that is not applicable to that specific project in that EA. • CM: I also discourage combination of applications as it is confusing for the public. You can still submit the combination request, and the Department will make a decision. • RA: A reiteration that information that is the same for all projects will not be duplicated in the report. Based on previous combined reports, there were no concerns raised by stakeholders. We will consider the comments from the Department on the combination and discuss more offline on how to reduce the number of projects being combined prior to submitting the application for combination. • NN: Since a request for combination will still be submitted, since the affected farm portions are located adjacent to each other, perhaps the reports can be combined according to the projects that are located adjacent to each other. For example, PV 1, 2 and 3 can be combined into one report; if all 15 PV projects are combined into one report, it is unlikely that the Department will approve it. However, it is recommended that the number of projects per combined report is reduced and structured according to the adjacent farm properties. Provide a convincing motivation for the Department to consider, as explained here. • RA: Noted with much thanks. We will structure the combination so that the projects are clustered in a reduced manner.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RA: Can the BiD be released before we receive feedback from the DFFE on the combination request application? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MS: Please confirm if you are applying for combined PPP? • RA: We will explain in the PP Plan that an integrated combined PPP will be undertaken for all projects regardless of whether a combined reporting or single reporting process is followed. We need confirmation on whether we can release the BiD before receiving a decision on the combination request. • NN: The requirement of submitting a PP Plan to the Department for approval is still a requirement even though the COVID-19 Disaster Management Directives have been withdrawn. The PP Plan must be approved before the PPP is commenced with. • RA: We will wait for approval on the PP plan first before we release the BiD. • NN: The BiD will be released to stakeholders and I&APs, and it will specify if you are undertaking single reporting or combined reporting, so it might be best to wait for a decision on the combination request first before releasing the BiD. • RA: It is possible for us to keep the BiD generic in terms of the proposed reporting structure, and explain that we have submitted a request for combination and if it is not approved, we will submit single applications for stakeholders to review. • LM: Are you still intending to apply under Regulation 11?

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Queries or Comments Raised	Responses
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DM: Yes, that is the plan. We will compile a request and submit it to the DFFE for decision-making, and we will motivate to combine fewer of the projects based on the DFFE's recommendation. While we are waiting for that decision, can we release the BID to stakeholders to commence with the process in the interim? • LM: Noted, so in the BID it will be specified that a combination reporting application has been submitted. • DM: Yes, that is correct. • LM: A BID is outside of the regulated PPP, so it does not seem like a concern. • RA: Yes, we understand that the BID is outside of the regulated PPP. However, the Department can confirm. • NN: The BID is part of the notification process whereby stakeholders are informed of the proposed project. If you need to release the BID before the decision on the combination request, then you must clearly indicate that the proposed application consists of 32 projects, and all projects must be listed. The BID must also note that a request for combination has been submitted to the Department for consideration and depending on the feedback either single or combined reports and applications will be submitted for approval and review. • RA: Noted with thanks, based on this, the BID will explain the option of combination or single reporting, and will be released before feedback on the combination request.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RA: The Screening Tool identifies the need for a Geotechnical Assessment; however, it is proposed to exclude this assessment from the EIA and BA projects as this study can only be undertaken during detailed design, and will need input from the appointed contractors and suppliers, which can only be done post EA, and post preferred bidder allocation. Can the Department provide in principle agreement to exclude the Geotechnical Assessment from the EIA and BA projects? This motivation will be included in the Scoping, BA and EIA Reports as well. The same approach was undertaken for other projects, whereby the motivation to exclude such a study was agreed to. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NN: What sensitivity did the Screening Tool allocate to the Geotechnical Assessment? • RA: There is no theme on the screening tool for geotechnical sensitivities. • NN: Did the Screening Tool identify it as a required specialist study? • RA: Yes, it is required as part of the list of specialist studies. The Screening Tool Report does allow for the EAP to motivate for not undertaking certain specialist studies. • MS: We cannot confirm if you can exclude the study or not. However, surely the Screening Tool and Protocols will guide you in terms of what needs to be done. • RA: The Screening Tool Report does allow for the EAP to motivate for not undertaking certain specialist studies. • NN: When were the other applications that excluded the Geotechnical Assessment undertaken? • RA: These applications were undertaken in 2020 and 2021, as well as a recent one that received EA in 2022. CM was also a case officer for one of these projects. The Screening Tool Report does allow for the EAP to motivate for not undertaking certain specialist studies. We will include such a motivation in the BA and EIA Reports for the Department to consider, and we will include any relevant learning from previous projects. • CM: Cases are dealt with on a case-by-case basis. It does not mean that if it was excluded in other projects, that it will automatically be excluded now. • NN: We can discuss this internally following the pre-application meeting and provide feedback when reviewing the notes of the pre-application meeting. The previous projects where the Geotechnical Assessments were approved may not have been for 32 projects. Therefore, this needs to be considered on a case-by-case basis. Based on previous learning, it is usually not recommended to state that further specialist studies must be undertaken following the EA.

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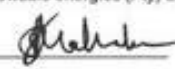
Queries or Comments Raised	Responses
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RA: Noted with thanks. The scope of the Geotechnical Assessment also needs to be clarified. It is understood that this a technical design study and not an impact assessment specialist study. Perhaps this can also be discussed further after the pre-application meeting. • MS: I want to put on record that it is not the Department's responsibility to confirm what needs to be done in terms of studies. Note that the Department has not been to site. The Screening Tool Report is your guidance. The reality is that it will be difficult for the Department to discuss and confirm after pre-application meeting that the study can be excluded or not. This is the same as asking the Department to confirm listed activities, which cannot be done.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RA: The Screening Tool recommends the need for an RFI study. However, the project is outside the SKA and KCAAA area, and therefore unlikely to have a significant impact on these areas. Furthermore, the sensitivity is related to the location of a weather radar installation. Therefore, it is recommended to exclude the need for such a study as part of the BA or EIA Process. The SKA and SARAO will be consulted with during the EIA and BA process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JM1: The EAP must identify and undertake all the required specialist studies needed for the project. <p><i>Post-Meeting Note: The Screening Tool Report does allow for the EAP to motivate for not undertaking certain specialist studies. We will include such a motivation in the BA and EIA Reports for the Department to consider, and we will include any relevant learning from previous projects.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RA: For cumulative impacts, can the Department confirm if it is acceptable to only consider those projects that have received an EA at the start of the BA and EIA process or is it necessary to consider all those projects within the 30 km radius that still have the BA and EIA processes underway? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NN: If you are aware of the projects underway, you need to include them as part of your assessment, unless you do not have knowledge of those projects. The Screening Tool Report will also guide you in terms of those projects that have been approved within a 30 km radius. The other 15 Kudu PV and 17 EGI projects also need to be considered. • RA: Noted, this will be considered.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NN: In terms of the PP Plan, it is noted that this will be submitted for approval after the pre-application meeting before the request for combination. The DFFE notes that the PP Plan must be emailed to the allocated officials. I am not sure if you were copied on the email when the projects were being allocated to the case officers. Since we are not sure of the outcome of the combination request at this stage, we must confirm the submission of the PP Plan and whether one plan for all projects will be submitted. It is proposed that the EAP submit the PP Plan to MS via email and copy all officials present at the meeting and those that provided apologies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RA: We are proposing an integrated PPP for all 32 projects regardless of whether we submit combined or separated applications. Kindly confirm if it is suitable to submit one PP Plan describing how the PPP will be undertaken for all the projects. • NN: Noted, if one integrated PPP is proposed, you can compile one PP Plan and then submit it via email to MS and copy the relevant officials. The DFFE will then discuss the PP Plan and provide feedback. • MS: This is agreed. We will review the integrated PP Plan and provide feedback.

3. Way Forward and Closure

- **RA:** In terms of the next steps:
 - The CSiR will submit the notes of the meeting to all DFFE officials present at the meeting, and those that provided apologies, for review and approval.
 - The CSiR will compile the integrated PP Plan and submit it via email to MS, and copy the relevant DFFE officials, for review and approval.
 - The CSiR and ABO Wind will have an internal discussion regarding the request for combination and take the DFFE's comments into consideration in order to structure the combination in a way that will facilitate the decision-making process. We will keep the case officers informed of the progress regarding the submission of the request for combination.

The meeting was closed the meeting at 15H00, and the DFFE were thanked for their inputs.

Approval

DFFE Signature:  Name: <u>MAHLATSE</u> Date: <u>16 May 2022</u>	CSiR Signature: <u>Abed</u> Name: <u>R. Abed</u> Date: <u>17 May 2022</u>	ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd Signature:  Name: <u>DT. MALHERBE</u> Date: <u>17 MAY 2022</u>
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Post-Meeting Note: The DFFE (MS) confirmed on 16 May 2022 that a Public Participation Plan is no longer required.

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Appendix A: Attendance Register

Meeting Summary
 Total Number of Participants 13
 Meeting Title 2022-04-0005 - Kudu PV and EGI Pre-Application Meeting
 Meeting Start Time 4/26/2022, 12:59:25 PM
 Meeting End Time 4/26/2022, 3:01:57 PM

Full Name	Join Time	Leave Time	Email	Role
Rohaida Abed	4/26/2022, 12:59:25 PM	4/26/2022, 3:01:57 PM	RAbed@csir.co.za	Organizer
Mahlatse Shubane	4/26/2022, 12:59:42 PM	4/26/2022, 2:55:13 PM	MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za	Presenter
Thembisile Hlatshwayo	4/26/2022, 12:59:45 PM	4/26/2022, 2:53:57 PM	THLATSHWAYO@dffe.gov.za	Presenter
Zama Langa	4/26/2022, 12:59:51 PM	4/26/2022, 2:55:21 PM	ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za	Presenter
Constance Musemburi	4/26/2022, 1:00:04 PM	4/26/2022, 2:55:11 PM	CMusemburi@dffe.gov.za	Presenter
Azrah Essop	4/26/2022, 1:00:10 PM	4/26/2022, 2:55:00 PM	AEssop@dffe.gov.za	Presenter
Lerato Mokoena	4/26/2022, 1:00:29 PM	4/26/2022, 2:55:13 PM	LMOKOENA@dffe.gov.za	Presenter
Nyiko Nkosi	4/26/2022, 1:00:59 PM	4/26/2022, 2:55:13 PM	NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za	Presenter
Du Toit Malherbe	4/26/2022, 1:01:00 PM	4/26/2022, 3:01:57 PM	Du-Toit.Malherbe@abo-wind.com	Presenter
Julliet Mahlangu	4/26/2022, 1:01:59 PM	4/26/2022, 2:55:08 PM	JMMahlangu@dffe.gov.za	Presenter
Paul Lochner	4/26/2022, 1:02:02 PM	4/26/2022, 2:55:16 PM	PLochner@csir.co.za	Presenter
Makhosi Yeni	4/26/2022, 1:02:21 PM	4/26/2022, 2:55:17 PM	MYeni@dffe.gov.za	Presenter
Jay-Jay Mpelane	4/26/2022, 1:02:58 PM	4/26/2022, 2:55:06 PM	JMPELANE@dffe.gov.za	Presenter

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APPENDIX F.4: SUBMISSION OF THE PRE-APPLICATION MEETING NOTES TO THE DFFE

App. F.4/...

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Rohaida Abed

From: Rohaida Abed
Sent: Tuesday, 17 May 2022 10:53
To: Mahlatse Shubane
Cc: Paul Lochner; Du Toit Malherbe; Petrus Scheepers; Rob Invernizzi; Thembisile Hlatshwayo; Lerato Mokoena; Nyiko Nkosi; Azrah Essop; Constance Musemburi; Jay-Jay Mpelane; Juliet Mahlangu; Makhosi Yeni; Zama Langa; Olivia Letlalo; Wayne Hector; Ephron Maradwa
Subject: RE: 2022-04-0005 - Kudu PV and EGI Pre-Application Meeting - Notes of the Meeting
Attachments: Pre-App Meeting Notes_Kudu PV_EGI_FINAL_MS_RA_DM_Signed.pdf
Categories: This message has been archived by Retain on July 13 2022 14:27

Dear Mahlatse

Thanks for the approval of the meeting notes for the Kudu PV and EGI project. Please see attached, for your records, the fully signed version. We also added a post-meeting note explaining that a PP Plan is not required.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida

From: Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, 16 May 2022 11:48
To: Rohaida Abed <RAbed@csir.co.za>; Thembisile Hlatshwayo <THLATSHWAYO@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Paul Lochner <PLochner@csir.co.za>; Du Toit Malherbe <du-toit.malherbe@abo-wind.com>; Petrus Scheepers <Petrus.Scheepers@abo-wind.com>; Rob Invernizzi <Rob.Invernizzi@abo-wind.com>
Subject: RE: 2022-04-0005 - Kudu PV and EGI Pre-Application Meeting - Notes of the Meeting

Dear Rohaida,

Attached please find the signed minutes for the aforementioned project.

From: Rohaida Abed <RAbed@csir.co.za>
Sent: Friday, 06 May 2022 17:39
To: Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Lerato Mokoena <LMOKOENA@dffe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>; Thembisile Hlatshwayo <THLATSHWAYO@dffe.gov.za>; Azrah Essop <AEssop@dffe.gov.za>; Constance Musemburi <CMusemburi@dffe.gov.za>; Jay-Jay Mpelane <JMPELANE@dffe.gov.za>; Juliet Mahlangu <JMMahlangu@dffe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Paul Lochner <PLochner@csir.co.za>; Du Toit Malherbe <du-toit.malherbe@abo-wind.com>; Petrus Scheepers <Petrus.Scheepers@abo-wind.com>; Rob Invernizzi <Rob.Invernizzi@abo-wind.com>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Wayne Hector <WHECTOR@dffe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: RE: 2022-04-0005 - Kudu PV and EGI Pre-Application Meeting - Notes of the Meeting

Dear All

Thank you for the discussions and your feedback at the pre-application meeting on 26 April 2022 for the Kudu PV and EGI project.

Please see attached the notes of the meeting for your review and approval.

APPENDICES

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

Please kindly let us know if you require any edits to the attached notes, and if not, please kindly sign and return the signed copy via email.

The copy of the presentation was emailed on 26 April 2022.

We will send the Public Participation Plan to Mahlatse in a separate email, and copy the rest of the DFFE officials, as discussed at the meeting.

We look forward to your feedback.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida

From: Rohaida Abed
Sent: Tuesday, 26 April 2022 10:01
To: Paul Lochner <PLochner@csir.co.za>; Du Toit Malherbe <du-toit.malherbe@abo-wind.com>; Petrus Scheepers <Petrus.Scheepers@abo-wind.com>; Rob Invernizzi <Rob.Invernizzi@abo-wind.com>; Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Lerato Mokoena <LMOKOENA@dffe.gov.za>; Wayne Hector <WHECTOR@dffe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>; Thembisile Hlatshwayo <THLATSHWAYO@dffe.gov.za>; Azrah Essop <AEssop@dffe.gov.za>; Constance Musemburi <CMusemburi@dffe.gov.za>; Jay-Jay Mpelane <JMPELANE@dffe.gov.za>; Julliet Mahlangu <JMMahlangu@dffe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: RE: 2022-04-0005 - Kudu PV and EGI Pre-Application Meeting

Dear All

Please see attached a copy of the presentation for the Kudu Solar and EGI pre-application meeting today at 13.00.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Rohaida Abed
Sent: Friday, 22 April 2022 13:22
To: Rohaida Abed; Paul Lochner; Du Toit Malherbe; Petrus Scheepers; Rob Invernizzi; Mahlatse Shubane; Olivia Letlalo; Lerato Mokoena; Wayne Hector; Nyiko Nkosi; Ephron Maradwa; Thembisile Hlatshwayo; Azrah Essop; Constance Musemburi; Jay-Jay Mpelane; Julliet Mahlangu; Makhosi Yeni; Zama Langa
Subject: 2022-04-0005 - Kudu PV and EGI Pre-Application Meeting
When: Tuesday, 26 April 2022 13:00-15:00 (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria.
Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Good day all

Thank you very much for your feedback on the pre-application meeting request form submitted on 5 April 2022. Please see attached the feedback on the request, as well as confirmation of the meeting date and time.

Thanks, Mahlatse, for your assistance in facilitating our request.

The meeting is requested to discuss Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) and Basic Assessment (BA) Processes for the Proposed Development of 15 Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facilities (i.e. Kudu Solar Facilities 1 - 15), and associated infrastructure, including various Electricity Grid Infrastructure (EGI) to connect the Solar PV Projects to the national grid. The Project Developer is ABO Wind renewable energies (PTY) Ltd.

Please kindly see the MS Teams link below.

APPENDICES

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

The meeting has been scheduled as follows:

- Date: Tuesday 26 April 2022
- Time: 13.00 – 15.00

We will send a copy of the presentation soon.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida

CSIR - Environmental Management Services
P.O. Box 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075
Tel: 031 242 2318
Cell: 072 204 6224
Email: RAbed@csir.co.za

Microsoft Teams meeting

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APPENDICES

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

APPENDIX F.5: DFFE APPROVAL OF THE PRE-APPLICATION MEETING NOTES

App. F.5/...

APPENDICES

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

Rohaida Abed

From: Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, 16 May 2022 11:48
To: Rohaida Abed; Thembisile Hlatshwayo
Cc: Paul Lochner; Du Toit Malherbe; Petrus Scheepers; Rob Invernizzi
Subject: RE: 2022-04-0005 - Kudu PV and EGI Pre-Application Meeting - Notes of the Meeting
Attachments: Pre-App Meeting Notes_Kudu PV_EGI_FINAL.pdf

Dear Rohaida,

Attached please find the signed minutes for the aforementioned project.

From: Rohaida Abed <RAbed@csir.co.za>
Sent: Friday, 06 May 2022 17:39
To: Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Lerato Mokoena <LMOKOENA@dffe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>; Thembisile Hlatshwayo <THLATSHWAYO@dffe.gov.za>; Azrah Essop <AEssop@dffe.gov.za>; Constance Musemburi <CMusemburi@dffe.gov.za>; Jay-Jay Mpelane <JMPELANE@dffe.gov.za>; Juliet Mahlangu <JMMahlangu@dffe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Paul Lochner <PLochner@csir.co.za>; Du Toit Malherbe <du-toit.malherbe@abo-wind.com>; Petrus Scheepers <Petrus.Scheepers@abo-wind.com>; Rob Invernizzi <Rob.Invernizzi@abo-wind.com>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Wayne Hector <WHECTOR@dffe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: RE: 2022-04-0005 - Kudu PV and EGI Pre-Application Meeting - Notes of the Meeting

Dear All

Thank you for the discussions and your feedback at the pre-application meeting on 26 April 2022 for the Kudu PV and EGI project.

Please see attached the notes of the meeting for your review and approval.

Please kindly let us know if you require any edits to the attached notes, and if not, please kindly sign and return the signed copy via email.

The copy of the presentation was emailed on 26 April 2022.

We will send the Public Participation Plan to Mahlatse in a separate email, and copy the rest of the DFFE officials, as discussed at the meeting.

We look forward to your feedback.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida

From: Rohaida Abed
Sent: Tuesday, 26 April 2022 10:01
To: Paul Lochner <PLochner@csir.co.za>; Du Toit Malherbe <du-toit.malherbe@abo-wind.com>; Petrus Scheepers <Petrus.Scheepers@abo-wind.com>; Rob Invernizzi <Rob.Invernizzi@abo-wind.com>; Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za>; Olivia Letlalo <OLetlalo@dffe.gov.za>; Lerato Mokoena <LMOKOENA@dffe.gov.za>; Wayne Hector <WHECTOR@dffe.gov.za>; Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>; Ephron Maradwa <EMaradwa@dffe.gov.za>; Thembisile Hlatshwayo <THLATSHWAYO@dffe.gov.za>; Azrah Essop <AEssop@dffe.gov.za>; Constance Musemburi <CMusemburi@dffe.gov.za>; Jay-Jay Mpelane

APPENDICES

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

<JMPELANE@dffe.gov.za>; Juliet Mahlangu <JMMahlangu@dffe.gov.za>; Makhosi Yeni <MYeni@dffe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>

Subject: RE: 2022-04-0005 - Kudu PV and EGI Pre-Application Meeting

Dear All

Please see attached a copy of the presentation for the Kudu Solar and EGI pre-application meeting today at 13.00.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Rohaida Abed

Sent: Friday, 22 April 2022 13:22

To: Rohaida Abed; Paul Lochner; Du Toit Malherbe; Petrus Scheepers; Rob Invernizzi; Mahlatse Shubane; Olivia Letlalo; Lerato Mokoena; Wayne Hector; Nyiko Nkosi; Ephron Maradwa; Thembisile Hlatshwayo; Azrah Essop; Constance Musemburi; Jay-Jay Mpelane; Juliet Mahlangu; Makhosi Yeni; Zama Langa

Subject: 2022-04-0005 - Kudu PV and EGI Pre-Application Meeting

When: Tuesday, 26 April 2022 13:00-15:00 (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria.

Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Good day all

Thank you very much for your feedback on the pre-application meeting request form submitted on 5 April 2022. Please see attached the feedback on the request, as well as confirmation of the meeting date and time.

Thanks, Mahlatse, for your assistance in facilitating our request.

The meeting is requested to discuss Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) and Basic Assessment (BA) Processes for the Proposed Development of 15 Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facilities (i.e. Kudu Solar Facilities 1 - 15), and associated infrastructure, including various Electricity Grid Infrastructure (EGI) to connect the Solar PV Projects to the national grid. The Project Developer is ABO Wind renewable energies (PTY) Ltd.

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The meeting has been scheduled as follows:

- Date: Tuesday 26 April 2022
- Time: 13.00 – 15.00

We will send a copy of the presentation soon.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida

CSIR - Environmental Management Services
P.O. Box 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075
Tel: 031 242 2318
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Microsoft Teams meeting

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APPENDICES

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

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APPENDICES

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

APPENDIX F.6: DFFE REFUSAL OF THE COMBINATION AND MULTIPLE EA REQUEST

App. F.6/...

APPENDICES

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province



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: 14/12/16/3/17/154

Enquiries: Ms Constance Musemburi

Telephone: (012) 399 9416 **E-mail:** Cmusemburi@dfpe.gov.za

Paul Lochner
CSIR Environmental Management Services
PO Box 320,
STELLENBOSCH,
7599

Tel: 021 888 2486
Email: PLochner@csir.co.za

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Lochner

REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO UNDERTAKE COMBINED APPLICATION IN TERMS OF REGULATION 11 (1) OF THE NEMA EIA REGULATIONS FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 14 SOLAR PV FACILITIES (I.E. KUDU SOLAR FACILITIES), ELECTRICITY GRID INFRASTRUCTURE AND VARIOUS ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR DE AAR, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.

Your correspondence dated and received by the Department on 26 May 2022 requesting permission to undertake a combined application process in terms of Regulation 11(1) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, for the aforementioned projects, refers.

The applicant applied for:

- Combining the applications for Environmental Authorisation (EA) and reporting for the proposed projects in terms of Regulation 11(4) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), and the issuing of multiple EA's in terms of Regulation 25 (1) and (2) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), as follows;
 - **PROJECTS 1 TO 14:** The proposed development of 14 Solar PV Facilities and associated infrastructure (i.e. Kudu Solar Facility 1 to Kudu Solar Facility 14). These projects require Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Processes.
 - **PROJECTS 15 TO 28:** The proposed development of Switching Stations and Collector Stations at each On-Site Substation Complex at each of the 14 x Kudu Solar Facilities, and up to 14 x 132kV Overhead Power Lines running from each Solar Facility to the proposed Collector Station(s) or up to the proposed Main Transmission Substation (MTS). All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors. These projects require Basic Assessment (BA) Processes.
 - **PROJECT 29:** The proposed development of an independent 400/132kV MTS, including associated infrastructure at the MTS such as 132kV busbar and feeder bay(s), and 500MVA 400/132kV transformer(s) with transformer bay(s). All activities are proposed within the Grid Corridors. This project requires a BA Process.
 - **PROJECT 30:** The proposed development of a 400kV Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILO) from the existing Hydra-Perseus 400kV

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DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

Chief Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

- The proposal entails 14 PV projects and 16 EGI projects and two options for the application and reporting structure were proposed, as detailed below:

Option 1 is the preferred option of combination, which would result in:

- Seven (7) combined applications for EA;
- Three (3) combined Scoping Reports for Projects 1 – 14;
- Three (3) combined EIA Reports for Projects 1 – 14; and
- Four (4) combined BA Reports for Projects 15 – 30.

Option 2 is the proposed alternative option of combination, which would result in:

- Nine (9) combined applications for EA;
- Four (4) combined Scoping Reports for Projects 1 – 14;
- Four (4) combined EIA Reports for Projects 1 – 14; and
- Five (5) combined BA Reports for Projects 15 – 30.

- The applicant /EAP provided motivation for the above-mentioned combination options and further requested that 30 EA's be issued for these projects.

Following a review of your request and supporting motivation in terms of Regulation 11(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, the Department herewith **refuses** permission for the submission of combined applications in respect of one or more proponents intending undertaking interrelated activities at the same or different locations within the area of jurisdiction of a competent authority:

The reasons for refusal are as follows:

- Based on the motivation provided in the letter dated 26 May 2022, the latest Bidding Window of the REIPPPP now stipulates that the maximum contracted capacity for Solar PV has been increased from 75 MW to 240 MW. The total combined generation capacity of the proposed applications is approximately 2140 MW. In light of this, the applicant is urged to further re-cluster the projects to achieve an individual capacity of 240 MW as this will significantly reduce the number of applications and eliminate the need to combine applications. Applicant may also consider constructing less number of lines considering that these will be for facilities in the same areas (for e.g. having one line connecting two facilities).
- Combining the PV projects in one report (as per Option 1 and Option 2 as detailed above) is too excessive and significantly onerous for the Department and increases the risk of causing confusion and administrative errors.
- Combining EGI projects, which are also located in the gazetted Central EGI corridor (i.e. GN 113 of February 2018), creates an added time pressure to the Department due to the reduced decision-making timeframe, especially since they are intended to be applied for and be issued at the same time.
- Issues may not be adequately addressed in a combined report, considering that there is no provision to request additional information and that all 30 EAs must be issued at the same time.
- The EAP motivated that upon submission of the final reports for decision-making, the EAP can arrange an online discussion with the case officers to highlight if and where the reports differ in relation to each project. The Department is of the opinion that this approach will not facilitate and expedite the decision making process but will rather cause delays in the decision making, as meetings will be added to the reviewing process and they are time consuming. In addition, this approach will be compromised and will result in potential appeals from Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) because of interference of EAPs during decision-making process.

DFFE REFERENCE: 14/12/16/3/17/154

REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO UNDERTAKE COMBINED APPLICATION IN TERMS OF REGULATION 11 (1) OF THE NEMA EIA REGULATIONS FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 14 SOLAR PV FACILITIES (I.E. KUDU SOLAR FACILITIES), ELECTRICITY GRID INFRASTRUCTURE AND VARIOUS ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR DE AAR, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.

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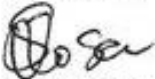
DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province

Chief Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

- Although the development proposals are the same in nature and extent, and the farms are adjacent to each other, the Department is of the opinion that site specific sensitivities and potential environmental impacts, must be dealt with separately in each report to avoid confusion to the I&APs and the decision makers. This will ensure that the potential environmental impacts of each activity, including its cumulative impacts, in relation to the specific location will still be assessed, considered and reported on separately.
- A single consolidated public participation process may still be undertaken for these applications, however, clear details of how the applications are being managed must be provided to the I&APs. The public participation report and the comments received must be specific and separated per application.
- Consolidated specialist assessment may be undertaken, however the specialist report must be separated for each applications, i.e 30 specialist reports must be produced for each application.

In light of the above, you are advised to lodge 30 separate applications i.e. one for each facility, each with its own application fee, which must comply with all the applicable regulations.

Yours faithfully



Mr Vusi Skosana

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

Date: 21 June 2022

CC	Du Toit Malherbe	Representative of Project Applicant (ABO Wind)	E-mail: Du-Toit.Malherbe@abo-wind.com
	Petrus Scheepers	Representative of Project Applicant (ABO Wind)	Email: Petrus.Scheepers@abo-wind.com
	Rohaida Abed	CSIR Environmental Management Services	Email: RAbed@csir.co.za

DFFE REFERENCE: 14/12/16/3/1/7/154

REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO UNDERTAKE COMBINED APPLICATION IN TERMS OF REGULATION 11 (1) OF THE NEMA EIA REGULATIONS FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 14 SOLAR PV FACILITIES (I.E. KUDU SOLAR FACILITIES), ELECTRICITY GRID INFRASTRUCTURE AND VARIOUS ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR DE AAR, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.

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DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the Proposed Development of a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facility (Kudu Solar Facility 3) and associated infrastructure, near De Aar, Northern Cape Province



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

Private Bag X447 PRETORIA 0001 Environment House - 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia- PRETORIA
Tel(+27 12) 399 9000

Enquiries: Devinagie Bendeman Telephone: 012 399 9337 E-mail: vbendeman@dffe.gov.za

Mr. Vusi Skosana
Director: National Infrastructure Projects

Dear Mr Skosana

APPOINTMENT AS ACTING CHIEF DIRECTOR: INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATIONS FOR THE PERIOD OF 20 TO 24 JUNE 2022

I hereby inform you that I have decided to appoint you as the Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorizations for the period of 20 June to 24 June 2022 whilst Ms Millicent Solomons is on annual leave.

All the correspondence and other documents that are usually signed by the Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorizations must be signed under Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorizations during the above-mentioned period.

Your appointment in the above acting position remains subject to the provisions of the Public Service Act, 1994 (Proclamation No. 103 of 1994), as amended, the Government Employees Pension Fund Act, 1996 (Proclamation No. 21 of 1996), the regulations promulgated under these Acts and relevant circulars.

In the execution of your duties and the exercising of the powers delegated to you, you will furthermore be subjected to the provisions of the Public Finance Management Act, compliance with the Promotion of Access to Information Act, Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, the Minimum Information Security Standard, Departmental Policies and other applicable legislations with the Republic of South Africa. You are therefore advised to make yourself familiar with the provisions of these legislations and policies and the amendments thereof. (Copies of Departmental policies can be obtained from the Human Resource Office).

Please accept my heartfelt gratitude for all your assistance on behalf of the department.

Yours sincerely

Ms Devinagie Bendeman
Deputy Director-General: RCSM (Regulatory Compliance and Sector Monitoring)
Date 17 June 2022

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I ACCEPT / DO NOT ACCEPT
appointment as Acting Chief
Director: Integrated Environmental
Authorizations

Signed:

Date: 20 June 2022