



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

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

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/681/1/AM1

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Mr Eugene Marais
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 45063
CLAREMONT
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Email Address: eugene.marais@mainstreamrp.com

PER EMAIL

Dear Mr Marais

AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 24 JUNE 2021 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE 100MW POORTJIES WIND ENERGY FACILITY ON PORTION 1 OF THE FARM POORTJIE 209 AND THE REMAINDER OF THE FARM POORTJIE 209 NEAR POFADDER WITHIN THE KHAI-MA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the above-mentioned application by this Department on 24 June 2021, your application for amendment of the EA received by the Department on 27 August 2021, the acknowledgement letter dated 10 September 2021, the draft amendment motivation report and the comments on the draft amendment motivation report dated 27 August 2021 and 22 September 2021 respectively, and the final motivation report received on 27 October 2021, refer.

Based on a review of the reason for requesting an amendment to the above EA, this Department, in terms of Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 as amended, has decided to amend the EA dated 24 June 2021, as follows:

Amendment 1: Amendment of the project description in the EA:

The listed activity description on page 04 of the EA is amended:

From:

GN R. 545 Activity 1:

"The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more."

The wind energy facility will consist of wind turbines for electricity generation of not more than 140MW. Power lines and substations are ancillary infrastructure for this energy generation process.

MS

To:

GN R. 545 Activity 1:

"The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more."

The wind energy facility will consist of wind turbines for electricity generation of not more than 100MW. Power lines and substations are ancillary infrastructure for this energy generation process.

The project description on page 05 of the EA is amended:

From:

"The infrastructure associated with this facility includes:

- *Up to 50 wind turbines;*
- *Foundations to support the turbine towers;*
- *Cabling between the project components, to be lain underground where practical;*
- *An on-site 132kV Independent Power Producer (IPP) substation (12.5ha) to facilitate the grid connection (Alternative 1 position);*
- *Internal access roads (~33km);*
- *Workshop area for maintenance and storage;*
- *Permanent wind monitoring masts; and*
- *Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with a footprint of up to ~ 2.8ha, within the authorised footprint of the on-site substation."*

To:

"The infrastructure associated with this facility includes:

- *Up to 24 wind turbines;*
- *Foundations to support the turbine towers;*
- *Cabling between the project components, to be lain underground where practical;*
- *An on-site 132kV Independent Power Producer (IPP) substation (12.5ha) to facilitate the grid connection (Alternative 1 position);*
- *Internal access roads (~33km);*
- *Workshop area for maintenance and storage;*
- *Permanent wind monitoring masts; and*
- *Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with a footprint of up to ~ 2.8ha, within the authorised footprint of the on-site substation."*

The technical details of the facility table on page 06 of the EA are amended:

From:

Component	Description/ Dimensions
<i>Location of the site</i>	<i>~ 22km south west of Pofadder</i>
<i>Extent of the proposed development footprint</i>	<i>~ 3197 Ha</i>
<i>SG Codes</i>	<i>C03600000000020900001 C03600000000020900000</i>
<i>Number of Turbines</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>Details of the turbine</i>	<i>Hub height 140m</i>

MJ

	Rotor diameter 140m
Access road and width	33km length and 8m width
Export capacity	100 MW

To:

Component	Description/ Dimensions
Location of the site	~ 22km south west of Pofadder
Extent of the proposed development footprint	~ 3197 Ha
SG Codes	C03600000000020900001 C03600000000020900000
Number of Turbines	Up to 24
Details of the turbine	Hub height: up to 200m Rotor diameter: up to 200m Blade tip height: up to 300m
Access road and width	33km length and 8m width
Export capacity	100 MW

Condition 1 on page 06 of the EA is amended:

From:

"The construction of the 100MW Poortjies Wind Energy Facility (with a maximum of 50 wind turbines) on Portion 1 of the Farm Poortje 209 and the Remainder of Farm Poortje 209 near Pofadder within the Khai-Ma Local Municipality in the Northern Cape Province; using preferred Substation Alternative 1 and preferred access route Alternative 2 is approved as per the above geographic coordinates."

To:

"The construction of the 100MW Poortjies Wind Energy Facility (with a maximum of up to 24 wind turbines) on Portion 1 of the Farm Poortje 209 and the Remainder of Farm Poortje 209 near Pofadder within the Khai-Ma Local Municipality in the Northern Cape Province; using preferred Substation Alternative 1 and preferred access route Alternative 2 is approved as per the above geographic coordinates."

Reason for amendment:

The proposed project is intended to be bid into future rounds of the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) Renewable Energy Independent Power Producers Procurement (REIPPP) Programme or similar programmes under the promulgated IRP 2010–2030. Following the issuing of the EA for the project there have been advancements to wind turbine technology with newer turbines becoming larger and more powerful. The turbines authorised in the EA are therefore not considered to be the most suitable in terms of production and economic considerations. Based on the technologies now available and the additional wind data collected onsite, it has been concluded by the applicant that improved turbines should be utilised for the facility to ensure optimisation of generation.

This proposed amendment letter must be read in conjunction with the EA dated 24 June 2021.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No. 3 of 2000), you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013) which stipulates that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuses or compromises your personal information in any way.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) days of the date of the decision, of the Department's decision as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribe the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 (twenty) days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@dffe.gov.za

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko Road
Arcadia
PRETORIA
0083 or

By post: Private Bag X447
PRETORIA
0001

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation, or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@dffe.gov.za.

Yours faithfully


Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: 08/02/2022

cc:	Obakeng J Isaacs	Khai-Ma Local Municipality	E-mail: mmsecretary@khaima.gov.za
	Jo-Anne Thomas	Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd	E-mail: joanne@savannahsa.com
	Mr Lerato Wa Modise	Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	E-mail: lwamodise@ncog.gov.za