



MEETING NOTES

JOB TITLE	Camden Renewable Energy Complex
PROJECT NUMBER	41103247
DATE	19 October 2021
TIME	10h00 – 11h20
VENUE	Online (MS Teams)
SUBJECT	Pre-Application Meeting with DFFE (Ref: 2021-10-0008)
CLIENT	ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd Camden I Solar RF (Pty) Ltd Camden I Wind RF (Pty) Ltd Camden II Wind RF (Pty) Ltd
PRESENT	Olivia Letlalo (DFFE) – OL Makhosi Yeni (DFFE) – MY Thando Booie (DFFE) – TB Mahlatse Shubane (DFFE) – MS Thembisile Hlatshwayo (DFFE) – TH Mmatlala Rabothata (DFFE) – MR Sean Maphosa (ENERTRAG) – SM Zwivhuya Mutele (ENERTRAG) – ZM Gideon Raath (ENERTRAG) – GR Ashlea Strong (WSP) – AS Babalwa Mqokeli (WSP) – BM
APOLOGIES	Portia Makitla (DFFE) Seoka Lekota (DFFE)
DISTRIBUTION	As above (Appendix A)

MATTERS ARISING

ACTION

1.0 INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – AS welcomed everyone to the conversation. This was followed by a round of introductions and an overview of the meeting agenda. – A presentation was made to all attendees to provide information on the projects. <p><i>*AS received consent from all parties present to record the meeting.</i></p> <p><i>** A copy of the PowerPoint presentation has been attached hereto for reference (Appendix B).</i></p>	
2.0 PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION	

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ACTION

2.1 **Project Background and Description**

- AS provided a brief overview of the proposed Projects (Camden Renewable Energy Complex):
 - identifying the four Special Project Vehicles (SPVs) as the Applicants (i.e., Camden I Wind RF (Pty) Ltd, Camden I Solar RF (Pty) Ltd, Camden II Wind RF (Pty) Ltd and ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd).
 - Outlining that the proposed Projects are being developed in the tandem with the DMRE Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPP)
- The Complex will be divided into seven standalone projects, namely:
 - Camden I Wind Energy Facility (up to 210MW).
 - Camden I Wind Energy Facility up to 400kV Grid Connection
 - Camden I Solar 100MW.
 - Camden I Solar up to up to 400kV Grid Connection.
 - Camden II Wind Energy Facility (up to 210MW).
 - Camden II Wind Energy Facility up to 132kV Grid Connection.
 - Camden Green Hydrogen and Ammonia Facility
- The location of the Project areas was identified as being in the Msukaligwa and Dr Pixley Ka Seme Local Municipalities, within the Gert Sibande District Municipality, in the Mpumalanga Province.
- The farm portions affected by the two WEFs and SEF, based on the initial layout, were outlined.
- The location of the Project areas was shown on the maps.
- Typical infrastructure associated with the Wind and Solar projects was outlined.
- Key considerations noted included:
 - the presence of critical biodiversity areas (CBAs), ecological support areas (ESAs), and National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus Areas (NPAES),
 - the project area falls within the Air Quality Highveld Priority Area, and
 - the project area does not fall within any Strategic Transmission Corridor (STC) or Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ).
- TB asked whether there is an approved/adopted Bioregional Plan for Mpumalanga Province, regarding the CBAs and ESAs
 - AS stated, that at this stage that the most recent SANBI BGIS database is being used and have not looked at the Mpumalanga Bioregional Plan as yet
 - GR added that the Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan was the basis for the CBA/ESA classifications, and enquired on whether the question relates to the Sector Plan being gazetted
 - TB added that there are implications for the Listed Activities contained in Listing Notice 3 when a Bioregional Plan has been adopted.
 - AS confirmed that preliminary Listed Activities from Listing Notice 3 have been identified as a result of the considered Biodiversity Sector Plan on BGIS. Additionally, the Biodiversity Specialists will also consider the most recent Biodiversity Sector Plans

- DFFE will provide comments on the already submitted PP Plan, and WSP to update and submit final PP Plan for approval

2.2 **Permitting Processes**

- AS ran through the provisional Environmental Authorisation Processes that will be undertaken:
 - Five Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Processes:
 - Camden I Wind Energy Facility (up to 210MW).
 - Camden I Wind Energy Facility up to 400kV Grid Connection
 - Camden I Solar 100MW,
 - Camden I Solar up to up to 400kV Grid Connection (**To be confirmed)
 - Camden II Wind Energy Facility (up to 210MW)
 - Basic Assessment Process:
 - Camden II Wind Energy Facility up to 132kV Grid Connection
 - Water Use Licence / Water Use Authorisation Process will be undertaken in parallel as needed

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- AS ran through the applicable Listed Activities of the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended) that have been identified to date, noting that Listing Notice 1, Listing Notice 2 and Listing Notice 3 are triggered as applicable for each of the projects.
- AS highlighted that additional Listing Notice 3 Activities may be identified as the BA Scoping Processes progress and will be added to the Application.
 - TB added that Listed Activities section needs to also include detail on how each sub-activity of the Listed Activity is triggered (that is, why each identified Activity is applicable).
 - GR enquired whether omitting the sub-activity or stating the incorrect sub-activity would result in the entire activity not being authorised.
 - TB highlighted that it is important to include all the applicable aspects of the Listed Activity (including sub-Activity) in the Application. Also add information and detail on how/why it is applicable for each aspect of the Activity.
 - MS reiterated that the EAP needs to highlight how each Listed Activity is triggered and that the onus is on the EAP to ensure that all relevant Listed Activities have been identified and are included in the Application form.
 - OL added that all the applicable components of the projects that are relevant to the Listed Activity must be identified/detailed/described. (E.g., if the Activity lists transmission and distribution infrastructure then account for all related infrastructure such as substation – and not only state powerlines)
 - OL also added that the relevant Activity relating to BESS must be included if applicable. Should it not form a triggered Activity then clarity and motivation of same must be included.
 - AS confirmed that the motivation will be included in the relevant Application form.
 - GR enquired on the specific Listed Activity for BESS.
 - OL responded that it is Activity of 14 of Listing Notice 1, however only if assembled on site. Should it be pre-assembled then it won't be applicable.
 - GR confirmed that a pre-assembled structure is currently proposed, however should this change then the relevant Activity will be included.
 - OL stated that the preferred technology for the BESS must be included in the Application, and the assessment and mitigation measure for the preferred and alternative technologies must be clearly indicated and detailed in the report.
 - GR stated that the preferred technology has not been confirmed at this stage and asked whether it would be essential at application stage or can it be included at Reporting phase.
 - OL stated that it is important that all technologies, including the preferred technology, are assessed during the EIA process (i.e., impacts associated with each technology are assessed and the mitigation measures are included). All alternatives must be assessed so that in the event an amendment is required with regards to the technology, the applicant can prove that it was assessed during the initial process.

2.3 **Specialist Assessments**

- AS ran through the identified sensitivities as per the DFFE Online Screening Tool report, and specialist assessments noted therein.
- AS identified the specialist assessments that are to be undertaken as part of the BA and EIA processes, as well as the studies that are not being undertaken as part of the assessments and supporting reasons for their exclusion.
- AS added that the Specialist studies will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant Protocols.
AS highlighted the relevant Commenting Authorities for the studies that will not be undertaken (such as Defence, Civil and RFI) will be consulted for comment as part of PPP.

2.4 **Competent Authority**

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- AS indicated that DFFE had been identified as the Competent Authority (CA) and requested DFFE confirmation.
- Clarity was obtained that the provincial department (MDARDLEA) was identified as CA for the ammonia plant.
- TB asked whether the projects would form part of the DMRE IRP bidding process?
 - GR stated that the projects are considered for inclusion in bidding process, with also an option for Private Off take if there is a demand.
- TB confirmed that DFFE is the CA if projects are undertaken as part of the IRP process
- AS stated, that due to the projects being large scale electricity generation projects, DFFE is considered the CA.
- OL requested clarity on whether the intention is to combine the process considering the number of projects
 - AS confirmed that each project will be a separate Application

2.5 **Public Participation Process**

- AS provided an overview of the proposed public participation process in accordance with the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended).
- AS noted, that a draft Public Participation (PP) Plan was submitted to DFFE together with the Pre-Application meeting request.
- AS asked whether DFFE would like anything specific to be added to PP Process.
 - MS stated that DFFE will review the PPP Plan submitted and provide a written response as part of the approval process of the PP Plan.
 - OL added that DFFE will provide comments on the already submitted PP Plan for WSP to update as submit final PP Plan for approval.

2.6 **Timeframes**

- AS noted, that the projects will follow the standard Authority timeframes due to the fact that the projects are not within the REDZs:
 - Basic Assessment – 107 days
 - S&EIA – 107 days
- OL asked whether the intention is to submit the Application first and then the report and cautioned on submitting the Applications and the Draft Reports later, as a measure to avoid the applications lapsing.
- OL highlighted that a SIP confirmation letter should be obtained from Eskom and submitted with the Applications. In the event that the projects are confirmed as SIPs, a 57-days authority decision-making timeframe will apply.
- OL provide the relevant contact details: *SIP Coordinator details: rowan.beukes@eskom.co.za*
- GR enquired on the timeframe for the submission of the SIP Confirmation letter.
 - OL suggested that it is submitted at Application phase to be considered as SIP projects well in time.

3.0 **QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

AS opened the floor for any comments or questions. The following items were raised and discussed.

3.1 **Specific Clarification**

- GR requested confirmation on whether it would be acceptable for the Specialists to compile combined reports for the respective clusters (i.e., Camden 1 Report to report on WEF+ Ammonia + Grid) or would the DFFE require separate reports for each project.
 - MY stated that if the Specialist studies have considered the Protocols in their Specialist Assessments and the studies are undertaken in accordance with the protocols then combined reports will not be an issue.
 - MS added that if the one report speaks to all the projects then a combine report is suitable.
 - MS added that the combined report for each study must ensure that it concludes on each specific component of the project (in detail) and stipulate the Specialists' opinion on whether each project component can be authorised/proceed. The

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- recommendations must be specific and not follow a blanket approach for the projects.
- GR enquired on the number of Case officers that will be handling the projects, considering that these are multiple projects.
 - MY stated that the DFFE will handle the allocation of the projects accordingly. There would be an indication in the submitted Application that references this Pre-Application meeting, and the applications can therefore be distributed to any of the three Case Officers that are in attendance at this Meeting. The DFFE will decide if there is a need to utilise more than one case officer.
 - AS noted, that the Applications would be submitted via the DFFE online submission platform and distributed to the Case Officer(s) as required.
 - MR asked that given that ATNS are now the official party responsible for obstacle assessments and effectively subcontract CAA, would a comment from ATNS be sufficient as part of the EIA process, for the purpose of fulfilling the protocol's requirement of obtaining comment from CAA
 - TB stated that the protocols must be followed, and comments must be obtained from CAA as required.
 - OL added that if ATNS subcontracted CAA, then the subcontract agreement letter and comments from ATNS can be considered sufficient and submitted together for consideration.
 - *Post Meeting Note: Confirmation was obtained from the CAA, via email on 25 October 2021, noting that in terms of Obstacle Notice 1/2021 – Appointment of New Windfarm Obstacle Application Service Provider, as of the 1st of May 2021 Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS) has been appointed as the new Obstacle application Service Provider for Windfarms and later Solar Plants. Their responsibility pertains to the assessments, maintenance, and all other related matters in respect to Windfarms and in due time Power Plant assessments.*

3.2 **Site Sensitivities**

- MR requested clarity on characteristics that make the site/project area fall under a CBA, as well as aspects of the site that have resulted in its high sensitivity determination as per the Screening Tool.
 - The screening Report mentions that there are CBAs as outlined by the Biodiversity Sector Plan, and the aspects characterising the site as a CBA will also be detailed in the Biodiversity Specialist study.
- MR also enquired on what the site sensitivity rating would be after the implementation of mitigation measures.
 - AS stated, that detailed information on the sensitivity of the project site post mitigation will be provided in the Biodiversity Specialist Report.
- MR also advised that the reports must detail the type of CB that it is, whether it is CBA1 or CBA 2, and that the Processes and Reporting also take into consideration the Provincial Conservation Sector Plans
 - AS confirmed that Provincial Conservation Plans will be considered in the Processes, including the Biodiversity studies.

3.3 **Confirmation of Online Submission**

- AS noted, that the BA and S&EIA Applications would be submitted via the DFFE online submission platform.
- MR provided contact details for the submission electronic reports to the Biodiversity Directorate. Furthermore, MR noted that reports can also be sent via we transfer (*Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@environment.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota*).

3.4 **General Comments**

- TB emphasised the requirement to submit the Generic EMPs for the substation and powerlines as part of the Grid Connections EMPs.
- OL added that the amended version of the PP Plan must be submitted to MS, MY, TB, TH and OL.

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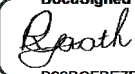
ACTION

4.0 WAY FORWARD	
<p>— WSP to formalise meeting minutes and submit via email to DFFE for approval.</p> <p>No further points were raised for discussion.</p> <p>The meeting was closed at 11:20</p>	<p>— WSP to formalise meeting minutes and distribute for approval</p>

APPROVED



Digitally signed by Strong, Ashlea
(ZAAS02685)
DN: cn=Strong, Ashlea
(ZAAS02685), ou=Active,
email=Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com
Date: 2021.11.17 18:23:14 +02'00'

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WSP

Enertrag

Name: __ Ashlea Strong _____

Name: __ Gideon Raath _____

Date: __ 17 November 2021 _____

Date: __ 17 November 2021 _____



DFFE

Name: __ Olivia Letlalo _____

Date: __ 18 November 2021 _____

NEXT MEETING

No additional meetings have been scheduled.

MEETING NOTES

APPENDIX A: MEETING ATTENDANCE

Meeting Summary						
Total Number of Participants	12					
Meeting Title	2021-10-0008 - Enertrag - Camden I & II EA Processes					
Meeting Start Time	10/19/2021, 9:54:13 AM					
Meeting End Time	10/19/2021, 11:38:16 AM					
Meeting Id	e4611673-0957-4892-b05c-f228c3f865b6					
Full Name	Join Time	Leave Time	Duration	Email	Role	Participant ID (UPN)
Strong, Ashlea	10/19/2021, 9:54:13 AM	10/19/2021, 11:31:00 AM	1h 36m	Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com	Organizer	Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com
Mahlatse Shubane	10/19/2021, 9:54:21 AM	10/19/2021, 10:38:25 AM	44m 3s	mshubane@environment.gov.za	Presenter	mshubane@environment.gov.za
Thando Booii	10/19/2021, 9:54:22 AM	10/19/2021, 11:21:01 AM	1h 26m	tbooii@environment.gov.za	Presenter	tbooii@environment.gov.za
Thembisile Hlatshwayo	10/19/2021, 9:56:51 AM	10/19/2021, 11:20:53 AM	1h 24m	thlatshwayo@environment.gov.za	Presenter	thlatshwayo@environment.gov.za
Olivia Letlalo	10/19/2021, 9:57:27 AM	10/19/2021, 11:20:59 AM	1h 23m	oletlalo@environment.gov.za	Presenter	oletlalo@environment.gov.za
MMatlala Rabothata	10/19/2021, 9:57:37 AM	10/19/2021, 11:20:56 AM	1h 23m	mrabothata@environment.gov.za	Presenter	mrabothata@environment.gov.za
Mqokeli, Babalwa	10/19/2021, 9:58:50 AM	10/19/2021, 11:38:16 AM	1h 39m	Babalwa.Mqokeli@wsp.com	Presenter	Babalwa.Mqokeli@wsp.com
Makhosi Yeni	10/19/2021, 10:00:08 AM	10/19/2021, 10:21:49 AM	21m 41s	myeni@environment.gov.za	Presenter	myeni@environment.gov.za
Makhosi Yeni	10/19/2021, 10:23:26 AM	10/19/2021, 11:21:09 AM	57m 43s	myeni@environment.gov.za	Presenter	myeni@environment.gov.za
Zwivhuya Mutele	10/19/2021, 10:00:46 AM	10/19/2021, 11:20:55 AM	1h 20m	Zwivhuya.Mutele@enertrag.co.za	Presenter	Zwivhuya.Mutele@enertrag.co.za
Sean Maphosa	10/19/2021, 10:01:00 AM	10/19/2021, 11:20:57 AM	1h 19m	Sean.Maphosa@enertrag.co.za	Presenter	Sean.Maphosa@enertrag.co.za
Gideon Raath	10/19/2021, 10:01:14 AM	10/19/2021, 11:20:55 AM	1h 19m	Gideon.Raath@enertrag.co.za	Presenter	Gideon.Raath@enertrag.co.za
Mahlatse Shubane	10/19/2021, 10:38:16 AM	10/19/2021, 10:43:40 AM	5m 23s		Presenter	

MEETING NOTES

APPENDIX B: PRESENTATION



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AND BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESSES FOR THE CAMDEN RENEWABLE ENERGY COMPLEX

DFFE REF NUMBER: TO BE CONFIRMED ONCE RESPECTIVE APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on the commencement and continuation of the public consultation as part of an EIA process. Considering these limitations, the following consultation process has been designed and will be implemented, on approval by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), to cater for the facilitation of the public participation process (PPP). The PPP includes Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), the competent authority, directly impacted landowners/occupiers, adjacent landowners/occupiers, relevant Organs of State departments, Municipalities, ward councillors and other key stakeholders and all other parties that may have interest on this project.

The Public Participation Plan (PPP) is submitted as per the requirements of the General Provisions of Annexure 2 of the Regulations issued in terms of Section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No.57 of 2002). Which was published on 05 June 2020 in Government Notice No R560 of Government Gazette No 43412.

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

- Environmental Impact Assessment for the Camden I Wind Energy Facility (up to 210MW)
- Environmental Impact Assessment for the Camden I Wind Energy Facility up to 400kV Grid Connection, including up to 400kV Collector Substation and Camden Power Station up to 400kV Grid connection.
- Environmental Impact Assessment for the Camden I Solar Energy Facility (up to 100MW)
- Environmental Impact Assessment for the Camden I Solar Energy Facility up to 400kV Grid Connection
- Environmental Impact Assessment for the Camden II Wind Energy Facility (up to 210MW)
- Basic Assessment for the Camden II Wind Energy Facility up to 132kV Grid Connection

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

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

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

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



Table 1: Proposed Public Participation Plan

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

PROPOSED PLAN/ACTIVITIES

<p>39 (1) If the proponent is not the owner or person in control of the land on which the activity is to be undertaken, the proponent must, before applying for an environmental authorisation in respect of such activity, obtain the written consent of the landowner or person in control of the land to undertake such activity on that land.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Landowner consent letters will be obtained for each of the farms portions where the proposed activities will be undertaken. Consent letters will be included in the Application forms for Environmental Authorisation.
<p>39 (2) Subregulation (1) does not apply in respect of—</p> <p>(a) linear activities;</p> <p>(b) activities constituting, or activities directly related to prospecting or exploration of a mineral and petroleum resource or extraction and primary processing of a mineral or petroleum resource; and</p> <p>(c) strategic integrated projects as contemplated in the Infrastructure Development Act, 2014.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Landowner Consent Letters are not required for linear activities. — Notification letters of the Environmental Assessment Processes undertaken for the linear projects will be distributed via email and/or hand delivery (as required) to the directly impacted landowners or occupiers of the land.
<p>40 (1) The public participation process to which the—</p> <p>(a) basic assessment report and EMPr, and where applicable the closure plan, submitted in terms of regulation 19; and</p> <p>(b) scoping report submitted in terms of regulation 21 and the environmental impact assessment report and EMPr submitted in terms of regulation 23;</p> <p>was subjected to must give all potential or registered interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, a period of at least 30 days to submit comments on each of the basic assessment report, EMPr, scoping report and environmental impact assessment report, and where applicable the closure plan, as well as the report contemplated in regulation 32, if such reports or plans are submitted at different times.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Notification of the availability of the Scoping and Environmental Impact (S&EIA) and Basic Assessment (BA) Reports as relevant for the relevant Camden Renewable Energy Complex projects, as well as the period for review will be sent to all identified and registered stakeholders via email and sms. — The Draft Reports will be made available to all stakeholders for a 30-day comment period as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — From WSP on request and electronic copies can be shared via secure links that will be emailed. — On the WSP website <u>as well as on a data free website¹ for download.</u> — Hard copies of the Reports will be placed at the relevant public places such as libraries, community halls, ward councillor offices etc. — CDs and/or Hard Copies submitted to the relevant Organs of State. — Submitted to the DFFE via the DFFE online portal. <p><i><u>Note: Should the COVID-19 level be level 3 or higher at time of disclosure, WSP will confirm with the local libraries, as to whether they are open and able to accept documents for public review. In the event that public places are not available due to COVID restrictions WSP will provide the Local Ward Councillors with copies of the reports to ensure that I&APs without access to the internet are provided access to the required documentation. Furthermore, the data free website will be available to all I&APs.</u></i></p>
<p>40 (2) The public participation process contemplated in this regulation must provide</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Provision has been made to ensure all project information will be made available to all I&APs, and that they are afforded the opportunity to participate in the projects, as well

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



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

PROPOSED PLAN/ACTIVITIES

<p>access to all information that reasonably has or may have the potential to influence any decision with regard to an application unless access to that information is protected by law and must include consultation with—</p> <p>(a) the competent authority.</p> <p>(b) every State department that administers a law relating to a matter affecting the environment relevant to an application for an environmental authorisation.</p> <p>(c) all organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the activity to which the application relates; and</p> <p>(d) all potential, or, where relevant, registered interested and affected parties.</p>	<p>as submit comments and raise any concerns and/or issues with regards to the proposed projects. This will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Identification of stakeholders with a potential interest in the project will be at the outset of the project. — All stakeholders identified will be registered on the project stakeholder database, and the database will be maintained throughout the S&EIA and BA processes. — The stakeholder database will include all relevant authorities (government departments and relevant district and local municipalities), ward councillors, relevant conservation bodies and non-governmental organisations (NGO's), as well as neighbouring landowners and the surrounding community. — General communication (written notification) with identified stakeholders (public and other government departments/authorities) on the proposed projects. — Distribution of the Background Information Document (BID), inclusive of a Registration and Comments Form, to allow stakeholders to register and ensure all comments and queries regarding the projects are captured for inclusion in the relevant Stakeholder Engagement Reports. — Consultation of relevant communities via the Ward Councillor and/or community representative, in a manner determined and/or required during stakeholder engagement.
<p>40 (3) Potential or registered interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in subregulation (1) prior to submission of an application but must be provided with an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the competent authority.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Reports will be made available to all potential or registered I&APS following the submission of the applications to the DFFE, that is during the legislated relevant report review periods. — Reports will be available on request, on the WSP website, and in hard copy at appropriate public places in the study area such as public libraries and municipal officers. — All I&APs will be provided an opportunity to comment on the reports and submit comments directly to the EAP. <u>Comments can be submitted in the following ways:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — <u>Comments Forms via comment form booklets at public places or via fax or email</u> — <u>Written comments via email or fax</u> — <u>Telephonically for capturing by the EAP; and</u> — <u>Via Whatsapp or SMS (including the use of “please call me”).</u>
<p>41(2) The person conducting a PPP must give notice to all potential I&APs by-</p> <p>(a) fixing a notice board at a place conspicuous to and accessible by the public at the boundary, on the fence or along the corridor of—</p> <p>(i) the site where the activity to which the application or proposed application relates is or is to be undertaken; and</p> <p>(ii) any alternative site;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Placement of site notices (in English, Afrikaans and IsiZulu) at appropriate locations on site (at the wind and solar facilities and at various points along the OHPL routes) and in the surrounding area. — This will include the boundary/access road to the sites, as well as additional public places within the greater Ermelo area, such as grocery stores, municipality, and/or local public libraries.
<p>(b) giving written notice, in any of the manners provided for in section 47D of the Act, to—</p> <p>(i) the occupiers of the site and, if the proponent or applicant is not the owner or person in control of the site on which the activity is to be undertaken, the owner or person in control of the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — A written notification (in English, Afrikaans, and Isizulu) will be sent to owners and occupiers on or adjacent to the proposed project sites, municipality ward councillors, local and district municipality, and relevant state departments. — General communication (written notification) with stakeholders (public and government departments/authorities) throughout the respective environmental impact assessment (EIA) and basic assessment (BA) processes. — Stakeholders will be added to the database on request as the project progresses.



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

PROPOSED PLAN/ACTIVITIES

<p>(ii) owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;</p> <p>(iii) the municipal councillor of the ward in which the site and alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area;</p> <p>(iv) the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area;</p> <p>(v) any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity; and</p> <p>(vi) any other party as required by the competent authority;</p>	
<p>(c) placing an advertisement in—</p> <p>(i) one local newspaper; or</p> <p>(ii) any official Gazette that is published specifically for the purpose of providing public notice of applications or other submissions made in terms of these Regulations;</p>	<p>An advert will be published in relevant local newspapers (in English, Afrikaans and IsiZulu), formally announcing the commencement of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) applications, requesting stakeholders to register their interest in the project, and informing them of the release of the Draft Scoping, EIA and BA Reports for public review and comment.</p>
<p>(d) placing an advertisement in at least one provincial newspaper or national newspaper, if the activity has or may have an impact that extends beyond the boundaries of the metropolitan or district municipality in which it is or will be undertaken</p>	<p>It has been established that advertising in provincial and national newspapers is not required as the impact of the activities do not extend beyond the boundaries of the district municipality or province in which the Project will be undertaken.</p>
<p>(e) using reasonable alternative methods, as agreed to by the competent authority, in those instances where a person is desirous of but unable to participate in the process due to—</p> <p>(i) illiteracy;</p> <p>(ii) disability; or</p> <p>(iii) any other disadvantage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — A consolidated I&AP database will be compiled for the project. Any existing I&AP databases for other projects in the area known to the applicant will be utilised as a basis for the database. These I&APs will be contacted to request formal consent to be included in the projects’ database, in line with the POPI Act. As part of the verification process, existing I&APs will be contacted telephonically and asked to confirm their preferred method of communication. — The relevant ward councillors will be contacted to ensure that community-based organisations are aware of the Project and can assist in distributing and communicating relevant Project information to community members. — <u>Virtual focus group meetings will be held in each phase of the project.</u> — <u>In the event that face-to-face meetings are requested, these will be arranged on a case by case basis, taking into account the relevant COVID restrictions at the time of the request.</u> — <u>I&APs will be able to contact the EAP via email, fax, telephone, whatsapp or SMS (Including the use of “please call me”).</u>
<p>41 (3) A notice, notice board or advertisement referred to in subregulation (2) must—</p> <p>(a) give details of the application or proposed application which is subjected to public participation; and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — An advert will be published in relevant local newspapers (in English, Afrikaans and IsiZulu), formally announcing the commencement of the Environmental Authorisation (EA) applications, requesting stakeholders to register their interest in the project, and informing them of the release of the Draft Scoping, EIA and BA Reports for public review and comment.



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<p>(b) state—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) whether basic assessment or S&EIR procedures are being applied to the application; (ii) the nature and location of the activity to which the application relates; (iii) where further information on the application or proposed application can be obtained; and <p>(iv) the manner in which and the person to whom representations in respect of the application or proposed application may be made.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Site notices (in English, Afrikaans and IsiZulu) will be placed at appropriate locations on site) and in the surrounding area. The size and content of the site notices will be in line with Regulation 41 (3) and 41(4) as contained herein.
<p>41 (4) A notice board referred to in subregulation (2) must—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) be of a size of at least 60cm by 42cm; and (b) display the required information in lettering and in a format as may be determined by the competent authority. 	
<p>41 (5) Where public participation is conducted in terms of this regulation for an application or proposed application, subregulation (2)(a), (b), (c) and (d) need not be complied with again during the additional public participation process contemplated in regulations 19(1)(b) or 23(1)(b) or the public participation process contemplated in regulation 21(2)(d), on condition that—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) such process has been preceded by a public participation process which included compliance with subregulation (2)(a), (b), (c) and (d); and (b) written notice is given to registered interested and affected parties regarding where the— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) revised basic assessment report or, EMPr or closure plan, as contemplated in regulation 19(1)(b); (ii) revised environmental impact assessment report or EMPr as 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — If the revised reports are required to undergo additional review, the requirements of Regulation 41(5) will be followed.



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<p>contemplated in regulation 23(1)(b); or</p> <p>(iii) environmental impact assessment report and EMPr as contemplated in regulation 21(2)(d);</p> <p>may be obtained, the manner in which and the person to whom representations on these reports or plans may be made and the date on which such representations are due.</p>	
<p>41 (6) When complying with this regulation, the person conducting the public participation process must ensure that—</p> <p>(a) information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application or proposed application is made available to potential interested and affected parties; and</p> <p>(b) participation by potential or registered interested and affected parties is facilitated in such a manner that all potential or registered interested and affected parties are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the application or proposed application.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Provision has been made to ensure all project information will be made available to all I&APs, and that they are afforded the opportunity to participate in the projects, as well as submit comments and raise any concerns and/or issues with regards to the proposed projects. — A Notification Letter and BID will be compiled to provide preliminary information regarding the project and its location, as well as to invite comments from I&APs during the 30-day public review period of the Draft Reports. — <u>All registered I&APs will be included in any communication regarding the application processes for the projects throughout the respective S&EIA and BA processes.</u>
<p>41 (7) Where an environmental authorisation is required in terms of these Regulations and an authorisation, permit or licence is required in terms of a specific environmental management Act, the public participation process contemplated in this Chapter may be combined with any public participation processes prescribed in terms of a specific environmental management Act, on condition that all relevant authorities agree to such combination of processes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Applications for the proposed projects will also be made under the National Water Act (NWA), through a Water Use Licence Application (WULA) or General Authorisation (GA) processes as applicable for the purposes of Water Use Authorisation under the National Water Act. A Public Participation Process (PPP) in terms of the EIA Regulations (contained herein) and the NWA will be undertaken.
<p>(42) A proponent or applicant must ensure the opening and maintenance of a register of interested and affected parties and submit such a register to the competent authority, which register must contain the names, contact details and addresses of—</p> <p>(a) all persons who, as a consequence of the public participation process conducted in respect of that application, have submitted written comments or attended meetings with the proponent, applicant or EAP;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Stakeholders with a potential interest in the Project will be identified at the outset of the Project and will include all relevant authorities (government departments and the local and district municipalities), relevant conservation bodies and non-governmental organisations (NGO's), as well as landowners, neighbouring landowners and the surrounding community. — <u>This stakeholder database will be updated on an ongoing basis as new stakeholders request to be registered.</u> — All stakeholders identified will be registered on the project stakeholder database, and the database will be maintained throughout the EIA and BA processes. — The EAP will continue to ensure that individuals/organisations from referrals and networking are notified of the proposed project.



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<p>(b) all persons who have requested the proponent or applicant, in writing, for their names to be placed on the register; and</p> <p>(c) all organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the activity to which the application relates.</p>	
<p>(43) (1) A registered interested and affected party is entitled to comment, in writing, on all reports or plans submitted to such party during the public participation process contemplated in these Regulations and to bring to the attention of the proponent or applicant any issues which that party believes may be of significance to the consideration of the application, provided that the interested and affected party discloses any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which that party may have in the approval or refusal of the application.</p> <p>(2) In order to give effect to section 240 of the Act, any State department that administers a law relating to a matter affecting the environment must be requested, subject to regulation 7(2), to comment within 30 days.</p>	<p>All Draft Reports will be made available to all stakeholders for a 30-day comment period. Strict adherence to all COVID-19 protocols and regulations as well as best practice measures will be ensured throughout PPP. As a result, the Draft Reports will be made available to stakeholders as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — From WSP on request and electronic copies can be shared via secure links that will be emailed. — On the WSP website <u>and on a data free website</u> for download. — Hard copies of the Reports will be placed at the relevant public places such as libraries, community halls, ward councillor offices — CDs and/or Hard Copies submitted to the relevant Organs of State. — Submitted to the DFFE via the DFFE online portal. <p>Comment forms (<u>in a bound booklet</u>) will be placed with the Draft Reports at the abovementioned public places. <u>These booklets will be collected at the end of the public review period as required. In addition, the contact details of EAP will be provided should the I&AP wish to contact the EAP directly.</u></p> <p><i>Note: Should the COVID-19 level be level 3 or higher at time of disclosure, WSP will confirm with the local libraries as to whether they are open and able to accept documents for public review. <u>In the event that public places are not available due to COVID restrictions WSP will provide the Local Ward Councillors with copies of the reports to ensure that I&APs without access to the internet are provided access to the required documentation. Furthermore, the data free website will be available to all I&APs.</u></i></p> <p>A Comment and Response Report (CRR) will be generated for inclusion in Final Reports for consideration by the competent authority.</p>
<p>44(1) The applicant must ensure that the comments of interested and affected parties are recorded in reports and plans and that such written comments, including responses to such comments and records of meetings, are attached to the reports and plans that are submitted to the competent authority in terms of these Regulations.</p> <p>(2) Where a person desires but is unable to access written comments as contemplated in subregulation (1) due to—</p> <p>(a) a lack of skills to read or write;</p> <p>(b) disability; or</p>	<p>All I&APs will be able to submit comments directly to the EAP <u>in the following ways:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — <u>Comments Forms via comment form booklets at public places or via fax or email</u> — <u>Written comments via email or fax</u> — <u>Telephonically for capturing by the EAP; and</u> — <u>Via Whatsapp or SMS.</u> <p>Comments received telephonically will be transcribed and captured as formal comments in the Comments and Responses Report.</p> <p>I&APs that do not have access to internet or emails will also be able to submit via the consultation process that includes engaging with the Ward Councillor and/or Community Representative.</p>



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<p>(c) any other disadvantage; reasonable alternative methods of recording comments must be provided for.</p>	
<p>Regulation 44 (2) The applicant must, in writing, within 14 days of the date of the decision on the application ensure that—</p> <p>(a) all registered interested and affected parties are provided with access to the decision and the reasons for such decision; and</p> <p>(b) the attention of all registered interested and affected parties is drawn to the fact that an appeal may be lodged against the decision in terms of the National Appeal Regulations, if such appeal is available in the circumstances of the decision.</p>	<p>Written notification of the decision on the EAs will be sent to all registered I&APs, as well as communicated via Ward Councillors to I&APs that do not have access to internet and emails. Registered I&APs will be informed of the appeal procedure as well as advised that copies of the EA decisions can be provided on request.</p>

Table 2: Meetings

PROJECT MEETINGS

<p>Pre-Application Meeting</p>	<p>A pre-application consultation with DFFE was held on 19 October 2021 to discuss the proposed projects, proposed approach, and confirm the processes.</p>
<p>Public and/or Focus Group Meetings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <u>Virtual focus group meetings will be held in each phase of the project.</u> – <u>In the event that face-to-face meetings are requested, these will be arranged on a case by case basis, taking into account the relevant COVID restrictions at the time of the request.</u>

Mqokeli, Babalwa

From: Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 18 November 2021 08:43
To: Strong, Ashlea
Cc: Olivia Letlalo; Thando Booii; Makhosi Yeni; Thembisile Hlatshwayo; Gideon Raath; Zwivhuya Mutele; Sean Maphosa; Mqokeli, Babalwa
Subject: Approval of PP plan 2021-10-0008
Attachments: 41103247_20211117_Enertrag_Camden_Public Participation Plan_Final DFFE Submission.pdf

Importance: High

Dear Ashlea,

The revised Public Participation (PP) Plan received by this Department on 18 November 2021, refers.

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

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

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

It is noted that a written notification will be sent out in IsiZulu, Afrikaans and English as well as advert will be published in IsiZulu, Afrikaans and English. Kindly ensure that if there are any other languages apart from IsiZulu, Afrikaans and English (for instance, Sotho and Tsonga), these languages must also be catered for when notifying the Interested and affected parties of the proposed project as well as newspaper adverts.

Best regards,

MAHLATSE SHUBANE

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Integrated Environmental Authorisations

 D (Nature Conservation)  Tech (Nature Conservation)  Sc (Environmental Management)
 APASA Registered EAP (Registration Number 2016/21)  ACNASP Registered Scientist (Registration Number 400325/14)

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