

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES SUMMARY

PROPOSED GAS TO POWER POWERSHIP PROJECT - PORT OF RICHARDS BAY, KWAZULU-NATAL

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM INTERESTED AND/OR AFFECTED PARTIES (I&APS) DURING PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

10 NOVEMBER 2022 – 13 DECEMBER 2022

MAIN ISSUES RAISED DURING EIA PHASE	SECTIONS ADDRESSING THESE ISSUES IN THE EIAR
Impacts on critical endangered and protected vegetation units	<p>Section 3.2.3 – Transmission Line Alternatives</p> <p>Section 7.5.5 – Wetland Impacts</p> <p>Section 7.5.7 – Terrestrial Biodiversity Impacts</p> <p>Appendix 9 – A6 – Wetland Delineation and Functionality Assessment</p> <p>Appendix 9 – A9 – Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment</p>
The study area falls within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) listed as irreplaceable	<p>Section 3.2.3 – Transmission Line Alternatives</p> <p>Section 7.5.5 – Wetland Impacts</p> <p>Section 7.5.7 – Terrestrial Biodiversity Impacts</p> <p>Appendix 9 – A6 – Wetland Delineation and Functionality Assessment</p> <p>Appendix 9 – A9 – Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment</p>
Consultation must be undertaken with Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife (EKZNW)	<p>Section 5.2.5.5 – Pre Consultation Engagement</p> <p>Section 5.3.3 – Additional Stakeholders Engagement</p>
Consideration of KZN Provincial Biodiversity Conservation Plan and other environmental management tools	<p>Appendix 9 – A9 – Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment</p> <p><u>Section 7.9.1 – Biodiversity Offsets / Ecological Compensation</u></p> <p><u>Appendix 7.9 – Biodiversity Management Plans</u></p>
Plant Search and Rescue Plan to be developed	Appendix 6 – EMPr

MAIN ISSUES RAISED DURING EIA PHASE	SECTIONS ADDRESSING THESE ISSUES IN THE EIAR
Rehabilitation Plan to be developed	Appendix 9 – A7 – Wetland Rehabilitation Plan Appendix 6 – EMPr
Avifaunal mitigation measures to avoid collision	Appendix 6 – EMPr Appendix 9 – A10 – Avifauna Assessment
The conduct of the public meetings	Section 5.3.2 – Public Meetings Appendix 3.12 – Public Meetings
Impacts on avifaunal sensitive areas	Section 7.5.8 – Avifaunal Impacts Section 7.5.11 – Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Impacts Appendix 9 – B4 - Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Assessment Appendix 9 – A10 – Avifauna Assessment Appendix 9 – A11 – Avifaunal Monitoring Plan
Avifaunal Baseline Data collection	Appendix 9 – A10 – Avifauna Assessment Appendix 9 – A11 – Avifaunal Monitoring Plan Appendix 6 - EMPr
Terrestrial Noise impacts on Avifauna	Section 7.5.8 – Avifaunal Impacts Section 7.5.11 – Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Impacts Section 7.5.13 – Terrestrial Noise Impacts Appendix 9 – B4 - Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Assessment Appendix 9 – A10 – Avifauna Assessment Appendix 9 – C2 – Terrestrial Noise Assessment Appendix 6 - EMPr
Avifauna Monitoring Plan	Appendix 9 – A10 – Avifauna Assessment Appendix 9 – A11 – Avifaunal Monitoring Plan Appendix 6 - EMPr
Underwater Noise Impacts	Section 7.5.9 – Underwater Noise Impacts Section 7.5.11 – Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Impacts Appendix 9 – B4 - Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Assessment Appendix 9 – B1 – Underwater Noise Baseline Assessment Appendix 9 – B2 – Underwater Noise Assessment

MAIN ISSUES RAISED DURING EIA PHASE	SECTIONS ADDRESSING THESE ISSUES IN THE EIAR
	Appendix 6 - EMPr
Lighting Impacts on sensitive areas	<p>Section 7.5.8 – Avifaunal Impacts</p> <p>Section 7.5.11 – Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Impacts</p> <p>Appendix 9 – B4 - Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Assessment</p> <p>Appendix 9 – A10 – Avifauna Assessment</p> <p>Appendix 6 - EMPr</p>
Offset / Ecological compensation related to Avifauna	<p>Section 4.1.2 – Provincial Legislation and Planning</p> <p>Section 9.2 – Mitigation Hierarchy</p> <p>Appendix 6 - EMPr</p> <p><u>Section 7.9.1 – Biodiversity Offsets / Ecological Compensation</u></p> <p><u>Appendix 7.9 –Biodiversity Management Plans</u></p>
Consideration of the approved Richards Bay/uMhlathuze Estuarine Management Plan	Appendix 9 – B4 - Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Assessment
Impacts on <i>Zostera capensis</i>	<p>Section 6.1.10.3 - <i>Zostera capensis</i></p> <p>Section 7.5.11 – Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Impacts</p> <p>Appendix 9 – A9 – Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment</p> <p>Appendix 9 – B4 - Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Assessment</p>
Distance between the vessels and the sandspit area	<p>Section 2.1.3 - Berthing, Mooring of the Powerships and FSRU</p> <p>Appendix 1.5 - Preferred Powership and FSRU Position layout</p> <p>Appendix 6 - EMPr</p>
Impacts on mammals	<p>Section 7.5.7 – Terrestrial Biodiversity Impacts</p> <p>Appendix 9 – A9 – Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment</p> <p>Appendix 6 - EMPr</p>
Impacts on water quality in the estuarine area	<p>Section 7.5.11 – Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Impacts</p> <p>Appendix 9 – B4 - Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Assessment</p> <p>Appendix 6 - EMPr</p>
Hydrological Impacts	<p>Section 7.5.1 – Hydrological Impacts</p> <p>Appendix 9 – A1 – Hydrology Assessment</p>

MAIN ISSUES RAISED DURING EIA PHASE	SECTIONS ADDRESSING THESE ISSUES IN THE EIAR
Consideration of coastal processes and coastal climate vulnerability	Section 7.5.11 – Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Impacts Section 7.5.14 – Climate Change Impacts Appendix 9 – B4 - Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Assessment Appendix 9 – C3 – Climate Change Impact Assessment Appendix 10.3 – Geotechnical Review
Impacts of seawater abstraction for cooling system	Section 7.5.11 – Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Impacts Appendix 9 – B4 - Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Assessment Appendix 6 – EMPr Appendix 10.2 - Integrated Dispersion Modelling of Thermal Plumes
Upskilling of workers and eco-tourism opportunities	Section 2.1.10 – Socio Economic Commitments Appendix 9 – C1 – Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Appendix D1.2 - Tourism Assessment
Resilience to rising sea levels and extreme storms	Section 7.5.14 – Climate Change Impacts Appendix 9 – C3 – Climate Change Impact Assessment
Methane Gas Emissions	Appendix 9 – C3 – Climate Change Impact Assessment
Climate Change Value Chain	Section 7.5.14 – Climate Change Impacts Appendix 9 – C3 – Climate Change Impact Assessment
Air Quality Emission Data	Section 7.5.12 – Atmospheric Impacts Appendix 9 – C1 – Atmospheric Impact Assessment
Air Quality related to start-up and shut down	Section 2.1.1 – Overview Section 7.5.12 – Atmospheric Impacts Section 7.5.14 – Climate Change Impacts Appendix 9 – C1 – Atmospheric Impact Assessment Appendix 9 – C3 – Climate Change Impact Assessment
Air Quality Baseline Assessment and Cumulative Impacts	Section 7.5.12 – Atmospheric Impacts Appendix 9 – C1 – Atmospheric Impact Assessment
Air Quality and refuelling Emissions	Section 7.5.14 – Climate Change Impacts Section 7.5.19 – Major Hazard Installation Impacts

MAIN ISSUES RAISED DURING EIA PHASE	SECTIONS ADDRESSING THESE ISSUES IN THE EIAR
	Appendix 9 – C3 – Climate Change Impact Assessment Appendix 9 – D3 - Major Hazard Installation Risk Assessment
Emergency Situation	Section 7.5.19 – Major Hazard Installation Impacts Appendix 9 – D3 - Major Hazard Installation Risk Assessment Appendix 6 – EMPr Appendix 11.2 - Emergency Response Plan Appendix 10.1 - Marine Traffic Assessment
Heritage and Underwater Archaeology Impacts	Section 7.5.6 – Heritage Impacts Section 7.5.10 – Underwater Archaeology Impacts Appendix 6 – EMPr Appendix 9 - A8 - Heritage Assessment Appendix B3 - Underwater Heritage Compliance Letter
Risk of collision with marine fauna and other vessels	Section 7.5.11 – Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Impacts Appendix 9 – B4 - Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Assessment Appendix 9 – D3 - Major Hazard Installation Risk Assessment Appendix 6 – EMPr Appendix 10.1 - Marine Traffic Assessment
Access to site	Section 2.3.2 – Site Access Appendix 9 – D1.3 – Traffic Evaluation
Marine Traffic Management	Section 7.5.10 – Marine Traffic Appendix 10.1 – Marine Traffic Assessment
Impacts on biodiversity in the estuarine area	Section 7.5.11 – Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Impacts Appendix 9 – B4 - Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Assessment Appendix 6 - EMPr
Consideration of municipal-climate change policy tools	Appendix 9 – C3 – Climate Change Impact Assessment
Extreme weather events' risks	Section 7.5.14 – Climate Change Impacts Appendix 9 – C3 – Climate Change Impact Assessment
Climate Change cumulative impacts	Appendix 9 – C3 – Climate Change Impact Assessment

MAIN ISSUES RAISED DURING EIA PHASE	SECTIONS ADDRESSING THESE ISSUES IN THE EIAR
Renewable Energy Vs. Gas	<p>Chapter 8 – Motivation, Need and Desirability</p> <p>Appendix 8.1 - Gas to Power Projects and the Just Energy Transition from Fossil Fuels in the South African Political Economy</p> <p>Appendix 8.2- South Africa Country Specific Energy Security Assessment</p>
Climate Change Context and Impacts	<p>Section 7.5.14 – Climate Change Impacts</p> <p>Appendix 9 – C3 – Climate Change Impact Assessment</p> <p>Appendix 8.4 - Sustainability Assessment</p>
Impacts on Marine Ecology	<p>Section 7.5.9 – Underwater Noise Impacts</p> <p>Section 7.5.11 – Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Impacts</p> <p>Appendix 9 – B4 - Coastal, Estuarine and Marine Ecology Assessment</p> <p>Appendix 9 – B1 – Underwater Noise Baseline Assessment</p> <p>Appendix 9 – B2 – Underwater Noise Assessment</p> <p>Appendix 6 - EMPr</p>
Socio Economic Impacts	<p>Section 7.5.15 – Socio-Economic Impacts</p> <p>Appendix 8 - Independent Contributions to the Need and Desirability</p> <p>Appendix 9 - D1 - Socio-economic Impact Assessment</p> <p>Appendix 9 - D1.1 - Small Scale Fishers Engagement</p>
The conduct of the Public Participation	<p>Chapter 5 – Public Participation Process</p> <p>Appendix 3 – Public Participation</p>