

**From:** Mahlatse Shubane <MSHUBANE@dffe.gov.za>  
**Sent:** Monday, 14 November 2022 12:27  
**To:** nicole@hollandandassociates.net  
**Cc:** johnny@mulilo.com; andrew@mulilo.com; Olivia Letlalo; Thembisile Hlatshwayo; Ephron Maradwa  
**Subject:** Acknowledgement receipt of 12/12/20/2463/1/AM9

Dear Nicole,

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 01 MARCH 2013 FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WIND ENERGY FACILITY SITUATED ON THE EASTERN PLATEAU (SOUTH) NEAR DE AAR, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

The Competent Authority confirms having received the application for amendment of the Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 02 November 2022.

Please note that your application for amendment of the environmental authorisation falls within the ambit of amendments to be applied for in terms of Part 1 of Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended. You are therefore referred to Regulation 30 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

The applicant applied for the following amendments :

- 1) The project description of the EA;
- 2) Reduction in the number of turbines and changes in foundation and hardstand dimensions;
- 3) Updates to road widths;
- 4) Amendment to the co-ordinates of the IPP substation;
- 5) Amendment to the internal reticulation capacity;
- 6) Removal of specified generation capacity per turbine;
- 7) Inclusion of the words "up to" in front of the authorised turbine specifications for hub height and rotor diameter and
- 8) The inclusion of an erroneously omitted listed activity into the EA.

Please note that you are requested to submit the following additional information in terms of Regulation 30(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended for the Department to be able to process your application for amendment:

- Please provide an evidence which demonstrate that indeed the proposed new positions will remain within the assessed and authorised project footprint, and were assessed as alternatives as part of the EIA during the EA process. For instance, provide the map which depicts both the old coordinates versus the new coordinates as well as part of the alternatives assessed during the EA process
- A detailed motivation as to why the Department should extend the commencement period of the authorised development, including the advantages and disadvantages associated with the approval or refusal to the request for extension;
- The status (baseline) of the environment (social and biophysical) that was assessed during the initial assessment (by the relative specialist, if applicable);
- The current status of the assessed environment (social and biophysical) (by the relative specialist, if applicable);
- A review of all specialist studies undertaken, and a detailed assessment, including a site verification report providing an indication of the status of the receiving environment (by the relative specialist, if applicable);
- The terms of reference for the specialist reports and declaration of interest of each specialist must be provided;
- The report mentioned above, must indicate if the impact rating as provided in the initial assessment remains valid; if the mitigation measures provided in the initial assessment are still applicable; or if there are any new mitigation

measures which need to be included into the EA, should the request to extend the commencement period be granted by the Department;

- An indication if there are any new assessments/guidelines which are now relevant to the authorised development which were not undertaken as part of the initial assessment, must be taken into consideration and addressed in the report;
- A description and an assessment of any changes to the environment (social and biophysical) that has occurred since the initial EA was issued;
- A description and an assessment of the surrounding environment, in relation to new developments or changes in land use which might impact on the authorised project, the assessment must consider the following:
  - o similar developments within a 30km radius;
  - o Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e., hectares of cumulatively transformed land.
  - o Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist's recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.
  - o The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
  - o A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.
- Consent from all affected landowners (where applicable);
- The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.
- A comments and response report.
- Certified copies of the EA and its subsequent EA amendments.

Please note that since you are requesting extension beyond 10 years, the EA can be extended by up to additional 10 years. If you restrict yourself to 9 months period and you do not commence within this period, you will be required to follow the similar process required to extend beyond 10 years.

The outstanding information must be submitted within 90 days of the date of this email acknowledgement (**on or before the 06 March 2023**). The requested information must be sent via email to [eiaapplications@environment.gov.za](mailto:eiaapplications@environment.gov.za).

Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the time-frames prescribed in terms of these Regulations.

Yours sincerely

**Ms Milicent Solomons**

**Acting Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations**

**Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment**

**Letter signed by: Mr Mahlatse Shubane**

**Designation: Assistant Director: Priority Infrastructure Projects/ National Infrastructure Projects**

**Date: 14 November 2022**