

APPENDIX C6
MEETING NOTES



**BASIC ASSESSMENTS AND
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS
FOR THE ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY CLUSTER:
ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 1, ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 2
AND ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 3 & ASSOCIATED
INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR ABERDEEN, EASTERN CAPE
PROVINCE**

**MEETING NOTES OF THE INFORMATION SHARING DISCUSSION HELD WITH
THE DIRECTLY AFFECTED LANDOWNERS
HELD ON MONDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 10H00
VENUE: THE BLUE DOOR COFFEE SHOP, ABERDEEN**

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Nicolene Venter

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

*Please note that these notes are not verbatim, but a summary of the comments submitted at the meeting.
Please address any comments to Savannah Environmental at the above address*

ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY CLUSTER: ABERDEEN WIND FARM 1, ABERDEEN WIND FARM 2 AND ABERDEEN WIND FARM 3 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR ABERDEEN, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Property Name / Organisation	Position
Johan Lategan	Kraai Rivier 149, Portions RE & 3 Kraai Rivier Outspan 150, Portions RE & 1 Wildebeeste Poortjie 153, Portion 3	Landowner
Morné Marx	Farm 94, Portions 1	Landowner
Grant Paxton	Kraanvogel Kuil 155	Landowner
Matthew Ellero	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Nicolene Venter	Savannah Environmental	Public Participation and Social Consultant

WELCOME, INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE OF THE INFORMATION SHARING DISCUSSION

Nicolene Venter welcomed the attendees at the information sharing discussion for the Aberdeen Wind Facility Cluster and associated infrastructure located near Aberdeen, Eastern Cape Province. She informed the attendees that the purpose of the discussion was to inform them of the proposed three (3) wind farm projects, the Basic Assessment process and public participation process, which is underway, and for local knowledge of the proposed development sites to be shared.

The attendance record is attached as **Appendix A** to the meeting notes.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECTS

Matthew Ellero presented the following information to the attendees:

- that a Basic Assessment (BA) process for each of the developments are being undertaken as the proposed developments fall within the Beaufort-West REDZ;
- several specialist environmental studies are being undertaken for these developments, and provided a brief summary which these studies entail:
 - Aquatic
 - Avifauna
 - Bats
 - Ecology
 - Heritage
 - Noise
 - Social
 - Soil, Land-Use and Agriculture
 - Traffic

DISCUSSION

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
Johan Lategan	Advised that the agreement he has signed includes five (5) turbines per project site, which includes the Farm Kraay River.	Matthew Ellero indicated that the facility layouts have been based on environmental sensitivities. The request regarding clarity pertaining to land lease agreements will be forwarded to the applicant.
	Should the Doornpoort Road exiting from the N9 be used as the access road to the development site, the following needs to be taken into consideration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The road is in a low-lying area; • the road must be upgraded, but not realigned, prior to construction; • road to be maintained during the construction phase; and • no interruption of waterflow at the low water bridge as there are currently no culverts. 	Matthew Ellero thanked him for this information. He also advised that the primary access to the development areas will be via the unnamed road off the R61.
	Municipal taxes will increase once the facilities are operational and who will absorb this additional expense?	Nicolene Venter indicated that changes to municipal rates are outside of the scope of the studies currently being conducted. However, this question will be shared with the applicant for consideration.
	How long will the construction period be?	Matthew Ellero advised between 24 – 30 months.
	As landowners, they would prefer to have their livestock evacuated from the property prior to construction, especially if there is going to be blasting. Will the developer carry the cost of relocating the livestock and should it be necessary to hire additional property for the livestock, will this be covered by the developer? Will the development properties be fenced prior to construction?	Matthew Ellero advised that the logistical arrangements relating to the construction phase would be dealt with by the project developer. The query will be forwarded to the applicant for consideration.

	<p>It was mentioned that there are about 10 “Witgatbome” (<i>Shepherd’s Tree</i>) per 2000ha and it is important to note that these trees are environmentally sensitive.</p> <p>The same comment is raised regarding the tortoises in the area and these impacts need to be assessed.</p>	<p>Matthew Ellero responded that the ecological assessment includes both the flora and fauna. Protected species will be noted and mitigation to protect these species provided in the reports.</p> <p>Post-meeting note: Witgat trees were found on the site but not within the development footprint. They occur on the ridges and on the plains near to drainage features and are avoided by the proposed development. Any individual trees remaining within the development footprint would be avoided at Micro-siting, hence there would be minimal/zero impact on the species.</p> <p>Although <i>Boscia albitrunca</i> is a nationally protected species, the <i>Boscia</i> species in the study area is usually the Karoo Shepherds tree, <i>Boscia oleoides</i>, which is not a protected species. They look very similar.</p>
	<p>Will quarries be established on the development sites for construction material?</p>	<p>Matthew Ellero replied should any fill material be required during construction, this can be sourced from off-site locations. If there is any need for an on-site quarry, a permit would be required in terms of the MPRDA.</p>
	<p>Where will water be sourced from for the construction and operation phases.</p>	<p>Matthew Ellero replied that the water source was currently being determined by the applicant, with the possibility for the water to be supplied from either the municipality, or from borehole abstraction.</p>
	<p>As the proposed development could have an impact on current business operations, and should it not be possible to evacuate their livestock, it might be necessary for</p>	<p>Matthew Ellero advised that the logistical arrangements relating to the construction phase would be dealt with by the project developer.</p>

	<p>the developer to appoint a security company.</p> <p>It was requested that landowners must also be considered in providing services to the developer, especially during the construction phase i.e. providing suitable construction material,</p>	<p>The query will be forwarded to the applicant for consideration.</p> <p>Nicolene Venter responded that this request is noted and will be shared with the developer.</p>
Morné Marx	<p>Where will the construction workers stay?</p>	<p>Matthew Ellero responded that workers would not be housed on the development area. The logistical arrangements relating to the construction phase would be dealt with by the project developer, but it is likely the construction workers will be housed in neighbouring towns i.e. Aberdeen and/or Graaff Reinet.</p> <p>The laydown areas for the construction equipment will be on site.</p>
Johan Lategan	<p>Commented that the grid connection is not presented.</p> <p>Why are these projects proposed in this area?</p> <p>These proposed developments could delay or influence landowners' business decision i.e. erecting new fences, upgrade of existing infrastructure, etc.</p>	<p>Matthew Ellero replied that the grid connection will be a separate BA process. At this time, confirmation of the best grid connection solution is being sought from Eskom.</p> <p>Matthew Ellero indicated that the BA Reports provide a detailed need and desirability regarding the site identification. The site is also located in the Beaufort West REDZ, which is a planned node for the development of wind and solar PV projects.</p> <p>Nicolene Venter acknowledged the comment, and indicated that facility layouts will be included in the BARs. But the timing of construction and other logistical arrangements relating to the construction phase should be directed to the project developer.</p>
Morné Marx	<p>Turbine layouts on the development sites to be provided.</p>	<p>Matthew Ellero indicated that facility layouts will be included in the BA Reports for review and comment.</p>

Nicolene Venter informed the attendees that once the BA Reports are available for review and comment, that the team would present a summary of the content of the BA Report. The attendees indicated that a virtual Focus Group Meeting would not be feasible due to poor internet connectivity and requested that an in-person FGM be arranged. It was further requested for meetings to be arranged for two (2) weeks after the BA Reports have been released for review and comment in order for attendees to have adequate time for review, and to be adequately prepared.

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Nicolene Venter and Matthew Ellero thanked the landowners for making time available to meet, and for the valuable information shared.

Contact information of the Aberdeen Farmers' Association's Chairperson was provided and Nicolene Venter confirmed that contact will be made with the Chairperson regarding these proposed projects.

The information sharing discussions was concluded at 10h30.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS / ACRONYMS












BA	Basic Assessment	REDZ	Renewable Energy Development Zone
RE	Remaining Extent		

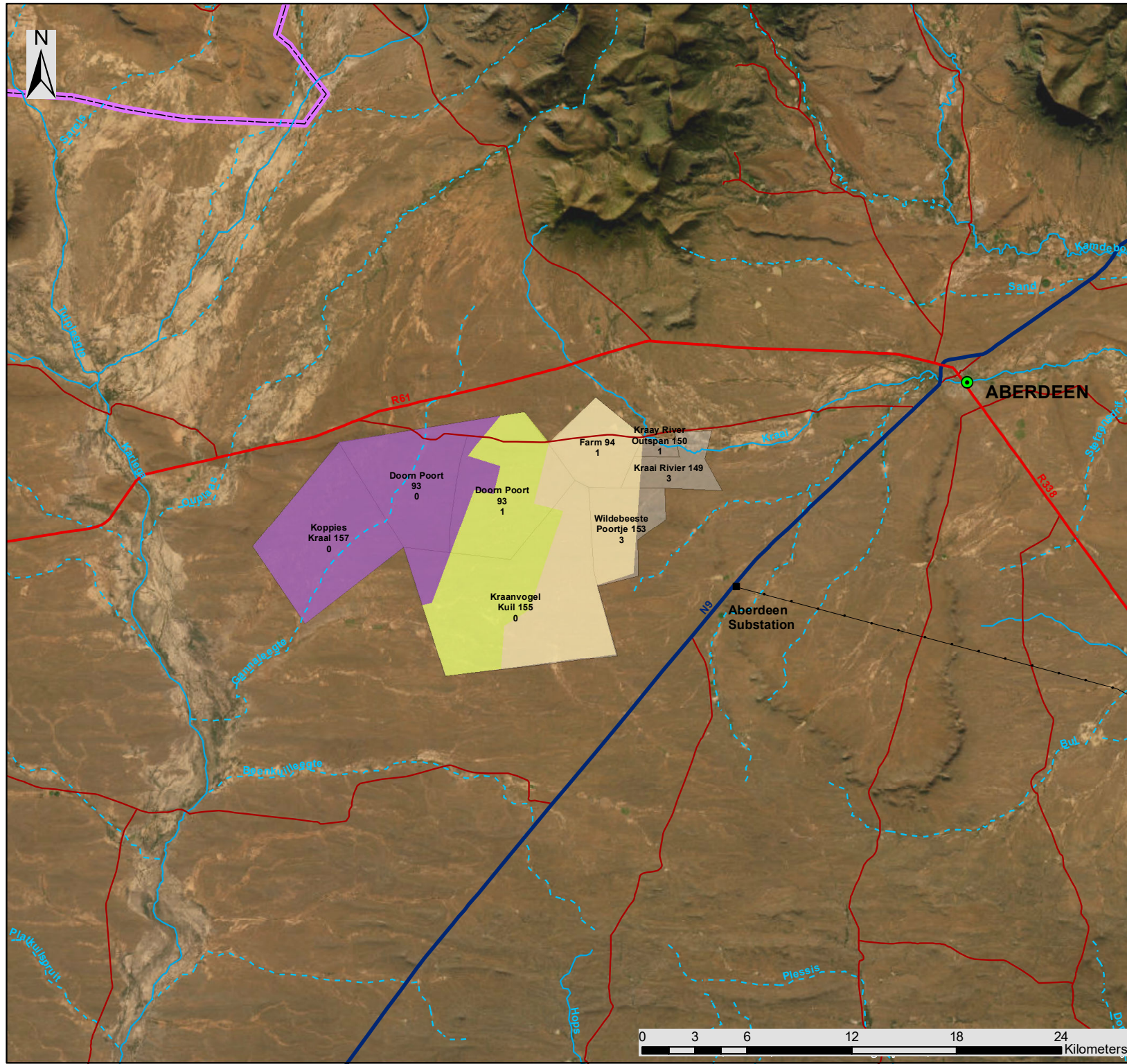
Appendix A: Locality Map

APPENDIX A Aberdeen Wind Facility Cluster Eastern Cape Province

Locality Map

Legend

-  Town
-  Existing Substation
-  Eskom Power Line (Existing)
-  Regional Road
-  National Road
-  Main Road
-  Perennial River
-  Non Perennial River
-  Provincial Boundary
-  Aberdeen Wind Facility 1
-  Aberdeen Wind Facility 2
-  Aberdeen Wind Facility 3
-  Affected Farm Portions



Scale: 1:300 000
 Projection: GCS_WGS_1984
 Map Ref: Aberdeen Locality Map



**BASIC ASSESSMENTS AND
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS
FOR THE ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY CLUSTER:
ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 1, ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 2
AND ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 3 & ASSOCIATED
INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR ABERDEEN, EASTERN CAPE
PROVINCE**

**MEETING NOTES OF THE INFORMATION SHARING DISCUSSION HELD WITH
ADJACENT LANDOWNERS
HELD ON MONDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 17H00
VENUE: SA HUNTERS ASSOCIATION CLUB HOUSE, ABERDEEN**

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Nicolene Venter

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

*Please note that these notes are not verbatim, but a summary of the comments submitted at the meeting.
Please address any comments to Savannah Environmental at the above address*

ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY CLUSTER: ABERDEEN WIND FARM 1, ABERDEEN WIND FARM 2 AND ABERDEEN WIND FARM 3 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR ABERDEEN, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Property Name / Organisation	Position
Christo Lategan	Wildebeeste Poortjie 153, Portion RE 1	Landowner
Pieter Lategan	Springbok Vlakke 156, Portion 0	Landowner
Pen Marx	Kraai Rivier 149, Portion 4	Landowner
Edrich Marx	Kraay River Outspan 150, Portion RE 0 Lotterings Uitvlugt 95, Portion RE 2 Farm 94, Portion RE 0	
Matthew Ellero	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Nicolene Venter	Savannah Environmental	Public Participation and Social Consultant

WELCOME, INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE OF THE INFORMATION SHARING DISCUSSIONS

Nicolene Venter welcomed the attendees at the information sharing discussion for the Aberdeen Wind Facility Cluster and associated infrastructure located near Aberdeen, Eastern Cape Province. She informed the attendees that the purpose of the discussion was to inform them of the proposed three (3) wind farm projects, the Basic Assessment process and public participation process which is underway, and for local knowledge of the proposed development sites to be shared.

The attendance record is attached as **Appendix A** to the meeting notes.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECTS

Matthew Ellero presented the following information to the attendees:

- that a Basic Assessment (BA) process for each of the developments are being undertaken as the proposed developments fall within the Beaufort-West REDZ;
- several specialist environmental studies are being undertaken for these developments, and provided a brief summary which these studies entail:
 - Aquatic
 - Avifauna
 - Bats
 - Ecology
 - Heritage
 - Noise
 - Social
 - Soil, Land-Use and Agriculture
 - Traffic

DISCUSSIONS

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
Christo Lategan	The property Kraay Rivier Outspan 150, Portion RE 0 is now registered as Uitsig 150, Portion RE 0	Matthew Ellero will confirm the updated information shared against the details from the Surveyor General data.
Nicolene Venter	Must SA Hunters Association be registered on the project database as an I&AP?	Christo Lategan confirmed that it is not required as no official hunting is taking place in their area.
Christo Lategan	The roads must be upgraded and maintained during the construction and operation phase of the projects.	Matthew Ellero indicated that this will be considered in the BA Reports.
	How long will the construction period be?	Matthew Ellero advised between 24 – 30 months.
	Where will water be sourced from for the construction and operation phase.	Matthew Ellero replied that the water source was currently being determined by the applicant. Alternative sources are being considered, namely water supplied from the municipality, or from borehole abstraction.
Pieter Lategan	If boreholes are required, it is requested that the developer must notify and consult with adjacent landowners as water is a critical commodity in the area.	Matthew Ellero replied that the Applicant will follow due process for a WULA, should this be pursued.
	Requested that a map be prepared by a hydrological specialist and shared with the landowners.	Nicolene Venter advised that a map of the surface hydrology of the site is included in the BAR.
Christo Lategan	Where will the construction workers stay?	Matthew Ellero responded that workers would not be housed on the development area. The logistical arrangements relating to the construction phase would be dealt with by the project developer, but it is likely the construction workers will be housed in neighbouring towns i.e Aberdeen and/or Graaff Reinet.
Christo Lategan & Pieter Lategan	Should construction workers stay on the development sites, safety and security of their livestock needs to be taken into consideration and addressed.	The laydown areas for the construction equipment will be on site.

Pieter Lategan	Commented that the grid connection is not presented.	Matthew Ellero replied that the grid connection will be addressed and assessed in a separate BA process.
Christo Lategan	It was recommended that no construction workers are to stay on the development site.	Nicolene Venter indicated that the comment would be shared with the Applicant. In addition, this is supported by the Social impact assessment.

Nicolene Venter informed the attendees that once the BA Reports are available for review and comment, that the team would present a summary of the content of the BA Report. The attendees indicated that a virtual Focus Group Meeting would not be feasible due to poor internet connectivity and requested that an in-person FGM be arranged. It was further requested for meetings to be arranged for two (2) weeks after the BA Reports have been released for review and comment in order for attendees to have adequate time for review, and to be adequately prepared.

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Nicolene Venter and Matthew Ellero thanked the landowners for making time available to meet, and for the valuable information shared.

The information sharing discussions was concluded at 18h15.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS / ACRONYMS












BA	Basic Assessment	REDZ	Renewable Energy Development Zone
I&AP	Interested and Affected Party	WULA	Water Use License Application
RE	Remaining Extent		

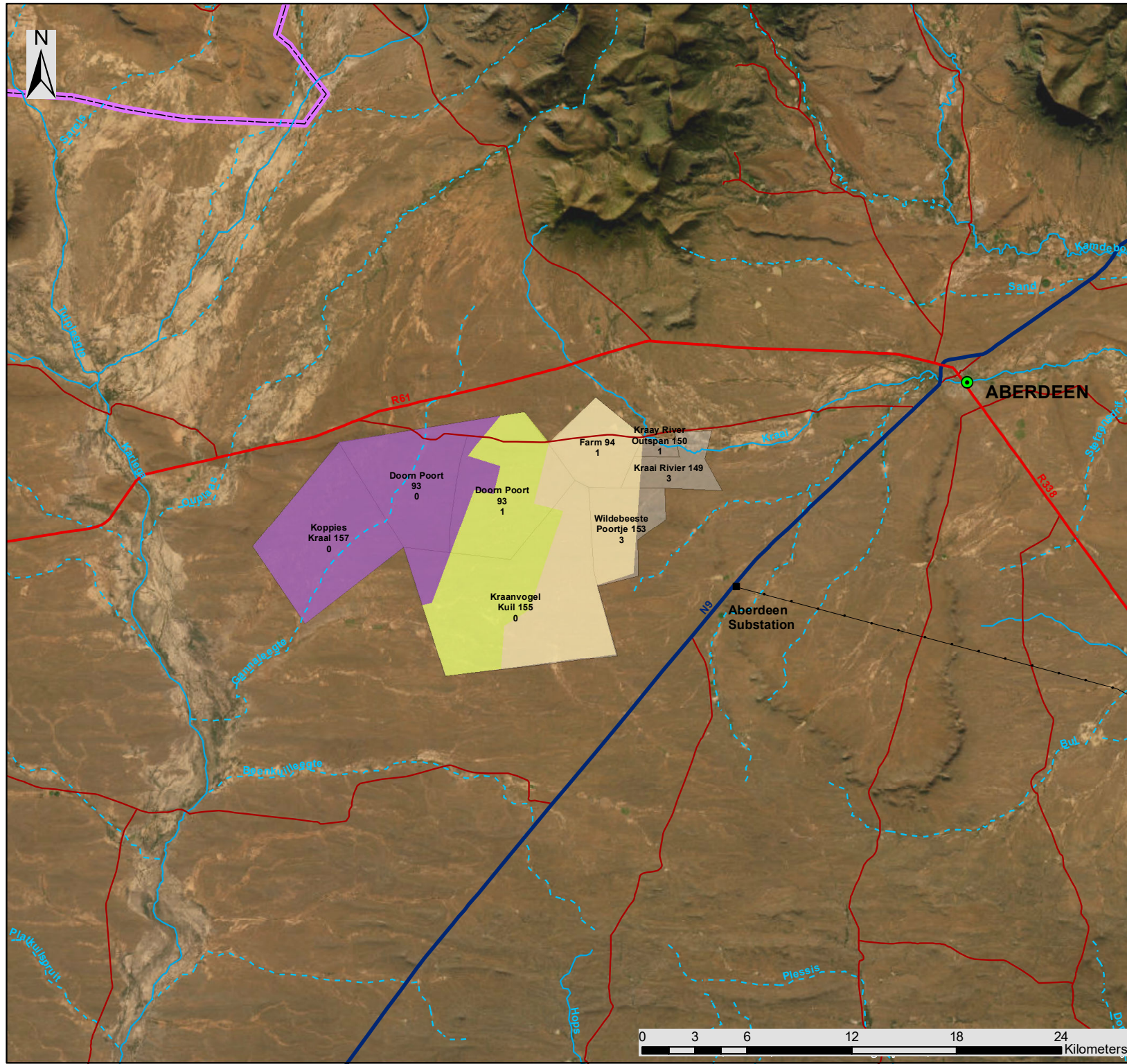
Appendix A: Locality Map

APPENDIX A Aberdeen Wind Facility Cluster Eastern Cape Province

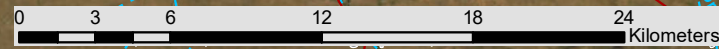
Locality Map

Legend

-  Town
-  Existing Substation
-  Eskom Power Line (Existing)
-  Regional Road
-  National Road
-  Main Road
-  Perennial River
-  Non Perennial River
-  Provincial Boundary
-  Aberdeen Wind Facility 1
-  Aberdeen Wind Facility 2
-  Aberdeen Wind Facility 3
-  Affected Farm Portions



Scale: 1:300 000
Projection: GCS_WGS_1984
Map Ref: Aberdeen Locality Map



**BASIC ASSESSMENTS AND
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS
FOR THE ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY CLUSTER:
ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 1, ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 2
AND ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 3 & ASSOCIATED
INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR ABERDEEN, EASTERN CAPE
PROVINCE**

**MEETING NOTES OF THE INFORMATION SHARING DISCUSSION HELD WITH
THE DIRECTLY AFFECTED AND ADJACENT LANDOWNER
HELD ON TUESDAY, 14 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 08H00
VENUE: 77 SOMERSET STREET, GRAAFF REINET**

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Nicolene Venter

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

*Please note that these notes are not verbatim, but a summary of the comments submitted at the meeting.
Please address any comments to Savannah Environmental at the above address*

ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY CLUSTER: ABERDEEN WIND FARM 1, ABERDEEN WIND FARM 2 AND ABERDEEN WIND FARM 3 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR ABERDEEN, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Property Name / Organisation	Position
JP Smit	Farm 91, Portion RE 0 Farm 158, Portion RE 0 & 1 Koppieskraal 157, Portion 0	Landowner
Matthew Ellero	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Nicolene Venter	Savannah Environmental	Public Participation and Social Consultant

WELCOME, INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE OF THE INFORMATION SHARING DISCUSSIONS

Nicolene Venter welcomed the attendees at the information sharing discussion for the Aberdeen Wind Facility Cluster and associated infrastructure located near Aberdeen, Eastern Cape Province. She informed the attendees that the purpose of the discussion was to inform them of the proposed three (3) wind farm projects, the Basic Assessment process and public participation process which is underway, and for local knowledge of the proposed development sites to be shared.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECTS

Matthew Ellero presented the following information to the attendees:

- that a Basic Assessment (BA) process for each of the developments are being undertaken as the proposed developments fall within the Beaufort-West REDZ;
- several specialist environmental studies are being undertaken for these developments, and provided a brief summary which these studies entail:
 - Aquatic
 - Avifauna
 - Bats
 - Ecology
 - Heritage
 - Noise
 - Social
 - Soil, Land-Use and Agriculture
 - Traffic

DISCUSSIONS

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
JP Smit	Have all the environmental studies been completed?	Matthew Ellero confirmed that all specialist studies have been completed.
	<p>As landowners, they would prefer to have their livestock evacuated from the property prior to construction, especially if there is going to be blasting.</p> <p>Will the developer carry the cost of relocating the livestock and should it be necessary to hire additional property for the livestock, will this be covered by the developer?</p>	Matthew Ellero advised that the logistical arrangements relating to the construction phase would be dealt with by the project developer. The query will be forwarded to the applicant for consideration.
	<p>It was mentioned that there are about 10 "Witgatbome" (<i>Shepherd's Tree</i>) per 2000ha and it is important to note that these trees are environmentally sensitive.</p> <p>The same comment is raised regarding the tortoises in the area and these impacts need to be assessed.</p>	<p>Matthew Ellero responded that the ecological assessment includes both the flora and fauna. Protected species will be noted and mitigation to protect these species provided in the reports.</p> <p>Post-meeting note: Witgat trees were found on the site but not within the development footprint. They occur on the ridges and on the plains near to drainage features and are avoided by the proposed development. Any individual trees remaining within the development footprint would be avoided at Micro-siting, hence there would be minimal/zero impact on the species.</p> <p>Although <i>Boscia albitrunca</i> is a nationally protected species, the <i>Boscia</i> species in the study area is usually the Karoo Shepherds tree, <i>Boscia oleoides</i> which is not a protected species. They look very similar.</p>

	As the proposed development could have an impact on current business operations, and should it not be possible to evacuate their livestock, it might be necessary for the developer to appoint a security company.	Matthew Ellero advised that the logistical arrangements relating to the construction phase would be dealt with by the project developer. The query will be forwarded to the applicant for consideration.
	It was requested that landowners must also be considered in providing services to the developer, especially during the construction phase i.e. providing suitable construction material,	Nicolene Venter responded that this request is noted and will be shared with the developer.
	These proposed developments could delay or influence landowners' business decision i.e. erecting new fences, upgrade of existing infrastructure, etc.	Nicolene Venter acknowledged the comment and indicated that facility layouts will be included in the BARs. But the timing of construction and other logistical arrangements relating to the construction phase should be directed to the project developer.

Nicolene Venter informed the attendees that once the BA Reports are available for review and comment, that the team would present a summary of the content of the BA Report. The attendees indicated that a virtual Focus Group Meeting would not be feasible due to poor internet connectivity and requested that an in-person FGM be arranged. It was further requested for meetings to be arranged for two (2) weeks after the BA Reports have been released for review and comment in order for attendees to have adequate time for review, and to be adequately prepared.

In terms of consultation and notification to the occupiers on his property, it was requested that the projects be presented to the occupiers in-person.

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Nicolene Venter and Matthew Ellero thanked the landowners for making time available to meet, and for the valuable information shared.

The information sharing discussions were concluded at 09h00.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS / ACRONYMS











BA	Basic Assessment	REDZ	Renewable Energy Development Zone
RE	Remaining Extent		

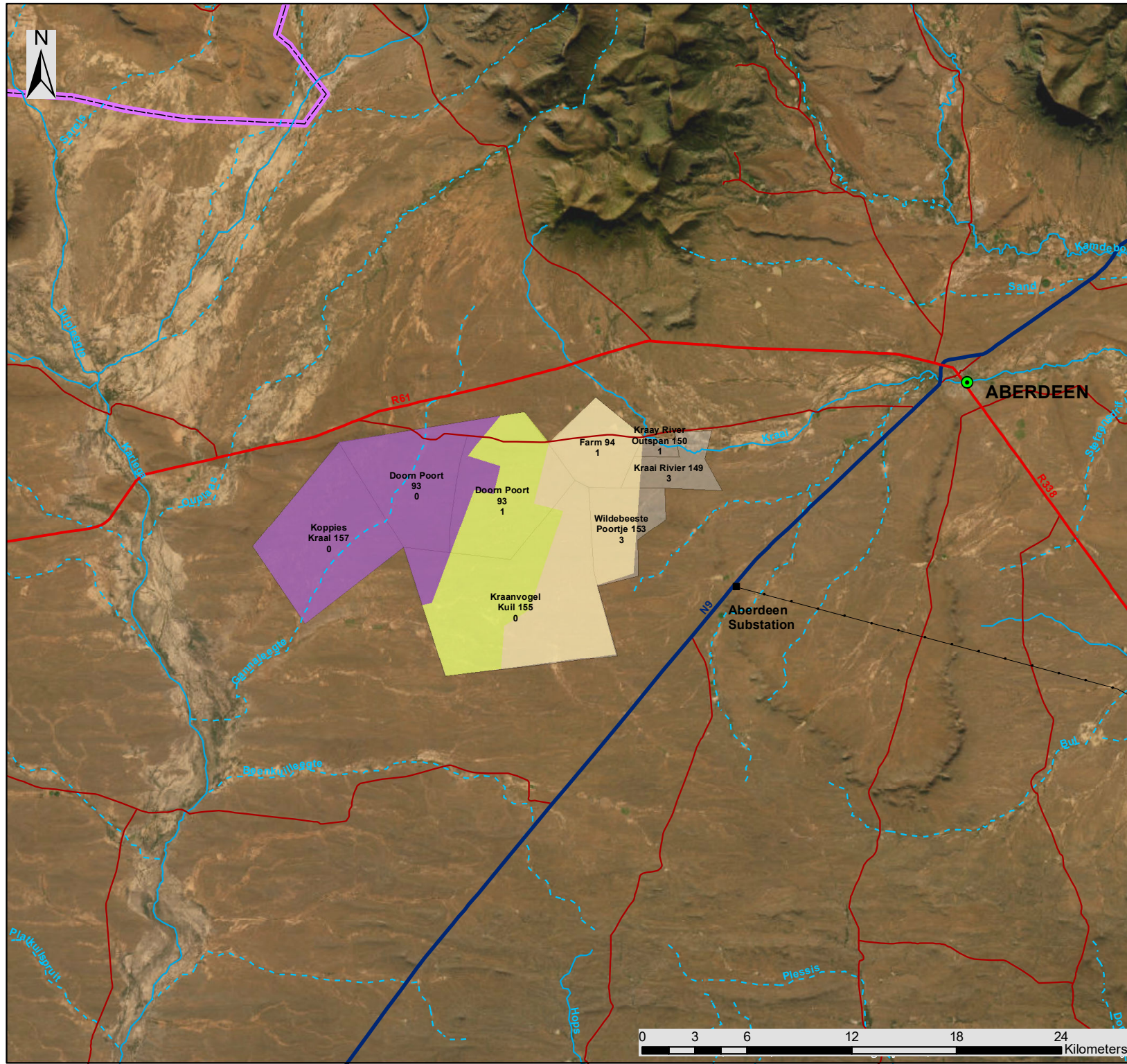
Appendix A: Locality Map

APPENDIX A Aberdeen Wind Facility Cluster Eastern Cape Province

Locality Map

Legend

-  Town
-  Existing Substation
-  Eskom Power Line (Existing)
-  Regional Road
-  National Road
-  Main Road
-  Perennial River
-  Non Perennial River
-  Provincial Boundary
-  Aberdeen Wind Facility 1
-  Aberdeen Wind Facility 2
-  Aberdeen Wind Facility 3
-  Affected Farm Portions



Scale: 1:300 000
Projection: GCS_WGS_1984
Map Ref: Aberdeen Locality Map

