

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
<p>Johan Lategan</p>	<p>Advised that the agreement he has signed includes five (5) turbines per project site, which includes the Farm Kraay River.</p>	<p>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.</p>
	<p>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:</p> <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. 	<p>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.</p>
	<p>Municipal taxes will increase once the facilities are operational and who will absorb this additional expense?</p>	<p>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.</p>
	<p>How long will the construction period be?</p>	<p>Matthew Ellero advised between 24 – 30 months.</p>
	<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> <p>Will the development properties be fenced prior to construction?</p>	<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>

	<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>

	the developer to appoint a security company.	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.
Morné Marx	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. The laydown areas for the construction equipment will be on site.
Johan Lategan	Commented that the grid connection is not presented.	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.
	Why are these projects proposed in this area?	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.
	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.
Morné Marx	Turbine layouts on the development sites to be provided.	Matthew Ellero indicated that facility layouts will be included in the BA Reports for review and comment.

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		

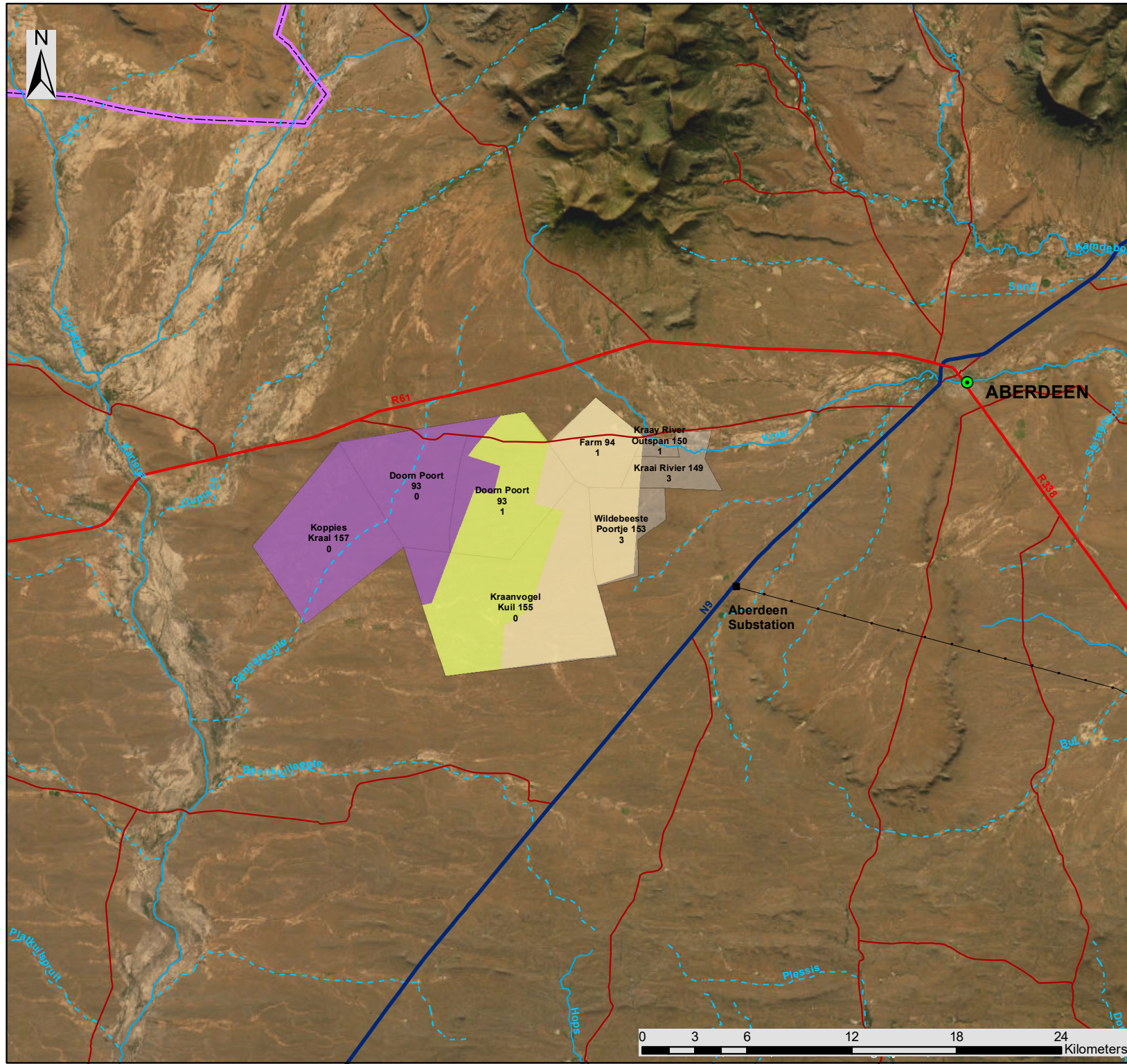
Appendix A: Locality Map

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		

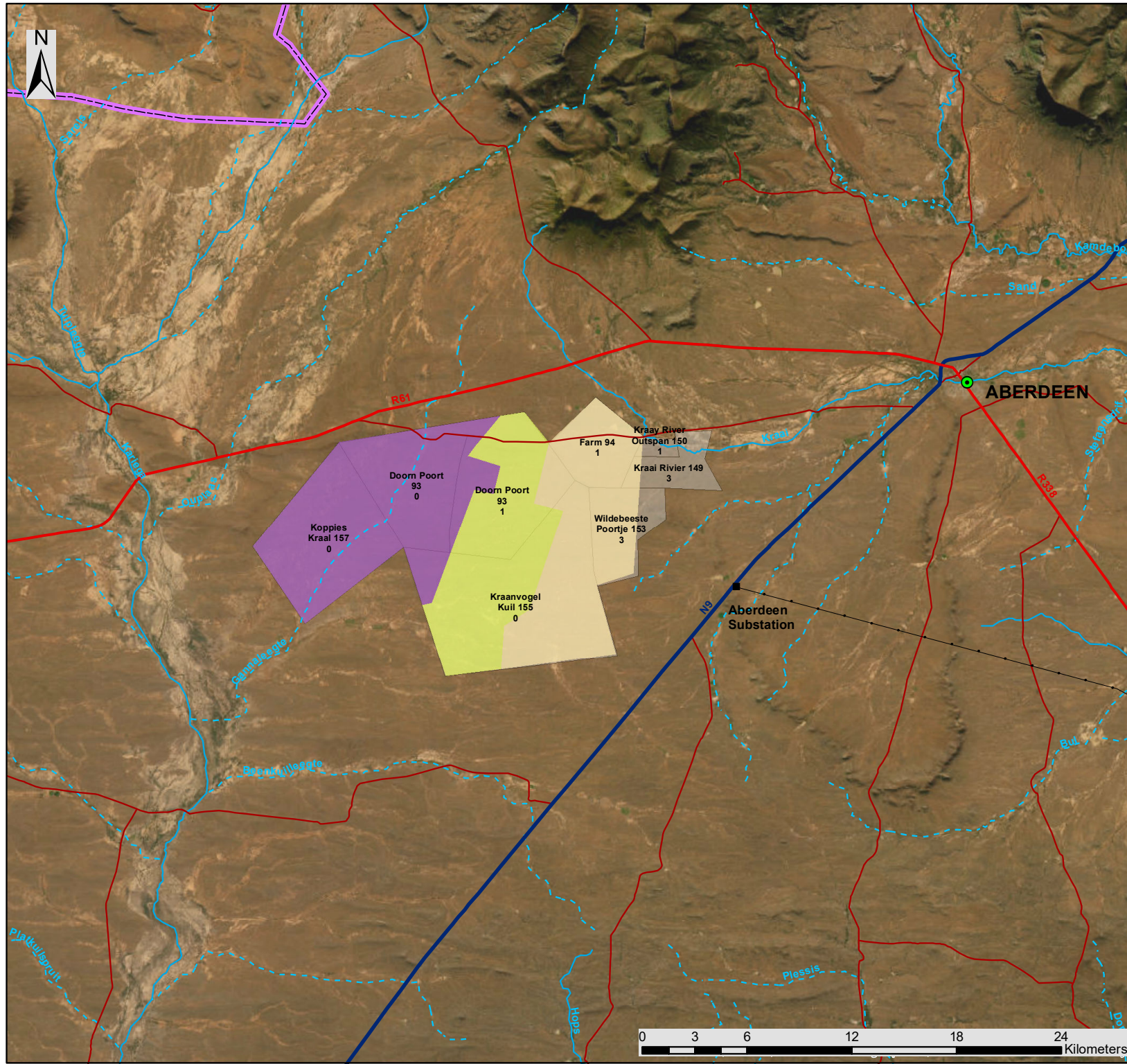
Appendix A: Locality Map

APPENDIX A Aberdeen Wind Facility Cluster Eastern Cape Province

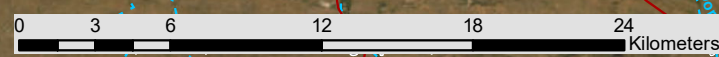
Locality Map

Legend

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-  Aberdeen Wind Facility 2
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Scale: 1:300 000
 Projection: GCS_WGS_1984
 Map Ref: Aberdeen Locality Map



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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

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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
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 - 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
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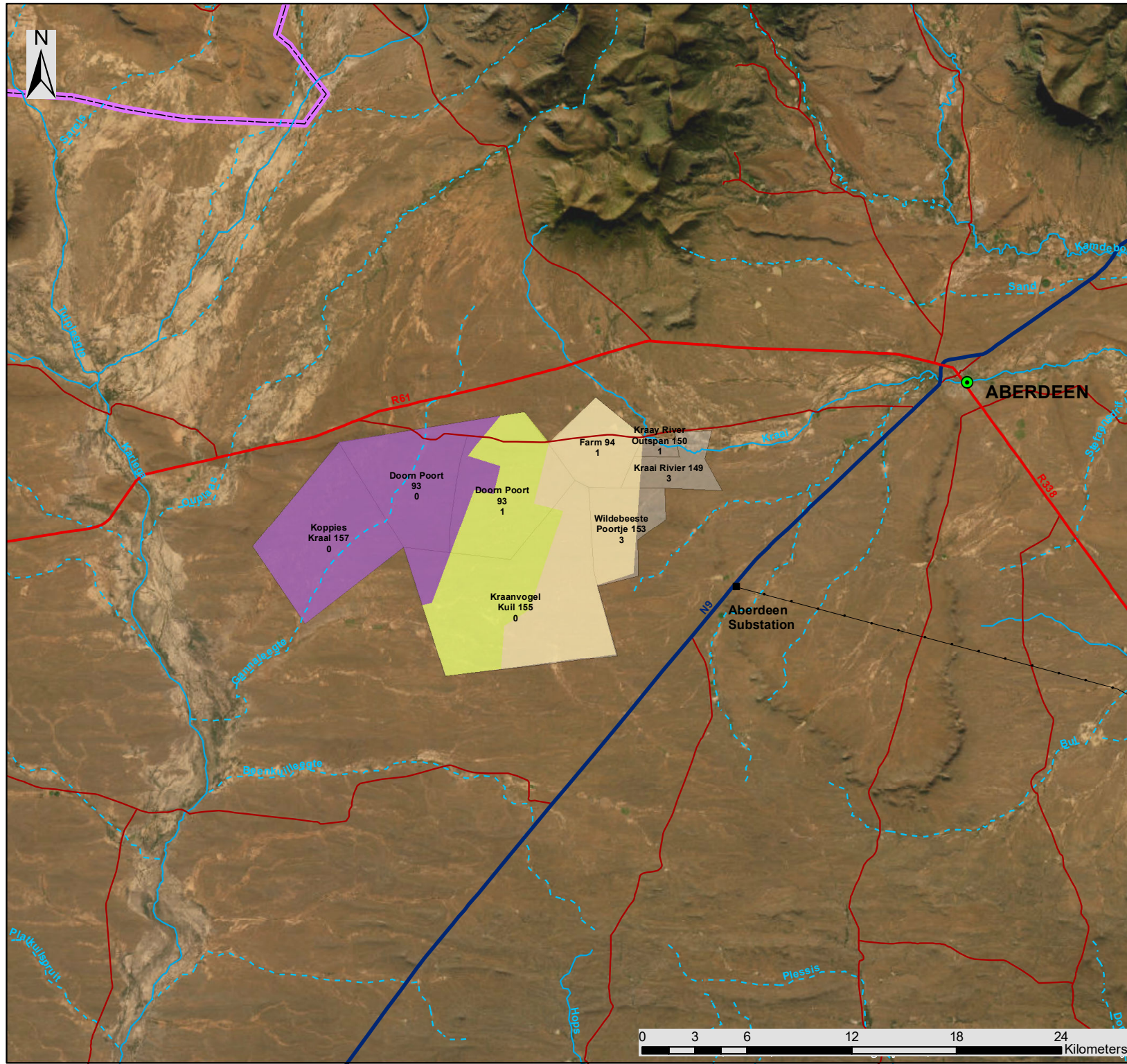
Appendix A: Locality Map

APPENDIX A Aberdeen Wind Facility Cluster Eastern Cape Province

Locality Map

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



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INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR ABERDEEN, EASTERN CAPE
PROVINCE**

**MEETING NOTES OF FOCUS GROUP MEETING HELD WITH SARAH
BAARTMAN DISTRICT AND DR BEYERS NAUDÉ LOCAL MUNICIPAL
OFFICIALS
HELD ON TUESDAY, 28 MARCH 2023 AT 14H00
VIRTUAL: MS TEAMS**

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Nicolene Venter
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

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Please address any comments to Savannah Environmental at the above address*

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

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation	Position
Cllr Deon De Vos	Sarah Baartman District Municipality	Executive Mayor
Cllr Ruiters	Sarah Baartman District Municipality	Speaker
Cllr Willem Safers	Dr Beyers Naudé Local Municipality	Mayor
Cllr Cheslin Felix	Dr Beyers Naudé Local Municipality	Speaker
Mr Ndumiso Camngca Also representing: Mr Bennie Arends	Dr Beyers Naudé Local Municipality	Manager: Town Planning Director: Town Planning
Amy Hill	Atlantic Renewable Energy Partners	Project Manager and representing the Applicant
Matthew Ellero	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Nicolene Venter	Savannah Environmental	Public Participation and Social Consultant

WELCOME, INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

Nicolene Venter welcomed the Officials from the Sarah Baartman District Municipal and the Dr Beyers Naudé Local Municipal Officials at the Focus Group Meeting (FGM) for the Aberdeen Wind Facility Cluster and associated infrastructure located near Aberdeen, Eastern Cape Province. She informed the attendees that the purpose of the FGM is to present:

- an overview of the projects, including location, project infrastructure and associated infrastructure;
- the Basic Assessment (BA) Processes and Public Participation undertaken to date; and
- the results of the site sensitivity and impacts as documented in the BA Reports.

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

INFORMATION REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECTS

Matthew Ellero presented the various project components, the key environmental findings as documented in the BA Reports and the wind turbine layouts and associated sensitivities for each wind facility.

The presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

DISCUSSION

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
Ndumiso Camngca	Who is the Applicant and the entity who commissioned the Basic Assessment (BA) processes?	<p>Amy Hill indicated that Aberdeen Wind Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd, Aberdeen Wind Facility 2 (Pty) Ltd and Aberdeen Wind Facility 3 (Pty) Ltd are the applicant Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs). Atlantic Renewable Energy Partners (AEP) are the project developers and represent the project sponsor, whose details at this stage are still confidential and cannot be disclosed. It can be confirmed that it is a well know Independent Power Producer (IPP) in the industry.</p> <p>AEP appointed Savannah Environmental as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to conduct the environmental process.</p>
	Can it be confirmed that the three projects will be separate farms and will have different owners?	Amy Hill confirmed that the projects will be separate wind farms and consist of three separate applicants. Each project is separate, and ring fenced but do form part of a cluster.
	<p>The reason for the above questions is that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it needs to go through a land administration i.e. land-use application process; • Infrastructure is to be represented through a development plan; • apply for rezoning; • applications are normally done by a town planning professional; • it is understood that the above will be done by professionals as site development plans need to be submitted with the rezoning / land-use applications; and • whether geotechnical studies will be undertaken. 	Amy Hill confirmed that as part of the permitting process, rezoning and land-use change application / process will be undertaken. A town planning consultant will be appointed to assist with the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (SPLUMA) is process. Three different applications will be done.

	Therefore, three separate land-use applications would need to be submitted.	
	Is the Eskom Aberdeen Wind Farm authorised or has it been constructed?	<p>Amy Hill and Matthew Ellero confirmed that it received Environmental Authorisation but no construction had commenced.</p> <p>Post-meeting note: The Environmental Authorisation was issued on 27 July 2016.</p>
ClIr De Vos & ClIr Ruiters	The District Municipality support the projects and have resources available, when required.	<p>Amy Hill thanked the Speaker and said that the procurement and construction phases will only be done after all the permitting process have been completed and these processes will form part of the project sponsor's responsibility.</p> <p>She thanked the Officials for the open channel of communication.</p>
ClIr Safers	The District Municipality will become actively involved once the public participation process starts.	Nicolene Venter confirmed that the public participation for all three the applications have commenced and that the meeting forms part of the public participation for the three wind facilities.
ClIr Ruiters	Could you please send the presentation to my email	<p>Nicolene Venter agreed that the presentation will be shared with all attendees.</p> <p>Post-meeting note: The presentation was e-mailed to the attendees after the meeting was concluded.</p>
Ndumiso Camngca	<p>Transporting materials to the wind farms through small towns could be a problem. A similar situation occurred with the construction of a wind farm in the Western Cape Province whereby the turning points in the roads needed to be widen.</p> <p>Was a study conducted to determine the need for such upgrade/s in the towns to the wind farm sites?</p>	<p>Amy Hill confirmed that Savannah Environmental commissioned a Transport Impact Assessment and detailed road designs will be undertaken once the Environmental Authorisations have been issued. No by-pass has been identified at this stage.</p> <p>Nicolene confirmed that the Traffic Impact Assessment is included in Appendix M of the Basic Assessment Reports.</p>

Cllr Willem Safers	The District Municipality support the projects and have resources available for the development, when required.	Amy Hill thanked the Municipality for offering their support and the open communication channel.
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WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Amy Hill thanked the Officials for their valuable inputs and participation early in the consultation process.

Nicolene Venter thanked the Officials for their time to attend the Focus Group Meeting and formally closed the meeting at 15h15.

Appendix A: Attendance Record

Total Number of Participants	8
Meeting Title	ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY CLUSTER: Aberdeen Wind Facility 1, Aberdeen Wind Facility 2, Aberdeen Wind Facility 3, and Association Infrastructure: Focus Group Meeting
Meeting Start Time	3/28/23, 1:57:37 PM
Meeting End Time	3/28/23, 2:55:00 PM

ATTENDEES (Alphabetically according to Surname)	
CLlr Deon de Vos	Sarah Baartman District Municipality
CLlr Ruiters	Sarah Baartman District Municipality
CLlr Willem Safers	Sarah Baartman District Municipality
CLlr Cheslin Felix	Sarah Baartman District Municipality
Mr Ndumiso Camngca	Sarah Baartman District Municipality
Amy Hill	Atlantic Renewable Energy Partners
Matthew Ellero	Savannah Environmental
Nicolene Venter	Savannah Environmental

Aberdeen Wind Facility 1, Aberdeen Wind Facility 2 and Aberdeen Wind Facility 3, Eastern Cape Province

Public Participation Meetings

March 2023



1

MEETING AGENDA

- Welcome and introduction
- Overview of the projects, including location, project infrastructure and associated infrastructure
- Discussion on Basic Assessment Processes and Public Participation to be undertaken
- Discussion on results of the site sensitivity and impacts
- Way forward
- Discussions and Questions



2

MEETING CONDUCT

- Please hold all questions until after the presentation
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- Please raise your hand to ask a question and state your name
- Please switch all cellphones to silent



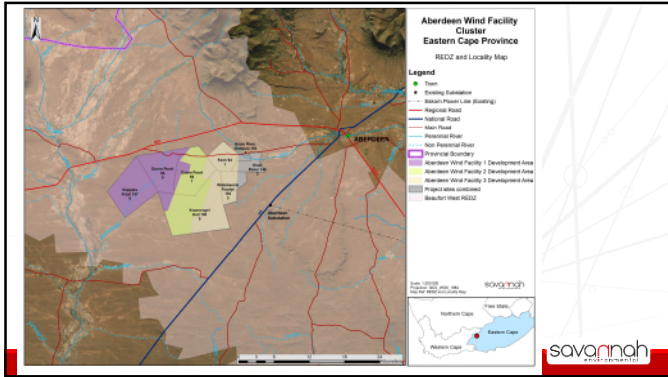
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PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Applicant:
 - Aberdeen Wind Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd
 - Aberdeen Wind Facility 2 (Pty) Ltd
 - Aberdeen Wind Facility 3 (Pty) Ltd
 - These companies have been established as special purpose vehicles
- Development of three (3) adjacent wind farm projects
- Site located ~ 20km west of Aberdeen, in the Eastern Cape
- Site located within the Beaufort West REDZ



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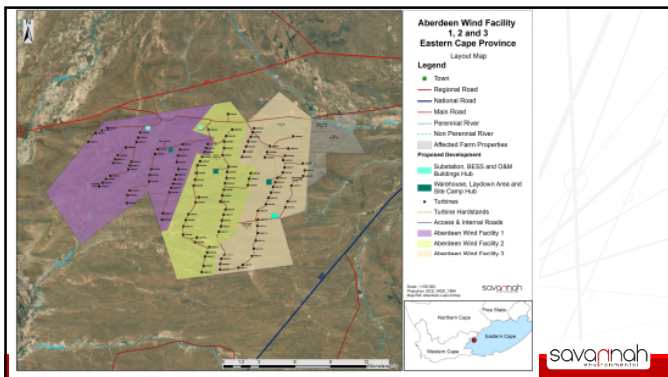
PROJECT COMPONENTS

Each project will also include the following infrastructure:

- Up to 41 turbines with a contracted capacity of up to 240MW
- Turbine foundations and turbine hardstands
- A substation hub, containing an on-site facility substation, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and Operation and Maintenance (O&M) buildings.
- Access and internal roads
- Cabling between the turbines (up to 33kV), to be laid underground and adjacent to internal access roads where practical; and
- Warehouse, laydown area and site camp hub, accommodating storage and assembly areas and concrete batching plant.

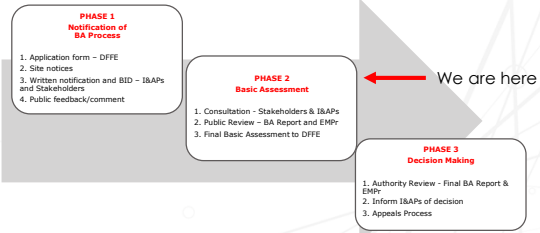
SAVANNAH PROJECT CONSULTANTS

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BA PROCESS & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

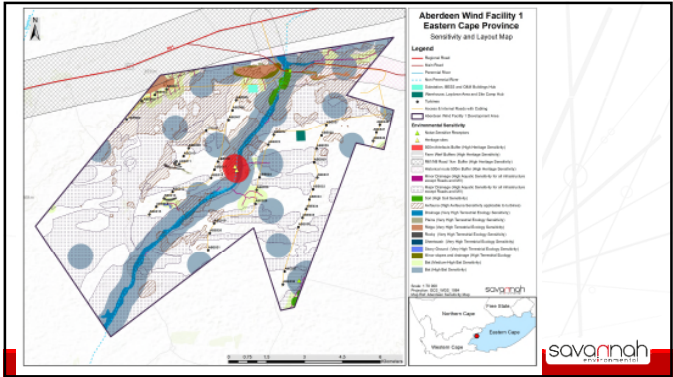


SAVANNAH PROJECT CONSULTANTS

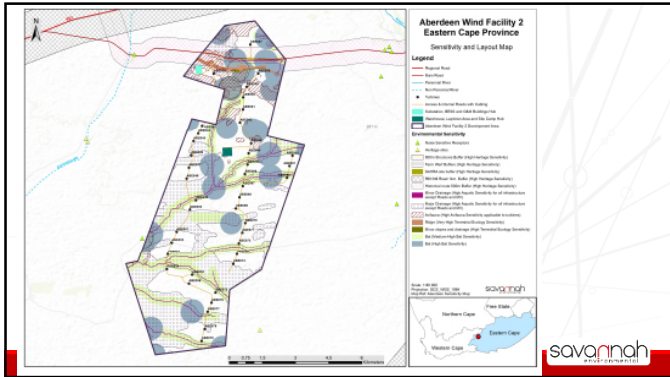
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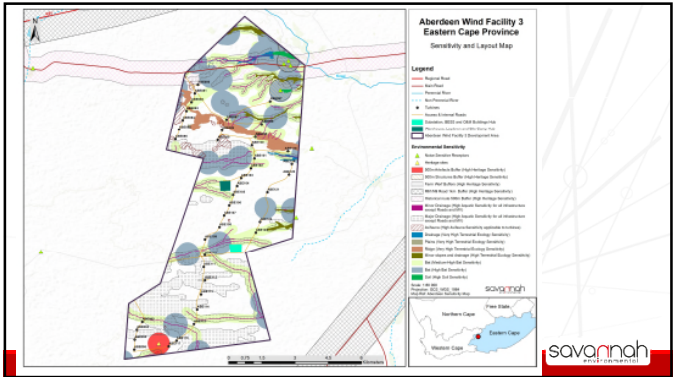
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12

DISCUSSION

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**BASIC ASSESSMENT 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 FOCUS GROUP MEETING HELD WITH KEY
COMMENTING AUTHORITIES
HELD ON TUESDAY, 28 MARCH 2023 AT 09H00
VIRTUAL: MS TEAMS**

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*

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation	Position
Mashudu Mudau	DFFE: Biodiversity Conservation	
Kamogelo Mathetja	DFFE: Biodiversity Conservation	
Amy Hill	Atlantic Renewable Energy Partners	Project Manager and representing the Applicant
David Peinke	Atlantic Renewable Energy Partners	Project Developer
Nkhensani Masondo	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Matthew Ellero	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner

WELCOME, INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

Nkhensani Masondo welcomed the attendees at the Focus Group Meeting (FGM) for the Aberdeen Wind Facility Cluster and associated infrastructure located near Aberdeen, Eastern Cape Province. She informed the attendees that the purpose of the FGM is to present:

- an overview of the projects, including location, project infrastructure and associated infrastructure;
- the Basic Assessment (BA) Processes and Public Participation undertaken to date; and
- the results of the site sensitivity and impacts as documented in the BA Reports.

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

INFORMATION REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECTS

Matthew Ellero presented the key environmental findings as documented in the BA Reports and the wind turbine layouts and associated buffers for each wind farm facility.

The presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

DISCUSSION

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
Mashudu Mudau	The Directorate Biodiversity Conservation receives notification of proposed projects and the availability of reports through the invitation to Focus Group Meetings and it was mentioned that this concern was raised previously.	<p>Nkhensani Masondo informed Ms Mudau that the matter will be relayed to Nicolene Venter for a response.</p> <p>Post-meeting note: The communication protocol as set out by the DFFE: Biodiversity Directorate has been followed whereby the public participation documents were addressed and sent to BCAdmin@dfpe.gov.za. The personalised letter informing the Directorate of the availability of the three (3) BA Reports were also sent to the e-mail address above and proof of the correspondence was provided to the stakeholder.</p>
Kamogelo Mathetja	<p>The Cumulative significance indicated that the impact on Bats is high and in conclusion it was presented that the impacts were considered acceptable. Can the logic behind the conclusion please be explained.</p> <p>It needs to be noted that from a conservation point of view, the fact that the impact, after mitigation, would still be high, is raised as a matter that needs to be considered.</p>	<p>Nkhensani Masondo responded that the hierarchy for impact assessments have been followed and all high sensitive areas have been avoided and therefor although cumulatively the impact has been identified as high, with the appropriate mitigation measures as included in the Environmental Management Programme, the impact has been found to be acceptable.</p> <p>Amy Hill mentioned that it is important to note that the cumulative impact rating is not only for the three Aberdeen Wind Facilities but also other renewable energy projects within a 30km radius, which includes the Eskom Aberdeen Wind Farm.</p> <p>Nkhensani Masondo alluded the stakeholder's attention to the specialists' reports in which the cumulative impact is assessed and addressed.</p> <p>Amy Hill acknowledged the matter raised and indicated that the cumulative assessment takes all the</p>

		projects as per the DFFE's list into consideration, which means that not all the projects will be constructed. It is also important to note that the projects are located within a REDZ.
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WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Matthew Ellero and Nkhensani Masondo thanked the attendees for their attendance at the FGM and for their valuable inputs submitted during the meeting.

The FGM was concluded at 09h45.

Appendix A: Attendance Record

Total Number of Participants	8
Meeting Title	ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY CLUSTER: Aberdeen Wind Facility 1, Aberdeen Wind Facility 2, Aberdeen Wind Facility 3, and Association Infrastructure: Focus Group Meeting
Meeting Start Time	3/28/23, 8:54:13 AM
Meeting End Time	3/28/23, 9:44:25 AM

ATTENDEES (Alphabetically according to Surname)	
Kamogelo Mathetja	DFFE: Biodiversity Conservation Directorate
Mashudu Mudau	DFFE: Biodiversity Conservation Directorate
David Peinke	Atlantic Renewable Energy Partners
Amy Hill	Atlantic Renewable Energy Partners
Matthew Ellero	Savannah Environmental
Nicolene Venter	Savannah Environmental

Aberdeen Wind Facility 1, Aberdeen Wind Facility 2 and Aberdeen Wind Facility 3, Eastern Cape Province

Public Participation Meetings

March 2023



1

MEETING AGENDA

- Welcome and introduction
- Overview of the projects, including location, project infrastructure and associated infrastructure
- Discussion on Basic Assessment Processes and Public Participation to be undertaken
- Discussion on results of the site sensitivity and impacts
- Way forward
- Discussions and Questions



2

MEETING CONDUCT

- Please hold all questions until after the presentation
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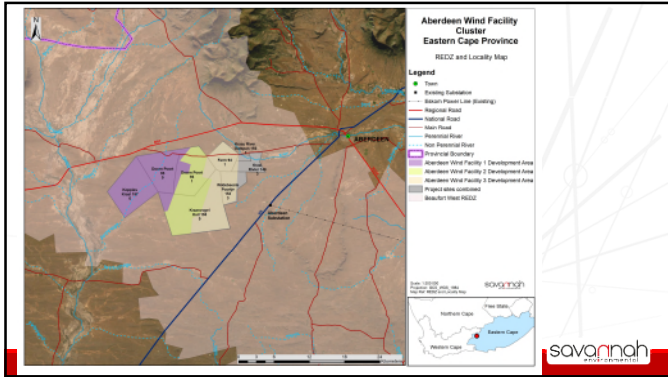
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PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Applicant:
 - Aberdeen Wind Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd
 - Aberdeen Wind Facility 2 (Pty) Ltd
 - Aberdeen Wind Facility 3 (Pty) Ltd
 - These companies have been established as special purpose vehicles
- Development of three (3) adjacent wind farm projects
- Site located ~ 20km west of Aberdeen, in the Eastern Cape
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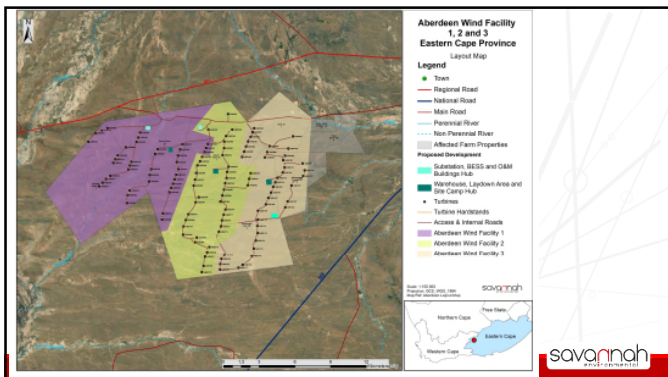
PROJECT COMPONENTS

Each project will also include the following infrastructure:

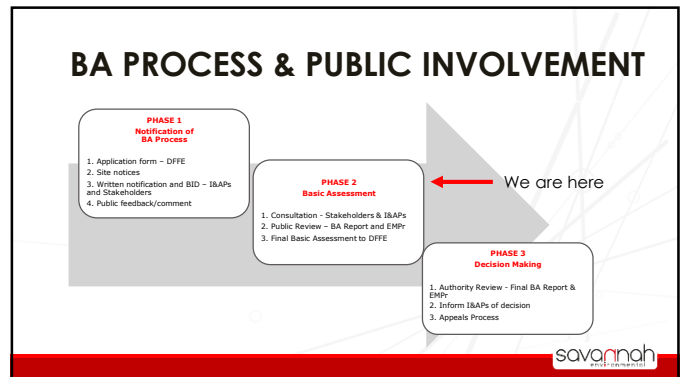
- Up to 41 turbines with a contracted capacity of up to 240MW
- Turbine foundations and turbine hardstands
- A substation hub, containing an on-site facility substation, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and Operation and Maintenance (O&M) buildings.
- Access and internal roads
- Cabling between the turbines (up to 33kV), to be laid underground and adjacent to internal access roads where practical; and
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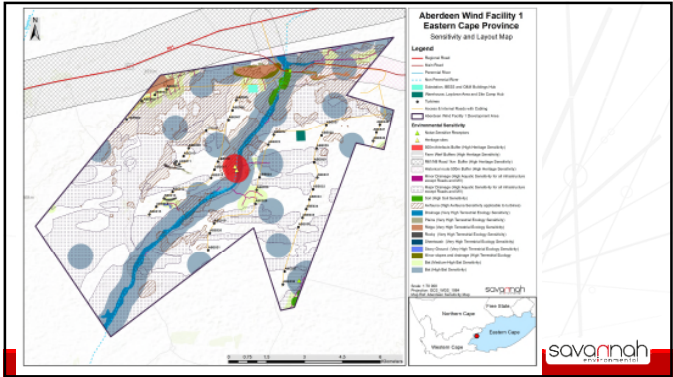
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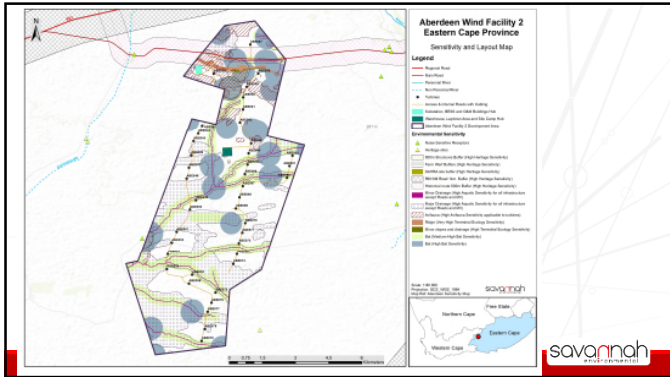
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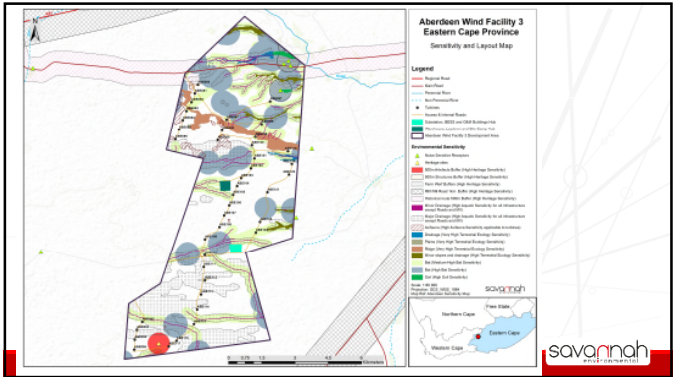
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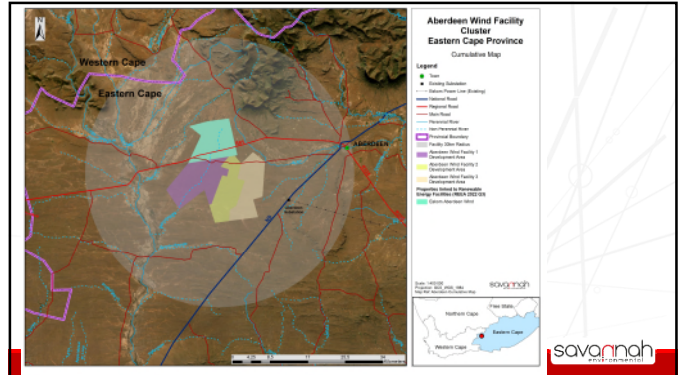


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Impact significance

Specialist Field	Impact Significance (Incl. mitigation)		
	Aberdeen Wind Facility 1	Aberdeen Wind Facility 2	Aberdeen Wind Facility 3
Ecology	Low	Low	Low
Aquatics	Low	Low	Low
Avifauna	Medium	Medium	Medium
Bats	Medium	Medium	Medium
Agriculture	Low	Low	Low
Heritage	Medium	Medium	Medium
Noise	Low	Low	Low
Visual	Medium	Medium	Medium
Social	Low (Negative) Medium (Positive)	Low (Negative) Medium (Positive)	Low (Negative) Medium (Positive)
Traffic	Low	Low	Low

13



14

Cumulative significance

Specialist Field	Cumulative Significance		
	Aberdeen Wind Facility 1	Aberdeen Wind Facility 2	Aberdeen Wind Facility 3
Ecology	Low	Low	Low
Aquatics	Medium	Medium	Medium
Avifauna	Medium	Medium	Medium
Bats	High	High	High
Agriculture	Medium	Medium	Medium
Heritage	High	High	High
Noise	Low	Low	Low
Visual	High	High	High
Social	Medium (Negative) High (Positive)	Medium (Negative) High (Positive)	Medium (Negative) High (Positive)
Traffic	Medium	Medium	Medium

15

WAY FORWARD

- The Aberdeen Wind Facility 1, 2 and 3 were considered acceptable and should reasonably be authorized.
- Aberdeen Wind Facility 1, Aberdeen Wind Facility 2 and Aberdeen Wind Facility 3 Basic Assessment Reports: available for review from 10 March 2023 – 13 April 2023 (<https://savannah.com/public-documents/energy-generation/aberdeem-wind-energy-facilities/>)
- Final BA Report to be submitted to DFFE for decision-making.
- The project team is available to answer any questions on the projects
- Register your interest as an I&AP so that you can receive important project information as it becomes available.

16

DISCUSSION

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**BASIC ASSESSMENT 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 KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 29 MARCH 2023 AT 09H00
VIRTUAL: MS TEAMS**

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

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation	Position
Johan Theron	Vodacom	Manager: Transmission Network – Eastern Cape
Wessel Human	Vodacom	
Siyanda Bengeza	Vodacom	Manager: Land Planning – Eastern Cape
Fufu Mvusi	Vodacom	
Joseph Tobi	Vodacom	
Lizelle Ströh	SA Civil Aviation Authority	Obstacle Inspector
Bernard Petlane	SA Weather Services	Snr Manager: Technical Services – Radio Networks
Kate Richardson	SA Bas Assessment Association	Chair
Amy Hill	Atlantic Renewable Energy Partners	Project Manager and representing the Applicant
Matthew Ellero	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Nicolene Venter	Savannah Environmental	Public Participation and Social Consultant

WELCOME, INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

Nicolene Venter welcomed the key stakeholders at the Key Stakeholder Workshop (KSW) for the Aberdeen Wind Facility Cluster and associated infrastructure located near Aberdeen, Eastern Cape Province. She informed the attendees that the purpose of the KSW is to present:

- an overview of the projects, including location, project infrastructure and associated infrastructure;
- the Basic Assessment (BA) Processes and Public Participation undertaken to date; and
- the results of the site sensitivity and impacts as documented in the BA Reports.

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

INFORMATION REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECTS

Matthew Ellero presented the various project components, the key environmental findings as documented in the BA Reports and the wind turbine layouts and associated buffers for each wind farm facility.

The presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

DISCUSSION

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
Lizelle Ströh	What is the proposed turbine blade tip height?	Amy Hill confirmed that from the hub to the blade tip height is up to 300m.
Kate Richardson	What is the lowest tip height?	Amy Hill confirmed that the blade clearance is 100m from the ground.
	<p>There are two type of bat species that would be killed by these wind farms, and they are currently going through a red data analysis process and it is envisaged that one of them will probably have a rating. The SABAA can forewarn the team of the process.</p> <p>As the above would be a slow process it would not be concluded soon, and it could change the cumulative outcome of the projects.</p> <p>The organisation needs a collection team on the site once the plants are operational and the turbines start moving, to know what species is going to be impacted.</p>	<p>Amy Hill thanked Kate Richardson for the information shared and confirmed that the information will be released to Caroline Lötter who did the studies and reports for these projects.</p> <p>The team is looking forward to the organisation's written comments on the BA Reports.</p>
	It was confirmed that comments would be sourced from the person who is attending to the genetics of these bats.	
	It was mentioned that what has been happening on other wind farm developments is that the project has been taken away from the specialist and handed over to a local company / person to collect carcass and this is not an ideal situation.	Amy Hill indicated that it would be to the advantage of the organisation to read the mitigation measures proposed by the specialists.
Wessel Human	Request the .kmz file with the turbine layout to overlay it on Vodacom's Microwave network.	<p>The .kmz file was e-mailed to Mr Human and all the attendees after the workshop.</p> <p>Amy Hill added that the developer will also be submitting separate telecommunication applications to the applicable stakeholders.</p>

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Amy Hill thanked the Officials for their valuable inputs and participation early in the consultation process.

Nicolene Venter thanked the Officials for their time to attend the Key Stakeholder Workshop and formally closed the meeting at 10h00.

Appendix A: Attendance Record

Total Number of Participants	8
Meeting Title	ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY CLUSTER: Aberdeen Wind Facility 1, Aberdeen Wind Facility 2, Aberdeen Wind Facility 3, and Association Infrastructure: Key Stakeholder Workshop
Meeting Start Time	3/29/23, 10:08:45 AM
Meeting End Time	3/29/23, 10:09:11 AM

ATTENDEES (Alphabetically according to Surname)	
Johan Theron	Vodacom
Wessel Human	Vodacom
Siyanda Bengeza	Vodacom
Fufu Mvusi	Vodacom
Joseph Tobi	Vodacom
Lizelle Ströh	SA Civil Aviation Authority
Bernard Petlane	SA Weather Services
Kate Richardson	SA Bat Assessment Association
Amy Hill	Atlantic Renewable Energy Partners
Matthew Ellero	Savannah Environmental
Nicolene Venter	Savannah Environmental

Aberdeen Wind Facility 1, Aberdeen Wind Facility 2 and Aberdeen Wind Facility 3, Eastern Cape Province

Public Participation Meetings

March 2023



1

MEETING AGENDA

- Welcome and introduction
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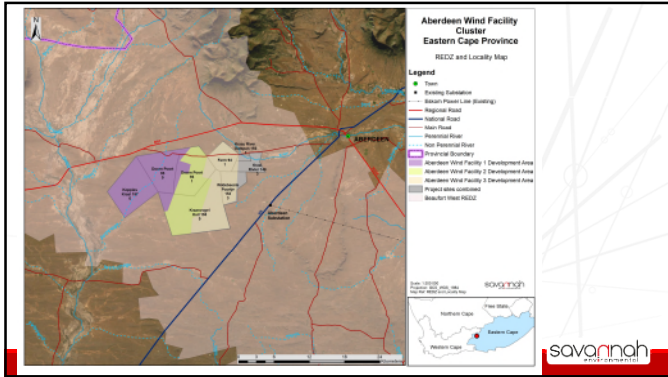
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PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Applicant:
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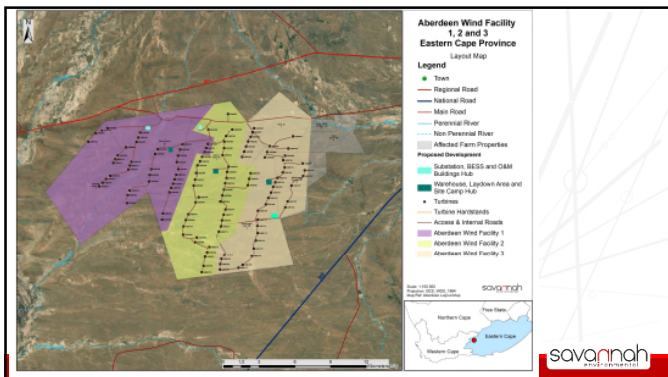
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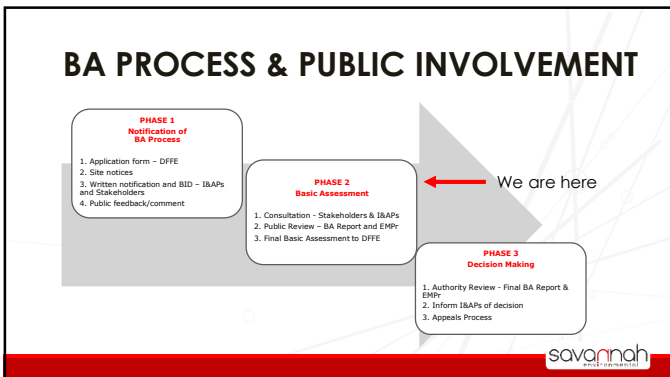
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- Turbine foundations and turbine hardstands
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ENVIRONMENTAL & PLANNING

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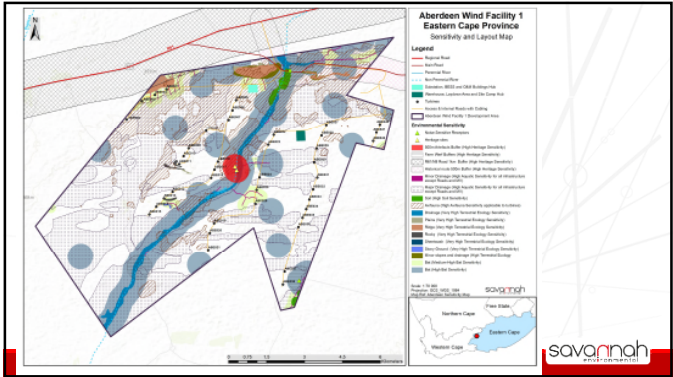
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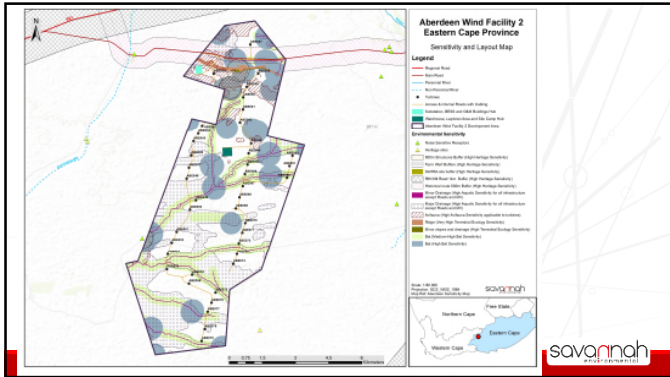
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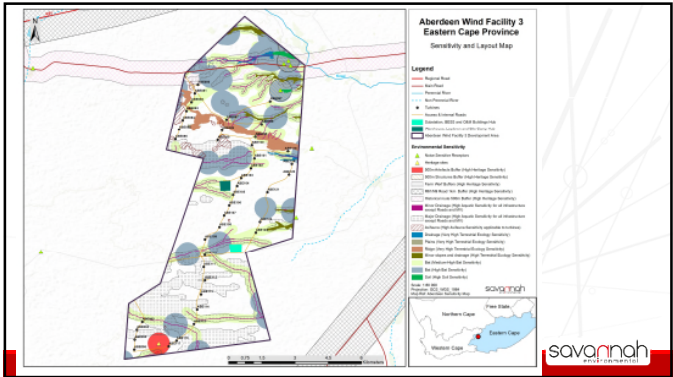
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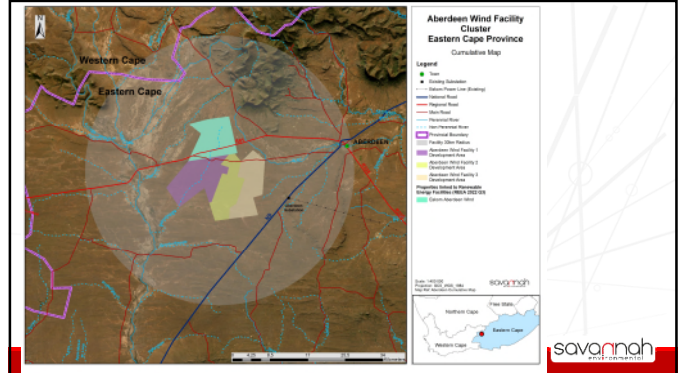


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Impact significance

Specialist Field	Impact Significance (Incl. mitigation)		
	Aberdeen Wind Facility 1	Aberdeen Wind Facility 2	Aberdeen Wind Facility 3
Ecology	Low	Low	Low
Aquatics	Low	Low	Low
Avifauna	Medium	Medium	Medium
Bats	Medium	Medium	Medium
Agriculture	Low	Low	Low
Heritage	Medium	Medium	Medium
Noise	Low	Low	Low
Visual	Medium	Medium	Medium
Social	Low (Negative) Medium (Positive)	Low (Negative) Medium (Positive)	Low (Negative) Medium (Positive)
Traffic	Low	Low	Low

13



14

Cumulative significance

Specialist Field	Cumulative Significance		
	Aberdeen Wind Facility 1	Aberdeen Wind Facility 2	Aberdeen Wind Facility 3
Ecology	Low	Low	Low
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Visual	High	High	High
Social	Medium (Negative) High (Positive)	Medium (Negative) High (Positive)	Medium (Negative) High (Positive)
Traffic	Medium	Medium	Medium

15

WAY FORWARD

- The Aberdeen Wind Facility 1, 2 and 3 were considered acceptable and should reasonably be authorized.
- Aberdeen Wind Facility 1, Aberdeen Wind Facility 2 and Aberdeen Wind Facility 3 Basic Assessment Reports: available for review from 10 March 2023 – 13 April 2023 (<https://savannah.com/public-documents/energy-generation/aberdeem-wind-energy-facilities/>)
- Final BA Report to be submitted to DFFE for decision-making.
- The project team is available to answer any questions on the projects
- Register your interest as an I&AP so that you can receive important project information as it becomes available.

16

DISCUSSION

savannah

**BASIC ASSESSMENT 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 FOCUS GROUP MEETING HELD WITH THE EASTERN
CAPE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL
AFFAIRS AND TOURISM
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 12 APRIL 2023 AT 09H00
VIRTUAL: MS TEAMS**

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

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation	Position
Mrs Cecilia Gyan	Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism	Assistant Manager: Environmental Impact Management
Mr Lyndon Mardon	Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism	Provincial air Quality Officer
Mr Alistair McMaster	Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism	Manager: Environmental
Mr Siyabong Gqalangile	Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism	Director: Environmental Impact Management
Amy Hill	Atlantic Renewable Energy Partners	Project Manager and representing the Applicant
Nkhensani Masondo	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Matthew Ellero	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Consultant
Nicolene Venter	Savannah Environmental	Public Participation and Social Consultant

Apologies:

Mr Daylan Govender
Mr Andries Struwig

WELCOME, INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

Nicolene Venter welcomed the Officials from the Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (EC DEDEA&T) at the Focus Group Meeting (FGM) for the Aberdeen Wind Facility Cluster and associated infrastructure located near Aberdeen, Eastern Cape Province. She informed the attendees that the purpose of the FGM is to present:

- an overview of the projects, including location, project infrastructure and associated infrastructure;
- the Basic Assessment (BA) Processes and Public Participation undertaken to date; and

- the results of the site sensitivity and impacts as documented in the BA Reports.

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

INFORMATION REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECTS

Matthew Ellero presented the various project components, the key environmental findings as documented in the BA Reports and the wind turbine layouts and associated sensitivities for each wind facility.

The presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

DISCUSSION

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
Lyndon Mardon	<p>In terms of the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) facility, what technology is being used, what is the size of the facility and what chemicals are being used in the battery.</p>	<p>Matthew Ellero replied that up to 5 hectares would be occupied by the battery facility and it would be Lithium-Ion batteries.</p>
	<p>Some BESS technologies trigger the requirements for an Atmospheric Emissions License, also when acid redox battery is used, then there is pollution associated with it, but if Lithium-Ion is used, these impacts would not be</p>	<p>Chapter 4.2, of the BA Report provides detailed technical information regarding the BESS facility and the technology.</p>
Cecilia Gyan	<p>What is a laydown area hub and what is it used for in terms of the wind farm.</p>	<p>Matthew Ellero replied that the laydown area will be utilised for assembling the wind turbines and other infrastructure brought onto site and the temporary storage of equipment and supplies. It will also include a warehouse and site camp for construction workers.</p>
	<p>Commented that access roads are included in these applications and have been assessed, as of late their Department is receiving applications for new access roads to development sites after Environmental Authorisations have been granted.</p>	<p>Matthew Ellero confirmed access roads, including internal roads, have been included in the application and have been assessed.</p>
Siyabong Gqalangile	<p>It is not clear whether the 5ha indicated as the size of the BESS facility is for the study area or the actual BESS facility.</p>	<p>Matthew Ellero responded that the actual footprint of the BESS would be up to 5ha in area.</p> <p>Amy Hill added the capacity of the BESS has not been specified in the applications, while the application for disturbance footprint is up to 5ha. Depending on the technology available to the sponsor at the time, the disturbance footprint could be smaller. The application submitted was for the preferred solid-state Lithium-Ion.</p>

	<p>It was presented that the applications fall within the Beaufort West Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ), and according to his knowledge Beaufort West falls within the Western Cape Province. Can it be clarified why Aberdeen falls within Beaufort West REDZ.</p>	<p>Matthew Ellero said that the Beaufort West REDZ area covers various provinces.</p> <p>Nkhensani Masondo added that the REDZ areas were determine through a process undertaken by the DFFE.</p> <p>Aberdeen, which falls within Eastern Cape Province, falls within the Beaufort West REDZ.</p>
	<p>As the project sites are adjacent to one other why are they separate applications and why not form part of a class / joint application process.</p>	<p>Amy Hill responded that the projects will be submitted as part of the Renewable Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP) and is therefore limited to 240MW per REIPPP project. In terms of the REIPPP process, the projects need to be completely ring fenced.</p>
	<p>In the presentation the Social Impact has been identified as medium positive – how does that correspond with the Developer's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)?</p>	<p>Matthew Ellero indicated that the social study took training of community members into consideration.</p> <p>Amy Hill added that the social benefits are included in the Socio-Economic Studies and that specifics lie with the project sponsors. However, The REIPPP dictates the allocation of funds to social development in the area.</p>
<p>Lyndon Mardon</p>	<p>There are two key points in terms of Climate Change i.e. mitigation and adaptation. From a mitigation point of view, has any consideration been given as to what is the mitigation potential of the three projects.</p>	<p>Matthew Ellero responded that the focus of the studies was the impact on the environment and that climate change specific impacts was not identified as a key impact to be assessed.</p>
	<p>In terms of adaptation, was climate change impact considered and what resilience have been proposed.</p>	<p>A detailed response will be provided with the meeting notes regarding climate change.</p> <p>Post-meeting note: Climate change impacts would manifest themselves as part of the impacts the specialists assessed as part of their studies. They have also provided mitigations aligned to reduce the impact of the facility on</p>

		the environment. Should an EA be granted, there will be a validity period included. Further specialist studies may be required if the validity period is to be extended, which will take into account new sensitivities and impacts (which will be influenced by climate change).
	Have the risk management been work shopped with the Sarah Baartman District Municipality.	Nicolene Venter informed the stakeholder that Sarah Baartman District Municipality Officials are key stakeholders and have been part of the consultation process and was invited to a Focus Group Meeting.
	Has the impact of fires been taken into consideration?	Mitigation measures against fires have been included in the EMPr and the risk of fires was included as part of the assessment
Siyabong Gqalangile	Ridges were indicated on the Aberdeen Wind Facility 3 and some wind turbines are located in close proximity to the ridges which would have an impact on bats as that is their nesting ground.	Matthew Ellero confirmed that all high sensitivity areas have been avoided, including the ridges. Amy Hill added that the wind facility sites are all flat and that during the bat study, there
	The DFFE is in the process of putting out a document for comment regarding the exclusion of BESS from obtaining environmental authorization, but details are not yet known, and the interim information will be shared with the project team.	Nkhensani Masondo acknowledge the comment and informed the stakeholders that Savannah Environmental has not yet received any documents for comment.
Lyndon Mardon	Commented that the Department is aware that the grid connection does not form part of this process and would await information once available.	Amy Hill confirmed that the grid connection does not form part of these applications and that this will be communicated at a later stage as part of that application.

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Amy Hill thanked the Officials for their valuable inputs and participation early in the consultation process.

Nicolene Venter thanked the Officials for their time to attend the Focus Group Meeting and formally closed the meeting at 10h15.

Aberdeen Wind Facility 1, Aberdeen Wind Facility 2 and Aberdeen Wind Facility 3, Eastern Cape Province

Public Participation Meetings

March 2023



1

MEETING AGENDA

- Welcome and introduction
- Overview of the projects, including location, project infrastructure and associated infrastructure
- Discussion on Basic Assessment Processes and Public Participation to be undertaken
- Discussion on results of the site sensitivity and impacts
- Way forward
- Discussions and Questions



2

MEETING CONDUCT

- Please hold all questions until after the presentation
- Please provide equal opportunity to all attendees
- Please raise your hand to ask a question and state your name
- Please switch all cellphones to silent



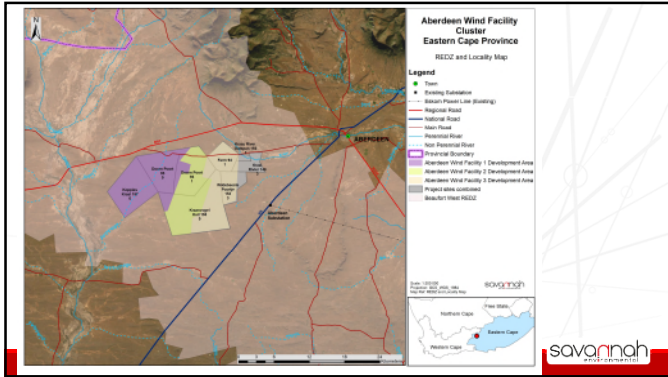
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PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Applicant:
 - Aberdeen Wind Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd
 - Aberdeen Wind Facility 2 (Pty) Ltd
 - Aberdeen Wind Facility 3 (Pty) Ltd
 - These companies have been established as special purpose vehicles
- Development of three (3) adjacent wind farm projects
- Site located ~ 20km west of Aberdeen, in the Eastern Cape
- Site located within the Beaufort West REDZ



4



5

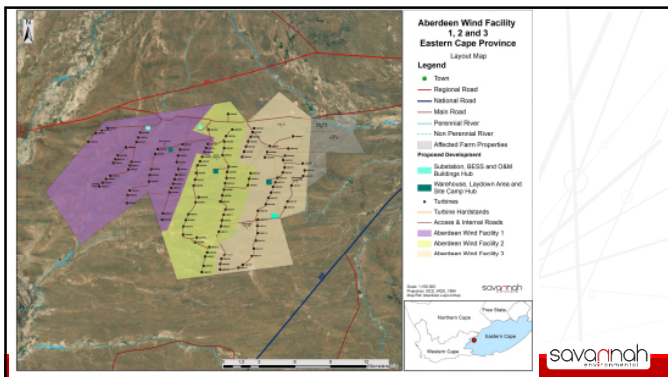
PROJECT COMPONENTS

Each project will also include the following infrastructure:

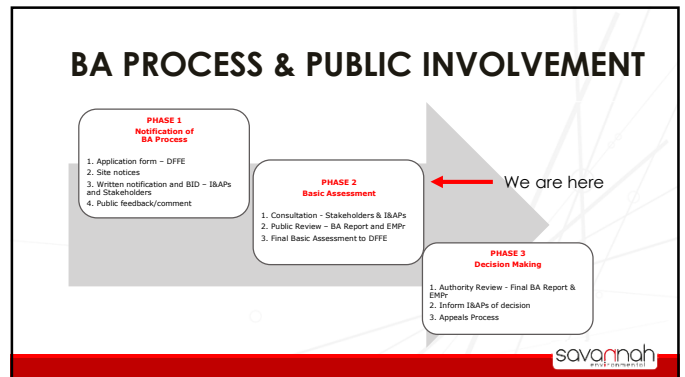
- Up to 41 turbines with a contracted capacity of up to 240MW
- Turbine foundations and turbine hardstands
- A substation hub, containing an on-site facility substation, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and Operation and Maintenance (O&M) buildings.
- Access and internal roads
- Cabling between the turbines (up to 33kV), to be laid underground and adjacent to internal access roads where practical; and
- Warehouse, laydown area and site camp hub, accommodating storage and assembly areas and concrete batching plant.

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6



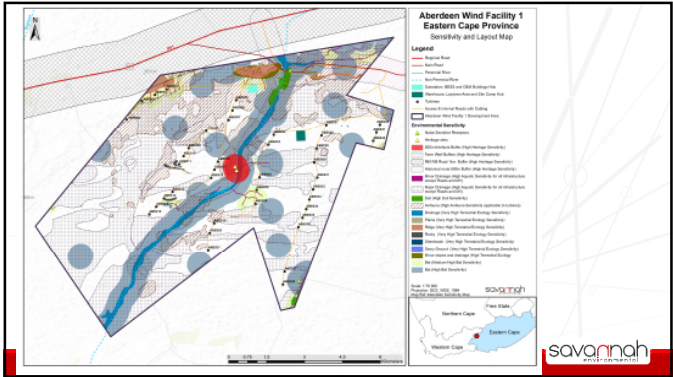
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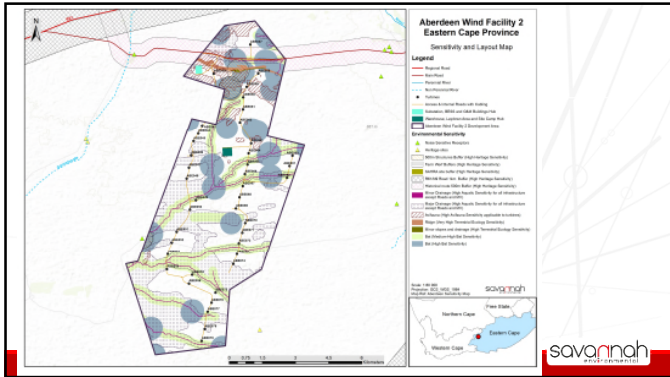
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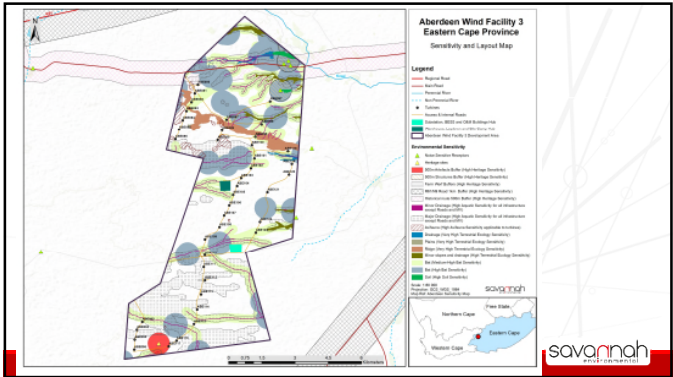
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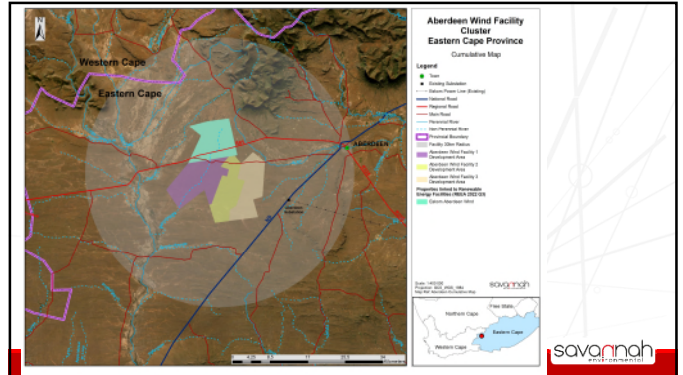


12

Impact significance

Specialist Field	Impact Significance (Incl. mitigation)		
	Aberdeen Wind Facility 1	Aberdeen Wind Facility 2	Aberdeen Wind Facility 3
Ecology	Low	Low	Low
Aquatics	Low	Low	Low
Avifauna	Medium	Medium	Medium
Bats	Medium	Medium	Medium
Agriculture	Low	Low	Low
Heritage	Medium	Medium	Medium
Noise	Low	Low	Low
Visual	Medium	Medium	Medium
Social	Low (Negative) Medium (Positive)	Low (Negative) Medium (Positive)	Low (Negative) Medium (Positive)
Traffic	Low	Low	Low

13



14

Cumulative significance

Specialist Field	Cumulative Significance		
	Aberdeen Wind Facility 1	Aberdeen Wind Facility 2	Aberdeen Wind Facility 3
Ecology	Low	Low	Low
Aquatics	Medium	Medium	Medium
Avifauna	Medium	Medium	Medium
Bats	High	High	High
Agriculture	Medium	Medium	Medium
Heritage	High	High	High
Noise	Low	Low	Low
Visual	High	High	High
Social	Medium (Negative) High (Positive)	Medium (Negative) High (Positive)	Medium (Negative) High (Positive)
Traffic	Medium	Medium	Medium

15

WAY FORWARD

- The Aberdeen Wind Facility 1, 2 and 3 were considered acceptable and should reasonably be authorized.
- Aberdeen Wind Facility 1, Aberdeen Wind Facility 2 and Aberdeen Wind Facility 3 Basic Assessment Reports: available for review from 10 March 2023 – 13 April 2023 (<https://savannah.com/public-documents/energy-generation/aberdeem-wind-energy-facilities/>)
- Final BA Report to be submitted to DFFE for decision-making.
- The project team is available to answer any questions on the projects
- Register your interest as an I&AP so that you can receive important project information as it becomes available.

16

DISCUSSION

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**BASIC ASSESSMENT 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 FOCUS GROUP MEETING HELD WITH LANDOWNERS
HELD ON THURSDAY, 30 MARCH 2023 AT 16H00
VENUE: ABERDEEN 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 FACILITY 1, ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 2 AND ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 3, AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR ABERDEEN, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Farm Name / Organisation	Position
Pen Marx	Lotterings Uitvlugt & Farm 94	Landowner
Johan Lategan	Wildebeest Poortjie	Landowner
Phillip McNaughton	Beenkraal	Landowner
Coenie & Gawie Steyn	Springbok Vlakte	Landowner
PJ Lategan	Springbok Vlakte	Landowner
Amy Hill	Atlantic Renewable Energy Partners	Project Manager and representing the Applicant
Des Brasington	Atlantic Renewable Energy Partners	Stakeholder
Matthew Ellero	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Consultant
Nicolene Venter	Savannah Environmental	Public Participation and Social Consultant

WELCOME, INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

Nicolene Venter welcomed the landowners at the Focus Group Meeting (FGM) for the Aberdeen Wind Facility Cluster and associated infrastructure located near Aberdeen, Eastern Cape Province. She informed the attendees that the purpose of the FGM is to present:

- an overview of the projects, including location, project infrastructure and associated infrastructure;
- the Basic Assessment (BA) Processes and Public Participation undertaken to date; and
- the results of the site sensitivity and impacts as documented in the BA Reports.

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

INFORMATION REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECTS

Matthew Ellero presented the various project components, the key environmental findings as documented in the BA Reports and the wind turbine layouts and associated sensitivities for each wind facility.

The presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

DISCUSSION

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
Coenie Steyn	What does the red circle on the sensitivity and layout map for Aberdeen Wind Facility 1 represents.	Matthew Ellero responded that it is a 500m buffer around artifacts identified on the property by the Heritage Specialist. This resource was a stone wall Kraal.
	Which birds have been identified as being prone to collision with the wind turbines	Matthew Ellero responded that 15 collision-prone bird species with a high fatality risk of collision with the turbine were recorded on site. This list is included in Table 8.4 of the report.
Phillip McNaughton	Has a grid connection corridor been identified?	Amy Hill responded that the grid connection does not form part of these applications and that the project sponsor is still in discussions with Eskom. It is envisaged the link will be to Gamma.


WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE


Amy Hill thanked the landowners for their valuable inputs and participation early in the consultation process.


Nicolene Venter thanked the landowners for their time to attend the Focus Group Meeting and formally closed the meeting at 17h00.

ATTENDANCE REGISTER: Affected and Adjacent Landowners ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 1; ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 2; ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 3					
Project	SE3060: Aberdeen Wind Facility Cluster		Meeting	Focus Group Meeting	
Date	30 March 2023	Time	16h00	Venue	Aberdeen Club House, Aberdeen


Organisation	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
Savannah Environmental	Matthew Ellero PO Box 148 Sunninghill 2191	Tel: 011 656 3237	
Designation		Fax: 086 684 0547	
Environmental Consultant		Cell: 060 826 9922 079 254 2366 (WhatsApp)	
	Email: matthew@savannahsa.com		


Organisation	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
Savannah Environmental	Nicolene Venter PO Box 148 Sunninghill 2191	Tel: 011 656 3237	
Designation		Fax: 086 684 0547	
Public Participation & Social Consultant		Cell: 066 2823 693	
		Email: nicolene@savannahsa.com	

Property Name	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
ATLANTIC Energy	DES BRASINGTON.	Tel:	
Designation		Fax:	
Stakeholder		Cell: 082 7792087	
		Email: des@atlanticep.com	

Property Name	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
Atlantic Renewable Energy Partners	Amy Hill	Tel:	
Designation		Fax:	
Project Developer		Cell: 081 461 7590	
	Email: amy@atlanticep.com		

Property Name	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
Resenevale	Sen Namu Family Trust		
Designation			
owner			

Property Name	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
Wildebeest Poortje	J.P. Lategan		
Designation			

Property Name	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
Kariegasfontein	P. M. Chasaban		
Property Name			

Property Name	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
<i>Amigbekubhe</i>	<i>Boni + Gani Satya</i>		
Designation			


Property Name	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
		Tel:	
		Fax:	
Designation		Cell:	
		Email:	

Property Name	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
		Tel:	
		Fax:	
Designation		Cell:	
		Email:	

Property Name	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
<i>Srinivasulu</i>	<i>P. Satya</i>		
Designation			

ATTENDANCE REGISTER				
ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 1; ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 2; ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 3				
Project	SE3060: Aberdeen Wind Facility Cluster		Meeting	Occupiers Information Meeting
Date	30 March 2023	Time	08h00	Venue
		Farm 94 (Good Hope)		

Organisation	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
Savannah Environmental	Matthew Ellero PO Box 148 Sunninghill 2191	Tel: 011 656 3237	
Designation		Fax: 086 684 0547	
Environmental Consultant		Cell: 060 826 9922 079 254 2366 (WhatsApp)	
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Designation		Fax: 086 684 0547	
Public Participation & Social Consultant		Cell: 066 2823 693	
	Email: nicolene@savannahsa.com		

Plaasnaam	Naam en Van	Kontakinligting	Handtekening
Plaas 94 (Good Hope) <i>TOESICHTBAAR</i>	<i>MORNING LANE 94</i>		
Pos			
<i>WEKR</i>			

Plaasnaam	Naam en Van	Kontakinligting	Handtekening
Plaas 94 (Good Hope)		Tel:	
Pos		Selfoon:	
		Epos:	


Plaasnaam	Naam en Van	Kontakinligting	Handtekening
Plaas 94 (Good Hope)		Tel:	
Pos		Selfoon:	
		Epos:	

Plaasnaam	Naam en Van	Kontakinligting	Handtekening
Plaas 94 (Good Hope)			
Pos			
Werk			

Plaasnaam	Naam en Van	Kontakinligting	Handtekening
Plaas 94 (Good Hope)			
Pos			
Werk			

ATTENDANCE REGISTER					
ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 1; ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 2; ABERDEEN WIND FACILITY 3					
Project	SE3060: Aberdeen Wind Facility Cluster		Meeting	Occupiers Information Meeting	
Date	30 March 2023	Time	08:00 18:00	Venue	Doorn Poort & Koppieskraal

Organisation	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
Savannah Environmental	Matthew Ellero PO Box 148 Sunninghill 2191	Tel: 011 656 3237	
Designation		Fax: 086 684 0547	
Environmental Consultant		Cell: 060 826 9922 079 254 2366 (WhatsApp)	
	Email: matthew@savannahsa.com		

Organisation	Name & Postal Address	Contact Details	Signature
Savannah Environmental	Nicolene Venter PO Box 148 Sunninghill 2191	Tel: 011 656 3237	
Designation		Fax: 086 684 0547	
Public Participation & Social Consultant		Cell: 066 2823 693	
		Email: nicolene@savannahsa.com	

Plaasnaam	Naam en Van	Kontakinligting	Handtekening
Doorn Poort & Koppieskraal	Adam Mostert		
Pos			
Werkers			

Plaasnaam	Naam en Van	Kontakinligting	Handtekening
Doorn Poort & Koppieskraal	Vinnie Jas		
Pos			

Plaasnaam	Naam en Van	Kontakinligting	Handtekening
Doorn Poort & Koppieskraal	Harry Lamert ^m		
Pos			

Plaasnaam	Naam en Van	Kontakinligting	Handtekening
Doorn Poort & Koppieskraal		Tel:	
Pos		Selfoon:	
		Epos:	

Plaasnaam	Naam en Van	Kontakinligting	Handtekening
Doorn Poort & Koppieskraal		Tel:	
Pos		Selfoon:	
		Epos:	