

COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT: I&APs & STAKEHOLDERS
Comments received during the Scoping Phase

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
General Environmental Issues / Comments			
1	Are you aware of the upgrade of the regional airstrip between Cookhouse and Somerset East? I would be able to provide you with the runway alignment and coordinates of the airstrip.	Robert Beach (Blue Crane Development Agency)	The information regarding the airstrip upgrade is appreciated. The information will be included in our process, and discuss the airstrip with the CAA.
2	It's important to know the need for the projects and to do the developments responsibly.	Nico Lombard (Blue Crane Development Agency)	Comment noted.
3	Are you aware that Urban Dynamics (Town Planning company) have been tasked with establishing a provincial task team around renewable energy?	Nico Lombard (Blue Crane Development Agency)	Developments around the establishment of the provincial task team around renewable energy will be confirmed with the Blue Crane Development Agency again after the meetings to be held June 2010 in order to obtain more clarity on the District and Provincial processes underway.
4	Are you aware that we have about 36 wind energy facility related applications within the Eastern Cape at the moment?	Morgan Griffiths (WESSA)	We are not aware of the exact numbers, however we know the number has been increasing. We are aware of other wind energy projects proposed for the area.
5	There is currently a call for a Strategic Environmental Assessment to be done for the entire Eastern Cape to look at the cumulative effects of all the proposed wind energy facilities. WESSA EP support this and its major concerns are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The siting of the facilities; • The noise levels; and, • The visual impacts. 	Morgan Griffiths (WESSA)	Comment noted.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
6	The game farming industry is dead set against monitoring masts and wind energy facilities in their areas. The best private game reserves seem to be situated where the best wind is. Most of the concerns in the area are being raised by the game farmers and the tourist operators who refuse to bring their foreign visitors to areas with tall structures like overhead power lines and wind turbines.	Morgan Griffiths (WESSA)	Comment noted.
7	Our major push in the Eastern Cape would be to educate the local, district and Provincial Department of Economic Development on renewable energy, especially a better understanding of wind energy.	Morgan Griffiths (WESSA)	Windlab has a long history of doing such work and would be available to provide such inputs at organised gatherings were it might be needed. Windlab would be interested in educating locals about the wind industry and our experience around the world.
Environmental / Ecology / Fauna Comments			
8	We would be concerned about bird and bat strikes on the Windlab site and how these strikes would be monitored and how the data would be captured.	Morgan Griffiths (WESSA)	We see this as a high priority area. The Scoping and EIA avifauna studies will be considering birds and bats in the area. If and when necessary Windlab may also investigate other measures, for example, stopping turbines during certain 'high risk' periods or shutting down the facility at key times. Windlab will also consider the data to inform the micro-siting of each turbine.
9	Are you aware of the Eastern Cape Conservation plan?	Morgan Griffiths (WESSA)	Yes, Savannah Environmental is aware of it.
Socio-Economic Comments			
10	What will your social responsibility programme consist of?	Chris Wilken (Blue Crane Development Agency)	Windlab are considering various options. This will become clear as the project unfolds. Windlab have made a commitment to invest a portion of revenue into a community fund, with a focus on education and health.
11	We are currently compiling a database of our skills and labour base in the Blue Crane Local Municipality.	Chris Wilken (Blue Crane Development Agency)	Windlab would be interested to know what the local skills and labour base for the area is.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
12	We would like to ensure skilled local persons are developed over the long term and would like to see investment into building local capacity.	Nico Lombard (Blue Crane Development Agency)	As part of Windlab's social responsibility plan, the developer would be investigating all of the possibilities and options of community beneficiation. It would have to be done in a organised manner.
13	Education is fundamental to us and we would like to see this aspect expand. We have introduced the Social, Technical, Engineering and Maths lab (STEM) in Somerset East.	Robert Beach (Blue Crane Development Agency)	Comment noted.
14	We have a growing town with a proposed new light industrial park and we require a secure supply of power to drive our economy.	Chris Wilken (Blue Crane Development Agency)	The project would support the local network and improve security of supply to the Eastern Cape grid.
15	We are also looking at expanding our tourism market in this area and are concerned that the renewable energy projects will clash with our tourism strategy.	Robert Beach (Blue Crane Development Agency)	Comment noted.
16	WESSA has a Community Social Investment arm through its environmental education programmes. We would also encourage developers to support local education programmes.	Morgan Griffiths (WESSA)	Comment noted.
EIA Process Comments			
17	Have you received any negative comments on this project from any one?	Derek Bowker (Alstonfield Farm)	No negative comments have been received on the project throughout the basic assessment and scoping phase public participation process.
18	What is the timeframe for completion of the environmental impact assessment process?	Derek Bowker (Alstonfield Farm)	The current timeframe is for the final environmental impact assessment report to be submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs by November 2010 for their review and authorisation.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
19	Please note that the local and district municipalities are busy with a process on renewable energy in the Eastern Cape. We would have more clarity on this after a meeting on the 9th of June 2010.	Nico Lombard (Blue Crane Development Agency)	The Blue Crane Development Agency will be contacted regarding the necessary details and outcomes of the meeting.
20	Why is the environmental authorisation for the basic assessment taking so long?	Derek Bowker (Alstonfield Farm)	The Department of Environmental Affairs are currently dealing with large volumes of applications. They are currently still in the process of reviewing the basic assessment for the proposed 80 m wind monitoring masts on the site.
21	You need to ensure you follow-up with Indalo and the Wilderness Foundation to hear their views on renewable energy and wind energy.	Morgan Griffiths (WESSA)	This point is noted. Indalo contact details have been obtained.
Comments on Findings of Scoping Report			
23	What are the rules for visual impacts that developers need to adhere too?	Chris Wilken (Blue Crane Development Agency)	There are no set, legislated standards for visual impacts, however impacts are investigated around towns, roads and residential areas through the EIA process.
24	Our major concern is the visual effect of a wall to wall development of wind turbines within our municipal area. We understand that farmers are in trouble and are looking at renewable energy projects to sustain themselves.	Robert Beach (Blue Crane Development Agency)	This point is noted.
25	We are concerned about the cumulative effect of 3 wind energy facilities in the area of Cookhouse. We currently have four sites being investigated by four different wind energy developers.	Nico Lombard (Blue Crane Development Agency)	Concerns regarding cumulative impacts associated with multiple proposed wind energy facilities in the broader area.

Technical Comments			
26	What do your preliminary wind studies show in terms of wind resources on the site?	Nico Lombard (Blue Crane Development Agency)	Windlab's preliminary studies have utilised specialised Windlab modelling software and data collected from existing 15 m wind monitoring masts on the site. Windlab are now waiting on the environmental authorisation to install 80 m masts on the site to improve the quality of the recorded wind resource data for the site.
27	What is Windlab's favoured site for wind energy development?	Nico Lombard (Blue Crane Development Agency)	This site is one of Windlab's best sites in the country.
28	Is there a possibility of the Blue Crane Local Municipality buying electricity directly from your project? Due to the major faults and lack of capacity in this area the municipality are investigating other alternatives of boosting power locally.	Nico Lombard (Blue Crane Development Agency)	The project's electricity is expected to be sold to the Independent System Operator. It will be put into the Eastern Cape transmission network, so it should provide grid support and better security of supply to the local Eastern Cape network.
29	How will maintenance be done for your project? We are looking at a training centre for locals who could do the maintenance for developers.	Chris Wilken (Blue Crane Development Agency)	Maintenance of the facilities will be very low and the turbine suppliers, as part of their contracts with the developers, typically are involved in the maintenance themselves.
30	What additional infrastructure will you have on site?	Morgan Griffiths (WESSA)	The site would have substations, power lines, a work area and possibly a visitor's area.
31	How far will your turbines typically be spaced apart?	Morgan Griffiths (WESSA)	This would be determined by the preliminary design and micrositing of each turbine. They would be a few hundred meters apart.
32	Will your transformer areas in your substations have bunds around them?	Morgan Griffiths (WESSA)	This would be part of the overall design to ensure such areas meet all the safety and environmental requirements.

Comments received during the EIA Phase

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
General Comments			
1	Bedford Ratepayers Association is a legally constituted public interest group with impeccable financial and other controls. The association wishes to register as a service group to participate in financial/social disbursements.	Dr. David Comyn, Bedford Ratepayers Association, comment by reply form submitted at Bedford Public Meeting, 07 October 2010.	Point noted.
2	We are not interested in this wind energy facility. It will have a negative impact on our farm. It's right on the border of our farm Wilgerbos, it cuts into our boundary and it will impact on the entire game farm industry in our area. So this is our biggest concern and we do not support it.	Jaco Royale, Ezulu Game Reserve, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010.	Point noted.
3	Why this name Amakhala Emoyeni? You are using a name that many foreigners are going to battle with. Why not just call it Poseidon Wind Farm? It is about it being practical.	Dave Robbins, DKM Farm, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	It is a proposed name. Windlab have gone through a lengthy process to choose a name and tourism issues were considered in this process. It is linked to the language of area and it depicts the heritage of the area. Its meaning is "Aloes in the wind".
4	I represent Indalo which is the association of Eastern Cape Private Nature Reserves. Some of our members have an interest in this area. Our members are looking at other areas to expand into and away from busy areas. What is the perceived cost of this project?	Dr. William Fowlds, Indalo, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	Capital cost would be in the area of R15-20 million per mega watt. It would be about R3 billion per phase.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
5	I don't think that wind farms are going to solve South Africa's energy crisis. I was quite pro wind farms twelve months ago until I started looking at the facts and it is quite scary what the facts indicate. This is a profit making business. The game farmer would be losing out and tourists travelling to a game farm would have to travel through a wind farm site to get there. The visual impacts would have a direct bearing on the tourism of game farms. Hopefully it would bring a new tourism industry to Bedford for wind tourism. We don't see it happening this way though.	Dr. William Fowlds, Indalo, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	Points noted.
6	What is the South African Government's involvement in this project?	Johan Deport, resident, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	The South African Government has no stake in this project. It's a project developed by Windlab as an independent power producer.
7	I would like to make sure that farmers like Carol at Wilgerbos have the right and opportunity to appeal against a wind energy facility like this.	Johan Deport, resident, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	Point noted. This is the purpose of the EIA process.
8	Is there a concern that the price of surrounding properties would decrease or increase?	Dr. William Fowlds, Indalo, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	By 2006, only two studies had been done in the USA. The one study found that property prices increased in values and the other found no effect on land values. A further study by the US Department of Energy in 2009 found that wind farms had a netural effect on property values.
Ecology			

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
9	The Greywing Partridge (Bergpatrys) is clinging to a tiny habitat on the most heavily impacted ridges in the area under consideration. The area on the site is called Patryshoogte for a very good reason. It is the habitat for the grey winged partridge. Large sections of the habitat have been destroyed and the last remaining sites are located in the coveys on the ridges on the proposed site for the Amakhala Emoyeni wind energy facility. The development of this wind energy facility would destroy their habitat and I would like to see you investigate this. I've studied the birds for the last 40 years. It's a shy breeder and is clinging onto life in this area.	Dr. David Comyn, Bedford Ratepayers Association, comments at Bedford Public Meeting, 07 October 2010.	This is a widespread and adaptable species. It may have become scarce in this area because of changes in land use and high grazing pressure, and it may even be affected by the facility, but does not rate as a priority in the avifauna assessment.
Social Comments			
10	Are there any plans on the cards to share some of the wealth generated by the project with the local community?	Dr. William Fowlds, Indalo, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	Windlab are investigating mechanisms of doing this. The first mechanism would be local farmer participation in this project and the second being a community trust for local initiatives, for instance in health, education and environment. There would also be secondary effects in terms of economics and regional benefits.
11	I would like to make a recommendation that your team go and visit all of the game farmers bordering your site, meet with them and put yourself in their shoes and observe what they would hear and see from their homesteads.	Johan Deport, resident, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	Point noted
12	Will the farmers taking part in this project be liable for increased rates in the future?	Jaco Royale, Ezulu Game Reserve, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010.	There might be a potential for this and we would add this to our contract with farmers.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
13	How will agricultural land prices be affected?	Aurgy Pringle, Bedford Farmers Association, comment at focus group meeting, 07 October 2010	Studies have shown that it is unlikely that the construction of a wind energy facility will negatively affect land prices. In fact there is likely to be an increase in land value.
14	Most people are positive about the proposed wind energy facility. People would be looking for the economic spin offs for the town of Bedford as it is surely needed.	Aurgy Pringle, Bedford Farmers Association, comment at focus group meeting, 07 October 2010	Point noted.
Technical Comments			
15	What is the participation process for local material suppliers and contractors?	Jaco Strauss, Idada Trading, comment by fax, 01 September 2010	This will only be confirmed at the tender stage, if the facility is constructed.
16	What is the aggregate needed for this project?	Jaco Strauss, Idada Trading, comment by fax, 01 September 2010	This is not known at this stage. This will only be confirmed at prior to construction.
17	Are all of the turbines placed on the highest points?	Carole Royale, Ezulu Game Reserve, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010.	Site selection is based on a number of factors such as wind profile and topography. Normally there is a correlation between height and the wind speed.
18	Will the project use the same or similar wind turbines installed at the Coega IDZ?	Dave Robbins, DKM Farm, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	It will depend on a number of factors such as our on-site wind measurements. This would inform selection of towers. Windlab are expecting higher wind speeds on this site, so the towers selected could be shorter as the height of the turbine is based on the wind regime. The EIA application allows for a tower of up to 100 m to be installed at the site.
19	Will there be blasting with dynamite during construction? Will it affect our water table if blasting occurs during construction?	Piet Venter, resident, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	The geotechnical study needs to clarify if blasting will be required. Blasting will be at shallow depths and is unlikely to have any effect on ground water quality or quantity.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
20	For getting your funding does Windlab need to sell the power in advance?	Johan Deport, resident, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	No. Windlab need to raise funds based on the site, wind resource, EIA, power purchase agreement etc. The REFIT is determined in advance but remuneration is dependent on outputs. Windlab will sell the power through the single buyer's office onto the utility that would transmit the power into the electricity grid. This office is to sit within Eskom at this stage but is planned to move out of Eskom and be independent.
21	What has been the strategy behind selecting this site?	Dr. William Fowlds, Indalo, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	Windlab have used a detailed funnel down approach and believe this to be one of the best sites in the country. There are a few qualities like the central plateau which creates a wind increasing effect, low ecological concerns and the access to Poseidon substation as well as access from the Coega port for the transportation of components to the site.
22	How would you deal with staffing during the operations phase?	Dave Robbins, DKM Farm, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	A small maintenance crew would be employed to do the work. Each turbine needs to be scheduled for maintenance two days per year. This means that for a facility of 350 turbines there would always be someone on site for maintenance. A typical facility of 100MW generally requires approximately 15 permanent employees.
23	How long is this project going to take to implement?	Grey King, farmer, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010 Edge White, Bedford Farmers Association, comment at focus group meeting, 07 October 2010	It would be constructed in a phased approach - bringing phases on line as they are completed. It would be overlapping periods of about 12 months each. A total construction phase length of approximately 18 months.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
24	Who will maintain the access roads during the construction and operation phases?	Aurgy Pringle, Bedford Farmers Association, comment at focus group meeting, 07 October 2010	The project would be responsible for ensuring that the access roads are well maintained throughout all phases. The EMP would clarify how this would be done. The maintenance of wind turbines would be on-going throughout the life of the wind energy facility. Any roads used during construction and not required for maintenance or use by the landowner will be rehabilitated.
25	How far are your negotiations with Eskom for grid connections and other project related requirements?	Edge White, Bedford Farmers Association, comment at focus group meeting, 07 October 2010	This is an on-going process of speaking to all role players, including Eskom and other government agencies dealing with renewable energy. Windlab are investing quite heavily in getting this project off the ground and are quite positive about the applications and process. Pricing for REFIT has been announced by the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) and it is understood that Treasury is to back power purchase agreements (PPAs).
26	What is the life span for the turbines?	Aurgy Pringle, Bedford Farmers Association, comment at focus group meeting, 07 October 2010	It would be for about 20 - 25 years, after which it might be upgraded or decommissioned. Windlab's contract with the farmers is for 25 years and the PPA would be for 20 years.
27	Who decides on who gets the go-ahead to construct the facility?	Aurgy Pringle, Bedford Farmers Association, comment at focus group meeting, 07 October 2010	It would be a combination of a tender process and decisions made by the Department of Energy, NERSA, Treasury and other state agencies like the Department of Environmental Affairs. Eskom and the DoE will sift through the applications. All independent power producers are currently waiting to find out what the selection criteria would be. There appears to be limited allocation for wind energy in the short-term, but this is expected to be expanded in the future.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
28	Do you have to register servitudes for infrastructure?	Aurgy Pringle, Bedford Farmers Association, comment at focus group meeting, 07 October 2010	The power lines would require the registration of a servitude. There are various agreements with the affected landowners regarding the presence of the infrastructure on their land.
Game Farming & Eco-tourism			
29	Members of the association are very concerned about the negative implications of wind farms in the area to current as well as future eco-tourism industry in the area. Will comment on the draft EIA once completed.	Dr. William Fowlds, Indalo – Association of Eastern Cape Nature Reserves, comment by reply form submitted at Bedford Public Meeting, 07 October 2010	Point noted. Await comments on draft EIA report.
30	Are you looking at future expansion of your site to the west?	Grey King, farmer, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	Expansion would be possible in the future; however it is too early to speak in detail about it.
31	This is the fourth wind farm project we are opposing in the area. Our concern is about the impact it would have on eco-tourism and African eco-tourism in the area. Hopefully the circumstances here would be different to our experiences on the other three projects. We have been told by tour operators who bring clients and business into our game farming areas that they would stop doing so if wind energy facilities are built in these areas. Wind turbines on the landscape are not regarded as being an African Experience.	Dr. William Fowlds, Indalo, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	These arguments are noted and a full submission from your association on this concern and matter should be put forward as part of the public participation submissions once you have reviewed the Draft EIA report.
32	In the Maka district our eco-tourism is valued at 15000/ha and farming at 2300/ha. If tour operators pull their business, our land value would go back to agriculture and we would lose out.	Dr. William Fowlds, Indalo, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	Point noted.
Cumulative Impacts			

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
33	The Cookhouse Wind Farm (reference number 12/12/20/1569) received environmental authorisation on 25 May 2010 for erection of up to 200 wind turbines on land immediately adjoining the Amakhala Emoyeni Wind Farm.	Thomas Donnelly, African Clean Energy Developments (ACED), Wind Energy Facility Developer, comments by e-mail, 06 October 2010.	Point noted. Cumulative impacts will be assessed through the EIA process.
34	The Western Cape has done some detailed studies on wind energy and has produced guidelines for wind energy and identified specific areas for wind, tourism etc. There is a document called the Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Western Cape.. Am I correct to say nothing is happening in the Eastern Cape with regards to planning and guidelines for all these proposed wind energy facilities?	Dr. William Fowlds, Indalo, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	The Western Cape Province developed guidelines for wind energy facilities and are currently in a process of completing the strategic environmental assessment for wind energy facilities. A study was done for a small area in the Western Cape and overlays were done, however it was done for planning and environmental management and identified areas that would be suitable for wind energy facility development from an environmental perspective only. It did not take into account the wind resource and other technical factors such as transmission integration. A Strategic Assessment for the entire province is currently underway and is likely to be available by the end of the year.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
35	<p>The approved Cookhouse Wind Farm should be considered as existing environment and therefore turbines in the Windlab project should not be located in positions that will create wake turbulence effects and loss of energy at any turbine locations within Cookhouse Wind Farm. It should be a condition of any authorisation issued in relation to the Amakhala Emoyeni Wind Farm that the layout needs to satisfy this "no wake" requirement once the existing Cookhouse Wind Farm turbine layout has been finalised and approved.</p> <p>The condition should read: Cookhouse Wind Farm has approval to erect up to 200 turbines on the Cookhouse Wind Farm site and has the right to establish its proposal to its full extent unimpeded. Windlab must, if necessary to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects of its proposal on Cookhouse Wind Farm, adjust the design of its proposal so that there is adequate upwind/downwind separation between turbines so as not to create wake turbulence effects and loss of energy at any turbine locations within Cookhouse Wind Farm.</p>	<p>Thomas Donnelly, African Clean Energy Developments (ACED), Wind Energy Facility Developer, comments by e-mail, 06 October 2010.</p>	<p>The EIA for the Amakhala Emoyeni Wind Energy Facility examines only the environmental and social impacts of the proposed project. Technical considerations in terms of wake turbulence effects etc will need to form part of separate discussions between the two developers.</p>

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
36	It seems like many of the IPPs are pretty much applying a shot gun approach, hoping that some of the wind energy facility EIAs would come off. I don't think the grid can handle all of the applications.	Dr. William Fowlds, Indalo, comment at public meeting, 07 October 2010	<p>The grid can only handle a certain amount of power integration in the area. The power integration of facilities would be done over a number of years with a certain amount of mega watts to be bought in per year. There might be 10 000 mega watt in application, it however does not mean it would be all purchased.</p> <p>Some developers are taking a shot gun in terms of potential project sites. Windlab has not taken such an approach. Sites have been selected on the basis of the wind resource in the area as well as other technical factors. In terms of the purchasing of power, it is expected that this will happen in annual tranches with certain amount of mega watts per year.</p>
37	We are concerned by the large amount of wind energy facilities being proposed, particularly in areas to the south east of your site. The Wilderness Foundation and game farmers are opposed to having these facilities in their areas.	Nico Lombard, Blue Crane Development Agency, comment at focus group meeting, 07 October 2010	Point noted.



**SUSTAINABLE
FUTURES ZA**

PROPOSED AMAKHALA EMOYENI WIND ENERGY FACILITY, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

FOCUS GROUP MEETING

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Address: PO Box 148
Sunninghill, 2157
Tel: 011 234 6621
Fax: 086 684 0547
E-mail: john@savannahsa.com

MINUTES OF MEETING WITH BLUE CRANE ROUTE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Sustainable Futures ZA

Address: PO Box 749
Rondebosch,
Cape Town, 7701
Tel: 083 325 9965
Fax: 086 510 2537
E-mail: swjohnston@mweb.co.za

Held on
Thursday, 27 May 2010,
Blue Crane Route Development Agency Offices,
Paulette Street, Somerset East

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Sustainable Futures ZA & Savannah Environmental

Please address any comments to Shawn Johnston at the above address.

**EIA PROCESS FOCUS GROUP MEETING:
PROPOSED AMAKHALA EMOYENI WIND ENERGY FACILITY**

Venue: Blue Crane Route Development Agency Offices, Paulette Street, Somerset East
Date: Thursday, 27 May 2010
Time: 10h00 – 11h30

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Shawn Johnston, process facilitator from Sustainable Futures, welcomed all the stakeholders to the focus group meeting. Shawn highlighted the objectives of the meeting and gave a brief outline of the proposed project.

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation & Position
Shawn Johnston	Sustainable Futures ZA- Public Participation Facilitator
John Von Mayer	Savannah Environmental
Chris Wilken	Blue Crane Development Agency
Nico Lombard	Blue Crane Development Agency
Robert Beach	Blue Crane Development Agency
Francis Jackson	Windlab Developments South Africa
Ian Macdonald	Windlab Developments South Africa

APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

John von Mayer provided a brief background to the project and presented the preliminary findings of the scoping phase studies undertaken. The presentation is attached in Appendix A.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Question / Comment	Response
Chris Wilken: Do you have the contact details of the planner at the Cacadu District Municipality?	Shawn Johnston: No we do not have it and would like to include the right person on our database for comment.
Nico Lombard: Please note that the local and district municipalities are busy with a process on renewable energy in the Eastern Cape. We would have more clarity on this after a meeting on the 9th of June 2010.	Shawn Johnston: We will contact you for the necessary details after the 9 June 2010.
Nico Lombard: What do your preliminary wind studies show in terms of wind resources on the site?	Francis Jackson: Our preliminary studies have been using specialized Windlab modelling software and data collected from our existing 15 metre wind monitoring masts on site. We are now waiting on the environmental authorisation to install our 80 meter masts on site. We have a few parallel processes underway. We hope to install the 80 meter masts in about two months. We are also bidding to be included in the first round of allocations by the National Energy Regulator and Eskom.
Chris Wilken: What are the rules for visual impacts that developers need to adhere too?	John Von Mayer: There are no set, legislated standards for visual impacts, however impacts are investigated around towns, roads and residential areas through the EIA process.
Nico Lombard: We are concerned about the cumulative effect of 3 wind energy facilities in the area of Cookhouse. We currently have four sites being investigated by four different wind energy developers.	Shawn Johnston: We note your concern and flag your comment on the cumulative effects of four proposed wind energy facilities in the same general location.
Robert Beach:	Shawn Johnston: We are aware of the two airstrips in the area. Would you be able to provide us with the necessary information on the upgrade?
Robert Beach: Are you aware of the upgrade of the regional airstrip between Cookhouse and Somerset East? I would be able to provide you	Shawn Johnston: We appreciate the input and will plot it on our maps and include it with talks with the CAA. [a map of the airstrip was provided]

Question / Comment	Response
with the runway alignment and coordinates of the airstrip.	
Robert Beach: Our major concern is the visual effect of a wall to wall development of wind turbines within our municipal area. We understand that farmers are in trouble and are looking at renewable energy projects to sustain themselves.	Shawn Johnston: This point is noted.
Nico Lombard: It's important to know the need and to do the developments responsibly.	Shawn Johnston: Comment noted.
Nico Lombard: What is Windlab's favoured site for wind energy development?	Francis Jackson: This site is one of our best sites in the country.
Nico Lombard: How far are you with all of your applications for this site?	Francis Jackson: We are currently busy with various parallel applications and investigation for the proposed site.
Chris Wilken: What will your social responsibility programme consist of?	Ian Macdonald: We are looking at various options. This will become clear as the project unfolds. We have made a commitment to invest a portion of revenue into a community fund, with a focus on education and health.
Chris Wilken: We are currently compiling a database of our skills and labour base in the Blue Crane Local Municipality.	Francis Jackson: This is a good idea, we would be interested to know what the local skills and labour base for the area is.
Nico Lombard: We have linked the schools curriculum to renewable energy through the maths and science weekend school and engineering club.	Shawn Johnston: Comment noted.
Nico Lombard: We would like to ensure skilled local persons are developed over the long term and would like to see investment into building local capacity.	Ian Macdonald: As part of our social responsibility plan we would be investigating all of the possibilities and options of community beneficiation. It would have to be done in a organised manner.
Robert Beach: Education is fundamental to us and we would like to see this aspect expand. We have introduced the Social, Technical, Engineering and Maths lab (STEM) in Somerset East.	Shawn Johnston: Comment noted.

Question / Comment	Response
Nico Lombard: Is there a possibility of the Blue Crane Local Municipality buying electricity directly from your project? Due to the major faults and lack of capacity in this area the municipality are investigating other alternatives of boosting power locally.	Francis Jackson: The project's electricity is expected to be sold to the Independent System Operator. It will be put into the Eastern Cape transmission network, so it should provide grid support and better security of supply to the local Eastern Cape network.
Chris Wilken: We have a growing town with a proposed new light industrial park and we require a secure supply of power to drive our economy.	Francis Jackson: Our project would support the local network and improve security of supply to the Eastern Cape grid.
Chirs Wilken: How will maintenance be done for your project? We are looking at a training centre for loacls who could do the maintenance for developers.	Francis Jackson: Maintenance of the facilities will be very low and the turbine suppliers, as part of their contracts with the developers, typically are involved in the maintenance themselves.
Robert Beach: We are also looking at expanding our tourism market in this area and are concerned that the renewable energy projects will clash with our tourism strategy.	Ian Macdonald: What type of tourism is being focussed on?
Robert Beach: We are looking at a mix of localised tourism and the area are moiving towards introducing the big five game species, trout farming and fishing and hunting.	Shawn Johnston: Thank you for clarifying the tourism mix.
Nico Lombard: Are you aware that Urban Dynamics (Town Planning company) have been tasked with establishing a provincial task team around renewable energy?	Shawn Johnston: No we are not however will follow up with the Blue Crane Development Agency after the 9th June 2010 to obtain more clarity on the District and Provincial processes underway.

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Shawn Johnston reminded all present of the availability of the draft Scoping Report and asked the representatives of the Blue Crane Development Agency to comment on it. Shawn Johnston thanked all for their attendance and participation in the focus group meeting.

The meeting closed at 11h30.



**SUSTAINABLE
FUTURES ZA**

PROPOSED AMAKHALA EMOYENI WIND ENERGY FACILITY, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

FOCUS GROUP MEETING

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Address: PO Box 148
Sunninghill, 2157
Tel: 011 234 6621
Fax: 086 684 0547
E-mail: john@savannahsa.com

Sustainable Futures ZA

Address: PO Box 749
Rondebosch,
Cape Town, 7701
Tel: 083 325 9965
Fax: 086 510 2537
E-mail: swjohnston@mweb.co.za

MINUTES OF MEETING WITH EASTERN CAPE BRANCH OF WILDLIFE AND ENVIRONMENT SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA (WESSA)

Held on
Friday, 28 May 2010,
WESSA EP Offices, Port Elizabeth

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Sustainable Futures ZA & Savannah Environmental

Please address any comments to Shawn Johnston at the above address.

**EIA PROCESS FOCUS GROUP MEETING:
PROPOSED AMAKHALA EMOYENI WIND ENERGY FACILITY**

Venue: WESSA Eastern Cape – Port Elizabeth
Date: Friday, 28 May 2010
Time: 12h00 – 13h00

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Shawn Johnston, process facilitator from Sustainable Futures, welcomed all the stakeholders to the focus group meeting. Shawn highlighted the objectives of the meeting and gave a brief outline of the proposed project.

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation & Position
Shawn Johnston	Sustainable Futures ZA- Public Participation Facilitator
Francis Jackson	Windlab Developments South Africa
Ian Macdonald	Windlab Developments South Africa
John Von Mayer	Savannah Environmental
Morgan Griffiths	Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa Eastern Cape Branch

APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Francis Jackson provided a brief background to the project using the project background information document. Francis Jackson provided an overview of Windlab and its work around the world, its current involvement in partnerships and its own projects in South Africa.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Question / Comment	Response
Morgan Griffiths: Are you aware that we have about 36 wind energy facility related applications within the Eastern Cape at the moment?	Shawn Johnston: No, we are not aware of the exact numbers, however we know the number has been increasing. We are aware of other wind energy projects proposed for the area.
Morgan Griffiths: There is currently a call for a Strategic Environmental Assessment to be done for the entire Eastern Cape to look at the cumulative effects of all the proposed wind energy facilities. WESSA EP support this and its major concerns are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The siting of the facilities; • The noise levels; and, • The visual impacts. 	Shawn Johnston: Comment noted.
Morgan Griffiths: The game farming industry are dead set against monitoring masts and wind energy facilities in their areas.	Shawn Johnston: Comment noted.
Morgan Griffiths: The best private game reserves seem to be situated where the best wind is.	Shawn Johnston: Comment noted.
Morgan Griffiths: Most of the concerns in the area are being raised by the game farmers and the tourist operators who refuse to bring their foreign visitors to areas with tall structures like overhead power lines and wind turbines.	Shawn Johnston: Comment noted.
Francis Jackson: I'm concerned about how the guidelines and strategic environmental assessments are done and how data is recorded and scored to illustrate certain aspects. Windlab would welcome the opportunity to engage in this process. We believe that a Strategic Environmental Assessment, if done right, can be an effective tool, however there are	Morgan Griffiths: We need to reach a consensus on how this is done and the way forward.

Question / Comment	Response
<p>certain potential pitfalls that need to be avoided in order to make it effective and achieve the goal of providing the most sustainable energy with the least socio-environmental impact.</p>	
<p>Morgan Griffiths: Are you aware of the Eastern Cape Conservation plan?</p>	<p>Shawn Johnston: Yes Savannah Environmental is aware of it.</p>
<p>Morgan Griffiths: You need to ensure you follow-up with Indalo and the Wilderness Foundation to hear their views on renewable energy and wind energy.</p>	<p>Shawn Johnston: Can you provide us with their contact details and we will follow-up [Indalo contact details were provided].</p>
<p>Francis Jackson: Who will be doing the Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Eastern Cape Province?</p>	<p>Morgan Griffiths: This must still be determined.</p>
<p>Morgan Griffiths: We would be concerned about bird and bat strikes on the Windlab site and how these strikes would be monitored and how the data would be captured.</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: We see this as a high priority area. The Scoping and EIA avifauna studies will be looking at bird and bats in the area. If and when necessary we may also investigate r measures for example stopping turbines at certain periods or shutting down the facility at key times. We will also look at the data to inform our micrositing of each turbine.</p>
<p>Morgan Griffiths: How far will your turbines typically be spaced apart?</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: This would be determined by our preliminary design and micrositing of each turbine. It would be a few hundred meters apart.</p>
<p>Morgan Griffiths: What additional infrastructure will you have on site?</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: The site would have substations, power lines, a work area and possibly a visitor’s area.</p>
<p>Morgan Griffiths: Will your transformer areas in your substations have bunds around them?</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: Yes it would be part of the overall design to ensure such areas meet all the safety and environmental requirements.</p>
<p>Morgan Griffiths: WESSA has a Community Social Investment arm through its environmental education programmes. We would also encourage developers to support local education programmes.</p>	<p>Shawn Johnston: Comment noted.</p>
<p>Morgan Griffiths: Our major push in the Eastern Cape would be to educate</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: Windlab has a long history of doing such work and would be available to provide</p>

Question / Comment	Response
the local, district and Provincial Department of Economic Development on renewable energy, especially a better understanding of wind energy.	such inputs at organised gatherings were it might be needed. We would be interested in educating locals about the wind industry and our experience around the world.

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Shawn Johnston reminded Morgan Griffiths of the draft Scoping Report and asked him to comment on behalf of WESSA EP and thanked him for his input and time.

The meeting closed at 13h00.



**SUSTAINABLE
FUTURES ZA**

PROPOSED AMAKHALA EMOYENI WIND ENERGY FACILITY, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

PUBLIC MEETING

MINUTES OF MEETING

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Address: PO Box 148
Sunninghill, 2157
Tel: 011 234 6621
Fax: 086 684 0547
E-mail: john@savannahsa.com

Sustainable Futures ZA

Address: PO Box 749
Rondebosch,
Cape Town, 7701
Tel: 083 325 9965
Fax: 086 510 2537
E-mail: swjohnston@mweb.co.za

Held on
Thursday, 27 May 2010,
Golden Valley Country Inn, Cookhouse

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Sustainable Futures ZA & Savannah Environmental

Please address any comments to Shawn Johnston at the above address.

**EIA PROCESS PUBLIC MEETING:
PROPOSED AMAKHALA EMOYENI WIND ENERGY FACILITY**

Venue: Golden Valley Country Inn
Date: Thursday, 27 May 2010
Time: 14h00 – 15h30

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Shawn Johnston, process facilitator from Sustainable Futures, welcomed all the stakeholders to the public meeting. Shawn highlighted the objectives of the meeting and gave a brief outline of the proposed project.

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation & Position
Shawn Johnston	Sustainable Futures ZA- Public Participation Facilitator
John Von Mayer	Savannah Environmental
Karen Jodas	Savannah Environmental
Francis Jackson	Windlab Developments South Africa
Ian Macdonald	Windlab Developments South Africa
Derek Bowker	Alstonfield Farm
Bongi Siwisa	Bongi Siwisa Development Services

APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

John von Mayer provided a brief background to the project and presented the preliminary findings of the scoping phase environmental studies undertaken. The presentation is attached in Appendix A.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Question / Comment	Response
Derek Bowker: Have you received any negative comments on this project from any one?	Shawn Johnston: No we have received any negative comments on the project throughout the basic assessment and scoping phase public participation process.
Derek Bowker: Why is the environmental authorisation for the basic assessment taking so long?	Karen Jodas: The Department of Environmental Affairs are currently dealing with large volumes of applications. They are currently still in the process of reviewing the basic assessment for the proposed 80 meter wind monitoring masts on the site.
Derek Bowker: What is the timeframe for completion of the environmental impact assessment process?	Karen Jodas: We hope to have a final environmental impact assessment report with the Department of Environmental Affairs by November 2010 for them to review.



WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Shawn Johnston reminded all present of the availability of the draft Scoping Report and asked all present to comment on it. He thanked all for their attendance and participation in the public meeting.

The meeting closed at 15h00.

AMAKHALA EMOYENI WIND ENERGY FACILITY BETWEEN BEDFORD & COOKHOUSE

Public and Focus Group Meetings:
27 - 28 May 2010
Overview of Findings of the Scoping Phase

DRAFT AGENDA

- Welcome, introduction & apologies
- Purpose of the meeting
- Background & Technical Aspects regarding the Project
- EIA process & feedback of the findings of the Scoping Phase
- Question & Answer session
- The Way Forward & Closure

CONDUCT OF THE MEETING

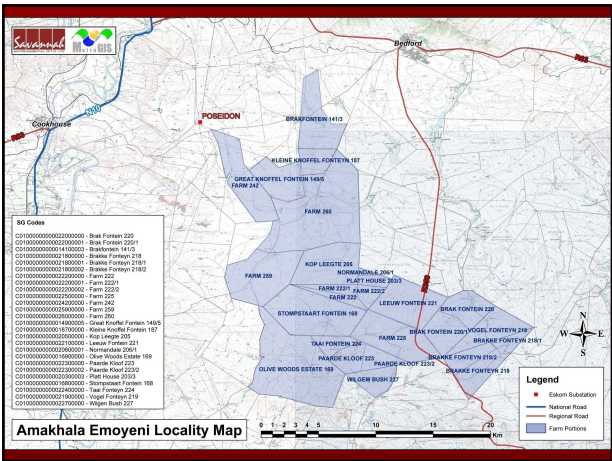
- Work through the facilitator
- Language of choice
- Keep your questions for Question & Answers Session
- Identify yourselves
- Equal participation
- Cellphone etiquette

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

- To provide I&APs with technical information/ overview regarding the proposed Amakhala Emoyeni Wind Energy Facility
- To provide an overview of the EIA process
- To provide I&APs with feedback regarding the findings of the Scoping Study
- To provide I&APs the opportunity to seek clarity regarding the proposed project
- To record comments, issues & concerns raised to inform the EIA Phase

BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT

- Applicant: **Windlab Developments South Africa** (Windlab), an independent power producer (IPP)
- Commercial wind energy facility - site between **Bedford & Cookhouse**
- Site located within the Blue Crane Route Local Municipality (Cacadu District Municipality)
- Situated ~8 km south-west of Bedford & ~15 km east of Cookhouse
- Study area ~273 km² in extent
- Up to 350 wind turbines

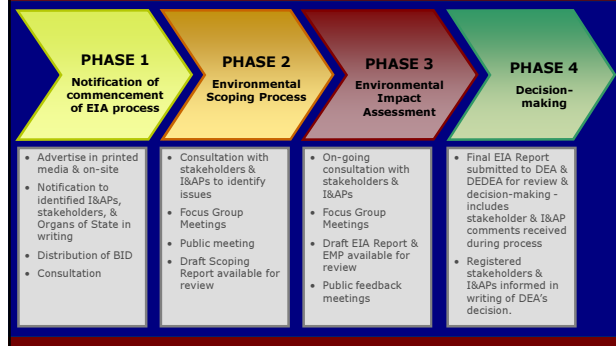


LEGAL CONTEXT

- National Environmental Management Act (No 107 of 1998)
 - Identifies and regulates activities which may have a detrimental impact on the environment
 - EIA process
- Windlab requires authorisation from DEA (in consultation with Eastern Cape DED&EA)
- Independent environmental studies must be undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations



EIA PROCESS & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

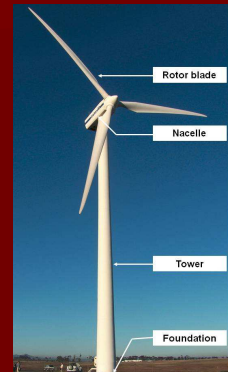


ALTERNATIVES

- Windlab consider the site a highly preferred site for wind energy facility development.
- Site selection process for this location
 - involved a narrowing focus from regional through to local
 - Considered engineering & economic constraints & social & environmental constraints
- No further siting alternatives have been considered in this EIA process.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

- Up to 350 wind turbines
- Foundations of up to 15 x 15 x 2 m
- Underground cables (where practical) between the turbines
- Up to 3 substations
- Internal access roads
- Overhead power lines either feeding into the Poseidon substation or linking directly into existing power lines within the study area
- Possible on-site maintenance facility and visitor centre



SPECIALIST STUDIES

Biophysical Studies

Impacts on ecology, fauna and flora: the construction of the wind energy facility and the associated disturbance of vegetation may result in impacts on ecology.

Impacts on avifauna: birds and bats may be impacted through collision with the blades during operation of the wind energy facility.

Impacts associated with geology: impacts associated with geology: relating to underlying soil conditions and erosion potential.

Impacts on agricultural potential: impacts on agricultural areas and potential, and land capability.

Social Studies

Visual quality and aesthetics: due to their size, wind turbines have the potential to have a visual impact on the surrounding area.

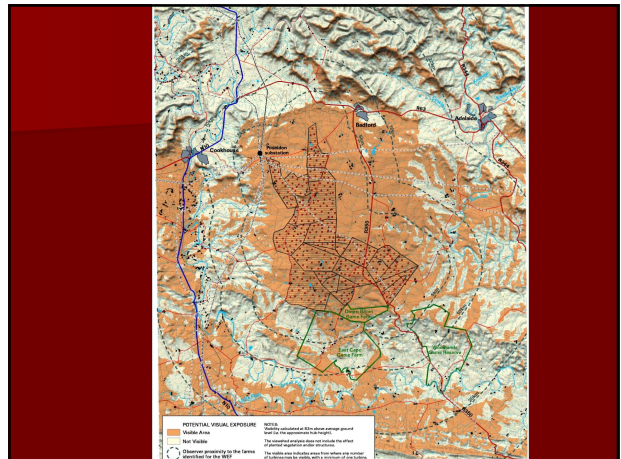
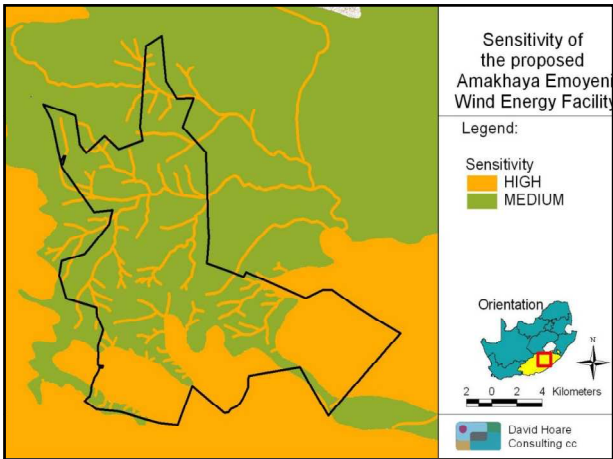
Impacts on heritage sites and fossils/palaeontology: disturbance or destruction of heritage sites and fossils/palaeontology may result during the construction of the wind energy facility.

Noise impacts: the rotation of the blades may result in noise emissions which could impact on nearby residents.

Impacts on the social environment: the construction and operation of the facility may result in limited job opportunities and could impact on local land use.

ISSUES IDENTIFIED THROUGH THE SCOPING STUDY

- Potential environmental impacts associated with the construction and operation of the wind energy facility and associated infrastructure
- Impacts anticipated on both the social and biophysical environment
- Sensitive areas on the site identified through specialist studies undertaken
- Final design to be informed by sensitive areas identified through the EIA process



EVALUATION OF PROPOSED PROJECT

Sensitive areas identified on the proposed site :

- Areas of high ecological sensitivity
- The presence of potential sensitive noise receptors in the study area
- Several erosion scars are mapped on the 1:50 000 topography maps and are visible on the aerial photographs
- The potential for various heritage resources to occur on the site - presence of these confirmed during the EIA phase

EVALUATION OF PROPOSED PROJECT

- Environmental impacts: construction activities within footprint of site & access roads
 - Effects on endangered flora, terrestrial fauna, birds & bats (local & site specific)
 - Soil erosion & degradation
 - Physical loss of heritage resources
 - Construction noise
 - Social impacts - visual, residents, socio-economic

EVALUATION OF PROPOSED PROJECT

- Environmental impacts: operation phase activities within footprint of site - managed through EMP
 - Visual impacts & impacts on "sense of place"
 - Noise
 - Avian/bat mortality
 - Soil erosion, loss or degradation
 - Social impact - local residents, socio-economic, clean energy

CONCLUSIONS

- Majority of potential impacts identified are anticipated to be localised & restricted to the affected site/area
- Facility will be highly visible
- Windlab to prepare a preliminary infrastructure layout for consideration within the detailed studies to be undertaken within the EIA phase
- Associated infrastructure including power line to be assessed in EIA phase
- Mitigation measures through EIA phase

WAY FORWARD

- Draft Scoping Report available for review from 21 May 2010 to 21 June 2010
- Public invited to submit comments
- Final Scoping Report to be submitted to DEA (& DEDEA) for review & approval prior to undertaking the EIA
- Compile draft EIA & EMP for public review

WHO TO CONTACT?

Shawn Johnston: Sustainable Futures ZA

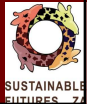
PO Box 749, Rondebosch,
CAPE TOWN, 7701

Phone: 083 325 9965

Fax: 086 510 2537

E-mail: swjohnston@mweb.co.za

Website: www.savannahsa.com





**SUSTAINABLE
FUTURES ZA**

PROPOSED AMAKHALA EMOYENI WIND ENERGY FACILITY, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

PUBLIC MEETING

NOTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Address: PO Box 148
Sunninghill, 2157
Tel: 011 234 6621
Fax: 086 684 0547
E-mail: john@savannahsa.com

Sustainable Futures ZA

Address: PO Box 749
Rondebosch,
Cape Town, 7701
Tel: 083 325 9965
Fax: 086 510 2537
E-mail: swjohnston@mweb.co.za

Held on
Thursday, 07 October 2010,
Bedford Club - Bedford, Eastern Cape Province

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Sustainable Futures ZA & Savannah Environmental

Please address any comments to Shawn Johnston at the above address.

**EIA PROCESS PUBLIC MEETING:
PROPOSED AMAKHALA MOYENI WIND ENERGY FACILITY**

Venue: Bedford Club
Date: Thursday, 07 October 2010
Time: 18h00 – 19h30

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Shawn Johnston, process facilitator from Sustainable Futures, welcomed all the stakeholders to the public meeting. Shawn highlighted the objectives of the meeting and gave a brief outline of the proposed project.

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation & Position
Shawn Johnston	Sustainable Futures ZA- Public Participation Facilitator
John Von Mayer	Savannah Environmental
Jo-Anne Thomas	Savannah Environmental
Francis Jackson	Windlab Systems
Ian Macdonald	Windlab Systems
Sue Bold	Indalo
Dave Robbins	DKM Farm
Susan Pieterse	Buyways Antiques
Carol & Jaco Royale	Ezulu Game Reserve
Dr. D.J. Comyn	Bedford Ratepayers Association
Gray King	Farmer
John Delpport	Resident
Julian Cole	Resident
Piet Venter	Resident
Derek Bowker	Farmer
Chris Brockwell	Farmer
Dr. William Fowlds	Indalo & Eastern Cape Game Reserves
B.J. De Klerk	Farmer

APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

John von Mayer presented the findings of the draft EIA report (DEIR) to all stakeholders present. Refer to Appendix A for a copy of the presentation.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Question / Comment	Response
Jaco Royale: We are not interested in this wind energy facility. It will have a negative impact on our farm. It's right on the border of our farm Wilgerbos, it cuts into our boundary and it will impact on the entire game farm industry in our area. So this is our biggest concern and we do not support it.	Shawn Johnston: So you are concerned about the 4 wind turbines that would be cutting into your farm boundary at the farm Wilgerbos. Your concerns are regarding the proximity of the turbines to your farm, your view of the area and the visual impact the wind energy facility would have on the surrounding landscape. I would like you, as game farmers at Wilgerbos farm, to review the draft environmental impact assessment report (DEIR) and submit your comments on it.
Carole Royale: Are all of the turbines placed on the highest points?	Francis Jackson: Site selection is based on a number of factors such as wind profile and topography. Normally there is a correlation between height and the wind speed.
Jaco Royale: It's not just about our game farm. It includes all of the game farmers to our left, like Olivewoods and Hollowdean.	Shawn Johnston: This point will be noted for the EIA.
Dave Robbins: Will the project use the same or similar wind turbines installed at the Coega IDZ?	Francis Jackson: It will depend on a number of factors such as our on-site wind measurements. This would inform our selection of towers. We are expecting higher wind speeds on this site, so the towers selected could be shorter as the height of the turbine is based on the wind regime. The EIA application allows for a tower of up to 100 m to be installed at the site.

Question / Comment	Response
<p>Dave Robbins: Why this name Amakhala Emoyeni? You are using a name that many foreigners are going to battle with. Why not just call it Poseidon Wind Farm? It is about it being practical.</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: It is a proposed name. We have gone through a lengthy process to choose a name and tourism issues were considered in this process. It is linked to the language of area and it depicts the heritage of the area. Its meaning is "Aloes in the wind". Your concern is noted.</p>
<p>Dave Comyn: The area on the site is called Patryshoogte for a very good reason. It is the habitat for the grey winged partridge. Large sections of the habitat have been destroyed and the last remaining sites are located in the coveys on the ridges on the proposed site for the Amakhala Emoyeni wind energy facility. The development of this wind energy facility would destroy their habitat and I would like to see you investigate this. I've studied the birds for the last 40 years. It's a shy breeder and is clinging onto life in this area.</p>	<p>Shawn Johnston: This issue is noted and will be referred to the avifauna specialist. I would like you to urge you to make a submission on this species once you have reviewed the DEIR.</p>
<p>Grey King: Are you looking at future expansion of your site to the west?</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: It is a bit premature to talk about expansion into other areas at this stage. If we are successful with the current proposed project it would keep us busy for a number of years. Expansion would be possible in the future; however it is too early to speak in detail about it.</p>
<p>Grey King: How long is this project going to take to implement?</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: It would be constructed in a phased approach - bringing phases on line as they are completed. It would be overlapping periods of about 12 months each. A total construction phase length of approximately 18 months.</p>
<p>William Fowlds: I represent Indalo which is the association of Eastern Cape Private Nature Reserves. Some of our members have an interest in this area. Our members are looking at other areas to expand into and away from busy areas. What is the perceived cost of this project?</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: Capital cost would be in the area of R15-20 million per mega watt. It would be about R3 billion per phase.</p>

Question / Comment	Response
<p>William Fowlds: Are there any plans on the cards to share some of that wealth with the local community?</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: We are looking at mechanism of doing this. The first mechanism would be local farmer participation in this project and the second being a community trust for local initiatives, for instance in health, education and environment. There would also be secondary effects in terms of economics and regional benefits.</p>
<p>William Fowlds: Will there be any of these community projects listed in your EIA report?</p>	<p>Shawn Johnston: This part of the project only deals with the environmental issues and concerns and does not include the economic model of the proposed project.</p>
<p>William Fowlds: This is the fourth wind farm project we are opposing in the area. Our concern is about the impact it would have on eco-tourism and African eco-tourism in the area. Hopefully the circumstances here would be different to our experiences on the other three projects. We have been told by tour operators who bring clients and business into our game farming areas that they would stop doing so if wind energy facilities are built in these areas. Wind turbines on the landscape are not regarded as being an African Experience.</p>	<p>Shawn Johnston: These arguments are noted and a full submission from your association on this concern and matter should be put forward as part of the public participation submissions once you have reviewed the DEIR.</p>
<p>Shawn Johnston: Could you please clarify what an African Experience means?</p>	<p>William Fowlds: It means the association of wind turbines on the natural South African landscape does not comply with the idea of open African landscapes. Buffalo and elephants are African associations and wind turbines are not. It is about transforming the visual impact that is not associated with Africa.</p>
<p>William Fowlds: I don't think that wind farms are going to solve South Africa's energy crisis. I was quite pro wind farms twelve months ago until I started looking at the facts and it is quite scary what the facts indicate. This is a profit making business. The game farmer would be losing out and tourists</p>	<p>Shawn Johnston: Points noted.</p>

Question / Comment	Response
<p>travelling to a game farm would have to travel through a wind farm site to get there. The visual impacts would have a direct bearing on the tourism of game farms. Hopefully it would bring a new tourism industry to Bedford for wind tourism. We don't see it happening this way though.</p>	
<p>William Fowlds: The current EIA needs to investigate what the current eco-tourism potential of this area is and what the potential future income from eco-tourism from this area would be. Socio-economic aspects need to be brought into the EIA process.</p>	<p>Shawn Johnston: Points noted.</p>
<p>Piet Venter: How deep will the project foundations be?</p>	<p>Shawn Johnston: This will be determined by the geotechnical study. It might be anything from 15x15 meters square and a few meters deep. This will be informed by a detailed geotechnical study prior to construction.</p>
<p>Piet Venter: Will there be blasting with dynamite during construction?</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: At this point I am not able to clarify this question. The geotechnical study needs to clarify this.</p>
<p>Piet Venter: Will it affect our water table if blasting occurs during construction?</p>	<p>Shawn Johnston: We are unsure. Let's have this point clarified and investigated further.</p>
<p>Johan Delpor: What is the South African Government's involvement in this project?</p>	<p>Shawn Johnston: The South African Government has no stake in this project. It's a project developed by Windlab as an independent power producer.</p>
<p>Johan Delpor: For getting your funding you need to sell your power in advance?</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: No you do not sell your power in advance. You need to raise funds based on the site, wind resource, EIA, power purchase agreement etc. The REFIT is determined in advance but remuneration is dependent on outputs.</p>
<p>Johan Delpor: So you have to sell your power?</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: We will sell the power through the single buyer's office onto the utility that would transmit the power into the electricity grid. This office is to sit within Eskom at this stage but is planned to move out of Eskom and be independent.</p>

Question / Comment	Response
	Shawn Johnston: The developer is currently doing everything at risk; this includes all their studies and wind monitoring and do not have any guarantees in hand that they would be awarded an allocation.
Johan Delpont: I would like to make sure that farmers like Carol at Wilgerbos have the right and opportunity to appeal against a wind energy facility like this.	Point noted. This is the purpose of the EIA process.
William Fowlds: The Western Cape has done some detailed studies on wind energy and has produced guidelines for wind energy and identified specific areas for wind, tourism etc.	Shawn Johnston: The Western Cape Province developed guidelines for wind energy facilities and are currently in a process of completing the strategic environmental assessment for wind energy facilities.
William Fowlds: There is a document called the Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Western Cape.	Jo-Anne Thomas: You are correct; a study was done for a small area in the Western Cape and overlays were done, however it was done for planning and environmental management and identified areas that would be suitable for wind energy facility development from an environmental perspective only. It did not take into account the wind resource and other technical factors such as transmission integration. A Strategic Assessment for the entire province is currently underway and is likely to be available by the end of the year.
William Fowlds: Am I correct to say nothing is happening in the Eastern Cape with regards to planning and guidelines for all these proposed wind energy facilities?	Jo-Anne Thomas: There is currently a process being conducted by the Cacadu District Municipality and the Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development and Environmental Affairs. The results of this study would likely be available only next year.
William Fowlds: It seems like many of the IPPs are pretty much applying a shot gun approach, hoping that some of the wind energy facility EIAs would come off. I don't think the grid can handle all of the applications.	Shawn Johnston: You are correct the grid can only handle a certain amount of power integration in the area. The power integration of facilities would be done over a number of years with a certain amount of mega watts to be bought in per year. There might be 10 000 mega watt in application, it however does not mean it would be all purchased.

Question / Comment	Response
	Francis Jackson: Some developers are taking a shot gun in terms of potential project sites. Windlab has not taken such an approach. Sites have been selected on the basis of the wind resource in the area as well as other technical factors. In terms of the purchasing of power, it is expected that this will happen in annual tranches with certain amount of mega watts per year.
William Fowlds: What has been your strategy behind selecting this site?	Francis Jackson: We have used a detailed funnel down approach and we believe this to be one of the best sites in the country. There are a few qualities like the central plateau which creates a wind increasing effect, low ecological concerns and the access to Poseidon substation as well as access from the Coega port for the transportation of components to the site.
William Fowlds: You said the REFIT tariff is R1.25 per kilo watt hour. What is the current cost to Eskom to produce power from coal?	Francis Jackson: We would all like to know. That information is not in the public domain.
William Fowlds: In the rural areas we are paying R 0.42 per kilo watt hour after the increase. We are assuming that they are generating it at R 0.30 per kilo watt hour.	Ian Macdonald: NERSA indicate that cost of coal would more than triple by 2030. The cost of nuclear power would increase by 150% over the same time frame and wind would be the third cheapest power generation option by 2030. Wind will be expensive now but in 20 years it would be the cheaper power source.
William Fowlds: So the REFIT price would come down in the future?	Ian Macdonald: It seems so from reading what NERSA is saying. According to the former Chairman Bobby Godsell, Eskom does sell their power at a cheaper rate than it costs to generate.
William Fowlds: Is there a concern from the meeting that the price of surrounding properties would decrease or increase?	Ian Macdonald: I've done some research into this. By 2006, only two studies had been done in the USA. The one study found that property prices increased in values and the other found no effect on land values. A further study by the US Department of Energy in 2009 found that wind farms had a neutral effect on property values.
William Fowlds: In the Maka district our	Noted

Question / Comment	Response
<p>eco-tourism is valued at 15000/ha and farming at 2300/ha. If tour operators pull their business, our land value would go back to agriculture and we would lose out.</p>	
<p>Johan Delpont: I think the rental price for accommodation in the town will go up for the duration of the construction period. This will then change after construction has been completed.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>
<p>Dave Robbins: How would you deal with staffing during the operations phase?</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: A small maintenance crew would be employed to do the work. Each turbine needs to be scheduled for maintenance two days per year. This means that for a facility of 350 turbines there would always be someone on site for maintenance. A typical facility of 100MW generally requires approximately 15 permanent employees.</p>
<p>Dave Comyn: I'm mandated by the Bedford Ratepayers Association to offer our services to your company that we have an impeccable track record in financial management and can assist with your social investment programme and wish to be part of the social dispensation initiative in the area.</p>	<p>Shawn Johnston: Point noted, Francis Jackson will follow-up on this matter.</p>
<p>William Fowlds: If the EIA report will be coming out in a week's time, is it not a bit embarrassing that a stakeholder at this late stage is pointing out certain species that should have been covered in the specialist reports. What other areas have been overlooked?</p>	<p>Shawn Johnston: There are always opportunities to close gaps were these may exist and get the correct information out. We welcome additions and corrections and all other inputs into this process.</p> <p>Jo-Anne Thomas: John only represented a snap shot of the overall study and in all likelihood all the information is in the report.</p> <p>Francis Jackson: the species mentioned earlier - the grey winged partridge - was identified in the specialist study for the Scoping Report of the EIA.</p>
<p>Johan Delpont: I would like to make a recommendation that your team go and</p>	<p>Shawn Johnston: Point noted.</p>

Question / Comment	Response
visit all of the game farmers bordering your site, meet with them and put yourself in their shoes and observe what they would hear and see from their homesteads.	
Jaco Royale: Will the farmers taking part in this project be liable for increased rates in the future?	Francis Jackson: There might be a potential for this and we would add this to our contract with farmers.

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Shawn Johnston reminded all present of the availability of the Draft EIA report and EMP and asked all present to comment on them. He thanked all stakeholders for their attendance and participation in the public meeting.

The meeting closed at 19h30.



**SUSTAINABLE
FUTURES ZA**

PROPOSED AMAKHALA EMOYENI WIND ENERGY FACILITY, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

FOCUS GROUP MEETING

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Address: PO Box 148
Sunninghill, 2157
Tel: 011 234 6621
Fax: 086 684 0547
E-mail: john@savannahsa.com

NOTES OF MEETING WITH BEDFORD FARMERS ASSOCIATION

Sustainable Futures ZA

Address: PO Box 749
Rondebosch,
Cape Town, 7701
Tel: 083 325 9965
Fax: 086 510 2537
E-mail: swjohnston@mweb.co.za

Held on
Thursday, 07 October 2010,
Bedford Club

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Sustainable Futures ZA & Savannah Environmental

Please address any comments to Shawn Johnston at the above address.

**EIA PROCESS FOCUS GROUP MEETING:
PROPOSED AMAKHALA EMOYENI WIND ENERGY FACILITY**

Venue: Bedford Club
Date: Thursday, 07 October 2010
Time: 16h10 – 16h40

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Shawn Johnston, process facilitator from Sustainable Futures, welcomed the leadership of the Bedford Farmers Association to the focus group meeting. Shawn highlighted the objectives of the meeting and gave a brief outline of the proposed project.

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation & Position
Shawn Johnston	Sustainable Futures ZA- Public Participation Facilitator
Francis Jackson	Windlab Developments
Ian Macdonald	Windlab Developments
John Von Mayer	Savannah Environmental
Jo-Anne Thomas	Savannah Environmental
R.W.Pringle (Aurgy)	Bedford Farmers Association
B.E.T White (Edge)	Bedford Farmers Association

APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

John von Mayer presented the findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment studies undertaken to date for the proposed Amakhala Emoyeni wind energy facility. Refer to appendix A for a copy of the presentation.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Question / Comment	Response
<p>Aurgy Pringle: We welcome the opportunity to study the draft EIA report and EMP and will make our submission once we have done so.</p>	<p>Shawn Johnston: We welcome your participation and comments in the project. The draft EIA report will be sent to the leadership of the Bedford Farmers Association for comment. This will be sent with a covering letter outlining the comments period.</p>
<p>Edge White: This looks like it will be a massive project. The construction phase and operational phase look impressive. How long is the construction phase?</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: It is proposed that the project is implemented in 3 phases, each of which could take between 12 and 18 months to construct. The phases could overlap and therefore the total construction period is expected to be 18 months to 2 years.</p>
<p>Aurgy Pringle: Who will maintain the access roads during the construction and operation phases?</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: The project would be responsible for ensuring that the access roads are well maintained throughout all phases. The EMP would clarify how this would be done. The maintenance of wind turbines would be on-going throughout the life of the wind energy facility. Any roads used during construction and not required for maintenance or use by the landowner will be rehabilitated.</p>
<p>Edge White: How far are your negotiations with Eskom for grid connections and other project related requirements?</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: This is an on-going process of speaking to all role players, including Eskom and other government agencies dealing with renewable energy. We are investing quite heavily in getting this project off the ground. We are quite positive about the applications and process. Pricing for REFIT has been announced by the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) and it is understood that Treasury is to back power purchase agreements (PPAs).</p>
<p>Aurgy Pringle: Who decides on who gets the go-ahead to construct the facility?</p>	<p>Francis Jackson: It would be a combination of a tender process and decisions made by the Department of Energy, NERSA, Treasury and other state agencies like the Department of Environmental Affairs. Eskom and the DoE will sift through the applications. All independent power producers are currently waiting to find out what the selection criteria would be. There appears to</p>

Question / Comment	Response
	be limited allocation for wind energy in the short-term, but this is expected to be expanded in the future.
Aurgy Pringle: What is the life span for the turbines?	Francis Jackson: It would be for about 20 - 25 years, after which it might be upgraded or decommissioned. Windlab's contract with the farmers is for 25 years and the PPA would be for 20 years.
Edge White: Have you spoken to the game farmers in the area? Some of them do not want the wind energy facilities near them.	Ian Macdonald: Yes we have. Some of our contracting farmers are game farmers. Some game farmers feel developments like this may threaten their industry.
Edge White: Some of the game farmers are totally against the erection of wind energy facilities in the area as they fear it would have a negative impact on their hunting and tourism.	Shawn Johnston: We are expecting representatives of the game farming industry at the public meeting here tonight.
Aurgy Pringle: How will agricultural land prices be affected?	Francis Jackson: Studies have shown that it is unlikely that the construction of a wind energy facility will negatively affect land prices. In fact there is likely to be an increase in land value.
Aurgy Pringle: Do you have plans to expand the site?	Francis Jackson: In the long term there could be plans to expand the site.
Aurgy Pringle: Do you have to register servitudes for infrastructure?	Francis Jackson: The power lines would require the registration of a servitude. There are various agreements with the affected landowners regarding the presence of the infrastructure on their land.
Edge White: Most people are positive about the proposed wind energy facility. People would be looking for the economic spin offs for the town of Bedford as it is surely needed.	Shawn Johnston: Point noted.
Francis Jackson: Are game farmers also part of the Bedford Farmers Association?	Edge White: Yes they are part of the Bedford Farmers Association; however they are also part of the Eastern Cape Private Game Reserves.

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Shawn Johnston thanked Aurgie Pringle and Edge White for their participation and reminded them of the availability of the draft Environmental Impact Assessment report and requested that the Bedford Farmers Association comment on the report.

The meeting closed at 16h40.



**SUSTAINABLE
FUTURES ZA**

PROPOSED AMAKHALA EMOYENI WIND ENERGY FACILITY, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

FOCUS GROUP MEETING

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Address: PO Box 148
Sunninghill, 2157
Tel: 011 234 6621
Fax: 086 684 0547
E-mail: john@savannahsa.com

NOTES OF MEETING WITH BLUE CRANE ROUTE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Sustainable Futures ZA

Address: PO Box 749
Rondebosch,
Cape Town, 7701
Tel: 083 325 9965
Fax: 086 510 2537
E-mail: swjohnston@mweb.co.za

Held on
Thursday, 07 October 2010,
Blue Crane Route Development Agency Offices,
Paulette Street, Somerset East

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Sustainable Futures ZA & Savannah Environmental

Please address any comments to Shawn Johnston at the above address.

**EIA PROCESS FOCUS GROUP MEETING:
PROPOSED AMAKHALA EMOYENI WIND ENERGY FACILITY**

Venue: Blue Crane Route Development Agency Offices, Paulette Street, Somerset East
Date: Thursday, 07 October 2010
Time: 14h00 – 14h45

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Shawn Johnston, process facilitator from Sustainable Futures, welcomed all the stakeholders to the focus group meeting. Shawn highlighted the objectives of the meeting and gave a brief outline of the proposed project. He thanked Nico Lombard for receiving the group.

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation & Position
Shawn Johnston	Sustainable Futures ZA- Public Participation Facilitator
John Von Mayer	Savannah Environmental
Jo-Anne Thomas	Savannah Environmental
Nico Lombard	Blue Crane Development Agency
Francis Jackson	Windlab Developments
Ian Macdonald	Windlab Developments

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Robert Beach and Chris Wilken.

BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

John von Mayer provided a brief background to the project and presented the preliminary findings of the environmental impact assessment studies undertaken to date. The presentation is attached in Appendix A.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Question / Comment	Response
Shawn Johnston: Could you clarify what the outcomes were from the renewable energy summit held by CACADU District Municipality in June 2010?	Nico Lombard: The renewable energy summit was a success. It was decided at the meeting to develop guidelines for municipalities in the Eastern Cape on how to approach wind energy development within their areas. The guidelines are currently being drafted by Greg Dulce and Johan van der Westhuizen from Urban Dynamics. Municipalities were briefed on what roles to play and how to handle the rezoning issues and applications for renewable energy facility applications.
Francis Jackson: Have you finalised the suggestions on the rezoning process?	Nico Lombard: No it has not yet been finalised, this will be done with the input from the District and Local Municipalities.
Shawn Johnston: Who has commissioned the work?	Nico Lombard: It was done by the Cacadu District Municipality.
Shawn Johnston: Has the strategic environmental assessment for renewable energy in the Eastern Cape been completed by the Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development and Environmental Affairs?	Nico Lombard: No it has not and it would be available by January 2011.
Shawn Johnston: Who is responsible for the process and SEA study?	Nico Lombard: I am not sure; but you can speak to Chris Edmire from the East London IDZ. He has been following the process.
Nico Lombard: We are concerned by the large amount of wind energy facilities being proposed, particularly in areas to the south east of your site. The Wilderness Foundation and game farmers are opposed to having these facilities in their areas.	Shawn Johnston: We are aware of some of the developments and the various positions some of the interested and affected parties have taken on renewable energy facilities.
Nico Lombard: Have you appointed a specialist to do your rezoning application?	Francis Jackson: That is imminent; however we have not yet come to that point.
Nico Lombard: There are two persons you might want to consider, Brendon Heinz from Setplan and Rowen van	Francis Jackson: Noted.

Question / Comment	Response
Gent from Urban Dynamics.	
Francis Jackson: Has any special rezoning policy been done for this area? Are you aware of any special rezoning.	Nico Lombard: No, the specialists who have been appointed need to consult with the Department of Agriculture/Land Care and Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning in the Western Cape before formulating the Eastern Cape rezoning model for renewable energy facilities.
Nico Lombard: There is very limited knowledge and capacity in the Eastern Cape on renewables. So the Western Cape would be the area to learn from.	Shawn Johnston: Point noted.
Shawn Johnston: Is there any additional information the Blue Crane Development Agency need from this team?	Nico Lombard: No, we have all your project information and are happy with the feedback and briefings provided by your team. The Development Agency has no issues with the two proposed facilities (Cookhouse WEF and Amakhala Emoyeni WEF) in the vicinity of the Poseidon Substation.
Shawn Johnston: Who at the Cacadu District Municipality do we have to follow-up with?	Nico Lombard: I suggest you speak to Greg Ducie, the town and spatial development planner for the area.
Francis Jackson: How is it going with your Social, Technical, Engineering and Maths lab (STEM) in Somerset East.	Nico Lombard: We are busy with the Nelson Mandela University and Free State University. We are starting in 2011 and training 50 teachers in maths and science. 100 learners (maths and science) will be trained in 2011.
Francis Jackson: Where will it take place?	Nico Lombard: We will be doing it in Somerset East at the Blue Crane Development Agency.
Francis Jackson: So the focus would be on training teachers.	Nico Lombard: Yes, it will be on training teachers and learners.
Francis Jackson: We have an interest in education.	Nico Lombard: Maybe you should get involved in the June 2011 education summit in Somerset East.

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Shawn Johnston reminded Nico Lombard that the draft EIA report will be made available in mid October and asked that representatives of the Blue Crane Development Agency and

Municipality comment on it. Shawn Johnston thanked Nico Lombard for hosting the focus group meeting.

The meeting closed at 14h45.



DRAFT AGENDA

- Welcome, introduction
- Purpose of the meeting
- Background to the project
- EIA process & feedback of the findings of the EIA Phase presentation
- Question & Answer session
- The Way Forward & Closure

CONDUCT OF THE MEETING

- Work through the facilitator
- Language of choice
- Keep your questions for Question & Answers Session
- Identify yourselves
- Equal participation
- Cellphone etiquette

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

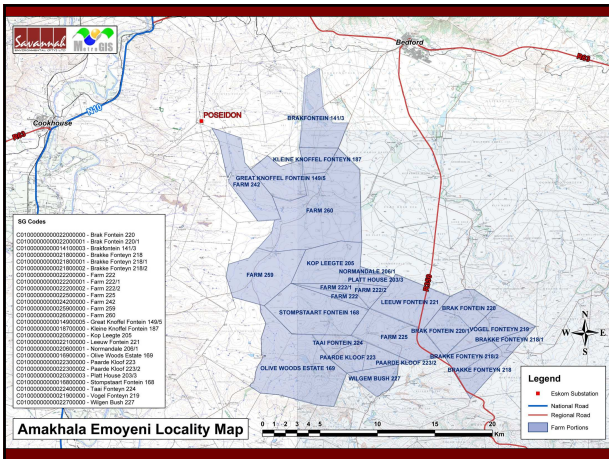
- To provide a recap of the project and the EIA process
- To provide I&APs with feedback regarding the findings of the EIA Study
- To provide I&APs the opportunity to seek clarity regarding the proposed project
- To record comments, issues & concerns raised to inform the EIA Process

BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT

- Applicant:
 - Windlab Developments South Africa (Pty) Ltd
 - Windlab is a global wind energy development company established in 2003 by commercialising world-leading wind mapping technology developed at Australia's CSIRO.
 - They have a track record in identifying, securing and developing commercially viable sites in Canada, USA, South Africa and Australia, where the construction of 2 wind farms has recently commenced.
 - Windlab have been in South Africa since 2007. They have an office in Cape Town from where they are developing 6 primary sites in the Western and Eastern Cape

BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT

- Favourable site identified from an extensive pre-feasibility analysis & site identification processes
- Site located within Blue Crane Route Local Municipality
- Situated ~ 14.4 km east of Cookhouse and ~ 8.2 km south-west of Bedford
- Up to 350 wind turbines
- Site ~273 km² in extent



OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

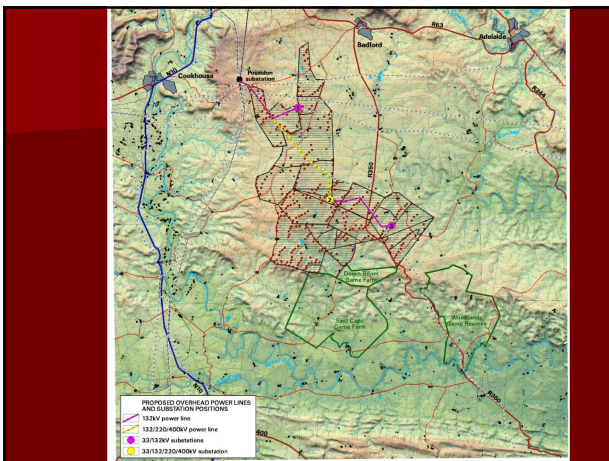
- Towers up to 100 m high
- Nacelle
- Three blades of up to 50 m
- 20m x 20m x 2m foundations
- Access road to site
- Internal access roads (4-6m wide)
- Up to 3 substations (largest being up to 250 x 200 m)
- Electrical cabling between turbines & substations
- Three new sections of overhead power lines feeding into the Poseidon substation
- Maintenance facility

LEGAL CONTEXT

- National Environmental Management Act (No 107 of 1998)
 - Overarching environmental legislation in South Africa
 - Specifies the EIA process
- Windlab requires authorisation from DEA (in consultation with DEDEA)
- Independent environmental studies must be undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations

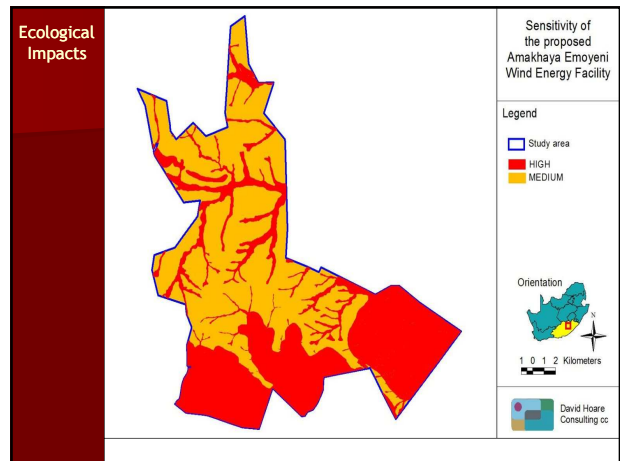
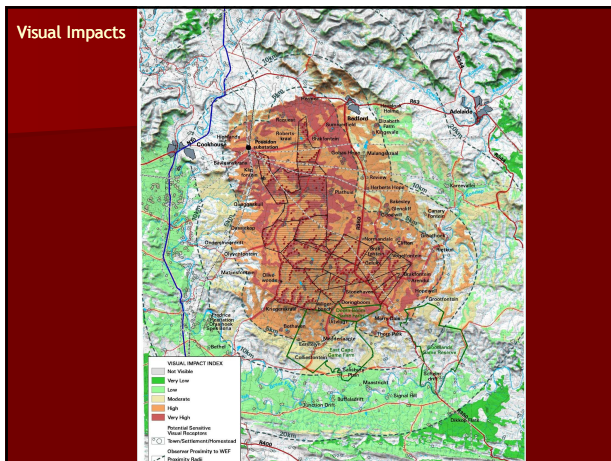
EIA PROCESS & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

PHASE 1 Notification of commencement of EIA process	PHASE 2 Environmental Scoping Process	PHASE 3 Environmental Impact Assessment	PHASE 4 Decision-making
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advertise in printed media & on-site ▪ Notification to identified I&APs, stakeholders, & Organs of State in writing ▪ Distribution of BID ▪ Consultation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consultation with stakeholders & I&APs to identify issues ▪ Focus Group Meetings ▪ Public meeting ▪ Draft Scoping Report available for review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ On-going consultation with stakeholders & I&APs ▪ Focus Group Meetings ▪ Draft EIA Report & EMP available for review ▪ Public feedback meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Final EIA Report submitted to DEA & DEDEA for review & decision-making - includes stakeholder & I&AP comments received during process ▪ Registered stakeholders & I&APs informed in writing of DEA's decision.



LOCAL SITE-SPECIFIC IMPACTS

- Construction of facility does not result in whole-scale disturbance to the site
- Permanent disturbance associated with permanent components of facility:
 - up to 350 foundation areas
 - access roads
 - substation footprints
- Temporarily affected areas:
 - laydown areas for turbines & construction equipment
 - additional track for movement of crane between turbine positions & crane pad at turbine sites



Impacts on Avifauna

- Potential impacts include:
 - Mortality of Cape Vultures foraging in the area
 - Disturbance, displacement & mortality of large terrestrial birds from nesting &/or foraging areas
 - Displacement or mortality of resident/visiting raptors
 - Disturbance & displacement of resident/breeding Grassland endemics
- Collision monitoring & mitigation measures

Heritage Impacts

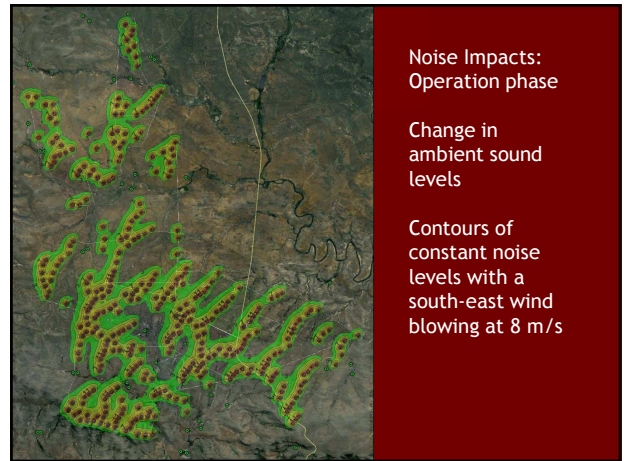
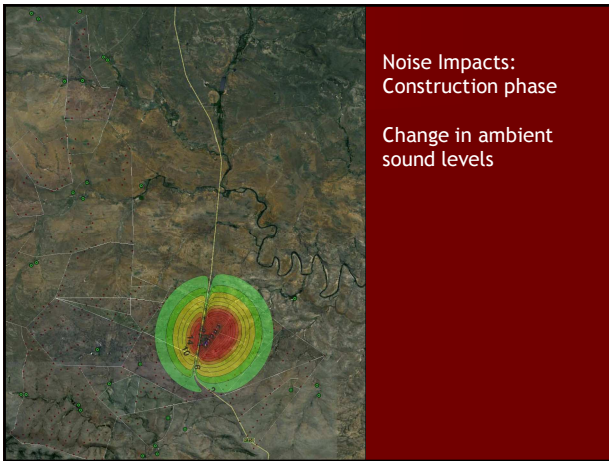
- Potential Impacts on:
 - Pre-colonial sites
 - Graveyards
 - Historic buildings
 - Stone kraals & kraal complexes
 - Historic boundary stones & stone walls
 - Historic trees
 - Cultural landscape
- Mitigation measures to be implemented

Soils and Geology Impacts

- Direct impacts of soil degradation & erosion of topsoil from the area of activity
- Geology generally favourable towards the proposed layout
- Mitigation measures to reduce zones of disturbance

Noise Impacts

- Sources:
 - Traffic & construction activities (Construction)
 - Wind turbine noise, noise from substation transformer & power line (Operation)
- Mitigation options proposed to reduce the significance of the impact to acceptable levels
- Number of potential receptors, mainly various farmsteads around the proposed facility



- ### Social Impacts
- Construction phase*
- Creation of employment & business opportunities
 - Influx of construction workers & job seekers
 - Increased risk of stock theft, poaching & damage to farm infrastructure
 - Threats to safety & security
 - Impact of heavy vehicles

- ### Social Impacts cont.
- Operation phase*
- Creation of employment & business opportunities, as well as create opportunities for skills development & training
 - Creation of potential tourist opportunities
 - The promotion of clean energy as an alternative energy source
 - The visual impacts & associated impact on sense of place





Viewpoint looking southwest on the R350 travelling from Bedford towards Grahamstown - indicative of what could be seen driving north to south from Bedford -3 km from eastern section of facility



Viewpoint northeast from R350 travelling towards Bedford, traversing the proposed development site. This position is very close (~1km) to the closest turbines and is indicative of what could be seen from the south-eastern sections within the facility.



CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- No environmental fatal flaws identified to prevent proposed project from proceeding
- Footprints of disturbance for facility are localised, small-scale disturbances
- Impacts of moderate to high significance can be mitigated
- All mitigation measures must be implemented
- Draft Environmental Management Plan (EMP)
- The primary visual impact - the dimensions of the wind turbines is not possible to mitigate
- Turbine positioning to avoid high sensitivity areas

WAY FORWARD

- Draft EIA Report available for review from 14 October 2010 to 12 November 2010
 - www.savannahSA.com
 - Bedford Library
 - Cookhouse Library
- Public invited to submit written comment
- Final EIA Report to be submitted to DEA (& DEDEA) for review
- Stakeholders & I&APs notified of DEA decision

WHO TO CONTACT?

Shawn Johnston: Sustainable Futures ZA
 PO Box 749, Rondebosch,
 CAPE TOWN, 7701
 Phone: 083 325 9965
 Fax: 086 510 2537
 E-mail: swjohnston@mweb.co.za
 Website: www.savannahsa.com



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS: PROPOSED AMAKHALA EMOYENI WIND ENERGY FACILITY

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS REPLY FORM

Return completed reply form to: **Shawn Johnston** of **Sustainable Futures ZA**

Fax: **086 510 2537**

Phone: **083 325 9965**

E-mail: **swjohnston@mweb.co.za**

Postal Address: **PO Box 749, Rondebosch, Cape Town, 7701**

Please provide your complete contact details:

Name & Surname:	Thomas Donnelly		
Organisation & Designation:	African Clean Energy Developments		
Postal Address:	Level 7, 41-45 Sir Lowry Road, Woodstock, 7925		
Telephone:	(021) 813 2768	Cellphone:	082 905 1843
Fax:	(021) 813 2848	E-mail:	Thomas.Donnelly@macquarie.com

Would you like to register as an interested and affected party (I&AP)? YES
 (please tick the relevant box) NO

Note: You are required to register as an I&AP to receive further correspondence regarding the EIA process for the project.

Please state your interest in the project (add additional pages if necessary):

ACED is developing a project on adjacent properties.

Please list your questions, views or concerns regarding the project (add additional pages if necessary):

Additional comments attached.

Please provide contact details of other persons who you regard as a potential interested or affected party:

Name & Surname:			
Organisation & Designation:			
Postal Address:			
Telephone:		Cellphone:	
Fax:		E-mail:	

What is your preferred language of correspondence? (please tick the relevant box) English
 Afrikaans



This assessment is being conducted on behalf of Windlab Developments South Africa (Pty) Ltd (Sien keersy vir Afrikaans)



ACED Comment on Amakhala Wind Farm

The Cookhouse Wind Farm (registration number 12/12/20/1569) received environmental authorisation on 25 May 2010 for erection of up to 200 wind turbines on land immediately adjoining the Amakhala Wind Farm.

The approved Cookhouse Wind Farm should be considered as existing environment and therefore turbines in the Windlab Amakhala project should not be located in positions that will create wake turbulence effects and loss of energy at any turbine locations within Cookhouse Wind Farm.

It should be a condition of any authorisation issued in relation to the Amakhala Wind Farm that the layout needs to satisfy this "no wake" requirement once the existing Cookhouse Wind Farm turbine layout has been finalised and approved. The condition should read:

Cookhouse Wind Farm has approval to erect up to 200 turbines on the Cookhouse Wind Farm site and has the right to establish its proposal to its full extent unimpeded. Windlab must, if necessary to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects of its proposal on Cookhouse Wind Farm, adjust the design of its proposal so that there is adequate upwind/downwind separation between turbines so as not to create wake turbulence effects and loss of energy at any turbine locations within Cookhouse Wind Farm.

OMGEWINGSIMPAKEVALUERINGSPROSES: VOORGESTELDE AMAKHALA EMOYENI WIND ENERGIE FASILITEIT

OPENBARE DEELNAMEPROSES REGISTRASIE/KOMMENTAAR VORM

Stuur voltooidde registrasie/kommentaar vorm aan: **Shawn Johnston** by **Sustainable Futures ZA**

Faks: **086 510 2537**

Telefoon: **083 325 9965**

E-pos: **swjohnston@mweb.co.za**

Posadres: **Posbus 749, Rondebosch, Kaapstad, 7701**

Verskaf asseblief u persoonlike kontak besonderhede:

Naam & Van:	Jaco Strauss		
Organisasie & Rol:	Idada Trading & Pty Ltd; Grondverhuurders, ing.		
Posadres:	Posbus 768 Upington, 8800		
Telefoon:	054-3386440	Selfoon:	082 7742590
Faks:	054-3386442	E-pos:	

Stel u belang om te registreer as 'n belangstellende en/of geaffekteerde party (B&GP)? (Merk met X) JA NEE

Nota: Dit word van u vereis om te registreer as 'n B&GP om alle toekomstige inligting in verband met die Omgewingsimpakevalueringproses te ontvang.

Verduidelik u belangstelling in hierdie projek (gebruik addisionele bladsye soos benodig):

Belangstellendes in die konstruksie proses.

Lys u vrae, opinies of besorghede in verband met hierdie projek (gebruik addisionele bladsye soos benodig):

- 1. Wat is die deelname proses vir Plaaslike Materiaal verskaffers?*
- 2. Wat is die deelname proses vir Plaaslike Kontrakteurs.*
- 3. Wat is die Agregaat behoeftes vir hierdie projek?*

Verskaf bykommende kontak besonderhede van addisionele persoon/e wie u beskou as potensiele belangstellende en/of geaffekteerde partye:

Naam & Van:	Sien aangehegte lys. asb.		
Organisasie & Rol:			
Posadres:			
Telefoon:		Selfoon:	
Faks:		E-pos:	

Dui u taal van keuse en korrespondensie aan (Merk met X)

Engels

Afrikaans



Hierdie studie word namens Windlab
Developments South Africa (Pty) Ltd
gedoen (See reverse side for English)



Frikkie Hills

Operasionele Bestuurder

Poort Beton

Strauss Groep



Verona

Tel: + 27 (0) 54 335 1111

Louisvale, 8809

Faks: 086 679 1059

Posbus 216

Sel: 083 456 5939

Upington, 8800

E-pos: frikkie@it5.co.za

ABRIKUS AGENBAG
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
KV3 ENGINEERS

TEL: +27 (0) 54 332 4943

CELL: +27 (0) 82 373 6278

FAX: +27 (0) 54 332 2748

E-mail: aagenbag@kv3.co.za

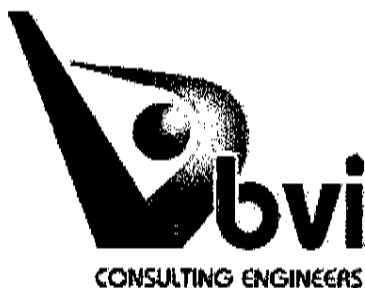
Niël Maritz

BVi Raadgewende Ingenieurs Noord Kaap

Tel : 054 3376600

Faks : 054 3376699

Sel : 082 7835951



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS: PROPOSED AMAKHALA EMOYENI WIND ENERGY FACILITY

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS REPLY FORM

Return completed reply form to: **Shawn Johnston of Sustainable Futures ZA**

Fax: **086 510 2537**

Phone: **083 325 9965**

E-mail: **swjohnston@mweb.co.za**

Postal Address: **PO Box 749, Rondebosch, Cape Town, 7701**

Please provide your complete contact details:

Name & Surname:

DR DAVID COMYN

Organisation & Designation:

BEDFORD RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

Postal Address:

PO BOX 57

BEDFORD 5780

Telephone:

Cellphone:

0832618037

Fax:

E-mail:

drcomynd@hotmail.com

Would you like to register as an interested and affected party (I&AP)? YES NO
(please tick the relevant box)

Note: You are required to register as an I&AP to receive further correspondence regarding the EIA process for the project.

Please state your interest in the project (add additional pages if necessary):

① Bedford Ratepayers Association is a legally constituted public interest group with impeccable financial and ethical credentials. The Association wishes to register as a sincere group to participate in financial/social disbursement.

Please list your questions, views or concerns regarding the project (add additional pages if necessary):

② The Greywings Partridge (Bergparrot) is clinging to a tiny habitat on the most heavily impacted ridge in the area under consideration.

Please provide contact details of other persons who you regard as a potential interested or affected party:

Name & Surname:

Organisation & Designation:

Postal Address:

Telephone:

Cellphone:

Fax:

E-mail:

What is your preferred language of correspondence? (please tick the relevant box)

English

Afrikaans



This assessment is being conducted on behalf of Windlab Developments South Africa (Pty) Ltd (Sten keersy vir Afrikaans)



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS: PROPOSED AMAKHALA EMOYENI WIND ENERGY FACILITY

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS REPLY FORM

Return completed reply form to: **Shawn Johnston of Sustainable Futures ZA**

Fax: **086 510 2537**

Phone: **083 325 9965**

E-mail: **swjohnston@mweb.co.za**

Postal Address: **PO Box 749, Rondebosch, Cape Town, 7701**

Please provide your complete contact details:

Name & Surname:

Dr. William FOWLOS.

Organisation & Designation:

Indalo - Association of East Cape Nature Reserves

Postal Address:

*P.O. Box 20
Paterson 6130*

Telephone:

042-2351252

Cellphone:

0834194122

Fax:

0866103657

E-mail:

william@amakhalac.co.za

Would you like to register as an interested and affected party (I&AP)? YES NO
(please tick the relevant box)

Note: You are required to register as an I&AP to receive further correspondence regarding the EIA process for the project.

Please state your interest in the project (add additional pages if necessary):

Members of the association are very concerned about the negative implications of windbarns in the area to current as well as future eco-tourism industry in the area.

Please list your questions, views or concerns regarding the project (add additional pages if necessary):

Will comment on the draft EIA once completed.

Please provide contact details of other persons who you regard as a potential interested or affected party:

Name & Surname:

I will email Shawn the list.

Organisation & Designation:

Postal Address:

Telephone:

Cellphone:

Fax:

E-mail:

What is your preferred language of correspondence? (please tick the relevant box)

English
Afrikaans



This assessment is being conducted on behalf of Windlab Developments South Africa (Pty) Ltd (Sien keersy vir Afrikaans)

