

# PP Plan – Wolf-Skilpad-Grassridge 132kV Transmission Line

To	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) EIA Applications <EIAApplications@environment.gov.za>
From	Zutari (Wynand Loftus; Wynand.Loftus@Zutari.com)
Copy	Magdalena Logan ( <a href="mailto:m.logan@redrocket.energy">m.logan@redrocket.energy</a> ) Janine Brasington ( <a href="mailto:j.brasington@redrocket.energy">j.brasington@redrocket.energy</a> ) Ryan Collins ( <a href="mailto:r.collins@redrocket.energy">r.collins@redrocket.energy</a> )
Date	2022-03-01
Subject	Wolf-Skilpad-Grassridge 132kV Transmission Line– PP Plan
Reference	1001792
Total pages	3

## 1. CONTEXT

On 15 March 2020 a National State of Disaster was declared in terms of COVID-19 which has since been extended and is still in place. Regulations, as well as numerous Directions, have since the declaration of the National State of Disaster been issued in terms of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002) (“DMA”) regarding COVID-19 related measures. During December 2020 amendments to the Lockdown Regulations were published in terms of the DMA, which put South Africa back in Alert Level 3<sup>1</sup>.

On 31 March 2020 Directions were issued by the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment in respect of the undertaking and administration of Environmental Impact Assessment (“EIA”) and related processes during the Lockdown<sup>2</sup>.

On 5 June 2020 new Directions were issued by the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment in respect of the undertaking and administration of EIA and related processes during Lockdown Alert Level 3.3. The Directions of 5 June 2020 repealed the Directions of 31 March 2020. The duration of the Directions of 5 June 2020 came to an end at midnight on 17 August 2020<sup>3</sup>.

On 9 September 2020 new Directions were issued by the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment in respect of the undertaking and administration of EIA and related processes during the national state of disaster declared in terms of COVID-19<sup>4</sup>. The Directions of 9 September 2020 came into effect from 9 September 2020 and apply for as long as the national state of disaster declared in terms of COVID-19 remains in place (i.e., irrespective of the Alert Level that is in place, the Directions of 9 September 2020 apply for as long as the national state of disaster is still in place).

To ensure that reasonable notice is given to potential and registered interested and affected parties (“I&APs”), the competent authority should be approached with a proposed Public Participation Plan setting out all the public participation steps proposed. This should be approved by the competent authority prior to commencement of any Public Participation Process (PPP).

<sup>1</sup> The Regulations, Directions and Guidelines published by National Government in respect of COVID-19 are available at: <https://www.gov.za/coronavirus/guidelines>.

<sup>2</sup> Government Notice No. R.439 in Government Gazette No. 43190 of 31 March 2020.

<sup>3</sup> Government Notice No. 650 in Government Gazette No. 43412 of 5 June 2020.

<sup>4</sup> Government Notice No. 970 in Government Gazette No. 43696 on 9 September 2020.

In line with these directions, we submit this Public Participation (PP) Plan for the Proposed Wolf-Skilpad-Grassridge Transmission Line Basic Assessment Environmental Process, to the competent authority namely the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), for approval.

We are not seeking a pre-application meeting with the DFFE but have submitted this PP Plan under a pre-application meeting request form, as requested.

## 2. NEW WOLF-SKILPAD-GRASSRIDGE 132KV TRANSMISSION LINE

This memo serves as a Public Participation Plan for the Basic Assessment Environmental Process for the 'Wolf-Skilpad-Grassridge 132kV Transmission Line project. The application details are as follows:

- **Title:** Wolf-Skilpad-Grassridge 132kV Transmission Line
- **Proponent:** Wolf Wind Farm (RF) (Pty) Ltd
- **DFFE Ref Number:** Application not yet made

The PPP framework for the Basic Assessment is set out below.

The proposed PPP for the project will comply with the PPP requirements of the Environmental Regulations:

	Regulation	Task / Comment
1.	In terms of Regulation 41 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) -	
(a)	fixing a notice board at a place conspicuous to and accessible by the public at the boundary, on the fence or along the corridor of -	Three (3) site notices were erected, one at each of the Wolf, Skilpad and Grassridge substations.
(i)	the site where the activity to which the application relates is or is to be undertaken; and	
(ii)	any alternative site.	
(b)	giving written notice, in any manner provided for in section 47D of the NEMA, to –	Notification will be given to all relevant parties as per the requirements of the Regulations. Notifications will be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• distributed via email, post, or other written formats as the situation requires, i.e. fax or SMS.</li> <li>• Inform the public of the project and the availability for the Draft BAR for review and comment.</li> <li>• Provide background information to the project and what is being proposed.</li> <li>• Include details of the EAP.</li> <li>• Details on how to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&amp;AP) and where to send comments.</li> </ul>
(i)	the occupiers of the site and, if the applicant is not the owner or person in control of the site on which the activity is to be undertaken, the owner or person in control of the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;	
(ii)	owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;	
(iii)	the municipal councillor of the ward in which the site or alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area;	
(iv)	the municipality (Local and District Municipality) which has jurisdiction in the area;	
(v)	any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity; and	
(vi)	any other party as required by the Competent Authority;	
(c)	placing an advertisement in -	

(i)	one local newspaper; or	An advertisement shall be placed in 'The Herald' regional newspaper. The advert will comply with the minimum requirements of the Regulations and will inform the public of the availability of the Draft BAR for review and comment, comment period date, to whom and how to submit comment.
(ii)	any official <i>Gazette</i> that is published specifically for the purpose of providing public notice of applications or other submissions made in terms of these Regulations;	Regional newspaper shall be used for placement of an advertisement.
(d)	placing an advertisement in at least one provincial newspaper or national newspaper, if the activity has or may have an impact that extends beyond the boundaries of the metropolitan or district municipality in which it is or will be undertaken.	An advertisement shall be placed in 'Die Burger' (or similar) provincial newspaper as the project extends boundaries if a district municipality. The advert will comply with the minimum requirements of the Regulations and will inform the public of the availability of the Draft BAR for review and comment, comment period date, to whom and how to submit comment.
(e)	using reasonable alternative methods, as agreed to by the Department, in those instances where a person is desirous of but unable to participate in the process due to— (i) illiteracy;(ii) disability; or (iii) any other disadvantage.	Alternative methods shall be used if any such instance comes to the attention of the project team.

The following is also relevant in terms of PPP:

- No pre-application PPP will be undertaken.
- The formal PPP process will commence post submission (or at the same time) of the BA application form and Draft BA report is submitted to the DFFE for review.
- One hard copy of the Draft BAR will be lodged at the Uitenhage public library and a second in Kirkwood.
- The Draft BAR will also be made available online via Google Drive and the link provided in all PPP notifications regarding the comment period.
- No open house meeting or public meetings will form part of the PPP.
- A register of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) shall be maintained.
- A 30-day comment period will be provided.
- A Comments and Responses Report shall be maintained for the project and submitted together with the Final BAR for decision-making.

### 3. SCHEDULE

Date of submission of the Basic Assessment Application Form is unclear at this stage as specialists are in the process of finalising their studies, however it is anticipated that the Application Form together with the Draft BAR will be submitted to the DFFE in the last week of March 2022 and the Final BAR roughly 40-days later.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you wish to discuss the content of this memo.

## Patrick Killick

---

**From:** Lerato Mokoena <LMOKOENA@dffe.gov.za>  
**Sent:** Monday, 14 March 2022 12:19  
**To:** Wynand Loftus  
**Cc:** Constance Musemburi; Wayne Hector  
**Subject:** Approval PPP: Wolf-Skilpad-Grassridge 132kV Transmission Line (Ref: 2022-03-0005)  
**Attachments:** Wolf-Skilpad-Grassridge PreApp Meeting Request\_incl. Appendices.pdf  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Wynand

The Public Participation (PP) Plan for the Proposed Wolf-Skilpad-Grassridge 132kV Transmission Line, refers.

Based on the information provided this Department decided to **approve** the PP Plan for the proposed project. You may proceed with the PP process in accordance with tasks contemplated in the PP plan. Should you wish to deviate from the submitted PP Plan, the amended PP Plan must be submitted to the Department for approval prior commencement.

A copy of the PP Plan and this approval must be submitted as part of the application form when the application is lodged.

***Also note that submission of a PP Plan and approval thereof do not negate your responsibility to comply with the requirements for public participation in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.***

Kind Regards

Mr. Lerato Mokoena

Environmental Control Officer: Grade A

Priority Infrastructure Projects

☎ (012) 399 9418/072 759 2181 | ✉ lmokoena@dffe.gov.za

🌐 dffe.gov.za

📍 Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, Pretoria



**forestry, fisheries  
& the environment**

Department:  
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**