# PROPOSED WATERCOURSE CROSSINGS WITHIN THE TSITSIKAMMA COMMUNITY WIND ENERGY FACILITY, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

## CONSTRUCTION & OPERATION ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME(EMPr)

Submitted as part of the Draft Basic Assessment

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Prepared for:

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#### **PROJECT DETAILS**

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## **DEFINITIONS AND TERMINOLOGY**

Alien species: A species that is not indigenous to the area or out of its natural distribution range.

Alternatives: Alternatives are different means of meeting the general purpose and need of a proposed activity. Alternatives may include location or site alternatives, activity alternatives, process or technology alternatives, temporal alternatives or the 'do nothing' alternative.

**Assessment:** The process of collecting, organising, analysing, interpreting and communicating information which is relevant.

**Biological diversity:** The variables among living organisms from all sources including, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes they belong to.

**Commence:** The start of any physical activity, including site preparation and any other activity on site furtherance of a listed activity or specified activity, but does not include any activity required for the purposes of an investigation or feasibility study as long as such investigation or feasibility study does not constitute a listed activity or specified activity.

**Cumulative impacts:** Impacts that result from the incremental impact of the proposed activity on a common resource when added to the impacts of other past, present or reasonably foreseeable future activities (e.g. discharges of nutrients and heated water to a river that combine to cause algal bloom and subsequent loss of dissolved oxygen that is greater than the additive impacts of each pollutant). Cumulative impacts can occur from the collective impacts of individual minor actions over a period of time and can include both direct and indirect impacts.

**Direct impacts:** Impacts that are caused directly by the activity and generally occur at the same time and at the place of the activity (e.g. noise generated by blasting operations on the site of the activity). These impacts are usually associated with the construction, operation or maintenance of an activity and are generally obvious and quantifiable.

**'Do nothing' alternative:** The 'do nothing' alternative is the option of not undertaking the proposed activity or any of its alternatives. The 'do nothing' alternative also provides the baseline against which the impacts of other alternatives should be compared.

**Ecosystem:** A dynamic system of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit.

**Endangered species:** Taxa in danger of extinction and whose survival is unlikely if the causal factors continue operating. Included here are taxa whose numbers of individuals have been reduced to a critical level or whose habitats have been so drastically reduced that they are deemed to be in immediate danger of extinction.

**Endemic**: An "endemic" is a species that grows in a particular area (is endemic to that region) and has a restricted distribution. It is only found in a particular place. Whether something is endemic or not depends on the geographical boundaries of the area in question and the area can be defined at different scales.

Environment: the surroundings within which humans exist and that are made up of:

- i. the land, water and atmosphere of the earth;
- ii. micro-organisms, plant and animal life;
- iii. any part or combination of (i) and (ii) and the interrelationships among and between them; and
- iv. the physical, chemical, aesthetic and cultural properties and conditions of the foregoing that influence human health and well-being.

Environmental Impact: An action or series of actions that have an effect on the environment.

**Environmental impact assessment:** Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), as defined in the NEMA EIA Regulations and in relation to an application to which scoping must be applied, means the process of collecting, organising, analysing, interpreting and communicating information that is relevant to the consideration of that application.

**Environmental management:** Ensuring that environmental concerns are included in all stages of development, so that development is sustainable and does not exceed the carrying capacity of the environment.

**Environmental management programme:** An operational plan that organises and coordinates mitigation, rehabilitation and monitoring measures in order to guide the implementation of a proposal and its on-going maintenance after implementation.

**Environmental assessment practitioner:** An individual responsible for the planning, management and coordinating of environmental management plan or any other appropriate environmental instruments introduced by legislation.

Habitat: The place in which a species or ecological community occurs naturally.

**Hazardous waste:** Any waste that contains organic or inorganic elements or compounds that may, owing to the inherent physical, chemical or toxicological characteristics of that waste, have a detrimental impact on health and the environment (Van der Linde and Feris, 2010; pg 185).

**Indigenous:** All biological organisms that occurred naturally within the study area prior to 1800

**Indirect impacts:** Indirect or induced changes that may occur as a result of the activity (e.g. the reduction of water in a stream that supply water to a reservoir that supply water to the activity). These types of impacts include all the potential impacts that do not manifest immediately when the activity is undertaken or which occur at a different place as a result of the activity.

**Interested and Affected Party:** Individuals or groups concerned with or affected by an activity and its consequences. These include the authorities, local communities, investors, work force, consumers, environmental interest groups and the general public.

**Pollution:** A change in the environment caused by substances (radio-active or other waves, noise, odours, dust or heat emitted from any activity, including the storage or treatment or waste or substances.

**Rare species:** Taxa with small world populations that are not at present Endangered or Vulnerable, but are at risk as some unexpected threat could easily cause a critical decline. These taxa are usually localised within restricted geographical areas or habitats or are thinly scattered over a more extensive range. This category was termed Critically Rare by Hall and Veldhuis (1985) to distinguish it from the more generally used word "rare".

**Red data species:** Species listed in terms of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species, and/or in terms of the South African Red Data list. In terms of the South African Red Data list, species are classified as being extinct, endangered, vulnerable, rare, indeterminate, insufficiently known or not threatened (see other definitions within this glossary).

**Significant impact:** An impact that by its magnitude, duration, intensity or probability of occurrence may have a notable effect on one or more aspects of the environment.

**Waste:** Any substance, whether or not that substance can be reduced re-used, recycled and recovered; that is surplus, unwanted, rejected, discarded, abandoned or disposed of which the generator has no further use for the purposes of production. Any product which must be treated and disposed of, that is identified as waste by the minister of Environmental affairs (by notice in the Gazette) and includes waste generated by the

mining, medical or other sectors, but: A by-product is not considered waste, and portion of waste, once re-used, recycled and recovered, ceases to be waste (Van der Linde and Feris, 2010; pg 186).

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## PROJECT DETAILS

## CHAPTER 1

Tsitsikamma Community Wind Farm (RF) (Pty) Ltd (TCWF) obtained environmental authorisation for the Tsitsikamma Community Wind Energy Facility (DEA reference: 12/12/20/2209) on a site located approximately 30 km west of Humansdorp, in March 2012. This project was awarded preferred bidder status under the Department of Energy (DoE) Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPP) in May 2012. The authorisation for the wind energy facility included the construction of infrastructure within 32m of a watercourse, but did not include the infilling or removal of material from these watercourses. It has now been determined through the final design process for the facility that this may be required at six (6) locations within the wind energy facility site. These sites are located on Portion 4 and 5 of Farm Wittekleibosch No.787 (refer to Figure 1).

This EMP is applicable to all TCWF employees and contractors working on the preconstruction, construction, and operation and maintenance phases of the Tsitsikamma Community Wind Energy Facility, including the watercourse crossings. The document will be adhered to, updated as relevant throughout the project life cycle. As this activity falls within the approved Tsitsikamma Community Wind Farm site, this EMP should be read in conjunction with the EMP for the TCWF (approved by the DEA in March 2013).



Figure 1: Watercourse crossings within the Tsitsikamma Community Wind Energy Facility site

## LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

## CHAPTER 2

Table 2.1 provides an outline of the relevant environmental legislation and permitting requirements associated with the proposed project. This list of legislation is applicable at this time and should be updated on a continuous basis as the environmental legislation within South Africa changes.

Title of the Legislation /Policy/Guideline	Application to the project	Relevant Authority	Date
National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998)	<ul> <li>EIA Regulations have been promulgated in terms of Chapter 5.</li> <li>Activities which may not commence without an environmental authorisation are identified within these Regulations.</li> <li>In terms of Section 24(1) of NEMA, the potential impact on the environment associated with these listed activities must be considered, investigated, assessed and reported on to the competent authority (the decision-maker) charged by NEMA with granting of the relevant environmental authorisation.</li> <li>In terms of GNR 544 of June 2010, a scoping and EIA process is required to be undertaken for the proposed project</li> </ul>	National Department of Environmental Affairs – lead authority. Provincial Environmental Department - commenting authority.	1998
National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998)	In terms of the Duty of Care provision in S28(1) the project proponent must ensure that reasonable measures are taken throughout the life cycle of this project to ensure that any pollution or degradation of the environment associated with this project is avoided, stopped or minimised. In terms of NEMA, it has become the legal duty of a project proponent to consider a project holistically, and to consider the cumulative effect of a variety of impacts.	Department of Environmental Affairs (as regulator of NEMA).	1998
National Environmental Management: Waste Act (Act No 59 of 2008)	The purpose of this Act is to reform the law regulating waste management in order to protect health and the environment by providing for the licensing and control of waste management activities. To set standards for waste management on the project.	Provincial Environmental Authorities.	2008
National Water Act (Act No 36 of 1998)	In terms of Section 19, the project proponent must ensure that reasonable measures are taken throughout the life cycle of this	Department of Water Affairs (as regulator of NWA)	1998

 Table 2.1: Relevant legislative permitting requirements applicable to the Wind Energy Facility Project

Title of the Legislation /Policy/Guideline	Application to the project	Relevant Authority	Date
	project to prevent and remedy the effects of pollution to water resources from occurring, continuing or recurring.		
National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999)	<ul> <li>Section 38 states that Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) are required for certain kinds of development including <ul> <li>the construction of a road, power line, pipeline, canal or other similar linear development or barrier exceeding 300 m in length;</li> <li>any development or other activity which will change the character of a site exceeding 5 000 m<sup>2</sup> in extent.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The relevant Heritage Resources Authority must be notified of developments such as linear developments (such as roads and power lines), bridges exceeding 50 m, or any development or other activity which will change the character of a site exceeding 5 000 m<sup>2</sup>; or the re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m<sup>2</sup> in extent. This notification must be provided in the early stages of initiating that development, and details regarding the location, nature and extent of the proposed development must be provided.</li> <li>Standalone HIAs are not required where an EIA is carried out as long as the EIA contains an adequate HIA component that fulfils the provisions of Section 38. In such cases only those components not addressed by the EIA should be covered by the heritage component.</li> </ul>	South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) – National heritage sites (grade 1 sites) as well as all historic graves and human remains. Heritage Western Cape	1999
Nature Conservation Ordinance (Act 19 of 1974)	Article 63 prohibits the picking of certain flora (including cutting, chopping, taking, gathering, uprooting, damaging or destroying). Schedule 3 lists endangered flora and Schedule 4 lists protected flora, many schedule 4 plants occur in the general area of the site.	National Department of Environmental Affairs	1974

Title of the Legislation /Policy/Guideline	Application to the project	Relevant Authority	Date
	An article 26 to 47 regulates the use of wild animals.		
National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act No 10 of 2004)	In terms of Section 57, the Minister of Environmental Affairs has published a list of critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable and protected species in GNR 151 in Government Gazette 29657 of 23 February 2007 and the regulations associated therewith in GNR 152 in GG29657 of 23 February 2007, which came into effect on 1 June 2007. In terms of GNR 152 of 23 February 2007: Regulations relating to listed threatened and protected species, the relevant specialists must be employed during the EIA phase of the project to incorporate the legal provisions as well as the regulations associated with listed threatened and protected species (GNR 152) into specialist reports in order to identify permitting requirements at an early stage of the EIA phase. the developer has a responsibility for:	National Department of Environmental Affairs	2004
	The conservation of endangered ecosystems and restriction of activities according to the categorisation of the area (not just by listed activity as specified in the EIA regulations).		
	<ul> <li>Promote the application of appropriate environmental management tools in order to ensure integrated environmental management of activities thereby ensuring that all development within the area are in line with ecological sustainable development and protection of biodiversity.</li> <li>Limit further loss of biodiversity and conserve endangered ecosystems.</li> </ul>		
Conservation of	Regulation 15 of GNR1048 provides for the declaration of weeds	Department of Agriculture	1983
Agricultural Resources Act	and invader plants, and these are set out in Table 3 of GNR1048.		

August	2012
August	2013

Title of the Legislation	Application to the project	Relevant Authority	Date
/Policy/Guideline			
(Act No 43 of 1983)	<ul> <li>Declared Weeds and Invaders in South Africa are categorised according to one of the following categories:</li> <li><u>Category 1 plants</u>: are prohibited and must be controlled.</li> <li><u>Category 2 plants</u>: (commercially used plants) may be grown in demarcated areas providing that there is a permit and that steps are taken to prevent their spread.</li> <li><u>Category 3 plants</u>: (ornamentally used plants) may no longer be planted; existing plants may remain, as long as all reasonable steps are taken to prevent the spreading thereof, except within the floodline of watercourses and wetlands.</li> <li>These regulations provide that Category 1, 2 and 3 plants must not occur on land and that such plants must be controlled by the methods set out in Regulation 15E.</li> </ul>		
National Veld and Forest Fire Act (Act 101 of 1998)	<ul> <li>In terms of Section 21 the applicant would be obliged to burn firebreaks to ensure that should a veld fire occur on the property, that it does not spread to adjoining land.</li> <li>In terms of section 12 the applicant must ensure that the firebreak is wide and long enough to have a reasonable chance of preventing the fire from spreading, not causing erosion, and is reasonably free of inflammable material.</li> <li>In terms of section 17, the applicant must have such equipment, protective clothing and trained personnel for extinguishing fires.</li> </ul>	Department of Water Affairs	1998

## PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES OF THE EMP

## CHAPTER 3

An Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) is defined as "an environmental management tool used to ensure that undue or reasonably avoidable adverse impacts of the construction, operation and decommissioning of a project are prevented or mitigated, and that the positive benefits of the projects are enhanced"<sup>1</sup>. The objective of this Environmental Management Programme is to provide consistent information and guidance for implementing the management and monitoring measures established in the permitting process and help achieve environmental policy goals. The purpose of an EMPr is to help ensure compliance with recommendations and conditions specified through an EIA process, as well as to ensure continuous improvement of environmental performance, reducing negative impacts and enhancing positive effects during the construction and operation of the facility. An effective EMPr is concerned with both the immediate outcome as well as the long-term impacts of the project.

The EMPr provides specific environmental guidance for the construction and operation phases of a project, and is intended to manage and mitigate construction and operation activities so that unnecessary or preventable environmental impacts do not result. These impacts range from those incurred during start up (site clearing and site establishment) through those incurred during the construction activities themselves (erosion, noise, dust) to those incurred during site rehabilitation (soil stabilisation, revegetation) and operation. The EMPr also defines monitoring requirements in order to ensure that the specified objectives are met.

The EMPr has been developed as a set of environmental specifications (i.e. principles of environmental management for the proposed watercourse crossings within the Tsitsikamma Community Wind Energy Facility), which are appropriately contextualised to provide clear guidance in terms of the on-site implementation of these specifications (i.e. on-site contextualisation is provided through the inclusion of various monitoring and implementation tools.

The EMPr has the following objectives:

» To outline mitigation measures and environmental specifications which are required to be implemented for the planning, construction, rehabilitation and operation phases of the project in order to minimise the extent of environmental impacts, and to manage environmental impacts associated with the watercourse crossings.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Provincial Government Western Cape, Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: *Guideline for Environmental Management Plans*, 2005

- » To ensure that the construction and operation phases do not result in undue or reasonably avoidable adverse environmental impacts, and ensure that any potential environmental benefits are enhanced.
- » To identify entities who will be responsible for the implementation of the measures and outline functions and responsibilities.
- » To propose mechanisms for monitoring compliance, and preventing long-term or permanent environmental degradation.
- » To facilitate appropriate and proactive responses to unforeseen events or changes in project implementation that were not considered in the EIA process.

The mitigation measures identified within the Environmental Impact Assessment process are systematically addressed in the EMPr, ensuring the minimisation of adverse environmental impacts to an acceptable level.

Tsitsikamma Community Wind Energy Facility (RF) (Pty) Ltd must ensure that the implementation of the project complies with the requirements of any and all environmental authorisations and any other permits (once issued), and obligations emanating from other relevant environmental legislation. This obligation is partly met through the development of the EMPr, and the implementation of the EMP through its integration into the contract documentation for activities associated with both construction and operation. Since this EMPr is part of the EIA process undertaken for the proposed watercourse crossings, it is important that this guideline document be read in conjunction with the draft Basic Assessment Report (August 2013). This will contextualise the EMPr and enable a thorough understanding of its role and purpose in the integrated environmental process. This EMPr for construction and operation activities has been compiled in accordance with the EIA Regulations of June 2010 and will be further developed in terms of specific requirements listed in any authorisations issued for the proposed project. This EMPr should be considered a dynamic document, requiring regular review and updating as new information becomes available in order for it to remain relevant to the requirements of the site and the environment.

To achieve effective environmental management, it is important that Contractors are aware of their responsibilities in terms of the relevant environmental legislation and the contents of this EMPr. The Contractor is responsible for informing employees and subcontractors of their environmental obligations in terms of the environmental specifications, and for ensuring that employees are adequately experienced and properly trained in order to execute the works in a manner that will minimise environmental impacts. The Contractors obligations in this regard include the following:

- » Ensuring that employees have a basic understanding of the key environmental features of the construction site and the surrounding environment.
- » Ensuring that a copy of the EMPr is readily available on-site, and that all site staff are aware of the location and have access to the document. Employees must be

familiar with the requirements of the EMPr and the environmental specifications as they apply to the construction of the facility.

- » Ensuring that, prior to commencing any site works, all employees and subcontractors have attended an appropriate Environmental Awareness Training course. The course must provide the site staff with an appreciation of the project's environmental requirements, the EMPr specifications, and how they are to be implemented.
- » Basic training in the identification of archaeological sites/objects, and protected or Red List flora and fauna that may be encountered on the site.
- » Awareness of any other environmental matters, which are deemed to be necessary by the ECO.

## STRUCTURE OF THIS EMP

## CHAPTER 4

The first two chapters provide background to the EMPr and the proposed project, and the relevant legislative context for the project. The chapters which follow consider the:

- » Planning and design activities
- » Construction activities
- » Operation activities
- » Decommissioning activities

These chapters set out the procedures necessary for watercourse crossings within the Tsitsikamma Community Wind Energy Facility to achieve environmental compliance. For each of the phases for the wind energy facility project, an over-arching environmental **goal** is stated. In order to meet this goal, a number of **objectives** are listed. The management plan has been structured in table format in order to show the links between the goals for each phase and their associated objectives, activities/risk sources, mitigation actions monitoring requirements and performance indicators. A specific environmental management plan table has been established for each environmental objective. The information provided within the EMPr table for each objective is illustrated below:

**OBJECTIVE:** Description of the objective, which is necessary in order to meet the overall goals; these take into account the findings of the environmental impact assessment specialist studies

Project	List of project components affecting the objective
component/s	
Potential Impact	Brief description of potential environmental impact if objective is not met
Activity/risk	Description of activities which could impact on achieving objective
source	
Mitigation:	Description of the target; include quantitative measures and/or dates of
Target/Objective	completion

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe	
List specific action(s) required to meet the	Who is responsible	Time periods	for
mitigation target/objective described above.	for the measures	implementation	of
		measures	

Performance	Description of key indicator(s) that track progress/indicate the
Indicator	effectiveness of the management plan.
Monitoring	Mechanisms for monitoring compliance; the key monitoring actions
	required to check whether the objectives are being achieved, taking into
	consideration responsibility, frequency, methods and reporting

The objectives and EMPr tables are required to be reviewed and possibly modified whenever changes, such as the following, occur:

- » Planned activities change (i.e. in terms of the components of the facility).
- » Modification to or addition to environmental objectives and targets.
- » Additional or unforeseen environmental impacts are identified.
- » Relevant legal or other requirements are changed or introduced.
- » Significant progress has been made on achieving an objective or target such that it should be re-examined to determine if it is still relevant, should be modified, etc.

#### 4.1. Project Team

This draft EMP was compiled by:

EMP Compilers		
Jo-Anne Thomas	Savannah Environmental	
	Specialists	
Wetlands and watercourse crossings	Cherman Colloty & Associates	

The Savannah Environmental team has extensive knowledge and experience in environmental impact assessment and environmental management, having being involved in EIA processes over the past ten (10) years. They have managed and drafted environmental management plans for other wind energy facility projects throughout South Africa. In addition, they have been involved in compliance monitoring of major construction projects in South Africa.

## MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR PLANNING & DESIGN

## CHAPTER 5

**Overall Goal:** undertake the planning and design phase in a way that:

- » Ensures that the design of the watercourse crossings responds to the identified environmental constraints and opportunities.
- » Ensures that adequate regard has been taken of any landowner and community concerns and that these are appropriately addressed through design and planning (where appropriate).
- » Enables the construction activities to be undertaken without significant disruption to other land uses and activities in the area.

In order to meet this goal, the following objectives have been identified, together with necessary actions and monitoring requirements.

#### 5.1. Objectives

OBJECTIVE: To ensure that the design of the watercourse crossings responds to the identified environmental constraints and opportunities

Project	»	Watercourse crossings
component/s		
Potential Impact	»	Design fails to respond optimally to the environmental consideration
Activities/risk	»	Construction of watercourse crossings
sources		
Mitigation:	»	To ensure that the design of the watercourse crossings responds to
Target/Objective		the identified environmental constraints and opportunities

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
Culvert structures within the watercourse should be kept to a minimum and not retain any middle channel flows.	TCWF	Design phase
The culvert crossings should not trap any run-off, thereby creating inundated areas, but allow for free flowing systems	TCWF	Design phase
Include stormwater management systems along the roads that would reduce flow velocities. Stormwater and any runoff generated by the hard surfaces should be discharged into retention swales or areas with rock rip-rap. These energy dissipation structures should be	TCWF	Design phase

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
placed in manner that flows are managed prior to being discharged back into the natural systems, thus not only preventing erosion, but would support the maintenance of natural base flows within these systems, i.e. hydrological regime (water quantity and quality) is maintained.		
All stormwater control features should have soft engineered areas that attenuate flows allowing for water to percolate in the local aquifers	TCWF	Design phase
A detailed geotechnical investigation is required for the design phase.	TCWF	Design phase
Water use license to be obtained for watercourse crossings.	TCWF	Design phase

Performance Indicator	»	Design meets objectives and does not degrade the environment and respond to the mitigation measures and recommendations in the EIA report.
Monitoring	»	Ensure that the design implemented meets the objectives and mitigation measures in the EIA report through review of the design by the Project Manager, SHE representative and Environmental Control Officer (ECO) prior to the commencement of construction.

#### OBJECTIVE: To ensure effective communication mechanisms

On-going communication with affected and surrounding landowners is important to maintain during the construction and operational phases of the solar energy facility. Any issues and concerns raised should be addressed as far as possible in as short a timeframe as possible.

Project component/s	»	Watercourse crossings
Potential Impact	<b>»</b>	Impacts on affected and surrounding landowners and land uses
Activity/risk source	»	Activities associated with construction of watercourse crossings
Mitigation: Target/Objective	» »	Effective communication with affected and surrounding landowners Addressing of any issues and concerns raised as far as possible in as short a timeframe as possible

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
Compile and implement a grievance mechanism	TCWF	Pre-construction
procedure for the public (as outlined in Appendix A)		(construction

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
to be implemented during both the construction and		procedure)
operational phases of the facility. This procedure		
should include details of the contact person who will		
be receiving issues raised by interested and affected		
parties, and the process that will be followed to		
address issues. This procedure should be in line with		
the South African Labour Law.		
Liaison with landowners is to be undertaken prior to	TCWF/ Contractor	Pre-construction
the commencement of construction in order to		
provide sufficient time for them to plan agricultural		
activities.		

Performance	<b>»</b>	Effec	ctive com	munication	procedu	res in pla	ace.				
Indicator											
Monitoring	»	An	incident	reporting	system	should	be	used	to	record	non-
		conf	ormances	s to the EM	P.						

## MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR CONSTRUCTION

## CHAPTER 6

**Overall Goal:** Undertake the construction phase in a way that:

- » Ensures that construction activities are properly managed in respect of environmental aspects and impacts.
- » Enables construction activities to be undertaken without significant disruption to other land uses and activities in the area, in particular concerning farming practices and effects on local residents.
- » Minimises the impact on any remaining indigenous natural vegetation and habitats of ecological value.
- » Minimises the impact on heritage site should they be uncovered.

## 6.1. Institutional Arrangements: Roles and Responsibilities for Construction

As the Proponent, TCWF must ensure that the implementation of the wind energy facility complies with the requirements of any and all environmental authorisations and permits, and obligations emanating from other relevant environmental legislation. This obligation is partly met through the development of the EMPr, and the implementation of the EMP through its integration into the contract documentation. TCWF will retain various key roles and responsibilities during construction. These are outlined below.

## OBJECTIVE: To establish clear reporting, communication and responsibilities in relation to environmental incident

Formal responsibilities are necessary to ensure that key procedures are executed. Specific responsibilities of the Project Manager; Site Manager; Safety, Health and Environmental Representative; Environmental Control Officer and Contractor for the construction phase of this project are as detailed below.

## The Project Manager will:

- » Ensure of all specifications and legal constraints specifically with regards to the environment are highlighted to the Contractor(s) so that they are aware of these.
- » Ensure that TCWF and its Contractor(s) are made aware of all stipulations within the EMP.
- » Ensure that the EMP is correctly implemented throughout the project by means of site inspections and meetings. This will be documented as part of the site meeting minutes.

» Be fully conversant with the Environmental Basic Assessment for the project, the EMP, the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation (once issued), and all relevant environmental legislation.

The Site Manager (TCWF's On-site Representative) will:

- » Be fully knowledgeable with the contents of the Environmental Basic Assessment.
- » Be fully knowledgeable with the contents and conditions of the Environmental Authorisation (once issued).
- » Be fully knowledgeable with the contents of the EMP.
- » Be fully knowledgeable with the contents of all relevant environmental legislation, and ensure compliance with these.
- » Be fully knowledgeable with the contents of all relevant licences and permits for the project.
- » Have overall responsibility of the EMP and its implementation.
- » Conduct audits to ensure compliance to the EMP.
- » Ensure there is communication with the Project Manager, the Environmental Control Officer and relevant discipline Engineers on matters concerning the environment.
- » Ensure that no actions are taken which will harm or may indirectly cause harm to the environment, and take steps to prevent pollution on the site in accordance with the IFC standards.
- » Confine activities to the demarcated construction site.

#### The Safety, Health and Environmental Representative (SHE officer) will:

- » Develop and compile environmental policies and procedures.
- » Direct and liaise with the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) regarding monitoring and reporting on the environmental performance of the construction phase.
- » Conduct internal environmental audits and co-ordinate external environmental audits.
- » Liaise with statutory bodies on environmental performance and other issues as required.

An independent **Environmental Control Officer (ECO)** must be appointed by the project proponent prior to the commencement of any authorised activities. The ECO will be responsible for monitoring, reviewing and verifying compliance by the Contractor with the environmental specifications of the EMP and the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation. This ECO can be the same person as that employed for the broader wind energy facility construction. The ECO will:

- » Be fully knowledgeable with the contents with the Environmental Basic Assessment.
- » Be fully knowledgeable with the contents with the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation (once issued).
- » Be fully knowledgeable with the contents with the EMP.

- » Be fully knowledgeable with the contents with all relevant environmental legislation, and ensure compliance with them.
- » Be fully knowledgeable of all the licences and permits issued for the project.
- » Ensure that the contents of this document are communicated to the Contractor site staff and that the Site Manager and Contractor are constantly made aware of the contents through discussion.
- » Ensure that the compliance of the EMP is monitored through regular and comprehensive inspection of the site and surrounding areas.
- » Ensure that if the EMP conditions or specifications are not followed then appropriate measures are undertaken to address this.
- » Monitoring and verification must be implemented to ensure that environmental impacts are kept to a minimum, as far as possible.
- » Ensure that the Site Manager has input into the review and acceptance of construction methods and method statements.
- » Ensure that activities on site comply with all relevant environmental legislation.
- » Ensure that a removal is ordered of any person(s) and/or equipment responsible for any contravention of the specifications of the EMP.
- » Ensure that the compilation of progress reports for submission to the Project Manager, with input from the Site Manager, takes place on a regular basis, including a final post-construction audit.
- » Ensure that there is communication with the Site Manager regarding the monitoring of the site.
- » Ensure that any non-compliance or remedial measures that need to be applied are reported.
- » Keep record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a task schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
- » Independently report to DEA in terms of compliance with the specifications of the EMP and conditions of the Environmental Authorisation (once issued).

As a general mitigation strategy, the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) should be present full-time on site for:

- » facilitate environmental induction with construction staff, and
- » the site preparation and initial clearing activities to ensure the correct demarcation of no-go areas,
- » Excavation,
- » monitoring of linear infrastructure construction activities (power line and access road),

Thereafter, monthly or bi-weekly site compliance inspections would probably be sufficient, reducing as construction proceeds, provided compliance is maintained. However, in the absence of the ECO there should be a designated environmental officer present to deal with any environmental issues that may arise such as fuel or oil spills.

The ECO shall remain employed until all rehabilitation measures, as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site handed over for operation.

**Contractors and Service Providers:** All contractors (including sub-contractors and staff) and service providers are ultimately responsible for:

- » Ensuring adherence to the environmental management specifications.
- » Ensuring that Method Statements are submitted to the Site Manager (and ECO) for approval before any work is undertaken. Any lack of adherence to this will be considered as non-compliance to the specifications of the EMPr.
- » Ensuring that any instructions issued by the Site Manager on the advice of the ECO are adhered to.
- » Ensuring that a report is tabled at each site meeting, which will document all incidents that have occurred during the period before the site meeting.
- » Ensuring that a register is kept in the site office, which lists all transgressions issued by the ECO.
- » Ensuring that a register of all public complaints is maintained and the.
- » Ensuring that all employees, including those of sub-contractors receive training before the commencement of construction in order that they can constructively contribute towards the successful implementation of the EMP (i.e. ensure their staff are appropriately trained as to the environmental obligations).

**Contractor's Environmental Representative:** The Contractor's Environmental Representative (CER), employed by the Contractor, is responsible for managing the day-to-day on-site implementation of this EMP, and for the compilation of regular (usually weekly) Monitoring Reports. In addition, the CER must act as liaison and advisor on all environmental and related issues and ensure that any complaints received from the public are duly recorded and forwarded to the Site Manager and Contractor.

The Contractor's Environmental Representative should:

- » Be well versed in environmental matters.
- » Understand the relevant environmental legislation and processes.
- » Understand the hierarchy of Environmental Compliance Reporting, and the implications of Non-Compliance.
- » Know the background of the project and understand the implementation programme.
- » Be able to resolve conflicts and make recommendations on site in terms of the requirements of this Specification.
- » Keep accurate and detailed records of all EMP-related activities on site.

#### 6.2. Objectives

In order to meet this goal, the following objectives have been identified, together with necessary actions and monitoring requirements.

## OBJECTIVE: Securing the site and site establishment

Project component/s	»	Watercourse crossings
Potential Impact	<b>»</b>	Hazards to landowners and public
	»	Security of materials
	»	Substantially increased damage to adjacent sensitive vegetation
Activities/risk	»	Open excavations (foundations)
sources	»	Movement of construction vehicles in the area and on-site
Mitigation:	»	To secure the site against unauthorised entry
Target/Objective	»	To protect members of the public/landowners/residents

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
Secure site, working areas and excavations in an appropriate manner	Contractor	Duration of Contract
Where necessary to control access, fence and secure area.	Contractor	Duration of Contract
Secure site, working areas and excavations in an appropriate manner, as agreed with the SHE Representative and the ECO.	Contractor	Duration of Contract
Minimise vegetation clearance or removal associated with site establishment activities. Compile a method statement referring to vegetation management.	Contractor	Site establishment
Provide adequate sanitary facilities and ablutions for construction workers (1 toilet per every 15 workers) at appropriate locations on site.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Ablution or sanitary facilities should not be located within 100 m from a 1:100 year flood line including water courses, wetlands or within a horizontal distance of less than 100 m, whichever is applicable	Contractor	Construction
Supply adequate, contained and accessible waste collection bins and skips at site where construction is being undertaken. All work sites must be kept free of waste. No solid waste may be burned or buried on site or disposed of by any other method on site or within quarries or borrows pits. Remove stored domestic waste to the nearest registered solid waste disposal	Contractor	Duration of contract

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
facility.		
No liquid, including grey water, may be discharged into any water body or drainage line without purification with accordance to the Department of Water Affairs' (DWA) specifications and guidelines.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Ensure compliance with all national, regional and local legislation with regard to the storage, handling and disposal of hydrocarbons, chemicals, solvents and any other harmful and hazardous substances and materials. The onus is on the Contractor to identify and interpret the applicable legislation.	Contractor	During and post construction.
Keep a record of all hazardous substances stored on site for submission to the ECO and follow the hazardous substance monitoring program. Clearly label all the containers storing hazardous waste.	Contractor	
Water required for construction purposes to be sourced from legitimate sources such as the local municipality. If water to be abstracted from ground or surface water resources the relevant permit must be obtained from DWA.	Contractor	Pre-Construction

Performance	»	Site is secure and there is no unauthorised entry
Indicator	»	No members of the public/ landowners injured
Monitoring	» » » »	Regular visual inspection of fence for signs of deterioration/forced access An incident reporting system will be used to record non-conformances to the EMP. Public complaints register must be developed and maintained on site. ECO to monitor all construction areas on a continuous basis until all construction is completed; immediate report backs to site manager. ECO to address any infringements with responsible contractors as soon as these are recorded.

## OBJECTIVE: Avoid the potential impacts on family structures and social networks associated with presence of construction workers from outside the area

While the presence of construction workers does not in itself constitute a social impact, the manner in which construction workers conduct themselves can impact on the local community. In this regard the most significant negative impact is associated with the disruption of existing family structures and social networks.

Project component/s	»	Construction and establishment activities associated with the establishment of watercourse crossings.
Potential Impact	» »	The presence of construction workers who live outside the area and who are housed in local towns can impact on family structures and social networks. Presence of construction workers on site may result in loss of livestock due to stock theft and damage to farm infrastructure, such as gates and fences. Poaching of wild animals may also occur.
Activities/risk sources	»	The presence of construction workers on site.
Mitigation: Target/Objective	»	Avoid and or minimise the potential impact of construction workers on the local community and livelihoods.

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
Develop a Code of Conduct for construction workers and train workers on the requirements of this Code of Conduct.	TCWF	Pre-construction
Ensure that construction workers who are found guilty of breaching the Code of Conduct are dismissed. All dismissals must be in accordance with South African labour legislation.	TCWF and contractors	Construction
The housing of construction workers on the site should be limited to security personnel	TCWF and contractors	Construction
Identify local contractors who are qualified to undertaken the required work	TCWF	Pre-construction
Compensate farmers / community members at full market related replacement cost for any losses, such as livestock, damage to infrastructure etc.	Contractors	Construction

Performance	» Employment policy and tender documents that set out requirement
Indicator	<ul> <li>for local employment and targets completed before construction phase commences.</li> <li>» Code of Conduct developed and approved prior to commencement of construction phase.</li> <li>» All construction workers made aware of Code of Conduct within first week of being employed.</li> <li>» Briefing session with construction workers held at outset of construction phase.</li> </ul>
Monitoring	<ul> <li>TCWF and appointed ECO must monitor indicators listed above to ensure that they have been met for the construction phase.</li> <li>An incident reporting system must be used to record non-conformances to the EMP.</li> <li>Public complaints register must be developed and maintained on site.</li> </ul>

#### OBJECTIVE: Management of noise, dust and emissions and damage to roads

During the construction phase, limited gaseous or particulate emissions are anticipated from exhaust emissions from construction vehicles and equipment on-site, as well as vehicle entrained dust from the movement of vehicles on the internal access roads.

Project	»	Watercourse crossings
Potential Impact	<b>»</b>	Heavy vehicles can generate noise and dust impacts.
	»	Movement of heavy vehicles can also damage roads.
Activities/risk sources	»	The movement of heavy vehicles and their activities on the site can result in noise and dust impacts and damage roads.
Mitigation: Target/Objective	»	To avoid and or minimise the potential noise and dust impacts associated with heavy vehicles, and also minimise damage to roads.

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
Implement appropriate dust suppression measures on site such as wetting roads on a regular basis.	Contractor	Construction
Haul vehicles moving outside the construction site carrying material that can be wind-blown should be covered with tarpaulins.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Ensure vehicles adhere to speed limits of on public roads and don't exceed 20km/hour on farm roads. Vehicles should be fitted with recorders to record when vehicles exceed the speed limit.	Contractor/ transportation contractor	Duration of contract
Disturbed areas must be re-vegetated as soon as practicable after construction is complete in an area.	Contractor	At completion of the construction phase
Vehicles and equipment must be maintained in a road- worthy condition at all times.	Contractor	Prior to construction phase
Ensure that damage to internal roads attributable to construction vehicles is repaired before completion of construction phase.	Contractor	Before completion of construction phase
Establish a line of communication and notify all stakeholders and sensitive receptors of the means of registering any issues, complaints or comments.	Contractor	All phases of project
If any noise complaints are received, noise monitoring should be conducted at the complainant, followed by feedback regarding noise levels measured	Acoustical Consultant / Approved Noise Inspection Authority	Within 7 days after complaint was registered

Performance Indicator	<ul> <li>Appropriate dust suppression measures implemented for all heavy vehicles that require such measures during the construction phase.</li> <li>Drivers made aware of the potential safety issues and enforcement of strict speed limits when they are employed.</li> <li>All heavy vehicles equipped with speed monitors before they are used in the construction phase.</li> <li>Road worthy certificates in place for all heavy vehicles at outset of construction phase and up-dated on a monthly basis.</li> </ul>
Monitoring	<ul> <li>TCWF and appointed ECO must monitor indicators listed above to ensure that they have been met for the construction phase. Immediate reporting by personnel of any potential or actual issues with nuisance dust or emissions to the Site Manager or SHE Representative.</li> <li>An incident reporting system must be used to record non- conformances to the EMP.</li> <li>Public complaints register must be developed and maintained on site.</li> </ul>

#### OBJECTIVE: Erosion control, water quality management

The natural soil on the site needs to be preserved as far as possible in order to minimise impacts on the environment. Soil degradation including erosion (by wind and water) and subsequent deposition elsewhere is of a concern in areas underlain by fine grained soil which can be mobilised when disturbed, even on relatively low slope gradients (accelerated erosion). Uncontrolled run-off relating to construction activity will also lead to accelerated erosion. Degradation of the natural soil profile due to excavation, stockpiling, compaction, pollution and other construction activities will affect soil forming processes and associated ecosystems.

A set of strictly adhered to mitigation measures are required to be implemented in order to effectively limit the impact on the environment. The disturbance areas where human impact is likely are the focus of the mitigation measures laid out below.

Project	<b>»</b>	Watercourse crossings
component/s		
Potential Impact	»	Erosion and soil loss
	»	Soil mixing, wetting, stockpiling, compaction
	»	Soil pollution
	»	Accelerated soil erosion
	»	Negative impacts on wetlands
	»	Sedimentation of watercourses/wetland areas
	»	Loss of indigenous vegetation cover
Activities/risk	<b>»</b>	Rainfall and wind erosion of disturbed areas

sources	»	Excavation, stockpiling and compaction of soil
	»	Concentrated discharge of water from construction activity
	»	Stormwater run-off from sealed surfaces
	»	Mobile construction equipment movement on site
	<b>»</b>	River/stream/drainage line road crossings
Mitigation:	»	To minimise erosion of soil from site during construction
Target/Objective	»	To minimise deposition of soil into drainage lines
	»	To minimise damage to vegetation by erosion or deposition
	»	No reduction in the surface area of wetlands (drainage lines and other
		wetland areas) as a result of the establishment of infrastructure
	»	Minimal loss of vegetation cover due to construction related activities
	»	No increase in runoff into drainage lines as a result of road
		construction

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
Identify and demarcate construction areas for general construction work and restrict construction activity to these areas. Prevent unnecessary destructive activity within construction areas (prevent over-excavations and double handling)	Contractor	Construction
Stockpile topsoil for re-use in rehabilitation phase. Maintain stockpile shape and protect from erosion. All stockpiles must be positioned at least 50 m away from drainage lines and wetlands. Limit the height of stockpiles as far as possible in order to reduce compaction.	Contractor	Duration of construction
Disturbance of vegetation and topsoil must be kept to a practical minimum.	Contractor	Duration of contract
No unauthorised off road driving will be allowed, to prevent sensitive vegetation being destroyed, unless authorised by the ECO.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Rehabilitate disturbance areas as soon as construction in an area is completed.	Contractor	Construction
As far as possible, access to the construction site should be restricted to a single access point.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Internal access roads should be kept to a minimum.	Contractor / ECO	During site establishment
Stormwater and any runoff generated by the hard surfaces should be discharged into retention swales or areas with rock rip-rap. These energy dissipation structures should be placed in manner that flows are managed prior to being discharged back into the natural systems, thus not only preventing erosion, but would support the maintenance of natural base flows within these systems, i.e. hydrological regime (water quantity and quality) is maintained	Contractor	Construction
Implement the stormwater management and erosion	TCWF	Construction &

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
control plan, as well as a rehabilitation plan as detailed in the Water Use License Application documentation (as	Contractor	operation
Culverts (or other appropriate measures) must be designed	TCWF	Construction
to allow free flow. Regular maintenance must be carried out.	Contractor	
All vehicles on site must be appropriate to access the site.	TCWF	Construction
No off road driving is permitted unless authorised by the ECO.	Contractor	

Performance Indicator	»	Acceptable level of activity within disturbance areas, as determined by ECO
	»	Acceptable level of soil erosion around site, as determined by ECO
Monitoring	»	Fortnightly inspections of sediment control devices by ECO
	<b>»</b>	Immediate reporting of ineffective sediment control systems
	»	An incident reporting system must record non-conformances to the
		EMP.
	»	Public complaints register must be developed and maintained on site.

## **OBJECTIVE:** Minimisation of development footprint

In order to minimise impacts on flora, fauna and ecological processes, the development footprint should be limited.

Project	»	Watercourse crossings
component/s		
Potential Impact	»	Impacts on natural vegetation and habitats
	»	Impacts on soil
	»	Loss of topsoil
Activity/risk	»	Site preparation and earthworks
source	»	Construction of site watercourse crossings
	»	Stockpiling of topsoil, subsoil and spoil material
Mitigation:	»	To minimise footprints of disturbance of vegetation/habitats on-site
Target/Objective	»	Remove and store all topsoil on areas that are to be excavated; and
		use this topsoil in subsequent rehabilitation of disturbed areas.
	»	Spoil material to be minimised.

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
Construction activities must be restricted to demarcated	Contractor	Site
areas so that impact on flora and fauna is restricted.		establishment &
		duration of

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
		contract
Rehabilitate any disturbed areas immediately after	Contractor	Construction
construction in that area is complete in order to		
stabilise landscapes.		

Performance Indicator	» » »	Zero disturbance outside of designated work areas Minimise loss of topsoil Minimise clearing of existing natural vegetation
Monitoring	» » »	Observation of vegetation clearing and soil management activities by ECO throughout construction phase. Supervision of all clearing and earthworks. An incident reporting system must be used to record non- conformances to the EMP. Public complaints register must be developed and maintained on site.

#### OBJECTIVE: Limit Damage to wetland areas and drainage lines

The proposed activity is deemed to have a limited potential impact (negative) on the aquatic environment, especially considering the highly impacted nature of the aquatic resources on site due to damming, surface water diversion (cut-off drains) and alien plant infestation.

Project component/s	»	Watercourse crossings
Potential Impact	»	Damage to wetland areas.
Activity/risk source	»	Construction of watercourse crossings
Mitigation: Target/Objective	»	Limited damage to drainage lines or wetlands within project area

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
Rehabilitate any disturbed areas as soon as possible	Contractor	Construction
once construction is completed in an area.		
Minimise disturbance footprints within watercourse	Contractor	Construction
crossing areas.		
The culvert crossings should not trap any run-off,	Construction	Construction
thereby creating inundated areas, but allow for free		
flowing systems		
Obtain a permit as required in terms of the National	TCWF	Pre-construction
Water Act from DWA to impact on any wetland or water		
resource.		

Performance Indicator	»	Limited impacts on water quality, water quantity, wetland vegetation, natural status of wetland
Monitoring	» » »	<ul> <li>Habitat loss in watercourses should be monitored before and after construction.</li> <li>The presence and development of erosion features downstream of any construction through wetlands must be monitored and appropriately managed.</li> <li>An incident reporting system must be used to record non-conformances to the EMP.</li> <li>Public complaints register must be developed and maintained on site.</li> </ul>

#### OBJECTIVE: Protection of indigenous vegetation and control of alien invasive plants

Impacts on vegetation at the construction stage are expected to be mainly as a result of direct permanent loss of vegetation in development footprint areas. There are a number of different alien plant species that could become established on site. The potential therefore exists for extensive and diverse invasion of the site. The habitats most likely to be affected are watercourses, strandveld and fynbos.

Project	»	Watercourse crossings	
component/s			
Potential Impact	»	Loss of vegetation of conservation concern	
	»	Spread of alien species	
Activity/risk	»	Site preparation and earthworks	
source	»	Construction-related traffic	
	»	Dumping or damage by construction equipment outside of	
		demarcated construction areas	
Mitigation:	»	» To retain natural vegetation as far as possible	
Target/Objective	<b>»</b>	To minimise footprints of disturbance of vegetation/habitats on-site	
	»	Limit alien plants within project control area	
	<b>»</b>	Limit loss of species of conservation concern	

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
Unnecessary impacts on surrounding natural vegetation	Contractor	Construction
must be avoided, e.g. driving around in the veld. The		
construction impacts must be contained to the footprint		
of the infrastructure.		
Avoid creating conditions in which alien plants may	Contractor	Construction
become established:		
» Keep disturbance of indigenous vegetation to a		
minimum		
» Rehabilitate disturbed areas as quickly as possible		
once construction is complete in an area		

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
» Do not import soil from areas with alien plants		
Establish an ongoing monitoring programme to detect and quantify any alien species that may become established and identify the problem species (as per Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, Act 43 of 1983) and the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004).	TCWF Contractor	Construction
Immediately control any alien plants that become established using registered control methods.	Contractor	Construction
A site rehabilitation programme should be compiled and implemented.	Contractor in consultation with Specialist	Duration of contract

Performance	» Zero disturbance outside of designated work areas.
Indicator	» Minimised clearing of existing/natural vegetation.
	<ul> <li>» Loss of natural vegetation only within designated footprint of infrastructure.</li> <li>» No significant fragmentation of untransformed areas of natural vegetation.</li> <li>» No alien infestation within project control area.</li> </ul>
Monitoring	<ul> <li>&gt; Observation of vegetation clearing activities by ECO throughout construction phase.</li> <li>&gt; Monitoring of alien plant establishment within the project control area on an on-going basis.</li> <li>&gt; Annual audit of project area and immediate surroundings by qualified botanist. If no species are detected, then this can be stated. If any alien invasive species are detected then the distribution of these should be mapped (GPS co-ordinates of plants or concentrations of plants), number of individuals (whole site or per unit area), age and/or size classes of plants and aerial cover of plants. The results should be interpreted in terms of the risk posed to sensitive habitats within and surrounding the project area. The environmental manager should be responsible for driving this process. Reporting frequency depends on legal compliance framework.</li> <li>&gt; An incident reporting system must be used to record non-conformances to the EMP.</li> <li>&gt; Public complaints register must be developed and maintained on site.</li> </ul>

#### OBJECTIVE: Protection of fossils and sites of heritage value

The main cause of impacts to archaeological sites is physical disturbance of the material itself and its context. The heritage and scientific potential of an archaeological site is highly dependent on its geological and spatial context. This means that even though,

for example a deep excavation may expose archaeological artefacts, the artefacts are relatively meaningless once removed from the area in which they were found. Largescale excavations for foundations will damage archaeological sites, as will road construction activities.

Providing that the recommended mitigation measures with regard to fossils are carried through, it is likely that the potentially negative impacts of the proposed development on local fossil resources will be substantially reduced and, furthermore, they will partially offset by the positive impact represented by increased understanding of the paleontological heritage of the Humansdorp region.

Project component/s	»	Watercourse crossings
Potential Impact	»	Heritage objects or artefacts found on site are inappropriately managed or destroyed
Activity/risk source	» » »	Site preparation and earthworks Foundations or plant equipment installation Mobile construction equipment movement on site
Mitigation: Target/Objective	»	To ensure that any heritage objects found on site are treated appropriately and in accordance with the relevant legislation

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
Construction managers/foremen should be informed	TCWF	Pre-construction
before construction starts on the possible types of		
heritage sites and cultural material they may encounter		
and the procedures to follow when they find sites.		
If any concentrations of palaeontological, archaeological	Contractor	Duration of
material or human remains are uncovered during		contract
further development of the site, all work must		
immediately cease and must be reported to the Albany		
Museum and/or the South African Heritage Resources		
Agency so that systematic and professional		
investigation / excavations can be undertaken.		
Sufficient time should be allowed to remove/collect		
such material.		

Performance Indicator	» »	Zero disturbance outside of designated work areas All heritage items located are dealt with as per the legislative guidelines
Monitoring	» »	Observation of excavation activities by ECO throughout construction phase. An incident reporting system must be used to record non- conformances to the EMP.

» Public complaints register must be developed and maintained on site.

## OBJECTIVE: Appropriate handling and storage of chemicals, hazardous substances and waste

Project	<b>»</b>	Watercourse crossings
component/s		
Potential Impact	» » »	Release of contaminated water from contact with spilled chemicals Generation of contaminated wastes from used chemical containers Inefficient use of resources resulting in excessive waste generation Litter or contamination of the site or water through poor waste management practices
Activity/risk source	» » » »	Vehicles associated with site preparation and earthworks Packaging and other construction wastes Hydrocarbon use and storage Spoil material from excavation, earthworks and site preparation
Mitigation: Target/Objective	» »	To ensure that the storage and handling of chemicals and hydrocarbons on-site does not cause pollution to the environment or harm to persons To ensure that the storage and maintenance of machinery on-site does not cause pollution of the environment or harm to persons To comply with waste management legislation

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
The storage of flammable and combustible liquids such as oils must be in designated areas which are appropriately bunded, and stored in compliance with MSDS files, as defined by the SHE Representative / ECO.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Any spills must receive the necessary clean-up action. Bioremediation kits are to be kept on-site and used to remediate any spills that may occur. Appropriate arrangements to be made for appropriate collection and disposal of all cleaning materials, absorbents and contaminated soils (in accordance with a waste management plan).	Contractor	Duration of contract
Any storage and disposal permits/approvals which may be required must be obtained, and the conditions attached to such permits and approvals must be complied with.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Routine servicing and maintenance of vehicles is not to take place on-site (except for emergency situations or large cranes which cannot be moved off-site). If	Contractor	Duration of contract

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
repairs of vehicles must take place on site, an appropriate drip tray must be used to contain any fuel or oils.		
Transport of all hazardous substances must be in accordance with the relevant legislation and regulations.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Waste disposal records must be available for review at any time.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Construction contractors must provide specific detailed waste management plans to deal with all waste streams.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Specific areas must be designated on-site for the temporary management of various waste streams, i.e. general refuse, construction waste (wood and metal scrap) and contaminated waste. Location of such areas must seek to minimise the potential for impact on the surrounding environment, including prevention of contaminated runoff, seepage and vermin control.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Where possible, construction and general wastes on- site must be reused or recycled. Bins and skips must be available on-site for collection, separation and storage of waste streams (such as wood, metals, general refuse etc.).	Contractor	Duration of contract
Disposal of waste must be in accordance with relevant legislative requirements, including the use of licensed contractors.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Hydrocarbon waste must be contained and stored in sealed containers within an appropriately bunded area.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Waste and surplus dangerous goods must be kept to a minimum and must be transported by approved waste transporters to sites designated for their disposal.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Documentation (waste manifest) must be maintained detailing the quantity, nature and fate of any hazardous waste.	Contractor	Duration of contract
An incident/complaints register must be established and maintained on-site.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Hazardous and non-hazardous waste must be separated at source. Separate waste collection bins must be provided for this purpose. These bins must be clearly marked and appropriately covered.	Contractors	Duration of Contract
All solid waste collected must be disposed of at a registered waste disposal site. A certificate of disposal must be obtained and kept on file. The disposal of waste must be in accordance with all relevant	Contractors	Duration of Contract

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
legislation. Under no circumstances may solid waste be burnt or buried on site.		
Supply waste collection bins at construction equipment and construction crew camps.	Contractors	Duration of Contract
Construction equipment must be refuelled within designated refuelling locations, or where remote refuelling is required, appropriate drip trays must be utilised.	Contractor	Duration of contract
All stored fuels to be maintained within a bund and on a sealed surface.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Fuel storage areas must be inspected regularly to ensure bund stability, integrity and function.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Construction machinery must be stored in an appropriately sealed area.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Oily water from bunds at the substation must be removed from site by licensed contractors.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Spilled cement or concrete must be cleaned up as soon as possible and disposed of at a suitably licensed waste disposal site.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Corrective action must be undertaken immediately if a complaint is received, or potential/actual leak or spill of polluting substance identified. This includes stopping the contaminant from further escaping, cleaning up the affected environment as much as practically possible and implementing preventive measures.	Contractor	Duration of contract
In the event of a major spill or leak of contaminants, the relevant administering authority must be immediately notified as per the notification of emergencies/incidents.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Any contaminated/polluted soil removed from the site must be disposed of at a licensed hazardous waste disposal facility.	Contractor	Duration of contract
Upon the completion of construction, the area will be cleared of potentially polluting materials.	Contractor	Completion of construction

Performance	<b>»</b>	No chemical spills outside of designated storage areas
Indicator	»	No water or soil contamination by chemical spills
	»	No complaints received regarding waste on site or indiscriminate
		dumping
	»	Internal site audits ensuring that waste segregation, recycling and
		reuse is occurring appropriately
	»	Provision of all appropriate waste manifests for all waste streams
	»	Designated areas for fires identified on site at the outset of the
		construction phase

	»	Fire fighting equipment and training provided before the construction phase commences
Monitoring	»	Observation and supervision of waste management practices, chemical storage and handling practices and vehicle maintenance throughout construction phase
	»	A complaints register must be maintained, in which any complaints from the community will be logged. Complaints must be investigated and, if appropriate, acted upon
	»	An incident reporting system must be used to record non- conformances to the EMP
	»	Public complaints register must be developed and maintained on site.

## 6.3. Detailing Method Statements

OBJECTIVE: Ensure all construction activities are undertaken with the appropriate level of environmental awareness to minimise environmental risk

The environmental specifications are required to be underpinned by a series of Method Statements, within which the Contractors and Service Providers are required to outline how any identified environmental risks will practically be mitigated and managed for the duration of the contract, and how specifications within this EMPr will be met. That is, the Contractor will be required to describe how specified requirements will be achieved through the submission of written Method Statements to the Site Manager and ECO.

A Method Statement is defined as "a written submission by the Contractor in response to the environmental specification or a request by the Site Manager, setting out the plant, materials, labour and method the Contractor proposes using to conduct an activity, in such detail that the Site Manager is able to assess whether the Contractor's proposal is in accordance with the Specifications and/or will produce results in accordance with the Specifications". The Method Statement must cover applicable details with regard to:

- » Construction procedures
- » Materials and equipment to be used
- » Getting the equipment to and from site
- » How the equipment/material will be moved while on-site
- » How and where material will be stored
- » The containment (or action to be taken if containment is not possible) of leaks or spills of any liquid or material that may occur
- » Timing and location of activities
- » Compliance/non-compliance with the Specifications, and

» Any other information deemed necessary by the Site Manager.

Specific areas to be addressed in the method statement: pre, during and post construction include:

- » Site establishment (which explains all activities from induction training to offloading, construction sequence for site establishment and the different amenities and to be established etc., including a site camp plan indicating all of these).
- » Preparation of the site (i.e. Clearing vegetation, compacting soils and removing existing infrastructure and waste).
- » Soil management/stockpiling and erosion control.
- » Excavations and backfilling procedure.
- » Stipulate norms and standards for water supply and usage (i.e.: comply strictly to licence and legislation requirements and restrictions)
- » Stipulate the storm water management procedures.
- » Ablution facilities (placement, maintenance, management and servicing)
- » Solid Waste Management:
  - \* Description of the waste storage facilities (on site and accumulative).
  - \* Placement of waste stored (on site and accumulative).
  - \* Management and collection of waste process.
  - \* Recycle, re-use and removal process and procedure.
- » Liquid waste management:
  - \* The design, establish, maintain and operate suitable pollution control facilities necessary to prevent discharge of water containing polluting matter or visible suspended materials into rivers, streams or existing drainage systems.
  - \* Should grey water (i.e. water from basins, showers, baths, kitchen sinks etc.) need to be disposed of, link into an existing facilities where possible. Where no facilities are available, grey water runoff must be controlled to ensure there is no seepage into wetlands or natural watercourses.
- » Dust and noise pollution
  - \* Describe necessary measures to ensure that noise from construction activities is maintained within lawfully acceptable levels.
  - \* Procedure to control dust at all times on the site.
- » Hazardous substance storage.
  - \* Lists of all potentially hazardous substances to be used.
  - \* Appropriate handling, storage and disposal procedures.
  - \* Prevention protocol of accidental contamination of soil at storage and handling areas.
  - \* All storage areas, (i.e.: for harmful substances appropriately bunded with a suitable collection point for accidental spills must be implemented and drip trays underneath dispensing mechanisms including leaking engines/machinery).
- » Fire prevention and management measures on site.

- » Fauna and flora protection process on and off site (i.e.: removal to reintroduction or replanting, if necessary).
  - \* Rehabilitation and re-vegetation process.
- » Incident and accident reporting protocol.
- » General administration
- » Designate access road and the protocol on while roads are in use.
- » Requirements on gate control protocols.

The Contractor may not commence the activity covered by the Method Statement until it has been approved by the Site Manager, except in the case of emergency activities and then only with the consent of the Site Manager. Approval of the Method Statement will not absolve the Contractor from their obligations or responsibilities in terms of their contract.

Failure to submit a method statement may result in suspension of the activity concerned until such time as a method statement has been submitted and approved. The ECO should monitor the construction activities to ensure that these are undertaken in accordance with the approved Method Statement.

## 6.4. Awareness and Competence

OBJECTIVE: To ensure all construction personnel have the appropriate level of environmental awareness and competence to ensure continued environmental due diligence and on-going minimisation of environmental harm

To achieve effective environmental management, it is important that Contractors are aware of the responsibilities in terms of the relevant environmental legislation and the contents of this EMPr. The Contractor is responsible for informing employees and subcontractors of their environmental obligations in terms of the environmental specifications, and for ensuring that employees are adequately experienced and properly trained in order to execute the works in a manner that will minimise environmental impacts. The Contractors obligations in this regard include the following:

- » Employees must have a basic understanding of the key environmental features of the construction site and the surrounding environment.
- » Ensuring that a copy of the EMP is readily available on-site, and that all site staff are aware of the location and have access to the document.
- » Employees will be familiar with the requirements of the EMP and the environmental specifications as they apply to the construction of the facility.
- » Employees must undergo training for the operation and maintenance activities associated with a wind energy facility and have a basic knowledge of the potential

environmental impacts that could occur and how they can be minimised and mitigated.

- » Ensuring that, prior to commencing any site works, all employees and subcontractors have attended an Environmental Awareness Training course.
- » The course should be sufficient to provide the site staff with an appreciation of the project's environmental requirements, and how they are to be implemented.
- » Awareness of any other environmental matters, which are deemed to be necessary by the ECO.
- » Ensuring that employee information posters, outlining the environmental "do's" and "don'ts" (as per the environmental awareness training course) are erected at prominent locations throughout the site.
- » Ensure that construction workers have received basic training in environmental management, including the storage and handling of hazardous substances, minimisation of disturbance to sensitive areas, management of waste, and prevention of water pollution.
- » Records must be kept of those that have completed the relevant training.
- » Training should be done either in a written or verbal format but must be in an appropriate format for the receiving audience.
- » Refresher sessions must be held to ensure the contractor staff are aware of their environmental obligations as practically possible.

Therefore, prior to the commencement of construction activities on site and before any person commences with work on site thereafter, adequate environmental awareness and responsibility are to be appropriately presented to all staff present onsite, clearly describing their obligations towards environmental controls and methodologies in terms of this EMP. This training and awareness will be achieved in the following ways:

## 6.4.1. Environmental Awareness Training

Environmental Awareness Training must take the form of an on-site talk and demonstration by the ECO before the commencement of site establishment and construction on site. The education/awareness programme should be aimed at all levels of management and construction workers within the contractor team. A record of attendance of this training must be maintained by the ECO on site.

## 6.4.2. Induction Training

Environmental induction training must be presented to all persons who are to work on the site – be it for short or long durations; Contractor's or Engineer's staff; administrative or site staff; sub-contractors or visitors to site.

This induction training should include discussing the developer's environmental policy and values, the function of the EMP and Contract Specifications and the importance and

reasons for compliance to these. The induction training must highlight overall do's and don'ts on site and clarify the repercussions of not complying with these. The non-conformance reporting system must be explained during the induction as well. Opportunity for questions and clarifications must form part of this training. A record of attendance of this training must be maintained by the SHE Officer on site.

#### 6.4.3. Toolbox Talks

Toolbox talks should be held on a scheduled and regular basis (at least twice a month) where foremen, environmental and safety representatives of different components of the Works and sub-consultants hold talks relating to environmental practices and safety awareness on site. These talks should also include discussions on possible common incidents occurring on site and the prevention of reoccurrence thereof. Records of attendance and the awareness talk subject must be kept on file.

#### 6.5. Monitoring Programme

OBJECTIVE: To monitor the performance of the control strategies employed against environmental objectives and standards

A monitoring programme should be in place not only to ensure conformance with the EMP, but also to monitor any environmental issues and impacts which have not been accounted for in the EMP that are, or could result in significant environmental impacts for which corrective action is required. The period and frequency of monitoring will most likely be stipulated by the Environmental Authorisation. Where this is not clearly dictated, TCWF will determine and stipulate the period and frequency of monitoring required in consultation with relevant stakeholders and authorities. The Project Manager will ensure that the monitoring is conducted and reported.

The aim of the monitoring and auditing process would be to routinely monitor the implementation of the specified environmental specifications, in order to:

- » Monitor and audit compliance with the prescriptive and procedural terms of the environmental specifications
- » Ensure adequate and appropriate interventions to address non-compliance
- » Ensure adequate and appropriate interventions to address environmental degradation
- » Provide a mechanism for the lodging and resolution of public complaints
- » Ensure appropriate and adequate record keeping related to environmental compliance
- » Determine the effectiveness of the environmental specifications and recommend the requisite changes and updates based on audit outcomes, in order to enhance the efficacy of environmental management on site

» Aid communication and feedback to authorities and stakeholders.

## 6.5.1. Non-Conformance Reports

All supervisory staff including Foremen, Resident Engineers, and the ECO must be provided the means to be able to submit non-conformance reports to the Site Manager. Non-conformance reports will describe, in detail, the cause, nature and effects of any environmental non-conformance by the Contractor. Records of penalties imposed may be required by the relevant authority within 48 (forty eight) hours.

The non-conformance report will be updated on completion of the corrective measures indicated on the finding sheet. The report must indicate that the remediation measures have been implemented timeously and that the non-conformance can be closed-out to the satisfaction of the Site Manager and ECO.

## 6.5.2. Monitoring Reports

A monitoring report will be compiled by the ECO on a monthly basis and must be submitted to DEA for their records. This report should include details of the activities undertaken in the reporting period, any non-conformances or incidents recorded, corrective action required, and details of those non-conformances or incidents which have been closed out.

## 6.5.3. Final Audit Report

A final environmental audit report must be compiled by an independent auditor and be submitted to DEA upon completion of the construction and rehabilitation activities (within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e. within 30 days of site handover) and within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities). This report must indicate the date of the audit, the name of the auditor and the outcome of the audit in terms of compliance with the environmental authorisation conditions (once issued) and the requirements of the EMPr.

## MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR REHABILITATION OF DISTURBED AREAS

## CHAPTER 7

**Overall Goal for the Rehabilitation of Disturbed Areas:** Undertake the rehabilitation measures in a way that:

» Ensures rehabilitation of disturbed areas following the execution of the works, such that residual environmental impacts are remediated or curtailed

In order to meet this goal, the following objective, actions and monitoring requirements are relevant:

#### OBJECTIVE: To ensure rehabilitation of disturbed areas

Areas requiring rehabilitation will include all areas disturbed during the construction phase and that are not required for regular maintenance operations.

Project component/s	»	Watercourse crossings
Potential Impact	»	Environmental integrity of site undermined resulting in erosion, compromised land capability and the requirement for on-going management intervention
Activity/risk source	»	Disturbed areas/footprints
Mitigation:	»	To ensure and encourage site rehabilitation of disturbed areas
Target/Objective	»	To ensure that the site is appropriately rehabilitated following the execution of the works, such that residual environmental impacts (including erosion) are remediated or curtailed

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
All temporary facilities, equipment and waste materials must be removed from site and appropriately disposed of.	Contractor	Following execution of the works
Necessary drainage works and anti-erosion measures must be installed, where required, to minimise loss of topsoil and control erosion.	Contractor	Following execution of the works
Disturbed areas must be rehabilitated/re-vegetated with appropriate natural vegetation and/or local seed mix.	Contractorinconsultationwithrehabilitation specialist	Following completion of construction activities in an

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
		area
Re-vegetated areas may have to be protected from wind erosion and maintained until an acceptable plant	TCWF in consultation with rehabilitation	Post- rehabilitation
On-going alien plant monitoring and removal should be undertaken on all areas of natural vegetation on	TCWF in consultation with rehabilitation	Post- rehabilitation
an annual basis.	specialist	

Performance Indicator	» » »	All areas of the site cleared of equipment and temporary facilities Topsoil replaced on all areas and stabilised Disturbed areas rehabilitated and acceptable plant cover achieved on rehabilitated sites Closed site free of erosion and alien invasive plants
Monitoring	» » »	On-going inspection of rehabilitated areas in order to determine effectiveness of rehabilitation measures implemented On-going alien plant monitoring and removal should be undertaken on an annual basis An incident reporting system must be used to record non- conformances to the EMP.

## MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR OPERATION

## CHAPTER 8

**Overall Goal:** To ensure that the operation of the watercourse crossings within the TCWF do not have unforeseen impacts on the environment and to ensure that all impacts are monitored and the necessary corrective action taken in all cases. In order to address this goal, it is necessary to operate the facility in a way that:

- » Ensures that operation activities are properly managed in respect of environmental aspects and impacts.
- » Enables the operation activities to be undertaken without significant disruption to other land uses in the area, in particular with regard to farming practices and effects on local residents.

An environmental manager must be appointed during operation whose duty it will be to ensure the implementation of the operational EMP.

#### 8.2. Objectives

In order to meet this goal, the following objectives have been identified, together with necessary actions and monitoring requirements.

#### OBJECTIVE: Minimise soil degradation and erosion

Project component/s	» Watercourse crossings
Potential Impact	<ul> <li>» Soil degradation and erosion.</li> <li>» Increased deposition of soil into drainage systems.</li> <li>» Increased run-off over the site.</li> </ul>
Activity/Risk Source	<ul> <li>» Poor rehabilitation and/or revegetation of cleared areas.</li> <li>» Rainfall - water erosion of disturbed areas.</li> <li>» Wind erosion of disturbed areas.</li> <li>» Concentrated discharge of water from construction activity.</li> </ul>
Mitigation: Target/Objective	<ul> <li>» Ensure rehabilitation of disturbed areas is maintained.</li> <li>» Minimise soil degradation (i.e. wetting).</li> <li>» Minimise soil erosion and deposition of soil into drainage lines.</li> <li>» Ensure continued stability of embankments/excavations.</li> </ul>

Mitigation: Action/Control	Responsibility	Timeframe
Implement stormwater management and erosion control plan, as well as a rehabilitation plan as approved by the DWA within the Water Use License Application documentation	TCWF	Operation
The culvert crossings should also not trap any run-off, thereby creating inundated areas, but allow for free flowing systems	TCWF	Operation

Performance	»	Minimal levels of soil erosion around site.
Indicator	<b>»</b>	Minimal levels of increased siltation in drainage lines.
Monitoring	»	Inspections of site on a bi-annual basis.

## **OBJECTIVE:** Protection of vegetation

Indirect impacts on vegetation during operation could result from maintenance activities and the movement of people and vehicles on site.

Project component/s	»	Watercourse crossings
Potential Impact	» »	Disturbance to or loss of vegetation and/or habitat Environmental integrity of site undermined resulting in reduced visual aesthetics, erosion, compromised land capability and the requirement for on-going management intervention
Activity/risk	»	Movement of employee vehicles within and around site
source	»	Disturbed areas
Mitigation: Target/Objective	»	To maintain minimised footprints of disturbance of vegetation/habitats on-site
	»	To ensure and encourage plant regrowth in areas of post-construction rehabilitation

Mitigation: Action/control	Responsibility	Timeframe
Vehicle movements must be restricted to designated	TCWF and contractors	Operation
roadways		
An on-going alien monitoring and eradication	TCWF and contractors	Operation
programme must be implemented, where necessary.		
An independent environmental manager must be appointed during operation whose duty it will be to minimise impacts on surrounding sensitive habitats	TCWF and contractors	Operation
A botanist familiar with the vegetation of the area should monitor the rehabilitation success and alien	TCWF / Specialist	Annual monitoring

plant removal on an annual basis, for the first 5 years of the operational phase, or until deemed unnecessary by the botanist, until successful reestablishment of vegetation in an area

Performance Indicator	» » »	No further disturbance to vegetation Continued improvement of rehabilitation efforts No colonisation of the site by alien vegetation
Monitoring	» »	Observation of vegetation on-site by Site Manager and environmental manager Regular inspections to monitor plant regrowth/performance of rehabilitation efforts and weed infestation compared to natural/undisturbed areas On-going alien plant monitoring and removal should be undertaken on an annual basis , for the first 5 years of the operational phase, or until deemed unnecessary by a suitably qualified botanist

## MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR DECOMMISSIONING

## **CHAPTER 9**

The infrastructure associated with the watercourse crossings would only be decommissioned in the event that the TCWF was decommissioned and the roads were no longer required by the community. The turbine infrastructure which will be utilised for the TCWF is expected to have a lifespan of 20 to 30 years (with maintenance). The decommissioning activities of the wind turbines and all associated infrastructure would need to comply with the legislation relevant at the time.

Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the applicant shall undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered at any relevant and competent authority at that time.

## FINALISATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

## CHAPTER 10

The EMPr is a dynamic document, which must be updated when required. It is considered critical that this draft EMPr be updated to include site-specific information and specifications following the final walk-through survey by specialists of the power line, and development site. This will ensure that the construction and operation activities are planned and implemented taking sensitive environmental features into account.