

### <u>Revised</u>

### Basic Assessment Report

(Friday, 11 December 2020 – Monday, 01 February 2021)

# Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs)



VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

11 December 2020

Dear Interested and Affected Party,

#### BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN **CAPE PROVINCE** (DEFF Ref.No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2228)

#### NOTIFICATION OF <u>REVISED</u> BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a single- or double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed single or double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A single or double circuit 132kV overhead power line on a single set of pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Access roads and service tracks
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.
- A single 132kV incoming line bay at the Hidden Valley substation of up to 0.1ha located within the HV yard of the substation.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 19, 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 12(g)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee) of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF). Our PP Plan is in compliance with the DEFF Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/</a>.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

You and/or the organisation, which you represent, has been identified as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for the proposed project as described above. Should you have an interest in the project, please register yourself as an I&AP by completing and returning the attached registration and comment form. By registering on the project database, you will be kept informed of the BA process being undertaken for the project and will be provided with an opportunity to provide comment and input.

#### AVAILABILITY OF <u>REVISED</u> BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the project has been compiled and was made available for public review and comment from Friday 04 September to Monday, 05 October 2020. Subsequent to this, fine-scale walk-down surveys have been conducted by the environmental specialists and technical team allowing for more refined layout adjustments within the assessment corridor. Following the results of the walkthroughs, it was identified that minor layout updates were required for the proposed power line in order to accommodate environmental sensitivities and technical considerations. These refinements of the layout have been included in the <u>revised</u> BAR and is available for a 30-day review and comment period from **Friday**, **11 December 2020** until **Monday**, **01 February 2021**...<sup>1</sup>

All comments received during the previous BAR review and comments period have been included in the updated comments and responses report which is included as **Appendix C6** of the <u>revised</u> BAR. The <u>revised</u> BAR is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link and the release code is: **8y{XD**,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A notification of the timeframe extension for the BA process was submitted to the DEFF in terms of Regulation 19(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, to cater for the additional 30-day comment period

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the <u>revised</u> BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **01 February 2021** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant Email: <a href="mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com">publicprocess@savannahsa.com</a>

**Print** 

### **Note Report**

12 December 2020 11:56 AM

### Abrahams, Zakiya (Development Intern) WKN Windcurrent SA (Pty) Ltd

PO Box 762

Cell 074 955 0118

Wilderness Western Cape 6560

Email: abrahams@wkn-windcurrent.com

2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

#### Ajodhapersadh, Ravisha Enel Green Power

Email: ravisha.ajodhapersadh@enel.com

2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

#### Boeddinghaus, Hermann 4 Stone Buildings (Pty) Ltd

29 Canterbury Drive Bishopscourt

7708

Email: hb@4stonebuildings.com

2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

#### Coetzee, Johan Erwin (Landowner)

Main 0273411606 Cell 0823720419

Main 021 761 2095

Email: doc@ccs-it.co.za			
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification	
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification	
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification	

### Cumming, James (Executive) ACED

Main 0216701401 Cell 0829000550

Email: james.cumming@aced.co	

2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

#### Davies, Brian

Email: o	netime.	.dr@am	ail.com
----------	---------	--------	---------

2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

#### de Bruyn, Karen G7 Renewable Energies

Main 021300 0616 Cell 0838229629

Email:	eia@g7e	nardiae (	nnn
Lillall.	Cla(wy) C	Helyles.	-0111

2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

#### de Goede, Jacqueline

Cell 0843686510

Email: ia	axdq007	@gmail	.com
-----------	---------	--------	------

2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

### **Du Plessis, Andries Abraham Gericke** (Landowner)

15 Florida Street	Main	021 880 0681
Paradyskloof	Cell	060 352 9817
Stellenbosch Western Cape 7600	Work	021 888 3722

Email: abrieduplessis@bat.com

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 09:41 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

### Flynn, Anne Falcon Oil & Gas Ltd.

Main 35314171900 Cell 3514170812

Email: aflynn@falconoilandgas.com

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:35 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:35 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:35 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

### Grobler, Dana (Director) Blue Science

Main 218510555

Email: dana@bluescience.co.za

2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

### Hanekom, Gielie (Landowner) Gielie Hanekom Familietrust

Cell 0824117725

Email: soverby@adept.co.za

2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

### Kot, Stephnie (Project Manager) African Clean Energy Development (ACED)

Main 021 670 1423 Cell 083 318 3982

Email: stephnie.kot@aced.co.za

2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

# Mosehle, Nthabiseng (Health, Environmental, Safety & Quality (HSEQ)) Karusa Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd

PO Box 651286 Main 010 344 0265
Cell 076 674 8101

Benmore Gauteng 2010

Email: nthabiseng.mosehle@enel.com

2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

# Mosehle, Nthabiseng (Health, Environmental, Safety & Quality (HSEQ)) Soetwater Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd

PO Box 651286 Main 010 344 0265
Cell 076 674 8101

Benmore Gauteng 2010

Email: nthabiseng.mosehle@enel.com

2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

#### Mukwevho, Tshifhiwa

Hopley Centre
C/o Van der Stel & Van Riebeeck Streets
Springbok 8240

Email: tshifhiwa.mukwevho@dmr.gov

2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
	2020-12-11 08:35 PM

#### Muller, L.

Email: gunsfontein@roggeveld.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:35 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:35 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:35 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

#### Nel, Sas (Karoo Liaison Officer) Falcon Oil & Gas Ltd.

Cell 0829298814

Main 0235712637

Main (277) 128-160

Email: snel@fa	alkonoilandgas.com	
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

### O' Quigley, Philip (CEO) Falcon Oil & Gas Ltd.

Main 035314171900

Email:	poquigley(	@falconoi	landgas.com
--------	------------	-----------	-------------

2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

# Raath, Gideon (Environmental Assessment Practitioner) Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Main 011 656 3237 Fax 086 684 0547

Email: gideon@savannahsa.com

2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

### Shantikumar, Ravisha ENEL Green Power

Elliali. Kavistia.Silalitikullial@ellel.com				
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification		
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification		
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification		

#### Taylor, Shaun (Environmental Officer) Karusa Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd

PO Box 651286 Main 010 344 0265
Cell 082 466 6247

Benmore Gauteng 2010

Email: shaun.taylor@enel.com

2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

#### Taylor, Shaun (Environmental Officer) Soetwater Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd

PO Box 651286 Main 010 344 0265
Cell 082 466 6247

Benmore Gauteng 2010

Email: shaun.taylor@enel.com

2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

#### Van Zyl, Erasmus (Landowner) Dirk van Zyl Trust

Main 023 004 0070 Cell 082 494 0378

Email: dehoop@roggeveld.co.za

Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION 2020-12-11 2020-12-11 09:39 PM

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

#### Van Zyl, Nadine

Email: dehoop@roggeveld.co.za				
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification		
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification		
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification		

#### Wootton, David (Landowner)

Cell 0711965985

Email: bergland@mb-net.co.za				
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification		
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification		
2020-12-11	2020-12-11 08:35 PM	Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification		





VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

11 December 2020

Mr Francois Conradie Standvastigheid Familie Trust Farm Appels Fontein

Per e-mail: <a href="mailto:fdconradie@roggeveld.co.za">fdconradie@roggeveld.co.za</a>

Dear Mr Conradie,

#### BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

# EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

(DEFF Ref.No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2228)

#### NOTIFICATION OF REVISED BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a single- or double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed single or double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A single or double circuit 132kV overhead power line on a single set of pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200
  m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment
  purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Access roads and service tracks
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.
- A single 132kV incoming line bay at the Hidden Valley substation of up to 0.1ha located within the HV yard of the substation.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 19, 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 12(g)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee) of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF). Our PP Plan is in compliance with the DEFF Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/</a>.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

You have been identified as an adjacent landowner of the above-mentioned property, and in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(i) and (ii) for the proposed project as described above.

#### AVAILABILITY OF <u>REVISED</u> BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the project has been compiled and was made available for public review and comment from Friday 04 September to Monday, 05 October 2020. Subsequent to this, fine-scale walk-down surveys have been conducted by the environmental specialists and technical team allowing for more refined layout adjustments within the assessment corridor. Following the results of the walkthroughs, it was identified that minor layout updates were required for the proposed power line in order to accommodate environmental sensitivities and technical considerations. These refinements of the layout have been included in the <u>revised</u> BAR and is available for a 30-day review and comment period from **Friday**, **11 December 2020** until **Monday**, **01 February 2021**...<sup>1</sup>

All comments received during the previous BAR review and comments period have been included in the updated comments and responses report which is included as **Appendix C6** of the <u>revised</u> BAR. The <u>revised</u> BAR is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link and the release code is: **8y{XD**,

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A notification of the timeframe extension for the BA process was submitted to the DEFF in terms of Regulation 19(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, to cater for the additional 30-day comment period

places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, Regulation 43.(1) you are requested to please submit your written comments on the BAR to us by latest **Monday**, **01 February 2021** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant Email: <a href="mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com">publicprocess@savannahsa.com</a>



VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

11 December 2020

Mr Ockert Conradie Wolwekop Trust Farms Rheebokke Fontein and Wolvenkop

Per e-mail: damslaagte@roggeveld.co.za

Dear Mr Conradie,

#### BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

(DEFF Ref.No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2228)

#### NOTIFICATION OF REVISED BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a single- or double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed single or double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A single or double circuit 132kV overhead power line on a single set of pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Access roads and service tracks
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.
- A single 132kV incoming line bay at the Hidden Valley substation of up to 0.1ha located within the HV yard of the substation.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 19, 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 12(g)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee) of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF). Our PP Plan is in compliance with the DEFF Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/</a>.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

You have been identified as an adjacent landowner of the above-mentioned property, and in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(i) and (ii) for the proposed project as described above.

#### AVAILABILITY OF <u>REVISED</u> BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the project has been compiled and was made available for public review and comment from Friday 04 September to Monday, 05 October 2020. Subsequent to this, fine-scale walk-down surveys have been conducted by the environmental specialists and technical team allowing for more refined layout adjustments within the assessment corridor. Following the results of the walkthroughs, it was identified that minor layout updates were required for the proposed power line in order to accommodate environmental sensitivities and technical considerations. These refinements of the layout have been included in the <u>revised</u> BAR and is available for a 30-day review and comment period from **Friday**, **11 December 2020** until **Monday**, **01 February 2021**...<sup>1</sup>

All comments received during the previous BAR review and comments period have been included in the updated comments and responses report which is included as **Appendix C6** of the <u>revised</u> BAR. The <u>revised</u> BAR is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link and the release code is: **8y{XD**,

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A notification of the timeframe extension for the BA process was submitted to the DEFF in terms of Regulation 19(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, to cater for the additional 30-day comment period

places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, Regulation 43.(1) you are requested to please submit your written comments on the BAR to us by latest **Monday**, **01 February 2021** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant Email: <a href="mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com">publicprocess@savannahsa.com</a>



VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

11 December 2020

Mr Andries du Plessis Landowner Farm Wagen Drift

Per e-mail: abrieduplessis@bat.com

Dear Mr Du Plessis

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS**

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE (DEFF Ref.No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2228)

#### NOTIFICATION OF REVISED BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a single- or double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed single or double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A single or double circuit 132kV overhead power line on a single set of pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Access roads and service tracks
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.
- A single 132kV incoming line bay at the Hidden Valley substation of up to 0.1ha located within the HV yard of the substation.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 19, 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 12(g)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee) of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF). Our PP Plan is in compliance with the DEFF Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/</a>.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

You have been identified as an adjacent landowner of the above-mentioned property, and in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(i) and (ii) for the proposed project as described above.

#### AVAILABILITY OF <u>REVISED</u> BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the project has been compiled and was made available for public review and comment from Friday 04 September to Monday, 05 October 2020. Subsequent to this, fine-scale walk-down surveys have been conducted by the environmental specialists and technical team allowing for more refined layout adjustments within the assessment corridor. Following the results of the walkthroughs, it was identified that minor layout updates were required for the proposed power line in order to accommodate environmental sensitivities and technical considerations. These refinements of the layout have been included in the <u>revised</u> BAR and is available for a 30-day review and comment period from **Friday**, **11 December 2020** until **Monday**, **01 February 2021**...<sup>1</sup>

All comments received during the previous BAR review and comments period have been included in the updated comments and responses report which is included as **Appendix C6** of the <u>revised</u> BAR. The <u>revised</u> BAR is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link and the release code is: **8y{XD**,

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A notification of the timeframe extension for the BA process was submitted to the DEFF in terms of Regulation 19(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, to cater for the additional 30-day comment period

places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, Regulation 43.(1) you are requested to please submit your written comments on the BAR to us by latest **Monday**, **01 February 2021** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant Email: <a href="mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com">publicprocess@savannahsa.com</a>



VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

11 December 2020

Ms Hilletje Jordaan Landowner Farms Leeuwe Hoek, Annex Orange Fontein and Orange Fontein

Per e-mail: deplaat@roggeveld.co.za

Dear Ms Jordaan,

#### BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE (DEFF Ref.No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2228)

#### NOTIFICATION OF REVISED BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a single- or double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed single or double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A single or double circuit 132kV overhead power line on a single set of pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Access roads and service tracks
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.
- A single 132kV incoming line bay at the Hidden Valley substation of up to 0.1ha located within the HV yard of the substation.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 19, 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 12(g)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee) of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF). Our PP Plan is in compliance with the DEFF Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/</a>.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

You have been identified as an affected and adjacent landowner of the above-mentioned property, and in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(i) and (ii) for the proposed project as described above.

#### AVAILABILITY OF <u>REVISED</u> BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the project has been compiled and was made available for public review and comment from Friday 04 September to Monday, 05 October 2020. Subsequent to this, fine-scale walk-down surveys have been conducted by the environmental specialists and technical team allowing for more refined layout adjustments within the assessment corridor. Following the results of the walkthroughs, it was identified that minor layout updates were required for the proposed power line in order to accommodate environmental sensitivities and technical considerations. These refinements of the layout have been included in the <u>revised</u> BAR and is available for a 30-day review and comment period from **Friday**, **11 December 2020** until **Monday**, **01 February 2021**...<sup>1</sup>

All comments received during the previous BAR review and comments period have been included in the updated comments and responses report which is included as **Appendix C6** of the <u>revised</u> BAR. The <u>revised</u> BAR is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link and the release code is: **8y{XD**,

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A notification of the timeframe extension for the BA process was submitted to the DEFF in terms of Regulation 19(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, to cater for the additional 30-day comment period

places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, Regulation 43.(1) you are requested to please submit your written comments on the BAR to us by latest **Monday**, **01 February 2021** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant Email: <a href="mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com">publicprocess@savannahsa.com</a>



VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

11 December 2020

Mr Andrea Muller Landowner Farm Wolvenkop 207

Per e-mail: <a href="mailto:gunsfontein@roggeveld.co.za">gunsfontein@roggeveld.co.za</a>

Dear Mr Muller,

#### BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

# EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

(DEFF Ref.No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2228)

#### NOTIFICATION OF REVISED BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a single- or double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed single or double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A single or double circuit 132kV overhead power line on a single set of pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200
  m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment
  purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Access roads and service tracks
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.
- A single 132kV incoming line bay at the Hidden Valley substation of up to 0.1ha located within the HV yard of the substation.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 19, 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 12(g)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee) of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF). Our PP Plan is in compliance with the DEFF Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/</a>.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

You have been identified as an adjacent landowner of the above-mentioned property, and in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(i) and (ii) for the proposed project as described above.

#### AVAILABILITY OF <u>REVISED</u> BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the project has been compiled and was made available for public review and comment from Friday 04 September to Monday, 05 October 2020. Subsequent to this, fine-scale walk-down surveys have been conducted by the environmental specialists and technical team allowing for more refined layout adjustments within the assessment corridor. Following the results of the walkthroughs, it was identified that minor layout updates were required for the proposed power line in order to accommodate environmental sensitivities and technical considerations. These refinements of the layout have been included in the <u>revised</u> BAR and is available for a 30-day review and comment period from **Friday**, **11 December 2020** until **Monday**, **01 February 2021**...<sup>1</sup>

All comments received during the previous BAR review and comments period have been included in the updated comments and responses report which is included as **Appendix C6** of the <u>revised</u> BAR. The <u>revised</u> BAR is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link and the release code is: **8y{XD**,

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A notification of the timeframe extension for the BA process was submitted to the DEFF in terms of Regulation 19(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, to cater for the additional 30-day comment period

places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, Regulation 43.(1) you are requested to please submit your written comments on the BAR to us by latest **Monday**, **01 February 2021** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant Email: <a href="mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com">publicprocess@savannahsa.com</a>



VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

11 December 2020

Mr Nicolaas Paulsen Landowner Farms Zwanepoelshoek and Orange Fontein

Per e-mail: mrlamb@breede.co.za

Dear Mr Paulsen,

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS**

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN **CAPE PROVINCE**

(DEFF Ref.No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2228)

#### NOTIFICATION OF REVISED BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a single- or double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed single or double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A single or double circuit 132kV overhead power line on a single set of pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Access roads and service tracks
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.
- A single 132kV incoming line bay at the Hidden Valley substation of up to 0.1ha located within the HV yard of the substation.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 19, 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 12(g)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee) of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF). Our PP Plan is in compliance with the DEFF Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/</a>.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

You have been identified as an adjacent landowner of the above-mentioned property, and in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(i) and (ii) for the proposed project as described above.

#### AVAILABILITY OF <u>REVISED</u> BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the project has been compiled and was made available for public review and comment from Friday 04 September to Monday, 05 October 2020. Subsequent to this, fine-scale walk-down surveys have been conducted by the environmental specialists and technical team allowing for more refined layout adjustments within the assessment corridor. Following the results of the walkthroughs, it was identified that minor layout updates were required for the proposed power line in order to accommodate environmental sensitivities and technical considerations. These refinements of the layout have been included in the <u>revised</u> BAR and is available for a 30-day review and comment period from **Friday**, **11 December 2020** until **Monday**, **01 February 2021**...<sup>1</sup>

All comments received during the previous BAR review and comments period have been included in the updated comments and responses report which is included as **Appendix C6** of the <u>revised</u> BAR. The <u>revised</u> BAR is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link and the release code is: **8y{XD**,

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A notification of the timeframe extension for the BA process was submitted to the DEFF in terms of Regulation 19(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, to cater for the additional 30-day comment period

places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, Regulation 43.(1) you are requested to please submit your written comments on the BAR to us by latest **Monday**, **01 February 2021** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant Email: <a href="mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com">publicprocess@savannahsa.com</a>



Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Directors: KM Jodas, J Thomas, M Matsabu Company Reg No.: 2006/000127/07

VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

11 December 2020

Mr Eldri van Zyl Eldri van Zyl Trust Landowner Farm Kentuky

Per e-mail: deplaat@roggeveld.co.za

Dear Mr Van Zyl,

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS**

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN **CAPE PROVINCE**

(DEFF Ref.No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2228)

#### NOTIFICATION OF REVISED BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a single- or double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed single or double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A single or double circuit 132kV overhead power line on a single set of pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Access roads and service tracks
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.
- A single 132kV incoming line bay at the Hidden Valley substation of up to 0.1ha located within the HV yard of the substation.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres away) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 19, 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 12(g)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee) of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved

by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF). Our PP Plan is in compliance with the DEFF Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/</a>.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

You have been identified as an adjacent landowner of the above-mentioned property, and in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(i) and (ii) for the proposed project as described above.

#### AVAILABILITY OF <u>REVISED</u> BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the project has been compiled and was made available for public review and comment from Friday 04 September to Monday, 05 October 2020. Subsequent to this, fine-scale walk-down surveys have been conducted by the environmental specialists and technical team allowing for more refined layout adjustments within the assessment corridor. Following the results of the walkthroughs, it was identified that minor layout updates were required for the proposed power line in order to accommodate environmental sensitivities and technical considerations. These refinements of the layout have been included in the <u>revised</u> BAR and is available for a 30-day review and comment period from **Friday**, **11 December 2020** until **Monday**, **01 February 2021**...<sup>1</sup>

All comments received during the previous BAR review and comments period have been included in the updated comments and responses report which is included as **Appendix C6** of the <u>revised</u> BAR. The <u>revised</u> BAR is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link and the release code is: **8y{XD**,

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A notification of the timeframe extension for the BA process was submitted to the DEFF in terms of Regulation 19(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, to cater for the additional 30-day comment period

places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, Regulation 43.(1) you are requested to please submit your written comments on the BAR to us by latest **Monday**, **01 February 2021** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant Email: <a href="mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com">publicprocess@savannahsa.com</a>



Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Directors: KM Jodas, J Thomas, M Matsabu Company Reg No.: 2006/000127/07

VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

11 December 2020

Mr Erasmus van Zyl Dirk van Zyl Trust Farms Rheebokke Fontein, Knoffel Vley and De Hoop

Per e-mail: dehoop@roggeveld.co.za

Dear Mr Van Zyl,

#### BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN **CAPE PROVINCE** (DEFF Ref.No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2228)

#### NOTIFICATION OF REVISED BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a single- or double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed single or double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A single or double circuit 132kV overhead power line on a single set of pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Access roads and service tracks
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.
- A single 132kV incoming line bay at the Hidden Valley substation of up to 0.1ha located within the HV yard of the substation.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres away) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 19, 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 12(g)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee) of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved

by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF). Our PP Plan is in compliance with the DEFF Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/</a>.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

You have been identified as an affected and adjacent landowner of the above-mentioned property, and in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(i) and (ii) for the proposed project as described above.

#### AVAILABILITY OF <u>REVISED</u> BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the project has been compiled and was made available for public review and comment from Friday 04 September to Monday, 05 October 2020. Subsequent to this, fine-scale walk-down surveys have been conducted by the environmental specialists and technical team allowing for more refined layout adjustments within the assessment corridor. Following the results of the walkthroughs, it was identified that minor layout updates were required for the proposed power line in order to accommodate environmental sensitivities and technical considerations. These refinements of the layout have been included in the <u>revised</u> BAR and is available for a 30-day review and comment period from **Friday**, **11 December 2020** until **Monday**, **01 February 2021**...<sup>1</sup>

All comments received during the previous BAR review and comments period have been included in the updated comments and responses report which is included as **Appendix C6** of the <u>revised</u> BAR. The <u>revised</u> BAR is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link and the release code is: **8y{XD**,

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A notification of the timeframe extension for the BA process was submitted to the DEFF in terms of Regulation 19(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, to cater for the additional 30-day comment period

places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, Regulation 43.(1) you are requested to please submit your written comments on the BAR to us by latest **Monday**, **01 February 2021** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant Email: <a href="mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com">publicprocess@savannahsa.com</a>



Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Directors: KM Jodas, J Thomas, M Matsabu Company Reg No.: 2006/000127/07

VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

11 December 2020

Mr Louis Venter Landowner Farm Brandhoek

Per e-mail: <u>louis.venter@sanlam.co.za</u>

Dear Mr Venter,

#### BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN **CAPE PROVINCE** (DEFF Ref.No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2228)

#### NOTIFICATION OF REVISED BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a single- or double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed single or double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A single or double circuit 132kV overhead power line on a single set of pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Access roads and service tracks
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.
- A single 132kV incoming line bay at the Hidden Valley substation of up to 0.1ha located within the HV yard of the substation.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres away) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 19, 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 12(g)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee) of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved

by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF). Our PP Plan is in compliance with the DEFF Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/</a>.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

You have been identified as an adjacent landowner of the above-mentioned property, and in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(i) and (ii) for the proposed project as described above.

#### AVAILABILITY OF <u>REVISED</u> BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the project has been compiled and was made available for public review and comment from Friday 04 September to Monday, 05 October 2020. Subsequent to this, fine-scale walk-down surveys have been conducted by the environmental specialists and technical team allowing for more refined layout adjustments within the assessment corridor. Following the results of the walkthroughs, it was identified that minor layout updates were required for the proposed power line in order to accommodate environmental sensitivities and technical considerations. These refinements of the layout have been included in the <u>revised</u> BAR and is available for a 30-day review and comment period from **Friday**, **11 December 2020** until **Monday**, **01 February 2021**...<sup>1</sup>

All comments received during the previous BAR review and comments period have been included in the updated comments and responses report which is included as **Appendix C6** of the <u>revised</u> BAR. The <u>revised</u> BAR is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link and the release code is: **8y{XD**,

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A notification of the timeframe extension for the BA process was submitted to the DEFF in terms of Regulation 19(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, to cater for the additional 30-day comment period

places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, Regulation 43.(1) you are requested to please submit your written comments on the BAR to us by latest **Monday**, **01 February 2021** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant Email: <a href="mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com">publicprocess@savannahsa.com</a>

**Print** 

## **Note Report**

12 December 2020 12:04 PM

#### Conradie, Francois (Landowner) Standvastigheid Familie Trust

PO Box 137 Main 023 551 1817

Laingsburg Northern Cape 6900 Cell 076 480 9845

Email: fdconradie@roggeveld.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 09:37 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Notification

# Conradie, Ockert (Landowner) Wolwekop Trust

PO Box 92 Main 087 806 3257

Laingsburg 6900 Cell 073 357 1176

Email: damslaagte@roggeveld.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 09:35 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

## Du Plessis, Andries Abraham Gericke (Landowner)

 15 Florida Street
 Main
 021 880 0681

 Paradyskloof
 Cell
 060 352 9817

 Stellenbosch Western Cape 7600
 Work
 021 888 3722

Email: abrieduplessis@bat.com

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 09:41 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

#### Jordaan, Hilletje Susanna Maria (Landowner)

1 Die Straat Plaas
Rawsonville
Worcester 6845

Main 023 349 1119
Cell 082 868 0022

Email: danieljordaan@compnet.co.za Email 2: deplaat@roggeveld.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 09:28 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Notification

#### Muller, Andreas Van Heerden (Landowner)

PO Box 57 Cell 063 119 0708

Sutherland 6920 Cell 2 083 692 9086

Email: gunsfontein@roggeveld.co.za

2020-12-12 2020-12-12 11:48 AM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

#### Paulsen, Nicolaas (Landowner)

Oranje Fontein Plaas Main 023 571 2761

 Cell
 078 465 7270

 Sutherland 6920
 083 320 2625

Email: mrlamb@breede.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 09:30 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Notification

#### van Zyl, Eldri & Judith (Landowner) Eldri van Zyl Trust

PO Box 198 Main 023 004 0244 Cell (082) 492-6209

Sutherland 6920

Email: deplaat@roggeveld.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 09:32 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:35 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:35 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:35 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

#### Van Zyl, Erasmus (Landowner) Dirk van Zyl Trust

Main 023 004 0070 Cell 082 494 0378

Email: dehoop@roggeveld.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 09:39 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

Venter, Louis Pieter (Landowner)

Main 0217801216 Cell 0824673671

Email: louis.venter@sanlam.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 09:26 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification





Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Directors: KM Jodas, J Thomas, M Matsabu Company Reg No.: 2006/000127/07

VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

11 December 2020

Dear Stakeholder,

#### BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

# EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE (DEFF Ref.No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2228)

#### NOTIFICATION OF REVISED BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a single- or double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed single or double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A single or double circuit 132kV overhead power line on a single set of pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200
  m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment
  purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Access roads and service tracks
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.
- A single 132kV incoming line bay at the Hidden Valley substation of up to 0.1ha located within the HV yard of the substation.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres away) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 19, 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 12(g)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee) of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved

by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF). Our PP Plan is in compliance with the DEFF Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/</a>.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

You and/or the organization / company, which you represent, has been identified as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, Regulation 40.(3) for the proposed project as described above.

#### AVAILABILITY OF <u>REVISED</u> BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

A Basic Assessment Report (BAR) for the project has been compiled and was made available for public review and comment from Friday 04 September to Monday, 05 October 2020. Subsequent to this, fine-scale walk-down surveys have been conducted by the environmental specialists and technical team allowing for more refined layout adjustments within the assessment corridor. Following the results of the walkthroughs, it was identified that minor layout updates were required for the proposed power line in order to accommodate environmental sensitivities and technical considerations. These refinements of the layout have been included in the <u>revised</u> BAR and is available for a 30-day review and comment period from **Friday**, **11 December 2020** until **Monday**, **01 February 2021**...<sup>1</sup>

All comments received during the previous BAR review and comments period have been included in the updated comments and responses report which is included as **Appendix C6** of the <u>revised</u> BAR. The <u>revised</u> BAR is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link and the release code is: **8y{XD**,

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A notification of the timeframe extension for the BA process was submitted to the DEFF in terms of Regulation 19(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, to cater for the additional 30-day comment period

places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, Regulation 43.(1) your Organisation / Company is requested to please submit your written comments on the BAR to us by latest **Monday**, **01 February 2021** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant Email: <a href="mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com">publicprocess@savannahsa.com</a>

**Print** 

## **Note Report**

12 December 2020 12:00 PM

Abrahams (Director)
Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management
Agency

Main 233468000

Email: info@bgcma.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

# Cloete, Ronell (Librarian) Sutherland Library

Main (023) 571-1429 Cell (082) 449-4664

Email: Sutherland@ncpg.gov.za
Email 2: sutherlandlib@ncpg.gov.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification
2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:35 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:35 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:35 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

# Curtis (Director) Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency

Main 233468000

Email: info@bgcma.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Notification

#### Finnis, Marlon Sentech Ltd

Main 0114714400

Email: finnism@sentech.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

#### Geeringh, John (Senior Environmental Advisor) Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd

PO Box 1091 Main (011) 516-7233
Fax (086) 661-4064
Johannesburg 2157 Cell (083) 632-7663

Email: john.geeringh@eskom.co.za Email 2: GeerinJH@eskom.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Notification

#### Hoogstad, Constant (Programme Manager) Endangered Wildlife Trust

Private Bag X11 Main 011-372-3600 Cell 082-334-4176

Modderfontein 1645 Email: eia@ewt.org.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Notification

Jansen, Nicol (President) Agri Northern Cape

Main (053) 832-9595

Fax (053) 832-7126

Email: henning@agrink.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Notification

Khanye, Nondwe (Environmental Officer) Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd

Menlyn Office Block 4, Level 0
1 Gobie Street Newlands
Pretoria Gauteng 0180

Main (053) 830-5946
Cell (083) 969-0730

Email: khanyen@eskom.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

Koegelenberg, Johan (Coverage Planner: RF

Networks)
Sentech Ltd

Main 011 471 4400

Fax 011 471 4754

Cell 079 267 8920

Email: koegelenbergJ@sentech.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

Masilela, Simphiwe (Obstacle Evaluator)
Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS)

Private Bag X15

Main (011) 607-1228

Fax 0116071466

Kempton Park 1620

Email: simphiwem@atns.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Notification

Meswatu, Julie
South African Astronomical Observatory

Department: Science and Technology

Main 235711205

Fax 235711413 Cell 828998982

Email: julie@saao.ac.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Notification

Mnisi (Chief Executive Officer)
Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management
Agency

Main 233468000

Email: info@bgcma.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

Motlhake, Serame (Manager) Sentech Ltd

Department: Radio Frequency Network Planning

Main 011 471 4561 Fax 011 471 4754

Email: MotlhakeS@sentech.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Notification

Mthimkhulu, M. (Case Officer (Power Line & Substation Application))

Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency

Main 233468000

Email: mmthimkhulu@bgcma.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

Ralston Paton, Samantha (Manager) BirdLife South Africa

Department: Birds and Renewable Energy

Main 0117891122 Cell 0836733948

Email: energy@birdlife.org.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

Sefako, Ramotholo (Director)
South African Astronomical Observatory

Main 214470025 Fax 214463639

Email: rrs@saao.ac.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

Shaw, Leonard Telkom SA SOC Ltd Department: Wireless Planning Development &

Support, Telkom HQ

178 Madiba Street Main 012-311-2012

Fax 012 311 1686
Pretoria 2 Cell 081-428-6729

Email: shawls@telkom.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Notification

Sithole, Busang (Analyst)
South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)

Main 011 442 2434

Department: Site Categorisation

Department: Aviation Obstacle and GIS

Department: Site Categorisation

Email: bsethole@ska.ac.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

Stroh, Lizell (Obstacle Specialist)
South African Civil Aviation Authority

Private Bag X 73 Main 0115451232 Fax 0115451282

Halfway House 1682 Cell 0834616660

Email: strohl@caa.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

Tiplady, Adrian (South African SKA Site Bid Manager) South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)

SKA Office, 1st Floor, 17 Baker Street,

Main 011-442-2434

Rosebank 2196 Cell 072-372-0134

Email: atiplady@ska.ac.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

Vaisanen, Petri (Astronomer)
South African Astronomical Observatory

Cell 724724636

Email: petri@saao.ac.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Notification

Van Wyk, Abra Sutherland Farmers Association

Main 0235712797

Email: abra@roggeveld.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

Van Wyk, Abra (Chairman: Sutherland Farmers Union)

**Agri Northern Cape** 

Main 023 004 0484

Email: aabra@roggeveld.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

Venter, Marius (Manager) Sentech Ltd

Department: Radio Frequency Network Planning

Main 011 471 4561

Cell

Fax 011 471 4754

082 448 3364

Email: venterm@sentech.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Notification

Vlok, Braam (Secretary)
Sutherland Farmers' Union

Main (023) 571-2706 Cell (084) 549-5962

Email: bvlok@hantam.co.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

Whitelock, Patricia
South African Astronomical Observatory

Department: Science and Technology

Main 214450025

Email: paw@saao.ac.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** Notification

Williams, Ted (Director)
South African Astronomical Observatory

Department: Technology & Communication

Main 214470025 Fax 214463639

Email: director@saao.ac.za

2020-12-11 2020-12-11 08:43 PM Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION

INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification

# Savannah Environmental <u>Website Uploads</u>



Home

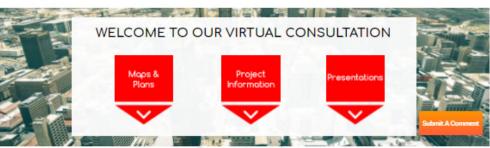
bout Us

iervices E

kperience

ontact Us





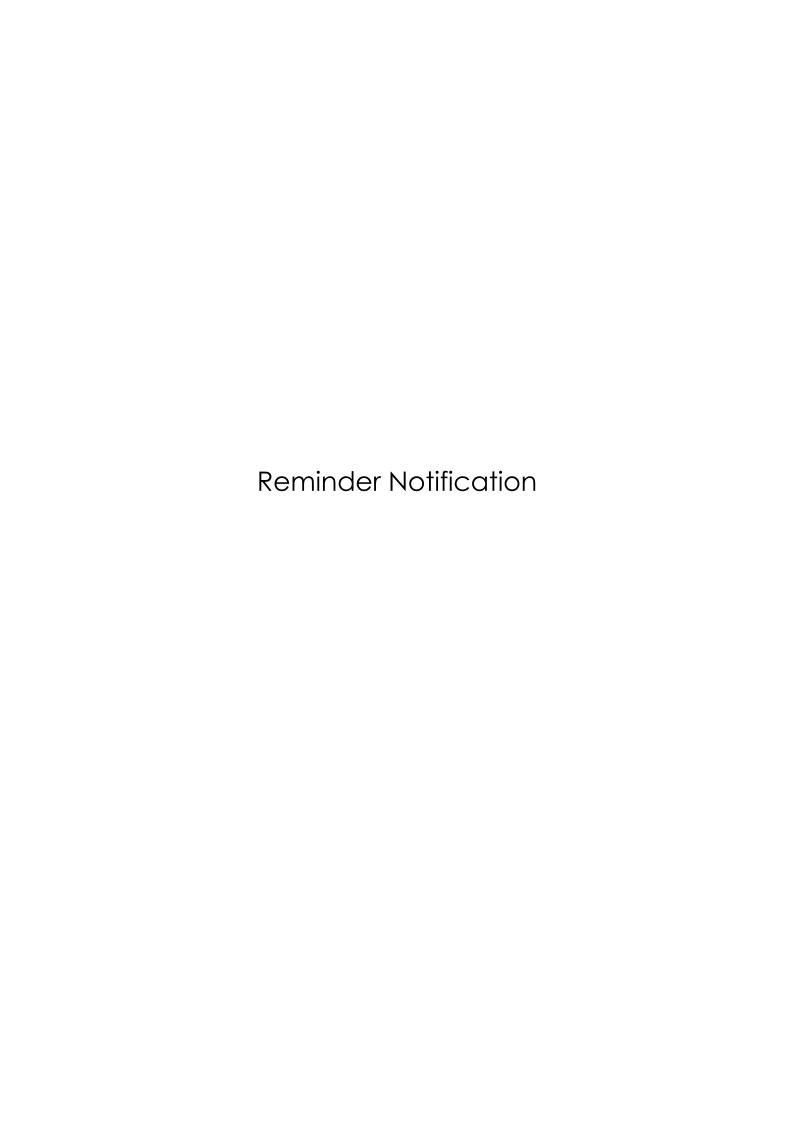
#### Downloads

#### Gunstfontein WEF BESS

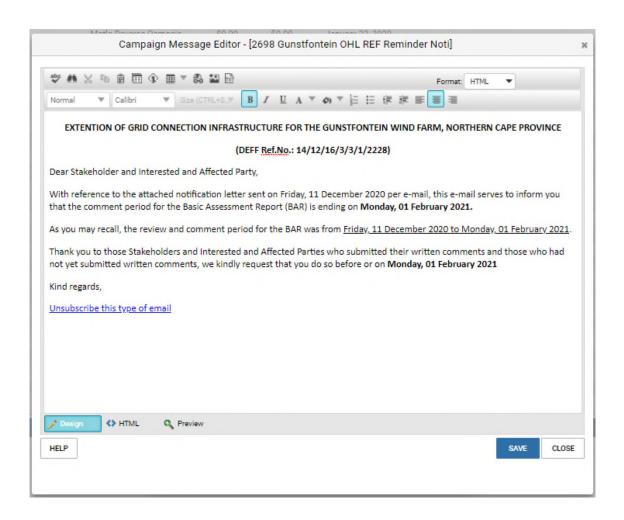
Revised Basic Assessment Report
Appendix A - EIA Project Consulting Team and Specialist CVs
Appendix B - Authority Consultation
Appendix C1 - I&AP Database
Appendix C2 - Site Notices and Newspaper Advertisements
Appendix C3 - Organs of State Correspondence
Appendix C4 - Stakeholder Correspondence
Appendix C5 - Comments Received
Appendix C6 - Comments and Reponses Report
Appendix C7 - Public Partipation Plan and Approval
Appendix D - Ecological Impact Assessment

Appendix E - Heritage Impact Assessment

Appendix F - Noise Impact Assessment
Appendix G - Agricultural Impact Assessment
Appendix H - Environmental Management Programme
Appendix I - Maps (A3)
Appendix J - Specialist Declarations
Appendix K - EAP Declaration of Independence and Affirmation
Appendix L - DEFF Online Screening Report



#### Proof of email - GUNSTFONTEIN WEF Power Line Extension: Reminder of commenting period ending soon



#### **Ronald Baloyi**

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

**Sent:** Monday, 25 January 2021 15:43

To: Rene de Kock
Cc: Ronald Baloyi

**Subject:** GUNSTFONTEIN WEF - Power Line Extension: Reminder of commenting period ending

soon

**Attachments:** SE2698\_Gunstfontein\_OHL\_RevisedBAR\_Notification\_I&APs-FINAL.pdf

# EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

(DEFF Ref.No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2228)

Dear Stakeholder and Interested and Affected Party,

With reference to the attached notification letter sent on Friday, 11 December 2020 per e-mail, this e-mail serves to inform you that the comment period for the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) is ending on **Monday, 01 February 2021.** 

As you may recall, the review and comment period for the BAR was from <u>Friday, 11 December 2020 to Monday, 01 February 2021</u>.

Thank you to those Stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties who submitted their written comments and those who had not yet submitted written comments, we kindly request that you do so before or on **Monday, 01 February 2021** 

Kind regards,

Unsubscribe this type of email



t: 011 656 3237 f: 086 684 0547 Nicolene Venter

**Public Process** 

e: plublicprocess@savannahsa.com c: +27 (0) 60 978 8396

SAWEA Award for Leading Environmental Consultant on Wind Projects in 2013 & 2015

**Print** 

# Proof of email - GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification of availability of Revised Basic Assessment Report for review and comment

Date: Friday, January 29, 2021 Time: 2:55 PM

Company	Last Name	First Name	
	Coetzee	Johan	
	Collett	Anneliza	
	Davies	Brian	
	de Goede	Jacqueline	
	Du Plessis	Andries	
	Gerntholtz	Otto	
	Herbst	Christiaan	
	Jordaan	Hilletje	
	Mothibi	Wonders	
	Mukwevho	Tshifhiwa	
	Muller	Andreas	
	Muller	L	
	Paulsen	Nicolaas	
	Symington	Cornelius	
	Van Zyl	Nadine	
	Venter	Louis	
	Welgemoed Trust		
	Wootton	David	
Stone Buildings (Pty) Ltd	Boeddinghaus	Hermann	
ACED	Cumming	James	
African Clean Energy Development (ACED)	Kot	Stephnie	
Agri Northern Cape	Jansen	Nicol	
Agri Northern Cape	Van Wyk	Abra	
Agri SA	Rabie	Janse	
Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS)	Masilela	Simphiwe	
BirdLife South Africa	Ralston-Paton	Samantha	
Blue Science	Grobler	Dana	
Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency	Abrahams		
Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency	Curtis		
Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency	Mnisi		
Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency	Mthimkhulu	M	
Co-Operative Governance & Traditional Leaders	Diphofa	Mashwahle	
Co-Operative Governance & Traditional Leaders	Williamson	Avril	
Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries	Buthelezi	Thoko	
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Buthelezi	Thoko	
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Mans	Jacoline	
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Marubini	Mashudu	
Department of Energy	Masipa	Pheladi	
Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries	Lekota	Seoka	
	Kabasa	Mmamohale	

7/29/2021 Proof of email - GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF G		•	revise.
Department of Mineral Resources	Mutheiwana	Kevin	
Department of Mineral Resources and Energy	Maphinda	Mthetheleli	
Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Makgalemele	Nozizwe	
Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Muruba	Khathu	
Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Oliver	Ryan	
Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Sehularo	Lorato	
Department of Science and Technology	Kgampe	Mere	
Department of Water and Sanitation	Cloete	Shaun	
Department of Water and Sanitation	Hlengani	Alexia	
Department of Water and Sanitation	Kgaphola	Mashudu	
Department of Water and Sanitation	Masindi	Kenneth	
Department of Water and Sanitation	Roberts	John	
Department of Water and Sanitation	Streuders	Kobus	
Dirk van Zyl Trust	Van Zyl	Erasmus	
Eastern Cape Parks & Tourism Agency	Sontsele	Asanda	
Eldri van Zyl Trust	van Zyl	Eldri & Judith	
Endangered Wildlife Trust	Hoogstad	Constant	
Enel Green Power	Ajodhapersadh	Ravisha	
ENEL Green Power	Shantikumar	Ravisha	
Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd	Geeringh	John	
Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd	Khanye	Nondwe	
Falcon Oil & Gas Ltd.	Flynn	Anne	
Falcon Oil & Gas Ltd.	Nel	Sas	
Falcon Oil & Gas Ltd.	O' Quigley	Philip	
G7 Renewable Energies	de Bruyn	Karen	
Gielie Hanekom Familietrust	Hanekom	Gielie	
Glacier View Prop 62 cc	De Lange	Willem	
Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality	Davids	Jeremia	
Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality	Fortuin	JJ	
Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality	Gibbons	Allistar	
Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality	Van Der Colff	Johan	
Karusa Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd	Mosehle	Nthabiseng	
Karusa Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd	Taylor	Shaun	
Komsberg Wilderness Nature Reserve	Scott	lan	
Namakwa District Municipality	Fortuin	Chris	
National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)	Khumalo	Siphiwe	
Ngwao-Boswa Ya Kapa Bokone (N Cape Prov Heritage	Ratha		
Resource Authority)		Timothy	
Ngwao-Boswa Ya Kapa Bokone (NCPHRA)	Timothy	Andrew	
Northern Cape DENC	Cloete	Peter	
Northern Cape DENC	van Heerden	Denver	
Northern Cape DENC	Yaphi	Anga	
Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation	Ndzumo	Onwabile	
Northern Cape Department of Roads & Public Works	Nogwili	Kholikile	
Northern Cape Department of Roads & Public Works	Roelofse	Jaco	
Northern Cape Department of Roads and Public Works	Palm	Ruth	
Northern Cape Dept of Agriculture, Env Affairs, Rural Dev & Land Reform	De la Fontaine	Samantha	
Northern Cape Dept of Agriculture, Env Affairs, Rural Dev & Land Reform		Bryan	
Northern Cape Dept of Agriculture, Env Affairs, Rural Dev & Land Reform	Moleko	Dineo	
Northern Cape Dept of Agriculture, Env Affairs, Rural Dev & Land Reform	Swart	Elsabe	
Northern Cape Economic Development Agency	Mbobo	Babalwa	
Red Rocket South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Michalowska	Magdalena	
Savannah Environmental	Opperman	Lisa	
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd	Raath	Gideon	
Caraman Environmental (1 ty) Eta	. www.	C.40011	

Sentech Ltd	Finnis	Marlon
Sentech Ltd	Koegelenberg	Johan
Sentech Ltd	Motlhake	Serame
Soetwater Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd	Mosehle	Nthabiseng
Soetwater Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd	Taylor	Shaun
South African Astronomical Observatory	Charles	Phil
South African Astronomical Observatory	Meswatu	Julie
South African Astronomical Observatory	Sefako	Ramotholo
South African Astronomical Observatory	Vaisanen	Petri
South African Astronomical Observatory	Whitelock	Patricia
South African Astronomical Observatory	Williams	Ted
South African Civil Aviation Authority	Stroh	Lizell
South African Department of Defence	Zondi	Lt. Col. Kebasenosi
South African Heritage Resources Agency	Higgitt	Natasha
South African National Roads Agency Limited	Abrahams	Nicole
South African National Roads Agency Limited	van der Walt	JC
South African National Roads Agency Limited - Western Region	de Kock	Rene
South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)	Sithole	Busang
South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)	Tiplady	Adrian
Southern African Large Telescope	Strydom	Ockert
Standvastigheid Familie Trust	Conradie	Francois
Sutherland Farmers Association	Van Wyk	Abra
Sutherland Farmers' Union	Vlok	Braam
Sutherland Library	Cloete	Ronell
Telkom SA SOC Ltd	Shaw	Leonard
Ubuntu Local Municipality	Maposa	Debere
WKN Windcurrent SA (Pty) Ltd	Abrahams	Zakiya
Wolwekop Trust	Conradie	Ockert
Totals:		

#### **Ronald Baloyi**

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

Sent: Monday, 01 February 2021 12:58

**To:** François Conradie

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

Subject: Gunstfontein Windplaas: Verlenging van Kraglyn-konneksie & Battery Energie

Stoorstelsel: Opvolg rakende kommentaar op Basiese Evalueringsverslag

Francois Conradie Grondeienaar

Plaas: Appelsfontein 201

Beste Francois,

Hoop dit gaan goed!

Francois, ek kon ongelukkig nie 'n boodskap op jou selfoon laat nie maar die antwoord fasiliteit op jou selfoon het aangedui dat MTN jou per SMS in kennis sal stel van my oproep. Die oproep het ten doel om net op te volg of jy, as aangrensende grondeienaar, dalk enige skriftelike kommentaar op die Hersiende Basiese Evalueringsverslae vir bogenoemde projekte gaan indien.

Die kommentaar periode eindig vandag, Maandag, 01 Februarie 2021.

Vriendelike groete,



t: 011 656 3237 f: 086 684 0547 Nicolene Venter

**Public Process** 

e: plublicprocess@savannahsa.com

c: +27 (0) 60 978 8396

SAWEA Award for Leading Environmental Consultant on Wind Projects in 2013 & 2015

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

**Sent:** Monday, 01 February 2021 12:01

**To:** Abrie Du Plessis

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

Subject: Gunstfontein Windplaas: Verlenging van Kraglyn-konneksie & Battery Energie

Stoorstelsel: Bevestiging van Telefoniese gesprek

Abrie du Plessis

Grondeienaar: Wagen Drift 175

Beste Abrie,

Baie dankie dat jy my oproep ontvang van vanoggend geneem het.

Hierdie e-pos het ten doel om ons telefoniese gesprek te bevestig naamlik dat jy geen kwellinge rakende die twee bogenoemde projekte het nie en ook nie skriftelike kommentaar op die Basiese Evalueringsverslae gaan indien nie.

Vriendelike groete



t: 011 656 3237 f: 086 684 0547 **Nicolene Venter** 

Public Process

e: plublicprocess@savannahsa.com c: +27 (0) 60 978 8396

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

**Sent:** Monday, 01 February 2021 12:36

To: Hilletje Jordaan

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

Subject: Gunstfontein Windplaas: Verlenging van Kraglyn-konneksie & Battery Energie

Stoorstelsel: Bevestiging van Telefoniese gesprek

Hilletje Jordaan Grondeienaar

Plase: Leeuw Hoek 183; Orange Fontein 185 & Orangie Fontein 203

Beste Hilletje,

Baie dankie dat jy my oproep ontvang van vanoggend geneem het.

Hierdie e-pos het ten doel om ons telefoniese gesprek te bevestig naamlik dat jy geen kwellinge rakende die twee bogenoemde projekte het nie en ook nie skriftelike kommentaar op die Basiese Evalueringsverslae gaan indien nie.

Vriendelike groete,



t: 011 656 3237 f: 086 684 0547 Nicolene Venter

**Public Process** 

e: plublicprocess@savannahsa.com c: +27 (0) 60 978 8396

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

Sent: Monday, 01 February 2021 12:43

To: Andreas Muller

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

**Subject:** Gunstfontein Windplaas: Verlenging van Kraglyn-konneksie & Battery Energie

Stoorstelsel: Opvolg rakende kommentaar op Basiese Evalueringsverslag

Andreas Muller Grondeienaar

Plaas: Wolvenkop 207

Beste Andreas,

Hoop dit gaan goed!

Andreas, ek kon ongelukkig nie 'n boodskap laat nie maar die antwoord fasiliteit op jou mobiele foon het aangedui dat jy boodskap sal ontvang dat 'n persoon by telefoonnommer 011 656 3237 jou gekontak het. Die oproep was van my en ek wil net opvolg of jy, as aangrensende grondeienaar, dalk enige skriftelike kommentaar op die Hersiende Basiese Evalueringsverslae vir bogenoemde projekte gaan indien.

Die kommentaar periode eindig vandag, Maandag, 01 Februarie 2021.

Vriendelike groete,



t: 011 656 3237 f: 086 684 0547 Nicolene Venter Public Process

e: plublicprocess@savannahsa.com c: +27 (0) 60 978 8396

2021/02/01, 12:47 - Messages and calls are end-to-end encrypted. No one outside of this chat, not even WhatsApp, can read or listen to them. Tap to learn more. 2021/02/01, 12:47 - Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd: Middag Ockert, wil net verneem of jy dalk vandag nog skriftelike kommentaar op die twee hersiende verslae van die Gunstfontein BESS & Kraglynkoppeling vir ons gaan deuurstuur. Die kommentaar periode eindig vandag. Vriendelike groete Nicolene Venter Savannah Environmental

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

**Sent:** Monday, 01 February 2021 12:12

To: Nicolaas Paulsen

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

Subject: Gunstfontein Windplaas: Verlenging van Kraglyn-konneksie & Battery Energie

Stoorstelsel: Opvolg rakende kommentaar op Basiese Evalueringsverslag

Nicolaas Paulsen Grondeienaar Plaas Zwanepoelshoek 184

Beste Nicolaas,

Hoop dit gaan goed!

Nicolaas, net 'n opvolg op my stem nota gelaat op jou selfoon, volg ek net op of jy, as aangrensende grondeienaar, dalk enige skriftelike kommentaar op die Hersiende Basiese Evalueringsverslag gaan indien.

Die kommentaar periode eindig vandag, Maandag, 01 Februarie 2021.

Vriendelike groete,



t: 011 656 3237 f: 086 684 0547 e: plublicprocess@savannahsa.com c: +27 (0) 60 978 8396

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

Sent: Monday, 01 February 2021 12:32

**To:** Eldri & Judith van Zyl

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

Subject: Gunstfontein Windplaas: Verlenging van Kraglyn-konneksie & Battery Energie

Stoorstelsel: Opvolg rakende kommentaar op Basiese Evalueringsverslag

Eldri van Zyl Grondeienaar Plaas Kentuky 206

Beste Eldri,

Hoop dit gaan goed!

Eldri, net 'n opvolg op my stemnota gelaat op jou selfoon, volg ek net op of jy, as aangrensende grondeienaar, dalk enige skriftelike kommentaar op die Hersiende Basiese Evalueringsverslag gaan indien.

Die kommentaar periode eindig vandag, Maandag, 01 Februarie 2021.

Vriendelike groete,



t: 011 656 3237 f: 086 684 0547 e: plublicprocess@savannahsa.com c: +27 (0) 60 978 8396

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

**Sent:** Monday, 01 February 2021 12:27

**To:** Erasmus Van Zyl

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

Subject: Gunstfontein Windplaas: Verlenging van Kraglyn-konneksie & Battery Energie

Stoorstelsel: Opvolg rakende kommentaar op Basiese Evalueringsverslag

Erasmus van Zyl Grondeienaar Plase Knoffel Vley 186 & De Hoop 202

**Beste Erasmus** 

Hoop dit gaan goed!

Erasmus, net 'n opvolg op my stemnota gelaat op jou selfoon, volg ek net op of jy, as aangrensende grondeienaar, dalk enige skriftelike kommentaar op die Hersiende Basiese Evalueringsverslae gaan indien.

Die kommentaar periode eindig vandag, Maandag, 01 Februarie 2021.

Vriendelike groete,



t: 011 656 3237

f: 086 684 0547

e: plublicprocess@savannahsa.com c: +27 (0) 60 978 8396

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

**Sent:** Monday, 01 February 2021 11:49

To: Louis Venter

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

Subject: Gunstfontein Windplaas: Verlenging van Kraglyn-konneksie & Battery Energie

Stoorstelsel: Opvolg rakende kommentaar op Basiese Evalueringsverslag

Louis Venter Grondeienaar Plaas Brand Hoek 176

Beste Louis,

Hoop dit gaan goed!

Louis, net 'n opvolg op my stemnota gelaat op jou selfoon, volg ek net op of jy, as aangrensende grondeienaar, dalk enige skriftelike kommentaar op die <u>Hersiende</u> Basiese Evalueringsverslag gaan indien.

Die kommentaar periode eindig vandag, Maandag, 01 Februarie 2021.

Vriendelike groete,



t: 011 656 3237 f: 086 684 0547 Nicolene Venter

Public Process

e: plublicprocess@savannahsa.com c: +27 (0) 60 978 8396

## **Savannah Public Process**

From: Dave Ryan <onetime.dr@gmail.com> Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2021 8:23 AM

To: Savannah Public Process

Subject: Re: GUNSTFONTEIN WEF - Power Line Extension: Reminder of commenting period

ending soon

Noted with thanks.

On Mon, Jan 25, 2021 at 3:43 PM Public Process cpublicprocess@savannahsa.com> wrote:

## EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE **PROVINCE**

(DEFF Ref.No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2228)

Dear Stakeholder and Interested and Affected Party,

With reference to the attached notification letter sent on Friday, 11 December 2020 per e-mail, this e-mail serves to inform you that the comment period for the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) is ending on Monday, 01 February 2021.

As you may recall, the review and comment period for the BAR was from Friday, 11 December 2020 to Monday, 01 February 2021.

Thank you to those Stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties who submitted their written comments and those who had not yet submitted written comments, we kindly request that you do so before or on Monday, 01 February 2021

Kind regards,

Unsubscribe this type of email



t: 011 656 3237 f: 086 684 0547

Nicolene Venter

Public Process

e: publicprocess@savannahsa.com c: +27 (0) 60 978 8396



#### **Savannah Public Process**

From: Marius Venter < VenterM@sentech.co.za > Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 11:14 AM
To: Savannah Public Process; Ronald Baloyi

Cc: Nicolene Venter

**Subject:** RE: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE:

Notification of availability of Revised Basic Assessment Report for review and

comment

Yes, please remove me.

From: Savannah Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

Sent: Monday, 14 December 2020 10:33

To: Marius Venter < Venter M@sentech.co.za >; Ronald Baloyi < Ronald@savannahsa.com >

Cc: Nicolene Venter < nicolene@savannahsa.com>

Subject: RE: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification of availability of

Revised Basic Assessment Report for review and comment

Dear Marius,

We can confirm that Mr Serame Mothlake is a registered I&AP on the project's database.

Please confirm by return e-mail whether we need to remove you from the project database.

Kind regards,

From: Marius Venter < <u>VenterM@sentech.co.za</u>>
Sent: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:46 PM

To: Savannah Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>; Ronald Baloyi <Ronald@savannahsa.com>;

Nicolene Venter < nicolene@savannahsa.com >; savannahenvironmentalsa@gmail.com

Cc: Nicolene Venter < nicolene@savannahsa.com>

Subject: RE: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification of availability of

Revised Basic Assessment Report for review and comment

Please send all future communication to <a href="mothakes@sentech.co.za">mothakes@sentech.co.za</a>

From: Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

**Sent:** Friday, 11 December 2020 20:46

To: ronald@savannahsa.com; nicolene@savannahsa.com; savannahenvironmentalsa@gmail.com

Cc: Nicolene Venter < nicolene@savannahsa.com>

Subject: GUNSTFONTEIN: EXTENTION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE: Notification of availability of Revised

Basic Assessment Report for review and comment

# EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

(DEFF Ref.No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2228)

Dear Stakeholder,

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a single- or double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

This notification serves to inform you, as a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) that the <u>Revised</u> BAR is available for a 30-day review and comments and that the <u>Revised</u> BAR can be downloaded from Savannah Environmental's stakeholder engagement platform at <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm1/</a> and the release code is: **8y{XD**,

The attached notification letter also provides further details regarding the availability of the <u>Revised</u> Basic Assessment Reports.

Kind regards,

Unsubscribe this type of email

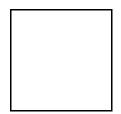


#### Nicolene Venter

**Public Process** 

e: <u>publicprocess@savannahsa.com</u> c: +27 (0) 60 978 8396

SAWEA Award for Leading Environmental Consultant on Wind Projects in 2013 & 2015



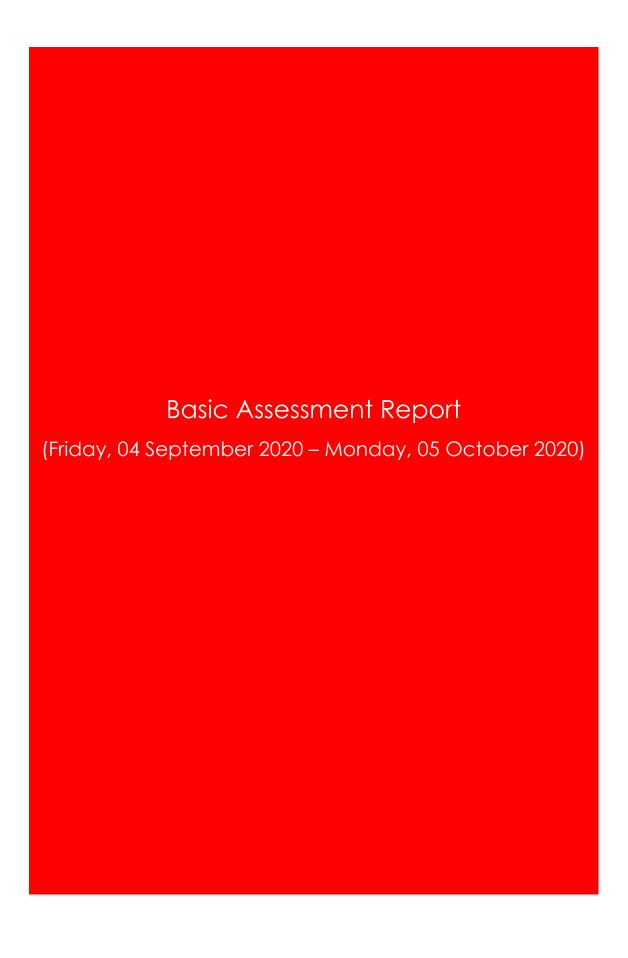
#### DISCLAIMER:

This email contains confidential information. It may also be legally privileged. Interception of this email is illegal. The information contained in this email is only for the use of the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying and/or distribution of the contents of this email, or the taking of any action in reliance thereon or pursuant thereto, is strictly prohibited. Should you have received this email in error, please notify us immediately by return email.



#### **DISCLAIMER:**

This email contains confidential information. It may also be legally privileged. Interception of this email is illegal. The information contained in this email is only for the use of the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying and/or distribution of the contents of this email, or the taking of any action in reliance thereon or pursuant thereto, is strictly prohibited. Should you have received this email in error, please notify us immediately by return email.



Notification of availability of BAR for review and co	omment



Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Directors: KM Jodas, J Thomas, M Matsabu Company Reg No.: 2006/000127/07

VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

02 September 2020

Dear Interested and Affected Party,

## EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND ENERGY FACILITY, **NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE**

#### NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

The Basic Assessment process notification for the development of a 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, has reference. The notification letter was accompanied by a registration and comment form and if you had not received these documents, please inform us accordingly or we encourage you to visit our website / online stakeholder engagement platform at https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/ where the public documents for this project is available for your perusal.

#### **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

As a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), you are hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for your review and comment from Friday, 04 September until Monday, 05 October 2020. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

• Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

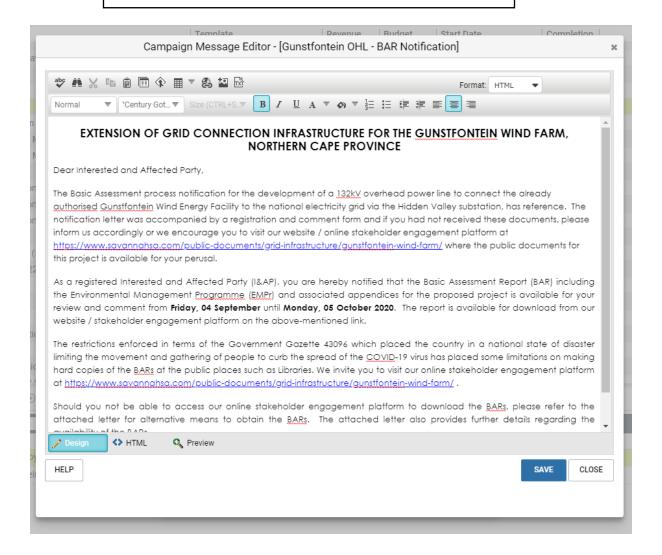
Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

**Nicolene Venter** 

Public Participation and Social Consultant Email: <a href="mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com">publicprocess@savannahsa.com</a>

# Sent to all registered I&APs on project database (Refer to Appendix C1)



## Gunstfontein WEF - Power Line Extension: Notification of the Availability of the Basic Assessment for review and comment





## EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Dear Interested and Affected Party,

The Basic Assessment process notification for the development of a 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, has reference. The notification letter was accompanied by a registration and comment form and if you had not received these documents, please inform us accordingly or we encourage you to visit our website / online stakeholder engagement platform at <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a> where the public documents for this project is available for your perusal.

As a registered interested and Affected Party (1&AP), you are hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for your review and comment from Friday, 04
September until Monday, 05 October 2020. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link.

The restrictions enforced in terms of the Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BARs at the public places such as Libraries. We invite you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform at <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BARs, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain the BARs. The attached letter also provides further details regarding the availability of the BARs.

Kind regards





Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Directors: KM Jodas, J Thomas, M Matsabu Company Reg No.: 2006/000127/07

VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

03 September 2020

Mr Francois Conradie Standvastigheid Familie Trust Farm Appels Fontein

Per e-mail: <a href="mailto:fdconradie@rogaeveld.co.za">fdconradie@rogaeveld.co.za</a>

Dear Mr Conradie,

### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN **CAPE PROVINCE**

## NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF **BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

You have been identified as an adjacent property owner for the property **Remaining Extent of the farm Appels Fontein 201**, that could be impacted by the proposed project. The EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(ii) requires that the owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken, is informed of the Basic Assessment processes in writing.

In this regard, please could you kindly inform any other persons (tenants, employees, farm managers and workers etc.) residing on your property of this Basic Assessment process. Should you or any other occupier of your property have an interest in this project, please register yourselves as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) by completing and returning the attached registration and comment form. By registering on the project database, you will receive all information relating to the proposed projects and will be provided with an opportunity to provide comment and input into the Basic Assessment processes.

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5th of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

## **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

As a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), you are hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for your review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

• Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

**Documents:** Registration and Comment Form

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

Sent: Thursday, 03 September 2020 18:58

**To:** Francois Conradie

Cc: niclene@savannahsa.com; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

**Subject:** Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic

Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability

Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL-CONRADIE Francois.pdf

Dear Mr Conradie,

## EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(ii), it is required that owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken, is informed of the Basic Assessment processes in writing.

Please find attached your written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process being undertaken for the above-mentioned project. The letter also serves to inform you that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September 2020** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.



Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Directors: KM Jodas, J Thomas, M Matsabu Company Reg No.: 2006/000127/07

VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

03 September 2020

Mr Ockert Conradie Wolwekop Trust Farms Rheebokke Fontein and Wolvenkop

Per e-mail: damslaagte@roggeveld.co.za

Dear Mr Conradie,

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

## NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF **BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.



In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

You have been identified as an adjacent property owner for the properties **Remaining Extent of the farm Wolvenkop** and **Porions 1 and 2 of the farm Rheebokke Fontein 209**, that could be impacted by the proposed project. The EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(ii) requires that the owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken, is informed of the Basic Assessment processes in writing.

In this regard, please could you kindly inform any other persons (tenants, employees, farm managers and workers etc.) residing on your property of this Basic Assessment process. Should you or any other occupier of your property have an interest in this project, please register yourselves as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) by completing and returning the attached registration and comment form. By registering on the project database, you will receive all information relating to the proposed projects and will be provided with an opportunity to provide comment and input into the Basic Assessment processes.

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

#### **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

As a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), you are hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for your review and comment from **Friday, 04 September** until **Monday, 05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

• Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: <u>publicprocess@savannahsa.com</u>

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant <a href="mailto:E-mailt

**Documents:** Registration and Comment Form

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

Sent: Thursday, 03 September 2020 19:01

**To:** Ockert Conradie

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic

Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability

Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL-CONRADIE Ockert.pdf

Dear Mr Conradie,

## EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(ii), it is required that owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken, is informed of the Basic Assessment processes in writing. Please find attached your written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process being undertaken for the above-mentioned project. The letter also serves to inform you that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from Friday, 04 September 2020 until Monday, 05 October 2020. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.



Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Directors: KM Jodas, J Thomas, M Matsabu Company Reg No.: 2006/000127/07

VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

03 September 2020

Mr Andries du Plessis Landowner Farm Wagen Drift

Per e-mail: abrieduplessis@bat.com

Dear Mr Du Plessis.

### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

## NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF **BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

You have been identified as an adjacent property owner for the farm **Wagen Drift 175**, that could be impacted by the proposed project. The EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(ii) requires that the owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken, is informed of the Basic Assessment processes in writing.

In this regard, please could you kindly inform any other persons (tenants, employees, farm managers and workers etc.) residing on your property of this Basic Assessment process. Should you or any other occupier of your property have an interest in this project, please register yourselves as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) by completing and returning the attached registration and comment form. By registering on the project database, you will receive all information relating to the proposed projects and will be provided with an opportunity to provide comment and input into the Basic Assessment processes.

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5th of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

#### **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

As a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), you are hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for your review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

• Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157E-mail: <u>publicprocess@savannahsa.com</u>

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant <a href="mailto:E-mailt

**Documents:** Registration and Comment Form

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

Sent: Thursday, 03 September 2020 19:01

To: Andries Du Plessis

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic

Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability

Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL-DU PLESSIS Andries.pdf

#### Dear Mr Du Plessis,

## EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(ii), it is required that owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken, is informed of the Basic Assessment processes in writing. Please find attached your written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process being undertaken for the above-mentioned project. The letter also serves to inform you that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from Friday, 04 September 2020 until Monday, 05 October 2020. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.



Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Directors: KM Jodas, J Thomas, M Matsabu Company Reg No.: 2006/000127/07

VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

03 September 2020

Ms Hilletje Jordaan Landowner Farms Leeuwe Hoek, Annex Orange Fontein and Orange Fontein

Per e-mail: <a href="mailto:deplaat@roggeveld.co.za">deplaat@roggeveld.co.za</a>

Dear Ms Jordaan,

### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

## NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF **BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

You have been identified as an affected property owner of **Remaining Extent of the farm Leeuwe Hoek 183**, **Portion 1 of Orange Fontein 203** and **Remaining Extent of the farm Annex Orange Fontein 185**, that could be impacted by the proposed project. The EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(ii) requires that the owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken, is informed of the Basic Assessment processes in writing.

In this regard, please could you kindly inform any other persons (tenants, employees, farm managers and workers etc.) residing on your property of this Basic Assessment process. Should you or any other occupier of your property have an interest in this project, please register yourselves as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) by completing and returning the attached registration and comment form. By registering on the project database, you will receive all information relating to the proposed projects and will be provided with an opportunity to provide comment and input into the Basic Assessment processes.

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5th of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

## **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

As a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), you are hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for your review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

• Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157E-mail: <u>publicprocess@savannahsa.com</u>

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant <a href="mailto:E-mailt

**Documents:** Registration and Comment Form

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

Sent: Thursday, 03 September 2020 19:04

**To:** Hilletje Jordaan

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

**Subject:** Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic

Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability

Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL-JORDAAN Hilletje.pdf

Dear Ms Jordaan,

# EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(ii), it is required that owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken, is informed of the Basic Assessment processes in writing. Please find attached your written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process being undertaken for the above-mentioned project. The letter also serves to inform you that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September 2020** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.



VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

03 September 2020

Mr Nicolaas Paulsen Landowner Farms Zwanepoelshoek and Orange Fontein

Per e-mail: mrlamb@breede.co.za

Dear Mr Paulsen.

## EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

## NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km.
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

You have been identified as an adjacent property owner for the properties **Remaining Extent of the farm Zwanepoelshoek 184** and **Portion 2 of the farm Orange Fontein 203**, that could be impacted by the proposed project. The EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(ii) requires that the owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken, is informed of the Basic Assessment processes in writing.

In this regard, please could you kindly inform any other persons (tenants, employees, farm managers and workers etc.) residing on your property of this Basic Assessment process. Should you or any other occupier of your property have an interest in this project, please register yourselves as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) by completing and returning the attached registration and comment form. By registering on the project database, you will receive all information relating to the proposed projects and will be provided with an opportunity to provide comment and input into the Basic Assessment processes.

## **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

## **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

As a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), you are hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for your review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

• Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: <u>publicprocess@savannahsa.com</u>

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant <a href="mailto:E-mailt

**Documents:** Registration and Comment Form

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

Sent: Thursday, 03 September 2020 19:07

To: Nicolaas Paulsen

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic

Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability

Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL-PAULSEN Nicolaas.pdf

Dear Mr Paulsen,

# EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(ii), it is required that owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken, is informed of the Basic Assessment processes in writing. Please find attached your written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process being undertaken for the above-mentioned project. The letter also serves to inform you that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September 2020** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.



VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

03 September 2020

Mr Eldri van Zyl Eldri van Zyl Trust Landowner Farm Kentuky

Per e-mail: <a href="mailto:deplaat@roggeveld.co.za">deplaat@roggeveld.co.za</a>

Dear Mr Van Zyl,

## EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

## NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km.
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.



#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

You have been identified as an adjacent property owner for the property **Remaining Extent of the farm Kentuky 206**, that could be impacted by the proposed project. The EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(ii) requires that the owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken, is informed of the Basic Assessment processes in writing.

In this regard, please could you kindly inform any other persons (tenants, employees, farm managers and workers etc.) residing on your property of this Basic Assessment process. Should you or any other occupier of your property have an interest in this project, please register yourselves as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) by completing and returning the attached registration and comment form. By registering on the project database, you will receive all information relating to the proposed projects and will be provided with an opportunity to provide comment and input into the Basic Assessment processes.

## **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5th of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

## **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

As a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), you are hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for your review and comment from Friday, 04 September until Monday, 05 October 2020. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

• Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

**Documents:** Registration and Comment Form

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

Sent: Thursday, 03 September 2020 19:07

**To:** Eldri Van Zyl

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

**Subject:** Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic

Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability

**Attachments:** SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL-VAN ZYL Eldri.pdf

Dear Mr Van Zyl,

# EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(ii), it is required that owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken, is informed of the Basic Assessment processes in writing. Please find attached your written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process being undertaken for the above-mentioned project. The letter also serves to inform you that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September 2020** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.



VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

03 September 2020

Mr Erasmus van Zyl Dirk van Zyl Trust Farms Rheebokke Fontein, Knoffel Vley and De Hoop

Per e-mail: <a href="mailto:dehoop@roggeveld.co.za">dehoop@roggeveld.co.za</a>

Dear Mr Van Zyl,

## EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN **CAPE PROVINCE**

# NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF **BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

You have been identified as a directly affected property owner for the Remaining Extent of the Farm De Hoop 202 and as an adjacent property owner for the properties Remaining Extent of the farm Rheebokke Fontein 209, and Remaining Extent of the farm Knoffel Vley 186, that could be impacted by the proposed project. The EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(ii) requires that the owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken, is informed of the Basic Assessment processes in writing.

In this regard, please could you kindly inform any other persons (tenants, employees, farm managers and workers etc.) residing on your property of this Basic Assessment process. Should you or any other occupier of your property have an interest in this project, please register yourselves as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) by completing and returning the attached registration and comment form. By registering on the project database, you will receive all information relating to the proposed projects and will be provided with an opportunity to provide comment and input into the Basic Assessment processes.

## **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

## **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

As a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), you are hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for your review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

• Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157E-mail: <u>publicprocess@savannahsa.com</u>

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant <a href="mailto:E-mailt

**Documents:** Registration and Comment Form

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

Sent: Thursday, 03 September 2020 19:09

**To:** Erasmus Van Zyl

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

**Subject:** Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic

Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability

Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL-VAN ZYL Erasmus.pdf

Dear Mr Van Zyl,

# EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(ii), it is required that owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken, is informed of the Basic Assessment processes in writing. Please find attached your written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process being undertaken for the above-mentioned project. The letter also serves to inform you that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September 2020** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.



VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

03 September 2020

Mr Louis Venter Landowner Farm Brandhoek

Per e-mail: louis.venter@sanlam.co.za

Dear Mr Venter.

## EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

# NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF **BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

You have been identified as an adjacent property owner for the properties **Portion 1** and **Remaining Extent of the farm Brand Hoek 176**, that could be impacted by the proposed project. The EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(ii) requires that the owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken, is informed of the Basic Assessment processes in writing.

In this regard, please could you kindly inform any other persons (tenants, employees, farm managers and workers etc.) residing on your property of this Basic Assessment process. Should you or any other occupier of your property have an interest in this project, please register yourselves as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) by completing and returning the attached registration and comment form. By registering on the project database, you will receive all information relating to the proposed projects and will be provided with an opportunity to provide comment and input into the Basic Assessment processes.

## **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

## **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

As a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), you are hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for your review and comment from **Friday, 04 September** until **Monday, 05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BAR available at public places such as libraries and municipal offices. As per our approved public participation plan submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), you can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

• Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157E-mail: <u>publicprocess@savannahsa.com</u>

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant <a href="mailto:E-mailt

**Documents:** Registration and Comment Form

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

Sent: Thursday, 03 September 2020 19:09

To: Louis Venter

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic

Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability

Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL-VENTER Louis.pdf

Dear Mr Venter,

# EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Regulation 41.(2)(b)(ii), it is required that owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken, is informed of the Basic Assessment processes in writing. Please find attached your written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process being undertaken for the above-mentioned project. The letter also serves to inform you that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September 2020** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.





VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

04 September 2020

Mr Nicol Jansen

President: Agri Northern Cape

E-mail: henning@agrink.co.za

Dear Mr Jansen,

## EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

# NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF **BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you

to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

## **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your organisation is hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the following link: https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus and the Directions issued by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020, your Organisation is requested to download the Report from our website. Your organisation can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:38

To: Nicol Jansen

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

**Subject:** Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic

Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability

Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-AGRI NC-JANSEN Nicol.pdf

Dear Mr Jansen,

## EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, please receive attached your Department's written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process.

The attached notification also serves to inform your Department that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from Friday, 04 September 2020 until Monday, 05 October 2020. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.



VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

04 September 2020

Ms Simphiwe Masilela

Obstacle Evaluator: Air Traffic and Navigation Services

E-mail: simphiwem@atns.co.za

Dear Ms Masilela,

## EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN **CAPE PROVINCE**

# NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you

to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

## **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your company is hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the following link: https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus and the Directions issued by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020, your company is requested to download the Report from our website. Your company can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:38

**To:** Simphiwe Masilela

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

**Subject:** Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic

Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability

Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-ATNS MASILELA Simphiwe.pdf

Dear Ms Masilela,

## EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, please receive attached your Department's written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process.

The attached notification also serves to inform your Department that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from Friday, 04 September 2020 until Monday, 05 October 2020. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.



VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

04 September 2020

Ms Samantha Ralston-Paton Birds & Renewable Energy Manager BirdLife South Africa

E-mail: energy@birdlife.org.za

Dear Ms Ralston-Paton.

## EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN **CAPE PROVINCE**

# NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you

to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

#### **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your company is hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the following link: https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus and the Directions issued by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020, your company is requested to download the Report from our website. Your company can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

## **Ronald Baloyi**

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:41

**To:** Samantha Ralston Paton

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

**Subject:** Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic

Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability

Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-BRIDLIFESA RALSTON PATON Samantha.pdf

Dear M Ralston-Paton,

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, please receive attached your Department's written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process.

The attached notification also serves to inform your Department that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from Friday, 04 September 2020 until Monday, 05 October 2020. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.



Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Directors: KM Jodas, J Thomas, M Matsabu Company Reg No.: 2006/000127/07

VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

04 September 2020

Mrs Lizell Ströh Obstacle Specialist: Aviation Obstacle and GIS South Africa Civil Aviation Authority

**E-mail:** strohl@caa.co.za

Dear Mrs Ströh,

## EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

## NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you

to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

#### **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your Organisation is hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the following link: https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus and the Directions issued by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020, your Organisation is requested to download the Report from our website. Your Organisation can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

• Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

## **Ronald Baloyi**

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:41

To: Lizell Stroh

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

Subject: Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic

Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability

Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-CAA STROH Lizell.pdf

Dear Ms Stroh,

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, please receive attached your Department's written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process.

The attached notification also serves to inform your Department that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from Friday, 04 September 2020 until Monday, 05 October 2020. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.



Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Directors: KM Jodas, J Thomas, M Matsabu Company Reg No.: 2006/000127/07

VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

04 September 2020

Mr John Geeringh Senior Environmental Advisor Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd

**E-mail:** john.geeringh@eskom.co.za / geerinJH@eskom.co.za

Dear Mr Geeringh,

## EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

## NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.



In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you

to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

#### **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your company is hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the following link: https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus and the Directions issued by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020, your company is requested to download the Report from our website. Your company can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com



Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Directors: KM Jodas, J Thomas, M Matsabu Company Reg No.: 2006/000127/07

VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

04 September 2020

Ms Nondwe Khanye **Environmental Officer** Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd

E-mail: khanyen@eskom.co.za

Dear Ms Khanye,

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

## NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.



In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you

to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

#### **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your company is hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the following link: https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus and the Directions issued by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020, your company is requested to download the Report from our website. Your company can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157
 E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

## **Ronald Baloyi**

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

**Sent:** Friday, 04 September 2020 05:43 **To:** John Geeringh; Nondwe Khanye

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

**Subject:** Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic

Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability

Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-ESKOM GEERINGH John.pdf; SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL

BAR-ESKOM KHANYE Nondwe.pdf

Dear Mr Geeringh and Ms Khanye,

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, please receive attached your Department's written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process.

The attached notification also serves to inform your Department that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from **Friday, 04 September 2020** until **Monday, 05 October 2020**. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.



Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Directors: KM Jodas, J Thomas, M Matsabu Company Reg No.: 2006/000127/07

VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

04 September 2020

Mr Constance Hoogstad Programme Manager **Endangered Wildlife Trust** 

E-mail: eia@ewt.org.za

Dear Mr Hoogstad,

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

## NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.



In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you

to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

#### **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your organisation is hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the following link: https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus and the Directions issued by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020, your organisation is requested to download the Report from our website. Your organisation can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

## **Ronald Baloyi**

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

**Sent:** Friday, 04 September 2020 05:46

**To:** Constant Hoogstad

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

**Subject:** Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic

Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability

Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-EWT HOOGSTAD Contance.pdf

Dear Mr Hoogstad,

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, please receive attached your Department's written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process.

The attached notification also serves to inform your Department that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from Friday, 04 September 2020 until Monday, 05 October 2020. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.



Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Directors: KM Jodas, J Thomas, M Matsabu Company Reg No.: 2006/000127/07

VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

04 September 2020

Dr Adriaan Tiplady

Manager: Site Categorisation

South African Radio Astronomy Observatory

Mr Busang Sethole

Analyst: Spectrum and Telecoms

South African Radio Astronomy Observatory

E-mail: atiplady@ska.ac.za and bsethole@ska.ac.za

Dear Dr Tiplady and Mr Sethole,

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN **CAPE PROVINCE**

## NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you

to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

#### **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your Organisation is hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the following link: https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus and the Directions issued by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020, your Organisation is requested to download the Report from our website. Your Organisation can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

## **Ronald Baloyi**

From: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com>

**Sent:** Friday, 04 September 2020 05:46 **To:** Busang Sethole; Adrian Tiplady

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

**Subject:** Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic

Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability

Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-SARAO TIPLADY Adriaan&SETHOLE Busang.pdf

Dear Dr Tiplady and Mr Sethole,

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, please receive attached your Department's written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process.

The attached notification also serves to inform your Department that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from Friday, 04 September 2020 until Monday, 05 October 2020. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.



Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd | Directors: KM Jodas, J Thomas, M Matsabu Company Reg No.: 2006/000127/07

VAT Reg No.: 4780226736

04 September 2020

Mr Serame Motlhake Manager: GIS & Measurements Network Planning **SENTECH** 

E-mail: matlhane@ska.ac.za

Dear Mr Motlhake,

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

## NOTIFICATION OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS and AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set off pylon structures;
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the proposed powerline) and a 200 m assessment area around the start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic assessment report.;
- Pylons will be up to 32m in height;
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide;
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area/s and construction camp.

In terms of Appendix 1(2)(b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, it is required to identify and assess alternatives. There is no corridor alternative being proposed as part of this Basic Assessment (BA) process as the proposed overhead power line is an extension of an already authorised 132kV overhead power line and no alternative start points are available. There is also no alternative endpoint than that at the Hidden Valley Substation as it is the only substation in the vicinity with sufficient capacity to evacuate the power from the Gunstfontein Wind Farm. The proposed routing for the grid connection infrastructure runs parallel (~15 metres to the west) of the authorised Soetwater 132kV overhead power line, in order to minimise associated environmental impacts and allow for shared access and maintenance routes.

#### **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

The proposed developments are subject to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of 2014 published in terms of Section 24(5) of NEMA. In terms of the EIA Regulations of 2014, as amended, and promulgated under Sections 24 and 24D of the NEMA, various aspects of the project are listed as activities that may have an impact on the environment. Due to the triggering of GNR 327, Listing Notice 1, Activities 11(i), 12(ii), 14, 19 (i), 24 (ii), 27 (i), 28(ii) and GNR 324, Listing Notice 3, Activities 4(g)(ii)(ee), 10(g)(ii)(iii)(ee), 12(d)(ii), 14(ii)(c)(g)(ii)(ff) and 18(g)(ii)(ee), of the EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process must be undertaken in order to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the construction and operation of the extension of the Grid Connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm.

Savannah Environmental was appointed as the independent environmental consultant to undertake the Basic Assessment and public participation process for the project to identify and assess all potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed upgrades and recommend appropriate mitigation measures in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

#### **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS**

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 39 to 44 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed project is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed project; and
- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the EIA process.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on how public consultation can be conducted as part of a BA process. The consultation process for these projects has been designed considering these limitations, and the implementation is in line with our public participation plan (PP Plan), as approved by the DEA. Our PP Plan is in compliance with the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) Directions issued on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020. One of our approved consultation methods is for you

to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform, register your interest in the project/s, and view project documentation: visit https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

Alternative means of undertaking consultation have been designed to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the project, predominately through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person with interest in the project, enabling the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 to 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. This online stakeholder engagement platform allows the EAP to visually present details regarding the project and our consultation documentation, including project maps and plans, presentations and posters regarding the project, and reports available for review. The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time, and allows participation in the consultation process in a meaningful way. The online platform allows for instant feedback and comments to be submitted, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project reporting.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- » Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- » Ability to reach a wider audience, allowing more widespread consultation for major infrastructure projects.
- » Allowing stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- » Enabling stakeholders and I&APs to register their interest in a project (for inclusion on the project database), and automatically gaining access to comprehensive project documentation.
- » Enabling the EAP to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- » Enabling the EAP and stakeholders/I&APs to meet virtually.
- » Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

#### **AVAILABILITY OF BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT**

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your Company is hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the following link: https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/.

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus and the Directions issued by the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2020, your Company is requested to download the Report from our website. Your Company can also request that an electronic copy of the BAR be send to you via file transfer services such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or a compact disk (CD).

Please submit your written comments on the BAR, EMPr and associated appendices to Nicolene Venter or Ronald Baloyi by latest **Monday**, **05 October 2020** via our website / stakeholder engagement platform (link provided above) or via:

• Telephone: 011 656 3237

Mobile: 060 978 8396 (including message)

• Fax: 086 684 0547

Post: PO Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

All comments received during the 30-day review and comment period will be recorded and included in the Final BAR for submission to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) in line with Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (GN R326).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require additional information and/or clarification regarding the project. Our team welcomes your participation and look forward to your involvement throughout this process.

Kind regards

Nicolene Venter

Public Participation and Social Consultant

E-mail: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

## **Ronald Baloyi**

From: Nicolene Venter < nicolene@savannahsa.com>

Sent: Friday, 04 September 2020 05:49

**To:** Serame Motlhake

Cc: Nicolene Venter; Ronald Baloyi; Nicolene Venter

**Subject:** Gunstfontein Wind Farm: Extension of Grid Connection - Notification of Basic

Assessment (BA) Process & BA Report availability

Attachments: SE2698 Gunstfontein OHL BAR-SENTECH MOTHLAKE Serame.pdf

Dear Mr Mothlake,

#### EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, please receive attached your Department's written notification of the Basic Assessment and Public Participation process.

The attached notification also serves to inform your Department that the Basic Assessment Report is available for your review and comment from Friday, 04 September 2020 until Monday, 05 October 2020. The Basic Assessment Report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform. Please visit our website at: <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BA Report, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain a copy of the BAR.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.

## Savannah Environmental <u>Website Uploads</u>



Home

About Us

Services

Experience

Public Documents

Careers

Contact Us

## Gunstfontein Wind Farm

# NOTICE OF BASIC ASSESSMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS FOR THE EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Project Name Applicant

Extension of grid connection infrastructure for the Gunstfontein Wind Farm, Northern Cape Province Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd

Project details. Gunstfontein Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd proposes the development of a double circuit 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national grid via the Hidden Valley substation, Northern Cape Province. The proposed grid connection infrastructure is situated approximately 38km south of Sutherland in the Karoo Hoogland Municipality, Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape Province.

The proposed double-circuit 132kV overhead power line will be an extension of the authorised Gunstfontein Grid connection (DEA ref.no. 14/12/16/3/3/1/1619 (as amended)) near the end point of the already authorised power line and will extend to Eskom's Hidden Valley Transmission Substation. The proposed extension overhead power line project will consist of:

- A double circuit 132kV overhead power line consisting of two sets of cables on a single set of pylon structures.
- A 300m wide assessment corridor (150m on either side of the powerline) and a 200m assessment area around the proposed start- and end-points of the powerline, used for assessment purposes in the Basic Assessment R
- · Pylons will be up to 32m in height.
- The Length of proposed overhead power line corridor is approximately 7.5 km.
- Registered servitude of up to 40m wide.
- Service tracks (jeep tracks only no formal roads) will employ the existing Soetwater power line service track as far as possible.
- Temporary laydown area and construction camp.

**Project Location**: The proposed grid connection extension powerline traverses four (4) affected properties, namely:

1) Portion 1 of the Farm Orange 2) RE of the Farm Annex Orange 3) RE of the Farm Leeuwe Hoek No. 4) The Farm De Hoop No. 202 Fontein No. 203: Fontein No. 185: 183

Basic Assessment Process: In terms of Sections 24 and 24D of NEMA, as read with the EIA Regulations 2014 of GNR 324 – R327 (as amended), a Basic Assessment process is required to obtain Environmental Authorisation for the proposed project. An application for Environmental Authorisation for the project has been lodged with the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), as the competent authority. Savannah Environmental is undertaking the required basic assessment and public participation process.

Basic Assessment Report Available for Review & Comment: A BA Report for the project has been compiled and is available for download, review and comment on the Savannah Environmental website: <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/oublic-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/oublic-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>. The 30-day review and comment period of the BA Report is from Friday, 4th of September until Monday, 5th of October 2020. Please submit written comments to the contact person below on or before Monday, 5th of October 2020.

To obtain further information and register on the project database, please submit your name, contact information and interest in the project in writing to:

Nicolene Venter at Savannah Environmental

P.O. Box 148, Sunninghill, 2157

Tel: 011 656 3237

Cell: 060 978 8396 (message or call)

Fax: 086 684 0547

Email: publicprocess@savannahsa.com

Website: www.savannahsa.com

September 2020

Documents for public review are available for download.



Home About Us Services Experience Contact Us Q

## Downloads

## Gunstfontein Wind Farm

Basic Assessment Report
Appendix A - EIA Project Consulting Team and Specialist CVs
Appendix B - Authority Consultation
Appendix C1 - I&APs Database
Appendix C2 - Site Notices and Newspaper Advertisements
Appendix C3 - Organs of State Correspondence
Appendix C4 - Stakeholder Correspondence
Appendix C5 - Comments Received
Appendix C6 - Comments and Responses Report
Appendix D - Ecological Impact Assessment
Appendix E - Avifauna Impact Assessment
Appendix F - Heritage Impact Assessment
Appendix G - Environmental Management Programme
Appendix H - Maps
Appendix I - Specialist Declarations
Appendix J - EAP Declaration of Independence and Affirmation
Appendix K - Screening Tool Report
Anneadire L. 10 Occurs reporting the format of the specialist reports

Appendix L - IQ Query regarding the format of the specialist reports



#### **Nicolene Venter**

From: Nicolene Venter

Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 3:53 PM

**To:** Taylor Shaun

**Subject:** RE: Gunstfontein WEF - Power Line Extension: Notification of the Availability of the

Basic Assessment for review and comment

Hi Shaun,

As requested: 8y{XD,

Kind regards,

From: Taylor Shaun <shaun.taylor@enel.com>
Sent: Monday, September 7, 2020 3:43 PM
To: Nicolene Venter <nicolene@savannahsa.com>

Subject: RE: Gunstfontein WEF - Power Line Extension: Notification of the Availability of the Basic Assessment for

review and comment

Hi Nicolene

Can you please provide me with the password to download the report.

Thank you.

Regards

**Shaun Taylor** 

Pr. Nat. Sci (Reg No: 118409)

Environment, Archaeology & Biodiversity

South Africa



102 Rivonia Road, Sandton 2196, Johannesburg

M: +27 (0)82 466 6247 T: +27 (0)10 344 0265 E: <u>shaun.taylor@enel.com</u>

From: Taylor Shaun

Sent: Wednesday, 02 September 2020 17:56

To: Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com >

Subject: RE: Gunstfontein WEF - Power Line Extension: Notification of the Availability of the Basic Assessment for

review and comment

Hi Nicolene

Please note the website maintains that "downloads to be uploaded". There aren't any documents to download. Can you please look into this and let me know when they will be available.

Regards

Shaun Taylor

Pr. Nat. Sci (Reg No: 118409)

Environment, Archaeology & Biodiversity

South Africa



102 Rivonia Road, Sandton 2196, Johannesburg

M: +27 (0)82 466 6247 T: +27 (0)10 344 0265 E: shaun.taylor@enel.com

**From:** Public Process [mailto:publicprocess@savannahsa.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, 02 September 2020 09:50 **To:** Taylor Shaun <<u>shaun.taylor@enel.com</u>>

Subject: Gunstfontein WEF - Power Line Extension: Notification of the Availability of the Basic Assessment for review

and comment

## EXTENSION OF GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE GUNSTFONTEIN WIND FARM. NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

Dear Interested and Affected Party,

The Basic Assessment process notification for the development of a 132kV overhead power line to connect the already authorised Gunstfontein Wind Energy Facility to the national electricity grid via the Hidden Valley substation, has reference. The notification letter was accompanied by a registration and comment form and if you had not received these documents, please inform us accordingly or we encourage you to visit our website / online stakeholder engagement platform at <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a> where the public documents for this project is available for your perusal.

As a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), you are hereby notified that the Basic Assessment Report (BAR) including the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and associated appendices for the proposed project is available for your review and comment from **Friday**, **04 September** until **Monday**, **05 October 2020**. The report is available for download from our website / stakeholder engagement platform on the above-mentioned link.

The restrictions enforced in terms of the Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement and gathering of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on making hard copies of the BARs at the public places such as Libraries. We invite you to visit our online stakeholder engagement platform at <a href="https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/">https://www.savannahsa.com/public-documents/grid-infrastructure/gunstfontein-wind-farm/</a>.

Should you not be able to access our online stakeholder engagement platform to download the BARs, please refer to the attached letter for alternative means to obtain the BARs. The attached letter also provides further details regarding the availability of the BARs.

## Kind regards

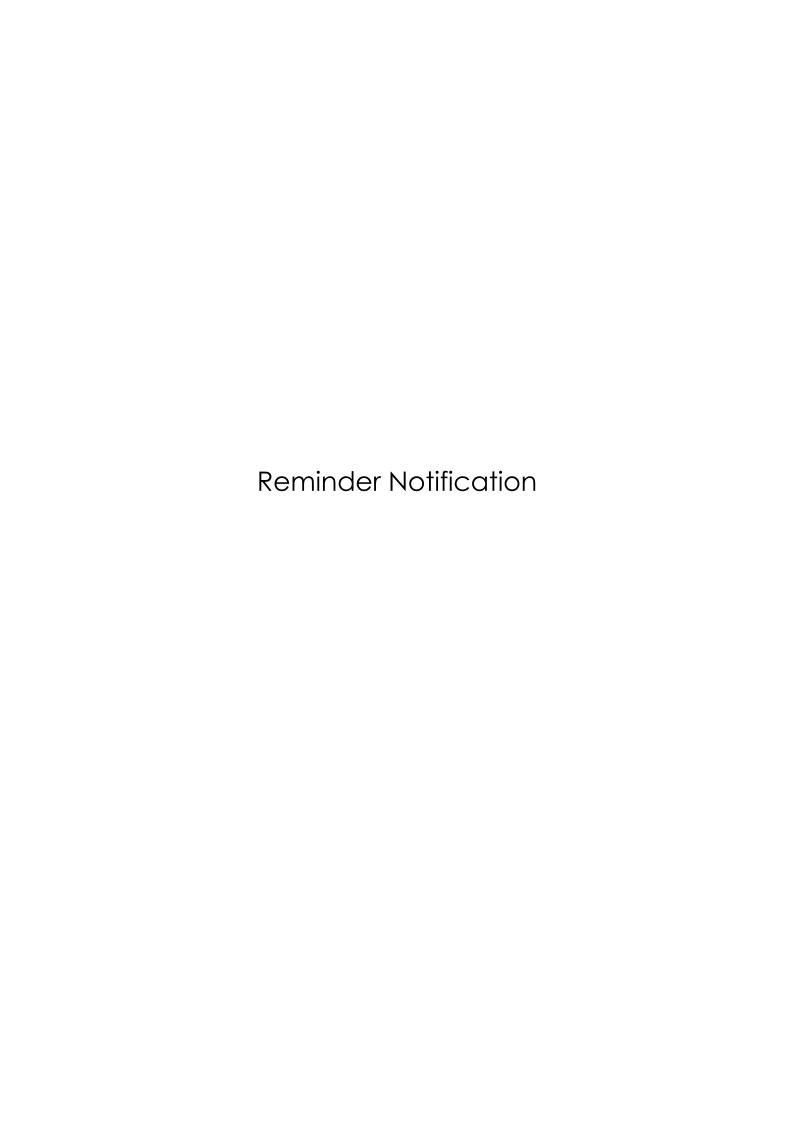


f: 086 684 0547

**Nicolene Venter** 

e: publicprocess@savannahsa.com c: +27 (0) 60 978 8396

SAWEA Award for Leading Environmental Consultant on Wind Projects in 2013 & 2015



## Sent to all registered I&APs on project database (Refer to Appendix C1)

# Proof of email - Gunstfontein WEF - Power Line Extension: Reminder of Commenting period ending soon

