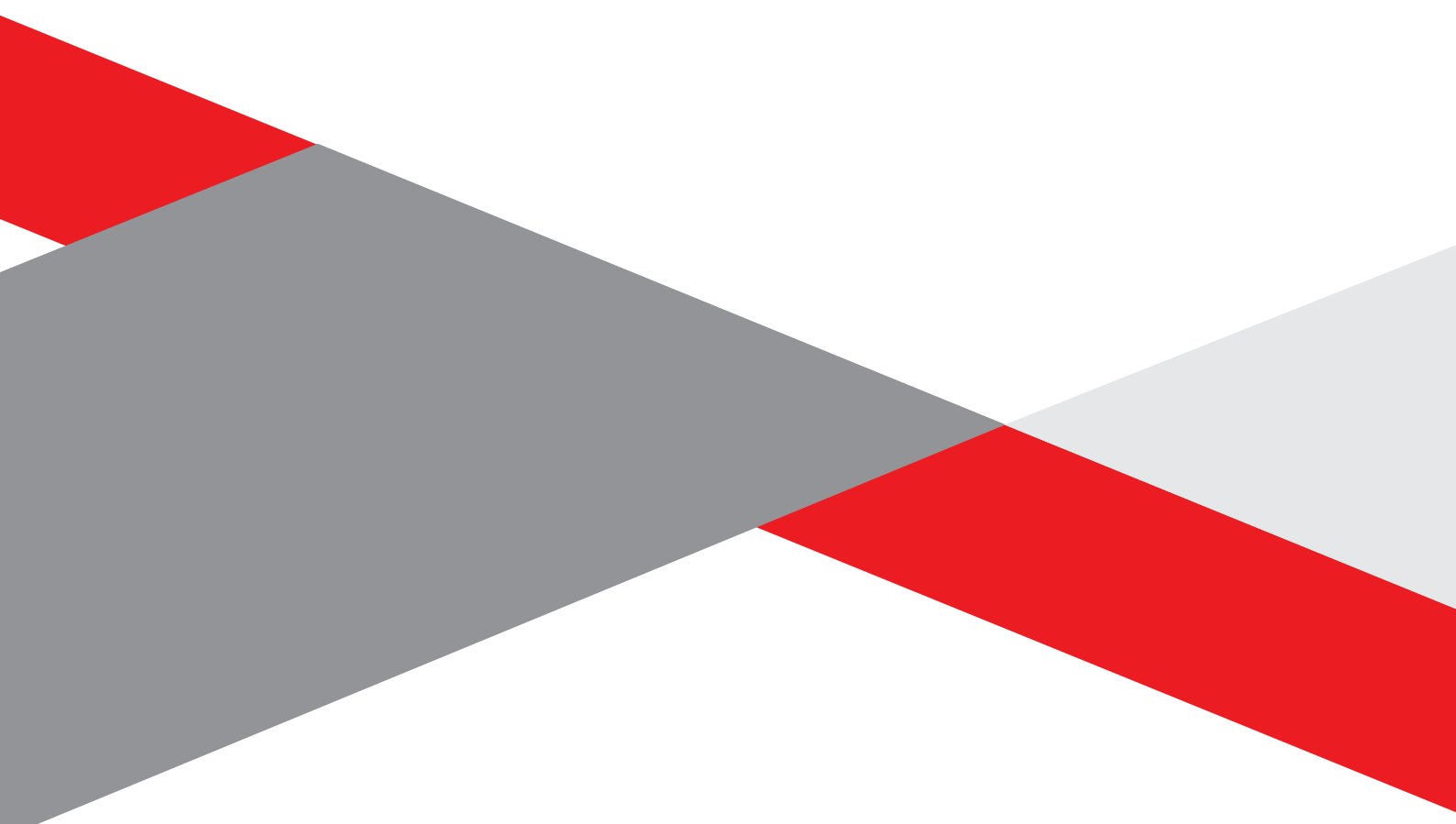


Appendix C7
Meeting Notes



POORTJIE WES RENEWABLE ENERGY CLUSTER WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

**MEETING NOTES OF THE FOCUSED GROUP MEETING FOR DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 29 JUNE 2022 AT 09H00
VENUE: MICROSOFT TEAMS, VIRTUAL MEETING**

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Nondumiso Bulunga

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MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation	Position
Adri La Meyer	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	Development Facilitation
Dorien Werth	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	Development Facilitation
Danie Swanepoel	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	Acting Director: Development Management
Waleed Galvaan	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	Environmental Officer: Specialised Production
Sibongile Mdluli	Ziyanda Energy (Pty) Ltd	Representative of the Project Developer
Jo-Anne Thomas	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Tamryn Lee Goddard	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Nondumiso Bulunga	Savannah Environmental	Lead Consultant

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Nondumiso Bulunga welcomed the attendees at the Focused Group Meeting (FGM) for the proposed Poortjie Wes Renewable Energy Cluster, Western Cape Province.

The agenda was provided, and the purpose of the meeting was presented by **Nondumiso Bulunga**.

APOLOGIES

No apologies were rendered.

BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Tamryn Lee Goddard provided an overview of the proposed Poortjie Wes Renewable Energy Cluster, Western Cape Province, as well as a summary of the findings of the Scoping process undertaken.

Tamryn Lee Goddard presented the following key information:

- Project overview for Poortjie Wes Renewable Energy Cluster;
- Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process;
- key findings and aspects to be noted as presented in the Scoping Report; and
- summary of the environmental impacts identified.

A copy of the virtual participants' attendance is attached as **Appendix A** and the presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
Danie Swanepoel	In terms of the Marshall Eagle nests during the construction phase, especially during the months of May to September, that construction will be halted. I assume there's significant impacts construction impacts that will impact on the Marshall Eagle nest site?	Tamryn Lee Goddard responded that most of the impacts would be seen during the construction phase, obviously because of noise, traffic, dust and just in general disturbance. However, during the operational phase, there doesn't seem to be as much disturbance as referenced by the specialist that there was quite low impact and that it, it didn't seem to pose too much of a risk during the operation of the proposed development.
	In terms of the long-term operational phase, did specialist make any mention of this impact?	
	In terms of the buffer around the wetlands, did you look at flood lines to determine significant impact occurrence from the floods. To add it is further recommended that the impacts of any such potential floods, especially now with climate change be understood regarding the effects of that on the facility.	<p>Tamryn Lee Goddard responded that she would have to verify this with the specialist to see if the risk of flooding was assessed. The specialist report only noted the key mitigation measures in terms of buffers and stormwater management from an environmental point of view.</p> <p><u>Post Meeting notes:</u></p> <p>Further consultation with Andrew Husted from The Biodiversity Company verified the comment made by Jo-Anne that the ecologist studies demarcate the empirical drainage lines as habitat features within the project area. A stormwater management plan is then included in the mitigation recommendations for further development by a hydrologist who will conduct a flood risk assessment before construction.</p>
	The foundations may be impacted by severe floods, and then also do you propose to cover the soil surface with gravel or something along those lines that	Jo-Anne Thomas responded that normally the flood plains and the flooding risk would be considered in the final design phase of the project by the engineers.

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
	<p>may be washed away and haven't impact down downstream.</p>	<p>She added that the developers are well aware of the risks associated with flooding and acknowledged the environmental conditions in the area where the area looks like it's really dry but actually when it does rain there is a significant risk that could occur.</p> <p>In conclusion normally with the Photovoltaic (PV) facility it is not the clearance of the whole site, it's just normally the foundations for the support structures.</p> <p>Sibongile Mdluli added that generally they do not clear the whole site, only the area where we're going to put the install the panel support structures. Even more there are instances where following the detailed geotechnical study and the final design that needs supports there would be module structures with this.</p> <p>Tamryn Lee Goddard reiterated that the query on putting gravel in terms of considering the runoff into these drainage lines has been mitigated not only with a storm water management plan that is included in the EMPR, but there's also specialist recommendations regarding the management soil within the project site. Evermore a buffer of 50 meters has been recommended by the specialist.</p>
	<p>In terms of the panels needing to be washed during the operational phase, where will this water be coming from?</p>	<p>Tamryn Lee Goddard responded that there are two options first is the municipal water or using existing borehole water from the farmers.</p> <p>Sibongile Mdluli concluded that engagements with the municipality regarding water availability has already taken place. The water that needs to be withdrawn is not significantly large in quantity. We've also engaged the landowners. They have existing profiles</p>

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
		that we can register and with the department for the use of boreholes. In addition, there are discussions with the water catchment area.

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Further project information will be relayed accordingly. It was noted by all attendees that no further comments needed to be raised at this time.

Nondumiso Bulunga thanked the participants for making time available to attend FGM and for their valuable input into the process.

The meeting was closed at 09h40.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	FGM	Focused Group Meeting
PV	Photovoltaic		

Meeting Summary

Total Number of Participants

Meeting Title

Meeting Start Time

Meeting End Time

Meeting Id

SE3209 - POORTJIE WES CLUSTER OF SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES, CENTRAL KAROO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

6/29/2022, 8:46:36 AM

6/29/2022, 9:40:36 AM

a08c682b-cba5-4a54-96a6-9dbccdc638ce

8

Full Name	Join Time	Leave Time	Duration	Email	Role	Participant ID (UPN)
Nondumiso Bulunga	6/29/2022, 8:46:36 AM	6/29/2022, 9:40:31 AM	53m 55s	Nondumiso@savannahsa.com	Organizer	Nondumiso@savannahsa.com
Tamryn Lee Goddard	6/29/2022, 8:46:56 AM	6/29/2022, 9:40:34 AM	53m 37s	tamryn@savannahsa.com	Presenter	tamryn@savannahsa.com
Jo-Anne Thomas	6/29/2022, 8:52:36 AM	6/29/2022, 9:40:28 AM	47m 51s	joanne@savannahsa.com	Presenter	joanne@savannahsa.com
Dorien Werth	6/29/2022, 8:56:46 AM	6/29/2022, 9:40:36 AM	43m 50s	Dorien.Werth@westerncape.gov.za	Attendee	Dorien.Werth@westerncape.gov.za
Adri La Meyer	6/29/2022, 8:58:13 AM	6/29/2022, 9:40:31 AM	42m 17s	Adri.LaMeyer@westerncape.gov.za	Attendee	Adri.LaMeyer@westerncape.gov.za
Danie Swanepoel	6/29/2022, 8:59:02 AM	6/29/2022, 9:40:31 AM	41m 29s	Danie.Swanepoel@westerncape.gov.za	Attendee	Danie.Swanepoel@westerncape.gov.za
Sibongile Mdluli	6/29/2022, 9:01:48 AM	6/29/2022, 9:40:29 AM	38m 40s	sibongile@ziyandaenergy.co.za	Attendee	admin@ZiyandaEnergyPtyLtd.onmicrosoft.com
Waleed Galvaan	6/29/2022, 9:14:09 AM	6/29/2022, 9:40:26 AM	26m 17s	Waleed.Galvaan@westerncape.gov.za	Attendee	Waleed.Galvaan@westerncape.gov.za

POORTJIE WES RENEWABLE ENERGY CLUSTER WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

**MEETING NOTES OF THE FOCUSED GROUP MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY, 30 JUNE 2022 AT 13H00
VENUE: MICROSOFT TEAMS, VIRTUAL MEETING**

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Nondumiso Bulunga

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MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation	Position
Leon Crafford	Central Karoo District Municipality	Municipal Health Services: Air Quality, Waste Management
Schalk Carstens	Western Cape Government - Department of Transport Public Works	Chief Engineer Road Use Management
Sello Mkhelane	Western Cape Government - Department of Transport Public Works	Transport Policies & Strategies
Evan Burger	Western Cape Government - Department of Transport Public Works	Control Technician Roads Planning
Carl October	Western Cape Government - Department of Transport Public Works	Director Road Planning
Sibongile Mdluli	Ziyanda Energy (Pty) Ltd	Representative of the Project Developer
Jo-Anne Thomas	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Tamryn Lee Goddard	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Nondumiso Bulunga	Savannah Environmental	Lead Consultant

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Nondumiso Bulunga welcomed the attendees at the Focused Group Meeting (FGM) for the proposed Poortjie Wes Renewable Energy Cluster, Western Cape Province.

The agenda was provided, and the purpose of the meeting was presented by **Nondumiso Bulunga**.

APOLOGIES

Ms Varity Willemse.

BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Tamryn Lee Goddard provided an overview of the proposed Poortjie Wes Renewable Energy Cluster, Western Cape Province, as well as a summary of the findings of the Scoping process undertaken.

Tamryn Lee Goddard presented the following key information:

- Project overview for Poortjie Wes Renewable Energy Cluster;
- Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process;
- key findings and aspects to be noted as presented in the Scoping Report; and

- summary of the environmental impacts identified.

A copy of the virtual participants' attendance is attached as **Appendix A** and the presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
Leon Crafford	<p>There is no mention of refuse removal. I would want all refuse to be removed to a site in Beaufort West or Nelspoort, depending on which one is nearest, and to be aware that there is not a new site in that area.</p> <p>I hope that the municipality will have the capacity to collect the waste. Although I presume it will not be a lot of waste.</p>	<p>Sibongile Mdluli responded and mentioned that engagements with Beaufort West Municipality have already taken place and they have confirmed that they do have capacity to handle the waste. This waste is solid waste, and the effluent waste will also go the municipality's facility.</p> <p>In addition, the municipality has confirmed that they will not have capacity to collect the waste so we will use a private contractor to dispose the waste.</p>
Carl October	I want to confirm the road number that was mentioned. Is the road the 4216 within the Western Cape border.	<p>Schalk Carstens responded that JG Africa did a Transport Impact Assessment (TIA), and they are aware of the proclaimed roads which will run on secondary and minor roads. The TIA is still being reviewed to see whether the conditions of the roads were mentioned although it is comprehensive study.</p> <p>In addition, should there be a need for roads to be upgraded then this branch would need to be contacted.</p> <p>Tamryn Lee Goddard clarified that the specialist did recommend that the roads be graded before the development commences, the specialist indicated that it would be assessed and possible graded.</p>
Sibongile Mdluli	Sibongile Mdluli added that majority of the roads are being maintained by the Central District and the developer has reached out to the district to understand access although the specialist has also	Schalk Carstens clarified that the central Karoo is basically the agents that maintain the routes. The roads in within the proposed development may require some upgrading. Then the District

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
	<p>recommended that different access in spite of the normal access being considered. Proper engagement with the relevant person needs to be undertaken so the developer can understand these dynamics.</p>	<p>Municipality are the agents, but we are the road authority. It is important to understand the grading requirements and understand the roadside maintenance that is needed.</p> <p>To conclude some of the invitees to the meeting have since retired and some emails are outdated.</p> <p>Post meeting note: Schalk Carstens provided a list of relevant stakeholders to be included and removed post the meeting via email 30th June 2022.</p> <p>Nondumiso Bulunga provided the contact details Western Cape Government -Department of Transport Public Works to developer via email 1st July 2022.</p>
	<p>The study on the central Karoo fracking and shell gas facilities within this area of about 30 kilometers to this proposed study area are not mentioned, maybe it would be worthwhile to mention them so they are not missed in your full scale environmental investigation.</p>	<p>Tamryn Lee Goddard responded that this recommendation will be considered in the study as it is important for consideration and understanding the full environmental developments in the area.</p>
<p>Carl October</p>	<p><u>Via MS teams</u> Location of the borrow pits needs to be shared from our side</p>	<p>Post Meeting note: Nondumiso Bulunga sent an email requesting the data to be shared with the team.</p>

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Further project information will be relayed accordingly. It was noted by all attendees that no further comments needed to be raised at this time.

Nondumiso Bulunga thanked the participants for making time available to attend FGM and for their valuable input into the process.

The meeting was closed at 13h44.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	FGM	Focused Group Meeting
PV	Photovoltaic	TIA	Transport Impact Assessment

Meeting Summary

Total Number of Participants

Meeting Title

Meeting Start Time

Meeting End Time

Meeting Id

SE3209 - POORTJIE WES CLUSTER OF SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES, CENTRAL KAROO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

6/30/2022, 12:50:49 PM

6/30/2022, 1:44:20 PM

9543927f-0415-450b-ac0c-f5f03bee5a7a

9

Full Name	Join Time
Tamryn Lee Goddard	6/30/2022, 12:50:49 PM
Nondumiso Bulunga	6/30/2022, 12:57:10 PM
Sibongile Mdluli	6/30/2022, 12:57:20 PM
Jo-Anne Thomas	6/30/2022, 12:57:57 PM
Schalk Carstens	6/30/2022, 1:00:38 PM
Evan Burger	6/30/2022, 1:01:30 PM
Leon Crafford	6/30/2022, 1:01:42 PM
Sello A Mkhehlane	6/30/2022, 1:03:40 PM
Carl October	6/30/2022, 1:03:48 PM

Leave Time	Duration	Email
6/30/2022, 1:43:25 PM	52m 35s	tamryn@savannahsa.com
6/30/2022, 1:43:26 PM	46m 16s	Nondumiso@savannahsa.com
6/30/2022, 1:43:25 PM	46m 4s	sibongile@ziyandaenergy.co.za
6/30/2022, 1:43:21 PM	45m 24s	joanne@savannahsa.com
6/30/2022, 1:44:20 PM	43m 42s	Schalk.Carstens@westerncape.gov.za
6/30/2022, 1:43:30 PM	41m 59s	Evan.Burger@westerncape.gov.za
6/30/2022, 1:43:27 PM	41m 45s	leonc@skdm.co.za
6/30/2022, 1:29:45 PM	26m 5s	Sello.Mkhehlane@westerncape.gov.za
6/30/2022, 1:43:20 PM	39m 32s	Carl.October@westerncape.gov.za

Role	Participant ID (UPN)
Presenter	tamryn@savannahsa.com
Organizer	Nondumiso@savannahsa.com
Attendee	admin@ZiyandaEnergyPtyLtd.onmicrosoft.com
Presenter	joanne@savannahsa.com
Attendee	Schalk.Carstens@westerncape.gov.za
Attendee	Evan.Burger@westerncape.gov.za
Attendee	leonc@skdm.co.za
Attendee	Sello.Mkhehlane@westerncape.gov.za
Attendee	Carl.October@westerncape.gov.za

POORTJIE WES RENEWABLE ENERGY CLUSTER WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

**MEETING NOTES OF THE FOCUS GROUP MEETING WITH LANDOWNER
HELD ON THURSDAY, 14 JULY 2022 AT 15H00
VENUE: MICROSOFT TEAMS, VIRTUAL MEETING**

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Nondumiso Bulunga

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

Please address any comments to Savannah Environmental at the above address

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name	Organisation	Position
Doug Jeffrey	Doug Jeffrey Environmental Consultants	Director
Bryn Morse	Peninsula Beverages	CPD Director
Sibongile Mdluli	Ziyanda Energy (Pty) Ltd	Representative of the Project Developer
Jo-Anne Thomas	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Tamryn Lee Goddard	Savannah Environmental	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Nondumiso Bulunga	Savannah Environmental	Lead Consultant

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Nondumiso Bulunga welcomed the attendees at the Focused Group Meeting (FGM) for the proposed Poortjie Wes Renewable Energy Cluster, Western Cape Province.

The agenda was provided, and the purpose of the meeting was presented by **Nondumiso Bulunga**.

APOLOGIES

No apologies were rendered.

BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Tamryn Lee Goddard provided an overview of the proposed Poortjie Wes Renewable Energy Cluster, Western Cape Province, as well as a summary of the findings of the Scoping process undertaken.

Tamryn Lee Goddard presented the following key information:

- Project overview for Poortjie Wes Renewable Energy Cluster;
- Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process;
- key findings and aspects to be noted as presented in the Scoping Report; and
- summary of the environmental impacts identified.

A copy of the virtual participants' attendance is attached as **Appendix A** and the presentation is attached as **Appendix B** to the meeting notes.

DISCUSSION SESSION

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
Doug Jeffrey	How is it that Mr Morse was not notified initially in your consultations, how did his information miss him.	Nondumiso Bulunga responded that the use of Windeed searches allows searches to be done for property owners. It

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
		<p>appears that the email address as a result from the search was incorrect. This resulted in the initial notification not reaching Mr Morse, however a call was done by Savannah Environmental explaining the project and allowing for Mr Morse to comment on the project. Over and above this we use a local newspaper to advertise the proposed development, site notices around the project site and places which are common areas for people then a notification letter using both emails and SMS.</p>
	<p>Unfortunately in this Karoo area most of the mediums used for communication are absent to most farmers, so things like site notices are often missed and as you did not have the right email address, the neighbours residing next to Mr Morse would have been able to give you these details,</p>	<p>Nondumiso Bulunga acknowledged the comment and no further response was required.</p>
	<p>Will we be able to get a copy of this recording,</p>	<p>Nondumiso Bulunga responded to indicate that recording can be made available with the meeting notes that will be shared after the meeting.</p>
	<p>Looking at the locality map it is not clear how Brakpan 1 will link to the cables, you have two lines down the bottom but the link to the substation is not provided,</p>	<p>Tamryn Lee Goddard responded that there will be a collector substation and the facilities that do not show their connection at this stage will all connect via their own power lines to the collector substation.</p> <p>Sibongile Mdluli added that the grid connection will considered in a separate Basic Assessment (BA) process which will assess the powerlines. At the moment we are in consultation with Eskom and also the landowners whose properties the powerlines would need to traverse.</p>
	<p>I have an issue with the BA for the grid connection running post the Environmental Authorisation (EA) of the facilities, surely there is a link between the facilities, and this should be known at this</p>	<p>Sibongile Mdluli responded that it is not an issue as the developer needs to first engage with Eskom in terms of the grid connection and once there is an application to Eskom and confirmation on</p>

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
	stage of the project and be displayed on the map for a cumulative and holistic understanding,	the grid solution then the specialist will go out to site to assess this in a separate BA for the power lines. We are able to share the proposed lines with you so you can have a copy of this information.
	The intention of this meeting is not to try sabotage your process or stop the development, it is strange for us to fully understand the linkages without this information, this is a flaw process because not all impacts regarding the development and its potential impacts are known.	<p>Tamryn Lee Goddard indicated that consultation with the department was done as part of the pre-application meeting and a full scope of work for the proposed project was presented. As part of that consultation the department never raised concerns around having separate BA processes, also Savannah Environmental has in the past done these processes separately.</p> <p>Post Meeting Note An email was sent to Doug Jeffrey further explaining the separation of the environmental -regulatory processes on Friday 15th July 2022.</p>
	Will the connection grid be done by Eskom or the developer.	Sibongile Mdluli explained that the developer applies with Eskom for the powerlines, then the ownership is Eskom and operation thereof is Eskom too.
	The connection will it be from one facility to the main substation.	Sibongile Mdluli responded that there will be a small substation on site then a connection point or metering point will connect at the Main Transmission Substation. The infrastructure will be owned and operated by Eskom.
	What is the size of the connection grid?	Sibongile Mdluli responded that it is a 132kV line.
	How big are the pylons?	Sibongile Mdluli suggested that an image of the typical look of the pylons be sent via email.
	How many meters high are the powerlines? Is it similar to the one that runs along the main powerlines or is it smaller? If someone could send us a picture it would help understand the dimensions and scale.	Sibongile Mdluli explained that it is smaller than the one currently seen on the property (which is a 400kV line).

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
	How tall are these panels?	<p>Tamryn Lee Goddard responded that it is proposed that these are about two meters high above the ground.</p> <p>Jo-Anne Thomas added that normally the structures are up to two meters and panel tracks can go up to four or five meters depending on the size of the panel.</p>
	How many people will be on site?	<p>Tamryn Lee Goddard responded that an average of thirty people will be employed permanently during the operation of the facility, this includes security, general workers for maintenance.</p>
	Where will the people live?	<p>Sibongile Mdluli explained that a 50 km radius is considered for the local recruitment which is required under the government's renewable energy program. She added that most of the people will most probably come from the Nelspoort area.</p>
	The buildings that are mentioned what will their height be?	<p>Sibongile Mdluli responded that the buildings are normal standard size of buildings so for example a normal security buildings so nothing like a double story or anything like that.</p>
	Will there be security lights?	<p>Sibongile Mdluli responded that finer details on the lighting can be provided but there will be lights that will be used by security and cameras that will be up on site.</p>
Bryan Morse	With so many people on site and construction activities where will water be sourced from.	<p>Sibongile Mdluli responded that there are two options. First is a confirmation from the Beaufort West Municipality that the developer will be able to get water from them. The second option is using the existing boreholes in the area.</p>
Doug Jeffrey	Can you provide more details on the access roads?	<p>Sibongile Mdluli responded that the existing roads will be upgraded and discussions are taking place with the Western Cape Provincial government and their agency to understand matters regarding maintenance.</p>
	The roads to the Brakpan 1 site are non-existent. How will this work?	<p>Sibongile Mdluli responded that the road leading from Nelspoort will be used and</p>

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
		other roads leading from Brakpan 1 will be upgraded so they can be utilised.
	There will be at least 1 meter of road that will need to be constructed to get to the particular Brakpan 1. You will have to construct to get to that particular site. Will this part of BA.	Sibongile Mdluli responded that the access road to the site is being considered I the BA for Brakpan 1 SEF.
	There is no road shown on this facility or this map.	Tamryn Lee Goddard responded that the Traffic Impact Assessment is included in the BA report as Appendix J . A map displaying the Proposed Main Access Road is included in section 7.8.1 of the BA report.
	Have you done assessments on the current boreholes?	Sibongile Mdluli responded that the testing hasn't yet been done, this will be done as part of the water use license application, but also as mentioned before we do have confirmation from the municipality for water supply.
	Does the social specialist consult with the neighbours?	Tamryn Lee Goddard responded that the social consultant does consult the neighbours where they are available/contactable. Over and above the social specialist, Savannah Environmental also undertakes consultations as part of the public participation process.
	Then Tony Barbour should have consulted the neighbours	Tamryn Lee Goddard responded that the specifics on which person was consulted can be requested from Tony Barbour and shared when received.
	So there are two facilities that are on hold.	Tamryn Lee Goddard confirmed that there are two facilities on hold – Brakpan 2 and Belvedere.
	Can you elaborate on the heritage sensitivities that caused the other projects to be on hold?	Tamryn Lee Goddard responded that the impacts were mostly from a paleontological sensitivity perspective where the area was found to have dolomite which is usually consistent with fossils and engravings and so such findings need to be avoided.
	Why can't the Brakpan 1 facility move north along the boundary or sort of north west to the proposed facility?	This suggestion was noted and it was indicated that options for alternative siting would be investigated.

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
	I am not sure of the visual impact with this suggestion but if it could move like 1 kilometer or two from where it is proposed.	
Bryan Morse	I want to raise the concern that for 59 years of my life I have spent my holidays here, and not until Tuesday when I got a call from Savannah Environmental that is when it was made known to me about this proposed development. At first I never thought we would be impacted but now matters regarding my property value will decrease. From my understanding it has always been that a buffer would be created at portion Hamel Kuyl and this is why I thought the development would not affect me hence why the questions why can't this development move.	Sibongile Mdluli responded that during the initial assessment some desktop analysis was done, even the biodiversity team went on site to look at some of the feasible options to locate the facility. I am not saying it's not possible to review the location of the facility but if you can show us the area proposed this can be reassessed.
Doug Jeffrey	<p>We buy in the Karoo to get away from such developments especially with impacts of lights.</p> <p>When looking at this picture shared and you are sitting in your homestead would you accept a solar farm in the middle of this view.</p>	<p>No response or additions were provided.</p> <p>Nondumiso Bulunga explained that this question is noted and valid and the great concern is noted.</p>
Bryan Morse	If someone could put themselves in my shoes how would they react to this.	
Doug Jeffrey	With more than 20 thousand hectares why put the Brakpan 1 facility there.	
Bryan Morse	This also compromises our security	
Sibongile Mdluli	Please could you share your current location so we can understand where the house is located.	Doug Jeffrey responded that the location will be shared.
	Can I confirm the proposed area where you suggest the facility to move?	Tamryn Lee Goddard reshared the screen and the map was displayed. It was pointed out on the map where the proposed location should be.
	We would need to recommission the specialists but if we could submit the other reports to the department for approval then we can pause on the Brakpan 1 for now.	Doug Jeffrey reiterated that this request is not to try to jeopardize the process in any way. It was confirmed that the concern relates to Brakpan 1 and that the other reports can be submitted.
Bryan Morse	I have no doubt that the current proposed location will devalue my property value.	The comment was noted. No response was provided.

Raised by	Question / Comment	Response
Doug Jeffrey	From your timelines and processes is there an idea on when an answer will be given on the site relocation.	<p>Jo-Anne Thomas responded that from an EIA process perspective the department would be notified of the additional 50 days required for the BA process in terms of the Regulations because as it stands with the 90 days it is not possible to meet this current deadline. Another round of public participation would need to be provided to stakeholders. Jo-Anne Thomas concluded that this should not jeopardize the EIA process for Brakpan 1 as the Regulations allow for this.</p> <p>Sibongile Mdluli added that from their timeline this request does throw them off from the current bidding process but if it can be accommodated to try and address the concern raised.</p>
	We will try to help ensure we review this information quickly and provide our inputs.	This comment was noted.
	Can we contact the social specialist directly?	Sibongile Mdluli suggested that communication rather be facilitated by Savannah Environmental so that everyone is aware of the communication and project information shared.

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

Further project information will be relayed accordingly. It was noted by all attendees that no further comments needed to be raised at this time.

Nondumiso Bulunga thanked the participants for making time available to attend FGM and for their valuable input into the process.

The meeting was closed at 16h07.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	FGM	Focused Group Meeting
EA	Environmental Authorisation	PV	Photovoltaic

1. Summary

Attended participants	5
Start time	7/14/22, 2:46:08 PM
End time	7/14/22, 4:07:45 PM
Meeting duration	1h 21m 37s
Average attendance time	1h 9m 34s

2. Participants

Name	First join	Last leave	In-meeting duration	Email	Participant ID (UPN)	Role
Nondumiso Bulunga	7/14/22, 2:46:19 PM	7/14/22, 4:07:39 PM	1h 21m 20s	Nondumiso@savannahsa.com	Nondumiso@savannahsa.com	Organizer
Tamryn Lee Goddard	7/14/22, 2:51:14 PM	7/14/22, 4:07:39 PM	1h 16m 24s	tamryn@savannahsa.com	tamryn@savannahsa.com	Presenter
Sibongile Mdluli	7/14/22, 2:55:13 PM	7/14/22, 4:07:45 PM	1h 12m 31s	sibongile@ziyandaenergy.co.za	admin@ZiyandaEnergyPtyLtd.onmicrosoft.com	Presenter
Doug Jeffery	7/14/22, 3:00:21 PM	7/14/22, 4:07:38 PM	1h 7m 16s	doug@dougjeff.co.za	doug@dougjeff.co.za	Presenter
Jo-Anne Thomas	7/14/22, 3:17:16 PM	7/14/22, 4:07:35 PM	50m 19s	joanne@savannahsa.com	joanne@savannahsa.com	Presenter

3. In-Meeting activities

Name	Join time	Leave time	Duration	Email	Role
Nondumiso Bulunga	7/14/22, 2:46:19 PM	7/14/22, 4:07:39 PM	1h 21m 20s	Nondumiso@savannahsa.com	Organizer
Tamryn Lee Goddard	7/14/22, 2:51:14 PM	7/14/22, 4:07:39 PM	1h 16m 24s	tamryn@savannahsa.com	Presenter
Sibongile Mdluli	7/14/22, 2:55:13 PM	7/14/22, 4:07:45 PM	1h 12m 31s	sibongile@ziyandaenergy.co.za	Presenter
Doug Jeffery	7/14/22, 3:00:21 PM	7/14/22, 4:07:38 PM	1h 7m 16s	doug@dougjeff.co.za	Presenter
Jo-Anne Thomas	7/14/22, 3:17:16 PM	7/14/22, 4:07:35 PM	50m 19s	joanne@savannahsa.com	Presenter

POORTJIE WES RENEWABLE ENERGY CLUSTER WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Focus Group Meeting

Wednesday, 29 June 2022

MEETING AGENDA

- Welcome and Introduction
- Meeting Conduct
- Purpose of the Meeting
- Project Overview
- Basic Assessment Process
- Key Environmental Findings
- Way Forward
- Discussions

MEETING CONDUCT

- Recording of the meeting
- Please stay on mute during the presentation
- Register attendance on chat function (name, surname, and affiliation)
- Equal opportunity
- Questions and comments can be submitted on the chat function during the presentation – team will respond after presentation
- Please hold all verbal questions until after the presentation
- Please raise your hand (virtual function) to ask a question and state your name

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

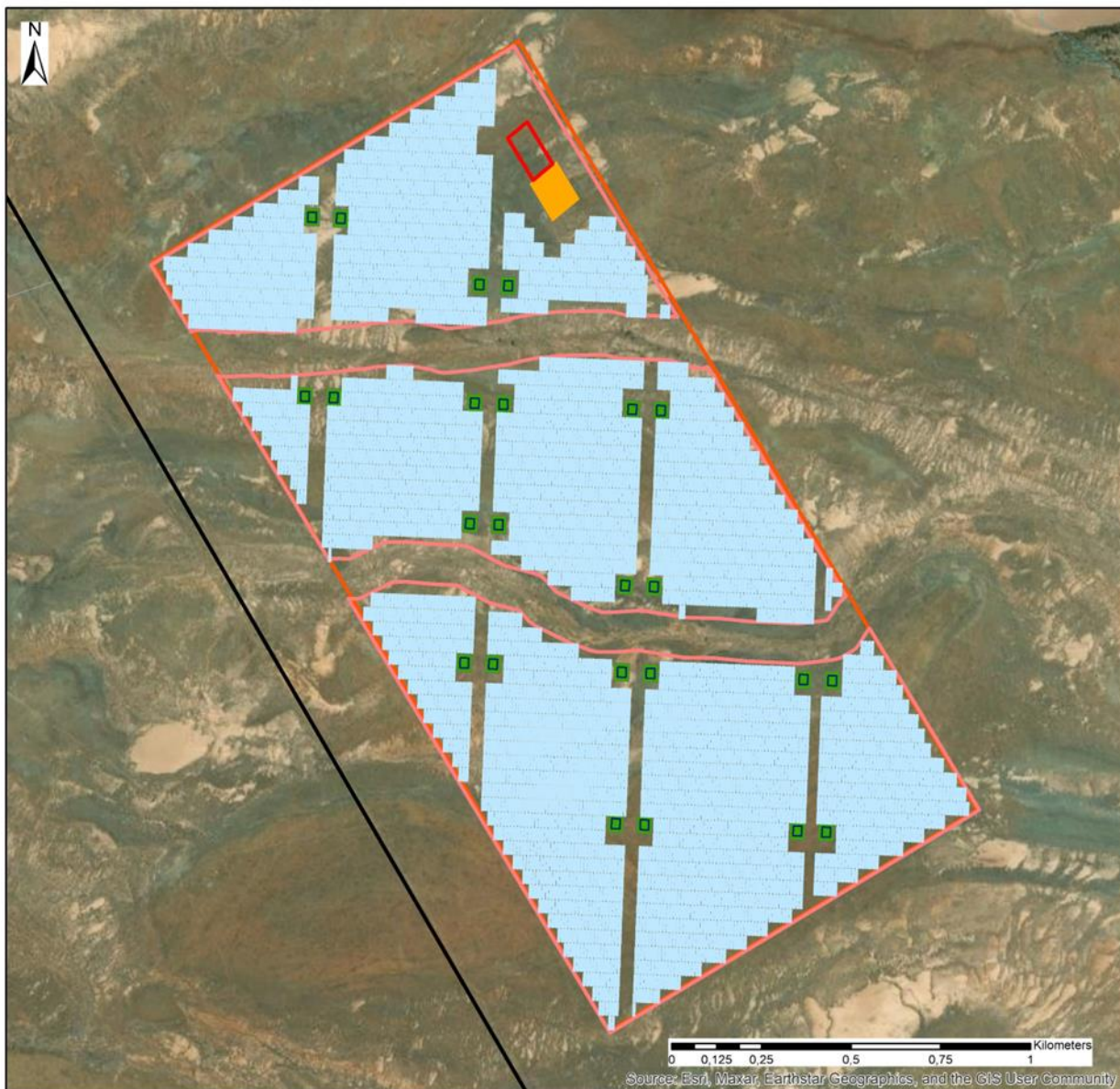
- Provide stakeholders & I&APs with an overview of the **Poortjie Wes Cluster of Renewable Energy Facilities and Electrical Grid Infrastructure (separate projects)**
- Summary of the **Basic Assessment (BA) and Public Participation Process** being undertaken
- Present a summary of the key environmental findings as documented in the respective **BA Reports**
- Provide stakeholders the opportunity to seek clarity regarding the projects and their respective environmental studies, as well as the opportunity to provide valuable input into/to inform the EIA process
- Obtain and record comments for inclusion in the submissions to the DFFE

PROJECT OVERVIEW

(Tamryn Lee Goddard)

The background features a complex network of thin, light gray lines and circles of varying sizes, creating a technical or architectural feel. A solid red horizontal bar is positioned at the bottom of the slide.

DESCRIPTION OF INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE POORTJIE WES SOLAR PV FACILITIES



Brakpan 1 Solar Energy Facility Central Karoo District Municipality Western Cape Province

Layout Map

Legend

- Perennial River
- Non-perennial River
- Main Road
- Substation Compound (130mx70m)
- Inverter Compound (25mx25m)
- PV Layout
- Brakpan 1 Solar Energy facility
- Site Boundary Offset (10m)
- Inverter Offset (10m)
- Battery (500MW)
- The farm Poortjie 76

Scale: 1:14 698
Projection: LO19
Map ref: Poortjies WES Renewable Energy Cluster

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(1) Solar Facility

- PV modules (mono or bifacial);
- Single axis tracking structures, Fixed Axis Tracking, or Fixed Panels;
- Fixed tilt mounting structure
- Galvanised steel and/or aluminium solar module mounting structures;
- 55 to 60 Central Inverter stations.

(2) Building Infrastructure

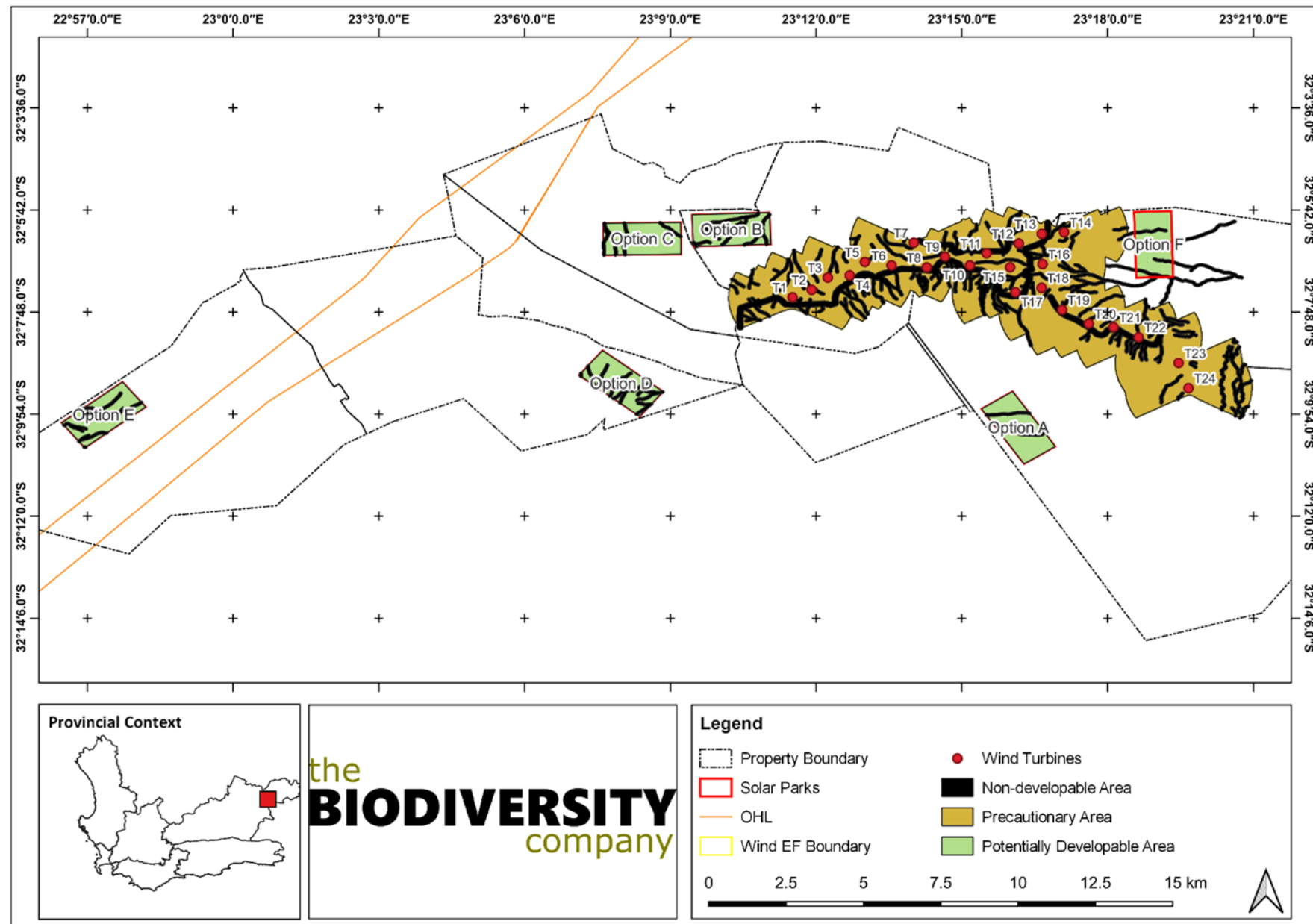
- Offices;
- Operational and maintenance control centre;
- Warehouse/workshop;
- Ablution facilities;
- A conservancy tank for storage of sewage underground with a capacity of up to 35m³; and
- Guard Houses.

(3) Associated Infrastructure

- On-site
- Battery storage (500MW/500MWh);
- Internal distribution lines of up to 33 kV;
- Underground low voltage cables or cable trays;
- Internal gravel roads;
- Fencing;
- Stormwater channels;
- Temporary work area during the construction phase; and
- An access road to site from an existing District gravel road.

SPECIALIST STUDIES

Issue/Assessment	Specialist Name	Specialist Company
Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Mahomed Desai	The Biodiversity Company
Avifauna Impact Assessment	Ashlin Bodasin	Arcus Consultancy Service
Soils Compliance Statement	Matthew Mamera	The Biodiversity Company
Heritage Impact Assessment	Jenna Lavin and Nicholas Willtshire	CTS Heritage
Visual Impact Assessment	Bryony Van Niekerk and Lourens du Plessis	NuLeaf Planning and Environmental & LOGIS
Traffic Impact Assessment	Iris Wink	JG Africa
Social Impact Assessment	Tony Barbour	Tony Barbour Consulting



The map provides an overview of the outcome of the Poortjie Wes Cluster environmental screening conducted in 2021 illustrating the non-developable areas (areas where no infrastructure or development is to occur), precautionary areas, and areas more suitable for development.

A solid red vertical bar is positioned on the left side of the page, extending from the top to the bottom.

SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS OF THE BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESSES

MONTANA 3 SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY

Ecological features:

- It is recognised as an **Ecological Support Area** as per the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan;

Aquatic features:

- The proposed grid connection is expected to pose a low residual risk to the delineated drainage lines, with key mitigation being the avoidance and adherence to the recommended buffer widths.

Avifauna buffers recommended:

- Marital Eagle are known to utilise multiple nesting structures within their territory, often alternating between multiple sites. Should it become apparent that a breeding attempt is being made impacts are relatively easy to mitigate through avoidance of the area during the appropriate periods (e.g., **May to August/September**).

Heritage features:

- The area proposed for grid is located within the Juriesfontein Murraysberg Landscape Character Area and in order to mitigate the anticipated negative impact to the **historic access route**, a minimum buffer of **500m** is recommended between the proposed PV facilities and the road.

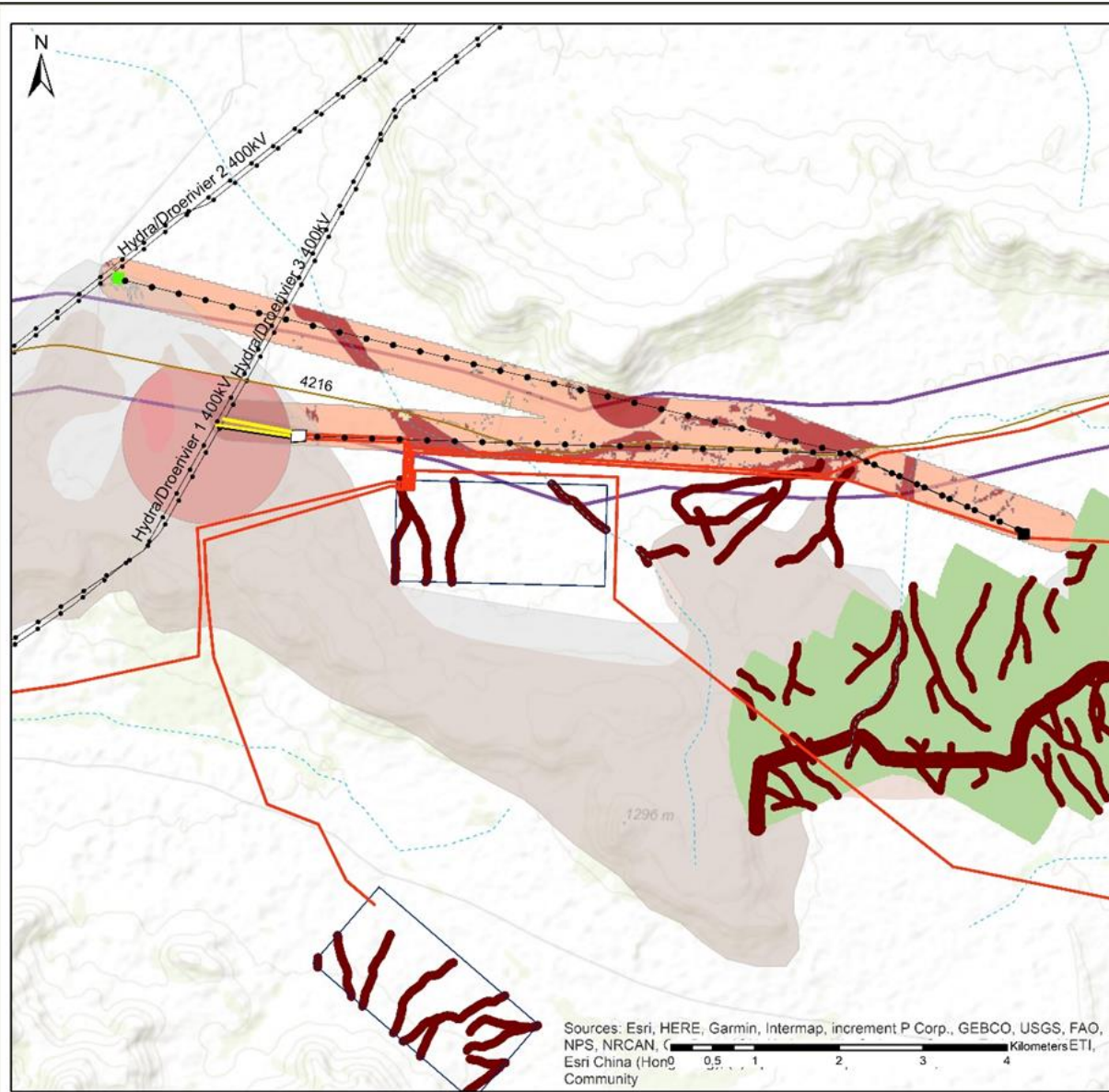
Poortjie Wes Cluater Grid Central Karoo District Municipality Western Cape Province Layout and Sensitivity Map

Legend

- <all other values>
- Poortjie Wes Cluster Grid (132kV Line)
- LILO
- Collector Station
- Substation B
- Main Road
- Perennial River
- Non-perennial River
- Existing Power Line
- Amended Grid Connection Avoiding Sensitivities
- Substation A New Location
- Solar Energy facilities
- Environmental Sensitivities**
- Ecological Precautionary Areas
- Ecological Non-Developable Areas
- Dolerite Sensitivity Area
- Low Avifauna Sensitivity
- Medium Avifauna Sensitivity
- Medium Avifauna Sensitivity
- High Avifauna Sensitivity
- Historic Heritage Road Buffer 500m
- High Avifauna SEI (Marital Eagle Nest)

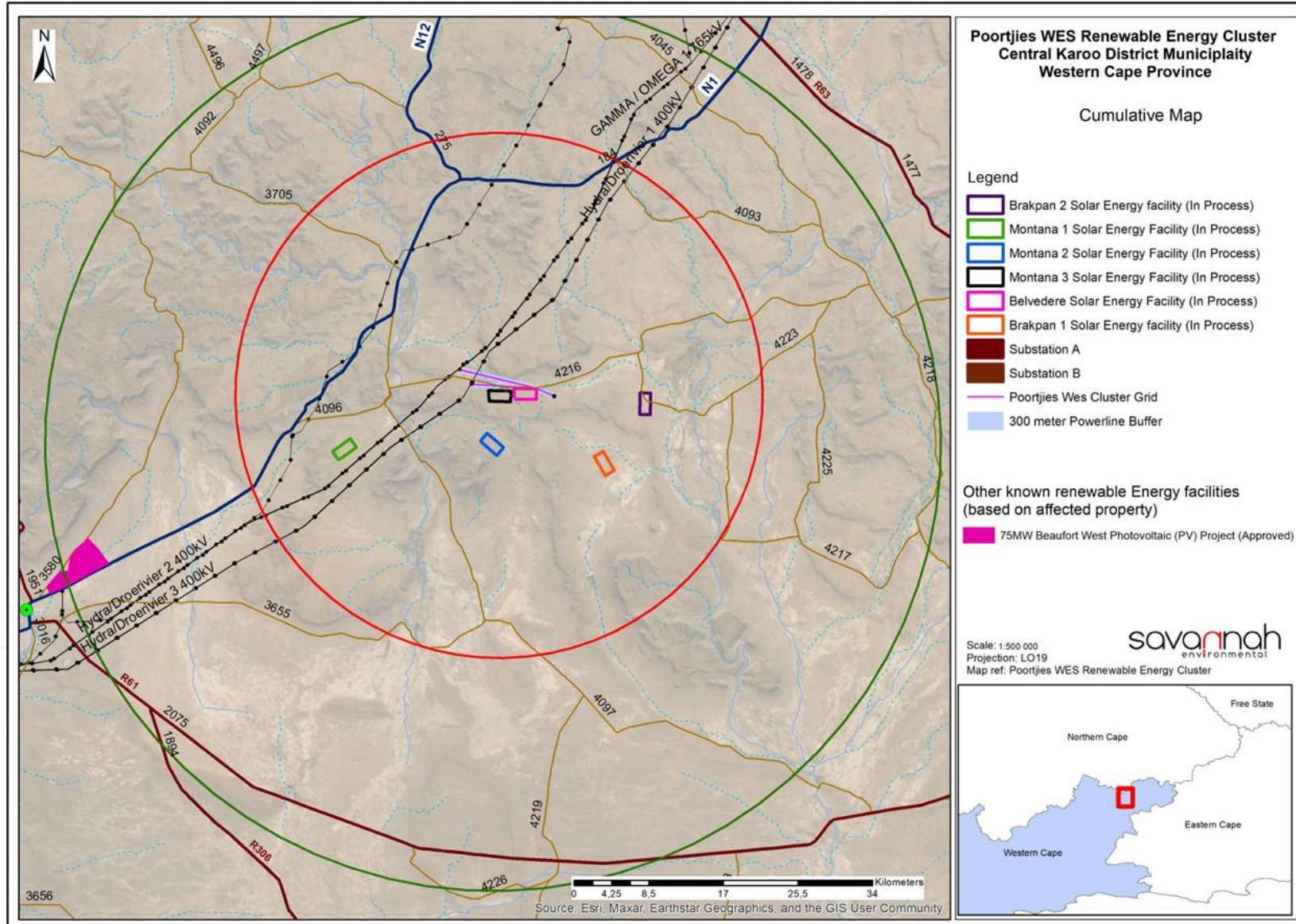
Scale: 1:62 000
Projection: LO19
Map ref: Poortjie WES Renewable Energy Cluster

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Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, Esri China (Hon'g Community

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS



CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RESULTS (all projects)

Specialist Field	Cumulative Impact Significance	
	Overall significance of impact of the proposed project considered in isolation (post-mitigation)	Cumulative significance of impact of the project and other projects in the area (post-mitigation)
Ecology	Low and Medium	Low and Medium
Avifauna	Medium	Medium
Heritage	Low	Low
Noise	Low	Low
Visual	High and Low	High and Medium
Socio-Economic	Positive impacts: Low	Positive impacts: Medium and High
	Negative impacts: Low	Negative impacts: Medium and Low
Traffic	Low and Medium	Low and Medium

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- From the specialist studies undertaken it was determined that soils and agricultural aspects did not require a detailed assessment. A **Compliance Statement** (refer to Appendix F) in this regard has been prepared in compliance with the relevant specialist protocols. The land **capability sensitivities (DAFF, 2017)** indicate land capabilities with “**Very Low to Moderate**” sensitivities, which correlates with the requirements for a compliance statement only.
- The heritage specialist identified high paleontological sensitivities within the proposed development areas for **Belvedere Solar Energy Facility** and **Brakpan 2 Solar Energy Facility**. A location alternative for each project has been given and is being considered by the developer. The Heritage Specialist recommended a **500- meter buffer from the historic road route (R4216)** which has been implemented for the **grid connection** and **Montana 3 Solar Energy Facility**. Five observations of palaeontological significance were noted within the area proposed for development for **Brakpan 1 Solar Energy facility**. These paleontological resources must be collected by a palaeontologist under an approved work plan before construction. **Chance Fossil Finds Procedure** should be implemented for the duration of construction activities for each project.
- Based on the topographical spatial data for the region, there are minor **drainage lines** traversing the Project areas of Interest for each facility and the grid. Accordingly, a **50 m buffer** was applied to these drainage systems (Macfarlane et al, 2009) as they are regarded as Ecological Support Areas. The development is expected to pose a **low residual risk** to the delineated drainage lines, with key mitigation being the avoidance and adherence to the recommended buffer widths.
- Two **Martial Eagle nests** are located on the Hydra/ Droerivier 1400/ 3400 kV Line that runs to the east of the proposed project site. The nest near Montana 1 seems to be inactive whereas the nest near the grid and Montana 3 was assumed to be active within the last couple of years due to the presence of white-wash and a monitor lizard skull found below the nest. Martial Eagle are known to utilise multiple nesting structures within their territory, often alternating between multiple sites. This species can also forgo breeding attempts in years following a successful attempt. Therefore, a distinct possibility exists that **Martial Eagle** will not attempt to utilise the located nest structure during the construction phase due to factors unrelated to the proposed development. Should it become apparent that a breeding attempt is being made, however, impacts are relatively easy to **mitigate** through avoidance of the area during the appropriate periods (e.g. **May to August/September**).

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Projects are well aligned with the national, provincial and local policy framework
- Layouts proposed for all projects ensure that all ecological, aquatic, avifauna and bat sensitivities identified are avoided and recommended buffer areas are honoured.
- Where impacts could not be avoided, appropriate mitigation has been proposed to minimize impacts & included in project EMPs.
- Socio-economic and visual impacts of the proposed cluster on the surrounding areas expected to be high positive and high negative.
- Benefits of the projects are expected to occur at a national, regional and local level
- Costs to the environment at a site-specific level have been largely limited through the avoidance of ecological features, and avifauna and bat sensitive areas considered to be of high sensitivity.
- Based on the conclusions of the specialist studies, it is concluded that the development of the projects **will not result in unacceptable environmental impacts** (subject to the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures).

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

(Nondumiso Bulunga)

WAY FORWARD

- Basic Assessment Reports in support of the Application for Environmental Authorisation for each project have been compiled and are available for review and comment from Friday, **03 June 2022** to Thursday, **07 July 2022**. The availability of the BA Report for the grid connection infrastructure for a 30-day review and comment period will be from Wednesday, **08 June 2022** to **Thursday, 14 July 2022**. (can be downloaded from the Savannah Environmental website)
- Our Public Participation team is available to answer any questions on the development and register you as an I&AP so that you can receive important project information as it becomes available.
- Final BA Reports to be submitted to DFFE for decision-making

WHO TO CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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