



AGGENEYS BESS (RF) (Pty) Ltd

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# **PROPOSED AGGENEYS BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS) FACILITY, NORTHERN CAPE**

Stakeholder Engagement Report





**AGGENEYS BESS (RF) (Pty) Ltd**

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**PROPOSED AGGENEYS BATTERY ENERGY  
STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS) FACILITY,  
NORTHERN CAPE**

**Stakeholder Engagement Report**

**TYPE OF DOCUMENT (VERSION) PUBLIC**

**PROJECT NO. 41103968**

**DATE: MARCH 2023**



AGGENEYS BESS (RF) (Pty) Ltd

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# **PROPOSED AGGENEYS BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS) FACILITY, NORTHERN CAPE**

## **Stakeholder Engagement Report**

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# GLOSSARY

Abbreviation	Definition
BA	Basic Assessment
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
CA	Competent Authority
CAA	South African Civil Aviation Authority
DAEARDLR	Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform
DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment
EA	Environmental Authorisation
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ESIPPPP	Energy Storage Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme
ESKOM	Electricity Supply Commission
GN	Government Notice
HV	High Voltage
I&APs	Interested and Affected Parties
IPP	Independent Power Producer
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998)
PPA	Power Purchase Agreement
PPP	Public Participation Process
PV	Photovoltaic
REDZ	Renewable Energy Development Zone
RI&APs	Registered Interested and Affected Parties
RfP	Request for Proposal
RF	Ring Fenced



SAHRA	South African Heritage Resources Agency
SAWS	South African Weather Service
SEF	Solar Energy Facility
SER	Stakeholder Engagement Report
SPV	Special Purpose Vehicle
VRFB	Vanadium Redox Flow Battery
WSP	WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd



# 1 INTRODUCTION

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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed by BioTherm Energy (Pty) Ltd to undertake a Basic Assessment (BA) to meet the requirements under the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA), for the proposed Aggeneys Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Facility (hereafter referred to as the “Proposed Project”) located in the Khai Ma Local Municipality and Namakwa District Municipality in the Northern Cape Province.

## 1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

BioTherm Energy, under its Special Purpose vehicle (SPV); Aggeneys BESS (RF) (Pty) Ltd, proposes to construct and operate a BESS Facility (Refer to **Figure 1-1**) within the study footprint of their operational Aggeneys Solar Energy Facility (SEF) Facility situated near Aggeneys, Northern Cape. The Proposed Project will require approximately 2.6 to 7 hectares for construction and operation, and will connect directly to the operational on-site Soetwater High Voltage (HV) substation, constructed for the Aggeneys SEF. The Proposed Project will provide peak shifting power with a capacity of up to 153 MW and output of up to 612 MWh, and will be evacuated to the Eskom grid.

The proposed BESS Facility will utilize either of the two BESS technology options; liquid cooled Lithium-ion batteries; or Vanadium Redox Flow batteries (VRFB), required for applications set out in the Energy Storage Independent Power Producer's Procurement Programme (ESIPPPP) Request for Proposal (RfP) as issued by the Independent Power Producer (IPP) office. The batteries will be charged via the Eskom grid and energy will be discharged back to the grid according to a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Eskom.

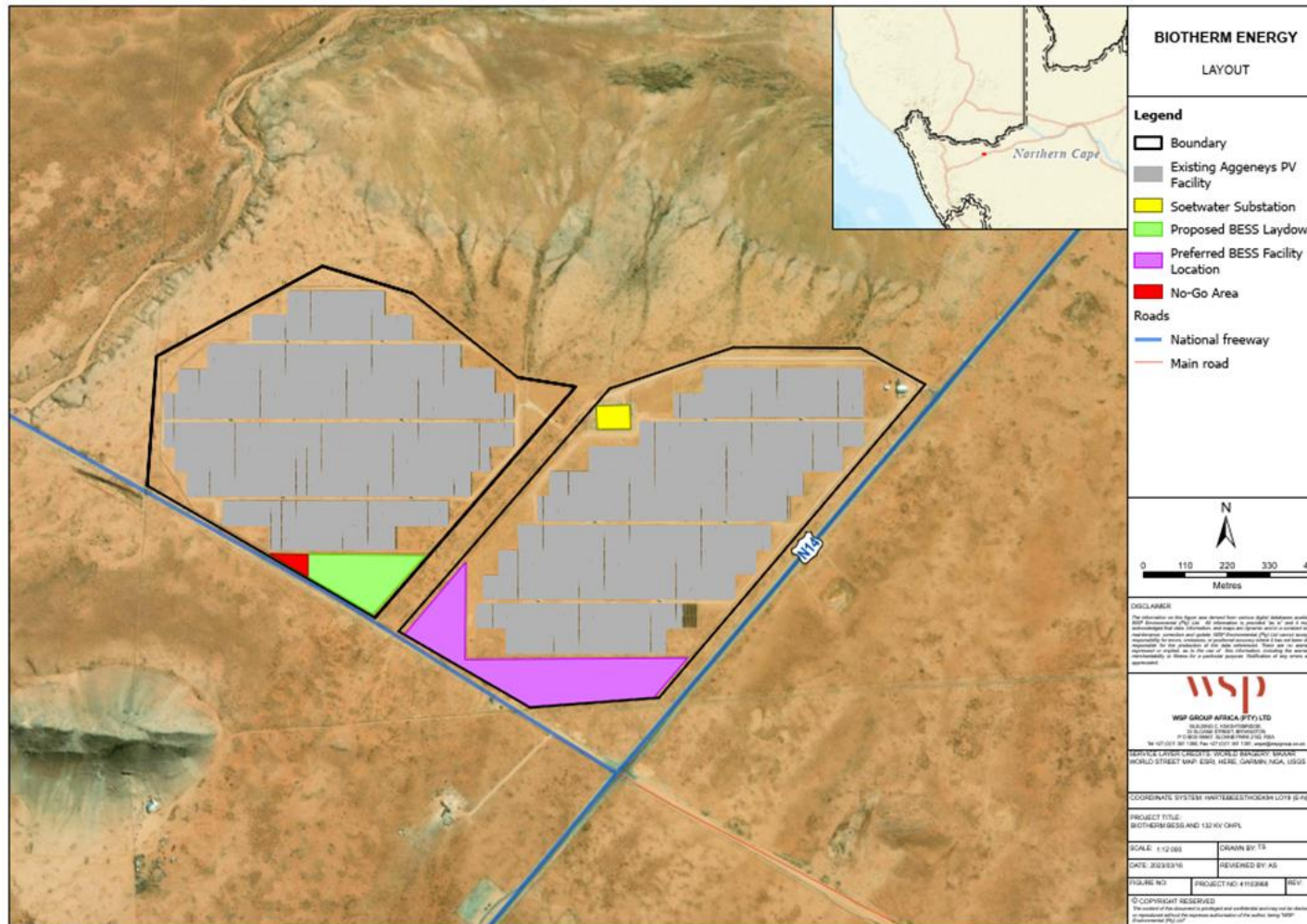


Figure 1-1 – Aggeneys BESS Project Locality

## 1.2 TERMS OF REFERENCE

There is one application associated with the Proposed Project as indicated in **Table 1-1**.

**Table 1-1 – Aggeneys BESS Environmental Application**

Project	Details	Environmental Process
Aggeneys BESS	Up to 153 MW Battery Energy Storage Facility, including associated infrastructure	BA Process

## 1.3 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

WSP was appointed in the role of Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the Environmental Authorisation (EA) Process for the proposed project. This Stakeholder Engagement Report (SER) was compiled as part of the EA Process and must be read in conjunction with the BA application. **Table 1-2** details the relevant contact details of the EAP.

**Table 1-2 – Details of the EAP**

<b>EAP:</b>	<b>WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd</b>
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Ashlea Strong
<b>Physical Address:</b>	Building C, Knightsbridge, 33 Sloane Street, Bryanston, Johannesburg
<b>Postal Address:</b>	P.O. Box 98867, Sloane Park 2151, Johannesburg
<b>Telephone:</b>	011 361 1392
<b>Fax:</b>	011 361 1301
<b>Email:</b>	Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com
<b>EAP Qualifications:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Masters in Environmental Management, University of the Free State</li> <li>■ B Tech, Nature Conservation, Technikon SA</li> <li>■ National Diploma in Nature Conservation, Technikon SA</li> </ul>
<b>EAPASA Registration Number:</b>	EAPASA (2019/1005)

To adequately identify and assess potential environmental impacts, the EAP was supported by a number of specialists, the details of which are provided in the applicable BA Report.

## STATEMENT OF INDEPENDENCE

Neither WSP nor any of the authors of this Report have any material present or contingent interest in the outcome of this Report, nor do they have any business, financial, personal or other interest that could be reasonably regarded as being capable of affecting their independence. WSP has no beneficial interest in the outcome of the assessment.

## 1.4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation is understood to be a series of inclusive and culturally appropriate interactions aimed at providing stakeholders with opportunities to express their views, so that these can be considered and incorporated into the decision-making process. Effective public participation requires the prior disclosure of relevant and adequate project information to enable stakeholders to understand the risks, impacts, and opportunities of the proposed Project.

Basic reasons why the public are involved in the Public Participation Process (PPP):

- The environment is held in public trust; therefore, use of environmental resources is everyone's concern;
- To ensure that projects meet the citizens' needs and are suitable to the affected public;
- The project carries more legitimacy, and less hostility, if interested and affected parties (I&APs) are able to influence the decision-making process; and
- The final decision is deemed informed when local knowledge and values are included and when expert knowledge is publicly examined.

### 1.4.1 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the PPP can be summarised as follows:

- Identify relevant individuals, organisations and communities who may be interested in or affected by the proposed Project;
- Clearly outline the scope of the Proposed Project, including the scale and nature of the existing and proposed activities;
- Identify viable proposed Project alternatives that will assist the relevant authorities in making an informed decision;
- Identify shortcomings and gaps in existing information;
- Identify key concerns, raised by I&APs that should be addressed in the subsequent specialist studies;
- Highlight the potential for environmental impacts, whether positive or negative; and
- To inform and provide the public with information and an understanding of the proposed Project, issues and solutions.

### 1.4.2 WHAT IS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY

An I&AP is defined as any person, group of persons or organisations interested in or affected by an activity, and any organ of state that may have jurisdiction over any aspect of the activity.

The difference between an I&AP and a registered I&AP:

- An I&AP can be directly or indirectly impacted on by a proposed activity.
- A registered I&AP is a person whose name has been placed on the register of registered I&APs. According to the PPP Guidance document, 2017, only registered I&APs will be notified:
  - Of the availability of reports and other written submissions made to the Competent Authority (CA) by the Applicant, and be entitled to comment on these reports and submissions; and
  - Of the outcome of the application, the reasons for the decision, and that an appeal may be lodged against a decision.

For the purpose of this report, registered I&APs will be referred to as Stakeholders.

## **Rights, Roles and Responsibilities of the Stakeholders**

Stakeholders have the right to bring to the attention of the CA any issues that they believe may be of significance to the consideration of the application. The rights of stakeholder are qualified by certain obligations, namely:

- Stakeholders must ensure that their comments are submitted within the timeframes that have been approved by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE), or within any extension of a timeframe agreed by the Proponent, EAP or competent authorities;
- Serve a copy of the comments submitted directly to the competent authorities, the Proponent or the EAP; and
- Disclose to the EAP any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that they might have in the approval or refusal of the application.

The roles of stakeholders in a public participation process usually include one or more of the following:

- Assisting in the identification and prioritisation of issues that need to be investigated;
- Making suggestions on alternatives and means of preventing, minimising and managing negative impacts and enhancing proposed Project benefits;
- Assisting in or commenting on the development of mutually acceptable criteria for the evaluation of decision options;
- Contributing information on public needs, values and expectations;
- Contributing local and traditional knowledge; and
- Verifying that their issues have been considered.

In order to participate effectively, stakeholders should:

- Become involved in the process as early as possible;
- Advise the EAP of other stakeholders who should be consulted;
- Contribute towards the design of the public participation process (including timeframes) to ensure that it is acceptable to all stakeholders;
- Follow the process once it has been accepted;
- Read the material provided and actively seek to understand the issues involved;
- Give timeous responses to correspondence;
- Be respectful and courteous towards other stakeholders;
- Refrain from making subjective, unfounded or ill-informed statements; and
- Recognise that the process is confined to issues that are directly relevant to the application.

## **1.5 APPROACH TO STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

Our approach to stakeholder engagement is based on the following principles:

- Undertake meaningful and timely participation with stakeholders;
- Focus on important issues during the process;
- Undertake due consideration of alternatives;
- Take accountability for information used;
- Encourage co-regulation, shared responsibility and a sense of ownership over the proposed Project lifecycle;
- Apply “due process” particularly with regard to public participation as provided for in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations; and



- Consider the needs, interests and values of stakeholders.

The Public Participation guideline in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations, drafted by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) (now DFFE) in 2017, tabulates the level of Public Participation required for various levels of anticipated project impacts. This table has been used to identify additional Public Participation methods which are required for the Project. Highlighted cells (red) indicate the applicable response to the anticipated impacts. Results of the process are shown in **Table 1-3**.

**Table 1-3 – Level of Public Participation as per Public Participation Guideline (DEA, 2017)**

Scale of Anticipated Impacts	Recommended Response	
	If “Yes”	If “No”
Are the impacts of the project likely to extend beyond the boundaries of the local municipality?	Formal Consultation with other affected municipalities should be carried out during the PPP.	No need to have a formal consultation with other municipalities during PPP. Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA must be met.
Are the impacts of the project likely to extend beyond the boundaries of the province?	Formal Consultation with other affected provinces should be carried out during the PPP.	No need to have a formal consultation with other provinces during PPP. Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA must be met.
Is the project a greenfields development (a new development in a previously undisturbed area)?	Extensive consultation with Registered Interested and Affected Parties (RI&APs) might be required before a decision is taken on the project in order to gather more information, and to ensure that there is minimal impact on the environment.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Does the area already suffer from socio-economic problems (e.g. job losses) or environmental problems (e.g. pollution), and is the project likely to exacerbate these?	Extensive consultation with RI&APs within the area should be undertaken, to gather more information on both the socio-economic and environmental problems.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Is the project expected to have a wide variety of impacts (e.g. socio-economic and ecological)?	Thorough consultation needs to be conducted with RI&APs, in order to address variety of impacts.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.

Scale of Anticipated Impacts	Recommended Response	
	If “Yes”	If “No”
<b>Public and environmental sensitivity of the project:</b>		
Are there widespread public concerns about the potential negative impacts of the project?	Broader consultation with all RI&APs will need to be undertaken.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Is there a high degree of conflict among RI&APs?	There might need to be more consultation to ensure that there is consensus reached among RI&APs.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Will the project impact on private land other than that of the applicant?	Consultation with the private landowner must be done, and all their concerns need to be addressed.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Does the project have the potential to create unrealistic expectations (e.g. that a new factory would create a large number of jobs)?	Thorough consultation that addresses the perceptions of unrealistic expectations needs to be carried out.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
<b>Potentially affected parties:</b>		
Has very little previous public participation taken place in the area?	More thorough public participation should take place within the area, to ensure that all potential and RI&APs participate.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Did previous public participation processes in the area result in conflict?	Additional consultation might be needed to ensure that issues of conflict are addressed effectively.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Are there existing organisational structures (e.g. local forums) that can represent I&APs?	Organizational structures might minimise conflict whilst maximising the participation.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Is the area characterised by high social diversity (i.t.o. socio-economic status, language or culture)?	Proper consultations that address language and cultural diversity should be promoted.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Were people in the area victims of unfair expropriations or relocation in the past?	PPP should be extensive and address any unfair practices that occurred in the past.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Is there a high level of unemployment in the area?	The PPP should ensure that there are no unrealistic expectations created due to the project. The consultation should ensure that	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.

Scale of Anticipated Impacts	Recommended Response	
	If “Yes”	If “No”
	any unrealistic expectations are adequately addressed before the project starts.	
<b>Do the RI&amp;APs have special needs (e.g. a lack of skills to read or write, disability, etc)?</b>	Consultation should include mechanisms that will ensure full participation by people with special needs.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met. Minimum requirements for PP in accordance with the Act must be met as well as best practices relating to PP.



## 2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TO DATE

### 2.1 PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION

A pre-application meeting was held on **09 December 2022** with the DFFE in order to discuss the Proposed Project. The minutes of this meeting and approval from the DFFE are included in **Appendix C.1**.

### 2.2 IDENTIFICATION OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Section 41 of the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended) states that written notices must be given to identified stakeholders as outlined in **Table 2-1**.

Relevant authorities (Organs of State) have been automatically registered as stakeholders. In accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), all other persons must request in writing to be placed on the register, submit written comments, or attend meetings to be registered as stakeholders, and included in future communication regarding the Project.

**Table 2-1 – Interested and Affected Parties**

NEMA Requirement	Discussion
(i) the owner or person in control of that land if the applicant is not the owner or person in control of the land	The project activity is located on a portion of privately owned land. The landowner has been included on the stakeholder database. The land portions associated with the Proposed Project include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Portion 1 of Farm Aroams 57 RD</li> </ul>
(ii) the occupiers of the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken	The landowner has been contacted to confirm whether there are any occupiers on the land portion. Where applicable, occupiers have been included on the database.
(iii) owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken	Adjacent landowner details were collected and have been included on the stakeholder database. Where applicable, occupiers have been included on the database.
(iv) the municipal councillor of the ward in which the site or alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area	Ward Councillor of Ward 4 (Khai Ma Local Municipality) has been included in the stakeholder database.
(v) the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area	The project is located in the Khai Ma Local Municipality and Namakwa District Municipality. Both Local and District Municipalities have been included in the stakeholder database.
(vi) any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity	DFFE has been, and will continue to be, consulted. The Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform (DAEARDLR) has been included in the stakeholder database.

NEMA Requirement	Discussion
(vii) any other party as required by the competent authority.	<p>All tiers of government, namely, national, provincial, local government and parastatals have been included in the stakeholder database. Inclusive of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ DFFE;</li> <li>■ Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS);</li> <li>■ Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform (DAEARDLR);</li> <li>■ Department of Public Works;</li> <li>■ Department of Defence;</li> <li>■ National Department of Transport;</li> <li>■ South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL);</li> <li>■ South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA);</li> <li>■ South African Civil Aviation Authority (CAA);</li> <li>■ Namakwa District Municipality; and</li> <li>■ Khai Ma Local Municipality.</li> </ul> <p>For a full list of registered stakeholders please refer to <b>Appendix A</b>.</p>

**Appendix A** provides a list of stakeholders registered on the Project database. The stakeholder database will be updated throughout the EA process.

## 2.3 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

### AUTHORITY CONSULTATION

A pre-application meeting was held on **09 December 2022** with the DFFE in order to discuss the Proposed Project. The minutes of this meeting and approval from the DFFE are included in **Appendix C.1**.

### DIRECT NOTIFICATION

Notification of the proposed Project will be issued to potential and existing Stakeholders, via direct correspondence (i.e., site notices, emails, SMSes, etc.). Proof of notification will be included in the SER post the public review period.

### NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS

In accordance with the requirements of GNR 982, as amended, the proposed project will be advertised in one local newspaper. The purpose of the advertisement is to notify the public about the proposed project and to invite them to register as stakeholders. A copy of the advertisement is included in **Appendix B.1**. The advertisement publication details are provided in **Table 2-2**. Proof of placement will be included in the SER post the public review period.

**Table 2-2 – Dates on which the advert will be published**

Newspaper	Distribution Area	Language	Publication Date
Gemsbok	Aggeneys, Alexander Bay, Augrabies, Boesmandland, Brandvlei, Calvinia, Groblershoop, Grootdrink,	Afrikaans	29 March 2023

Newspaper	Distribution Area	Language	Publication Date
	Leerkrans, Kakamas, Kamieskroon, Kanoneiland, Keimoes, Kenhardt, Kuruman, Lamprechtsdrift, Leerkrans, Marydale, Nababeep, Ariamsvlei, Okiep, Olifantshoek, Pofadder, Port Nolloth, Postmasburg, Prieska, Sishen, Springbok, Nababeep, Garies, Okiep, and Upington		

## SITE NOTICES

In accordance with GNR 326 Section 41(2)(a-b) site notices have been developed (see **Appendix B-2**) and will be placed at strategic points in close proximity to the Proposed Project site, as well as the Aggeneys Recreational Club, Aggeneys Library and OK Foods Aggeneys, within the Khai Ma Local Municipality. Proof of placement will be included in the SER post the public review period.

## AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT BA AND SCOPING REPORTS

The Draft BA and Scoping Reports will be placed on public review for a period of at least 30 days from **31 March 2023 to 04 May 2023**, at the venues as follows:

- Hard Copy: Aggeneys Recreational Club;
- Hard Copy: Aggeneys Library;
- Electronic Copy: WSP Website (<https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>); and
- Electronic Copy: Datafree Website (<https://wsp-engage.com/>).

The Draft Reports were also made available to Commenting Authorities via a One Drive link ([Aggeneys BESS - Public Review](#)).

In order to ensure maximum participation of all I&APs, reports will be shared on the Datafree website as well as an audio presentation.

## 2.4 STAKEHOLDER REGISTRATION

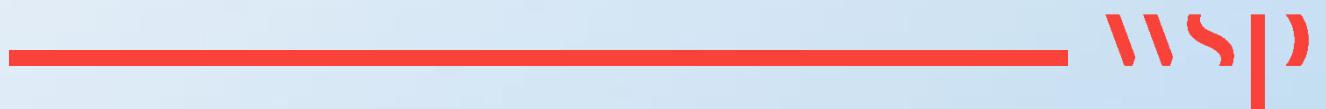
All I&APs that either call in or send written correspondence, such as emails, fax, or post, to the EAP will be added to the database and their comments and/or queries will be responded to.

## 2.5 COMMENTS RECEIVED

All concerns, comments, viewpoints, and questions (collectively referred to as 'issues') received during the comment period will be documented and responded to adequately in a Comments and Responses table. No comments have been received to date.

# Appendix A

## **STAKEHOLDER DATABASE**



Company/Organisation	Name	Surname
National Authorities		
Department of Forestry Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Samkelisiwe	Dlamini
DFFE	Masina	Morudu
DFFE	Bathandwa	Ncube
DFFE: Biodiversity Directorate	Flora	Mokgohloa
DFFE: Chemicals Management	Obed	Baloyi
South African National Roads Agency SOC Ltd (SANRAL)	Nicole	Abrahams
SANRAL	S. Dyers	Dyers
SANRAL	Colen	Runkel
SANRAL	Rene	de Kock
Provincial Authorities		
Northern Cape Provincial Government - Head of Communications	Monwabisi	Nkompela
Northern Cape Provincial Government - Media Liaison Officer	Bronwyn	Abrahams
Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform (DAEARDLR)	Aviwe	Nyakaza
DAEARDLR	Peter	Cloete
DAEARDLR	Martha	Molokwane
DAEARDLR	Thandeka	Mlatha
DAEARDLR	Olebile	Seshupo

DAEARDLR	Naomi	Mokonopi
DAEARDLR	Dineo	Moleko
DAEARDLR	Dineo	Kgosi
DAEARDLR	Elsabe	Swart
DAEARDLR	Samantha	De la Fontaine
DAEARDLR	Conrad	Geldenhuys
DAEARDLR	Enrico	Oosthuyzen
DAEARDLR	Gail	Letimela
DAEARDLR	JC	Kalakgosi
DAEARDLR (Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development)	Cynthia	Fortune
DAEARDLR (Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development)	Dimakatso	Viljoen Mothibi
DAEARDLR (Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development)	Dr. P Kegakilwe	Kegakilwe
DAEARDLR (Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development)	Nico	Toerien
DAEARDLR (Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development)	Nadia	Goltz
DAEARDLR (Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development)	Loius	Potgiter
DAEARDLR (Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development)	Nico	Toerien
Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS): Northern Cape Region: Regional Manager	Abe	Abrahams
DWS	Alexia	Hlengani
DWS	Shaun	Cloete

Northern Cape Provincial Heritage Resources (Ngwao-Boswa Jwa Kapa Bokone)	R Timothy	Timothy
Department of Mineral Resources & Energy (DMRE): Northern Cape	Pieter	Swart
DMRE	Johannes	Nematatani
DMRE	Vincent	Muila
DMRE	Linah	Tshikororo
Local Authorities		
Khai Ma Local Municipality: Executive Mayor	Jonas Aurelia, Cllr	Aurelia
Khai Ma Local Municipality: Municipal Manager	Edward	Cloete
Khai Ma Local Municipality	Petrus	Baker
Khai Ma Local Municipality	Stanley	Basson
Namakwa District Municipality	Jodine	Cloete
Namakwa District Municipality	Madelein	Brandt
Namakwa District Municipality (Environmental)	Rodrigo	Losper
Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport	M Sithole	Sithole
Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport	Kholekile	Nogwilli
Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport	Sylvia	Moholo
Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport	Neil	Joubert
Northern Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism	Vanessa	Oliver
Ward Councillor Ward 4	Nokwakha Cyntheria	Masebeni

#### Other Commenting Organisations/NGOs

Sustainable Energy, Environment and Development Programme (SEED)	Megan	Anderson
Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa Northern Cape	Tania	Anderson
Cape Nature	Alana	Duffell-Canham
Cape Nature	Kim	Gabriel
Mainstream Renewable Energy South Africa	Michael	Mangnall
Mainstream Renewable Energy South Africa	Hein	Reyneke
Agri Northern Cape	Henning	Myburgh
Air Traffic Navigation Services (ATNS)	Carel	Gersbach
Air Traffic Navigation Services (ATNS)	Matthys	Horak
South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA)	Lizell	Stroh
Birdlife SA	Ashene	Verdorn

#### Other Associations/Interested Parties

Trasnet	Marina	Lourens
I&APs	Fransina	Adams
I&APs	Je-Von	Adams
I&APs		Antonio
I&APs	Piet	April
I&APs	Nicolene	Barnard



I&APs	Nicol	Basson
I&APs	Mina	Basson
I&APs	Duncan	Basson
I&APs	Chris	Berenel
I&APs	Hendrina	Beukes
I&APs	Anouska	Beukes
I&APs	Willem	Beukes
I&APs	Wayne	Beukes
I&APs	JJ	Booyesen
Farm Brokers	Des	Brasington
I&APs		Bredwin
Noordkaap	Ruan	Bruwer
I&APs	Everhardus	Burger
Texforce (Pty) Ltd	Steven	Burnett
I&APs		Catharina
I&APs	Martell	Cloete
I&APs	Ashwell	Coetzee
Lucky 7 Supermarket	Retha	Coetzee
Trasnet	Attie	Coetzee

Council for Geoscience	doug	Cole
I&APs	Ralph	Damonse
I&APs	Johannes	Daniels
I&APs	Maria	Daniels
I&APs	CP	De Wee
I&APs	IJ	Dreyer
Cape Nature	Alana	Duffell-Canham
I&APs	Elroy	Eland
I&APs		Elizabeth
Mc Gregor Museum (NC)	Colin	Fortune
South African Heritage Resource Agency	Magriaza	Galimberti
Eskom Holdings	John	Geeringh
I&APs	Gert	Genis
I&APs		Gert
Bloemhoek Plase	F	Gogirno
Sewe Ster Stene	Hendrik	Gordon
I&APs	J	Gous
I&APs	Liehonie	Gouws
I&APs	Janine	Gouws

I&APs	Denize	Gouws
I&APs	Melvin	Gouws
I&APs	Glenwyn	Gouws
Nuwehoop Bejaardes	JJ	Grace
I&APs	M	Hector
I&APs	Nicolaas	Henarkse
I&APs	Jan	Hugo
I&APs	BR	Hugo
Vanrhynsdorp Opkomende Boere Vereniginng	A	Jantjies
I&APs		Johan
Matzikama Local Municipality		Johan
I&APs	S	Johnson
I&APs	Abrie	Jordaan
SiVest	Faith	Kalibbala
Trasnet	Riaan	Karriem
Iziko Museum	Wandile	Kasibe
I&APs	Charles	Keyser
I&APs	Maria	Klaaste
I&APs	Eva	Kleyn

SiVest	Liesl	Koch
Wesfin and Graafwater B. U	MJ	Koorts
Earth Life - Cape Town	Muna	Lakhani
Eskom Holdings	Kevin	Leask
EScience	Roelof	Letter
I&APs	Adri	Leukes
I&APs	David	Leukes
I&APs	Rosa	Lombard
I&APs		Lorinsia
Graafwater Teeverwerkus	Mechiel	Lucas
I&APs	Jacoba	Luttig
I&APs	Sophia	Luyt
Aggeneys Kafee	Arrol	Maass
I&APs	Shalandra	Makey
I&APs	Katriena	Makkepan
Mainstream Renewable Energy South Africa	Michael	Mangnall
Eskom Holdings	Ronald	Marais
I&APs	WW	Markgraaff
I&APs		Marlyn

I&APs		Michelle
South African Weather Services	Puseletso	Mofokeng
I&APs	Prince	Motsamai
I&APs	Barend	Mouton
Klein begin Nursery	Beverly	Naidoo
SAPS Graafwater		Neethling
I&APs	Niklaas	Nel
I&APs	Anna	Nel
I&APs	Elvin	Nel
I&APs	Carin	Nel
Succulent Karoo Eco-system Programme (SKEP)	Lubabalo	Ntsholo
I&APs	Willy	Oerson
C.P.A Wykskomitee	Mariana	Okhuis
C.P.A Wykskomitee	David	Okhuis
I&APs	Hendrik	Oliver
I&APs	CM	Olyn
I&APs	Gizella	Oppermann
I&APs	Errol	Pedro
I&APs		Percy

Northern Cape Department of Water Affairs	Ryan	Peters
Kommetjie Environmental Awareness Group	Wally	Petersen
I&APs	Marilyn	Pholman
I&APs	Anna	Pholman
I&APs	Anel	Piertse
I&APs	Valdez	Pieters
I&APs	Magrieta	Pieterse
I&APs	Anel	Pieterse
I&APs	Andries	Pietersen
I&APs	Desmon	Prins
I&APs	Eloric	Prins
I&APs	Desmond	Pula
I&APs	Gert	Ryk
I&APs	JP	Sass
I&APs	M	Sass
I&APs	F	Schalkwyk
I&APs	Jack	Scheffers
I&APs	Aletta	Scheppers
South African San Institute	Meryl-Joy	Schippers

I&APs	WC	Segels
Northern Cape Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Lorato	Sehularo
Heritage Western Cape	Zwelibanzi	Shiceka
Matzikama Local Municipality	Andreiss	Siyamba
I&APs	Jasper	Snyders
I&APs	Derick	Sochop
South Africa Square Kilometre Array	Ntokozo	Sosibo
I&APs	A	Souw
I&APs	Jaco	Steenkamp
I&APs	Maria	Sterksen
I&APs	Herman	Steyn
Solar Energy Land	Michael	Stoeltzing
I&APs	Maria	Stout
I&APs	Willem	Stout
I&APs	James	Styles
I&APs	Klaas	Tieties
South Africa Square Kilometre Array	Adrian	Tiplady
I&APs	Dean	Titus
I&APs	Denzil	Titus

I&APs	Tyron	Townsend
I&APs	Arrie	Townsend
SiVest	Kelly	Tucker
I&APs	Bianca	van der Merwe
The Daily Sun Newspaper	Terry	van der Walt
I&APs	Jan	Van der Westhuizen
I&APs	Herman	van Heerden
I&APs	Izak	van Niekerk
I&APs	Arbie	van Niekerk
I&APs	F	Van Schalkwyk
I&APs	Anna	Van Zyl
I&APs	Magreta	van Zyl
I&APs	Theunis	van Zyl
I&APs	JD	Van Zyl
I&APs	Katrina	Visagie
I&APs	Justin	Viviers
I&APs	Sophia	Waterboer
I&APs	Frederich	Watermeyer
I&APs	ER	William



I&APs	Justin	Williams
I&APs	Hendrieka	Witbooi
I&APs	Nathalie	Witbooi
I&APs	Edward	Witbooi
I&APs	Bernard	Wolstenholme
I&APs	Steven	Zenani

#### Surrounding Land Uses/Land Owners

Black Mountain Mining	Pieter	Venter
Black Mountain Recreation Club	Andrea	van Zyl
Northern Cape Economic Development Agency	Riaan	Warie
Remainder of ROZYNBOSCH No. 41 - Northern Cape Provincial Government	Monwabisi	Nkompela
Portion 2 of AROAMS No. 57	Gerber Gideon	Adolf
Portion 3 of AROAMS No. 57	Rheon Trust	
Portion 4 of AROAMS No. 57	Gerber Gideon	Adolf
Remainder of AGGENEYS No. 56 - Black Mountain Mining Pty Ltd	Pieter	Venter
Portion 1 of Bloemhoek No. 61 - Black Mountain Mining Pty Ltd	Pieter	Venter
Remainder of Bloemhoek No.61 Black Mountain Mining Pty Ltd	Pieter	Venter
Remainder of AROAMS No. 57 - Black Mountain Mining Pty Ltd	Pieter	Venter

# Appendix B

## NOTIFICATIONS



# Appendix B.1

## NEWSPAPER ADVERT



# BASIESE ASSESSERING (BA) PROSES

## KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE AGGENEYS BATTERY ENERGIE STOORSTELSEFASILITEIT BINNE DIE KHAI-MA PLAASLIKE MUNIKAPLITEIT EN DIE NAMAKWA DISTRIKSMUNIKAPILT IN AGGENEYS, NOORD-KAAP

Kennis word gegee in terme van:

Regulasie 41(2) van GNR 982 (soos gewysig) gepubliseer kragtens artikel 24 en 24D van die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur (No. 107 van 1998) (NEMA) (soos gewysig) vir indiening van aansoek om Omgewingsmagtiging (EA) t.o.v. van aktiwiteite geïdentifiseer ingevolge GNR 983 (soos gewysig), GNR 984 (soos gewysig) en GNR 985 (soos gewysig)

### AANSOEKER:

Aggeneys BESS (RF) (Edms.) Bpk

### BESKRYWING EN LIGGING

Aggeneys BESS (RF) (Edms.) Bpk stel voor om 'n Battery Energie Stoorstelsel (BESS) Fasiliteit te bou en te bedryf binne die studie voetspoor van hul operasionele Aggeneys FV Fasiliteit geleë naby Aggeneys, Noord-Kaap. Die BESS-fasiliteit sal ongeveer 2,6 tot 7 hektaar benodig vir ontwikkeling, en sal direk aansluit by die Soetwater High Voltage (HV) substasie op die perseel, gebou vir die Aggeneys FV fasiliteit. Die voorgestelde BESS-fasiliteit sal piekverskuiwingskrag voorsien met 'n kapasiteit van tot 153 MW en uitset van tot 612 MWh, wat na die ESKOM-netwerk ontruim sal word. Die voorgestelde magtiging sluit die volgende Basiese Assessering (BA) proses in:

Voorstander	Projek	Tegnologie	Proses	Plaasname
Aggeneys BESS (RF) (Edms.) Bpk	Tot 153 MW / 612 MWh Battery Energie Stoorstelsel Fasiliteit.	Battery-energie-bergingstelsel (vloeistofverkoelde litiumioon- of vanadium-redoksvloei-batterye)	BA	Gedeelte 1 van Farm Aroams 57 RD

### OMGEWINGSTOEPASSINGS

Die verwagte gelyste aktiwiteitsnommers wat met die Voorgestelde Projek geassosieer word, word in die tabel hieronder weerspieël. Indien u 'n volledige kopie van hierdie gelyste aktiwiteite wil bekom, kontak asseblief die Omgewingskonsultant, besonderhede hieronder verskaf.

Projek Naam	Noteringskennisgewing	Toepaslike snellers		
Aggeneys BESS	GNR 983	14	27	
	GNR 984	NVT		
	GNR 985	NVT		

### REGISTRASIE

Biotherm Energy het WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) is as die onafhanklike en toepaslik gekwalifiseerde WHP aangestel om die BA-proses te bestuur en te onderneem. Partye wat formeel as belanghebbendes wil registreer om hul kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projekte te lewer, word versoek om hul volledige kontakbesonderhede aan die konsultant te stuur by die besonderhede hieronder verskaf. Geregistreerde belanghebbendes sal alle toekomstige korrespondensie gestuur word en individueel in kennis gestel word van bykomende geleenthede om aan die proses deel te neem.

### KONSEP BASIESE ASSESSERINGSRAPPORT OORSIGTYDPERK

Die Konsep Basiese Asseseringsverslag sal vir 30 dae vanaf **31 Maart 2023 tot 04 Mei 2023** deur WSP beskikbaar gestel word op versoek en/of by die lokale hieronder vir hersiening en kommentaar.

Gebied	Lokaal	Straatadres	kontaknommer
Aggeneys	Aggeneys Ontspanningsklub	Bolidenweg	054 983 2076
	Aggeneys Biblioteek	Havelocklaan	054 983 2551
WSP webwerf	<a href="https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents">https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents</a>		
Datavrye webwerf	<a href="https://wsp-engage.com/">https://wsp-engage.com/</a>		

Die kontakbesonderhede van die konsultant is:

**Naam:** Jared Padavattan  
**Tel:** 031 240 8830  
**E-pos:** Jared.Padavattan@wsp.com  
**Adres:** Posbus 98867, Sloane Park, 2152



# Appendix B.2

## **SITE NOTICES**



BASIESE ASSESSERING (BA) PROSES

KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE AGGENEYS BATTERY ENERGIE STOORSTELSELFASILITEIT BINNE DIE KHAI-MA PLAASLIKE MUNIKAPLITEIT EN DIE NAMAKWA DISTRIKSMUNIKAPILT IN AGGENEYS, NOORD-KAAP

Regulasie 41(2) van GNR 982 (soos gewysig), gepubliseer kragtens artikel 24 en 24D van die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur (No. 107 van 1998) (NEMA) (soos gewysig) vir indiening van aansoek om Omgewingsmagtiging (EA) in respek vir aktiwiteite geïdentifiseer in terme van GNR 983 (soos gewysig), GNR 984 (soos gewysig) en GNR 985 (soos gewysig)

AGTERGROND EN LIGGING

Die ontwikkelaar, Aggeneys BESS (RF) (Edms.) Bpk, stel voor om 'n Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Fasiliteit te bou en te bedryf binne die studie voetspoor van hul operasionele Aggeneys FV Fasiliteit naby Aggeneys, Noord-Kaap. Die BESS-fasiliteit sal ongeveer 2,6 tot 7 hektaar benodig vir ontwikkeling, en sal direk aansluit by die Soetwater High Voltage (HV) substasie op die perseel, gebou vir die Aggeneys FV fasiliteit. Die voorgestelde BESS-fasiliteit sal piekverskuiwingskrag voorsien met 'n kapasiteit van tot 153 MW en uitset van tot 612 MWh, wat na die ESKOM-netwerk ontruim sal word. Die tabel en figuur hieronder skets die ligging en besonderhede van die voorgestelde projek:

Voorstander	Gevraakte Eiendomme	Projek	Tegnologie	Omgewingsproses	Strategiese Transmissie Korridors
Aggeneys BESS (RF) (Edms.) Bpk	Gedeelte 1 van Farm Aroams 57 RD	Tot 153 MW / 612 MWh Battery Energie Stoorstelsel Fasiliteit	Battery-energie-bergingstelsel (vloeistofverkoelde litiumioon- of vanadium-redoksvloeibatterie)	Basiese Assessering	Springbok Hernubare Energie Ontwikkelingsone (REDZ) 8 Korridor (gepromulgeer in GN 114 van 2018).

OMGEWINGSTOEPASSING

Die verwagte gelyste aktiwiteitsnommers wat met die Voorgestelde Projek geassosieer word, word in die tabel hieronder weerspieël. Indien u 'n volledige kopie van hierdie gelyste aktiwiteite wil bekom, kontak asseblief die Omgewingskonsultant, besonderhede hieronder verskaf.

Projek Naam	Noteringskennisgewing	Toepaslike snellers		
Aggeneys BESS	GNR 983	14	27	
	GNR 984	NVT		
	GNR 985	NVT		

'n Basiese Assessering (BA) proses sal gevolglik gevolg word soos uiteengesit in Regulasie 19 van die OIB-regulasies, 2014 (soos gewysig). Die Departement van Bosbou, Visserye en die Omgewing (DFFE) is die Bevoegde Owerheid ten opsigte van hierdie aansoek om Omgewingsmagtiging.

KONSEP BA VERSLAG OORSIGTYDPERK

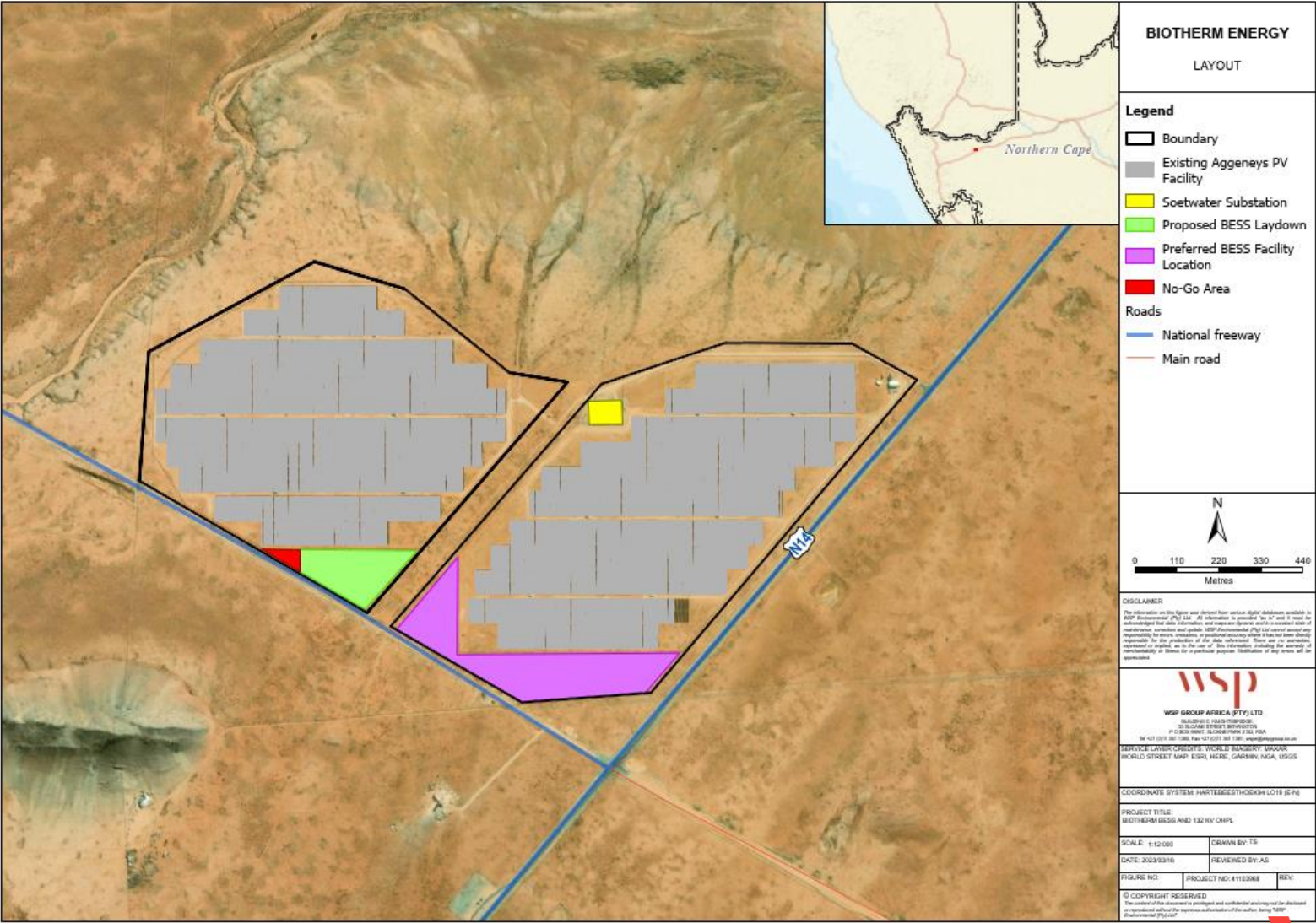
31 Maart 2023 tot 04 Mei 2023 by die lokale hieronder beskikbaar gestel word vir hersiening en kommentaar .

Gebied	Lokaal	Straatadres	kontaknummer
Aggeneys	Aggeneys Ontspanningsklub	Bolidenweg	054 983 2076
	Aggeneys Biblioteek	Havelockklaan	054 983 2551
WSP webwerf	<a href="https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents">https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents</a>		
Datavrye webwerf	<a href="https://wsp-engage.com/">https://wsp-engage.com/</a>		

REGISTRASIE

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) is deur Biotherm Energy as die onafhanklike en toepaslik gekwalifiseerde WHP aangestel om die BA-proses te bestuur en te onderneem. Partye wat formeel as belanghebbende en geaffekteerde partye (BBP's) wil registreer om meer inligting te ontvang en/of hul kommentaar(s) oor die voorgestelde projek te lewer, word versoek om hul volledige kontakbesonderhede aan die WHP te stuur en hul direkte besigheid bekend te maak, finansiële, persoonlike of ander belang in die projek. Enige kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projek kan by die WHP ingedien word via die besonderhede wat hieronder verskaf word. Geregistreerde IAP's sal alle toekomstige projekverwante korrespondensie gestuur word en individueel in kennis gestel word van bykomende geleenthede om aan die proses deel te neem. Registreer asseblief as 'n belangstellende en geaffekteerde party by die WHP (besonderhede hieronder) om meer inligting te ontvang.

Naam: Jared Padavattan | Tel: (031) 240 8830 | E-pos: Jared.Padavattan@wsp.com | Posbus 98867, Sloane Park, 2152





# BASIC ASSESSMENT (BA) PROCESS

## NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE AGGENEYS BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM FACILITY WITHIN THE KHAI-MA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AND THE NAMAKWA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN AGGENEYS, NORTHERN CAPE

Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended), published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) (as amended) for submission of application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983 (as amended), GNR 984 (as amended) and GNR 985 (as amended)

### BACKGROUND AND LOCATION

The developer, Aggeneys BESS (RF) (Pty) Ltd, proposes to construct and operate a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Facility within the study footprint of their operational Aggeneys PV Facility situated near Aggeneys, Northern Cape. The BESS Facility will require approximately 2.6 to 7 hectares for development, and will connect directly to the on-site Soetwater High Voltage (HV) substation, constructed for the Aggeneys PV Facility. The proposed BESS Facility will provide peak shifting power with a capacity of up to 153 MW and output of up to 612 MWh, which will be evacuated to the Eskom grid. The table and figure below outline the location and details of the proposed project:

Proponent	Affected Properties	Project	Technology	Environmental Process	Strategic Transmission Corridors
Aggeneys BESS (RF) (Pty) Ltd	Portion 1 of Farm Aroams 57 RD	Up to 153 MW / 612 MWh Battery Energy Storage System Facility	Battery Energy Storage System (Liquid cooled Lithium-ion or Vanadium Redox Flow batteries)	Basic Assessment	Springbok Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ) 8 Corridor (promulgated in GN 114 of 2018).

### ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATION

The anticipated listed activity numbers associated with the Proposed Project is reflected in the table below. Should you wish to obtain a complete copy of these listed activities, please contact the Environmental Consultant, details provided below.

Project Name	Listing Notice	Applicable triggers		
Aggeneys BESS	GNR 983	14	27	
	GNR 984	N/A		
	GNR 985	N/A		

A Basic Assessment (BA) process will therefore be followed as outlined in Regulation 19 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) is the Competent Authority in respect of this application for Environmental Authorisation.

### DRAFT BA REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

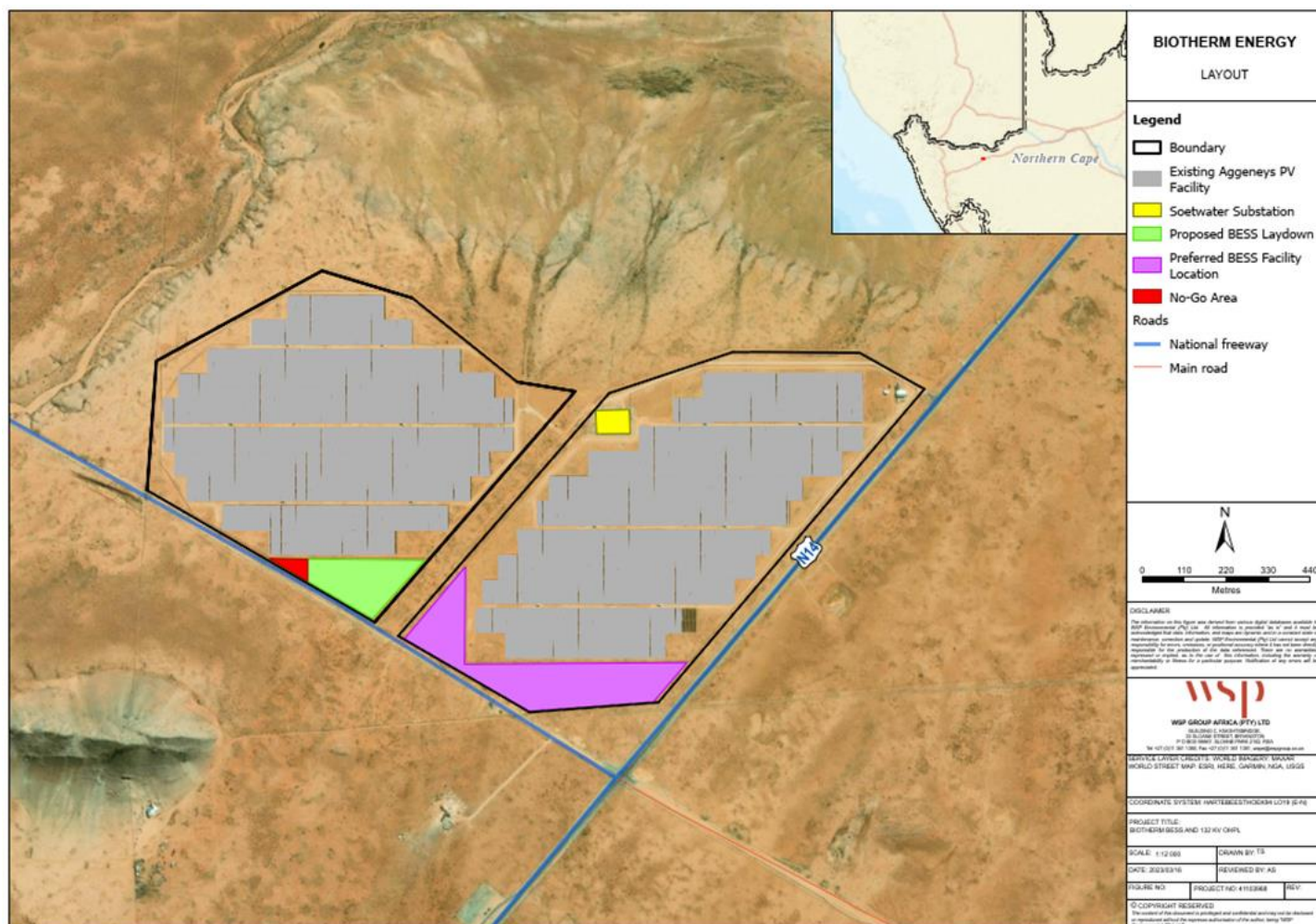
The Draft BA Report will be made available at the venues below for review and comment for 30 days from **31 March 2023 to 04 May 2023**.

Area	Venue	Street Address	Contact No
Aggeneys	Aggeneys Recreational Club	Boliden Road	054 983 2076
	Aggeneys Library	Havelock Avenue	054 983 2551
WSP Website	<a href="https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents">https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents</a>		
Datafree Website	<a href="https://wsp-engage.com/">https://wsp-engage.com/</a>		

### REGISTRATION

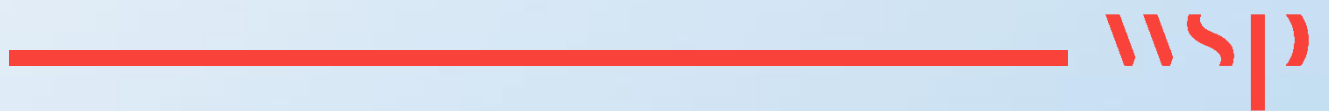
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the independent and suitably qualified EAP by Biotherm Energy to manage and undertake the BA process. Parties wishing to formally register as interested and affected parties (IAPs) in order to receive more information and/ or raise their comment(s) on the proposed project, are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP and disclose their direct business, financial, personal or other interest in the project. Any comments on the proposed project may be submitted to the EAP via the details provided below. Registered IAPs will be forwarded all future project related correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the process. Please register as an interested and affected party with the EAP (details below) to receive more information.

**Name: Jared Padavattan | Tel: (031) 240 8830 | E-mail: Jared.Padavattan@wsp.com | PO Box 98867, Sloane Park, 2152**



# Appendix C

## MEETINGS





# Appendix C.1

## **DFFE PRE-APPLICATION MEETING**





## MEETING NOTES

MEETING TITLE	Biotherm Energy – Aggeneys BESS Facility
PROJECT NUMBER	41103968
DATE	09 December 2022
TIME	11:00 – 11:30
VENUE	Online (Microsoft Teams)
SUBJECT	Pre-Application Meeting with DFFE
CLIENT	Biotherm Energy (Pty) Ltd
PRESENT	Samkelisiwe Dlamini (DFFE) - SD Masina Morudu (DFFE) – MM Bathandwa Ncube (DFFE) - BN Maanda Maseli (BTE) – MMA Ntitseng Moloi (BTE) - NM Jared Padavattan (WSP) – JP Ashlea Strong (WSP) - AS
APOLOGIES	None
DISTRIBUTION	Appendix A

MATTERS ARISING	ACTION
<b>1.0 INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>JP welcomed everyone to the meeting, stated the purpose of the meeting, and shared the meeting agenda. This was followed by a round of introductions, including the role of all attendees in the project.</li><li>A presentation was made to all attendees to provide information on the proposed project.</li></ul> <p><i>*JP recorded the meeting for the purpose of taking minutes.</i></p> <p><i>** A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is included in <b>Appendix B</b> for reference.</i></p>	
<b>2.0 PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION</b>	
<b>2.1 Project Background and Description</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>JP presented the project background of the proposed BTE Aggeneys BESS Facility, i.e.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Proposed Facility name,</li><li>Location and extent of the Facility with reference to the previously authorised and operational Aggeneys PV facility,</li><li>Capacity and proposed battery technology of the BESS</li></ul></li></ul>	

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## MEETING NOTES

- JP illustrated information relating to the location of the Aggeneys BESS Facility, sharing a locality map and facility boundary map, including:
  - Location of the BESS Facility within the Aggeneys PV Facility,
  - BESS laydown area, and
  - Current Soetwater Substation.
- JP presented further details on the BESS system and additional infrastructure requirements.
- JP presented key considerations and illustrated the Facilities encroachment within the CBA 2 and IBAs, and mentioned the Springbok REDZ 8 as associated with the Aggeneys SEF.,

### 2.2 Listed activities

- JP presented the identified listed activities, stating that Listing Notice (LN) 1, Activity 27 is triggered and a BA process will be followed if the Lithium ion battery technology is only proposed for authorisation.
- JP stated that LN 2, Activity 4 could be triggered if the applicant decided to apply for authorisation of the Vanadium Redox Flow Battery technology, as Vanadium pentoxide is listed in the SANS 10234 code.
- JP stated that LN 3, Activity 12(g)(i) and Activity 15(g)(i) will be triggered due to the encroachment into the CBA 2 and IBAs. However JP stated that the laydown area will be reduced in order to prevent encroachment and thus preventing the trigger of Listing Notice 3.

### 2.3 DFFE screening results and specialist studies

- JP went through the DFFE screening tool results, terrestrial biodiversity theme were ranked “very high sensitivity”, whilst the civil aviation theme was ranked “high sensitivity”.
- JP discussed the specialist assessments identified in the DFFE screening tool.
- JP then discussed the proposed commissioned specialist studies and stated that an Archaeology and Cultural heritage impacts assessment, Palaeontology impact assessment, Terrestrial Biodiversity Impacts Assessment and an Qualitative Risk Assessment study will be undertaken.
- JP then discussed the studies that were not commissioned.

### 2.4 Competent Authority

- JP stated that due to the proposed project being associated with a previously authorised SEF that was a preferred bidder, then DFFE is deemed the CA.

### 2.5 Public Participation Plan

- JP discussed the proposed PP Plan for the project.

### 2.6 Timeframes

- JP discussed the proposed CA timeframe for decision making due to the benefit of the REDZ.
- JP discussed the key milestones regarding the submission of application form, DBAR and FBAR.

## 3.0 QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

### 3.1 Closing

- JP asked for confirmation on the listed activities?
    - JP asked if LN 3 can be negated if there is a NO-GO in place within CBA and IBAs area? SD stated that yes, it can be removed if it doesn't encroach onto the CBA and IBAs.
  - JP asked for confirmation on the specialist studies?
    - SD asked JP if the specialist studies suggested by the DFFE screening tool was checked against the required protocols? JP stated no, as this was based off sensitivities identified from mapping, nature of the project and previous studies in the area. SD stated that it would be important to go through the screening tool and look at the protocols, and to provide relevant information in the BAR. JP acknowledged the comment.
    - *Update: screening tool protocol requirements have been confirmed by the EAP.*
  - JP asked if the proposed Aggeneys BESS will benefit from the reduced timeframe of the Springbok REDZ 8?
    - SD stated she does not think that the BESS will benefit from reduced timeframes based off the REDZ, DFFE will need to confirm. SD stated that DFFE will also confirm if DFFE are the CA.
    - AS asked if the BESS would be considered as an associated activity of a preferred bidder? MM stated that DFFE had previously authorised the Aggeneys SEF, however they need to determine who the CA will be as this is an associated project and provincial may be the
- JP to check the DFFE screening tool specialist protocols.
  - DFFE to provide feedback on who the CA will be for this project.
  - DFFE to provide feedback regarding if the BESS will benefit from the REDZ reduced approval timeframe as it is associated with an existing authorised and preferred bidder Aggeneys SEF.

## MEETING NOTES

<p>CA. MM also stated that DFFE will need to confirm if the BESS will be associated, and thus benefit from the REDZ timeframe reduction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>JP asked if the Vanadium Redox Flow Battery technology is applied for, whether it will benefit from REDZ and be subjected to only the BA process? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MM stated if the BESS does benefit from the REDZ, then the reduced timeframes will apply.</li> <li>DFFE responded via email on the 12<sup>th</sup> of November 2023, stating that the BESS project will not benefit from the REDZ.</li> </ul> </li> <li>SD stated that the government gazette (No. 114, 16 February 2018) states that if a project triggers Activity 1 of LN 2 then only would it follow a BA procedure and reduced timeframes. AS stated that this includes associated/supporting infrastructure, and that this is the clarity we seek on the BESS. AS stated that the Aggeneys SEF did trigger Activity 1 and that this is associating infrastructure albeit a new process. JP stated that the BESS would evacuate power to the on-site Soetwater Substation which is currently utilised by the Aggeneys SEF.</li> <li>AS asked DFFE when a response can be received from the questions addressed in the meeting. SD stated by Monday, 12 December 2022.</li> </ul>	
<h4>4.0 WAY FORWARD</h4>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WSP to draft meeting minutes and submit to DFFE for approval.</li> <li>DFFE to address queries by Monday, 12 December 2022. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DFFE provided an email response on 12 December 2022: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Based on the meeting we had on 9 December 2022. Please note the following:</li> <li>DFFE is the CA for this application</li> <li>The proposed battery storage will have to follow normal EIA Regulations timeframes.</li> <li>Please note that a dangerous good, as defined in the EIA Regulations, does not have the same meaning as a hazardous substance and depending on the chemicals making up its electrolyte, a battery may potentially contain hazardous substances, which does not meet this definition. Therefore, you are required to confirm if the proposed battery storage will not be fully assembled before it gets to site and that the electrolyte (or substances making up such electrolyte) intended for such battery, may potentially be stored on site, in a container (e.g. tanks), prior to filling.</li> <li>This will assist in determining whether activity 14 of LN 1 of the 2014 EIA Regulation, as amended is listed</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WSP to formalise meeting minutes and distribute for approval.</li> <li>DFFE to provide a response to the questions raised during the pre-application meeting held on 9 December 2022 @ 11:00.</li> </ul>
<p>The meeting was adjourned at 11:30</p>	
<h4>5.0 UPDATES TO PROJECT (2023)</h4>	
<h5>5.1 Competent Authority</h5> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The DFFE provided an email response on 31 January stating that they are not the CA, and that an application process must be followed with the provincial departments.</li> <li>A pre-application meeting was held with the Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform (DAEARDLR) on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2023. Where discussions were held on the issue on the relevant CA for the project, which was still not clear at the adjournment of the meeting. DAEARDLR however, indicated that, they will communicate with the DFFE to get further clarification on the correct CA for the project.</li> <li>The DFFE provided a further email response on 14 March 2023, stating that they are the CA for the proposed project.</li> </ul> <h5>5.2 Pre-Application meeting with DAEARDLR</h5> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A pre-application meeting was held with DAEARDLR on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2023 to discuss various aspects of the proposed project.</li> <li>The presentation to DAEARDLR is appended to these minutes of meeting as <b>Appendix C</b>. From the initial presentation to DFFE held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December 2022, the following inclusions were made; information regarding the Vanadium Redox Flow Battery technology, further description of the “Dangerous Goods” listed activities, and the removal of Listing Notice 3 (as a no-go area will be maintained to prevent encroachment to the CBA and IBA).</li> </ul>	

## MEETING NOTES

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**Ms Samkelisiwe Dlamini**  
**Integrated Environmental Authorisations**  
**Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment**

## MEETING NOTES

### APPENDIX A: MEETING ATTENDANCE

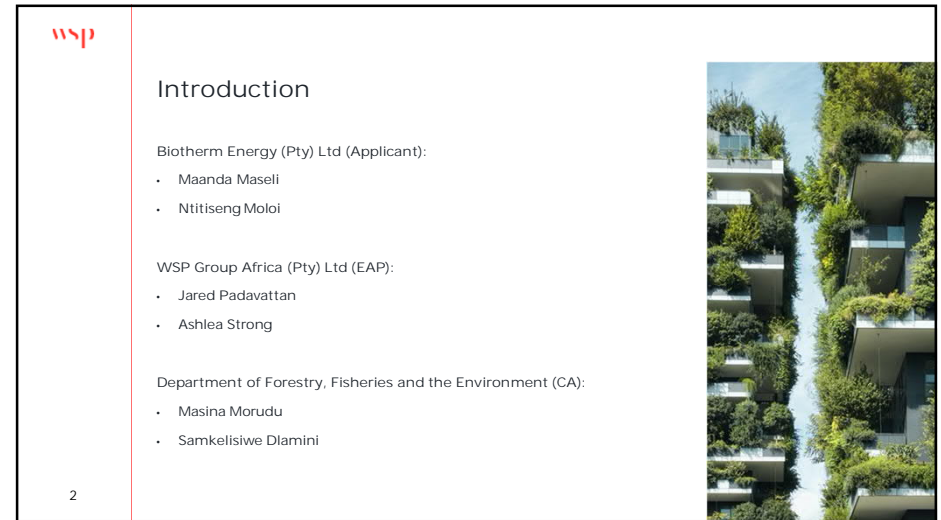
	Name	Attendance	Response
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Strong, Ashlea</a>	Meeting Organizer	None
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Strong, Ashlea</a>	Required Attendee	None
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Padavattan, Jared</a>	Required Attendee	Accepted
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Maanda Maseli &lt;MMaseli@&gt;</a>	Required Attendee	None
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Samkelisiwe Dlamini &lt;SDL@&gt;</a>	Required Attendee	None
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Masina Morudu &lt;memoru@&gt;</a>	Required Attendee	Accepted
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Ntitseng Moloi &lt;NMoloi@&gt;</a>	Required Attendee	None

## MEETING NOTES

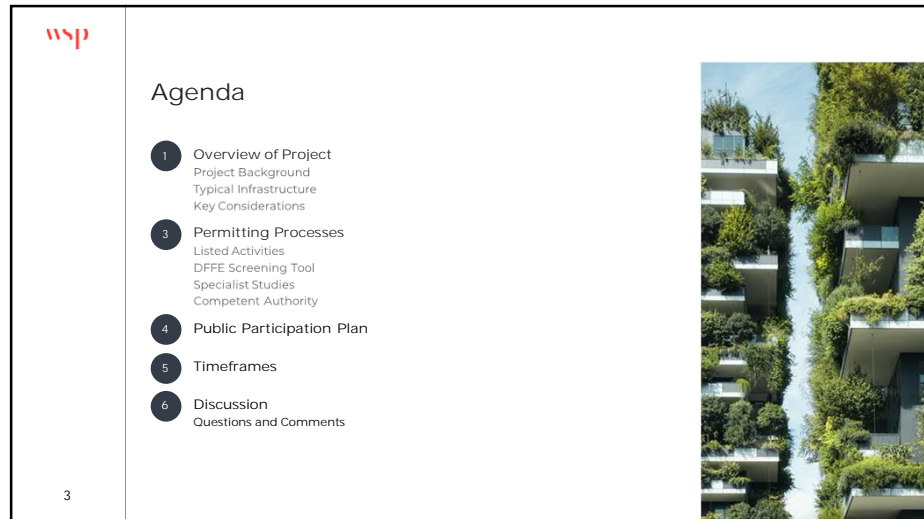
### APPENDIX B: PRESENTATION (DFFE)



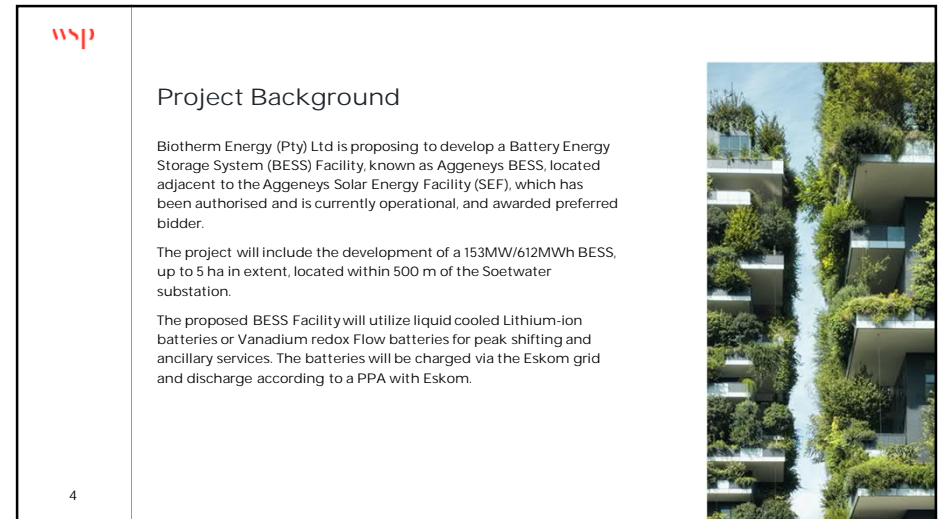
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## Project Background

Location: Portion 1 of the Farm Aroams 57 RD, approximately 3 km east of the town Aggeneys, Northern Cape Province

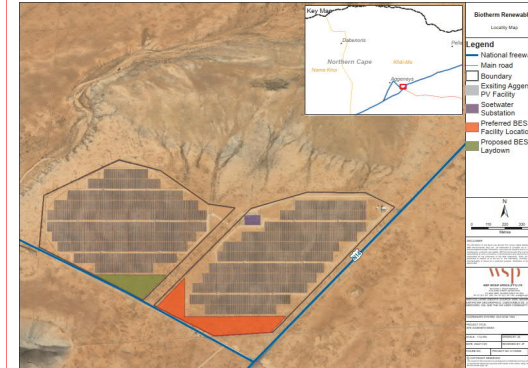


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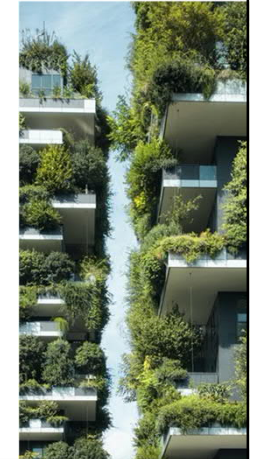


## Project Background

Location: Portion 1 of the Farm Aroams 57 RD, approximately 3 km east of the town Aggeneys, Northern Cape Province



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## Typical Infrastructure

### o Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

- 153MW/612MWh BESS system
- Liquid cooled Lithium-Ion or Vanadium Redox Flow batteries
- ~218 DC battery enclosures with capacity of 2.81MWh each
- ~5ha extent
- Utilising the existing Soetwater substation

### o Other infrastructure

- Internal underground MV cable of up to 132 kV
- ~6m wide access road, with 1m wide drainage channel on either side
- Fencing (between 2 – 3 m high) around the BESS Facility
- Stormwater system will be integrated with the operational Aggeneys solar energy facility or will be stand alone
- Temporary Laydown area (~2.5ha)
- Possible firebreak located within the footprint

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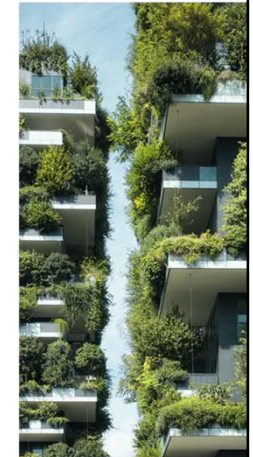


## Project Background

Typical BESS layout:



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## Key Considerations

- o The Project Area overlaps a portion of a Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) (CBA 2) and Important Bird & Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) in the north west corner of the laydown area
- o Aggeneys BESS Facility falls within the Springbok Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ) 8, associated with Aggeneys SEF

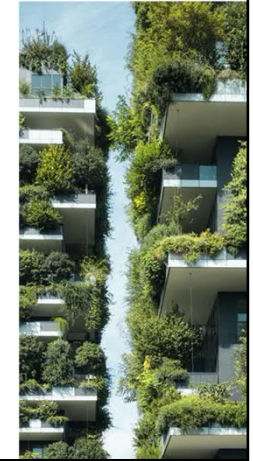
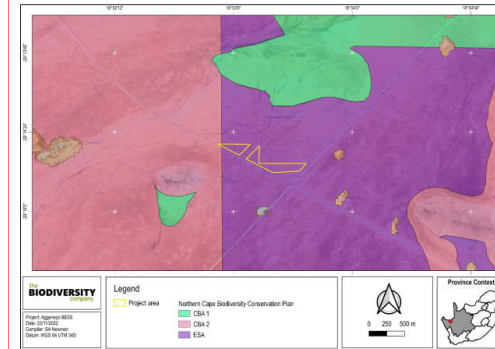


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## Key Considerations

Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) (CBA 2)

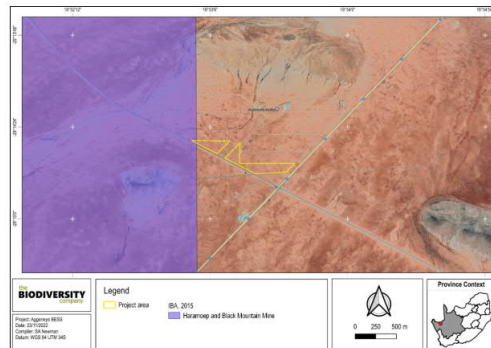


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## Key Considerations

Important Bird & Biodiversity Areas (IBAs)



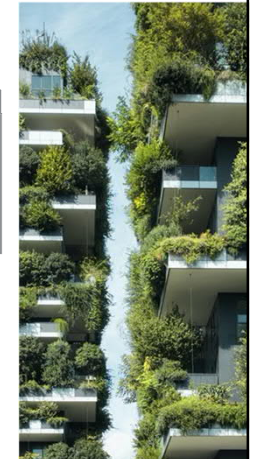
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## Listed Activities

Identified Listed Activities - **GNR 327/983, Listing Notice 1**

Listed Activity	Description of Project Activity
<b>Activity 27:</b> The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for— (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.	The construction of the BESS Facility will require the clearance of indigenous vegetation of more than 1 ha, but less than 20 ha. Approximately 5 ha of indigenous vegetation will be removed for the BESS facility and ~2.5 ha for laydown is required.



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## Listed Activities

Identified Listed Activities - **GNR 325/984, Listing Notice 2**

Listed Activity	Description of Project Activity
<b>Activity 4:</b> The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure, for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of more than 500 cubic metres.	The proposed Vanadium Redox Flow technology is listed in SANS 10234 (Vanadium pentoxide) as a dangerous good. Each battery enclosure has a volume of 80m <sup>3</sup> , with a total of ~218 enclosures, the combined volume summates to ~17 440m <sup>3</sup> of dangerous good storage, additionally onsite storage will be required.



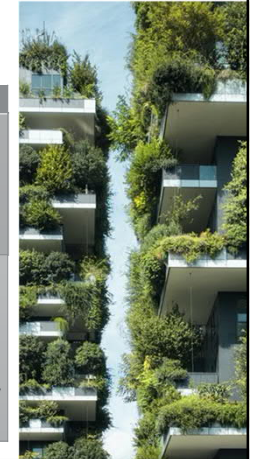
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## Listed Activities

Identified Listed Activities - **GNR 324/985, Listing Notice 3**

Listed Activity	Description of Project Activity
<b>Activity 12 (g)(i):</b> The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan	The construction of the BESS Facility will require the clearance of indigenous vegetation of an area of more than 300 m <sup>2</sup> . Approximately 5 ha of indigenous vegetation will be removed for the BESS facility and ~2.5 ha for laydown is required.  The proposed facility falls within CBA 2 (Near natural landscapes), and Geographic Priority area (Bushmanland Inselbergs)(Succulent Karoo Ecosystem Programme).
<b>Activity 15 (g)(i):</b> The transformation of land bigger than 1000 square metres in size, to residential, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional use, where, such land was zoned open space, conservation or had an equivalent zoning, on or after 02 August 2010.	The construction of the BESS Facility will transform land bigger than 1000 m <sup>2</sup> . Approximately 5 ha of indigenous vegetation will be removed for the BESS facility and ~2.5 ha for laydown is required.  The proposed facility falls within CBA 2 (Near natural landscapes), and Geographic Priority area (Bushmanland Inselbergs)(Succulent Karoo Ecosystem Programme).  The land has now been re-zoned to "Renewable Energy Plant (Solar)", however was zoned as grazing land on or after 02 August 2010.



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## DFFE Screening Results

Identified Sensitivities

Theme	Very High Sensitivity	High Sensitivity	Medium Sensitivity	Low Sensitivity
Agriculture Theme				X
Animal Species Theme			X	
Aquatic Biodiversity Theme				X
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme				X
Civil Aviation Theme		X		
Defence Theme				X
Palaeontology Theme				X
Plant Species Theme			X	
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme	X			



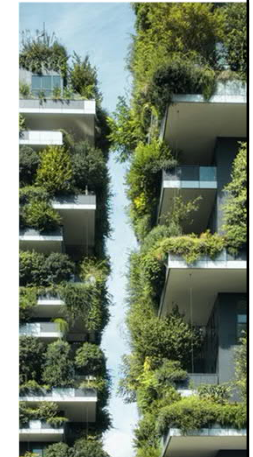
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## DFFE Screening Results

Specialist Assessments Identified by the DFFE Screening Tool

Specialist Study	Aggeneys BESS
Agricultural Impact Assessment	X
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment	X
Palaeontology Impact Assessment	X
Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	X
Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment	X
Hydrology Assessment	X
Noise Impact Assessment	X
Traffic Impact Assessment	X
Geotechnical Assessment	X
Socio-Economic Assessment	X
Plant Species Assessment	X
Animal Species Assessment	X



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**wsp**

## DFFE Screening Results

Specialist Studies Commissioned

SPECIALIST STUDY	COMMENT
Archaeological and Cultural heritage Impact Assessment	An archaeological and heritage impact assessment will be undertaken
Palaeontology Impact Assessment	A palaeontological impact assessment will be undertaken
Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	A terrestrial biodiversity assessment will be undertaken. This assessment will include both fauna and flora aspects

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**wsp**

## DFFE Screening Results

Specialist Studies NOT Commissioned

SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT	COMMENT
Agricultural Impact Assessment	The proposed BESS Facility will be located adjacent to an operational PV Facility and the area has been zoned as Renewable Energy Plant, therefore no Agricultural Impact Assessment will be conducted
Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment	An Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment will not be undertaken. A Critically Endangered wetland is situated 1 km north and the nearest river is situated 0.7 km north-west of the proposed facility
Hydrology Assessment	A Hydrology Impact Assessment will not be undertaken, however mitigation measures will be included in the EMP. The nearest river is situated 0.7 km north-west of the proposed facility
Noise Impact Assessment	Due to the limited size of the project, a Noise Impact Assessment will not be undertaken, however mitigation measures will be included in the EMP
Traffic Impact Assessment	Due to the limited size of the project, a Traffic Impact Assessment will not be undertaken, however mitigation measures will be included in the EMP
Geotechnical Impact Assessment	A detailed Geotechnical Assessment will not be undertaken as this will be undertaken during the design phase
Socio-Economical Assessment	There will be limited socio-economic impacts and benefits, however mitigation measures will be included in the EMP
Plant Species Assessment	A terrestrial biodiversity assessment will be undertaken. This assessment will include both fauna and flora aspects
Animal Species Assessment	A terrestrial biodiversity assessment will be undertaken. This assessment will include both fauna and flora aspects
Civil Aviation	The Civil Aviation Authority will be included on the project stakeholder database. They will be informed of the proposed Project, and comment will be sought. An Application for the Approval of Obstacles will also be submitted to SACAA, once preferred bidder status is obtained. As this theme has been identified as a high sensitivity, a compliance statement will be provided.
Defence	The Department of Defence will be included on the project stakeholder database. They will be informed of the proposed Project, and comment will be sought. As this theme has been identified as a low sensitivity, no compliance statement is required.

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**wsp**

## Competent Authority

- o Section 24C(2)(a) of NEMA
  - The Minister must be identified as the Competent Authority (CA) if the activity has implications for international environmental commitments or relations
- o Section 24C(2)(d)(iii) of NEMA
  - The Minister must be identified as the Competent Authority (CA) if the activity is undertaken by a statutory body, excluding any municipality, performing an exclusive competence of the national sphere of government
- o GN 779 of 01 July 2016
  - Identifies the Minister as the CA for the consideration and processing of environmental authorisations and amendments thereto for activities related the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) 2010 – 2030
- o The proposed project is also linked to a previously authorised and operational solar energy facility, that was a preferred bidder.
- o DFFE is therefore deemed to be the Competent Authority

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**wsp**

## Public Participation Plan

- o Formally announce project via:
  - Adverts (English and Afrikaans in Northern Cape regional newspaper)
  - Site notices x 5
  - Utilising existing stakeholder databases
- o Compilation and management of I&AP Database
- o Written notification:
  - Owners and occupiers on or adjacent to the proposed project site
  - Municipality Ward Councillor
  - District Municipality
  - Relevant State Departments
- o Draft Reports Review for 30 days:
  - Online on the WSP website
  - Online on a data free website
  - Hard copies placed at local libraries
  - Virtual focus group meeting

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## Timeframes

### o Authority Timeframes

- Due to the proposed BESS being associated to the authorised Aggeneys solar energy facility, we assume the project will benefit from the Springbok REDZ 8 (GN 114)?
- Authority decision making timeframe is 54 days for BA

### o Key Milestones

- Submission of Application Form – January/February 2023
- Draft BA Report Public Review – January/February 2023
- Submission of Final BA Report – March 2023

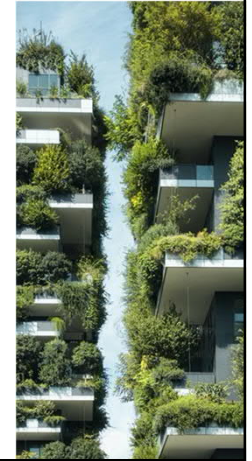
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## Closing

- o Confirmation of Listed Activities?
- o Specialist studies to be undertaken?
- o Will the proposed BESS benefit from the Renewable Energy Development Zone?
- o If the proposed BESS benefits from REDZ, will the alternative Vanadium redox flow battery technology then only be subjected to a BA process?
- o Timeframe for approval of pre-app meeting minutes?

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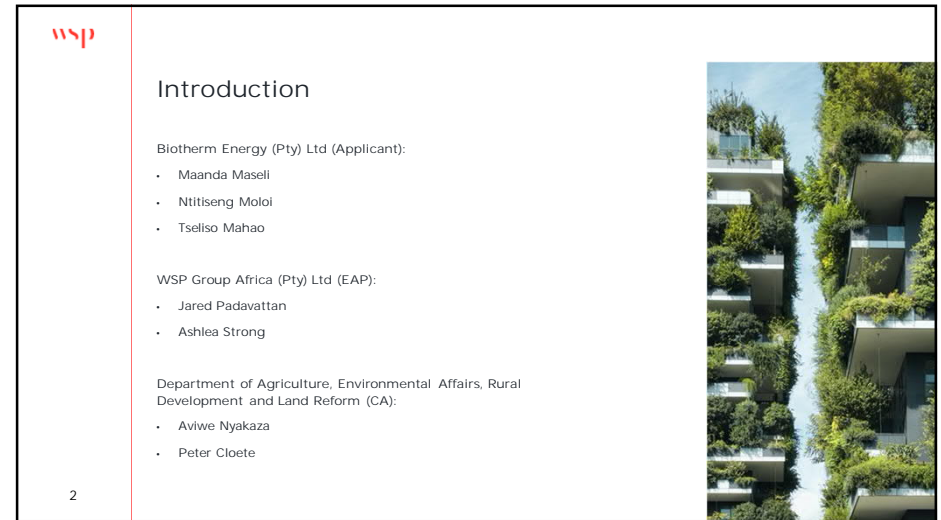


## MEETING NOTES

### APPENDIX C: PRESENTATION (DAEARDLR)



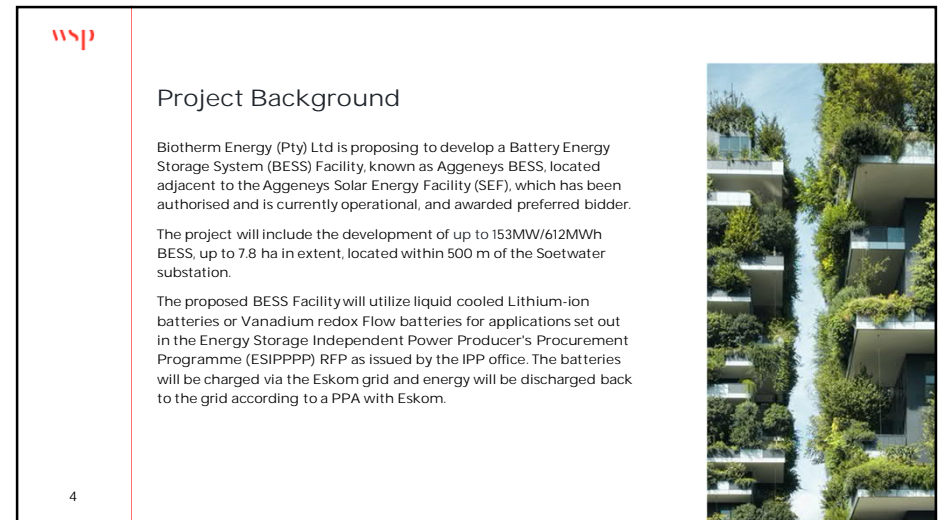
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## Project Background

Location: Portion 1 of the Farm Aroams 57 RD, approximately 3 km east of the town Aggeneys, Northern Cape Province

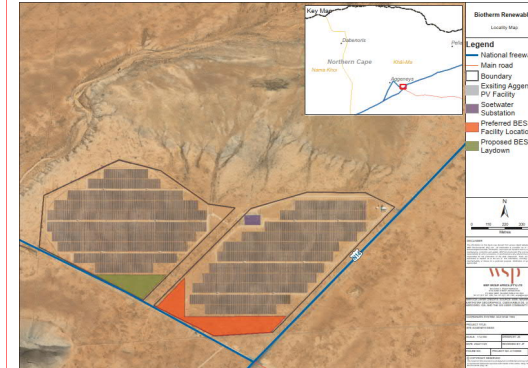


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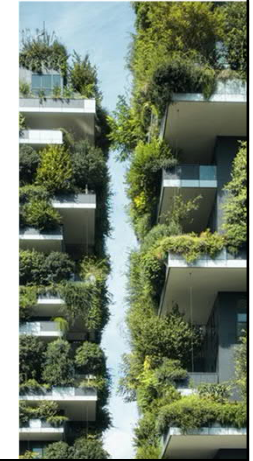


## Project Background

Location: Portion 1 of the Farm Aroams 57 RD, approximately 3 km east of the town Aggeneys, Northern Cape Province



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## Project Infrastructure

### o Liquid cooled Lithium Ion BESS

- Generation capacity of up to 153MW/612MWh BESS system
- Up to 218 DC battery enclosures (dimensions of 10x2x4m) with an electrical capacity of 2.81MWh each
- ~7.8ha extent
- Connected to the existing Soetwater substation

### o Other infrastructure for both battery technologies

- Internal underground MV cable of up to 33kV
- Converter stations
- Associated auxiliary transformers
- Fire and gas detection and prevention mechanisms
- ~6m wide access road, with 1m wide drainage channel on either side
- Fencing (between 2 – 3 m high) around the BESS Facility
- Stormwater system: stand alone or will be integrated with the operational Aggeneys solar energy facility
- Temporary Laydown area (~2.8ha)
- Possible firebreaks located within the footprint

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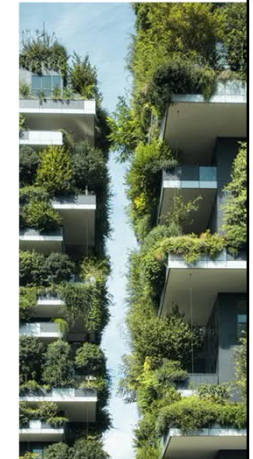


## Project Infrastructure

Typical BESS layout: Liquid cooled Lithium Ion



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## Project Infrastructure

Typical BESS layout: Liquid cooled Lithium Ion



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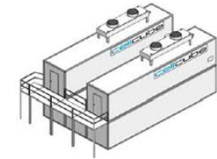
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## Project Infrastructure

### o Vanadium Redox Flow BESS

- Generation capacity of up to 153MW/612MWh BESS system
- Up to 230 units
  - Each unit, comprises of 5 x 40 foot containers:
    - 2 x upper containers house the stacks, where the charge and discharge of Vanadium solution occur
    - 3 x lower containers for the storage or charged/discharged Vanadium solution (Electrolyte tanks)
      - Each storage container comprises of two storage vessels, with a capacity of ~48.7m<sup>3</sup>
- Storage capacity of electrolyte solution for each unit is ~146.1m<sup>3</sup>
- Total Storage capacity of electrolyte solution for all ~230 units, summate to up to ~33 603m<sup>3</sup>
- ~2.6 to 3ha extent
- Connected to the existing Soetwater substation
- Temporary Laydown area (~2.8ha)
- Possible firebreak located within the footprint
- Each container is double protected. Electrolyte tank acts as primary containment, and the container acts as a secondary containment
- Entire facility to be bunded to contain 110% of total electrolyte tank capacity

Single unit

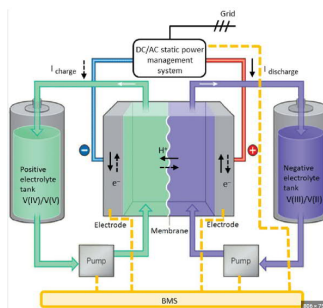


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## Project Infrastructure

BEES: Basic operation of Vanadium Redox Flow Stack



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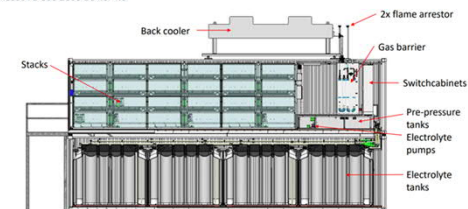


## Project Infrastructure

BEES: Cross section - Vanadium Redox Flow Battery unit

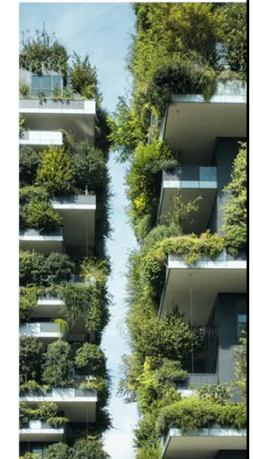
### System Architecture

CellCube FB 900-2000 DC Ref 4.0



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## Project Infrastructure

Typical BESS layout: Vanadium Redox Flow

VRFB Facility Layout

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## Key Considerations

- o The Project Area overlaps a portion of a Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) (CBA 2) and Important Bird & Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) in the north west corner of the laydown area
- o Aggeneys BESS Facility falls within the Springbok Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ) 8, associated with Aggeneys SEF

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## Key Considerations

Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) (CBA 2)

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## Key Considerations

Important Bird & Biodiversity Areas (IBAs)

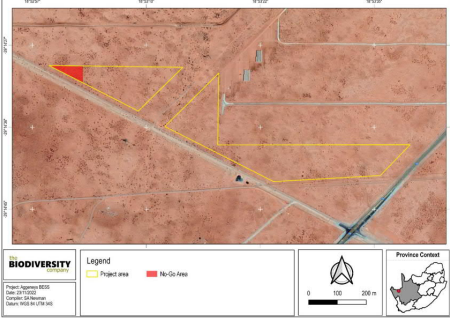
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**wsp**

## Key Considerations

No-Go Area



**BIODIVERSITY**  
Project: AgriPro BESS  
Date: 2022-03-01  
Version: 1.0  
Owner: WSP (Pty) Ltd

**Legend**  
Project area (Yellow outline)  
No-Go Area (Red outline)

Province Context

0 100 200m

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**wsp**

## Listed Activities

Identified Listed Activities - **GNR 327/983, Listing Notice 1**

Listed Activity	Description of Project Activity
<b>Activity 27:</b> The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for— (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.	The construction of the BESS Facility will require the clearance of indigenous vegetation of more than 1 ha, but less than 20 ha. Approximately 2.6 to 7 ha of indigenous vegetation will be removed for the BESS facility and ~2.5 ha for the laydown area.

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**wsp**

## Listed Activities

Dangerous goods	
<b>Listing Notice 1 – GNR 327/983</b>	<b>Listing Notice 2 – GNR 325/984</b>
<b>Activity 14:</b> The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure, for the storage, or for the storage and handling, of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 80 cubic metres or more but not exceeding 500 cubic metres.	<b>Activity 4:</b> The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure, for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of more than 500 cubic metres.

**Vanadium Electrolyte Solution**  
The Vanadium Electrolyte Solution comprises of approximately 15% concentration of Sulphuric Acid and <1% concentration of Phosphoric acid, as listed in the safety data sheet. Both these chemicals are listed in the SANS 10224-A (2008) as a dangerous good. The total Vanadium electrolyte solution proposed to be stored in the positive and negative electrolyte tanks summates up to 33 603m³, with an approximate dangerous good concentration of up to 5 040m³.

**Filling process:**  
IBCs containing the Vanadium electrolyte solution will be brought to site in order to fill the stacks and electrolyte tanks during the commissioning phase. Not more than 500 IBCs will be on site at any given time, thus not exceeding the volumes stipulated in Listing Notice 1, Activity 14.

**Battery Operation**  
With reference to the letter received by Bushveld Energy on 4 April 2020 from the DFFE, "The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure, for the storage and handling of dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity, quantified by the relevant threshold for the activity listed or specified in the relevant Listing Notice." "Batteries are not regarded as facilities or infrastructure for the storage or storage and handling of a dangerous good, considering its inherent purpose or objective is not to store, or store and handle a dangerous good and that is not considered a "container", for the purposes of the interpretation of these Regulations." WSP and Biotherm Energy would like to seek clarity on whether a Vanadium Red Flow Battery unit is considered a battery in its entirety, i.e., battery stacks and positive and negative electrolyte tanks?

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**wsp**

## DFFE Screening Results

Identified Sensitivities

Theme	Very High Sensitivity	High Sensitivity	Medium Sensitivity	Low Sensitivity
Agriculture Theme				X
Animal Species Theme			X	
Aquatic Biodiversity Theme				X
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme				X
Civil Aviation Theme		X		
Defence Theme				X
Palaeontology Theme				X
Plant Species Theme			X	
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme	X			

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**wsp**

## DFFE Screening Results

Specialist Assessments Identified by the DFFE Screening Tool

Specialist Study	Aggeneys BESS
Agricultural Impact Assessment	X
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment	X
Palaeontology Impact Assessment	X
Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	X
Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment	X
Hydrology Assessment	X
Noise Impact Assessment	X
Traffic Impact Assessment	X
Geotechnical Assessment	X
Socio-Economic Assessment	X
Plant Species Assessment	X
Animal Species Assessment	X



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**wsp**

## DFFE Screening Results

Specialist Studies Commissioned

SPECIALIST STUDY	COMMENT
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment	An Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment will be undertaken
Palaeontology Impact Assessment	A Palaeontological Impact Assessment will be undertaken
Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	A Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment will be undertaken. This assessment will include both fauna and flora aspects



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## DFFE Screening Results

Specialist Studies NOT Commissioned

SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT	COMMENT
Agricultural Impact Assessment	The proposed BESS Facility will be located adjacent to an operational PV Facility and the area has been zoned as Renewable Energy Plant, therefore no Agricultural Impact Assessment will be conducted.
Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment	An Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment will not be undertaken. A Critically Endangered wetland is situated 1 km north and the nearest river is situated 0.7 km north-west of the proposed facility.
Hydrology Assessment	A Hydrology Impact Assessment will not be undertaken, however mitigation measures will be included in the EMP and site SWMP. The nearest river is situated 0.7 km north-west of the proposed facility.
Noise Impact Assessment	Due to the limited size of the project, a Noise Impact Assessment will not be undertaken, however mitigation measures will be included in the EMP.
Traffic Impact Assessment	Due to the limited size of the project, a Traffic Impact Assessment will not be undertaken, however mitigation measures will be included in the EMP.
Geotechnical Impact Assessment	A detailed Geotechnical Assessment will not be undertaken as this will be undertaken during the design phase.
Socio-Economic Assessment	There will be limited socio-economic impacts and benefits, however mitigation measures will be included in the EMP.
Plant Species Assessment	A Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment will be undertaken. This assessment will include both fauna and flora aspects.
Animal Species Assessment	A Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment will be undertaken. This assessment will include both fauna and flora aspects.
Civil Aviation	The Civil Aviation Authority will be included on the project stakeholder database. They will be informed of the proposed Project, and comment will be sought. An Application for the Approval of Obstacles will also be submitted to SACAA, once preferred bidder status is obtained. As this theme has been identified as a high sensitivity, a compliance statement will be provided.
Defence	The Department of Defence will be included on the project stakeholder database. They will be informed of the proposed Project, and comment will be sought. As this theme has been identified as a low sensitivity, no compliance statement is required.




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## Competent Authority

- o A Pre-Application meeting was held with the DFFE on 9 December 2022.
- o On 12 December 2022 DFFE confirmed that they will be the CA for the application.
- o On 30 January 2023 DFFE stated that they will not be the CA for the application, as On 01 July 2016, the Minister published GNR 779 in Government Gazette No. 40110, the Minister is the CA for applications for EA which relates to the Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) 2010 - 2030 and any updates thereto. The IRP provides for the Energy Mix, which only includes generation technologies listed below: - Coal: - Hydro: - Solar PV: - Wind: - Nuclear: - Storage: - Gas/diesel: and - other distributed generation, co-generation, biomass and landfill technologies.
- o The IRP does not include any associated infrastructure which is needed for the realisation of the facilities.
- o The Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform is therefore deemed to be the Competent Authority.
- o The proposed project is also linked to a previously authorised and operational solar energy facility, that was awarded preferred bidder in the previous REIPPP Programme.



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## Public Participation Plan

- o Formally announce project via:
  - Adverts (English and Afrikaans in Northern Cape regional newspaper)
  - Site notices x 5
  - Utilising updated stakeholder databases
- o Compilation and management of I&AP Database
- o Written notification:
  - Owners and occupiers on or adjacent to the proposed project site
  - Municipality Ward Councillor
  - District Municipality
  - Relevant State Departments
- o Draft Reports Review for 30 days:
  - Online on the WSP website
  - Online on a data free website
  - Hard copies placed at local libraries
  - Virtual focus group meeting

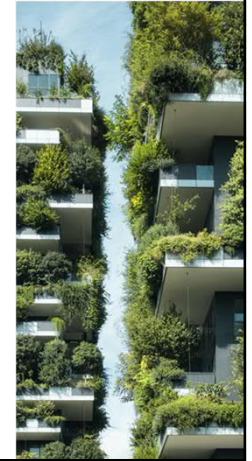
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## Closing

- o Confirmation of Specialist studies to be undertaken? – Protocols to be followed for studies not commissioned.
- o Timeframe for approval of pre-app meeting minutes?
- o Application form?
- o Utilising WSP BAR Report template?
- o Confirmation of Listed Activities?
  - Will the alternative Vanadium redox flow battery stacks and electrolyte tanks be holistically considered as a battery and therefore not trigger LN 2, Activity 4?
- o How does BESS benefit from the declared state of disaster in relation to timeframes?
- o Does the Aggenneys BESS benefit from reduced timeframes?

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