

Appendix E:

Public Participation



Appendix E1: Scoping Phase Signboards



NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Notice is given in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2014, as amended) of a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Reporting (S&EIR) process to be followed for the proposed construction of a wind energy facility and associated infrastructure to be submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) for environmental authorisation. DEA REF. No: 2020-10-0025

Project Name: Botterblom Wind Energy Facility

Applicant: FE Botterblom (Pty) Ltd

Project Description: The Applicant wishes to apply for an environmental authorisation for the proposed development of a wind energy facility (WEF) and associated infrastructure within the Northern Cape Province. The proposed WEF will consist of up to 54 wind turbines with a generation capacity of up to 6.5 MW per turbine, with a hub height of up to 150m and a rotor diameter of up to 175m. Additional ancillary infrastructures to the WEF include the internal road network, workshop, storage room, office and laydown area for the construction period.

Location & Property Description: The Botterblom WEF footprint is approximately 5 745 hectares (ha) and will be located on a Portion of the Remainder of the Farm Sous 226, within the Hantam Local Municipality. The site can be reached via the gravel Granaatboskolk / Zout Dwaggas Road, which branches off the R357. (GPS: 30°28'56.89"S, 19°32'52.67"E).

Activities triggered in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations (2014, as amended) include:

Listing Notice 1: Activities 11, 12, 19, 24, 28 & 56

Listing Notice 2: Activities 1 & 15

Listing Notice 3: Activities 4, 10, 12, 14 & 18

All registered interested and affected parties (I&APs) will receive notification once the draft scoping report is available for public review for a period of 30 days.

To register as an I&AP, receive updated information on the process and to submit comments regarding this matter, individuals are requested to submit their complete contact details to Enviro-Insight CC in writing, as per the details provided below.

Enviro-Insight CC

Reference: Botterblom WEF

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KENNISGEWING VAN OMGEWINGSMAGTIGING AANSOEK

Ingevolge die Nasionale Wet op Omgewingsbestuur (Wet 107 van 1998) (NEMA), en die Regulasies op Omgewingsimpakevaluerings (OIE Regulasies) (2014, soos gewysig) word hiermee kennis gegee van 'n Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie en Omgewingsimpakevaluerings proses wat gevolg gaan word vir die voorgestelde ontwikkeling van 'n windplaas en geassosieerde infrastruktuur wat ingedien gaan word by die Departement van Bosbou, Visserij en die Omgewing vir omgewingsmagtiging. DEA REF. No: 2020-10-0025.

Projek Naam: Botterblom Wind Energy Facility

Aansoeker: FE Botterblom (Pty) Ltd

Projek beskrywing: Die Aansoeker doen aansoek vir omgewingsmagtiging vir die voorgestelde ontwikkeling van 'n Windplaas en geassosieerde infrastruktuur geleë naby Loeriesfontein in die Noord-Kaap provinsie. Die voorgestelde Windplaas gaan bestaan uit 54 laaiers met 'n opwekkingsvermoë van omtrent 6.5 MW per laaier. Die naafhoogte kan tot en met 150m hoog wees en die rotor diameter tot en met 175m. Die ontwikkelingsvoetspoor maak voorsiening vir die gepaardgaande infrastruktuur wat die interne paaie, werkwinkel, stoorkamer, kantore en afleggingsgebied vir die konstruksie fase insluit.

Projek Ligging: Die Botterblom Windplaas projekterrein is ongeveer 5 745 hektaar geleë op 'n porsie van die restant van die plaas Sous 226 in die Hantam Plaaslike Munisipaliteit. Die projekterrein kan met die Granaatboskolk / Zout Dwaggas grondpad bereik word wat uit die R357 tak. (GPS: 30°28'56.89"S, 19°32'52.67"E).

Aktiwiteite geïdentifiseer volgens die OIE Regulasies (2014, soos gewysig):

Kennisgewing Lys 1: Aktiwiteite 11, 12, 19, 24, 28 & 56.

Kennisgewing Lys 2: Aktiwiteite 1 & 15.

Kennisgewing Lys 3: Aktiwiteite 4, 10, 12, 14 & 18.

Alle geregistreerde belangstellende en/of geaffekteerde partye (B&GP) sal kennisgewing ontvang sodra die Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie beskikbaar is vir nasien vir 'n 30 dae periode.

Om te registreer as 'n B&GP om die nodige inligting te ontvang gedurende die proses en 'n geleentheid te kry om kommentaar te lewer word u versoek om al u kontak besonderhede vir Enviro-Insight CC skriftelik te stuur deur gebruik te maak van die onderstaande kontak besonderhede.

Enviro-Insight CC

Verwysing: Botterblom WEF

Aandag: Mnr Corné Niemandt

Epos: come@enviro-insight.co.za

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**KENNISGEWING VAN
OMGEWINGSMAGTIGING AANSOEK**

Ingevolge die Nasionale Wet op Omgewingsbestuur (Wet 107 van 1998) (NEMA), en die Regulasie op Omgewingsimpaktoevaluerings (OIE Regulasie) (2014, soos gewysig) word hiermee kennis gegee van 'n Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie en Omgewingsimpaktoevaluerings proses wat gevolg gaan word vir die voorgeselde ontwikkeling van 'n windpaaie en geïntegreerde infrastruktuur wat ingedien gaan word by die Departement van Kasebo, Vistry en die Omgewing vir omgewingsmagtiging DEA REF. No. 2020-10-0025.

Projek Naam: Borlertom Wind Energy Facility
Aansoeker: RE Borlertom (Pty) Ltd

Projek Oorsig: Die Aansoeker doen aansoek vir omgewingsmagtiging vir die voorgeselde ontwikkeling van 'n Windpaaie en geïntegreerde infrastruktuur geleë naby Lantsoekers in die West-Kaap provinsie. Die voorgeselde Windpaaie gaan bestaan uit 54 wind tuisele met 'n spanwingsvermoë van omtrent 2.5 MW per toer. Die toerhoogte kan tot en met 100m hoog wees en die rotor diameter tot en met 170m. Die infrastruktuurvoorsiening, insluitende, maar nie beperk tot, die geïntegreerde infrastruktuur wat die interne, pad-, verbindings, transformasie, kabelle en oeffeninggebied vir die kassie kan insluit.

Projek Ligging: Die Borlertom Windpaaie projekleë is ongeveer 5 740 hektar geleë op 'n perseel van die erfdeel van die plaas, Sub 226 in die Hartman Plaaslike Munisipaliteit. Die projekleë is aan die Ooskant van die Erfdeel 7 200 Dwaagsig grondsoort betrek word wat uit die K307 tot K308, 307E, 307E1, 307E2, 307E3, 307E4, 307E5, 307E6, 307E7, 307E8, 307E9, 307E10, 307E11, 307E12, 307E13, 307E14, 307E15, 307E16, 307E17, 307E18, 307E19, 307E20, 307E21, 307E22, 307E23, 307E24, 307E25, 307E26, 307E27, 307E28, 307E29, 307E30, 307E31, 307E32, 307E33, 307E34, 307E35, 307E36, 307E37, 307E38, 307E39, 307E40, 307E41, 307E42, 307E43, 307E44, 307E45, 307E46, 307E47, 307E48, 307E49, 307E50, 307E51, 307E52, 307E53, 307E54, 307E55, 307E56, 307E57, 307E58, 307E59, 307E60, 307E61, 307E62, 307E63, 307E64, 307E65, 307E66, 307E67, 307E68, 307E69, 307E70, 307E71, 307E72, 307E73, 307E74, 307E75, 307E76, 307E77, 307E78, 307E79, 307E80, 307E81, 307E82, 307E83, 307E84, 307E85, 307E86, 307E87, 307E88, 307E89, 307E90, 307E91, 307E92, 307E93, 307E94, 307E95, 307E96, 307E97, 307E98, 307E99, 307E100.

Aktiewe gebiedsreël volgens die OIE Regulasie (2014, soos gewysig):
Kennisgewing uit 1: Aktiewe 11, 12, 19, 24, 28 & 54
Kennisgewing uit 2: Aktiewe 1 & 15
Kennisgewing uit 3: Aktiewe 4, 10, 12, 14 & 18

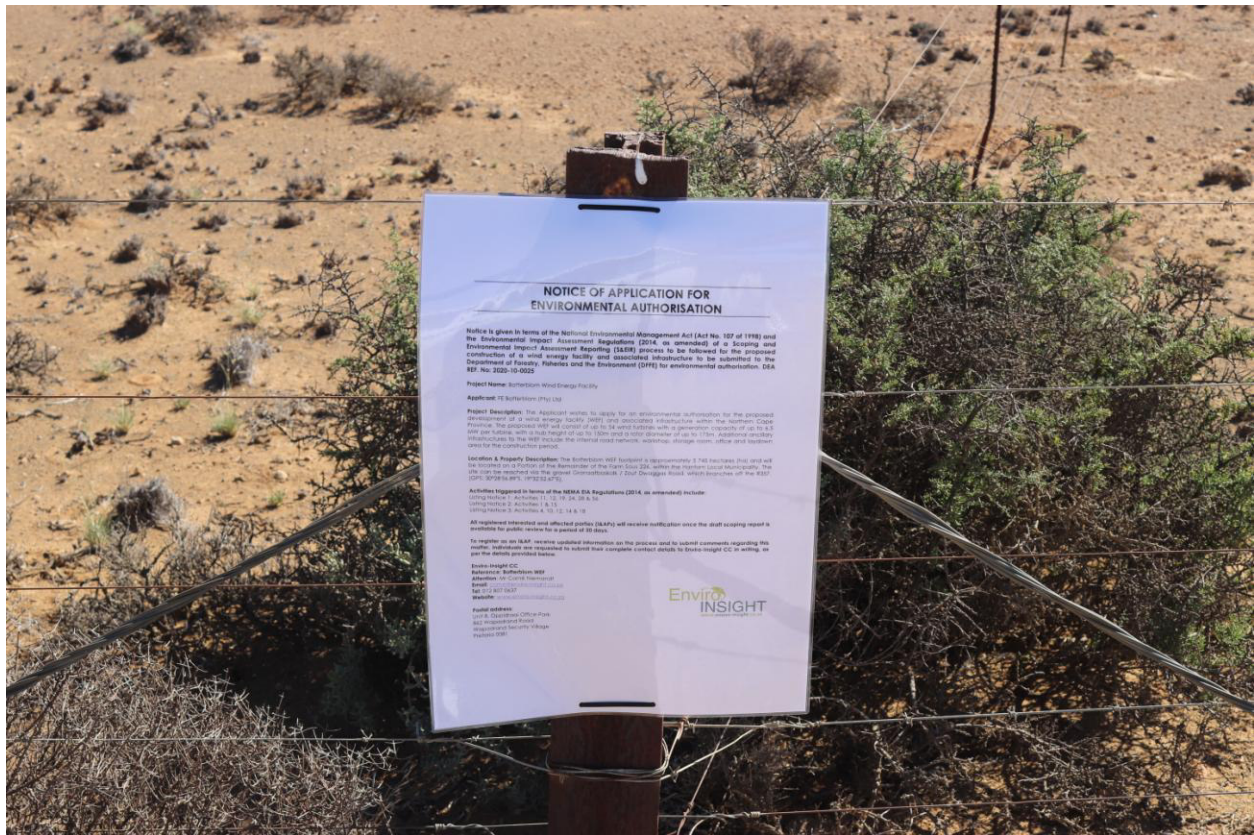
Alle voorgeselde betingtelike en/of proffekteerde partye (B&GF) sal kennisgewing ontvang sodat die Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie beskikbaar is vir raad en 'n 30 dae periode.
Om te reguleer as 'n B&GF om die nodige inligting te ontvang gedurende die proses en 'n geleentheid te kry om kommentaar te lewer, word u versoek om u kontak besonderhede vir Enviro-Insight CC aktieflik te stuur deur getuik te maak van die onderstaande kontak besonderhede.

Enviro-Insight CC
Verreëring: Borlertom WEF
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KENNISGEWING VAN OMGEWINGSMAGTIGING AANSOEK

Ingevolge die Nasionale Wet op Omgewingsbestuur (Wet 107 van 1998) (NEMA) en die Regulasies op Omgewingsimpakevaluering (OIE Regulasies) (2014, soos gewysig) word hiermee kennis gegee van 'n Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie en Omgewingsimpakevaluering proses wat gevolg gaan word vir die voorgestelde ontwikkeling van 'n windpaa en geassosieerde vr infrastruktuur wat ingedien gaan word by die Departement van Bosbou, Visserij en die Omgewing vir omgewingsmagtiging. DEA REF. No. 2020-10-0025.

Projek Naam: Botterblom Wind Energy Facility
Aansoeker: FE Botterblom (Pty) Ltd

Projek beskrywing: Die Aansoeker doen aansoek vir omgewingsmagtiging vir die voorgestelde ontwikkeling van 'n Windpaa en geassosieerde infrastruktuur geleë naby Loerstein in die Noord-Kaap provinsie. Die voorgestelde Windpaa gaan bestaan uit 54 wind toerens met 'n opwekkingsvermoë van ongeveer 6,5 MW per toer. Die toerhoogte kan tot en met 150m hoog wees en die rotor diameter tot en met 115m. Die ontwikkelingsvoetpaa moet voeding vir die gepoogde infrastruktuur wat die interne paa, wisselstroom, stroomkabel, kantele en afleegingsgebied vir die konstruksie fase insluit.

Projek Ligging: Die Botterblom Windpaa projekterings is ongeveer 5 745 hektaar geleë op 'n portie van die Grondposisie / Zout Dwingaas grondpaa beskikbaar word uit die K357 tak. (GPS: 30°28'58.87"S, 19°32'32.47"E).

Aktiewe geïdentifiseer volgens die OIE Regulasies (2014, soos gewysig):
Kennisgewing Lys 1: Aktiwiteite 11, 12, 19, 24, 28 & 36.
Kennisgewing Lys 2: Aktiwiteite 1 & 18.
Kennisgewing Lys 3: Aktiwiteite 4, 10, 12, 14 & 19.

Alle geregtigende belangtelende en/of geïnteresseerde partye (B&G) sal kennisgewing ontvang sodra die Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie beskikbaar is vir nasien vir 'n 30 dae periode.

Om te registreer as 'n B&G om die nodige inligting te ontvang gedurende die proses en 'n geleentheid te kry om kommentaar te lewer word u versoek om al u kontak besonderhede vir Enviro-Insight CC stuur deur gebruik te maak van die onderstaande kontak besonderhede.

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**Enviro
INSIGHT**
Environmental Insight



**KENNISGEWING VAN
OMGEWINGSMAGTING AANSOEK**

Ingevolge die Nasionale Wet op Omgewingsbeheer (Nw 107 van 1989) (NEMA), en die Regulasie op Omgewingsbeheer (Omgewingsbeheer Regulasie) (2014), word kennisgewing van 'n aansoek vir 'n Omgewingsmagting (Omgewingsmagting) en Omgewingsbeheerplan (Omgewingsbeheerplan) vir 'n projek wat betrekke het tot die ontwikkeling van 'n windenergie- en sonne-energie-plant in 'n gebied wat deel is van die gebied van die Departement van Bodem, Water en die Omgewing (DWA) Nw 107 van 1989 (NEMA).

Naam: **North West Energy Project**

Aansoeker: **North West Energy Project**

Projek beskrywing: Die Aansoeker doen aansoek vir omgewingsmagting vir die ontwikkeling van 'n windenergie- en sonne-energie-plant in 'n gebied wat deel is van die gebied van die Departement van Bodem, Water en die Omgewing (DWA) Nw 107 van 1989 (NEMA). Die projek sal bestaan uit die ontwikkeling van 'n windenergie- en sonne-energie-plant in 'n gebied wat deel is van die gebied van die Departement van Bodem, Water en die Omgewing (DWA) Nw 107 van 1989 (NEMA).

Projek ligging: Die projek sal ontwikkel word in 'n gebied wat deel is van die gebied van die Departement van Bodem, Water en die Omgewing (DWA) Nw 107 van 1989 (NEMA). Die projek sal ontwikkel word in 'n gebied wat deel is van die gebied van die Departement van Bodem, Water en die Omgewing (DWA) Nw 107 van 1989 (NEMA).

Aanvullende besonderhede: Vir meer besonderhede, sien die Omgewingsbeheerplan (Omgewingsbeheerplan) wat beskikbaar is op die webwerf van die Aansoeker. Die projek sal ontwikkel word in 'n gebied wat deel is van die gebied van die Departement van Bodem, Water en die Omgewing (DWA) Nw 107 van 1989 (NEMA).

Om te verseker: In 'n NEMA-omgewingsmagting is 'n gebied wat deel is van die gebied van die Departement van Bodem, Water en die Omgewing (DWA) Nw 107 van 1989 (NEMA) beskerm. Die projek sal ontwikkel word in 'n gebied wat deel is van die gebied van die Departement van Bodem, Water en die Omgewing (DWA) Nw 107 van 1989 (NEMA).

Bevragting: Die Aansoeker het 'n openbare konsultasieproses voltooi. Die projek sal ontwikkel word in 'n gebied wat deel is van die gebied van die Departement van Bodem, Water en die Omgewing (DWA) Nw 107 van 1989 (NEMA).

Verrekening: Die Aansoeker het 'n openbare konsultasieproses voltooi. Die projek sal ontwikkel word in 'n gebied wat deel is van die gebied van die Departement van Bodem, Water en die Omgewing (DWA) Nw 107 van 1989 (NEMA).

Verrekening: Die Aansoeker het 'n openbare konsultasieproses voltooi. Die projek sal ontwikkel word in 'n gebied wat deel is van die gebied van die Departement van Bodem, Water en die Omgewing (DWA) Nw 107 van 1989 (NEMA).





NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Notice is given in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2014, as amended) of a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process to be followed for the proposed construction of a wind energy facility (WEF) and associated infrastructure within the Orange-Caroo National Park (OCNP) and an extent of 10 to 14 km² to be used with a generation capacity of up to 4.0 MW. The proposed WEF will consist of up to 100 wind turbines with a total capacity of up to 4.0 MW. The proposed WEF will also include the internal road network, workshop, storage room, office and toilet units for the construction phase.

Location & Property Description: The proposed WEF is situated in the Orange-Caroo National Park (OCNP) and is located on all Portion 10 of the Republic of the Farm No. 208, within the Orange-Caroo National Park. The WEF will be situated on the ground (approximately 200 m above sea level) within the OCNP (GP Ref: 208/10/10, 10/10/10/10).

Activities Proposed in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations (2014, as amended) include:
 Laying out and erecting the WEF
 Laying out and erecting the internal road network
 Laying out and erecting the workshop, storage room, office and toilet units

All regulated activities and affected parties (AEPs) will receive notification once the draft scoping report is available for public review for a period of 30 days.

In response to an AEP request, additional information on the project and to submit comments regarding the matter, AEPs are requested to submit any complete contact details to EnviroInsight CC in writing, as per the draft scoping report.

EnviroINSIGHT
 Environmental Impact Assessment
 101 S. Channing Office Park
 101 S. Channing Office Park
 101 S. Channing Office Park



Appendix E2: Scoping Phase Advertisement



Appendix E3: Scoping Phase Background Information Document (BID)



Agtergrondinligtingsdokument
Voorgestelde Botterblom Wind Energie Fasiliteit
Noord-Kaap Provinsie, Suid Afrika

Mei 2021

Applikant:

FE Botterblom (Pty) Ltd

Omgewingsevalueringpraktisyn:

Enviro-Insight CC

Kantoor: 012 807 0637

Epos: corne@enviro-insight.co.za

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INHOUDSOPGAWE

1	Inleiding	3
2	Oorsig van die projek.....	3
3	Wetgewing.....	5
3.1	Siftingsproses	5
3.2	Hernubare Energie Ontwikkelings Gebied.....	7
3.3	NEMA OIE Regulasies (2014, soos gewysig).....	7
4	Spesialis Studies	9
5	Publieke Deelname Proses	9
5.1	Doel van Publieke Deelname	9
5.2	Wetgewing.....	9
5.2.1	Publieke Deelname Plan soos aanvaar deur DFFE	10
5.2.2	Identifikasie en registrasie van belangstellende en/of geaffekteerde party (B&GP)	11
5.2.3	Kennisgewing aan B&GP	11
5.3	Kennisgewing van Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie beskikbaarheid	12

LYS VAN FIGURE

Figuur 1: Die ligging van die Botterblom WEF projekterrein.....	4
Figuur 2: Ligging van die plaas asook die omliggende plase.....	5

1 INLEIDING

FE Botterblom (Pty) Ltd (hierna die Applikant) beoog die ontwikkeling van 'n kommersiële wind energie fasiliteit (WEF) en geassosieerde infrastruktuur voor op 'n projekterrein wat ongeveer 53 kilometer (km) noord van Loeriesfontein in the Noord-Kaap geleë is. Die voorgestelde ontwikkeling wat as Botterblom WEF sal bekend staan, gaan elektrisiteit opwek wat in die Nasionale kragnet sal invoer. Enviro-Insight CC (hierna Enviro-Insight) is aangestel as die onafhanklike omgewingsevalueringspraktisyn (OEP) om die Omgewingsimpakevaluering (OIE) te onderneem vir die WEF volgens die Nasionale Wet op Omgewingsbestuur (NEMA, Wet 107 van 1998), namens die Applikant.

Die Agtergrondinligtingsdokument beoog om u, as 'n belangstellende en/of geaffekteerde party (B&GP), te voorsien van:

- 'n oorsig van die Botterblom WEF;
- 'n oorsig van die OIE en studies wat onderneem word om die projek te evalueer; en
- besonderhede van hoe u by die OIE-proses betrokke kan raak, inligting kan ontvang en deel te neem aan die publieke deelname proses.

2 OORSIG VAN DIE PROJEK

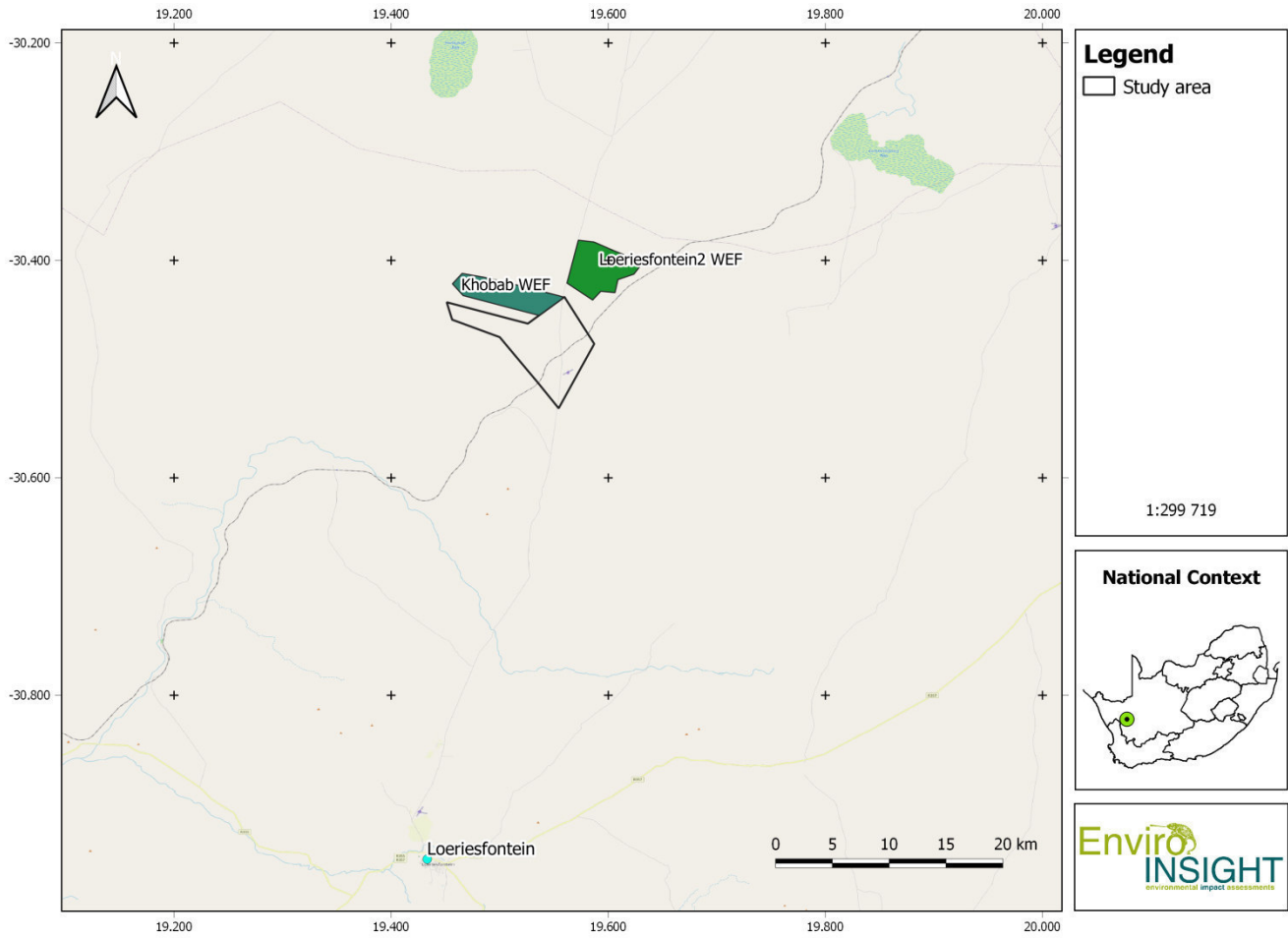
Die voorgestelde Botterblom WEF projekterrein is ongeveer 5 745 hektaar geleë op 'n porsie van die restant van die plaas Sous 226 in die Hantam Plaaslike Munisipaliteit. Die projekterrein is ongeveer 53 km noord van Loeriesfontein, 87 km wes van Brandvlei and 146 km suid van Pofadder in die Noord-Kaap. Die projekterrein kan met die Gnaatboskolk / Zout Dwaggas Grondpad bereik word wat uit die R357 tak (Figuur 1; Figuur 2). Die bestaande Khobab WEF is noord geleë terwyl die Loeriesfontein2 WEF noord-oos van die projekterrein geleë is.

Die voorgestelde Windplaas gaan bestaan uit 54 wind laaiers met 'n opwekkingsvermoë van omtrent 6.5 MW per laaier. Die naafhoogte kan tot en met 150m hoog wees en die rotor diameter tot en met 175m. Die finale wind laaier model en dus spesifikasies kan eers nader aan die tyd van oprigting bepaal word weens die nuutste tegnologie op daardie stadium.

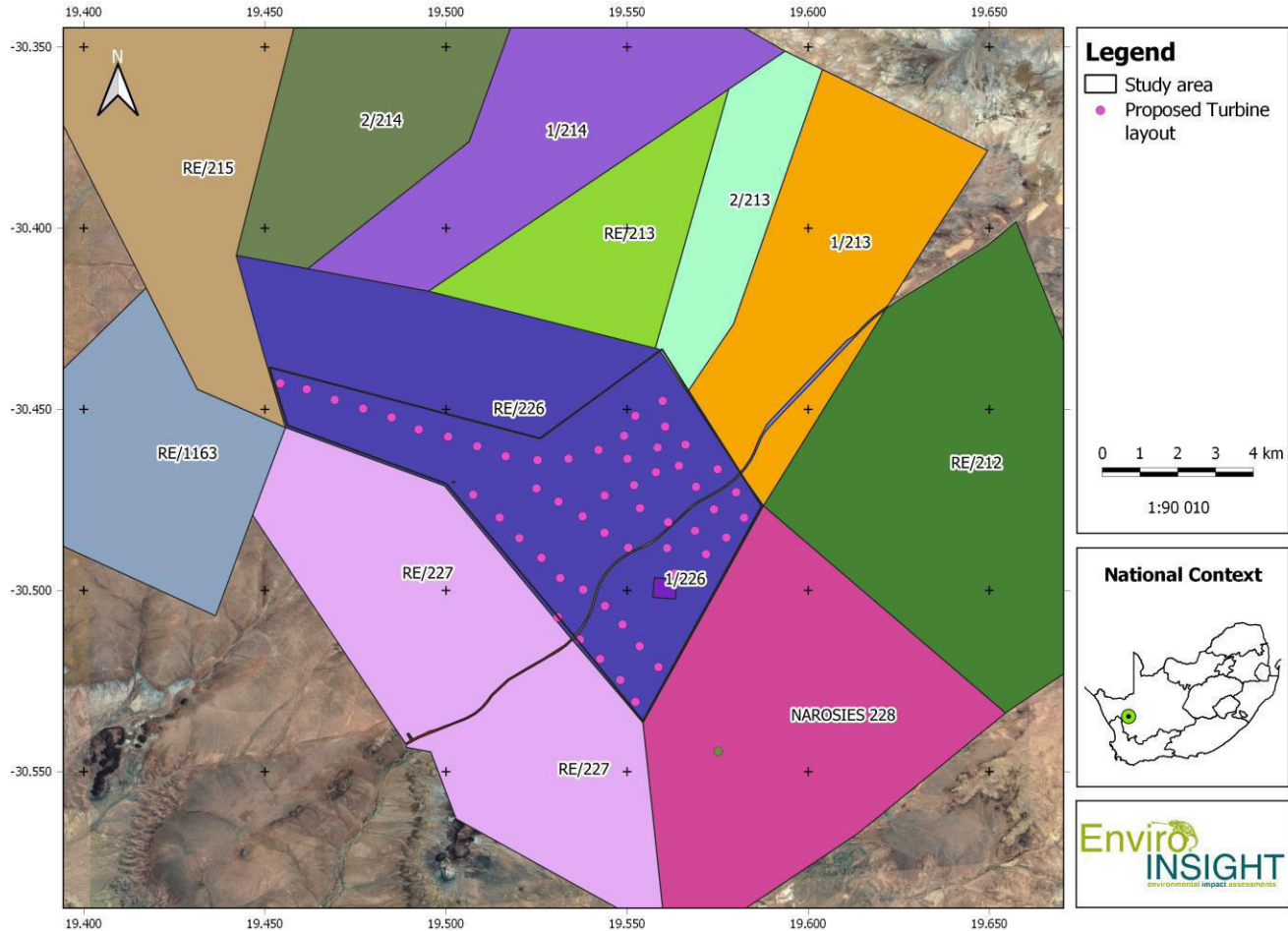
Die ontwikkelingsvoetspoor maak voorsiening vir die gepaardgaande infrastruktuur wat die interne paaie (omtrent 10 m wyd), werkwinkel, stoorkamer, kantore en afleggingsgebied vir die konstruksie fase insluit. So ver as moontlik sal die bestaande plaaspaai van gebruik maak en opgradeer waar nodig. Verder kan die projekterrein omhein word. As deel van die konstruksie fase gaan die afleggingsgebied tydelike geboue insluit vir die stoor van toerusting asook vir die oprig van die wind laaiers. 'n Terreinkantoor asook 'n sekuriteitsgebied sal ook opgerig word.

Verder word 'n interne substasie van omtrent 200 m x 200 m in omvang op te rig om die konneksie tussen die windplaas en die kragnet moontlik te maak. 'n Oorhoofse kraglyn van 132 kV om die aanleg met die kragnet by Helios Substasie te verbind gaan in 'n aparte aansoek aan die Departement gestuur word.

Die ontwikkelaar is van voorneme om die Botterblom WEF aan te bied ingevolge die Departement van Energie (DE) se Program vir Onafhanklike Hernubare Kragprodusente (REIPPP). Die krag wat deur die projek opgewek sal word, sal aan Eskom verkoop word en by die Nasionale kragnet ingevoer word.



Figuur 1: Die ligging van die Botterblom WEF projekterrein.



Figuur 2: Ligging van die plaas asook die omliggende plase.

3 WETGEWING

Artikel 24C(2)(a)(i) van NEMA stipuleer dat die Minister van die Omgewing as die bevoegde owerheid aangewys moet word wanneer die aktiwiteite van 'n voorgestelde projek implikasies het aanrakende internasionale omgewingsooreenkomste soos geïdentifiseer deur die Minister by wyse van kennisgewing in die staatskoerant. Vir hierdie rede word die Nasionale Departement van Bosbou, Visserye en die Omgewing (DFFE) aangewys as die bevoegde owerheid aangedui vir hierdie aansoek.

3.1 SIFTINGSPROSES

Die Minister van Omgewing, Bosbou en Visserye, het kennisgewing gegee dat die indien van 'n verslag wat gegenereer word deur die nasionale aanlyn omgewingsonderzoek instrument¹, soos deur gegee in Regulasie 16(1)(b)(v) van die OIE-regulasie (2014, soos gewysig) gepubliseer in Staatskennisgewing No. R982 van Staatskoerant No. 38282 op 4 Desember 2014, soos

¹ <https://screening.environment.gov.za/screeningtool/#/pages/welcome>

gewysig, sal verpligtend wees van 4 Oktober 2019 met die indien van 'n aansoek vir omgewingsmagtiging in terme van regulasie 19 en 21 van die OIE-regulasie (2014, soos gewysig).

Daarbenewens het die Minister 'n stel protokolle gepubliseer op 20 Maart en 30 Oktober 2020 wat 'n aansoeker moet aan voldoen tydens die OIE proses. Die gepubliseerde 'Procedures to be followed for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting of Identified Environmental Themes in terms of Section 24(5)(a) and (h) of the National Environmental Management Act (1998) when Applying for Environmental Authorisation', sluit protokolle in vir die volgende omgewings temas: landbou, voëls, biodiversiteit (beide landelik asook akwaties), landelik diere en plante, klank, verdediging en burgerlike lugvaart.

Elke protokol stel vereistes vir die assessering en verslaggewing van omgewingsimpakte van aktiwiteite wat goedkeuring benodig. Hoe hoër die sensitiwiteit van die spesifieke tema van die voorgestelde projekterrein soos aangedui op die omgewingsondersoek verslag, hoe strenger en meer gedetailieerd gaan die vereistes vir assessering en verslaggewing wees.

In Tabel 3-1 word elke omgewings tema aangedui volgens die omgewingsondersoek verslag vir die voorgestelde projekterrein.

Tabel 3-1: Omgewings temas soos aangedui in die omgewingsondersoek verslag.

Tema	Baie Hoë sensitiwiteit*	Hoë sensitiwiteit *	Medium sensitiwiteit	Lae sensitiwiteit
Landbou				
Diere Spesies				
Akwatiese Biodiversiteit				
Argeologiese en Kultuuruele Erfenis				
Voëls (Wind)				
Vlermuise (Wind)				
Burgerlike Lugvaart (Wind)				
Verdediging (Wind)				
Flikker				
Landskap (Wind)				
Klank				
Palaeontologies				
Plant Spesies				
RFI (Wind)				
Landelike Biodiversiteit				

* Benodig volle assessering.

Die volgende het betrekking tot die bogenoemde Tabel 3-1 :

- die Voël (Wind) Tema moet eintlik Hoog or Baie Hoog wees weens sensitiewe spesies wat in die area voorkom

asook vir die rede dat die voorgestelde projek 'n windplaas is. Gevolglik moet die voorgeskryfde 12 maande voorkonstruksie monitering plaasvind;

- die Burgerlike Lugvaart (Wind) Tema moet Medium of Laag wees aangesien daar geen aanloopbane in die area is wat operasioneel is nie. Daar is wel 'n ongebruikte, ou aanloopbaan langs die Helios substasie. Kommentaar sal verkry word van die *South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA)* met betrekking tot hierdie;
- die Flicker Tema word aangedui as Baie Hoog weens die teenwoordigheid van 'n ou verlate huis en die Helios substasie wat op die projekterrein voorkom. Hierdie sal geassesseer word, maar dit is moontlik dat die impak eintlik Laag gaan wees.
- die Klank Tema word aangedui as Baie Hoog weens die teenwoordigheid van 'n ou verlate huis en die Helios substasie wat op die projekterrein voorkom. Volgens die klank spesialis word slegs 'n nakomingsverklaring benodig.
- die Palaeontologies Tema word aangedui as Baie Hoog. Die SAHRIS *PalaeoSensitivity Map* dui aan dat die projekterrein geleë is in 'n Hoë sensitiviteitsgebied, en dat 'n literatuur studie nodig is en gebaseer op die uitkoms van die studie kan 'n veldassessering moontlik wees.

Meer inligting hieroor sal in die Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie beskikbaar wees.

3.2 HERNUBARE ENERGIE ONTWIKKELINGS GEBIED

Kabinet het op 17 Februarie 2016, die Hernubare Energie Ontwikkelings Gebiede (REDZs) vir grootskaal wind en sonkrag ontwikkelings en strategiese transmissiegange wat areas ondersteun waar langtermyn elektrisiteitsnetwerke ontwikkel gaan word.

Die proses wat gevolg moet word wanner aansoek gedoen word vir grootskaal projekte in 'n REDZ of in 'n strategiese transmissiegang was op 16 Februarie 2018 in GN113 and GN114 gepubliseer. Op 17 Julie 2020, het Minister Barbara Dallas Creecy in die Staatskoerant 43528, Kennisgewing 786 aangedui dat afgesien van die betsaande agt REDZs daar drie addisionele REDZs voorgetel word soos gepubliseer onder Staatskennisgewing No. 114 in Staatskoerant No. 41445 op 16 Februarie 2018. Enige nuwe elektrisiteitsnetwerk uitbreidings wat binne in een van die vyf five strategiese transmissiegange plaasvind benodig slegs 'n Basiese Evalueeringsproses (BE) en nie 'n volle OIE nie, asook 'n verkorte periode van 147 dae (90 dae vir BE proses en 57 dae vir nasien en uitkoms).

Die voorgestelde Botterblom WEF is nie in 'n REDZ geleë nie, maar is wel in die Westelike strategiese transmissiegange. Dus word 'n Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie en OIE proses vir die WEF gevolg en 'n BE proses vir die transmissielyn.

3.3 NEMA OIE REGULASIES (2014, SOOS GEWYSIG)

Ingevolge die Staatskennisgewing No 324, 325 and 327 (soos gewysig op 7 April 2017) is die voorgestelde Botterblom WEF onderhewig aan gelyste aktiwiteite wat 'n volledige Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie en OIE proses moet volg wat die nodige aansoek en verslae by die DFFE moet indien.

Die doel van 'n Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie en OIE proses is om te verseker dat die moontlike omgewingsimpakte wat

met die voorgestelde wind plaas gepaard gaan te identifiseer, evalueer en te verseker dat die nodige maatreëls gehandhaaf word. Daar is twee fases, naamlik die Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie en die Omgewingsimpakevaluering fase.

Hierdie twee fases word vervolgens bespreek hieronder:

Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie

Die Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie word gedoen voor die impakte verder ondersoek word gedurende die OIE fase. Die volgende vorm deel van hierdie fase:

- Die projek en basislynassessering word bepaal deur die nodige inligting van bestaande bronne en voorlopige terreinbesoek af te lê vir die projekterrein. Hierdie sluit gewoonlik Geografiese inligtingstelsel data en kaarte in, asook navorsing van bestaande bronne met betrekking tot die omliggende omgewing.
- Identifiseer B&GPe en sleutel-rolspelers wat betrek gaan word gedurende die proses.
- Konsultasie met en deurgee van inligting aan B&GPe.
- Die Departement word genader met betrekking tot wetgewing en die proses wat gevolg moet word (hierdie word gedoen voor die aansoek ingedien word).
- Aanstel van spesialiste volgens die omgewingsonderzoekverslag.
- Identifiseer potensiële impakte vir verdere oorweging.
- Bepaal en evalueer alternatiewe.
- Identifiseer studieplan vir die OIE.
- Stel die Bestekopnameverslag saam en maak dit beskikbaar vir openbare nasien vir 'n tydperk van 30 dae.
- Handel Bestekopnameverslag af na al die kommentaar ontvang aanspreek is en dien in by DFFE vir nasien.

Omgewingsimpakevaluering fase

Indien die Bestekopnameverslag en studieplan goed gekeer word deur die DFFE, volg die OIE fase. Dit sluit in:

- Die spesialisstudies word afgehandel volgens die studieplan.
- Evalueer van alternatiewe.
- Evalueer impakte en stel versagtingsmaatreëls voor waar moontlik.
- Stel Omgewingsbestuursplan (OBP) saam wat gevolg moet word gedurende die konstruksie, operasionele en ontmantelings proses.
- Stel die OIE verslag saam en maak dit asook die OBP beskikbaar vir openbare nasien vir 'n tydperk van 30 dae.
- Handel OIE af na al die kommentaar ontvang is aanspreek word en dien die finale OIE en OBP verslae in by DFFE vir nasien.

Die vereistes van die Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie & OIE proses word voorsien in Hoofstuk 4 Deel 3 van die OIE Regulasies No 326 (soos gewysig op 7 April 2017). Die proses kan tot en met 300 dae neem om af te handel. Dit sluit 87 dae in vir die Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie, 106 dae vir die OIE proses, en 107 dae vir DFFE om na te sien.

4 SPESIALIS STUDIES

Spesialis studies wat deur die aanlyn omgewingsondersoek verslag bekend is maak is sluit in:

- Akwatiese Biodiversiteit Assessering;
- Landelike Biodiversiteit Assessering;
- Sensitiewe Plant Spesies Assessering;
- Voël Voorkonstruksie monitering en Impak Assessering;
- Vlermuis Voorkonstruksie monitering en Impak Assessering;
- Klank Nakomingsverklaring;
- Landbou Nakomingsverklaring;
- Visuele en Flikker Impak Assessering;
- Verkeer en Vervoer Impak Assessering;
- Sosio-ekonomiese Assessering;
- Erfenis Impak Assessering; en
- Paleontologiese Assessering.

5 PUBLIEKE DEELNAME PROSES

5.1 DOEL VAN PUBLIEKE DEELNAME

- voorsien B&GP 'n geleentheid om betrokke te raak by die projek deur hulle kommer en insette te kan lewer gedurende die proses;
- voorsien B&GP 'n geleentheid om inligting te voorsien en te ontvang van die biofisiese en/of sosio-ekonomiese impakte van die voorgestelde ontwikkeling;
- voorsien B&GP 'n geleentheid om maatreëls voor te stel om die verwagte biofisiese en sosio-ekonomiese impakte van die voorgestelde aktiwiteit te versag, bestuur, verhoed of op te los;
- voorsien die Aansoeker die geleentheid om die inligting soos verkry van die B&GP aan te spreek en waar moontlik te inkopereer in die aansoek;

5.2 WETGEWING

Die publieke deelname proses moet voldoen aan sekere wetgewing wat betrekking het tot publieke deelname, insluitend:

- Nasionale Wet op Omgewingsbestuur (NEMA, Wet 107 van 1998);
- OIE-regulasie (2014, soos gewysig);
- Wet op Rampbestuur, 2002 (57/2002): *Directions Regarding Measures to Address, Prevent and Combat the Spread of COVID-19 Relating to National Environmental Management Permits and Licences.*

Dus om te verseker dat publieke deelname doelgerig en regverdig is moet die bogenoemde aan voldoen word.

Die Aanwysing soos gepubliseer deur die Minister op 5 Junie 2020 voorsien riglyne wat aan voldoen moet word gedurende publieke deelname tydens die COVID-19 pandemie. Alle gesondheid en veiligheids maatreëls en ander beperkings wat van toepassing is in terme van Artikel 27(2) van die Wet op Rampbestuur moet gehandhaaf word. Ten alle tye sal die publieke deelname proses voorsiening maak vir doelgerigte deelname en verseker dat die nodige stappe geneem word om te verseker dat dit voldoen aan al die wetgewing. Volgens die Aanwysing moet 'n Publieke Deelname Plan (soos vereis in Aanhangsel 3 van die Aanwysing) ingedien word by die relevante aangewysde saakbeampte vir goedkeuring voor die publieke deelname proses kan begin (verwys na afdeling 5.2.1 vir meer inligting).

Soos pre die Aanwysing:

- *"In ensuring the above, applicants and EAPs, in addition to the methods contained in Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations, or as part of reasonable alternative methods proposed in terms of regulation 41(2)(e) of the EIA Regulations, may make use of the following non-exhaustive list of methods: emails, websites, Zero Data Portals, Cloud Based Services, or similar platforms, direct telephone calls, virtual meetings, newspaper notices, radio advertisements, community representatives, distribution of notices at places that are accessible to potential I&APs."*
- *"Reports **may not** be made available at any public places or premises closed to the public, as contemplated in the Regulations. Hard copies or electronic versions of reports may be made accessible through any of the following non-exhaustive list of methods: websites, Zero Data Portals, community or traditional authorities, Cloud Based Services, provided that all registered I&APs have access to the reports." Dus geen verslae mag in publieke areas gelos word vir nasien nie.*
- *"Unless part of a site visit, virtual or telephonic meetings to be arranged." Geen persoonlike/ publieke vergaderings mag gehou word in die openbaar nie. Slegs virtuele of telefoniese vergaderings mag plaasvind.*

Meer inligting oor hierdie word hieronder bespreek.

5.2.1 Publieke Deelname Plan soos aanvaar deur DFFE

Die Publieke Deelname Plan was aan die DFFE saakbeampte ingedien op 6 April 2021 en dit was goedgekeur op 7 April 2021.

Hiermee volg 'n opsomming van die goedgekeurde Publieke Deelname Plan:

Kommunikasie met grondeienaars:

- Geen openbare vergaderings sal plaasvind nie.
- Alle kommunikasie sal met epos, telefonies, of met WhatsApp boodskappe plaasvind.
- Veggaderings sal met virtuele platforms soos Microsoft Teams of Zoom plaasvind.
- Waar nodig sal briewe gestuur word met pos of afgelewer word.

Kommunikasie met belangstellende en/of geaffekteerde party (B&GP):

- 'n Advertensie in 'n plaaslike koerant sal gepubliseer word.
- Site notices will be placed at prominent areas on the boundary fence of the properties.
- I&APs will be notified and will receive updates throughout the process via email or telephonic calls. Where necessary, registered post will be sent.
- All reports / documents will be made available electronically via the EAPs website. No hard copies will be made available at public locations, unless indicated otherwise by DEFF based on the published protocols. At this stage, no communities within the study area or the immediate surrounding area have been identified, with the exception of landowners and individuals utilising the properties (such as farm workers or family members residing on the properties). It must however be indicated that internet connection in this area is generally slow and at times unreliable. In these cases, an electronic CD copy can be provided to affected people. Should other challenges arise during the dissemination of information during the process; this will be discussed with DEFF and alternative measures will be proposed in order to address these limitations.
- Public meetings or open days will not be held. Should the need arise (depending on a number of factors), a virtual meeting can be arranged. Depending on the requirements for such a meeting, the specifics will be captured and discussed with DEFF. As mentioned, internet connection may be problematic for this area, and where necessary alternative arrangements will be made to ensure that all registered I&APs are given adequate opportunity to take part during the public participation process. Minutes of meetings will be captured and made available to all registered I&APs and the final minutes will be included in the scoping and EIA reports submitted to DEFF for decision making.
- All written comments received from registered I&APs will be captured in a Comments and Response Report.

Huidiglik is geen ander kommunikasie metodes geïdentifiseer nie. Ten alle tye sal die protokols soos deur die Minister uiteengesit is gevolg word.

5.2.2 Identifikasie en registrasie van belangstellende en/of geaffekteerde party (B&GP)

'n B&GP data basis word opgestel van staats en ander belanghebbendes asook geregistreerde B&GP gedurende die OIE proses. Die data basis sluit onder andere gondeienaars, geaffekteerde gemeenskaplede, plaaslike en nasionale owerhede en ander belangstellendes in.

5.2.3 Kennisgewing aan B&GP

Die Publieke Deelname proses het op 30 April 2021 begin met die plaasing van 'n kennisgewing in die Noordwester koerant. Verder is daar kennisgewings op die projekterrein opgesit op 8 Mei 2021 en kennisgewing is gestuur aan geïdentifiseerde B&GP party via epos.

Neem kennis dat die aansoek nog nie aan die DFFE gerig is nie en dus het die 300 dae periode nog nie begin nie. Alle geregistreerde B&GP partye sal in kennisgestel word sodra die aansoek ingedien is.

5.3 KENNISGEWING VAN OMGEWING BESTEKOPNAMESTUDIE BESKIKBAARHEID

Alle geregistreerde B&GP partye sal kennisgewing ontvang sodra die Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie beskikbaar is vir nasien vir 'n 30 dae periode. Die verslag sal op Enviro-Insight se webwerf beskikbaar wees: <http://www.enviro-insight.co.za/download-it/project-downloads/>.

Kommentaar ontvang van B&GP partye sal in berekening gebring word en sal aan die Departement voorgelê word. Die inligting sal ook met die spesialiste gedeel word, veral wwar dit relevant op 'n spesifieke gebied is.

REGISTRASIE EN KOMMENTAAR VORM

MEI 2021

Geregistreeerde belangstellende en/of geaffekteerde partye (B&GP) sal inligting ontvang soos die projek voortgaan. Alle geregistreeerde B&GP sal ingelig word sodra die Omgewing Bestekopnamestudie beskikbaar is vir nasien wa op Enviro-Insight se webwerf beskikbaar sal wees by: <http://www.enviro-insight.co.za/download-it/project-downloads/>.

Deur die aangehegte kommentaarvorm te voltooi en terug te stuur aan die aangeduide inligting hieronder, word u outomaties as 'n B&GP vir die projek geregistreer. U word sodoende ook daarvan verseker dat u bekommernisse en vrae oor die projek genoteer word. Alle kommentaar en navrae wat tydens die verloop van die projek ontvang word, sal beantwoord word.

Enviro-Insight CC

Verwysing: Botterblom WEF

Aandag: Mr Corné Niemandt

Tel: 012 807 0637

Epos: come@enviro-insight.co.za

www.enviro-insight.co.za

Pos adres:

Eenheid 8, Oppidraai Office Park

862 Wapadrand Rd

Wapadrand Security Village

Pretoria 0081

Voltooi asseblief die volgende vir die projek data basis.

Titel en Vollenaam					
Selfoon		Tel (H /W)		Faks	
Epos					
Pos Adres					
			Kode		

Dui asseblief die instansie en naam van instansie aan indien van toepassing:

Grondeienaar		
Staatsowerheid		
Munisipaliteit		
Gemeenskap / Organisasie		
Nie-regerings Organisasie		
Besigheid		

As u die plaaseienaar of verbruiker van die land is, of op die perseel bly (huurder), dui asseblief die die plaas en porsie aan asook die hoeveelheid mense wat wonend is op die grond:

	Plaas naam en porsie nommer	Aantal mense
Grondeienaar		
Huurder / land verbruiker		

Voltooi asseblief die onderstaande gedeeltes:

Hoe kan die projek u moontlik beïnvloed? Verskaf redes hiervoor.
As u 'n grondeienaar is, waarvoor word die grond huidiglik gebruik?
Gee asb. die besonderhede van enige biofisiese en/of sosioekonomiese impak wat u voorstel wat in aanmerking geneem moet word tydens die projek.
Stel voor hoe die biofisiese en/of sosioekonomiese impakte moontlik versag kan word deur moontlike maatreëls in te stel.

Verskaf asb. inligting oor die omgewing (die tipe plantegroei, topografiese eienskappe, infrastruktuur, sensitiewe plante en diere, kultuur- of erfenisvoorkomste in die gebied ens.). Indien moontlik, stuur asb fotos en dui die ligging aan op 'n kaart of stuur GPS koördinate wat deur die spesialis geassesseer moet word.

Algemene opmerkings:

Hiermee word u opreg versoek deur Enviro-Insight om hierdie skrywe te onderteken en terug stuur na Enviro-Insight, volgens die kontakbesonderhede wat verskaf is. Hierdie is om te bevestig dat u die kennisgewing ontvang het betreffende die bogenoemde, maar ook om te verseker dat u kommentaar, kommer en u insette genoteer kan word. Neem asseblief kennis dat slegs geregistreerde B&GPs ingesluit sal word in enige toekomstige korrespondensie betreffende hierdie Aansoek.

Geteken:..... **Naam:**..... **Datum:**.....

Indien u bewus is van enige ander B&GPs wat ook in kennis gestel moet word, verskaf asb. die nodige inligting en kontakbesonderhede hieronder.

Titel en Vollenaam					
Selfoon		Tel (H /W)		Faks	
Epos					

Titel en Vollenaam					
Selfoon		Tel (H /W)		Faks	
Epos					

Titel en Vollenaam					
Selfoon		Tel (H /W)		Faks	
Epos					

Titel en Vollenaam					
Selfoon		Tel (H /W)		Faks	
Epos					

Background Information Document (BID)
Proposed Botterblom Wind Energy Facility
Northern Cape Province, South Africa

May 2021

Applicant:

FE Botterblom (Pty) Ltd

Environmental Assessment Practitioner:

Enviro-Insight CC

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	Introduction.....	3
2	Project description	3
3	Legislative process	5
3.1	Screening Report.....	5
3.2	Renewable Energy Development Zone	7
3.3	NEMA EIA Regulations (2014, as amended).....	8
4	Specialist Studies	9
5	Public Participation Process	9
5.1	Objectives of Public Participation (PP)	9
5.2	Legislation.....	10
5.2.1	Public Participation Plan as submitted and approved by DFFE	10
5.2.2	Identification of I&APs	11
5.2.3	Notification and Register of I&APs	12
5.3	Notification of availability of scoping report.....	12

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1:	Locality map of the study area for the proposed Botterblom WEF.....	4
Figure 2:	Locality map showing the affected farm portion and surrounding farms	5

1 INTRODUCTION

FE Botterblom (Pty) Ltd (hereafter the Applicant) is proposing the development of a wind energy facility (WEF) and associated infrastructure on a site located approximately 53 kilometers (km) north of Loeriesfontein in the Northern Cape province of South Africa. The proposed development, to be known as Botterblom WEF, will generate electricity which will feed into the National Grid. Enviro-Insight CC (hereafter Enviro-Insight) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the requisite environmental impact assessment (EIA) process for the WEF as required in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998)(NEMA), as amended, on behalf of the Applicant.

This Background Information Document (BID) has been developed to:

- Provide a description of the proposed Project;
- Provide an overview of the environmental regulatory processes which will be undertaken in accordance with the South African legislation; and
- Provide details of the Public Participation Process (PPP) and how Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) can become involved.

2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed study area for the WEF development is located approximately 53km north of Loeriesfontein, 87 km west of Brandvlei and 146 km south of Pofadder in the Northern Cape. The site can be reached via a gravel Granaatboskolk / Zout Dwaggas Road, which branches off the R357 (Figure 1). The Botterblom WEF footprint is approximately 5 736 hectares (ha) and will be located on a Portion of the Remainder of the Farm Sous 226 (Figure 2). The existing Khobab WEF is located directly north while Loeriesfontein2 WEF is located north-east of the study area.

The Botterblom WEF will consist of up to 54 wind turbines, with a generation capacity of up to 6.5 MW per turbine. Each turbine will have a hub height of up to 150m and a rotor diameter of up to 175m. The final turbine model to be utilised will only be determined closer to the time of construction, depending on the technology available at the time. Additional ancillary infrastructure to the WEF would include underground and above-ground cabling between project components, onsite substation/s, foundations to support turbine towers, internal/ access roads (up to 10 m in width) linking the wind turbines and other infrastructure on the site, and permanent workshop area and office for control, maintenance and storage. As far as possible, existing roads will be utilised and upgraded (where needed) with the relevant stormwater infrastructure and gates constructed as required. The perimeter of the proposed WEF may be enclosed with suitable fencing. A formal laydown area for the construction period, containing a temporary maintenance and storage building along with a guard cabin will also be established.

Additionally, the Applicant is proposing to construct the associated on-site substation and power line, both with a capacity of up to 132kV. This would feed into the existing national electricity grid at the Helios Main Transmission Substation (MTS) located within the property itself. This associated electrical infrastructure will require a separate Environmental Authorisation and is being conducted as a part of a separate Basic Assessment (BA) process.

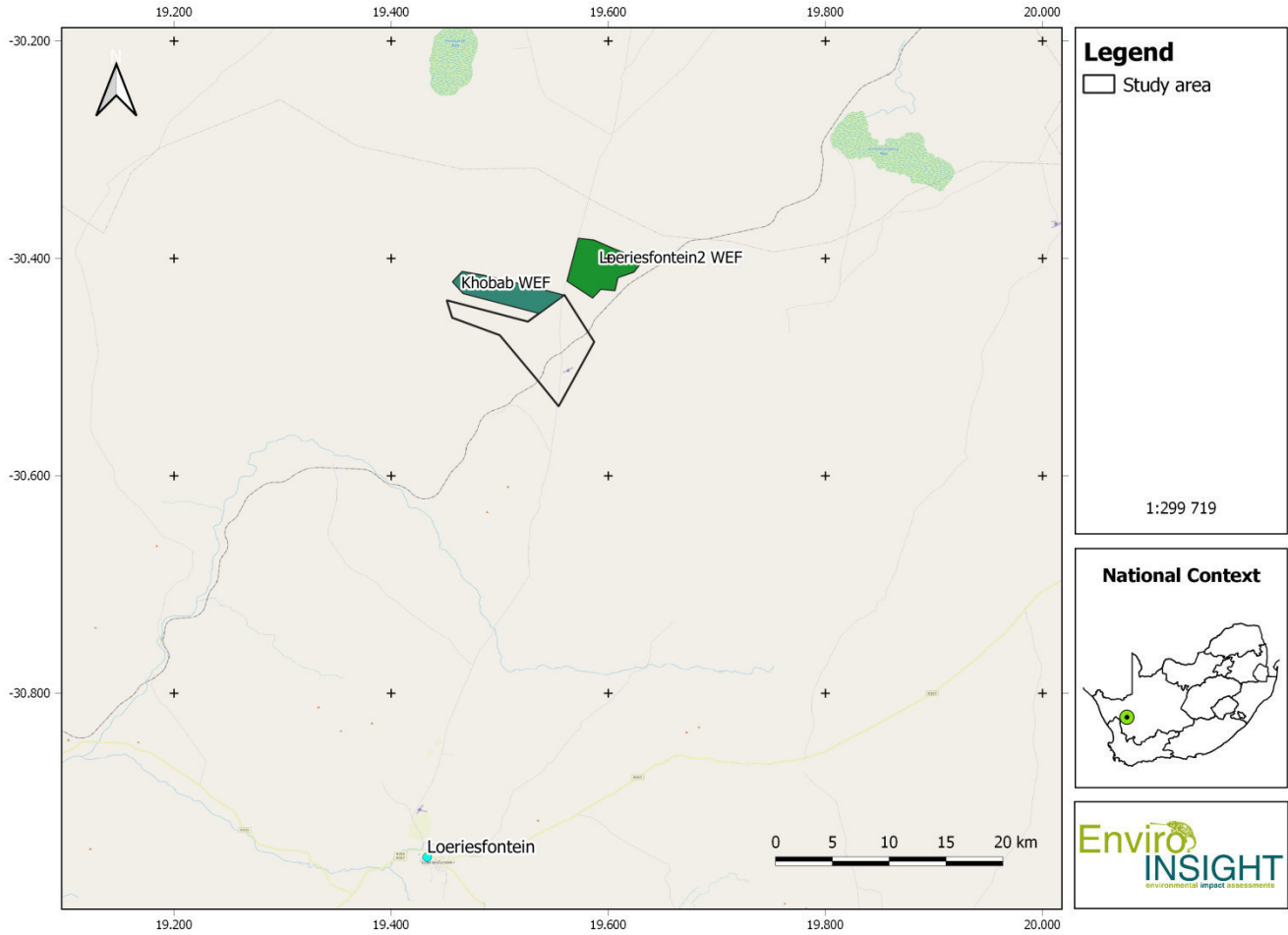


Figure 1: Locality map of the study area for the proposed Botterblom WEF.

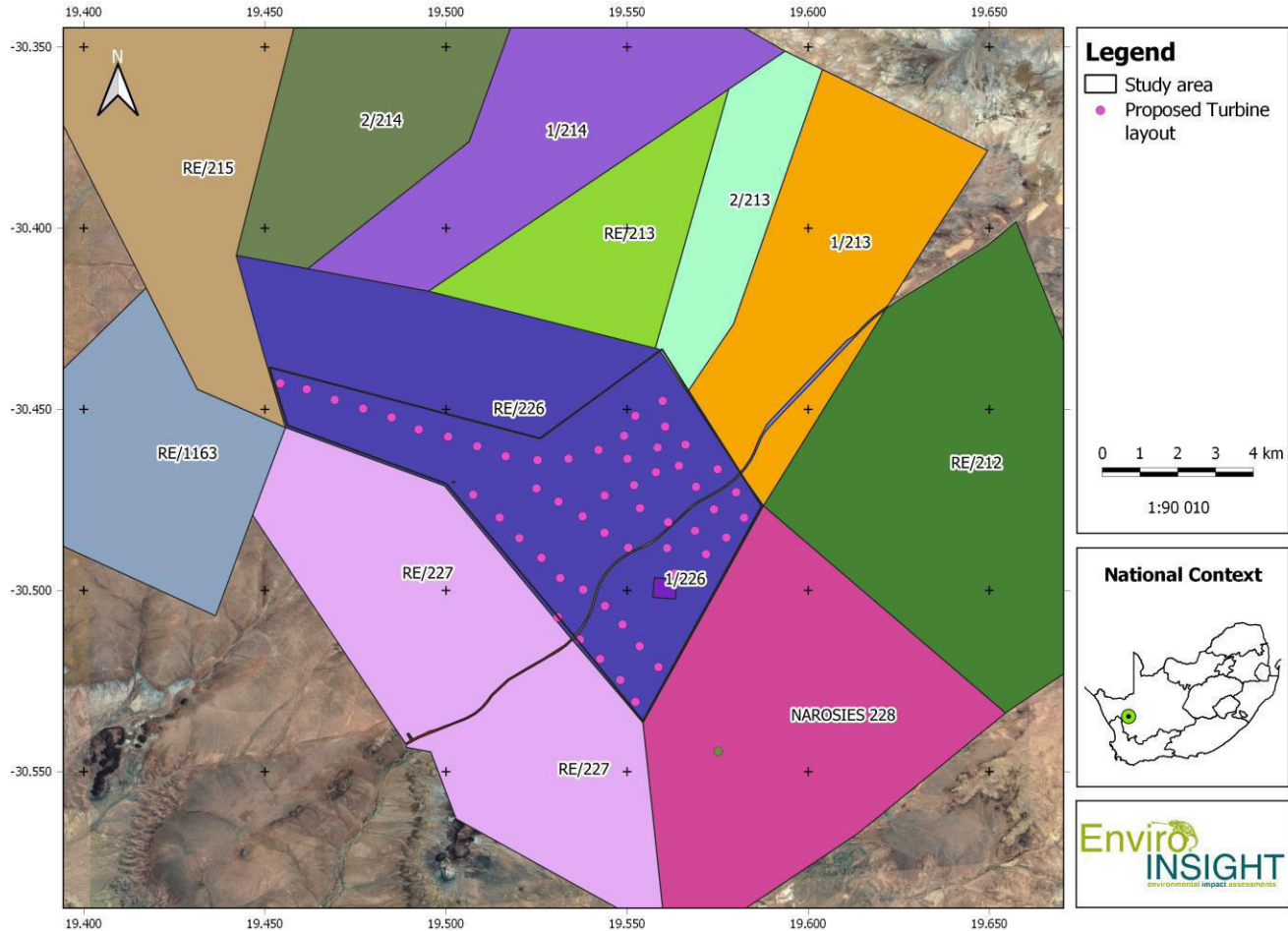


Figure 2: Locality map showing the affected farm portion and surrounding farms.

3 LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

Section 24C(2)(a)(i) of the NEMA stipulates that the Minister of Environment must be identified as the competent authority if the activity has implications for international environmental commitments or relations and where it is identified by the Minister by notice in the Gazette. Accordingly, the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is the competent authority for this environmental authorisation application.

3.1 SCREENING REPORT

The Minister of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries, gave notice that the submission of a report generated from the national web-based environmental screening tool¹, as contemplated in Regulation 16(1)(b)(v) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, published under Government Notice No. R982 in Government Gazette No. 38282 of 4 December 2014, as

¹ <https://screening.environment.gov.za/screeningtool/#/pages/welcome>

amended, will be compulsory from 4 October 2019 when submitting an application for environmental authorisation in terms of regulation 19 and regulation 21 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014.

In addition, a set of protocols that an applicant needs to adhere to in the Environmental Authorisation (EA) process were developed and on 20 March 2020 the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment gazetted the Protocols for national implementation purposes. The gazette 'Procedures to be followed for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting of Identified Environmental Themes in terms of Section 24(5)(a) and (h) of the National Environmental Management Act (1998) when Applying for Environmental Authorisation', has protocols that have been developed for environmental themes which include agriculture, avifauna, biodiversity (Terrestrial and Aquatic Biodiversity), noise, defence and civil aviation. On 30 October 2020, the Minister published the protocol for the Terrestrial animal and plant species themes which was accompanied by the Species Environmental Assessment Guideline (SANBI, 2020)².

The protocols set requirements for the assessment and reporting of environmental impacts of activities requiring EA. The higher the sensitivity rating of the features on the proposed site as identified by the screening tool report, the more rigorous the assessment and reporting requirements.

Based on the generated screening report, all environmental theme sensitivities are indicated in Table 3-1 below.

Table 3-1: Environmental themes from Screening Tool which needs to adhere to in the Environmental Authorisation process.

Theme	Very High sensitivity*	High sensitivity*	Medium sensitivity	Low sensitivity
Agriculture Theme				
Animal Species Theme				
Aquatic Biodiversity Theme				
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme				
Avian (Wind) Theme				
Bats (Wind) Theme				
Civil Aviation (Wind) Theme				
Defence (Wind) Theme				
Flicker Theme				
Landscape (Wind) Theme				
Noise Theme				
Palaeontology Theme				
Plant Species Theme				
RFI (Wind) Theme				
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme				

* Require full assessments.

² Guidelines for the implementation of the Terrestrial Fauna and Terrestrial Flora Species Protocols for environmental impact assessments in South Africa.

The EAP, however, does not agree with the findings of the screening report due to the following:

- the Avian (Wind) Theme should be indicated as High or Very High owing to the presence of species of conservation concern and as this application is for a wind energy facility. Accordingly, the prescribed 12 month preconstruction monitoring is required for this project;
- the Civil Aviation (Wind) Theme should be medium or low, as there is not operational runway on or close to the study area. An unutilised runway is adjacent to the Helios substation. Comments will be sourced from the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) about this;
- the Flicker Theme is indicated as Very High due to the presence of an abandoned house and the Helios substation. This will be assessed, but is likely to be of lower significance.
- the Noise Theme is indicated as Very High due to the presence of an abandoned house and the Helios substation. According to the noise specialist only a compliance statement is required.
- the Palaeontology Theme is indicated as Very High. The SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity Map indicates that the sites is located in High sensitivity, and that a desktop study is required and based on the outcome of the desktop study, a field assessment is likely.

More information on this will be available in the scoping report.

3.2 RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT ZONE

On 17 February 2016, Cabinet approved the Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZs) for large scale wind and solar photovoltaic development and associated Strategic Transmission Corridors (STC) which support areas where long term electricity grid will be developed.

The procedure to be followed in applying for EA for a large-scale project in a REDZ or in a Power Corridor was formally gazetted on 16 February 2018 in GN113 and GN114. On 17 July 2020, Minister Barbara Dallas Creecy, published Government Gazette 43528, Notice 786 for consultation with the intention to identify three additional Renewable Energy Development Zones to the eight Renewable Energy Development Zones published under Government Notice No. 114 in Government Gazette No. 41445 of 16 February 2018. REDZs are also aligned with the powerline corridors that were identified in the Electricity Grid Infrastructure SEA completed in 2016 and gazetted as powerline corridors in February 2018. In this way, the combination of the REDZs and power corridors provides strategic guidance to Eskom on where to prioritise investment in grid infrastructure. Any new electricity grid expansion within the five Strategic Transmission Corridors are subject to a Basic Assessment and not a full EIA process, as well as a shortened timeframe of 147 days (90 day BA process and 57 decision-making process).

The proposed Botterblom WEF is not located in a REDZ, but is located in the Western Strategic Transmission Corridor. Accordingly, a S&EIR is required for the WEF and a BA process is required for the grid connection.

3.3 NEMA EIA REGULATIONS (2014, AS AMENDED)

The proposed Botterblom WEF constitutes various listed activities which have been listed within the scheduled activities in Government Notice EIA Regulation No 324, 325 and 327 (as amended on 7 April 2017) and therefore require a full Scoping and EIA process to be followed. Prior to any listed activity being approved by the DFFE, it is required that an environmental process is undertaken and a report is submitted to the relevant environmental authority for consideration.

The purpose of the S&EIA process is to ensure that potential environmental, economic and social impacts associated with operation and closure/ rehabilitation of a project are identified, assessed and appropriately managed. There are two primary phases, namely the scoping phase and the impact assessment phase.

These two phases are discussed in more detail below:

Scoping Phase

The scoping phase is conducted as the precursor to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process during which:

- Project and baseline environmental information is collated. Baseline information for the scoping report is gathered through visual inspections during field visits of the proposed project area and surroundings, desktop studies which include GIS mapping, and review of existing reports, guidelines and legislation.
- Landowners, adjacent landowners, local authorities, environmental authorities, as well as other stakeholders which may be affected by the project, or that may have an interest in the environmental impacts of the project are identified.
- Interested and affected parties (I&APs) are informed about the proposed project.
- Environmental authorities are consulted to confirm legal and administrative requirements.
- Environmental issues and impacts are identified and described.
- Development alternatives are identified and evaluated, and non-feasible development alternatives are eliminated.
- The nature and extent for further investigations and specialist input required in the EIA phase is identified.
- The draft and final scoping reports are submitted for review by authorities, relevant organs of state and I&APs.
- Key I&AP issues and concerns are collated into an issues and response report for consideration in the EIA phase.

EIA Phase Process

After the initial scoping phase, the EIA phase of the application includes:

- Specialist investigations are undertaken in accordance with the terms of reference established in the scoping assessment (plan of study for EIA appended to the scoping report). The scope for specialist work is determined accordingly to the nature and scale of the project impacts.
- An evaluation of development alternatives and identification of a proposed option.
- An assessment of existing impacts (no-go development option), environmental impacts that may be associated with the proposed project option, and cumulative impacts using the impact assessment methodology.
- Identification of mitigation measures to address the environmental impacts and development of actions required to achieve the mitigation required.

- Consultation with I&APs.
- Incorporation of public comment received during scoping and the draft EIA into the final EIA report.
- Issuing of the final EIA report for review.
- After the draft EIA report was reviewed, comments received are incorporated in the final EIA report and final Environmental Management Program (EMPr).

The requirements for the S&EIA process are specifically contained in Chapter 4 Part 3 of the NEMA Reg No 326 (amended on 7 April 2017). The EIA process can take up to 300 days to complete (87 days for scoping phase, 106 days for EIA phase, and 107 days for competent authority to review).

4 SPECIALIST STUDIES

Specialist studies as per the screening report and national protocols to assess the environmental impacts:

- Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment;
- Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment;
- Sensitive Plant Species Assessment;
- Avifauna pre-construction monitoring and impact Assessment;
- Bat pre-construction monitoring and impact Assessment;
- Noise Compliance Statement;
- Agricultural Compliance Statement;
- Visual and Flicker Impact Assessment;
- Traffic and Transportation Impact Assessment;
- Socio-economic Assessment;
- Heritage Impact Assessment; and
- Paleontological Desktop Assessment.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

5.1 OBJECTIVES OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (PP)

- Provides Interested and Affected parties (I&APs) with an opportunity to voice their support, concerns and questions regarding the project, application or decision;
- Provides an opportunity for I&APs, EAP and the Competent Authority (CA) to obtain clear, accurate and understandable information about the environmental, social and economic impacts of the proposed activity or implications of a decision;
- Provides I&APs with the opportunity of suggesting ways of reducing or mitigating negative impacts of an activity and for enhancing positive impacts
- Enables the applicant to incorporate the needs, preferences and values of affected parties into the application;

5.2 LEGISLATION

The PP Process must comply with the several important sets of legislation that require public participation as part of an application for authorisation or approval; namely:

- The National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998 - NEMA);
- The EIA Regulations (2014, as amended);
- Disaster Management Act (57/2002): Directions Regarding Measures to Address, Prevent and Combat the Spread of COVID-19 Relating to National Environmental Management Permits and Licences.

Adherence to the requirements of the above-mentioned Acts and Regulations will allow for effective PPP to be conducted, and in so doing, satisfy the requirement for public participation referenced in the Acts.

The Directions as published by the Minister of DFFE on 5 June 2020 provides guidance when conducting public participation during the COVID-19 pandemic. All applicable health and safety and other restrictions, directions and requirements determined in terms of section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act are relevant. At all times it must be ensured that reasonable opportunity is provided for public participation and that all administrative actions are reasonable. A compulsory Public Participation Plan (PP Plan) (as required in Annexure 3 of the Directions) for pending applications must be submitted to the relevant assigned case officer for approval prior to commencement of PP Process (see section 5.2.1 below).

As per the Directions:

- “In ensuring the above, applicants and EAPs, in addition to the methods contained in Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations, or as part of reasonable alternative methods proposed in terms of regulation 41(2)(e) of the EIA Regulations, may make use of the following non-exhaustive list of methods:
emails, websites, Zero Data Portals, Cloud Based Services, or similar platforms, direct telephone calls, virtual meetings, newspaper notices, radio advertisements, community representatives, distribution of notices at places that are accessible to potential I&APs.”
- “Reports **may not** be made available at any public places or premises closed to the public, as contemplated in the Regulations. Hard copies or electronic versions of reports may be made accessible through any of the following non-exhaustive list of methods: websites, Zero Data Portals, community or traditional authorities, Cloud Based Services, provided that all registered I&APs have access to the reports.”
- “Unless part of a site visit, virtual or telephonic meetings to be arranged.”

The details of the PP Process are provided below.

5.2.1 Public Participation Plan as submitted and approved by DFFE

The Public Participation Plan was submitted to the DFFE case officer on 6 April 2021 and was approved on the 7th of April 2021.

A summary of the Public Participation Plan, with regards to communication with the landowners and Interested and Affected

Parties (I&APs) are as follows:

Communication with landowners:

- Face-to-face meetings will be avoided as far as possible.
- Communication will be via email, telephonic calls, and WhatsApp messages.
- Meetings will take place via virtual platforms such as Microsoft Teams or Zoom.
- Letters will be sent via post or hand delivered if necessary.

Communication with Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs):

- An advertisement in a local newspaper will be published.
- Site notices will be placed at prominent areas on the boundary fence of the properties.
- I&APs will be notified and will receive updates throughout the process via email or telephonic calls. Where necessary, registered post will be sent.
- All reports / documents will be made available electronically via the EAPs website. No hard copies will be made available at public locations, unless indicated otherwise by DEFF based on the published protocols. At this stage, no communities within the study area or the immediate surrounding area have been identified, with the exception of landowners and individuals utilising the properties (such as farm workers or family members residing on the properties). It must however be indicated that internet connection in this area is generally slow and at times unreliable. In these cases, an electronic CD copy can be provided to affected people. Should other challenges arise during the dissemination of information during the process; this will be discussed with DEFF and alternative measures will be proposed in order to address these limitations.
- Public meetings or open days will not be held. Should the need arise (depending on a number of factors), a virtual meeting can be arranged. Depending on the requirements for such a meeting, the specifics will be captured and discussed with DEFF. As mentioned, internet connection may be problematic for this area, and where necessary alternative arrangements will be made to ensure that all registered I&APs are given adequate opportunity to take part during the public participation process. Minutes of meetings will be captured and made available to all registered I&APs and the final minutes will be included in the scoping and EIA reports submitted to DEFF for decision making.
- All written comments received from registered I&APs will be captured in a Comments and Response Report.

At this stage, no other means of communication or alternatives have been identified. At all times, independent of the proposed methodology identified to conduct effective public participation, will the relevant protocols asset out by the Minister be adhered to.

5.2.2 Identification of I&APs

An I&AP database will be compiled of key stakeholders and I&AP's identified for notification of the Environmental Authorisation Application. The I&AP database includes, amongst others; landowners, affected communities, regulatory

authorities and other specialist interest groups.

5.2.3 Notification and Register of I&APs

The PP Process and a call to register as I&APs commenced on 30 April 2021 with the newspaper advertisement. All individuals who register for this project will be added to the I&AP list, provided that they have given the correct and complete contact details in order to receive communications for this project. The notification procedure also included:

- Newspaper advertisement: published in the Noordwester on 30 April 2021;
- Site Notices: erected at prominent points along the property boundaries and noticeable places on 8 May 2021; and
- Public Notices: distributed to identified stakeholders, landowners and residents (where possible) via email.

The application to the DFFE has not been submitted yet, and all registered I&APs will be notified of this. The formal 300 day EIA process will be initiated once the application has been submitted.

5.3 NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF SCOPING REPORT

The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) will be available to stakeholders and I&APs for a period of 30 days to review and provide comments. All registered I&APs will be notified via email of the availability of the DSR. Electronic copies can be obtained from the Enviro-Insight website: <http://www.enviro-insight.co.za/download-it/project-downloads/>.

Comments raised by stakeholders will assist in informed decision-making for authorities, and provides information to be considered by the project team and specialists conducting studies.

REGISTRATION AND COMMENT FORM

May 2021

Registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) will be informed of ongoing developments. The draft Scoping Report for comment will be available on <http://www.enviro-insight.co.za/download-it/project-downloads/> and all registered I&APs will be notified of its availability in an announcement letter.

Comments raised by stakeholders will assist in informed decision-making for authorities and provides information to be considered by the project team and specialists conducting the Environmental Impact Assessment process. Please register as an I&AP and provide comments by sending this form, or other written correspondence, to the contact details provided below:

Enviro-Insight CC

Reference: Botterblom WEF

Attention: Mr Corné Niemandt

Tel: 012 807 0637

Email: corne@enviro-insight.co.za

www.enviro-insight.co.za

Postal address:

Unit 8, Oppidraai Office Park

862 Wapadrand Rd

Wapadrand Security Village

Pretoria 0081

Please fill in your contact details below for the project database

Title, Full Name				
Designation				
Cellphone		Tel		Fax
Email				
Postal Address				Code

Please indicate which sector you represent and also provide a name (if applicable)

Landowner	
Government Department	
Municipality	
Community	
Non-Government Organisation	
Business	

If you are a landowner or land occupier, please indicate which farm(s) and portion(s) you reside on, as well as the number of people living on the property.

	Farm portion and name	Number of people
Landowner		
Land occupier		

Please complete the questions below to assist with the stakeholder engagement process:

How do you think the project might impact (affect) you?
If you are a landowner or occupier, what is your land currently being used for?
How do you think the project might impact (affect) the socio-economic or biophysical conditions of the area?
Suggest ways that these impacts can be managed or mitigated, or avoided?

Are there any environmental, social or heritage features on the proposed project area we need to be aware of? If possible, please indicate these locations on a map or by providing GPS coordinates.

General Comments

Please sign this document to confirm receipt of this document as well as to verify that the information you provided herein are correct. The information will be captured in the Project database, and will ensure that your comments and concerns are captured. No personal information will be made publically available, but the information will be shared with the competent authority.

Signature: **Name:** **Date:**

If there are any other stakeholders we should include onto the stakeholder database for the proposed project, please forward this BID to them or please provide their contact details (with their permission).

Title, Full Name			
Cellphone	Tel	Fax	
Email			

Title, Full Name			
Cellphone	Tel	Fax	
Email			

Title, Full Name			
Cellphone	Tel	Fax	
Email			

Title, Full Name			
Cellphone	Tel	Fax	
Email			

Appendix E4: Interested and Affect Parties List



Stakeholder	Contact Person
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment: Case officer	Zama Langa
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	Nyiko Nkosi
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	Dr. Danie Smit
Hantam Local Municipality	Jl Swartz
Hantam Local Municipality	Garth S. Mathys
Hantam Local Municipality	BA Leukes
Hantam Local Municipality	Rianna Lock
Hantam Local Municipality: Ward 5	Klaaste Jacques Hermanus Nicolaas
Namakwa District Municipality	Christiaan Fortuin
Northern Cape Department: Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Brian Fisher
Northern Cape Department: Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Peter Cloete
Northern Cape Department: Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Aviwe Nyakaza
Northern Cape Department: Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Conrad Geldenhuys
Northern Cape Department: Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform	Elsabe Swart
Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Itumeleng Mashune
Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Ntanganedzeni Ramasunz
Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Zongezile Bango
Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Magezi Mhlanga
Department of Mineral Resources and Energy	Jasper Nieuwoudt
Department of Mineral Resources and Energy	Ndlelenhle Zindela
Department of Energy: Clean Energy Directorate	Mokgadi Modise
Department of Energy: Renewable Energy Initiatives	Pheladi Masipa
Department of Energy: Renewable Energy Initiatives	Niveshen Govender
Department of Energy: Renewable Energy Initiatives	Noma Qase
Department of Water and Sanitation	Shaun Cloete
Department of Water and Sanitation	A Abrahams
Department of Water and Sanitation	Darril Daniels
Department of Water and Sanitation	Gawie van Dyk
Department of Defence	Colonel Loy de Jager
Department of Defence	General Fordred

South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	Natasha Higgitt
South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	Phillip Hine
South African National Roads Agency	Coleen Runkel
Eskom	J Geeringh
Eskom	Carol Streaton
Eskom	Mpilo Masondo
Eskom	Pumza Jizana
Eskom	Martina Phiri
Department of Roads and Public Works	Kholekile Nogwili
Department of Roads and Public Works	R Van Hinsbergen
Transnet	Cobin Minnie
Transnet	Danie Kotzee
Transnet	Thandeka Nohoyeka
Transnet	Mark Moodaley
Landowner	Francois van der Merwe
AJ van Heerden Family Trust, Leeuwergrivier, 1163	Hercules Christiaan van Heerden
Van der Westhuizen Family Trust, Kleine Rooiberg, RE/227	Josias van der Westhuizen
Van der Westhuizen Family Trust, Kleine Rooiberg, RE/227	Heinie van der Westhuizen
Re of SpringbokPan 1164	D van der Westhuizen
RE of Springbok Tand 215	Deon van der Westhuizen
1,2,3 of Aan de Karree Doorn Pan 213	Albertus Lintvelt
1,2,3 of Aan de Karree Doorn Pan 213	Braam Lintvelt
Re of Aan de Karree Doorn Pan 213	Gert Johannes Lombard
Portion 1 of Karee Doorn Pan 214	Gert Johannes Lombard
Interested or affected party	Ewie Louw
BirdlifeSA	Samantha Ralston-Paton
South African Bat Assessment Association (SABAA)	Dr Caroline Lötter
South African Bat Assessment Association (SABAA)	Kate Richardson
Square Kilometre Array (SKA)	Dr Adrian Tiplady
Square Kilometre Array (SKA)	Selaelo Matlhane
Square Kilometre Array (SKA)	M Baloye
Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) – Wildlife & Energy Programme Manager	L Leeuwener
South African Civil Aviation Authority	L Stroh
South African Civil Aviation Authority	Gugulethu Khanyile
Mainstream Renewable Power	Pieter de Villiers
Mainstream Renewable Power	Chris Billingham
Mainstream Renewable Power	Yajhna Singh
Mainstream Renewable Power	David Dean
Mainstream Renewable Power	Titania Stefanus-Zincke
Mainstream Renewable Power	Rebecca Thomas
Mainstream Renewable Power	Themba Mnguni
Mainstream Renewable Power	Eugene Marais
Mainstream Renewable Power	Johan Stander

SiVEST	Hlengiwe Ntuli
Ondervoorsitter Loeriesfontein Boere-Unie	Callie van Zyl
African Clean Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd	Kholofelo Rameetse
African Clean Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd	Stephnie Kot
Vodacom	Nico Fourie
Agri Noord-Kaap	Danie Jacobs

Appendix E5: Public Participation Plan



Enviro-Insight CC
Unit 8 Oppidraai Officepark
862 Wapadrand Road
Wapadrand Security Village
Pretoria 0081

6 April 2021

Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries
Attention: Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Attention: Zama Langa - ZLanga@environment.gov.za

RE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN AS PART OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION APPLICATION FOR THE PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE LOCATED ON THE REMAINDER OF THE FARM SOUS 226 NEAR LOERIESFONTEIN IN THE NORTHERN CAPE (REF No.: 2020-10-0025)

Dear Ms. Langa,

The applicant, Botterblom Pty Ltd, wishes to apply for an environmental authorisation application for the proposed Botterblom Wind Energy Facility (WEF) and associated infrastructure located on the Remainder of the Farm Sous 226 in the Northern Cape Province.

In terms of the "*Directions for Measures to be taken to obtain NEMA Permits and License*", which was promulgated during the lockdown on 5 June 2020, a Public Participation Plan needs to be submitted to the relevant Department for consideration and approval prior to commencing the Public Participation Process. Enviro-Insight hereby requires the approval of this proposed plan from DEFF prior to the commencement of the Public Participation Process for the Project. The proposed "Public Participation Plan" is outlined below.

Mr Corné Niemandt from Enviro-Insight CC is the responsible Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) for this application. His contact details are provided below.

Please do not hesitate to contact the EAP should you require further information regarding this application.

Sincerely,



Corné Niemandt
on behalf of Enviro-Insight CC
Senior Consultant
Email: come@enviro-insight.co.za
Tel: 012 807 0637

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION APPLICATION (REF No.: 2020-10-0025)

This section may need to be updated after feedback has been received from DEFF on subsequent Public Participation Plan.

A pre-application meeting was held on 20 November 2020 between DEFF, the EAP and the Applicant. The minutes of this meeting will be submitted along with the application form.

Communication with DEFF:

- Ms. Langa has been indicated as the official for this Project, and all communication will be directed to her and any other official stipulated by DEFF.
- Face-to-face meetings will be avoided as far as possible.
- Communication will be via email, telephonic discussions, and where required meetings shall take place via virtual platforms such as Microsoft Teams or Zoom.
- A site visit may take place at the discretion of the DEFF officials. This will be in line with the current COVID Regulations, where masks will be worn by all attendees, sanitiser will be provided for hands, and the minimum distance of 1.5m between attendees will be supported. A site visit will only include the applicant, the EAP and the indicated officials from DEFF in order to minimise the number of people.
- All documents will be uploaded via the Online Submission platform and sending emails to ElApplications@environment.gov.za, unless DEFF requests that a hard copy should be delivered. Should a hard copy be requested, this document will be sanitised and delivered by a reputable third party courier.

Communication with the applicant:

- Face-to-face meetings will be avoided as far as possible.
- Communication will be via email, telephonic calls, and WhatsApp messages.
- Meetings will take place via virtual platforms such as Microsoft Teams or Zoom.

Communication with landowners:

- Face-to-face meetings will be avoided as far as possible.
- Communication will be via email, telephonic calls, and WhatsApp messages.
- Meetings will take place via virtual platforms such as Microsoft Teams or Zoom.
- Letters will be sent via post or hand delivered if necessary.

Communication with Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs):

- An advertisement in a local newspaper will be published.
- Site notices will be placed at prominent areas on the boundary fence of the properties.
- I&APs will be notified and will receive updates throughout the process via email or telephonic calls. Where necessary, registered post will be sent.
- All reports / documents will be made available electronically via the EAPs website. No hard copies will be made available at public locations, unless indicated otherwise by DEFF based on the published protocols. At this stage, no communities within the study area or the immediate surrounding area have been identified, with the exception of landowners and individuals utilising the properties (such as farm workers or family members residing on the properties). It must however be indicated that internet connection in this area is generally slow and at times unreliable. In these cases, an electronic CD copy can be provided to affected people. Should other challenges arise during the dissemination of information during the process; this will be discussed with DEFF and alternative measures will be proposed in order to address these limitations.
- Public meetings or open days will not be held. Should the need arise (depending on a number of factors), a virtual meeting can be arranged. Depending on the requirements for such a meeting, the specifics will be captured and discussed with DEFF. As mentioned, internet connection may be problematic for this area, and where necessary alternative arrangements will be made to ensure that all registered I&APs are given adequate opportunity to take part during the public participation process. Minutes of meetings will be captured and made available to all registered I&APs and the final minutes will be included in the scoping and EIA reports submitted to DEFF for decision making.
- All written comments received from registered I&APs will be captured in a Comments and Response Report.

At this stage, no other means of communication or alternatives have been identified. At all times, independent of the proposed methodology identified to conduct effective public participation, will the relevant protocols as set out by the Minister be adhered to.

Appendix E6: Scoping Phase Communication





Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Botterblom windplaas

2 messages

Callie van Zyl <callie.vanzyl@gmail.com>

5 May 2021 at 23:27

To: "corne@enviro-insight.co.za" <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Dagsê

Kan jy my asb registreer vir n affected party.

Ons sal graag wil hê dat jul asb met ons boere-unie vergader.

Epos asb inligting na my as kontakpersoon.

Dankie
Callie van Zyl

Ondervoorsitter Loeriesfontein Boere-Unie

Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

6 May 2021 at 08:40

To: Callie van Zyl <callie.vanzyl@gmail.com>

Goeiemôre Mr. Van Zyl,

Hiermee registreer ek u as 'n geaffekteerde party.

Ons sal graag met julle die projek bespreek. Neem asb net kennis dat weens Covid-19 ons baie streng maatreëls moet handhaaf, en dus gaan die vergadering op 'n virtuele platform moet plaasvind. Indien dit nie moontlik is nie, moet ons spesiale vergunning van die Departement verkry. Ek versoek asseblief net dat julle vooraf die agenda van die vergadering vasstel, en moontlike vrae of bespreek punte vir ons stuur sodat die vergadering betekenisvol kan wees.

Let asb daarop dat ons in die begin fase van die projek is en dat die aansoek nog nie ingedien is by die Departement nie. Soos die projek aangaan sal julle ophoogte gehou word en inligting ontvang, insluitend die verslae vir nasien en om kommentaar te lewer.

Indien julle enige vrae het kontak my gerus. My mobiele nommer is 073 405 5708.

Vriendelike Groete,

Corné Niemandt

Senior Specialist and EAP
Pr. Sci. Nat. Ecological Science
M.Sc. Plant Science
IAIAsa Member
Office: +27 (0)12 807 0637www.enviro-insight.co.za

[Quoted text hidden]



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Proposed development of a wind energy facility near Loeriesfontein in the Northern Cape

4 messages

Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

4 May 2021 at 12:35

To: enquiries@ska.ac.za, info@ska.co.za

Good day,

We have been appointed to run the environmental authorisation process for a proposed wind energy facility near Loeriesfontein in the Northern Cape. Can you kindly indicate who the right person is to contact with regards to commenting on the scoping and environmental impact assessment reports for public review.

Kind Regards,

Corné Niemandt

Senior Specialist and EAP
Pr. Sci. Nat. Ecological Science
M.Sc. Plant Science
IAIAsa Member
Office: +27 (0)12 807 0637

www.enviro-insight.co.za

Mail Delivery Subsystem <mailer-daemon@googlemail.com>

4 May 2021 at 12:35

To: corne@enviro-insight.co.za



Address not found

Your message wasn't delivered to **info@ska.co.za** because the address couldn't be found or is unable to receive email.

The response from the remote server was:

550 Unrouteable address

Final-Recipient: rfc822; info@ska.co.za

Action: failed

Status: 5.0.0

Remote-MTA: dns; mx0.zomerlust.com. (129.232.149.162, the server for the domain ska.co.za.)

Diagnostic-Code: smtp; 550 Unrouteable address

Last-Attempt-Date: Tue, 04 May 2021 03:35:57 -0700 (PDT)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Corné Niemandt" <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

To: enquiries@ska.ac.za, info@ska.co.za

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Tue, 4 May 2021 12:35:20 +0200

Subject: Proposed development of a wind energy facility near Loeriesfontein in the Northern Cape

Good day,

We have been appointed to run the environmental authorisation process for a proposed wind energy facility near Loeriesfontein in the Northern Cape. Can you kindly indicate who the right person is to contact with regards to commenting on the scoping and environmental impact assessment reports for public review.

Kind Regards,

Corné Niemandt

Senior Specialist and EAP

Pr. Sci. Nat. Ecological Science

M.Sc. Plant Science

IAIAsa Member

Office: +27 (0)12 807 0637



www.enviro-insight.co.za

Adrian Tiplady <atiplady@ska.ac.za>

4 May 2021 at 13:24

To: corne@enviro-insight.co.za

Cc: Selaelo Matlhane <smatlhane@ska.ac.za>, "mbaloye@ska.ac.za" <mbaloye@ska.ac.za>

Dear Corne,

Thank you for the email. My colleagues cc'd will be able to address any queries you may have in respect of renewable energy developments.

Kind Regards,

Adrian

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Dr. Adrian Tiplady

Deputy Managing Director: Strategy and Partnerships

South African Radio Astronomy Observatory

+27 11 442 2434

+27 72 372 0134

www.sarao.ac.za

Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

6 May 2021 at 08:46

To: Adrian Tiplady <atiplady@ska.ac.za>

Cc: Selaelo Matlhane <smatlhane@ska.ac.za>, "mbaloye@ska.ac.za" <mbaloye@ska.ac.za>

Good morning Dr Tiplady and colleagues,

Thank you for this. Please take note that an application for environmental authorisation has not been submitted yet. I am registering you as interested and affected parties for the proposed Botterblom Wind Energy Facility located north of Loeriesfontein in the Northern Cape.

Please feel free to contact me during the process should you have any questions.

Kind Regards,

Corné Niemandt

Senior Specialist and EAP
Pr. Sci. Nat. Ecological Science
M.Sc. Plant Science
IAIAsa Member
Office: +27 (0)12 807 0637
Cell: +27 (0)73 405 5708



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[Quoted text hidden]



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Proposed development of a wind energy facility near Loeriesfontein in the Northern Cape

Selaelo Mathhane - SKA <smathhane@ska.ac.za>

6 May 2021 at 09:03

To: Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Cc: Adrian Tiplady <atiplady@ska.ac.za>, "mbaloye@ska.ac.za" <mbaloye@ska.ac.za>, T Nape <tnape@ska.ac.za>

Dear Mr. Niemandt

Thank you for registering SARAO as an interested and affected stakeholder for the proposed Botterblom Wind Energy Facility, located north of Loeriesfontein in the Northern Cape.

Thank you

Selaelo

[Quoted text hidden]



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Proposed Botterblom wind energy facility near Loeriesfontein, Northern Cape

1 message

Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>
To: jiswartz@hantam.gov.za

11 May 2021 at 09:46

Good day,

Enviro-Insight has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) for the proposed development of a wind energy facility north of Loeriesfontein in the Northern Cape, to be known as Botterblom WEF.

The proposed development is located in Ward 5 of the Hantam Local Municipality. Could you kindly provide the contact details of the ward councillor for Ward 5 in order to receive information on the project.

Please take note that a Background Information document will be released soon to all registered stakeholders, including the Hantam Local Municipality.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind Regards,

Corné Niemandt

Senior Specialist and EAP
Pr. Sci. Nat. Ecological Science
M.Sc. Plant Science
IAIAsa Member
Office: +27 (0)12 807 0637



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Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Read: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS

1 message

Jan Swartz <jiswartz@hantam.gov.za>
To: corne@enviro-insight.co.za

25 May 2021 at 07:28

Message was read on: 2021/05/25 07:28:10

Subject: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS
To: undisclosed-recipients
Sent: 2021/05/24 20:03:59



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Read: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS

1 message

Heinie - Multipunch <Heinie@multipunch.co.za>

24 May 2021 at 19:57

To: "corne@enviro-insight.co.za" <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Your message

To: Heinie - Multipunch

Subject: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS

Sent: Monday, 24 May 2021 8:03:59 PM (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria

was read on Monday, 24 May 2021 7:57:56 PM (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria.



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Not read: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS

1 message

Hendrik Reyneke <Hein.Reyneke@mainstreamrp.com>
To: "corne@enviro-insight.co.za" <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

24 May 2021 at 20:04

Your message

To: Hendrik Reyneke
Subject: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS
Sent: Monday, 24 May 2021 20:03:59 (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria

was deleted without being read on Monday, 24 May 2021 20:04:50 (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria.



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Not read: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS

1 message

Pieter De Villiers <Pieter.DeVilliers@mainstreamrp.com>
To: "corne@enviro-insight.co.za" <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

24 May 2021 at 20:04

Your message

To: Pieter De Villiers
Subject: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS
Sent: 24 May 2021 20:03:59 (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria

was deleted without being read on 24 May 2021 20:04:49 (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria.



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Not read: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS

Luchen Reddy <Reddylu@eskom.co.za>

28 May 2021 at 14:25

To: "corne@enviro-insight.co.za" <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Your message

To: Luchen Reddy

Subject: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS

Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 8:03:59 PM (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria

was deleted without being read on Friday, May 28, 2021 2:25:54 PM (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria.



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Fwd: Botterblom Wind energie Loeriesfontein

Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>
To: lockg@hantam.gov.za
Cc: jiswartz@hantam.gov.za

26 May 2021 at 18:24

Goeiedag,

Hiermee bevestig ek dat julle geregistreer is vir hierdie projek.

Vriendelike Groete,

Corné Niemandt

Senior Specialist and EAP
Pr. Sci. Nat. Ecological Science
M.Sc. Plant Science
IAIAsa Member
Office: +27 (0)12 807 0637



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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Rianna Lock** <lockg@hantam.gov.za>
Date: Wed, 26 May 2021, 2:14 pm
Subject: Botterblom Wind energie Loeriesfontein
To: <info@enviro-insight.co.za>
Cc: Jan Swartz <jiswartz@hantam.gov.za>

Goeiedag

Geliewe Hantam Munisipaliteit, met setel in CALVINIA, te registreer as geaffekteerde party vir hierdie projek.

Dankie.

Riana Lock

Stadsbeplanning



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS

Abrahams Abe (KBY) <AbrahamsA@dws.gov.za>

26 May 2021 at 09:29

To: "Feni Ntombizanele (KBY)" <FeniN2@dws.gov.za>, "Hlengani Alexia (UPN)" <HlenganiA@dws.gov.za>, "Kgaphola Mashudu (UPN)" <KgapholaM@dws.gov.za>, "Mokhoantle Lerato (KBY)" <MokhoantleL@dws.gov.za>

Cc: "Van Dyk Gawie (KBY)" <VanDykG@dws.gov.za>, "corne@enviro-insight.co.za" <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

From: Corné Niemandt [mailto:corne@enviro-insight.co.za]**Sent:** Monday, 24 May 2021 20:04**Subject:** PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS

Dear Interested and/or Affected Party,

[Quoted text hidden]

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2 attachments

**Botterblom_BID_May2021.pdf**

883K

**Botterblom_Agtergrondinligtingsdokument_Mei2021.pdf**

973K



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Read: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS

1 message

Ndlelenhle Zindela <Ndlelenhle.Zindela@dmre.gov.za>
To: "corne@enviro-insight.co.za" <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

25 May 2021 at 12:53

Your message

To: Ndlelenhle Zindela
Subject: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS
Sent: 24 May 2021 08:03:59 PM (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria

was read on 25 May 2021 12:53:38 PM (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria.



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Read: Re: FW: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS

1 message

Yajhna Singh <Yajhna.Singh@mainstreamrp.com>
To: "corne@enviro-insight.co.za" <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

30 May 2021 at 16:22

Your message

To: Yajhna Singh
Subject: Re: FW: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS
Sent: Sunday, May 30, 2021 2:45:06 PM (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria

was read on Sunday, May 30, 2021 4:22:42 PM (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria.



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS

Pieter De Villiers <Pieter.DeVilliers@mainstreamrp.com>
To: "corne@enviro-insight.co.za" <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

31 May 2021 at 09:08

Your message

To: Pieter De Villiers
Subject: Re: FW: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS
Sent: Sunday, May 30, 2021 2:45:06 PM (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria

was read on Monday, May 31, 2021 9:07:40 AM (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria.



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS

Dr Caroline Lötter <info@sabaa.org.za>
Reply-To: info@sabaa.org.za
To: Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

1 June 2021 at 08:44

Hi Corné

Please kindly register the South African Bat Assessment Association (SABAA) using this e-mail address.

Thanks

Dr Caroline Lötter

From: Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>
Sent: Monday, 24 May 2021 20:04
To: undisclosed-recipients:
Subject: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS

Dear Interested and/or Affected Party,

In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 and the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), Enviro-Insight CC has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by FE Botterblom WEF (Pty) Ltd to conduct the Scoping and EIA process for the proposed development of a wind farm and associated infrastructure to be known as Botterblom WEF.

Enviro-Insight CC would like to invite you, as a potential Interested and/or Affected Party (I&AP), to become actively involved in the public participation process for this proposed project. Attached to this email is the Background Information Document (BID) which contains information regarding the proposed project, the Scoping and EIA process and the public participation process.

It is hereby requested to please complete and submit the attached registration and comment form in order to be registered as an I&AP on the project database and to be able to receive important information regarding this Project.

We would like to thank you, in advance, for taking part in the public participation process and are looking forward to receiving your valuable comments relating to the proposed project.

Geagte Belangstellende en/of Geaffekteerde Party,

Enviro-Insight CC is deur FE Botterblom WEF (Pty) Ltd (die Applikant) aangestel as die onafhanklike omgewingsevalueringpraktisyn (OEP) om die Omgewingsimpakevaluering (OIE) te onderneem vir die beoogde ontwikkeling van 'n wind plaas en gepaardgaande infrastruktuur, wat bekend gaan wees as Botterblom Windplaas, volgens die Nasionale Wet op Omgewingsbestuur (NEMA, Wet 107 van 1998).

Hiermee wil Enviro-Insight u as 'n potensiële Belangstellende en/of Geaffekteerde Party (B&GP), uitnooi om aktief by die OIE-, en openbare deelnameproses vir hierdie beoogde projek betrokke te raak. Vind aangeheg die Agtergrondinligtingsdokument wat inligting oor die beoogde projek, asook die OIE-, en openbare deelnameproses bevat.

Deur die aangehegde registrasie- en kommentaarvorm in te vul en terug te stuur, sal u as 'n B&GP op die projek se databasis geregistreer word en belangrike inligting ontvang oor die Projek.

Ons bedank u by voorbaat dat u deel word van die openbare deelnameproses en ons sien uit daarna om u waardevolle insette aangaande die beoogde projek te ontvang

Kind Regards / Vriendelike Groete,

Corné Niemandt

Senior Specialist and EAP

Pr. Sci. Nat. Ecological Science

M.Sc. Plant Science

IAIAsa Member

Office: +27 (0)12 807 0637

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Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Botterblom Wind Farm

3 messages

Dirk Pretorius <djppre@gmail.com>
To: corne@enviro-insight.co.za

20 June 2021 at 08:38

Hi Corne,

I saw a notice up near Loeriesfontein about a proposed Botterblom wind farm.

What is the status of this EIA process? I did not see a date on the notice and couldn't find any information on your website.

Kind regards,

Dirk

Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>
To: Dirk Pretorius <djppre@gmail.com>

21 June 2021 at 08:32

Good day Mr Pretorius,

Please find attached the Background Information Document and Registration Form for the project. The application for the project has not been submitted yet. Once the process commences, all registered interested and affected parties will be notified.

Kind Regards,

Corné Niemandt

Senior Specialist and EAP
Pr. Sci. Nat. Ecological Science
M.Sc. Plant Science
IAIAsa Member
Office: +27 (0)12 807 0637



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[Quoted text hidden]

2 attachments

 **Botterblom_Agtergrondinligtingsdokument_Mei2021.pdf**
973K

 **Botterblom_BID_May2021.pdf**
883K

Dirk Pretorius <djppre@gmail.com>
To: Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

21 June 2021 at 08:43

Thanks for the speedy reply Corné, appreciated.

Kind regards,

Dirk

From: Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>
Date: Monday, 21 June 2021 at 08:33
To: Dirk Pretorius <djppre@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Botterblom Wind Farm

Good day Mr Pretorius,

Please find attached the Background Information Document and Registration Form for the project. The application for the project has not been submitted yet. Once the process commences, all registered interested and affected parties will be notified.

Kind Regards,

Corné Niemandt


Senior Specialist and EAP

Pr. Sci. Nat. Ecological Science

M.Sc. Plant Science

IAIAsa Member

Office: +27 (0)12 807 0637

 Image removed by sender.

www.enviro-insight.co.za

[Quoted text hidden]



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Botterblom WEF

Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>
To: David Dean <David.Dean@mainstreamrp.com>

1 June 2021 at 10:48

Good day,

You are hereby registered as an interested and affected party for the proposed Botterblom WEF project.

Kind Regards,

Corné Niemandt

Senior Specialist and EAP
Pr. Sci. Nat. Ecological Science
M.Sc. Plant Science
IAIAsa Member
Office: +27 (0)12 807 0637



www.enviro-insight.co.za

On Mon, 31 May 2021 at 12:36, David Dean <David.Dean@mainstreamrp.com> wrote:

Good day

I would like to register as an interested and affected party.

Thank you

David Dean

GIS Specialist

Mobile : +27 (0)78 006 2187



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Read: FW: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS

Chris Billingham <Chris.Billingham@mainstreamrp.com>
To: "corne@enviro-insight.co.za" <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

30 June 2021 at 11:17

Your message

To: Chris Billingham
Subject: Re: FW: PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WEF: INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS
Sent: Sunday, May 30, 2021 2:45:06 PM (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria

was read on Wednesday, June 30, 2021 11:17:35 AM (UTC+02:00) Harare, Pretoria.



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Botterblom WEF: Registration as I&AP

2 messages

Kholofelo Rameetse <Kholofelo.Rameetse@aced.co.za>
To: "corne@enviro-insight.co.za" <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>
Cc: Stephnie Kot <stephnie.kot@aced.co.za>

30 June 2021 at 11:30

Good day Corne

I hope you are well. Kindly note that we wish to be registered as interested and affected parties as developers of the authorized Kokerboom 1, 2 & 3 WEFs.

Kind regards,

Kholofelo Rameetse

Land and Environmental Project Manager

African Clean Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd

Tel: +27 (0) 21 670 1424

Cell: +27 (0) 81 087 4791

Email: kholofelo.rameetse@aced.co.za

Web: www.aced.co.za



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>
To: Kholofelo Rameetse <Kholofelo.Rameetse@aced.co.za>
Cc: Stephnie Kot <stephnie.kot@aced.co.za>

1 July 2021 at 10:58

Dear Kholofelo,

You are hereby registered as an I&AP for this project. Please see attached the background information document for more details on the proposed project.

Should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Kind Regards,

Corné Niemandt

Senior Specialist and EAP
Pr. Sci. Nat. Ecological Science
M.Sc. Plant Science
IAIAsa Member
Office: +27 (0)12 807 0637



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

14/12/16/3/3/2/2098

2 messages

Lydia Kutu <LKutu@environment.gov.za>

1 September 2021 at 13:05

To: "corne@enviro-insight.co.za" <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Cc: Zama Langa <ZLanga@environment.gov.za>, Salome Mambane <SMambane@environment.gov.za>

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NORTH OF LOERIESFONTEIN IN THE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Application form and draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 31 August 2021. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Kindly note that your application for Environmental Authorisation falls within the ambit of an application applied for in terms of Part 3 of Chapter 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. You are therefore referred to Regulation 21 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

Please take note of Regulation 40(3) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that potential Interested & Affected Parties, including the Competent Authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in Regulation 40(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, prior to the submission of an application but **must** be provided an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the Competent Authority.

Note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the time-frames prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted by the Department in terms of Regulation 3(7) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Kind Regards,

Lydia Kutu

Integrated Environmental Authorisations:

Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support

Tel: (012) 399 9370

Email: LKutu@environment.gov.za

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Lydia Kutu
Administrative Support
 IEA Support
 T: 0123999370 | C:
 E: LKutu@environment.gov.za
 W:
 A:



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Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>
 To: Lydia Kutu <LKutu@environment.gov.za>
 Cc: Zama Langa <ZLanga@environment.gov.za>, Salome Mambane <SMambane@environment.gov.za>

1 September 2021 at 15:08

Dear Lydia,

Thank you for the acknowledgement. We take note of the conditions and stipulations as per the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Kind Regards,

Corné Niemandt

Senior Specialist and EAP
Pr. Sci. Nat. Ecological Science
M.Sc. Plant Science
IAIAsa Member
Office: +27 (0)12 807 0637



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[Quoted text hidden]



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Technical requirements

Marina Lourens Transnet Freight Rail <Marina.Lourens@transnet.net>
To: Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

15 September 2021 at 10:42

Hi Corne

Please find some Technical Requirements for when any work is done under or over the tracks and application for such works must be submitted way in advance as this will result in a Way Leave that can take a while and there will be fees payable

Thanks

M

-----Original Message-----

From: "Marina Lourens Transnet Freight Rail" [mailto:Marina.Lourens@transnet.net]
Sent: 15 September 2021 10:37 AM
To: Marina Lourens Transnet Freight Rail <Marina.Lourens@transnet.net>
Subject: Attached Image

[<https://www.transnet.net/Coronavirus/Zero%20Gifts%20policy%20revised-%208pt.jpg>]

[<https://www.transnet.net/Coronavirus/Zero%20Gifts%20policy%20revised-%208pt.jpg>]

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 **SLDTRWPUPS01_FRP055_16_3005_001.pdf**
96K



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

FW: Scoping report

2 messages

Marina Lourens Transnet Freight Rail <Marina.Lourens@transnet.net>
To: Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

15 September 2021 at 10:09

Hi Corne

I manage to open the file with the scoping report and did send it to our Property department to look at it and below is his reply – so if I look at it Transnet will not be affected - but please reply if we are wrong and that this will be over or under our railway line

Thanks

Marina

The proposed windfarm will be located on land adjacent to the Ore Line as described in my letter.

As the draft scoping report only gives a general project overview, we are not in a position to determine how or if Ore line rail infrastructure could be affected. It does appear from the report that no new infrastructure is planned to cross the railway line, but this can only be confirmed once the project and site layouts have been finalised.

Our office have no objection to the project, but the applicant must be informed to make formal applications if they plan to cross the railway line with new services.

TRANSNET HAS A 'ZERO GIFTS' POLICY. NO EMPLOYEE IS ALLOWED TO ACCEPT GIFTS, FAVOURS OR BENEFITS

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Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

15 September 2021 at 10:20

To: Marina Lourens Transnet Freight Rail <Marina.Lourens@transnet.net>

Dear Marina,

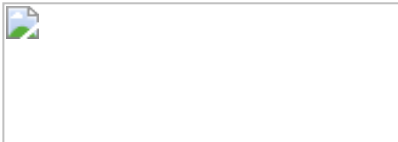
I am glad you could open the report. Please take note that the current report excludes the grid connection, and a separate basic assessment report is required for this. Once the application is submitted we will notify you of the availability of the draft BA report for review, as the planned grid connection is likely to cross the railway line to connect to the Helios substation.

If there are any inputs or guidelines you can provide on this now already we can incorporate it from the start. I will discuss with the developer and request them to contact you if a special arrangement needs to be made for this, or to consider other alternatives in order to avoid crossing the railway lines.

Kind Regards,

Corné Niemandt

Senior Specialist and EAP
Pr. Sci. Nat. Ecological Science
M.Sc. Plant Science
IAIAsa Member
Office: +27 (0)12 807 0637



www.enviro-insight.co.za

[Quoted text hidden]



Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

RE: [CAUTION:EXTERNAL EMAIL] - Re: KMZ FILE REQUEST FOR Proposed Botterblom Wind Farm: Submission of Final Scoping Report to DFFE (14/12/16/3/3/2/2098)

Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>
To: John Geeringh <GeerinJH@eskom.co.za>
Cc: Khululwa Gaongalelwe <StuurmKV@eskom.co.za>

10 November 2021 at 12:15

Hi John

Thank you so much for sharing this information. Can you perhaps send the kmz file for this as it will assist the developer in avoiding these areas. We are working on the updated layout based on all input received so far.

Khululwa, can you please confirm the status of these servitudes to ensure we include the final layout.

Kind Regards,

Corné Niemandt

Senior Specialist and EAP
Pr. Sci. Nat. Ecological Science
M.Sc. Plant Science
IAIAsa Member
Office: +27 (0)12 807 0637

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On Wed, 10 Nov 2021 at 11:39, John Geeringh <GeerinJH@eskom.co.za> wrote:

These are approved corridors for Eskom projects, sorry this is only sent to you now. I am not sure of the status of the negotiations for the final servitude, please contact Khululwa to update you on that matter.

Regards

John

From: Khululwa Gaongalelwe <StuurmKV@eskom.co.za>

Sent: Wednesday, 10 November 2021 11:15

To: John Geeringh <GeerinJH@eskom.co.za>

Subject: FW: [CAUTION:EXTERNAL EMAIL] - Re: KMZ FILE REQUEST FOR Proposed Botterblom Wind Farm: Submission of Final Scoping Report to DFFE (14/12/16/3/3/2/2098)

Good day John

Please see below email from Christo, I hope you send the information to Corné so that we don't get in trouble.

Thank you.

Warm regards

From: Christo Badenhorst <BadenhC@eskom.co.za>

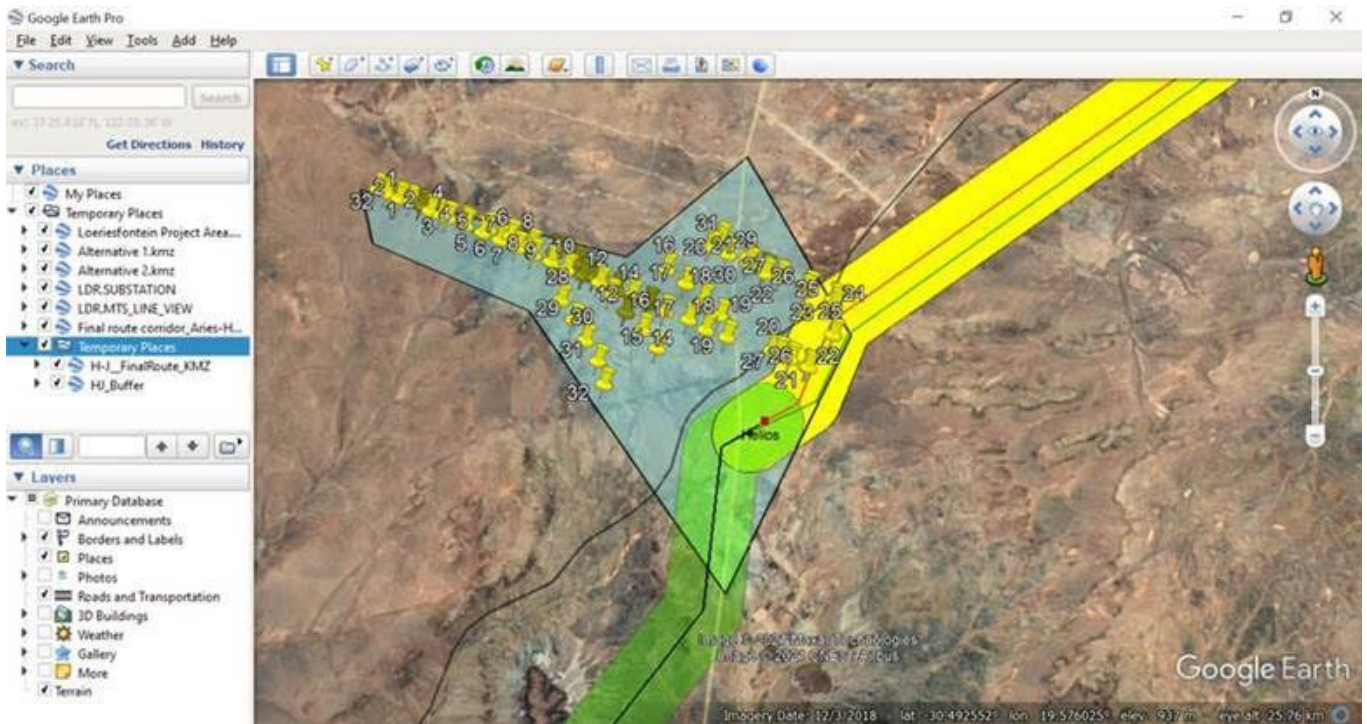
Sent: Monday, 08 November 2021 12:08

To: Khululwa Gaongalelwe <StuurmKV@eskom.co.za>

Subject: RE: [CAUTION:EXTERNAL EMAIL] - Re: KMZ FILE REQUEST FOR Proposed Botterblom Wind Farm: Submission of Final Scoping Report to DFFE (14/12/16/3/3/2/2098)

Hi Khululwa,

It affects the Aries-Helios and Helios-Juno approved corridors.



From: Khululwa Gaongalelwe <StuurmKV@eskom.co.za>

Sent: Monday, 08 November 2021 09:39

To: Christo Badenhorst <BadenhC@eskom.co.za>

Subject: FW: [CAUTION:EXTERNAL EMAIL] - Re: KMZ FILE REQUEST FOR Proposed Botterblom Wind Farm: Submission of Final Scoping Report to DFFE (14/12/16/3/3/2/2098)

Good morning Christo

Long time, kindly verify if the attached project does not affect our Eskom lines.

Much appreciated .

Warm regards

Khululwa

From: Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Sent: Monday, 08 November 2021 09:23

To: Khululwa Gaongalelwe <StuurmKV@eskom.co.za>

Subject: [CAUTION:EXTERNAL EMAIL] - Re: KMZ FILE REQUEST FOR Proposed Botterblom Wind Farm: Submission of Final Scoping Report to DFFE (14/12/16/3/3/2/2098)

Good morning,

Apologies for the late reply. I have already spoken to your colleague John Geeringh who advised on the powerline setbacks etc. Please see attached the study area and current layout. Please take note that alternatives are being considered and this information will be presented in the EIA phase.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,

Corné Niemandt

Senior Specialist and EAP

Pr. Sci. Nat. Ecological Science

M.Sc. Plant Science

IAIAsa Member

Office: +27 (0)12 807 0637



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On Mon, 8 Nov 2021 at 09:06, Khululwa Gaongalelwe <StuurmKV@eskom.co.za> wrote:

Good evening Corné

May you please Kzm shape files to so that we may check if Eskom Power lines are not affected.

Thank you.

Warm regards

Khululwa Gaongalelwe

Senior Environmental Advisor

Eskom MWP

072 444 3513

From: Khululwa Gaongalelwe
Sent: Saturday, 16 October 2021 22:03
To: Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>
Subject: RE: [CAUTION:EXTERNAL EMAIL] - Proposed Botterblom Wind Farm: Submission of Final Scoping Report to DFFE (14/12/16/3/3/2/2098)

Good evening Corné

May you please Kmz shape files to so that we may check if Eskom Power lines are not affected.

Thank you.

Warm regards

Khululwa Gaongalelwe

Senior Environmental Advisor

Eskom MWP

072 444 3513

From: Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>
Sent: Friday, 15 October 2021 16:24
Subject: [CAUTION:EXTERNAL EMAIL] - Proposed Botterblom Wind Farm: Submission of Final Scoping Report to DFFE (14/12/16/3/3/2/2098)

Dear Interested & Affected Party,

The Final Scoping Report for the proposed Botterblom Wind Farm has been submitted to the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries for review and decision-making.

Once a decision has been received after the 43 days, all registered I&APs will be notified of the outcome.

I trust you find the above in order.

Kind Regards,

Corné Niemandt

Senior Specialist and EAP

Pr. Sci. Nat. Ecological Science

M.Sc. Plant Science

IAIAsa Member

Office: +27 (0)12 807 0637



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Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

FE Botterblom

1 message

Millard Kotze <millard.kotze@genesis-eco.com>

15 November 2021 at 18:05

To: "chris.Billingham@mainstreamrp.com" <chris.Billingham@mainstreamrp.com>

Cc: Thomas Condesse <thomas.condesse@energyteam.co.za>, Ralph Damonse <ralph@genesis-eco.com>, Davin Chown <davin@genesis-eco.com>, Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Dear Chris,

I hope this email finds you well.

Your correspondence with Enviro-Insight, the Environmental Assessment Practitioner appointed to manage the Botterblom Wind Energy Facility Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process has been forwarded to us. We note that you have requested that a wake impact assessment be undertaken for this project. We confirm that this is being done as part of the broader EIA process. It is our hope that the process will ultimately result in absolutely minimal impact on all wind energy facilities in the area and that we will be able to work together to ensure that this is achieved. With the view of progressing with this, it is suggested to arrange a meeting between the two parties to consider the detail, protocols and process. To ensure that this meeting is as meaningful as possible, and to enable an accurate wake impact assessment, could you kindly provide us with your layout, EMPr and EA as approved by the competent authority for the Dwarsrug, Khobab and Loeriesfontein wind energy projects.

We look forward to a meaning full engagement with you on this matter. Please send us the requested information and let us know when you would be available for a meeting at your earliest convenience.

Kind regards,

Millard Kotze

Project Developer

Mobile +27 84 548 4264



Genesis Eco-Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd

www.genesis-eco.com | Suite 212, 2nd floor, Kildare House, The Oval, 1 oakdale Road, Newlands, 7725, Cape Town, South Africa

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Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

FE Botterblom

8 messages

Millard Kotze <millard.kotze@genesis-eco.com>

10 January 2022 at 16:57

To: "chris.Billingham@mainstreamrp.com" <chris.Billingham@mainstreamrp.com>

Cc: Thomas Condesse <thomas.condesse@energyteam.co.za>, Ralph Damonse <ralph@genesis-eco.com>, Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>, "Anastasia.Posokhov@mainstreamrp.com" <Anastasia.Posokhov@mainstreamrp.com>, "Themba.Mnguni@mainstreamrp.com" <Themba.Mnguni@mainstreamrp.com>, "Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com" <Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com>, Rebecca Thomas <Rebecca.Thomas@mainstreamrp.com>

Dear Chris,

Compliments of the new year.

The emails from 15 November and 9 December 2021 have reference. Kindly send us the requested information and let us know when you will be available for a meeting at your earliest convenience.

We need to finalise the EIA report as soon as possible and would like to address this appropriately.

Kind regards

Millard Kotze

Project Developer

Mobile +27 84 548 4264



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www.genesis-eco.com | Suite 212, 2nd floor, Kildare House, The Oval, 1 oakdale Road, Newlands, 7725, Cape Town, South Africa

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: Millard Kotze <millard.kotze@genesis-eco.com>

To: "chris.Billingham@mainstreamrp.com" <chris.Billingham@mainstreamrp.com>

Cc: Thomas Condesse <thomas.condesse@energyteam.co.za>, Ralph Damonse <ralph@genesis-eco.com>, Davin Chown <davin@genesis-eco.com>, "Corné Niemandt" <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>

Bcc:

Date: Mon, 15 Nov 2021 16:05:39 +0000

Subject: FE Botterblom

Dear Chris,

I hope this email finds you well.

Your correspondence with Enviro-Insight, the Environmental Assessment Practitioner appointed to manage the Botterblom Wind Energy Facility Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process has been forwarded to us. We note that you have requested that a wake impact assessment be undertaken for this project. We confirm that this is being done as part of the broader EIA process. It is our hope that the process will ultimately result in absolutely minimal impact on all wind energy facilities in the area and that we will be able to work together to ensure that this is achieved. With the view of progressing with this, it is suggested to arrange a meeting between the two parties to consider the detail, protocols and process: To ensure that this meeting is as meaningful as possible, and to enable an accurate wake impact assessment, could you kindly provide us with your layout, EMPr and EA as approved by the competent authority for the Dwarsrug, Khobab and Loeriesfontein wind energy projects.

We look forward to a meaning full engagement with you on this matter. Please send us the requested information and let us know when you would be available for a meeting at your earliest convenience.

Kind regards,

Millard Kotze

Project Developer

Mobile +27 84 548 4264



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 **FE Botterblom.eml**
22K

Eugene Marais <Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com>

2 February 2022 at 16:54

To: Millard Kotze <millard.kotze@genesis-eco.com>, Chris Billingham <Chris.Billingham@mainstreamrp.com>, Titania Stefanus-Zincke <Titania.Zincke@mainstreamrp.com>

Cc: Thomas Condesse <thomas.condesse@energyteam.co.za>, Ralph Damonse <ralph@genesis-eco.com>, Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>, Anastasia Posokhov <Anastasia.Posokhov@mainstreamrp.com>, Themba Mnguni <Themba.Mnguni@mainstreamrp.com>, Rebecca Thomas <Rebecca.Thomas@mainstreamrp.com>

Hi Millard,

Apologies for the delayed response, only reading this email now after reading Corne's email this morning. Don't think I was copied in the Nov and Dec emails.

Anyway, happy to set up a call to discuss. I can only speak on behalf of the Dwarsrug project, the Khobab and Loeries 2 SPVs (via Titania copied here) will have to indicate their availability for a meeting.

Please let us know when is best to have such a call

Kind regards

Eugene Marais

Head of Development: Africa

Mobile : +27 (0)73 871 5781

From: Millard Kotze <millard.kotze@genesis-eco.com>

Sent: Monday, 10 January 2022 16:57

To: Chris Billingham <Chris.Billingham@Mainstreamrp.com>

Cc: Thomas Condesse <thomas.condesse@energyteam.co.za>; Ralph Damonse <ralph@genesis-eco.com>; Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>; Anastasia Posokhov <Anastasia.Posokhov@mainstreamrp.com>; Themba Mnguni <Themba.Mnguni@mainstreamrp.com>; Eugene Marais <Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com>; Rebecca Thomas <Rebecca.Thomas@mainstreamrp.com>

Subject: FE Botterblom

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[Quoted text hidden]

Eugene Marais <Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com>

9 February 2022 at 14:03

To: Millard Kotze <millard.kotze@genesis-eco.com>, Chris Billingham <Chris.Billingham@mainstreamrp.com>, Titania Stefanus-Zincke <Titania.Zincke@mainstreamrp.com>

Cc: Thomas Condesse <thomas.condesse@energyteam.co.za>, Ralph Damonse <ralph@genesis-eco.com>, Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>, Anastasia Posokhov <Anastasia.Posokhov@mainstreamrp.com>, Themba Mnguni <Themba.Mnguni@mainstreamrp.com>, Rebecca Thomas <Rebecca.Thomas@mainstreamrp.com>

Hi Millard,

Just following up on my email below. Do you have any date in mind for a call?

Regards

Eugene Marais

Head of Development: Africa

Mobile : +27 (0)73 871 5781

[Quoted text hidden]

Millard Kotze <millard.kotze@genesis-eco.com>

11 February 2022 at 10:05

To: Eugene Marais <Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com>, Chris Billingham <Chris.Billingham@mainstreamrp.com>, Titania Stefanus-Zincke <Titania.Zincke@mainstreamrp.com>

Cc: Thomas Condesse <thomas.condesse@energyteam.co.za>, Ralph Damonse <ralph@genesis-eco.com>, Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>, Anastasia Posokhov <Anastasia.Posokhov@mainstreamrp.com>, Themba Mnguni <Themba.Mnguni@mainstreamrp.com>, Rebecca Thomas <Rebecca.Thomas@mainstreamrp.com>

Good day Eugene,

I trust you are well.

Do you and your colleagues have time Wednesday the 16th February 2022 from 10:45 till 11:45am?

Kind regards,

[Quoted text hidden]

Eugene Marais <Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com>

11 February 2022 at 13:58

To: Millard Kotze <millard.kotze@genesis-eco.com>, Chris Billingham <Chris.Billingham@mainstreamrp.com>, Titania Stefanus-Zincke <Titania.Zincke@mainstreamrp.com>

Cc: Thomas Condesse <thomas.condesse@energyteam.co.za>, Ralph Damonse <ralph@genesis-eco.com>, Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>, Anastasia Posokhov <Anastasia.Posokhov@mainstreamrp.com>, Themba Mnguni <Themba.Mnguni@mainstreamrp.com>, Rebecca Thomas <Rebecca.Thomas@mainstreamrp.com>

Hi Millard,

That works for us. Please send a meeting invitation (Teams)

Regards

Eugene Marais

Head of Development: Africa

Mobile : +27 (0)73 871 5781

From: Millard Kotze <millard.kotze@genesis-eco.com>
Sent: Friday, 11 February 2022 10:05
To: Eugene Marais <Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com>; Chris Billingham <Chris.Billingham@Mainstreamrp.com>; Titania Stefanus-Zincke <Titania.Zincke@mainstreamrp.com>
Cc: Thomas Condesse <thomas.condesse@energyteam.co.za>; Ralph Damonse <ralph@genesis-eco.com>; Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>; Anastasia Posokhov <Anastasia.Posokhov@mainstreamrp.com>; Themba Mnguni <Themba.Mnguni@mainstreamrp.com>; Rebecca Thomas <Rebecca.Thomas@mainstreamrp.com>
Subject: RE: FE Botterblom

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[Quoted text hidden]

Millard Kotze <millard.kotze@genesis-eco.com> 11 February 2022 at 14:40
To: Eugene Marais <Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com>
Cc: Thomas Condesse <thomas.condesse@energyteam.co.za>, Ralph Damonse <ralph@genesis-eco.com>, Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>, Anastasia Posokhov <Anastasia.Posokhov@mainstreamrp.com>, Themba Mnguni <Themba.Mnguni@mainstreamrp.com>, Rebecca Thomas <Rebecca.Thomas@mainstreamrp.com>, Chris Billingham <Chris.Billingham@mainstreamrp.com>, Titania Stefanus-Zincke <Titania.Zincke@mainstreamrp.com>

Good day Eugene,

Should I invite any of your colleagues other than Titania, Chris and yourself?

Kind regards

Millard Kotze

Project Developer

Mobile +27 84 548 4264



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[Quoted text hidden]

Eugene Marais <Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com>

11 February 2022 at 15:05

To: Millard Kotze <millard.kotze@genesis-eco.com>

Cc: Thomas Condesse <thomas.condesse@energyteam.co.za>, Ralph Damonse <ralph@genesis-eco.com>, Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>, Anastasia Posokhov <Anastasia.Posokhov@mainstreamrp.com>, Themba Mnguni <Themba.Mnguni@mainstreamrp.com>, Rebecca Thomas <Rebecca.Thomas@mainstreamrp.com>, Chris Billingham <Chris.Billingham@mainstreamrp.com>, Titania Stefanus-Zincke <Titania.Zincke@mainstreamrp.com>

Hi Millard,

Just the 3 of us.

[Quoted text hidden]

Millard Kotze <millard.kotze@genesis-eco.com>

11 February 2022 at 15:24

To: Eugene Marais <Eugene.Marais@mainstreamrp.com>, Chris Billingham <Chris.Billingham@mainstreamrp.com>, Titania Stefanus-Zincke <Titania.Zincke@mainstreamrp.com>

Cc: Thomas Condesse <thomas.condesse@energyteam.co.za>, Ralph Damonse <ralph@genesis-eco.com>, Corné Niemandt <corne@enviro-insight.co.za>, Anastasia Posokhov <Anastasia.Posokhov@mainstreamrp.com>, Themba Mnguni <Themba.Mnguni@mainstreamrp.com>, Rebecca Thomas <Rebecca.Thomas@mainstreamrp.com>

Hi Titania, Eugene and Chris

Meeting link send.

Please liaise with your colleagues to make sure that this email did not go to their junk mail.

[Quoted text hidden]

Appendix E7: Scoping Phase Comments and Response Report



Project: Botterblom WEF Project

Interested and Affected Party		Date of Comment Received	Issues or comments raised	EAPs response	
Name	Designation				
Comments / letters received before submission of draft Scoping Report					
1	Nico Fourie	EHOD Operations Vodacom Western Region	27 May 2021	<p>Reference to email received on 26 May 2021. Botterblom WEF - Genesis Eco-Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd - Act 36 of 2005.</p> <p>This is to confirm that Vodacom has no objection to the proposed wind turbine structure in Loeriesfontein Area reference (GPS coordinates(30°29'3.38"S/19°30'53.69"E) will have no impact on surrounding Vodacom towers or its existing / future transmission routes (Microwave) in this area.</p> <p>Please communicate any future changes or deviations from the original planning to this office since this confirmation remains specific to this request only.</p>	<p>Comment Noted</p> <p>Enviro-Insight will keep Vodacom updated on all aspects within the environmental process and should there be any changes or deviations from the original planning as indicated, Enviro-Insight will notify all registered I&APs accordingly.</p>
2	Mr Selaelo Mathane	Spectrum & Telecommunication Manager South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)	17 June 2021	<p>This letter is in response to the notification of the proposed wind energy facility and its possible impact on the Square Kilometre Array radio telescopes.</p> <p>SARAO has undertaken an impact assessment and based on the information provided it was determined that the project represents a low risk of interference to the SKA radio telescope with a required mitigation measure of -5.10 dBm/Hz to reduce interference at the telescope.</p> <p>As such, we do not have any objection to the development.</p> <p>However, we do recommend that you should take all precautionary measures to limit the electromagnetic emissions (EMI) in all your electrical cable installations and equipment.</p> <p>Thank you for your correspondence, we would appreciate it if you could keep us informed with the development of the project.</p>	<p>Comment Noted</p> <p>Enviro-Insight will keep SARAO updated throughout the environmental process and should there be any changes or deviations from the original planning as indicated, Enviro-Insight will notify all registered I&APs accordingly</p> <p>The migration measure of -5.10 dBm/Hz to reduce interference at the telescope will be included within the EIR when the impacts are assessed in detail and the mitigation measures are included.</p>
Comments received on the draft Scoping Report (1 September 2021 - 1 October 2021)					
3	John Geeringh		1 September 2021	<p>Please send me a KMZ file of the affected properties, proposed development area and proposed grid connection. Please find attached</p> <p>Dear John</p>	

Project: Botterblom WEF Project

Interested and Affected Party		Date of Comment Received	Issues or comments raised	EAPs response
Name	Designation			
	Senior Consultant Environmental Management Grid Planning: Land and Rights Eskom Transmission Division		Eskom requirements for work at or near Eskom infrastructure and servitudes. Also, find attached the Eskom setbacks guideline for renewable energy development in the proximity of Eskom infrastructure that must be taken into consideration during the planning of development footprints and layouts of RE facilities.	Thank you for your email, we take note of the Eskom setback guideline. Please see attached the kml files as requested. The grid connection is still being finalised, and a separate application will be submitted for this. A planned route from the onsite substation to the Helios substation will be less than 2km, following the same routes as current Eskom infrastructure and the existing Wind Farms. Should you have other queries please do not hesitate to contact me.
		1 September 2021	There are problems with some turbines encroaching on the 3x tip height from the 400kV power line as well as problems with the proposed collector station in close proximity to the Helios substation. Such a collector station and some of the turbines in close proximity to the Helios substation would create problems in future should it be necessary to bring additional 400kV lines to the station for network strengthening and increasing the export capacity of the substation. The applicant should approach Eskom as part of the development and follow the requirements as set out in the setbacks guideline. The applicant should apply to Eskom Transmission via the GAU for relaxation of the setbacks distances as per the guideline, which Eskom Transmission will then consider. Looking at the vast amount of development proposed around Helios, Eskom should have the necessary space to be able to expand the substation and line servitudes in the future, otherwise we will not be able to service the needs of the IPPs around the substation. The applicant can set up a meeting via the GAU with Transmission Grid Planning and L&R so that we can discuss his proposed development.	Dear John, Thank you for the feedback. I have discussed this with the developer, and they requested if it is possible to share the existing and planned grid connections from and to the substation. This will assist with planning and updating the layout.
		29 September 2021	Nothing is definite at this point, but there is quite a lot of interest around Helios that may require additional 400kV lines in future as well as lots of 132kV lines coming to the substation from various IPPs in the area. It all depends on the bidding windows and the IPPs that obtain preferred bidder status in the future bidding rounds. Please let the developer look at the setbacks guideline and approach Eskom on the matters contained therein. If the developer wants to have a discussion with me, it can be arranged. As soon as the station reach a 1000MW	Feedback regarding the confirmation of Eskom's plan for expansion as well as existing servitudes is sincerely appreciated.

Project: Botterblom WEF Project

Interested and Affected Party		Date of Comment Received	Issues or comments raised	EAPs response	
Name	Designation				
			of load / generation, we need to cater for N -1 contingency, then additional lines and transformers become necessary. A station like this can increase up to 4 x 400kV transformers, depending on future developments in the area. Eskom also has a vacant servitude going from Helios to Aggeneys is, hopefully the developer is aware of that.		
4	Chris Billingham	Mainstream Engineering & Operations Head:	30 June 2021	Dear Corne I thought it prudent to indicate up front, that given that the proposed layout of Botterblom WEF is in the predominant wind resource direction for Khobab WEF (specifically) and also to a lesser degree, Loeriesfontein WEF, that the proposal for the establishment of Botterblom WEF will have a wake impact (blocking) resultant on the existing facilities. The “specialist studies” referred to in the brief from Enviro-insight, makes no mention of the determination of this impact. Given that there has been no discussion initiated with Botterblom WEF and the existing two facilities with respect to a Wake Loss Agreement, we would in the interim, follow a due diligence process by appealing against the project. Am sure you will be aware of the initiatives that have been taking place between SAWEA and the DMRE regarding “wake loss impact” and to date, the recommendations are leaning towards inter-company agreements and/or pre-determined setbacks. We would prefer to engage up-front on a wake-loss agreement even if it is through a MOU initially, and by doing this we provide comfort to our Lenders and to your Developers. I look forward to your response in this regard.	Thank you for your email. This issue has been raised by your colleagues Yajhna Singh and Pieter de Villiers. We have since then discussed this with the developers and this will be included in the EIA process. I will forward your email to the developers and request them to get into contact with you regarding this matter.
			1 July 2021	Morning Corne Many thanks. Look forward to discussing further.	
			6 September 2021	Dear Corne	

Project: Botterblom WEF Project

Interested and Affected Party		Date of Comment Received	Issues or comments raised	EAPs response
Name	Designation			
			<p>Please note that as representatives of Loeriesfontein and Khobab Windfarms that are adjacent to the proposed Botterblom WEF site, we hereby wish to register an appeal against the proposed development in that it is in the path of the predominant wind resource and as such will have a wake loss impact with a significant impact on revenue.</p> <p>We would urge that the Developers to engage with Mainstream Asset Management SA (MAMSA) with respect to a comprehensive wake loss analysis and the formalisation of a Wake Loss Agreement between the respective companies.</p> <p>Further, please add Titania Stefanus-Zincke, copied herein, to your I&AP distribution list. Titania is the MAMSA General Manager responsible for Loeriesfontein and Khobab Windfarms.</p> <p>Please acknowledge receipt of this notification.</p> <p>Many thanks.</p>	<p>Thank you for your email. I acknowledge the content of it and will add it to the final scoping report to be submitted to DFFE. I have registered Titania on the I&AP list.</p> <p>I will forward your email to the developer and discuss it with them.</p>
		30 September 2021	<p>Dear Corne</p> <p>Our previous comments regarding the requirement of a Wake Loss Agreement between Botterblom and Khobab, and Botterblom and Loeriesfontein, and Botterblom and Dwarsrug applies. We therefore will appeal this project should Botterblom not be willing to enter into a WLA. I trust that you will inform Botterblom of this and that they would have to issue us a letter of commitment for a WLA for each facility.</p>	<p>Dear Mainstream representatives,</p> <p>We hereby acknowledge receipt of all your emails up to date and we confirm that we have added everyone to the I&AP list in your capacities as representatives of the Loeriesfontein and Khobab Wind Farms, as well as the proposed Dwarsrug Wind Farm.</p> <p>As you are aware, the project is very early in the environmental impact assessment process, only being in the scoping phase currently. Since one of the main objectives of the scoping phase is to ensure that all potential concerns are brought to light to guarantee a meaningful environmental impact assessment, we appreciate your feedback in order to address all potential impacts in the specialist assessments which are currently being undertaken and compiled. As the environmental assessment process progresses, we will ensure that your concerns are given due consideration.</p>

Project: Botterblom WEF Project

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				<p>We have also forwarded your concerns to the Developer (who is copied into this email) who have indicated that they will be in touch in due course.</p> <p>Should you have any further comments or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.</p>
5	Rebecca Thomas	Mainstream: Senior Development Manager	<p>9 September 2021</p> <p>Good Day Corne, Could I please request a map and Google Earth kmz showing the proposed turbine layout.</p> <p>This project may potentially have 2 impacts on Mainstream Projects currently being developed in the area and submitted in Round 5 of the REIPPPP:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wake Impact on our Authorised Dwarsrug WEF located to the east of proposed project, on the other side of the Granaatboskolk road. 2. We have several approved grid routings into Helios Substation. We would need to ensure the turbines are spaced accordingly (i.e. minimum distance from the powerline in terms of legislated setbacks). We have also signed very specific grid agreements with various landowners and would need to ensure the layouts also honour these agreements – i.e. no leeway to alter the grid routing. 	<p>Dear Rebecca,</p> <p>Thank you for your email. We understand the concern, but as this is the scoping phase it will not be sensible to provide the conceptual layout as it will still undergo significant changes during the EIA phase of the project due to sensitivities and taking all aspects of the project and input from stakeholders into consideration. In order for the developer to update the layout for the proposed Botterblom WEF, and to take the approved grid connections into consideration, it will make more sense for Mainstream to provide the approved routes.</p> <p>Also, would it be possible to provide the approved turbine layouts for Khobab, Loeriesfontein2 and Dwarsrug WEFs in order to take this into consideration as well.</p>
			<p>17 September 2021</p> <p>Thanks Corne,</p> <p>We will gladly provide you with our proposed layouts. Important to note, Loeries 2 and Khobab are operational and will most likely experience significant wake impacts from Botterblom WEF and trust those conversations will be had with our MAMSA Team, CC'ed herein.</p>	<p>Good day Rebecca,</p> <p>The developer is in the process of updating the layout based on all the input received so far and we would like to include the layout for Dwarsrug as well. Can you please provide the grid layout?</p>
			<p>1 October 2021</p> <p>Thanks Chris,</p> <p>@Corné Niemandt – I know I said I would send you the EA approved Dwarsrug layout, however this is pretty much guaranteed to change.</p> <p>I would echo Chris's sentiment below, that commitment to a verified WLA would need to be agreed to.</p>	<p>Dear Mainstream representatives,</p> <p>We hereby acknowledge receipt of all your emails up to date and we confirm that we have added everyone to the I&AP list in your capacities as representatives of the Loeriesfontein and Khobab Wind Farms, as well as the proposed Dwarsrug Wind Farm.</p>

Project: Botterblom WEF Project

Interested and Affected Party		Date of Comment Received	Issues or comments raised	EAPs response	
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				<p>As you are aware, the project is very early in the environmental impact assessment process, only being in the scoping phase currently. Since one of the main objectives of the scoping phase is to ensure that all potential concerns are brought to light to guarantee a meaningful environmental impact assessment, we appreciate your feedback in order to address all potential impacts in the specialist assessments which are currently being undertaken and compiled. As the environmental assessment process progresses, we will ensure that your concerns are given due consideration.</p> <p>We have also forwarded your concerns to the Developer (who is copied into this email) who have indicated that they will be in touch in due course.</p> <p>Should you have any further comments or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.</p>	
6	Yajhna Singh	Mainstream: Compliance Officer	1 October 2021	<p>Dear Corne</p> <p>I trust that you are well.</p> <p>I refer to the email below as well as the submission made on 27 May 2021, attached hereto for your ease of reference.</p> <p>I would like to advise that we had not received a response to the submission (save for the acknowledgement of receipt email).</p> <p>I reiterate our previous comments regarding the requirement of a Wake Loss Agreement between Botterblom and Khobab, and Botterblom and Loeriesfontein.</p>	<p>Dear Mainstream representatives,</p> <p>We hereby acknowledge receipt of all your emails up to date and we confirm that we have added everyone to the I&AP list in your capacities as representatives of the Loeriesfontein and Khobab Wind Farms, as well as the proposed Dwarsrug Wind Farm.</p> <p>As you are aware, the project is very early in the environmental impact assessment process, only being in the scoping phase currently. Since one of the main objectives of the scoping phase is to ensure that all potential concerns are brought to light to guarantee a meaningful environmental impact assessment, we appreciate your feedback in order to address all potential impacts in the specialist assessments which are currently being undertaken and compiled. As the environmental assessment process progresses, we will ensure that your concerns are given due consideration.</p>

Project: Botterblom WEF Project

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				<p>We have also forwarded your concerns to the Developer (who is copied into this email) who have indicated that they will be in touch in due course.</p> <p>Should you have any further comments or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.</p> <p>A meeting was held between Mainstream and Genesis on the 16 February 2022. Attendees: Eugene Marais, Titania Stefanus-Zincke, Millard Kotze, Ralph Damonse and Thomas Condesse</p>
7	Lydia Kutu	<p>Dated: 27-09-2021 Received: 28-09-2021</p>	<p>Good day.</p> <p>Please find herein the attached letter for the above mentioned.</p> <p>I hope you find all in order.</p> <p>The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated September 2021 and received by the Department on 31 August 2021, refer.</p> <p>This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the Final Scoping Report:</p> <p>(a) Layout & Sensitivity Maps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please provide a layout map which indicates the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The proposed Turbines and associated infrastructure, overlain by the sensitivity map; ▪ All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g. roads (existing and proposed); ▪ The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected; ▪ Buffer areas; and ▪ All “no-go” areas. ▪ Google maps will not be accepted. <p>(b) Public Participation Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the SR from registered I&APs and organs 	<p>Dear Lydia,</p> <p>Thank you for your email. We acknowledge receiving the letter.</p> <p>Refer below responses to DFFE comments.</p> <p>(a) Layout & Sensitivity Maps</p> <p>The layout map with the required information is included. The layout during this scoping phase is a preliminary design, the final design will be included in the EIR upon the Departments approval of the process moving forward.</p> <p>(b) Public Participation Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Participation was undertaken in terms of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, please

Project: Botterblom WEF Project

Interested and Affected Party		Date of Comment Received	Issues or comments raised	EAPs response
Name	Designation			
			<p>of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the Final SR. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final SR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Annexure 1 of this comments letter. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments. • The final SR must provide evidence that all identified and relevant competent authorities have been given an opportunity to comment on the proposed development. <p>(c) Specialist Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of turbine positions, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations. • The specialist studies must also provide a detailed description of all limitations to their studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation, will not be accepted. • Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with 	<p>refer to Appendix C for the Public Participation Process thus far. All comments received have been included and addressed in the Comments and Response Report in Appendix D. Proof of communications and follow up with all stakeholders have been included in Appendix C6.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kindly refer to Appendix D for a detailed C&R report. • Kindly refer to Appendix C6 for communication with all stakeholders. The scoping report was uploaded onto the Enviro-Insight website. The link was distributed to all registered I&AP's via email. A follow-up email was sent to all registered I&AP's on 30 September 2021. <p>(c) Specialist Assessments</p> <p>All specialist studies undertaken, have accounted for the methodology, limitations, and assumptions, and followed the relevant protocols in reference to the specialist field.</p> <p>It must be noted that the specialist assessments up to date are only for the scoping phase, and will be expanded on during the EIA phase.</p>

Project: Botterblom WEF Project

Interested and Affected Party		Date of Comment Received	Issues or comments raised	EAPs response
Name	Designation			
			<p>defendable reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols"), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols. <p>(d) Cumulative Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should there be any other similar projects within a 30km radius of the proposed development site, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined to indicate the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land. Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist's recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project. The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development. A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed. <p>General You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that:</p>	<p>(d) Cumulative Assessment A preliminary impact assessment has been included in Section 6 of the final scoping report. A detailed impact assessment including cumulative impacts will be included in the EIR. This is dependent on the final specialist inputs. As the specialists have not completed the impact assessments yet, this can only be addressed in the EIR.</p> <p>General The Scoping and EIR is in line with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p>

Project: Botterblom WEF Project

Interested and Affected Party		Date of Comment Received	Issues or comments raised	EAPs response	
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			<p><i>"If S&EIR must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 44 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority a scoping report which has been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority"</i></p> <p>You are further reminded that the final SR to be submitted to this Department must comply with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of Scoping reports in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.</p> <p>Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7).</p> <p>You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.</p> <p>Yours sincerely Mr Sabelo Malaza Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment Letter signed by: Dr Danie Smit Designation: Deputy Director: National Infrastructure Projects Date: 27/09/2021</p>	<p>The Final Scoping Report complies with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of Scoping reports in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. Kindly refer to Pg20-23 of the scoping report for the requirements as indicated within Appendix 2 of the EIA Regulations 2014 as amended.</p> <p>Timeframes in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, has been noted and will be complied with.</p> <p>Construction has not commenced at the time of submission of this application and during the process.</p>	
8	Stephnie Kot	Development Manager African Clean Energy Developments (Pty) Ltd	1 October 2021	<p>Good day Corné,</p> <p>The notification below and the draft Scoping Report for the Botterblom WEF, refer.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments, it is noted.</p> <p>The project is very early in the environmental impact assessment process, only being in the scoping phase currently. Since one of the main objectives of the</p>

Project: Botterblom WEF Project

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Name	Designation			
			<p>I write to you on behalf of the Kokerboom 1, Kokerboom 2 and Kokerboom 3 Wind Energy Facilities which are located on various properties directly adjacent to the proposed Botterblom WEF, as shown in the mapping attached to the Botterblom Draft Scoping Report. The Kokerboom projects have received environmental authorisation, and have been bid into Round 5 of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP). The outcome of the bidding round is awaited, and if selected as preferred bidders the projects are expected to commence construction in 2022.</p> <p>The details of the Kokerboom Wind Energy Facilities are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kokerboom 1 Wind Farm (DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/985, EA granted 29/11/2017) on Farm Leeuwberggrivier No. 1163 and the Remainder of Farm Kleine Rooiberg No. 227. 2. Kokerboom 2 Wind Farm (DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/985, EA granted 29/11/2017) on Farm Springbokpan No. 1164 and the Remainder of Farm Springbok Tand No. 215. 3. Kokerboom 3 Wind Farm (DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1009, EA granted 12/02/2018) on the Remainder of Farm Aan De Karree Doorn Pan 213, and Portions 1 & 2 of Farm Karree Doorn Pan 214. <p>It is noted that the proposed Botterblom WEF wind turbines are in close proximity to the authorized Kokerboom 1, 2 and 3 wind turbines and it is thus anticipated that the Botterblom WEF will cause wake loss to the Kokerboom wind farm projects. We request that these wake effects and associated wake losses be considered in the EIR phase of the EIA process, and that suitable measures be put in place to mitigate the potential wake effects. We are readily available to engage further with you in this regard, and can provide the Kokerboom wind farm layouts as input into the wake loss assessment.</p> <p>Please also be advised that Environmental Authorisation (DEA Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/1/1818) was granted on 01/02/2018 for the Kokerboom wind farm grid connection (132kV overhead powerline) to the Helios Substation. The authorized grid connection route traverses the Remainder of Farm Sous No. 226 and thus traverses the proposed</p>	<p>scoping phase is to ensure that all potential concerns are brought to light to guarantee a meaningful environmental impact assessment, we appreciate your feedback in order to address all potential impacts in the specialist assessments which are currently being undertaken and compiled. As the environmental assessment process progresses, we will ensure that your concerns are given due consideration.</p> <p>We have also forwarded your concerns to the Developer who have indicated that they will be in touch in due course.</p> <p>Your assistance and willingness to assist during the process is noted and appreciated.</p>

Project: Botterblom WEF Project

Interested and Affected Party		Date of Comment Received	Issues or comments raised	EAPs response
Name	Designation			
			Botterblom WEF development area. A servitude agreement has been concluded with the land owner, and is in the process of being registered against the title deed of the property. It is anticipated that the Kokerboom grid connection will be transferred to Eskom upon completion, and will be situated within a 32m wide servitude. In accordance with Eskom's standard setback requirements, a setback of 1 times turbine tip-height must be maintained from the edge of a powerline servitude. We therefore request that the pre-existing Kokerboom grid connection servitude and EA rights be considered in the EIR Phase, and that the servitude (and associated Eskom setback of 1 X tip height) be accommodated in the Botterblom WEF layout. Please find attached KMZ of the grid connection routing as authorized – note that this is subject to minor refinement during micro-siting and detailed design. Here too we are readily available to discuss this further and provide additional information if/as needed during the EIR process.	
9	Samantha Ralston-Paton	Birds and Renewable Energy Project Manager	<p>1 October 2021</p> <p>Dear Corné</p> <p>Draft Scoping Report for the Proposed Botterblom Wind Energy Facility, Northern Cape</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft scoping report for the proposed Botterblom Wind Energy Facility near Loeriesfontein in the Northern Cape. BirdLife South Africa supports the responsible development of renewable energy, and our comments are intended to help ensure that potential negative impacts on biodiversity are avoided and minimised.</p> <p>We understand that the next phase of the EIA will include a more complete analysis of data, assessment of impacts, and a more thorough interrogation of potential mitigation measures. However, we would like to use this opportunity to highlight a few comments, questions and concerns.</p> <p>The Avifauna Preconstruction Monitoring Assessment Report only refers to the “avifauna theme” of the National Web-based Environmental Screening Tool, not the “animal species theme”. As far as we understand, the former theme only includes data used in the</p>	<p>RESPONSE FROM THE AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST</p> <p>The comments are acknowledged, and we appreciate the pre-emptive acknowledgment of the timing of the survey and the limitations.</p> <p><i>Avifauna Theme</i></p> <p>This is noted. In the report, it is indicated that we do not agree with the low sensitivity and that it was changed to high based on the site verification. For the purposes of this report and the comment, the animal species theme on the screening report indicates recorded or possible species based on suitable habitat. These have been considered for this report, even though not explicitly mentioned. For all intended purposes, only the avifauna theme must be complied with to comply with the preconstruction monitoring guidelines.</p> <p><i>Cumulative Impact Assessment</i></p> <p>A Cumulative Impact Assessment will be included in the final EIA report given what you have rightly identified as</p>

Project: Botterblom WEF Project

Interested and Affected Party		Date of Comment Received	Issues or comments raised	EAPs response
Name	Designation			
			<p>National Strategic Environmental Assessment for wind and solar energy - i.e. data in or near to the Renewable Energy Development Zones. As a result, and somewhat confusingly, areas that are obviously of high avifaunal sensitivity (e.g. Langebaan Lagoon) are erroneously reflected as low sensitivity. We, therefore, advise avifaunal specialists to consult both the avifauna and animal species themes. The latter covers the entire country and includes habitat suitability models for many of our threatened bird species.</p> <p>The proposed development is located in an area where multiple wind and solar PV developments have already received environmental approval. We suggest that the potential cumulative impacts associated with both technologies on biodiversity require careful consideration and assessment.</p> <p>For example, the development falls in the middle of a relatively narrow (approximately 100km wide) corridor of Red Lark (<i>Calendulauda burra</i>) habitat (see figure 1). How will the gradual encroachment of renewable energy infrastructure in this area affect the available habitat and dispersal of this globally Vulnerable, range-restricted species?</p> <p>Red Larks are habitat specialists, and it may be possible to avoid much of their habitat when planning the layout of infrastructure. And it may be possible to mitigate or compensate for any unavoidable losses due to habitat loss and displacement by ensuring the appropriate management of remaining habitat on site. We suggest that this should be addressed in the EMP. A habitat suitability model for Red Lark is available through BirdLife South Africa, and it may also be possible to run a finer scale habitat suitability model for the site to supplement survey data. Please contact Ernst Retief (Ernst.Retief@birdlife.org.za) to for more information.</p> <p>While we have received no reports of fatalities of Red Lark due to turbine collisions, they may be at risk, particularly during breeding displays. Preliminary data suggests that Red Lark are only likely to fly within the rotor swept area at low wind speeds (Robin Colyn pers comm). This has not been tested, but it might be possible to mitigate this risk by increasing the cut-in speed of the turbines. The risk of collisions could also be mitigated by increasing the distance between</p>	<p>an area that is currently subject to numerous renewable energy developments, of which two are operational and one is in the process of being constructed. Four more await approval during the current BID round 5.</p> <p><i>Red Lark</i></p> <p>The EMP will be both inclusive and highly detailed and will focus on the specific potential impacts to Red-Listed species such as Red Lark. The species specialist information has been acknowledged and will be considered appropriately.</p> <p>Initially and given multiple observation, it is clear that the display height of the Red Lark probably will not exceed minimum rotor sweep height. Overall, these species-specific mitigation measures will be considered and, where applicable, included in the final EIA and EMP. This will be assessed for the specific project.</p> <p><i>Martial eagle</i></p> <p>This point speaks to the points below but essentially, buffers of approximately 5 km or more for martial eagles are being proposed for the future which may essentially sterilise the development site and beyond. Personal communication with Dr Gareth Tate has suggested that the populations of Martial Eagles are in fact greater (and increasing) in these arid areas and in the greater study area, suggesting that "Avoidance" as stipulated in the mitigation hierarchy is becoming more difficult. Professor Andrew McKechnie of the University of Pretoria has supported this view and much of the geospatial orientations of these species will be driven by scarcity of resources and climate change.</p> <p>The timing of the study is unfortunate in the sense that much of the most recent driving data (Martial Eagle species-specific buffer guidelines, locations of regional nests, new incursions of high-risk species into the</p>

Project: Botterblom WEF Project

Interested and Affected Party		Date of Comment Received	Issues or comments raised	EAPs response
Name	Designation			
			<p>the ground and the rotor swept area. Again, this has not been tested but could be considered as part of the mitigation strategy.</p> <p>We are also concerned about the cumulative impacts on the breeding pair of Martial Eagle (<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>, regionally Endangered). Proposed and operational renewable energy developments almost surround the eagles' territory.</p> <p>The conservation implications of Martial Eagles nesting on electricity pylons is not yet fully understood. Jenkins et al. (2013), suggest the population of Martial Eagles nesting on pylons is nationally and regionally significant. It represents more than 10% of the regional population, and Eskom has invested substantial resources to enable the species to continue to use these artificial structures. However, Amar and Cloete (20172) suggest that this population could be a potential sink. Until the conservation significance is better understood, we recommend adopting a precautionary approach, and these territories should be protected.</p> <p>The potential significance of Martial Eagle fatalities at wind energy facilities should also not be dismissed. Almost 1% of the national adult population has already been killed at wind farms in South Africa. Although some of these fatalities were due to electrocutions on associated infrastructure, the amount of installed wind energy capacity is set to increase almost 6-fold over the next ten years, suggesting pressure on the species will increase.</p> <p>While we note it was a preliminary recommendation, we are concerned that the proposed 3km buffer around the Martial Eagle nest is too small and not based on species-specific data. There is limited research to support spatial recommendations for avoidance and mitigation for the species, but the following has relevance. Martial Eagles hold large breeding territories (ranging from 130-150 km² in the lowveld, to at least 280 km² in the Nama-Karoo and Namibia (Simmons 20053). Eeden et al. (2017)'s work tracking Martial Eagles in the Kruger National Park indicated a 50% Kernel Density of an average of 16.5km². This suggests a buffer with a radius of 2.9 km from a nest</p>	<p>region etc.) has not been officially published for use in our reports. This makes it difficult to adequately formulate the conclusions for the report, although your alternative source (Phase 2 Strategic Environmental Assessment for wind and solar PV energy in South Africa¹) has been acknowledged. It must be noted, however, that the aim of this SEA was specifically to identify suitable areas for Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZs). The problem with these suggested buffers is that it is mostly based on unpublished data by specialists, no reason or assessment is provided on how it was determined. These same specialists recorded the martial eagle nest site on Sous 226, but never applied the 10km buffer for the Kokerboom 1, Khobab, Loeriesfontein2 or Dwarsrug WEFs. If it was applied, the layout design had to be amended to avoid the buffer. Currently, both Khobab and Loeriesfontein2 WEFs are within the 10km buffer of the nest site, with no avoidance or mitigation measures being applied to account for this. All</p> <p>Some of our suggestions regarding relocations of nests have been discussed between the author and other experts and it has been made clear to the specialists that the territorial spatial distribution of these large raptors is such that it is likely that other individuals may move in to replace the relocated individuals. This negates the effectiveness of the procedure. However, it is important to note that some species such as Martial Eagle are not at high risk of <u>direct</u> collision, even prior to mitigation. The martial eagles could have collided with the existing Khobab and Loeriesfontein2 WEFs since its operation (up to date post-construction monitoring data has not indicated this). From the avifauna assessment done for these WEFs as well as our data, the martial eagles have not been recorded towards the N, NE or NW of the nest site, indicating that</p>

¹ Department of Environment Forestry and Fisheries, 2019. Phase 2 Strategic Environmental Assessment for wind and solar PV energy in South Africa. CSIR Report Number: CSIR/SPLA/SECO/ER/2019/0085 Stellenbosch, Western Cape.

Project: Botterblom WEF Project

Interested and Affected Party		Date of Comment Received	Issues or comments raised	EAPs response	
Name	Designation				
			<p>would be necessary to avoid the core habitat only. Although telemetry data is not yet available outside the Kruger National Park, territory sizes are much larger in arid areas. It should therefore be assumed buffers in these areas should also be larger. A very high sensitivity buffer of 5 km, and a high sensitivity buffer of 10 km, is proposed in the National Strategic Environmental Assessment for wind energy4. The relocation of the Martial Eagle nest is also not supported. There is no evidence that this approach will be effective, and it is unclear how this might affect territory use and thus collision risk. The eagles will likely try to rebuild the nest or find a new territory. Furthermore, the implementation of anti-perch devices will be costly, require the support of Eskom, and they will need to be maintained. Both Eskom and the applicant must confirm the feasibility of this approach should it be pursued.</p> <p>Shutdown on demand is supported. However, the sensitivity of Martial Eagle to disturbance must be taken into consideration if human observers are used (the EMPr should also include recommendations to reduce the risk of disturbing breeding birds during construction). However, we are concerned that the proposed mitigation measures to address the risk of collisions are vague, and we trust these will be interrogated further in the EIA. In our experience, “adaptive management” is readily agreed to in EIAs, but poorly implemented at operational wind energy facilities. Too often, wind farm operators have not planned for the potentially significant cost, monitoring and management implications associated with operational phase mitigation and adaptive management. We, therefore, urge that the EMPr includes specific, measurable and time-bound environmental management outcomes and actions. The applicant must confirm that proposed mitigation actions are feasible before they are included in the assessment.</p>	<p>they forage mainly towards the south. This was even before the construction of the existing WEFs that this trend has been observed by the avifauna specialist whose control site for Khobab and Loeriesfontein2 WEFs is the location of the current study area. Accordingly, it seems the existing WEFs and the proposed Botterblom WEF do not pose a significant threat to the wellbeing of the species, as mentioned by the previous specialist as well.</p> <p>The shutdown on demand will require the experimentation and implementation of radar/ camera technology sourced from Europe. The experimental design to be applied must meet South African minimum standards and show that the application of the technology all but eliminates the direct collision risk to affected species. The specialists immediately seek all possible data (released or in press) concerning risk collision zones, buffering recommendations, locations of nest sites, range expansions of species and future guidelines) in order to optimise the process. It must be stated that from a development and Mitigation Hierarchy point of view, this sits firmly in the category of Mitigation and Monitoring which by design may or may not seek to adapt the current guidelines which do not consider the capabilities of any applied Shutdown on Demand based technology.</p> <p>Ongoing discussions with the applicant is taking place to ensure that the proposed mitigation measures are feasible and will be implemented which will be stipulated in the EMPr.</p>	
10	Eleanor J. (Kate) Richardson	South African Bat Assessment Association	1 October 2021	<p>Thank you so much for the reminder, Corné. With only a few months data it is obviously impossible to see a complete pattern, but it seems like Luke understands what is still needed and I look forward to seeing the complete year’s monitoring.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Once the EIR is available for comment, all registered I&APs will be notified.</p>
11	Lindiwe Franks	DWS	1 October 2021	<p>Dear managers</p> <p>Please note for your attention.</p>	<p>No comments were received from DWS</p>

Project: Botterblom WEF Project

Interested and Affected Party		Date of Comment Received	Issues or comments raised	EAPs response
Name	Designation			
	Office of the Provincial Head: Northern Cape Region			
12	<p>Natasha Higgitt: Heritage Officer Phillip Hine Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit</p>	South African Heritage Resources Agency	<p>8 October 2021</p> <p>Botterblom Wind Energy Facility Northern Cape Province, South Africa Enviro Insight CC has been appointed by FE Botterblom Pty Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed Botterblom Wind Energy Facility on the Remainder of the farm Sous` 226, near Loeriesfontein, Northern Cape Province.</p> <p>A draft Scoping Report (DSR) was submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA EIA Regulations (As amended). The proposed development will include the construction of up to 35 wind turbines with a hub height of 150 m and rotor diameter up to 175 m, a battery energy storage systems (BESS), concrete turbine tower foundations, cabling between turbines, internal and access road, permanent workshop area and office for control, maintenance and storage, and temporary laydown areas.</p> <p>Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting (HCAC) were appointed to provide the heritage specialist reports as part of the EA process as required in terms of section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and in terms of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).</p> <p><i>Van der Walt, J. 2021. Heritage Scoping Report for the proposed Botterblom Wind Energy Facility Northern Cape Province, South Africa.</i></p> <p>The specialist has noted that heritage resources such as Stone Age lithics surface scatters (however scarce), a historical farmstead and memorial are located within the study area.</p> <p>Recommendations provided in the report include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The study area should be subjected to a Heritage Impact Assessment; and • The study area must be subjected to a desktop Palaeontological Assessment. 	<p>It must be noted that even though the comments were received after the 30-day review period, it is still included.</p> <p>The feedback was discussed with the Heritage specialist which indicated that a full HIA will be undertaken.</p> <p>Feedback from the Palaeontologist indicated that even though there are small areas of high sensitivity, a site visit is not required. The following comment were received from Prof Marion Bamford:</p> <p><i>"the lack of any previously recorded fossils from the area, it is extremely unlikely that any fossils would be preserved in the alluvium of the Quaternary. There is a very small chance that trace fossils may occur in the shales of the early Permian Tierberg Formation so a Fossil Chance Find Protocol should be added to the EMP. If fossils are found by the environmental officer, or other responsible person once excavations for foundations and infrastructure have commenced then they should be rescued and a palaeontologist called to assess and collect a representative sample."</i></p>

Project: Botterblom WEF Project

Interested and Affected Party		Date of Comment Received	Issues or comments raised	EAPs response
Name	Designation			
			<p>Interim Comment</p> <p>The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit notes the pending assessment of the impact to heritage resources and requests that the assessment comply with section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA). Additionally, the assessment of the impact to archaeological resources must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and comply with the 2007 SAHRA Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessments.</p> <p>As the development application area is located in an area of moderate, high and very high sensitivity for palaeontological resources as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map, a field-based Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) must be required to be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist. (See https://www.palaeosa.org/heritage-practitioners.html for a list of qualified palaeontologists). The report must comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments.</p> <p>Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested reports and the draft EIA inclusive of appendices.</p>	

Appendix E8: Scoping Phase Comments





forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA 0001· Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia,· PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2098

Enquiries: Zamalanga Langa

Telephone: (012) 399 9389 **E-mail:** zlanga@environment.gov.za

Mr Corné Niemandt
Enviro-Insight CC
Unit 8 Oppidraai Office
862 Wapadrand Road,
Wapadrand Security Village,
PRETORIA
0081

Telephone Number: 012 807 0637

Email Address: corne@enviro-insight.co.za

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Niemandt

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON THE REMAINDER OF THE FARM SOUS 226, NEAR LOERIESFONTEIN IN THE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated September 2021 and received by the Department on 31 August 2021, refer.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the Final Scoping Report:

(a) Layout & Sensitivity Maps

- Please provide a layout map which indicates the following:
- The proposed Turbines and associated infrastructure, overlain by the sensitivity map;
- All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g. roads (existing and proposed);
- The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;
- Buffer areas; and
- All “no-go” areas.
- Google maps will not be accepted.

(b) Public Participation Process

- Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the SR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the Final SR. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final SR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

- A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final SR. The C&R report must incorporate all historical comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Annexure 1 of this comments letter. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as “Noted” is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP’s comments.
- The final SR must provide evidence that all identified and relevant competent authorities have been given an opportunity to comment on the proposed development.

(c) Specialist Assessments

- Specialist studies to be conducted must provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as indicate the locations and descriptions of turbine positions, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisations.
- The specialist studies must also provide a detailed description of all limitations to their studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation, will not be accepted.
- Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expertise advice.
- It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. “the Protocols”), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. **Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.**

(d) Cumulative Assessment

- Should there be any other similar projects within a 30km radius of the proposed development site, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined to indicate the following:
 - Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land.
 - Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist’s recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.
 - The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
 - A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

General

You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that:

“If S&EIR must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 44 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority a scoping report which has been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority”

You are further reminded that the final SR to be submitted to this Department must comply with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of Scoping reports in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7).

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Letter signed by: Dr Danie Smit
Designation: Deputy Director: National Infrastructure Projects
Date: 27/09/2021

cc:	Ralf Grass	FE Botterblom (Pty) Ltd	Email: ralf.grass@energyteam.co.za
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27 May 2021

ATT: M . Kotze
PO Box 363
Newlands
7725
Cape Town

**Impact on Vodacom Towers at Loeriesfontein (Botterblom) , area
(Northern Cape area - Kharkams)**

Reference to email received on 26 May 2021. Botterblom WEF - **Genesis Eco-Energy
Developments (Pty) Ltd**
- Act 36 of 2005

This is to confirm that Vodacom has no objection to the proposed wind turbine structure in Loeriesfontein Area reference (GPS coordinates(30°29'3.38"S/19°30'53.69"E) will have no impact on surrounding Vodacom towers or its existing / future transmission routes (Microwave) in this area .

Please communicate any future changes or deviations from the original planning to this office since this confirmation remains specific to this request only.

Yours Faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nico Fourie".

.....
Nico Fourie

**EHOD Operations
Vodacom Western Region**

Tel : 021 529 5443
e-mail: Nico.Fourie@vodacom.co.za

Enviro-Insight CC

Email: corne@enviro-insight.co.za

Date: 17 June 2021

Dear Corné Niemandt

RE: BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT ON THE PROPOSED BOTTERBLOM WIND ENERGY FACILITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE.

This letter is in response to the notification of the proposed wind energy facility and its possible impact on the Square Kilometre Array radio telescopes.

SARAO has undertaken an impact assessment and based on the information provided it was determined that the project represents a low risk of interference to the SKA radio telescope with a required mitigation measure of -5.10 dBm/Hz to reduce interference at the telescope. As such, we do not have any objection to the development.

However, we do recommend that you should take all precautionary measures to limit the electromagnetic emissions (EMI) in all your electrical cable installations and equipment.

Thank you for your correspondence, we would appreciate it if you could keep us informed with the development of the project.

Regards,



Mr Selaelo Matlhane

Spectrum & Telecommunication Manager

South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)

Tel: 011 442 2434

Email: smatlhane@ska.ac.za

www.ska.ac.za

The South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO) is a National Facility managed by the National Research Foundation and incorporates all national radio astronomy telescopes and programmes. SARAO is responsible for implementing the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) in South Africa.

Attention: Mr Corné Niemandt
Enviro-Insight CC
Reference: Botterblom WEF - Scoping Report
Email: corne@enviro-insight.co.za

1 October 2021

Dear Corné

Draft Scoping Report for the Proposed Botterblom Wind Energy Facility, Northern Cape

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft scoping report for the proposed Botterblom Wind Energy Facility near Loeriesfontein in the Northern Cape. BirdLife South Africa supports the responsible development of renewable energy, and our comments are intended to help ensure that potential negative impacts on biodiversity are avoided and minimised.

We understand that the next phase of the EIA will include a more complete analysis of data, assessment of impacts, and a more thorough interrogation of potential mitigation measures. However, we would like to use this opportunity to highlight a few comments, questions and concerns.

The Avifauna Preconstruction Monitoring Assessment Report only refers to the “avifauna theme” of the National Web-based Environmental Screening Tool, not the “animal species theme”. As far as we understand, the former theme only includes data used in the National Strategic Environmental Assessment for wind and solar energy - i.e. data in or near to the Renewable Energy Development Zones. As a result, and somewhat confusingly, areas that are obviously of high avifaunal sensitivity (e.g. Langebaan Lagoon) are erroneously reflected as low sensitivity. We, therefore, advise avifaunal specialists to consult both the avifauna and animal species themes. The latter covers the entire country and includes habitat suitability models for many of our threatened bird species.

The proposed development is located in an area where multiple wind and solar PV developments have already received environmental approval. We suggest that the potential cumulative impacts associated with both technologies on biodiversity require careful consideration and assessment.

For example, the development falls in the middle of a relatively narrow (approximately 100km wide) corridor of Red Lark (*Calendulauda burra*) habitat (see figure 1). How will the gradual encroachment of renewable energy infrastructure in this area affect the available habitat and dispersal of this globally Vulnerable, range-restricted species?

Red Larks are habitat specialists, and it may be possible to avoid much of their habitat when planning the layout of infrastructure. And it may be possible to mitigate or compensate for any unavoidable losses due to habitat loss and displacement by ensuring the appropriate management of remaining habitat on site. We suggest that this should be addressed in the EMPr. A habitat suitability model for Red Lark is available through BirdLife South Africa, and it may also be possible to run a finer scale habitat suitability model for the site to supplement survey data. Please contact Ernst Retief ([Ernst Retief](mailto:ernst.retief@birdlife.org.za)) to for more information.

While we have received no reports of fatalities of Red Lark due to turbine collisions, they may be at risk, particularly during breeding displays. Preliminary data suggests that Red Lark are only likely to fly within the rotor swept area at low wind speeds (Robin Colyn pers comm). This has not been tested, but it

might be possible to mitigate this risk by increasing the cut-in speed of the turbines. The risk of collisions could also be mitigated by increasing the distance between the ground and the rotor swept area. Again this has not been tested but could be considered as part of the mitigation strategy.

We are also concerned about the cumulative impacts on the breeding pair of Martial Eagle (*Polemaetus bellicosus*, regionally Endangered). Proposed and operational renewable energy developments almost surround the eagles' territory.

The conservation implications of Martial Eagles nesting on electricity pylons is not yet fully understood. Jenkins et al. 2013¹, suggest the population of Martial Eagles nesting on pylons is nationally and regionally significant. It represents more than 10% of the regional population, and Eskom has invested substantial resources to enable the species to continue to use these artificial structures. However, Amar and Cloete (2017²) suggest that this population could be a potential sink. Until the conservation significance is better understood, we recommend adopting a precautionary approach, and these territories should be protected.

The potential significance of Martial Eagle fatalities at wind energy facilities should also not be dismissed. Almost 1% of the national adult population has already been killed at wind farms in South Africa. Although some of these fatalities were due to electrocutions on associated infrastructure, the amount of installed wind energy capacity is set to increase almost 6-fold over the next ten years, suggesting pressure on the species will increase.

While we note it was a preliminary recommendation, we are concerned that the proposed 3km buffer around the Martial Eagle nest is too small and not based on species-specific data. There is limited research to support spatial recommendations for avoidance and mitigation for the species, but the following has relevance. Martial Eagles hold large breeding territories (ranging from 130-150 km² in the lowveld, to at least 280 km² in the Nama-Karoo and Namibia (Simmons 2005³). Eeden et al. (2017)⁴'s work tracking Martial Eagles in the Kruger National Park indicated a 50% Kernel Density of an average of 16.5km². This suggests a buffer with a radius of 2.9 km from a nest would be necessary to avoid the core habitat only. Although telemetry data is not yet available outside the Kruger National Park, territory sizes are much larger in arid areas. It should therefore be assumed buffers in these areas should also be larger. A very high sensitivity buffer of 5 km, and a high sensitivity buffer of 10 km, is proposed in the National Strategic Environmental Assessment for wind energy⁴.

The relocation of the Martial Eagle nest is also not supported. There is no evidence that this approach will be effective, and it is unclear how this might affect territory use and thus collision risk. The eagles will likely try to rebuild the nest or find a new territory. Furthermore, the implementation of anti-perch devices will be costly, require the support of Eskom, and they will need to be maintained. Both Eskom and the applicant must confirm the feasibility of this approach should it be pursued.

Shutdown on demand is supported. However, the sensitivity of Martial Eagle to disturbance must be taken into consideration if human observers are used (the EMPr should also include recommendations

¹ <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/bird-conservation-international/article/brokering-a-settlement-between-eagles-and-industry-sustainable-management-of-large-raptors-nesting-on-power-infrastructure/5DDD7965A86AB4351D86D18068691510>

² <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/bird-conservation-international/article/quantifying-the-decline-of-the-martial-eagle-polemaetus-bellicosus-in-south-africa/EE0EAE90EAE0F671EEAA89D0BFF732D>

³ Simmons, R. E. (2005 c) Martial Eagle. In: P. A. R. Hockey, W. R. J. Dean, and P. G. Ryan, eds. Roberts birds of southern Africa, VII. Cape Town, South Africa: John Voelcker Bird Book Fund.

⁴ <https://redzs.csr.co.za>

BirdLife South Africa is a partner of BirdLife International, a global partnership of nature conservation organisations. Member of IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature).
Reg No: 001 – 298 NPO
PBO Exemption No: 930004518

to reduce the risk of disturbing breeding birds during construction). However, we are concerned that the proposed mitigation measures to address the risk of collisions are vague, and we trust these will be interrogated further in the EIA. In our experience, “adaptive management” is readily agreed to in EIAs, but poorly implemented at operational wind energy facilities. Too often, wind farm operators have not planned for the potentially significant cost, monitoring and management implications associated with operational phase mitigation and adaptive management. We, therefore, urge that the EMPr includes specific, measurable and time-bound environmental management outcomes and actions. The applicant must confirm that proposed mitigation actions are feasible before they are included in the assessment.

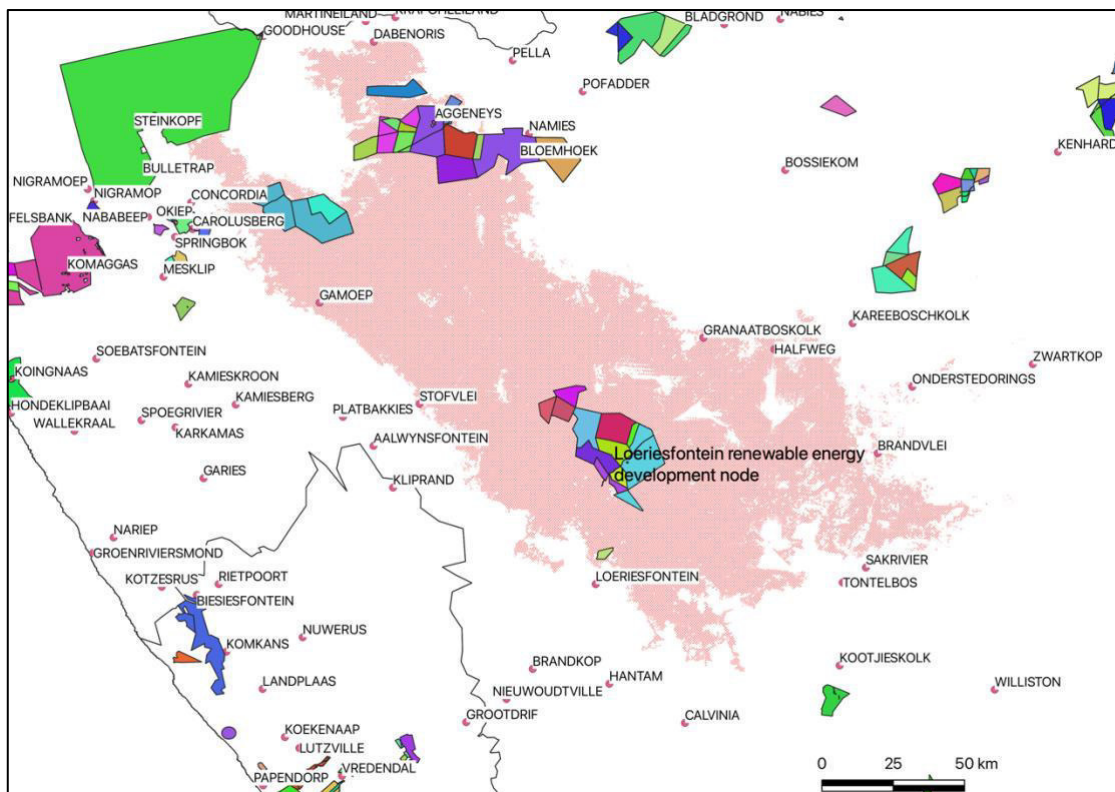


Figure 1. The location of proposed renewable energy infrastructure (multi-coloured polygons) relative to the global distribution of Red Lark (light pink) based on BirdLife South Africa's habitat suitability models.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you wish to discuss our comments further.

Kind regards



Samantha Ralston-Paton
Birds and Renewable Energy Project Manager

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 17068

Date: Friday October 08, 2021
Page No: 1

Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(3), 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: Enviro-Insight CC

Unit 8, Oppidraai Office Park
862 Wapadrand Rd
Wapadrand Security Village
Pretoria
0081

Botterblom Wind Energy Facility Northern Cape Province, South Africa

Enviro Insight CC has been appointed by FE Botterblom Pty Ltd to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed Botterblom Wind Energy Facility on the Remainder of the farm Sous 226, near Loeriesfontein, Northern Cape Province.

A draft Scoping Report (DSR) was submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA EIA Regulations (As amended). The proposed development will include the construction of up to 35 wind turbines with a hub height of 150 m and rotor diameter up to 175 m, a battery energy storage systems (BESS), concrete turbine tower foundations, cabling between turbines, internal and access road, permanent workshop area and office for control, maintenance and storage, and temporary laydown areas.

Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting (HCAC) were appointed to provide the heritage specialist reports as part of the EA process as required in terms of section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and in terms of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

Van der Walt, J. 2021. Heritage Scoping Report for the proposed Botterblom Wind Energy Facility Northern Cape Province, South Africa.

The specialist has noted that heritage resources such as Stone Age lithics surface scatters (however scarce), a historical farmstead and memorial are located within the study area.

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 17068

Date: Friday October 08, 2021
Page No: 2

- The study area should be subjected to a Heritage Impact Assessment; and
- The study area must be subjected to a desktop Palaeontological Assessment.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit notes the pending assessment of the impact to heritage resources and requests that the assessment comply with section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA). Additionally, the assessment of the impact to archaeological resources must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and comply with the 2007 SAHRA Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessments.

As the development application area is located in an area of moderate, high and very high sensitivity for palaeontological resources as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map, a field-based Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) must be required to be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist. (See <https://www.palaeosa.org/heritage-practitioners.html> for a list of qualified palaeontologists). The report must comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments.

Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the above requested reports and the draft EIA inclusive of appendices.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Natasha Higgitt
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Our Ref:



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 17068

Date: Friday October 08, 2021
Page No: 3

Phillip Hine
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/581854>

Appendix E9: EIR Phase Public Participation

To be included in the EIR to be submitted
to DFFE

