

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF ONE (1) RADIO MAST OF UP TO 90 METRES ON THE AUTHORISED 132 kV/400kV LINKING STATION (ON THE REMAINING EXTENT OF PORTION 1 OF FARM NO, 15 OF TRAKAS KUILEN - C0610000000001500001) LOCATED ON THE BEAUFORT WEST CLUSTER OF WIND FARM DEVELOPMENTS, NEAR THE TOWN OF BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

## TERMS OF REFERENCE (ToR) FOR SPECIALIST STUDIES

### CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION .....	2
2	SPECIALIST REPORTING REQUIREMENTS .....	5
<b>2.1</b>	<b>Compilation of Specialist Reports</b> .....	5
<b>2.2</b>	<b>Motivational Letter / Site Sensitivity Verification Report (SSVR) and Specialist Assessment Report Templates</b> .....	6
2.2.1	Motivational Letter Template .....	6
2.2.2	SSVR Template .....	6
2.2.3	Specialist Assessment Report Template / Compliance Statement Template (if deemed required) .....	6
<b>2.3</b>	<b>Project description</b> .....	7
<b>2.4</b>	<b>Impact Rating Methodology</b> .....	8
3	CUMULATIVE IMPACT ASSESSMENT .....	10
4	ASSESSMENT OF ALTERNATIVES .....	11
5	SPECIALIST SPECIFIC DELIVERABLES .....	12
<b>5.1</b>	<b>Specialist Deliverables</b> .....	12
6	DELIVERABLES AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS .....	13
<b>6.1</b>	<b>Deliverables</b> .....	13
<b>6.2</b>	<b>Deadlines</b> .....	13
<b>6.3</b>	<b>Report / data formats</b> .....	13

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Beaufort West Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd ('Beaufort West Wind Farm') is proposing to install one (1) Radio Mast which will be placed on the authorised 132kV/400kV Linking Station (on the remaining extent of Portion 1 of Farm No. 15 of Trakas Kuilen - C0610000000001500001), located 60km south of the town of Beaufort West in the Prince Albert Local Municipality, within the Central Karoo District Municipality of the Western Cape Province

The radio mast is required by Eskom Holdings Ltd (Eskom) in order for the Linking Station to be able to communicate via Radio frequency to other Linking stations in the area. The Radio Mast will consist of a tapered steel lattice structure with either a square (4 leg) or triangular (3 leg). The radio mast will be up to 90 metres (m) in height and will be placed within the substation footprint for the authorised 33kV/132kV Main Transmission Substation (MTS) (i.e., will be built on top of the authorised MTS) (14-12-16-3-3-2-925-1 & 14-12-16-3-3-2-925-2) / (12-12-20-1784-2 & 12-12-20-1784-1).

In terms of infrastructure services, no additional services are required for the proposed radio mast and the intention is to use the already authorised buildings for ablutions, water, electricity etc.

With regards to technology alternatives, the specifications for the radio mast being proposed is based on Eskom requirements / standards. There are no design / technology alternatives for the radio mast as the applicant was provided with the Scope of Works (SoW) with specifications for the radio mast from Eskom and must adhere to this. It should be noted that there is no fibre on the existing Eskom line and no fibre alternatives, and therefore the requested mast needs to be a radio mast. There will be no guy wires used and the radio mast will be a self-supporting structure. In addition, Eskom advised that the mast needs to be at least 85 metres in height.

Since the proposed project involves the installation of a radio mast on an already authorised MTS, all the relevant specialist studies have been undertaken during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process in January 2017 (14-12-16-3-3-2-925). As mentioned, this authorisation was amended in August 2021 to split and assign each substation and powerline to each respective wind farm (Beaufort West 132KV-400KV Linking Station, 132KV Power Line and onsite 132KV Substation – 14-12-16-3-3-2-925-1 as amended and Trakas 132KV-400KV Linking Station, 132KV Power Line and onsite 132KV Substation – 14-12-16-3-3-2-925-2 as amended).

Further to the above, Beaufort West Wind Farm received Environmental Authorisations (EAs) (May 2022) for an additional 33/132 kV onsite Substation, one (1) Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), one (1) laydown area and one (1) Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Building (14/12/16/3/3/1/2464 as amended), as well as one (1) 132kV switching station yard of the onsite substation and associated 132kV powerline (14/12/16/3/3/1/2465 as amended). This new substation, powerline and BESS will be constructed to service the Beaufort West Cluster. Regarding the above mentioned EAs, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE) authorised Alternative 2, however, it was found that Alternative 1 is more technically feasible and as such, Part 2 Amendments have been submitted to the DFFE for consideration to change the authorised alternative. These applications were circulated for a 30-day Public Participation (14/12/16/3/3/1/2464/AM1 and 14/12/16/3/3/1/2465/AM1) and the final amendment reports submitted to the DFFE for decision making on 5 October 2022.

It should be noted that on 28 October 2021, the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy announced the Preferred Bidders of the Round 5 Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) and both the above-mentioned wind energy facilities (Beaufort West Wind Farm – 12-12-20-1784-1-AM3 and Trakas Wind Farm - 12-12-20-1784-2-AM3) received Preferred Bidder status. These wind energy facilities have now become Strategic Infrastructure Projects (SIPs) (i.e., SIPs 8 and 10) target the development of green energy in support of the South African economy and the provision of electricity transmission and distribution respectively.

- SIP 8 supports sustainable green energy initiatives on a national scale through a diverse range of clean energy options as envisaged in the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP2010) and support bio-fuel production facilities.
- SIP 10 Expand the transmission and distribution network to address historical imbalances, provide access to electricity for all and support economic development. Align the 10-year transmission plan, the services backlog, the national broadband roll-out and the freight rail line development to leverage off regulatory approvals, supply chain and project development capacity.

Considering the radio mast is intrinsically linked to the continued functioning of this SIP project and Eskom requirements to maintain communication between linking substations, it is assumed that the reduced decision timeframe of 57 days may apply to this project as well (depending on WC DEADP capacity).

As mentioned, the proposed radio mast will be placed on an already authorised MTS (i.e., will be built on top of authorised Linking station) and all the relevant specialist studies have been undertaken during the EIA process in January 2017 (14-12-16-3-3-2-925), and for the additional 33/132 kV onsite Substation, one (1) Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), one (1) laydown area and one (1) Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Building (14/12/16/3/3/1/2464 as amended), as well as one (1) 132kV switching station yard of the onsite substation and associated 132kV powerline (14/12/16/3/3/1/2465 as amended) in May 2021. It should be noted that the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) has consulted with the relevant specialists who undertook assessments as part of the original EIA process in 2017 and 2021, and they have confirmed that the proposed radio mast will not change the significance of their original impact assessments. The need for specialist inputs has however been confirmed with Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (WC DEADP).

The relevant specialists whose input is required as part of the radio mast project will compile motivational letters and Site Sensitivity Verification Reports (SSVRS) addressing the proposed construction and operation of the radio mast (including management measures and recommendations ,if applicable)), which will be in line with the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), as well as any specific Gazetted specialist protocols (if required / applicable) as identified in the online DFFE screening tool.

Potential applicable protocols include the following:

- Government Notice (GN) 320 of 20 March 2020; and GN 1150 of 30 October 2020.

The motivational letter (which will be appended to the specialists' original report) will include the following information:

- Brief introduction and reference to new ToR / project description (***maps and description will be provided***)
- Refer / cross reference to relevant legislation and guidelines, including the requirement for any permits (***cross reference to relevant sections in the previous assessment – previous assessment to be appended to the new BA***)
- Refer / cross reference to methods applied (***cross reference to relevant sections in the previous assessment - previous assessment to be appended to the new BA***)
- Cross reference to baseline description of the environment, indicating whether the status quo is the same / has or has not changed significantly since the last assessment undertaken in January 2017 and again in May 2021.
- Provide an impact assessment section, including no-go and cumulative, taking note of the following:
  - If the new portions of the proposed radio mast results in a change to the impact assessments undertaken as part of the original study / assessment in January 2017 / May 2021, please explain how and why and then please provide updated impact tables using the SLR methodology (***this will be provided – Refer Section 1.4 below***)

- If the impact assessment remains the same, please copy and paste the relevant tables into this section and cross reference to the original report compiled in January 2017 / May 2021.
- Please provide updated sensitivity mapping, **if required**, overlaid on the new layout
- Any new mitigation and/or Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) requirements (***specialist can advise whether specific mitigation and/or EMPr requirements provided in original study / assessment are applicable for new application***)
- Conclusion / impact statement regarding the acceptability of the project (i.e., whether the project should receive environmental authorisation)

**As mentioned, the motivational letter will be appended to the specialists' original reports. However, should a motivational letter not be adequate, a new specialist report which is in line with Appendix 6 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), as well as any specific Gazetted specialist protocols<sup>1</sup> (if required / applicable) will be complied.**

The specialist reports which are required as part of this BA process for the proposed radio mast are detailed in Section 2.1.

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<sup>1</sup> GN 320 (20 March 2020): 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.

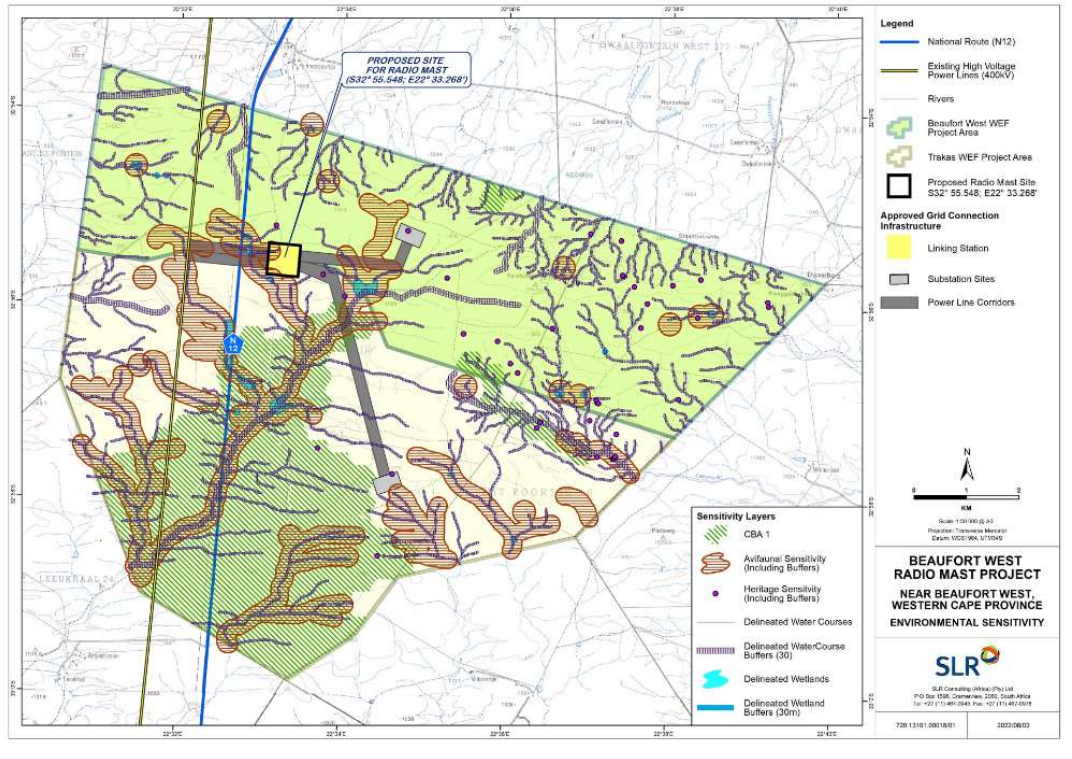


Figure 1: Locality map showing the proposed location of the radio mast in relation to environmental sensitivities

## 2 SPECIALIST REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

### 2.1 Compilation of Specialist Reports

Due to the fact that the proposed radio mast will be placed on an authorised Linking station footprint (i.e., will be built on top of authorised Linking station), all the relevant specialist studies have been undertaken during the EIA process in January 2017 (14-12-16-3-3-2-925) and May 2021 (14/12/16/3/3/1/2464 and (14/12/16/3/3/1/2465), and the specialists are required to compile a motivational letter confirming whether the status quo has or has not changed significantly since the last assessment undertaken between January 2017 and May 2021. The motivational letter must also include any new mitigation and/or EMPr requirements or confirm whether the mitigation and/or EMPr requirements provided in the original assessments are still applicable (see Section 1 above for details).

However, should an additional site visit and new specialist report be required (should a motivational letter not be adequate), the specialists are requested to compile the following reports, in line with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), as well as any specific Gazetted specialist protocols<sup>1</sup> (if required / applicable):

1. Site Sensitivity Verification Report (SSVR); and
2. Specialist Impact Assessment Report (including management measures and recommendations)

Table 2-1: Reports required and applicable NEMA process

Specialist Requirements	Project	Process
Motivational Letter	Up to 90m radio mast, 60km south of the town of Beaufort West in the Prince Albert Local Municipality,	BA Process
Site Sensitivity Verification Report (SSVR)		

Specialist Impact Assessment Report <i>(if required, should Motivational Letter/SSVR above not be adequate)</i>	within the Central Karoo District Municipality of the Western Cape Province.	
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## 2.2 Motivational Letter / Site Sensitivity Verification Report (SSVR) and Specialist Assessment Report Templates

The main deliverables have associated templates to ensure all components of the motivational letter / reports are included in your submission, as follows:

1. Motivational Letter – See Section 2.2.1 below.
2. Site Sensitivity Verification Report (SSVR) – ***Separate document on OneDrive which will be made available to specialists.***
3. Specialist Assessment Report – ***Separate document on OneDrive which will only be made available to specialists (if required) (Section 2.2.3 below)***
4. Compliance Statement (if applicable) – see Section 2.2.3.2 below.

***It is not mandatory to use the specific specialist report template(s), as long as the same content is included in your own template.***

### 2.2.1 Motivational Letter Template

It should be noted that there is no template available for the Motivational Letter as there are no specific format requirements. The specialists are however required to ensure that the Motivational Letter covers all relevant aspects requested by the EAP (as detailed in Section 1) and that an appropriate letterhead (if available) be used.

### 2.2.2 SSVR Template

It is mandatory that the relevant specialists submit a SSVR, according to GN 320 of March 2020 - ***Separate document on OneDrive which will be made available to specialists. WC DEADP have requested that an SSVR should be compiled for the DFFE Screening Tool sensitivity verification/confirmation. The DFFE Screening Tool Report will be provided to specialists.***

### 2.2.3 Specialist Assessment Report Template / Compliance Statement Template (if deemed required)

The EAP will provide a template for the Specialist Assessment Report/Compliance Statement, should a Motivational Letter and SSVR not be adequate and should a new specialist report be required. The template will include generic project information for all reports and if used, the content for the other respective reports should be deleted as applicable. Alternatively, generic project information can be copied and pasted into your own template, as required by GN.320 and GN 1150 (2020). - ***Separate document which will be made available to specialists, if required.***

In summary, the key content is as follows:

#### 2.2.3.1 Specialist Assessment Report Template (if required)

1. If relevant, a table cross referencing how the requirements for specialist reports have been adhered to according to Appendix 6 of the EIA Regs, 2014 (as amended)
2. Executive summary
3. Project description
4. Relevant legislation and guidelines, including the requirement for any permits
5. Methodology, including details of field work; consultations; gaps and uncertainties
6. Baseline environment

7. Sensitivity mapping [overlay with the layout(s)]
8. Impact assessment, including the 'no-go' assessment
9. Mitigation and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) requirements
10. Cumulative impact assessment
11. Conclusion / impact statement on the acceptability of the project

### 2.2.3.2 Compliance Statement (if required)

As specified in the respective protocols<sup>1</sup>, in summary the compliance statement (should a compliance statement be required as part of the SSVR or Specialist Assessment Report) must:

1. be applicable to the preferred site and proposed development footprint - **project description can be found in Separate document on OneDrive which will be made available to specialists (if required)**;
2. confirm the sensitivity of the site for your discipline; and
3. indicate whether or not the proposed development will have any impact / an unacceptable impact on the resource.

The compliance statement must contain, as a minimum, the following information:

1. the contact details of the specialist, their South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP) registration number, their field of expertise and a curriculum vitae (CV);
2. a signed statement of independence by the specialist (**template can be found in separate document on OneDrive which will be made available to specialists**);
3. Baseline profile or sensitivity mapping, as required by the applicable protocol;
4. Methodology, including details of site inspection, any modelling or calculations required by the protocol or any associated design recommendations that have applied to reduce impacts;
5. a substantiated statement from the specialist on the acceptability (or not) of the proposed development and a recommendation on the approval (or not) of the proposed development;
6. any conditions to which this statement is subjected;
7. in the case of a linear activity, confirmation from the specialist that, in their opinion, based on the mitigation and remedial measures proposed, the land can be returned to the current state within two (2) years of completion of the construction phase;
8. where required, proposed impact management outcomes or any monitoring requirements for inclusion in the EMPr; and
9. a description of the assumptions made and any uncertainties or gaps in knowledge or data.

### 2.3 Project description

The project description for the proposed development is set out in the relevant report templates which have been compiled (**Separate documents on OneDrive which will be made available to specialists**) or can be found in Section 1 of this ToR (**should a Motivational Letter be required**), to ensure that all available technical information is available for assessment and for the compilation of the Motivational Letter / specialist report (as required). This same project description can then be used for the / Motivational Letter / SSV Report and Impact Assessment / Compliance Report (as required), although not repeated in these templates.

#### **Please take note of the following important definitions:**

- 1) **Project Site** = Total extent of the land parcel(s).
- 2) **Development Area** = Identified area (located within the project site) where the radio mast is planned to be located. This area has been selected as a practical option for the project, considering technical preference and constraints (i.e. on the authorised substation footprint).
- 3) **Development Envelope** = Area identified considering and avoiding identified environmental constraints present within the development area.

- 4) **Development Footprint** = Any evidence of physical alteration as a result of the undertaking of any activity.

## 2.4 Impact Rating Methodology

Should a new impact assessment be required (should there be changes to the impacts identified as part of the EIA process), the impacts of the proposed development (during the Pre-Construction, Construction, Operation and Decommissioning phases) are to be assessed and rated according to the methodology described below, which was developed by SLR to align with the requirements of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

**Specialists will be required to make use of the impact rating matrix provided (in Excel format) for this purpose.**

The criteria used to assess both the impacts and the method of determining the significance of the impacts is outlined in Table 2. This method complies with the method provided in the EIA guideline document (GN 654 of 2010). **Part A** provides the definitions of the criteria and the approach for determining impact consequence (combining intensity, extent and duration). In **Part B**, a matrix is applied to determine this impact consequence. In **Part C**, the consequence rating is considered together with the probability of occurrence in order to determine the overall significance of each impact. Lastly, the interpretation of the impact significance is provided in **Part D**.

**Table 2: Impact Assessment Methodology**

PART A: DEFINITIONS AND CRITERIA		
Determination of CONSEQUENCE	Consequence is a function of intensity, spatial extent and duration	
Determination of SIGNIFICANCE	Significance is a function of consequence and probability	
Criteria for ranking of the INTENSITY of environmental impacts	Very High	Severe change, disturbance or degradation caused to receptors. Associated with severe consequences. May result in severe illness, injury or death. Targets, limits and thresholds of concern continually exceeded. Substantial intervention will be required.
	High	Prominent change, or large degree of modification, disturbance or degradation caused to receptors, or which may affect a large proportion of receptors, possibly entire species or community.
	Medium	Moderate change, disturbance or discomfort caused to receptors and/or which may affect a moderate proportion of receptors.
	Low	Minor (slight) change, disturbance or nuisance caused to receptors which is easily tolerated without intervention, or which may affect a small proportion of receptors.
	Very Low	Negligible change, disturbance or nuisance caused to receptors which is barely noticeable or may have minimal effect on receptors or affect a limited proportion of the receptors.
Criteria for ranking the DURATION of impacts	Very Short-term	The duration of the impact will be < 1 year or may be intermittent.
	Short-term	The duration of the impact will be between 1 - 5 years.
	Medium-term	The duration of the impact will be Medium-term between, 5 to 10 years.
	Long-term	The duration of the impact will be Long-term, between 10 and 20 years. (Likely to cease at the end of the operational life of the activity).
	Permanent	The duration of the impact will be permanent
Criteria for ranking the EXTENT of impacts	Site	Impact is limited to the immediate footprint of the activity and immediate surrounds within a confined area.
	Local	Impact is confined to within the project site / area and its nearby surroundings.
	Regional	Impact is confined to the region, e.g., coast, basin, catchment, municipal region, district, etc.



	<b>National</b>	Impact may extend beyond district or regional boundaries with national implications.				
	<b>International</b>	Impact extends beyond the national scale or may be transboundary.				
<b>PART B: DETERMINING CONSEQUENCE</b>						
		<b>EXTENT</b>				
		Site	Local	Regional	National	International
<b>Intensity- Very Low</b>						
<b>DURATION</b>	Permanent	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High
	Long-term	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Medium
	Medium-term	Very Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium
	Short-term	Very low	Very Low	Low	Low	Low
	Very Short-term	Very low	Very Low	Very Low	Low	Low
<b>Intensity -Low</b>						
<b>DURATION</b>	Permanent	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	High
	Long-term	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	High
	Medium-term	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium
	Short-term	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Medium
	Very Short-term	Very low	Low	Low	Low	Medium
<b>Intensity- Medium</b>						
<b>DURATION</b>	Permanent	Medium	High	High	High	Very High
	Long-term	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	High
	Medium-term	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	High
	Short-term	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	High
	Very Short-term	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Medium
<b>Intensity -High</b>						
<b>DURATION</b>	Permanent	High	High	High	Very High	Very High
	Long-term	Medium	High	High	High	Very High
	Medium-term	Medium	Medium	High	High	High
	Short-term	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	High
	Very Short-term	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	High
<b>Intensity - Very High</b>						
<b>DURATION</b>	Permanent	High	High	Very High	Very High	Very High
	Long-term	High	High	High	Very High	Very High
	Medium-term	Medium	High	High	High	Very High
	Short-term	Medium	Medium	High	High	High
	Very Short-term	Low	Medium	Medium	High	High
		Site	Local	Regional	National	International

		EXTENT				
<b>PART C: DETERMINING SIGNIFICANCE</b>						
<b>PROBABILITY (of exposure to impacts)</b>	Definite/ Continuous	<b>Very Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	Medium	<b>High</b>	<b>Very High</b>
	Probable	<b>Very Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	Medium	<b>High</b>	<b>Very High</b>
	Possible/ frequent	<b>Very Low</b>	<b>Very Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	Medium	<b>High</b>
	Conceivable	<b>Insignificant</b>	<b>Very Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	Medium	<b>High</b>
	Unlikely/ improbable	<b>Insignificant</b>	<b>Insignificant</b>	<b>Very Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	Medium
		Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Very High
<b>CONSEQUENCE</b>						
<b>PART D: INTERPRETATION OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>						
<b>Very High -</b>	<b>Very High +</b>	Represents a key factor in decision-making. In the case of adverse effects, the impact would be considered a fatal flaw unless mitigated to lower significance.				
<b>High -</b>	<b>High +</b>	These beneficial or adverse effects are considered to be very important considerations and are likely to be material for the decision-making process. In the case of negative impacts, substantial mitigation will be required.				
<b>Medium -</b>	<b>Medium +</b>	These beneficial or adverse effects may be important but are not likely to be key decision-making factors. The cumulative effects of such issues may become a decision-making issue if leading to an increase in the overall adverse effect on a particular resource or receptor. In the case of negative impacts, mitigation will be required.				
<b>Low -</b>	<b>Low +</b>	These beneficial or adverse effects may be raised as localised issues. They are unlikely to be critical in the decision-making process but could be important in the subsequent design of the project. In the case of negative impacts, some mitigation is likely to be required.				
<b>Very Low -</b>	<b>Very Low +</b>	These beneficial or adverse effects will not have an influence on the decision, neither will they need to be taken into account in the design of the project. In the case of negative impacts, mitigation is not necessarily required.				
<b>Insignificant</b>		Any effects are beneath the levels of perception and inconsequential, therefore not requiring any consideration.				

The specialists are also required to include a comment, as follows, on the degree to which the impact:

1. Can be reversed;
2. May cause irreplaceable loss of resources; and
3. Can be avoided, managed or mitigated.

### 3 CUMULATIVE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

***Should a new specialist report be required, a cumulative impact assessment will need to be included / provided.***

A cumulative impact can be defined as “the past, current and reasonably foreseeable future impact of an activity, considered together with the impact of activities associated with that activity, that itself may not be significant, but may be significant when added to the existing and foreseeable impacts culminating from similar or diverse activities” (NEMA EIA Reg GN R982 of 2014).

The South African Renewable Energy EIA Application Database (REEA) available at the time (namely “REEA\_OR\_2022\_Q2”) shows one (1) renewable energy project (wind) that is authorised and one (1) renewable energy project (wind) that has been withdrawn or that lapsed within close proximity to the proposed radio mast site. There is also the Beaufort West WEF and the Trakas WEF which have both been approved as well as the recent grid applications (14/12/16/3/3/1/2464 as amended and 14/12/16/3/3/1/2465 as amended). According to the information available at the time<sup>2</sup>, the following renewable energy applications for EA are either approved (i.e., EA issued) or being proposed within a 30km radius of the proposed project site:

- 140 MW Proposed renewable energy facility - [12/12/20/1784/1/AM3](#).
- 140 MW Proposed renewable energy facility - [12/12/20/1784/2/AM3](#).
- Proposed Construction of the Leeu Gamka Solar Power Plant and associated infrastructure - (12/12/20/2296)

There are therefore a number of renewable energy applications for EA either approved or being proposed within a 30km radius of the proposed project site.

There are however no operational renewable energy developments situated within a 30km radius of the proposed project site to the knowledge of the EAP. Should more information regarding renewable energy applications for EA within a 30km radius of the proposed project site becomes available, this will be disseminated to the specialists (should SLR be able to obtain information regarding these applications).

The cumulative impact assessed will therefore be the collective impact of the proposed mast along with the other renewable energy development applications (either approved or being proposed) mentioned above which are located within a 30km radius of the project site.

***A map showing the other renewable energy development applications located within a 30km radius of the proposed project site will be provided to the specialists once it becomes available.***

#### **4 ASSESSMENT OF ALTERNATIVES**

As mentioned, no technology alternatives are being assessed as the specifications for the radio mast being proposed is based on Eskom requirements / standards. There are no design / technology alternatives for the radio mast as the applicant was provided with the SoW with specifications for the radio mast from Eskom and must adhere to this. It should be noted that there is no fibre on the existing Eskom line and no fibre alternatives, and therefore the requested mast needs to be a radio mast. There will be no guy wires used and the radio mast will be a self-supporting structure. In addition, Eskom advised that the mast needs to be at least 85 metres in height.

Since the proposed project involves the installation of a radio mast on an already authorised MTS ([14-12-16-3-3-2-925](#)), no site or layout alternatives are being considered. All relevant specialist studies were undertaken during the EIA process in 2017 and the EA subsequently issued by the DFFE, and thus the location of the MTS has taken environmental sensitivities into consideration and deemed acceptable. As mentioned, this authorisation was amended in August 2021 to split and assign each substation and powerline to each respective wind farm (Beaufort West 132KV-400KV Linking Station, 132KV Power Line and onsite 132KV Substation – [14-12-16-3-3-2-925-1](#) and Trakas 132KV-400KV Linking Station, 132KV Power Line and onsite 132KV Substation – [14-12-16-3-3-2-925-2](#)).

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<sup>2</sup> Information has been based on the latest available version of the South African Renewable Energy EIA Application Database (REEA) (“REEA\_OR\_2022\_Q2”), the results of the respective online screening tool reports (<https://screening.environment.gov.za/screeningtool/#/pages/welcome>) and information available on the public domain at the time.

The 'no-go' alternative is the option of not constructing the radio mast on the approved footprint for the Linking station and MTS and where the *status quo* of the current status and/or activities on the site would prevail.

**5 SPECIALIST SPECIFIC DELIVERABLES**

Each specialist may have a different set of deliverables for the radio mast BA process, based on whether a Motivation Letter and SSVR is deemed sufficient or not. Should a new specialist report be required, the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) (and associated Specialist Theme Protocols), and the nature of the sensitivity / activities will determine the set of deliverables. Deliverables may thus include the following, depending on specialist input required / deemed necessary:

- 1. **Motivation Letter**, as detailed in Section 1  
and
  - 2. **Site Sensitivity Verification Report (SSVR)**, in terms of GN 320 of 20 March 2020 and/or GN 1150 of 30 October 2020;
- Or
- 3. **Impact Assessment Report (should a motivation letter / SSVR not be deemed adequate):**
    - a. **Specialist Assessment Report / Compliance Statement** (as applicable), in terms of GN 320 of 20 March 2020 and/or GN 1150 of 30 October 2020 (where applicable, the Species Environmental Assessment Guideline may apply<sup>3</sup>); or
    - b. Compliance with **Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended)**, should no protocols apply to the discipline.

Refer to the Section 5.1 below for specifics for each specialist.

**5.1 Specialist Deliverables**

	Level of impact assessment and relevant legislation				
	Motivational Letter as detailed in Section 1	SSV Report in terms of GN 320 of 20 March 2020	Compliance Statement in terms of GN 320 / GN 1150 of 20 March 2020	Specialist Assessment Report in terms of GN 320 March 2020 / GN 1150 of Oct 2020	Appendix 6 of NEMA 2014
	<b>Civil Aviation</b>				
<b>RADIO MAST</b>	X (EAP to comment)	X			
	<b>Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme</b>				
<b>RADIO MAST</b>	X	X			
	<b>Plant Species Theme</b>				
<b>RADIO MAST</b>	X	X			
	<b>Aquatic Biodiversity Theme</b>				
<b>RADIO MAST</b>	X	X			
	<b>Animal Species Theme</b>				
<b>RADIO MAST</b>	X	X			
	<b>Avifauna Theme</b>				
<b>RADIO MAST</b>	X	X			
	<b>Agriculture Theme</b>				
<b>RADIO MAST</b>	X	X			

<sup>3</sup> Species Environmental Assessment Guideline. Guidelines for the implementation of the Terrestrial Fauna and Terrestrial Flora Species Protocols for environmental impact assessments in South Africa. South African National Biodiversity Institute, Pretoria. Version 2.1 2021.

Level of impact assessment and relevant legislation					
	Motivational Letter as detailed in Section 1	SSV Report in terms of GN 320 of 20 March 2020	Compliance Statement in terms of GN 320 / GN 1150 of 20 March 2020	Specialist Assessment Report in terms of GN 320 March 2020 / GN 1150 of Oct 2020	Appendix 6 of NEMA 2014
<b>Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme</b>					
RADIO MAST	X	X			
<b>Paleontology Theme</b>					
RADIO MAST	X	X			
<b>Landscape/Visual Theme</b>					
RADIO MAST	X	X			
<b>Defence Theme</b>					
RADIO MAST	X (EAP to comment)	X			
<b>RFI Theme</b>					
RADIO MAST	X (EAP to comment)	X			
<b>Geotechnical Theme</b>					
RADIO MAST	X (EAP to comment)	X			

## 6 DELIVERABLES AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

### 6.1 Deliverables

Please ensure that your submission includes the following (as required / applicable):

1. **Motivational Letter / SSVR** confirming whether the status quo has changed as well as whether there is a change to the impact assessments or any new mitigation and/or EMPr requirements (see Section 1 for details);
2. **Should the above-mentioned Motivational Letter / SSVR not be adequate and should a new specialist report be required, a new Site Verification Report and Compliance Statement / Specialist Report** (as required) which is in line with the DFFF Screening Tool<sup>4</sup> Specialist Theme Protocols (as gazetted on 20 March 2020 and 30 October 2020) and where relevant, the Species Environmental Assessment Guideline<sup>3</sup> (should they apply), is to be compiled. Should the above-mentioned protocols and/or guidelines not apply, the report (should a report be required) must be written in accordance with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended);
3. Data for the refined sensitivity layers (should this be required);
4. Excel spreadsheet of impact ratings (should this be required); and
5. A copy of the specialist's CV.

### 6.2 Deadlines

1. Draft Motivational Letter / Draft Site Verification Report and Compliance Statement / Specialist Report (if required) no later than **4 November 2022**.
2. All spatial information for the reports (where required) to be submitted no later than **7 November 2022**.
3. Mainstream and SLR intends for all letters / reports (as required) to be finalised by **8 November 2022**.

### 6.3 Report / data formats

1. All specialist letters / reports (as required) must be provided in MS Word format;

<sup>4</sup> <https://screening.environment.gov.za/screeningtool/#/pages/welcome>

2. Where maps have been inserted into the letter / report (should maps be required), SLR will require a separate map set in PDF format for inclusion in our submission;
3. Where figures and/or photos have been inserted into the letter / report (should figures and/or photos be required), SLR will require the original graphic in .jpg format for inclusion in our submission; and
4. Should it be applicable / required, delineated areas of sensitivity (over and above what was identified as part of the original study / assessment in 2017/2021) must be provided in either ESRI shape file format or Google Earth KML format. ***Sensitivity classes must be included in the attribute tables with a clear indication of which areas are 'No-Go' areas, along with details regarding the relevant buffer zone(s) (should this be required).***