



## 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: 14/12/16/3/3/2/925/1

Enquiries: Mr Jay-Jay Mpelane

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Mr Eugene Marais  
Beaufort West Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd  
P.O Box 45063  
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Email Address: [eugene.marais@mainstreamrp.com](mailto:eugene.marais@mainstreamrp.com)

### PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Marais

### **ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT NO. 107 OF 1998, AS AMENDED: FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BEUFORT WEST 132KV-400KV LINKING STATION, 132KV POWER LINE AND ONSITE 132KV SUBSTATION WITHIN THE PRINCE ALBERT LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE**

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the above-mentioned application by this Department on 23 January 2017, your application for amendment of the EA received on 2 July 2021, the acknowledgement letter dated 19 July 2021, refer.

Based on a review of the reason for requesting an amendment to the above EA, this Department, in terms of Chapter 5, Regulation 27(2)(a) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, has decided to amend the EA dated 23 January 2017 as amended, by issuing a new EA.

**The attached EA will replace the EA dated 23 January 2017 as amended.** All further amendments must be lodged on the attached EA.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, Act No. 3 of 2000, you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, Act No. 4 of 2013 which stipulates that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuses or compromises your personal information in any way.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998 National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribe the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

**Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:**

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: [appeals@environment.gov.za](mailto:appeals@environment.gov.za).

By hand: Environment House  
473 Steve Biko Road  
Arcadia  
PRETORIA  
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447  
PRETORIA  
0001

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at [https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal authorisations](https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal%20authorisations) or request a copy of the documents at [appeals@environment.gov.za](mailto:appeals@environment.gov.za).

Yours faithfully,

  
**Mr Sabelo Malaza**  
**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations**  
**Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment**  
Date: 16/03/2021

|     |                    |                                  |   |
|-----|--------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Cc: | Liandra Scott Shaw | SLR Consulting                   | E-mail: <a href="mailto:lscottshaw@slrconsulting.com">lscottshaw@slrconsulting.com</a>            |
|     | Francois Naude     | DEA:DP                           | Email: <a href="mailto:francois.naudef@westerncape.gov.za">francois.naudef@westerncape.gov.za</a> |
|     | MJ Penxa:          | Beaufort West Local Municipality | Email: <a href="mailto:admin@beaufortwestmun.co.za">admin@beaufortwestmun.co.za</a>               |



**forestry, fisheries  
& the environment**

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

## **Environmental Authorisation**

In terms of Regulation 27(2)(a) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended

**CONSTRUCTION OF THE BEUFORT WEST 132KV-400KV LINKING STATION, 132KV POWER LINE AND  
ONSITE 132KV SUBSTATION WITHIN THE PRINCE ALBERT LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE WESTERN  
CAPE PROVINCE**

**CENTRAL KAROO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY**

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Authorisation register number:</b> | <i>14/12/16/3/3/2/925/1</i>  |
| <b>Last amended:</b>                  | <i>Splitting and Re-Issue<br/>First Issue: 23 January 2017</i>   |
| <b>Holder of authorisation:</b>       | <i>Beaufort West Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd</i>   |
| <b>Location of activity:</b>          | <i>Prince Albert Local Municipality approximately<br/>50km south of the town of Beaufort West in the<br/>Western Cape Province</i> |

This authorisation does not negate the holder of the authorisation's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.

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## Decision

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

Non-compliance with a condition of this Environmental Authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

## Activities authorised

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, the Department hereby authorises –

### **BEAUFORT WEST WIND FARM (PTY) LTD**

(hereafter referred to as the holder of the authorisation)

with the following contact details –

Mr Eugene Marais  
Beaufort West Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd  
P.O Box 45063  
**CLAREMONT**  
7735

Tel Number: +27 21 657 4045  
Cell number: +27 73 871 5781  
Email Address: [eugene.marais@mainstreamrp.com](mailto:eugene.marais@mainstreamrp.com)

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- to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as “the activity”) indicated in Listing Notice 1, Listing Notice 2 and Listing Notice 3 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended:

| <b>Listed activities</b>   | <b>Activity/Project description</b>  |
|--|--|
| <p><b><u>GN R. 983 Item 11:</u></b></p> <p>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity-</p> <p>(i) Outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts; or more.</p>            | <p>The proposed project will entail the construction of a 132kV-400kV linking station, on-site substation (Beaufort West) and the associated power line with a maximum capacity of 132kV.</p>  |
| <p><b><u>GN R. 983 Item 12</u></b></p> <p>The development of-</p> <p>(x) buildings exceeding 100 square metres in size.</p> <p>(xii) infrastructure or structure with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more, where such development occurs-</p> <p>(a) within a watercourse,</p> | <p>The proposed project will entail the development of buildings and other infrastructure exceeding 100 square metres in size. The surface water assessment revealed that there are surface water features located on the proposed site. The proximity of the proposed development footprint, including alternatives are located within identified drainage lines as identified during the detailed EIA phase studies.</p> |
| <p><b><u>GN R. 983 Item 19</u></b></p> <p>The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 5 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 5 cubic metres from-</p> <p>(i) a watercourse,</p>    | <p>The surface water assessment revealed that there are surface water features located on the proposed development sites. The proximity of the proposed development footprint, including alternatives are located within identified drainage lines as identified during the detailed EIA phase studies. For construction activities within a watercourse soil will be removed.</p>   |
| <p><b><u>GN R. 984 Item 9</u></b></p> <p>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission or distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275kV or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex.</p>  | <p>The proposed project will entail the construction of the Beaufort West 132kV-400kV linking station and the associated power line with a maximum capacity of 400kV.</p>  |

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| <p><b><u>GN R. 984 Item 15</u></b></p> <p>The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for-</p> <p>(i) the undertaking of a linear activity.</p>  | <p>The proposed development will entail the construction of the Beaufort West linking station and associated infrastructure with a total footprint of approximately 600m x 600m, as well as the Beaufort West substation and associated infrastructure, each with a total footprint of approximately 300m x 500m. Vegetation would therefore need to be cleared in an area that is greater than 20ha. The entire site is located within the Gamka Karoo vegetation type. Indigenous vegetation is present on the site.</p> |
| <p><b><u>GN R. 985 Item 4</u></b></p> <p>The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres,</p> <p>(f) In <b>Western Cape:</b></p> <p>(i) Areas outside urban areas;</p> <p>(aa) Areas containing indigenous vegetation.</p>  | <p>Access roads to the electrical infrastructure and wind turbines will form part of the infrastructure for the project. The road will be wider than 4m in width. The entire site is located within the Gamka Karoo vegetation type. Indigenous vegetation is present on the site.</p>   |
| <p><b><u>GN R. 985 Item 12</u></b></p> <p>The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation.</p> <p>(a) In <b>Western Cape:</b></p> <p>(i) within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004,</p> <p>(ii) Critical biodiversity areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans.</p> | <p>More than 300 square metres of vegetation would need to be cleared for the proposed project. The proposed infrastructure is located mostly in a Critical Biodiversity Area and Least Threatened vegetation type (Gamka Karoo).</p>  |
| <p><b><u>GN R. 985 Item 14</u></b></p> <p>The development of:</p> <p>(x) buildings exceeding 10 square metres in size,</p>   | <p>The proposed project infrastructure will occupy a footprint area greater than 10 square metres. The surface water assessment revealed that there are surface water features located on the proposed</p>   |

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| <p>(xii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square metres or more: where such development occurs,<br/>(a) within 32m of a watercourse:<br/>(f) In <b>Western Cape</b>:<br/>(i) Outside urban areas in:<br/>(ff) critical biodiversity areas or ecosystem service areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans.</p> | <p>development sites. The proximity of the proposed development footprint, including alternatives, are located within identified drainage lines as identified during the detailed EIA phase studies. For construction activities within a watercourse soil will be removed.</p> |
| <p><b>GN R. 985 Item 18</b><br/>The widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre.<br/>(f) In <b>Western Cape</b>:<br/>(i) All areas outside urban areas, in:<br/>(aa) Areas containing indigenous vegetation;</p>  | <p>The existing access roads will need to be upgraded in order to access the site. The entire site is located within the Gamka Karoo vegetation type. Indigenous vegetation is present on the site.</p>   |

as described in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) dated September 2016 at:

| Preferred Alternatives   | Latitude (S)        | Longitude (E)        |
|--|---------------------|----------------------|
| Linking Station Alternative 2 (centre coordinates)                 | 32°55'32.897"S      | 22°33'16.077"E       |
| <b>Beaufort West Power Line Alternative 1</b>                      | <b>Latitude (S)</b> | <b>Longitude (E)</b> |
| Starting point   | 32°55'16.828"S      | 22°34'48.577"E       |
| Middle point   | 32°55'30.662"S      | 22°33'30.859"E       |
| End point  | 32°55'24.673"S      | 22°32'6.227"E        |
| <b>Beaufort West Substation Alternative 1 (centre coordinates)</b> | <b>Latitude (S)</b> | <b>Longitude (E)</b> |
|  | 32°55'16.828"S      | 22°34'48.577"E       |

**SG 21 Code:**

The sites are located on the following farms:

- Farm Trakaskullen No.15, portion number 1; C0610000000001500001;
- Remainder of the Farm Trakaskullen No.15; C0610000000001500000; and
- Farm Witpoortje No.16, portion number 1; C0610000000001600001.

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for the proposed construction of the Beaufort West 132kV-400kV linking station, the Beaufort West 132kV power line and the Beaufort West on-site 132kV substations near Beaufort West within the Prince Albert Local Municipality in the Western Cape Province, hereafter referred to as "the property.

The facility will comprise the following:

- 132kV to 400kV Beaufort West Linking Station: The 400kV Linking Station site area will have a total footprint of approximately 600m x 600m (including associated infrastructure) will facilitate connection of the Beaufort West on-site substation with the Eskom Droerivier Proteus 400kV power line.
- Beaufort West 132kV power line: The Beaufort West proposed 132kV-400kV power lines will have a servitude width of approximately 31m, the power line will be situated within a 200m corridor.
- Beaufort West 400kV power line: The line will have a servitude width of approximately 47m, the power line will be situated within a 200m corridor.
- Beaufort West on-site 132kV Substation: The proposed on-site Beaufort West and associated infrastructure will each occupy a footprint area of approximately 500m x 300m (including associated infrastructure).

## **Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation**

### **Scope of authorisation**

1. The preferred 132kV-400kV linking station, 132kV power line, on-site 132kV substation and 400kV power line for the proposed project are approved as per the geographic coordinates cited in the table above.
2. Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this authorisation, which form part of the environmental authorisation and are binding on the holder of the authorisation.
3. The holder of the authorisation is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this environmental authorisation. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the authorisation.
4. The activities authorised must only be carried out at the property as described above.
5. Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this authorisation must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the holder of the authorisation to apply for further authorisation in terms of the regulations.



6. This activity must commence within a period of **six (6) years** from the date of issue of this authorisation. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.
7. The Department is aware that the environment changes constantly, as a result it might be significantly different from the one that existed at the time of the issuing of the original EA on 19 May 2015, hence the validity of the EA cannot exceed a maximum period of 10 years. Failure to commence with construction activities within the maximum 10-year period, your EA will be deemed to have lapsed and a new application for EA will have to be lodged.
8. Commencement with one activity listed in terms of this authorisation constitutes commencement of all authorised activities.
9. The holder of an environmental authorisation must apply for an amendment of environmental authorisation with the competent authority for any alienation, transfer or change of ownership rights in the property on which the activity is to take place.

#### **Notification of authorisation and right to appeal**

10. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this Environmental Authorisation, of the decision to authorise the activity.
11. The notification referred to must –
  - 11.1. specify the date on which the authorisation was issued;
  - 11.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in the National Appeal Regulations, 2014;
  - 11.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation will be furnished on request; and
  - 11.4. give the reasons of the Competent Authority for the decision.

#### **Commencement of the activity**

12. The authorised activity shall not commence until the period for the submission of appeals has lapsed as per the National Appeal Regulations, 2014, and no appeal has been lodged against the decision. In terms of Section 43(7), an appeal under Section 43 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended will suspend the Environmental Authorisation or any provision or condition

attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal has been finalised.

#### **Management of the activity**

13. The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) submitted as part of the EIAR dated August 2016 is approved and must be implemented and adhered to.
14. The EMPr must be implemented and strictly enforced during all phases of the project. It shall be seen as a dynamic document and shall be included in all contract documentation for all phases of the development when approved.
15. Changes to the approved EMPr must be submitted in accordance to the EIA Regulations applicable at the time.
16. The Department reserves the right to amend the approved EMPr should any impacts that were not anticipated or covered in the EIAR be discovered.

#### **Frequency and process of updating the EMPr**

17. The EMPr must be updated where the findings of the environmental audit reports, contemplated in Condition 24 below, indicate insufficient mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity, or insufficient levels of compliance with the environmental authorisation or EMPr.
18. The updated EMPr must contain recommendations to rectify the shortcomings identified in the environmental audit report.
19. The updated EMPr must be submitted to the Department for approval together with the environmental audit report, as per Regulation 34 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended. The updated EMPr must have been subjected to a public participation process, which process has been agreed to by the Department, prior to submission of the updated EMPr to the Department for approval.
20. In assessing whether to grant approval of an EMPr which has been updated as a result of an audit, the Department will consider the processes prescribed in Regulation 35 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended. Prior to approving an amended EMPr, the Department may request such amendments to the EMPr as it deems appropriate to ensure that the EMPr sufficiently provides for avoidance, management and mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity.
21. The holder of the authorisation must apply for an amendment of an EMPr, if such amendment is required before an audit is required. The amendment process is prescribed in Regulation 37 of the EIA Regulations,

2014, as amended. The holder of the authorisation must request comments on the proposed amendments to the impact management outcomes of the EMPr or amendments to the closure objectives of the closure plan from potentially interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, by using any of the methods provided for in the Act for a period of at least 30 days.

### **Monitoring**

22. The holder of the authorisation must appoint an experienced Environmental Control Officer (ECO) for the construction phase of the development that will have the responsibility to ensure that the mitigation/rehabilitation measures and recommendations referred to in this environmental authorisation are implemented and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the approved EMPr.
- 22.1. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activities.
- 22.2. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
- 22.3. The ECO must keep record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a task schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
- 22.4. The ECO must remain employed until all rehabilitation measures, as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site is ready for operation.

### **Recording and reporting to the Department**

23. All documentation e.g. audit/monitoring/compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to the Department in terms of this environmental authorisation, must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
24. The holder of the environmental authorisation must, for the period during which the environmental authorisation and EMPr remain valid, ensure that project compliance with the conditions of the environmental authorisation and the EMPr are audited, and that the audit reports are submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
25. The frequency of auditing and of submission of the environmental audit reports must be as per the frequency indicated in the EMPr, taking into account the processes for such auditing as prescribed in Regulation 34 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.
26. The holder of the authorisation must, in addition, submit environmental audit reports to the Department within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e. within 30 days of site handover) and a final environmental audit report within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities.

27. The environmental audit reports must be compiled in accordance with Appendix 7 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended and must indicate the date of the audit, the name of the auditor and the outcome of the audit in terms of compliance with the environmental authorisation conditions as well as the requirements of the approved EMPr.
28. Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on site and made available for inspection to any relevant and competent authority in respect of this development.

#### **Notification to authorities**

29. A written notification of commencement must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity. Commencement for the purposes of this condition includes site preparation. The notice must include a date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence, as well as a reference number.

#### **Operation of the activity**

30. A written notification of operation must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity operational phase.

#### **Site closure and decommissioning**

31. Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the holder of the authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and Competent Authority at that time.

#### **Specific conditions**

32. The applicant must appoint a botanist/ecologist to conduct a micro-siting exercise prior to commencement of the activity and associated infrastructure.
33. The applicant must appoint the avifaunal specialist to conduct an avifaunal walk through of the final power line route prior to construction, to identify any Red List species that may be breeding on the site or within the immediate surrounds and to ensure that any impacts likely to affect breeding species (if any) are adequately managed.

34. Anti-collision devices such as bird flappers must be installed where the power line crosses avifaunal corridors and watercourses.
35. An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation and must incorporate reduction, recycling, re-use and disposal.
36. The applicant must contact affected farm owners/managers prior to construction in order to provide sufficient time for them to plan agricultural activities.

#### **General**

37. A copy of this Environmental Authorisation, the audit and compliance monitoring reports, and the approved EMPr, must be made available for inspection and copying-
  - 37.1. at the site of the authorised activity;
  - 37.2. to anyone on request; and
  - 37.3. where the holder of the Environmental Authorisation has a website, on such publicly accessible website.
38. National government, provincial government, local authorities or committees appointed in terms of the conditions of this authorisation or any other public authority shall not be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder of the authorisation or his/her successor in title in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction be temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance by the holder of the authorisation with the conditions of authorisation as set out in this document or any other subsequent document emanating from these conditions of authorisation.

Date of Environmental Authorisation: 16/08/2021



**Mr Sabelo Malaza**

**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations  
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment**

## **Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision**

### **1. Information considered in making the decision**

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration –

- a) The information contained in the EIAR dated September 2016.
- b) Mitigation measures as proposed in the EIAR dated September 2016 and the EMPr contained in Appendix 8.
- c) The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No.107 of 1998).

### **2. Key factors considered in making the decision**

All information presented to the Department was taken into account in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- a) The findings of all the specialist studies conducted for this project and their recommended mitigation measures.
- b) The proposed project is intended to feed the electricity generated by the Beaufort West and Trakas 140MW wind farms. Without the proposed electrical infrastructure, the wind farms cannot evacuate the energy they have generated.
- c) The EIAR dated September 2016 identified all legislation and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the EIAR.
- d) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the EIAR dated September 2016.
- e) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations, 2014 for public involvement.

### **3. Findings**

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings -

- a) The identification and assessment of impacts are detailed in the EIAR dated September 2016 as well as sufficient assessment of the key identified issues and impacts have been completed.

- b) The procedure followed for impact assessment is adequate for the decision-making process.
- c) The proposed mitigation of impacts identified and assessed adequately curtails the identified impacts.
- d) The information contained in the EIAR dated September 2016 is accurate and credible.
- e) EMP measures for the pre-construction, construction and rehabilitation phases of the development were proposed and included in the EIAR dated September 2016 and will be implemented to manage the identified environmental impacts during the construction process.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the environmental authorisation, the authorised activities will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the authorised activities can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The environmental authorisation is accordingly granted.