



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/278/AM2

Enquiries: Mr Muhammad Essop

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Ms Charlotte Smith
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Foreshore
CAPE TOWN
8001

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PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Ms Smith

AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 08 MAY 2015 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CASTLE WIND ENERGY FACILITY NEAR DE AAR IN THE EMTHANJENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the abovementioned application by this Department on 08 May 2015, the amendment to the EA dated 30 June 2015, your application for amendment of the EA received by this Department on 12 October 2016, the acknowledgement letter dated 17 October 2016, the draft report received on 24 October 2016, the comments issued by this Department on 09 November 2016 and the final report received on 07 December 2016, refer.

Based on a review of the reason for requesting an amendment to the above EA, this Department, in terms of Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, has decided to amend the EA dated 08 May 2015 as amended, as follows:

Amendment 1: Amendment of the project description in the EA:

Page 06 of the EA dated 08 May 2015:

From:

"31 wind turbines with a generating capacity of up to 3.5MW each, with a hub height of up to 120m and a rotor diameter of up to 132m."

To:

"Up to 31 wind turbines with a generating capacity of up to 4.5MW each, with a hub height of up to 130m and a rotor diameter of up to 150m and an overall wind farm generation capacity of 118MW."

MS

The following condition is included to the EA dated 08 May 2015:

"The operational monitoring design for Bats must pay special attention to turbines 1, 20, 24 and 28, and all other turbines on site must be considered in the operational study design."

The applicant applied to amend the turbine specifications by increasing the hub height, rotor diameter and increase the generation capacity by an additional 9.5MW due to developments in wind energy technology since the EA was issued. The increase in turbine specifications within the same development footprint will increase the overall efficiency of the facility and make it more economically viable.

This proposed amendment letter must be read in conjunction with the EA dated 08 May 2015 as amended.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (the Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) days of the date of the EA, of the Department's decision in respect of your application as well as the fact that an appeal may be lodged against the decision in terms of the National Appeals Regulations, and the provisions regarding the submission of appeals as contained in the Regulations.

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:

Mr Z Hassam, Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appealsdirector@environment.gov.za

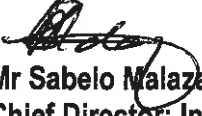
By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko,
Arcadia,
Pretoria,
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X 447,
Pretoria,
0001

Please note that in terms of section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, 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 or request a copy of the documents at appealsdirector@environment.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs

Date: *04/04/2019*

cc:	Ms Jo-Anne Thomas	Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd	Email: joanne@savannahsa.com
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