

MEETING NOTES

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Job Title	BioTherm Renewable Energy Projects
Project Number	47579
Date	25 August 2016
Time	10:00 – 12:00
Venue	DEA Environment House
Subject	BioTherm – Wind Energy Developments – DEA Pre-Application Meeting
Client	BioTherm Energy (Pty) Ltd
Present	See Attached Attendance Register (Appendix A)
Apologies	None
Distribution	As above

MATTERS ARISING

ACTION

1.0 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

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1.1 Ashlea Strong thanked the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) for the opportunity to meet with them to discuss the wind energy projects.

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1.2 A round of introductions was done, including:

- BioTherm Energy (Pty) Ltd – Michael Barnes, Irene Bezuidenhout and Ludwig van Aarde
- WSP Environmental (Pty) Ltd – Ashlea Strong
- DEA – Coenrad Agenbach, Muhammad Essop, Mmamohale Kabasa and Thabile Sangweni

1.3 Ashlea Strong mentioned that the presentation (**Appendix B**) would be attached to the minutes together with the attendance register (**Appendix A**).

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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2.1 The following projects were introduced to the team:

- Esizayo Wind Energy facility (WEF) (250MW)
- Maralla East WEF (250MW)
- Maralla West WEF (250MW)
- Esizayo Transmission Integration (132kV)
- Maralla Transmission Integration (132kV)

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3.0 LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

3.1 It was noted that the Listed Activity list is a living document and the list and associated application form must be updated at each milestone as the project progresses and resubmitted to the DEA, only if there are changes in the activities applied for, based on the assessment or comments raised by the DEA.




WSP

MATTERS ARISING	ACTION
4.0 SPECIALIST STUDIES	
4.1 The DEA agreed on the list of specialist studies. More studies may be noted to be done in the process.	-
4.2 WSP will be required to have all specialist studies undertaken by in-house specialists to be externally peer reviewed.	WSP
4.3 The DEA requested that specialist studies must be specific to each application. In addition, the Terms of Reference for each specialist must be specific to the project.	WSP
4.4 It was noted that specialists must prove that they reviewed and taken cognisance of other specialist studies from surrounding Environmental Authorisations and other specialist studies done within the area.	WSP
4.5 Cumulative impact assessments must take cognisance of the other Environmental Authorisations in the surrounding area.	WSP
4.6 Where specialists recommend buffer zones, the reasons and rationale must be provided in detail.	WSP
4.7 The specialists must classify areas clearly and provide sufficient information. High and Very High sensitivity areas must be accompanied by the appropriate mitigation measures. No development will be allowed within a no-go area.	WSP
4.8 The specialists must not recommend further studies in their EIR Studies to be done post EA.	WSP
4.9 Specialists must be able to scientifically defend their results for example the bat studies must prove that the number of masts utilised is adequate.	WSP
5.0 GENERAL	
5.1 The EAP must be aware of and understand the requirements of the process and their obligations under the 2014 Regulations, and agreed that they understand the process and the requirements.	WSP
5.2 Extensions in terms of Regulations 3(7) will not be considered, and only under exceptional circumstances.	BioTherm and WSP
5.3 The EIR must show the access roads on the layout plans. It was requested the maps must distinguish between new and existing roads.	WSP





MATTERS ARISING	ACTION
5.4 It was noted that Heritage Western Cape have previously requested buffer zones in the area of the pass on the R354 due to potential impacts on the sense of place.	WSP
5.5 The Developer needs to obtain comments from SKA, CAA and SALT. It was noted that the SALT buffer must be confirmed and be taken into consideration.	WSP
5.6 The Comment and Response Report must not be broken into impacts – but should rather deal with each full comment as a single entity. In addition, the use of the words “noted” is not considered favourable, each comment must be addressed.	WSP
5.7 The Comment and Response Report must be separate from the main report.	WSP
5.8 A separate Comment and Response Report must be submitted for each project.	WSP
5.9 The adverts included in the reports must be legible.	WSP
5.10 The DEA requested that the electronic copies must not be one big pdf document. In addition, electronic copies must be identical to the hard copy submission.	WSP
5.11 The DEA agreed to accept one hard copy and one electronic copy of the Draft Scoping Reports.	WSP
5.12 The DEA specifically requested that a separate copy of the Draft Scoping Reports also be sent to the Department of Environmental Affairs Director: Biodiversity and Conservation.	WSP
5.13 The minutes of the Pre-application Meeting must be attached to the Draft Scoping Reports.	WSP
5.14 It was recommended that the Final Basic Assessment Reports for the powerlines are submitted at the same time as the Final EIA Reports as it will assist the DEA with regards to their decision-making.	WSP

Appendix A – Attendance Register


ATTENDANCE REGISTER 25 August 2016

Name	Company Name	Contact Details	Signature
Coenrad Agenbach	DEA	Tel: 012 399 9403 Fax: Mobile: Email: cagenbach@environment.gov.za.	
Mmamole Kabaga	DEA	Tel: 012 399 9420 Fax: Mobile: Email: m.kabasa@environment.gov.za	
Thabile Sangweni	DEA	Tel: 012 399 9406 Fax: Mobile: Email: Tsangweni@environment.gov.za	
Muhammad Essop	DEA	Tel: 012 399 9406 Fax: Mobile: Email: MESSOP@environment.gov.za	

ATTENDANCE REGISTER 25 August 2016

Name	Company Name	Contact Details	Signature
KL van Arsdale	BioTherm Energy	Tel: 011 3674600 Fax: 011 3674601 Mobile: 082 333 1907 Email: lvansde@biothermenergy.com	
Irene Bezuidenhout	BioTherm Energy	Tel: 011 3674600 Fax: 011 367 4601 Mobile: 076 822 3484 Email: ibezuidenhout@biothermenergy.com	
Michael Barys	BioTherm Guy	Tel: 011 3674600 Fax: 011 3674601 Mobile: 076 808 2055 Email: mbarys@biothermenergy.com	
Ashlea Strong	WSP	Tel: 011 361 1392 Fax: Mobile: 082 786 7819 Email: ashlea.strong@wspgroup.co.za	


Appendix B - Presentation



Proposed Wind Projects in the Northern and Western Cape

DEA Pre-Application Authority Meeting

25 August 2016



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AGENDA



- à **Welcome and Introductions**
- à **Project Description**
 - § Esizayo WEF
 - § Maralla East WEF
 - § Maralla West WEF
 - § Power Integration (x2)
- à **Project Location**
- à **Legislative Requirements**
- à **Specialist Studies**
- à **Discussion**
- à **Way Forward**



WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

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à **Project Proponent**

- § BioTherm Energy (Pty) Ltd
 - Ludwig van Aarde
 - Michael Barnes
 - Irene Bezuidenhout

à **Environmental Assessment Practitioner**

- § WSP Environmental (Pty) Ltd
 - Ashlea Strong



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

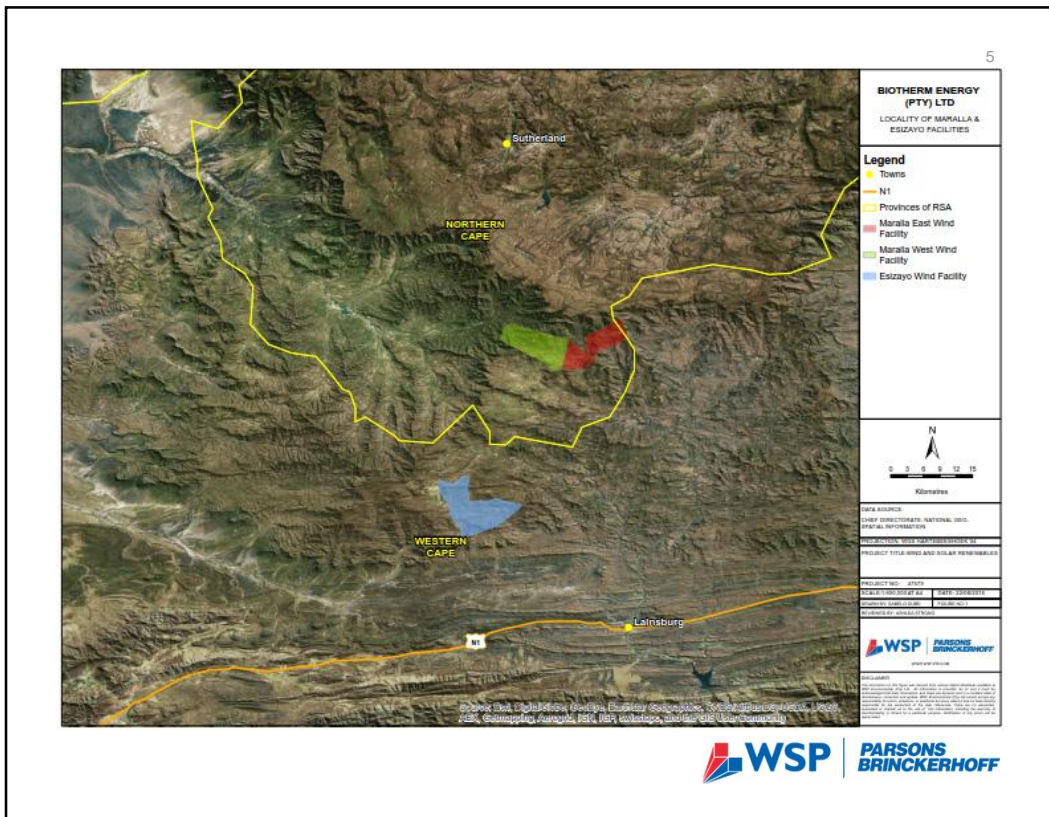
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à **BioTherm propose to establish three Wind Energy Developments in the Northern and Western Cape.**

à **The development will include the following individual projects:**

- § Esizayo WEF (250MW)
- § Maralla East WEF (250MW)
- § Maralla West WEF (250MW)
- § Power Integration – Esizayo (132kV)
- § Power Integration – Maralla (132kV)





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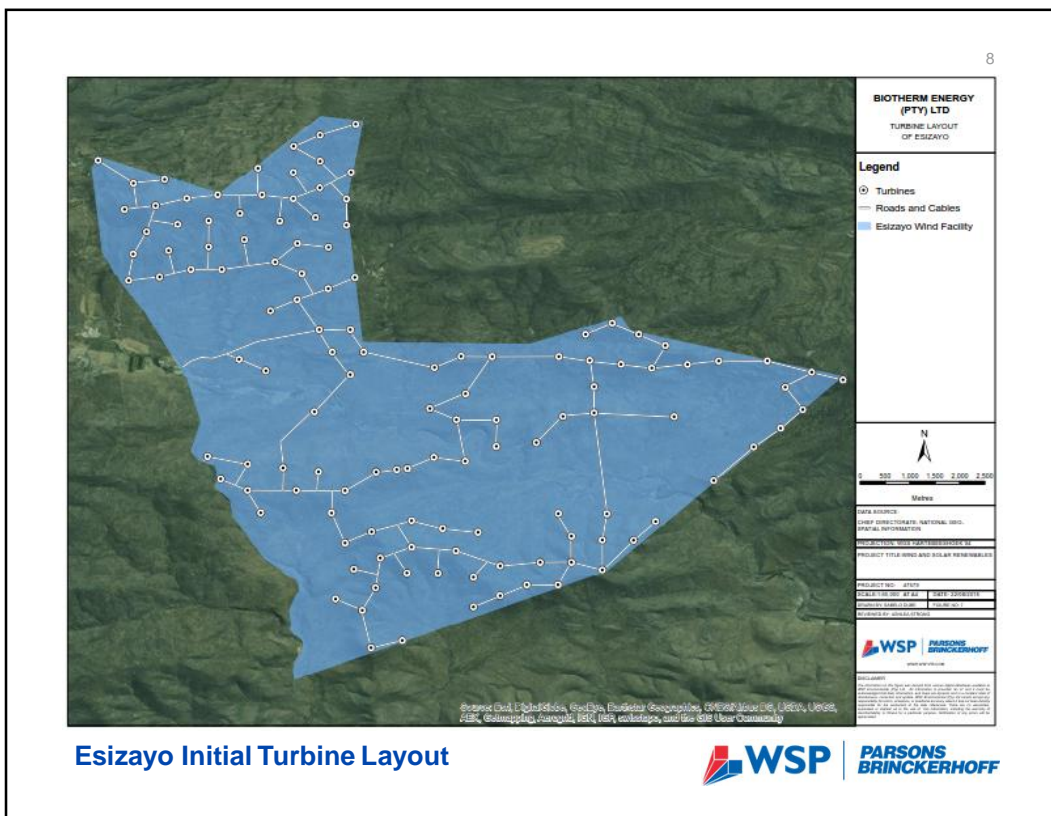
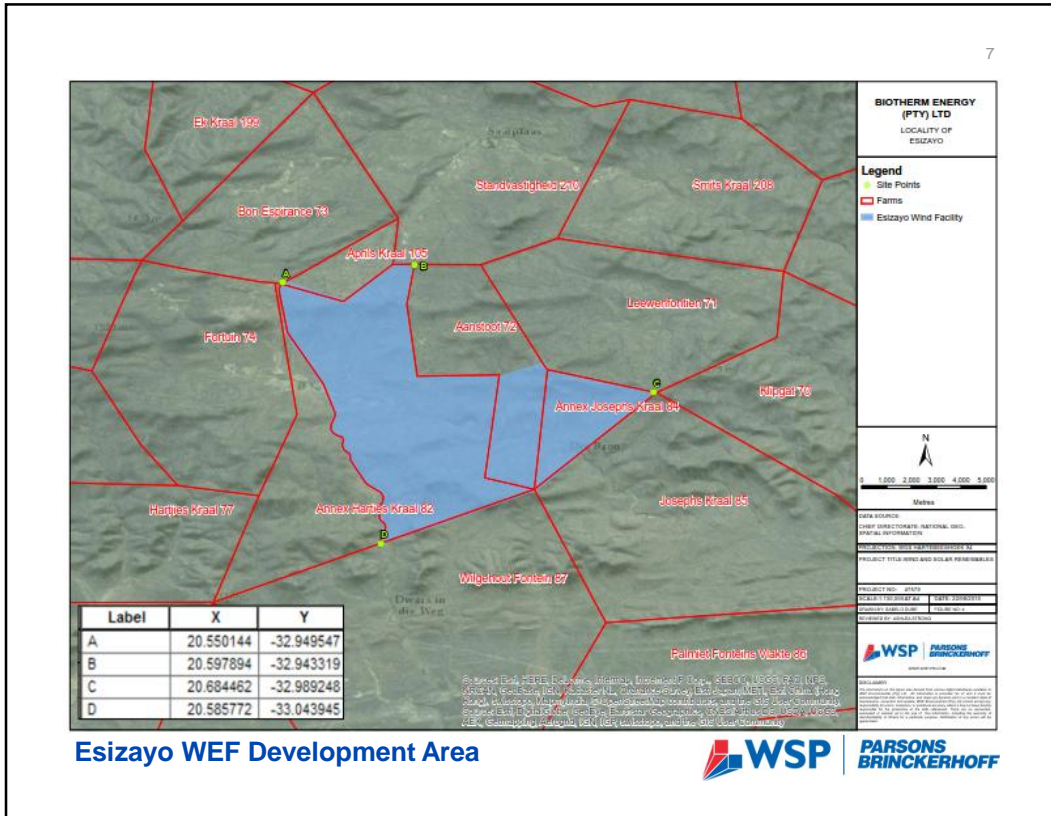
PROJECT LOCATION - ESIZAYO

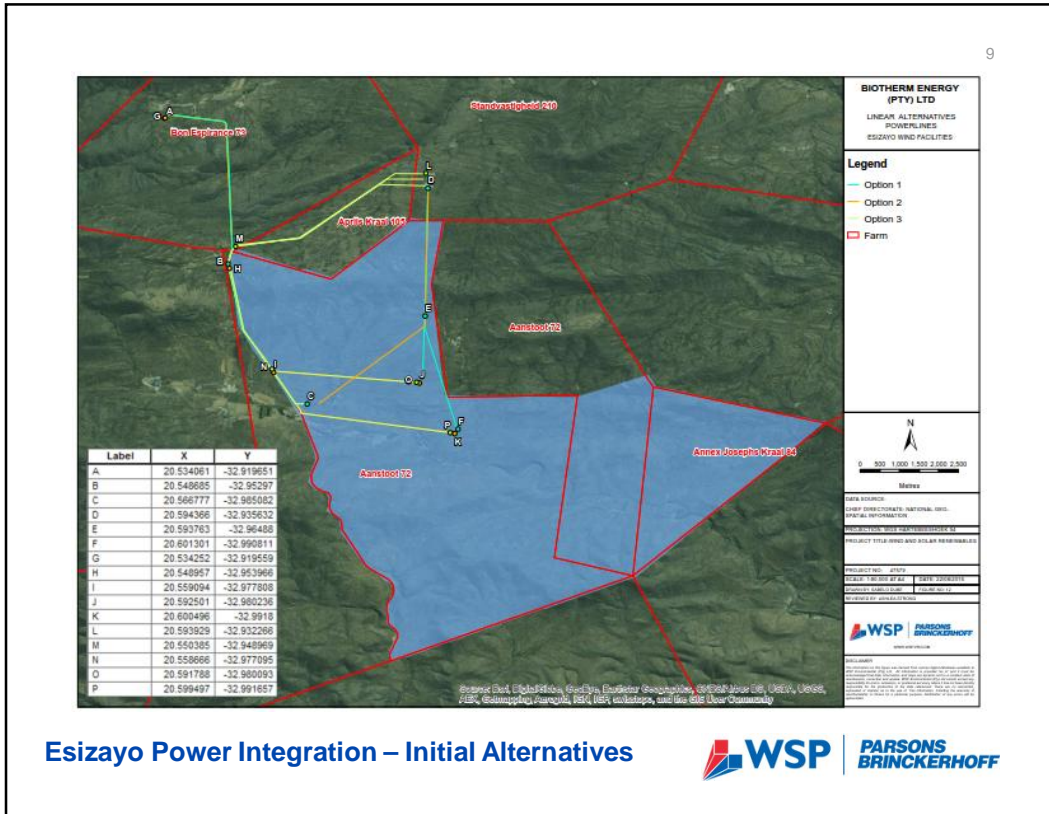
à **The Esizayo Wind Energy Development will be located:**

- § Farm Aanstoot 1/72
- § Farm Annex Joseph's Kraal 84
- § Farm Aurora 285
- § Approximately 70km south of Sutherland
- § Laingsburg Local Municipality
- § Central Karoo District Municipality
- § Western Cape



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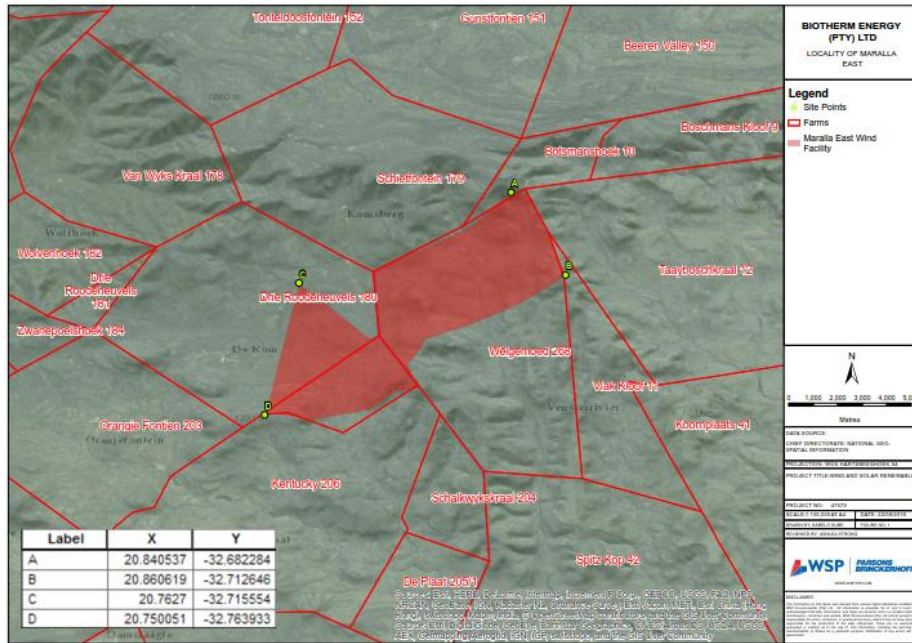
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PROJECT LOCATION – MARALLA EAST

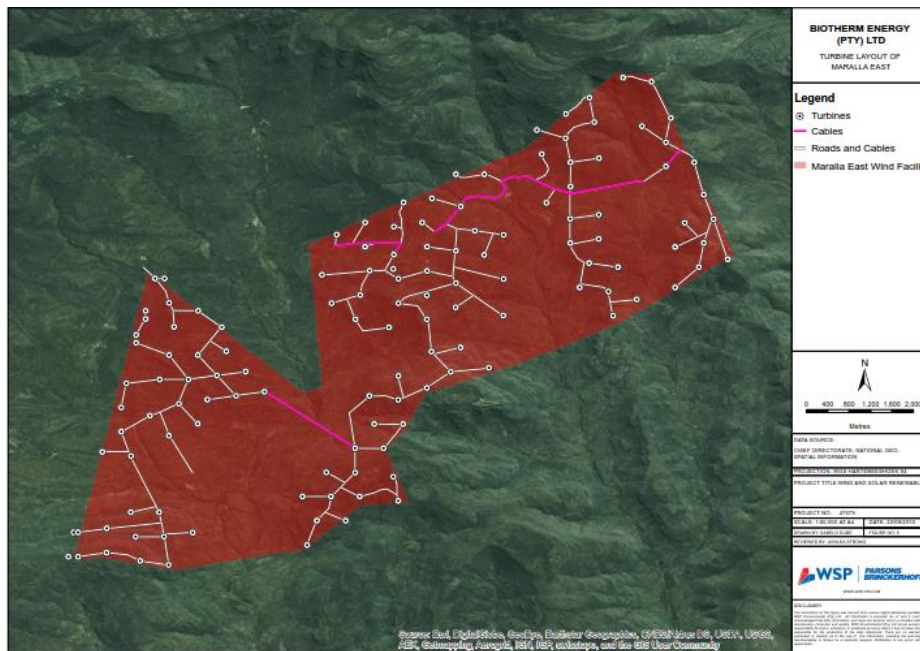
à **The Maralla East Wind Energy Development will be located:**

- § Farm Welgemoed RE/268
- § Farm Schalkwyskraal RE/204
- § Portion of Farm Drie Roode Heuvels RE/180
- § Approximately 34km southeast of Sutherland
- § Laingsburg and Karoo Hoogland Local Municipalities
- § Central Karoo and Namakwa District Municipalities
- § Northern and Western Cape

WSP | **PARSONS BRINCKERHOFF**



Maralla East Development Area



Maralla East Initial Turbine Layout

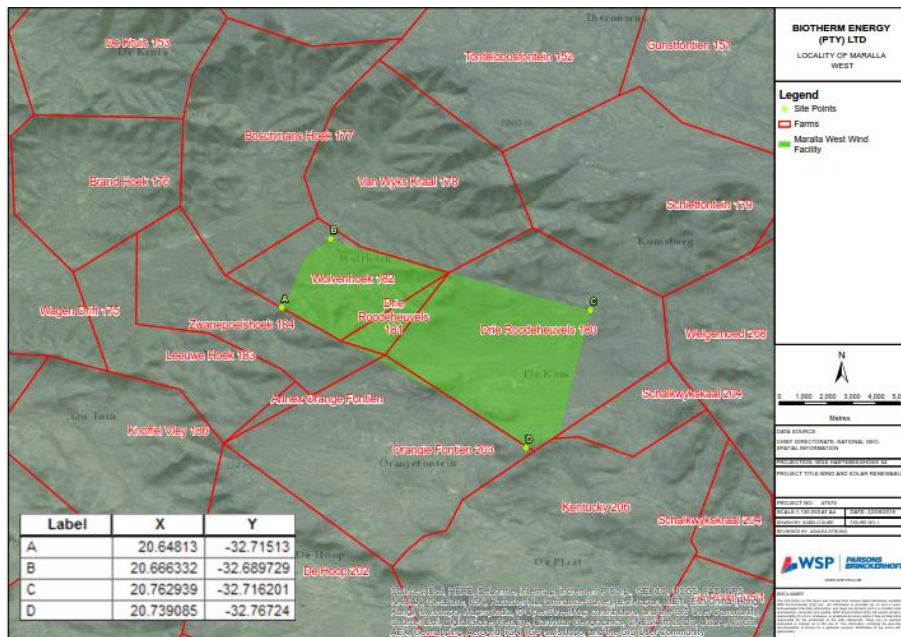


PROJECT LOCATION – MARALLA WEST



à **The Maralla West Wind Energy Development will be located:**

- § Portion of Farm Drie Roode Heuvels RE/180
- § Farm Annex Drie Roode Heuvels RE/181
- § Farm Wolven Hoek 1/182
- § Farm Wolven Hoek 2/182
- § Approximately 34km southeast of Sutherland
- § Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality
- § Namakwa District Municipality
- § Northern Cape

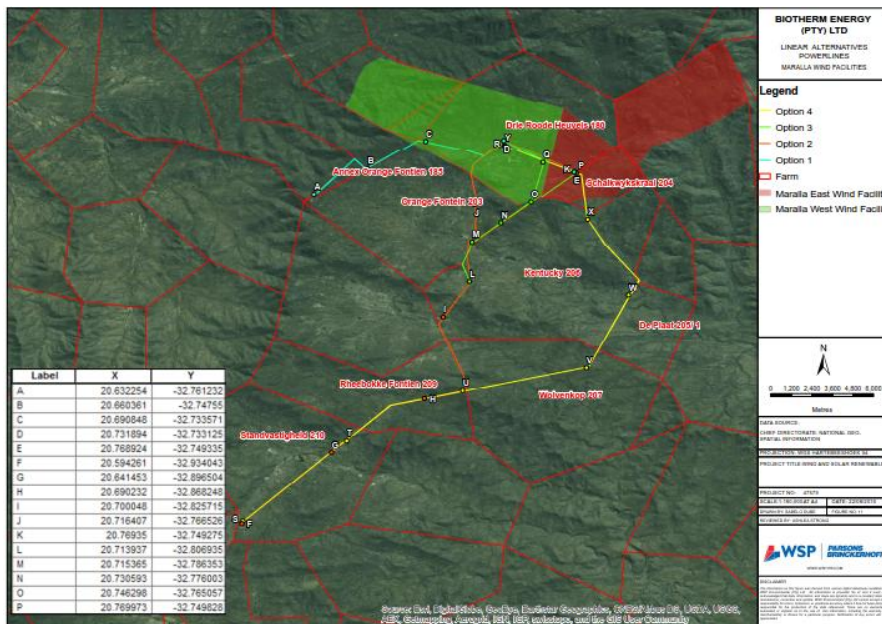


Maralla West Development Area





Maralla West Initial Turbine Layout



Maralla Power Integration – Initial Alternatives



LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Relevant Act	Competent Authority
National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA)	Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An environmental authorisation is required prior to the establishment of the Proposed Projects A full S&EIR Process is required to be conducted for the WEF Projects A Basic Assessment is required to be conducted for the power integration projects Listed Activities triggered under Government Notice Regulation (GNR) 983, 984 and 985 of 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wind Energy Facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GNR 983 – 11(i), 12(xii)(a&c), 19(i), 24(ii), 28(ii), 30, 56 GNR 984 – 1, 15 GNR 985 – 4, 10, 12, 14, 18, 23 (iii) Power Integration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GNR 983 – 11(i), 12(xii)(a&c), 19(i), 27, 28(ii), 30 GNR 985 – 4, 12, 14 	
National Water Act (No. 36 of 1998)	Department of Water and Sanitation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following water uses have been identified as potentially applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 21 (c) and 21 (i) 	
National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (No. 10 of 2004)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The are Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) in the study areas. 	
National Heritage Resource Act (No. 25 of 1999)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) will be undertaken looking at Archaeology, Heritage and Palaeontology for each of the above mentioned projects 	
Renewable Energy Development Zone	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project areas fall within the Komsberg Wind REDZ 	



SPECIALIST STUDIES




SPECIALIST FIELD	COMPANY NAME	TEAM MEMBERS	ASSESSMENT IN EIA PHASE
Soil, Land Capability and Wetlands	WSP Environmental (Pty) Ltd	Bruce Wickham, Gerg Matthews	Yes
Biodiversity	Simon Todd Consulting	Simon Todd	Yes
Bats	Animalia	Werner Marais and Monika Moir	
Avifauna	Chris van Rooyen Consulting	Chris van Rooyen, Albert Froneman	Yes
Heritage	ACO Associates	Tim Hart, Lita Webley, David Halkett	Yes
Palaeontology	Natura Viva	John Almond	Yes
Visual	-	Belinda Gebhardt	Yes
Social	WSP Environmental (Pty) Ltd	Danielle Sanderson, Hillary Konigkramer	Yes
Traffic	WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd	Christo Bredenhann	Yes
Noise	WSP Environmental (Pty) Ltd	Kirsten Collett	Yes





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DISCUSSION

à Questions?



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WAY FORWARD

Task	Date
S&EIR Application Submission: • Esizayo • Maralla East • Maralla West	15 September 2016
Draft Scoping Report Review Period: • Esizayo • Maralla East • Maralla West	15 September – 15 October 2016
Public Meetings: • Esizayo • Maralla East • Maralla West	26 – 30 September 2016
Power Integration Basic Assessments:	October 2016

