

NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED FOR THE PLAN 8 INFINITE ENERGY (PTY) LTD GRAHAMSTOWN WIND ENERGY FACILITY

DEA REFERENCE NUMBER: 12/12/20/2523

The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) issued an Environmental Authorisation to Plan 8 Infinite Energy (Pty) Ltd (Plan 8) for the construction of the Grahamstown Wind Energy Facility (WEF) on 22nd October 2015. Two Appeals against the Environmental Authorisation were submitted to the Minister and both were dismissed (30th September 2016 and 16th March 2017).

The WEF will be situated on Farms Gilead, Peynes Kraal and Tower Hill, between 25 and 31km east of Makhanda (Grahamstown) along the N2 highway.

Plan 8 now intend to submit an application to DEA for an Amendment of the Environmental Authorisation. The application will be conducted in terms of and as required by Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended by GN R. 326, published in Government Gazette No 40772 on 7th April 2017.

The proposed Amendment will be in two parts, as follows:

- **Part 1:** To change the name of the holder of the Environmental Authorisation from Plan 8 Infinite Energy (Pty) Ltd to Grahamstown Wind Farm Company Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Plan 8 created specifically to manage the Grahamstown WEF.
- **Part 2:** To increase the total generating capacity of the WEF from “up to 66MW” approved by DEA to “up to 99MW”, by increasing the generating capacity of each of the 22 turbines approved by DEA from a maximum of 3MW to a maximum of 4.5MW. The increase in generating capacity will be achieved by increasing the size of each of the turbines as follows:
 - The height of the turbine hub above ground level will be increased from the approved maximum of 91.5m to a maximum of 125m.
 - The diameter of the rotor will be increased from an approved maximum of 117m to a maximum of 149m.

The number of turbines will remain the same – 22, as approved by DEA. The locations of the turbines on the project site will also remain unchanged, as described in the 2nd Final Amended Environmental Impact Assessment Report approved by DEA, and confirmed in the Environmental Authorisation.

If you wish to register as an Interested & Affected Party (I&AP) for the Amendment Application, or if you require additional information, please contact Mr Bill Rowlston (Associate: EOH Coastal & Environmental Services, Grahamstown), on e-mail billrowlston@gmail.com, or telephone 082 808 0413. If you wish to register by post please write to EOH Coastal & Environmental Services, PO Box 94, Grahamstown, 6140, or fax to 046 622 6564.
