APPENDIX C: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

APPENDIX C-1: BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT (BID)

C1.1. BID IN ENGLISH



Return address for comments:

EOH Coastal & Environmental Services

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AIM OF THIS DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to ensure that **people interested in** or **affected by the proposed project** are **provided with information about the proposal, the process being followed** and **provided with an opportunity to be involved** in the EIA process.

Registering as an **Interested and/or Affected Party** (I&AP) allows individuals or groups the opportunity to **contribute ideas**, **issues**, **and concerns regarding the project**. I&APs also have an opportunity to **review all reports and submit comments** on those reports. All comments received are included in the reports submitted to the Competent Authority.

THE PROPONENT

Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd and Rietkloof Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd are subsidiaries of G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd, a leader in the South African renewable energy industry. G7's main focus is on wind energy generation with a portfolio of wind projects in excess of 500 MW of installed capacity (http://www.g7energies.com/projects).



THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

EOH COASTAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (CES) specialises in impact assessments and environmental management. We were established in 1990 when we were involved as the lead consultants for a large mineral mining Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in South Africa. Since completing that first EIA, we have expanded our scope of work to provide a wide variety of environmental advisory services to public and private-sector clients, both within South Africa and internationally. This has included numerous renewable energy (RE) projects for both government and the private sector.

Environmental Impact Assessments in the renewable energy (RE) sector is a challenging and dynamic procedure, with on-going improvements in the understanding of RE-related impacts on the broader environment. Appropriate environmental management strategies in this sector require a sound understanding of the unique issues related to RE (e.g. avifaua and bats), and the major impacts associated with RE and the human environment (e.g. noise, cultural heritage and visual impacts). As such, careful stakeholder and local community engagement is key to the successful completion of project assessments within the RE field. EOH CES also has experience in environmental control officer (ECO) duties for environmental management of RE projects post-authorisation. This will be of significance especially as the RE sector matures and construction of these facilities begins.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

EOH Coastal and Environmental Services (CES) have been appointed by G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd to undertake the necessary environmental investigations for the wind energy facilities, and to apply for approval from the Competent Authority (the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)), for the construction and operation of the wind energy facilities, as required by South Africa's environmental legislation.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations, promulgated in terms of Section 24(5) of Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) (Act No 107 of 1998, as amended), and the related Lists of Activities (Government Notices (GN) R.983 R.984 and R.985 of 04 December 2014) identify activities that require environmental authorisation through undertaking either a Basic Assessment, or a full Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment.

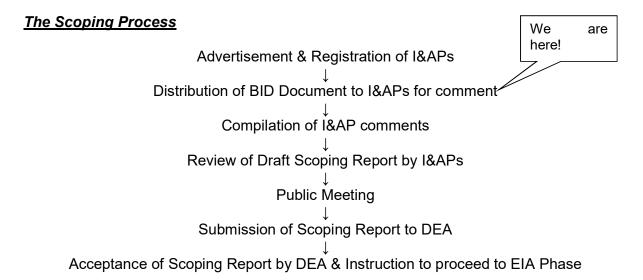
The proposed project is subject to a full Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment in terms of the following activities listed in GNR 984 and GNR 985:

Number of the relevant listing notice	Activity No(s)	Description
Listing Notice (1) 2 of R984 EIA Regulations		(i) The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more, excluding where such development of facilities or infrastructure is for photovoltaic installations and occurs within an urban area.
dates 04 December 2014		The development of the turbines, the power lines and the associated infrastructure will generate electricity from a renewable resource (wind energy) where the electricity output is likely to be 20 megawatts or more
Listing Notice 2 of R984 EIA Regulations	(9)	(i) The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity with a capacity of 275 kilovolts or more, outside an urban area or industrial complex.
dates 04 December 2014		The development of the turbines, the power lines and the associated infrastructure will likely transmit and distribute electricity with a capacity of 275 kilovolts or more. The proposed location for the wind energy facility is outside an urban area or industrial complex.
Listing Notice 2 of R984 EIA Regulations dates 04		The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for- (i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.
December 2014		Land clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation is likely to occur during the construction phase of the wind energy facility, a power line, access routes and associated infrastructure.

		The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres.
Listing Notice	(4)	f) In Western Cape:
3 of R985 EIA Regulations		i. Areas outside urban areas;
dates 04 December		(aa) Areas containing indigenous vegetation;
2014		The access roads will likely be wider than 4 meters with a reserve less than 13.5 metres, during construction phase.
	(12)	The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan. a) Western Cape provinces:
Listing Notice 3 of R985 EIA Regulations		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;
dates 04 December 2014		ii. Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans; or
2014		iv. On land, where, at the time of the coming into effect of this Notice or thereafter such land was zoned open space, conservation or had an equivalent zoning.
		Land clearance of an area of 300 square meters or more of indigenous vegetation if likely to take place during the construction phase of the project.

APPROACH TO THIS SCOPING AND EIA REPORT

The EIA for the proposed project is presently in the SCOPING phase. This phase serves primarily to inform the public and relevant authorities about the proposed project and to determine any impacts. These impacts will then be extensively addressed by specialists in the field during the environmental impact assessment (EIA) phase. Only after the full EIA report has been submitted will a decision be made by relevant authorities.



The Environmental Impact Assessment Phase

This phase is more complex and more detailed than the Scoping phase, because it focuses on undertaking a number of specialist studies that have been identified during the Scoping phase. These studies provide expert input into the EIA process based on scientific information. I&APs will be consulted again during this phase, and will be given an opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that will contain the specialist reports. During this phase an Environmental Management Programme must also be prepared for the project.

Environmental Authorisation phase

The Final EIR is submitted to the national Department of Environment Affairs (DEA) who, after considering the report, will make a decision on whether or not to authorise the development. The authorisation of a development carries a number of legally binding conditions, which will be contained in the Environmental Authorisation document. This document will be circulated to all registered I&APs within two weeks of receipt from the DEA.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd and Rietkloof Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd, subsidiaries of G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd, are proposing to develop two (2) 140MW wind energy facilities (WEFs) near Laingsburg on the border of the Northern and Western Cape Province, South Africa.

The Brandvalley and Rietkloof wind energy facilities will comprise approximately 100 turbines, with hub heights of 100m and rotor diameters of 140m, each generating 2-4MW of power depending on the model and size of turbine selected. The facilities will cover neighbouring properties on northern and southern sections of various portions of land across the Karoo Hoogland, the Witzenberg (Ceres) and the Laingsburg Local Municipalities, which fall within the Namakwa, the Cape Winelands and the Central Karoo District Municipalities, respectively.

The proposed Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEF projects are intended to feed into the proposed Komsberg Eskom grid, to be constructed in 2016/2017. There are three additional grid connection alternatives for each project. The two facilities will have a maximum generating output of 280 MW, approximately 140MW each.

A wind energy facility, or wind farm consists of one or more wind turbines. The wind turbine is made up of a tower, a nacelle and rotor blades (see diagram below). When the wind blows, the rotor blades rotate. The generator, housed inside the nacelle, then converts the movement into electricity, which can then be transmitted for use. The energy created is considered renewable as it is a non-consumptive use of a natural resource.

Turbine models have different output capacity (e.g. 1MW or 4MW turbine). The main features that differ is the hub height (can be between 80-120 metres high) and rotor blade length (40-140 metres diameter).

The ultimate size of the wind turbines will depend on technical assessments of the wind data gathered on site, but will typically consist of rotor turbines (3 x 56m blades) with rotor diameters of around 110-140 meters atop a 100-120 meter hub height steel or hybrid tower (Figure 1).

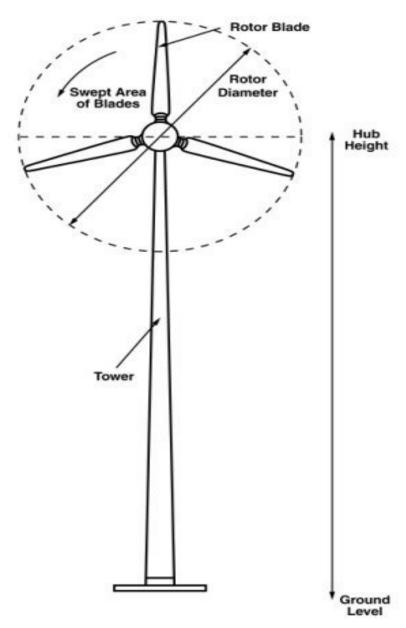


Figure 1. Typical wind turbine structure.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND BENEFITS

Site-specific assessments will be undertaken as part of the EIA process in order to confirm the feasibility of the proposal in terms of the environment, and to delineate any areas of environmental sensitivity within the study area. The exact positioning of the wind turbines and the associated infrastructure will be further informed by the results of the wind resource monitoring as well as the environmental sensitivity identified through the EIA process.

The following specialist studies will be conducted within the proposed wind farm site, to ascertain any potential impacts, positive and negative, that may occur as a result of the potential authorization of the project:

Visual Impact Assessment

A wind farm will normally have a high visibility due mainly to the height of the turbines. Accordingly, the visual impacts (with emphasis on the sense of place) of the proposed facilities will be assessed.

Noise Impact Assessment

The noise impact assessment will be conducted in accordance with the South African National Standard (SANS) 10328 "Methods for environmental noise impact assessments".

Socio-economic Impact Assessment

The potential socio-economic impacts and benefits on surrounding residents and communities will be assessed.

• Ecological Impact Assessment

The location of any species of special concern will be identified, and the location noted in order to inform the mitigation and management measures recommended for the project.

Agricultural Impact Assessment

Potential impacts on the agricultural resources, land and soils will be assessed.

• Avifaunal Impact Assessment

Potential impacts on birds, particularly migratory species, will be assessed in the form of a 12 month pre-construction bird monitoring programme.

• Bat Impact Assessment

Potential impacts on bats will be assessed in the form of a 12 month preconstruction bat monitoring programme.

Heritage/Archaeological Impact Assessment

Potential impacts on South African cultural, heritage, archaeological and palaeontological features will be assessed.

• Paleontological Impact Assessment

Potential impacts on paleontological features will be assessed.

Potential Benefits of the Energy Facilities

The South African Government has recognised the country's high level of renewable energy potential and presently has in place targets of 17.8 GW of renewable energy by 2030 (to be produced mainly from wind and solar). This amounts to ~42% share of the new electricity generation capacity to be brought online by 2030.

The proposed project is deemed desirable for the following reasons:-

Electricity supply

Over the last few years, South Africa has been adversely impacted by interruptions in the supply of electricity. The creation of a 'decentralized' power generation facility (i.e. not located in the traditionally centralized power producing regions of the Republic of South Africa) in the vicinity of the loads it proposes to supply, will secure a supplementary energy source for the area, especially during cold fronts and during the winter season when consumption is higher and wind yields are higher. Moreover, the project will contribute towards meeting the national energy target as set by the Department of Energy (DoE) in its 2010 Integrated Resource Plan, of a 42% share of all new power generation being derived from Renewable Energy produced by independent power producers (IPPs) by 2030.

Green energy

Growing concerns such as climate change and the on-going exploitation of non-renewable resources have prompted increased international pressure on countries to increase their share of renewable energy generation. The South African government has recognized the country's high level of renewable energy potential and has placed targets of 17.8 GW of renewable energy capacity on line by 2030. The proposed renewable energy facilities are therefore considered to be of national importance in anticipation of its contribution to electricity supply and reduced reliance on fossil energy sources.

Climate change

The electricity generated by the wind farm will displace some fossil fuel based forms of electricity generation. Throughout its life span, the wind farm is expected to contribute positively towards climate change mitigation.

Other benefits

Further benefits to the local community may include various forms of job creation and contributions to local socio-economic and economic development programmes.

HOW CAN YOU BE INVOLVED?

A Public Participation Process (PPP) is being conducted as part of the EIA. The aim of the PPP is to allow everyone who is interested in, or likely to be affected by, the proposed development to provide input into the process.

The Public Participation Process will include:

Advertisements in two newspapers;

- Notice Boards placed on site;
- Circulation of the BID (this document) to all I&APs and stakeholders
- · Community and focus group meetings; and
- Review of all comments by registered I&APs and stakeholders.

If you consider yourself an interested and/or affected person/party, it is important that you become and remain involved in the PPP. In order to do so please follow the steps below in order to ensure that you are continually informed of the project developments and will ensure your opportunity to raise issues and concerns pertaining to the project.

STEP 1: Please <u>register</u> by responding to our notification and invitation, with your name and contact details (details provided on cover page and below). As a registered I&AP you will be informed of all meetings, report reviews and project developments throughout the EIA process.

STEP 2: Please send us any comments, concerns or queries you may have in relation to the proposed Wind Energy Facilities.

STEP 3: Attend meetings that will be held throughout the EIA process. As a registered I&AP, you will be invited to these meetings.

CES is required to engage with all private and public parties that may be interested and/or affected by the proposed G7 WEFs, in order to distribute information for review and comment in a transparent manner.

In the same light, it is important for I&APs to note the following:

- 1. In order for EOH CES to continue engaging with you, please **ENSURE** that you register on our database by contacting the person below.
- 2. As the EIA process is regulated by specific review and comment timeframes, it is your responsibility to submit your comments within these timeframes.

Who to contact for enquiries and/comments:

Belinda Huddy

The Point, Suite 408, 4th Floor, 76 Regent Road, Sea Point, Cape Town.

> Tel: (021) 045 0900 Fax: (046) 622 6564

Email: b.huddy @cesnet.co.za

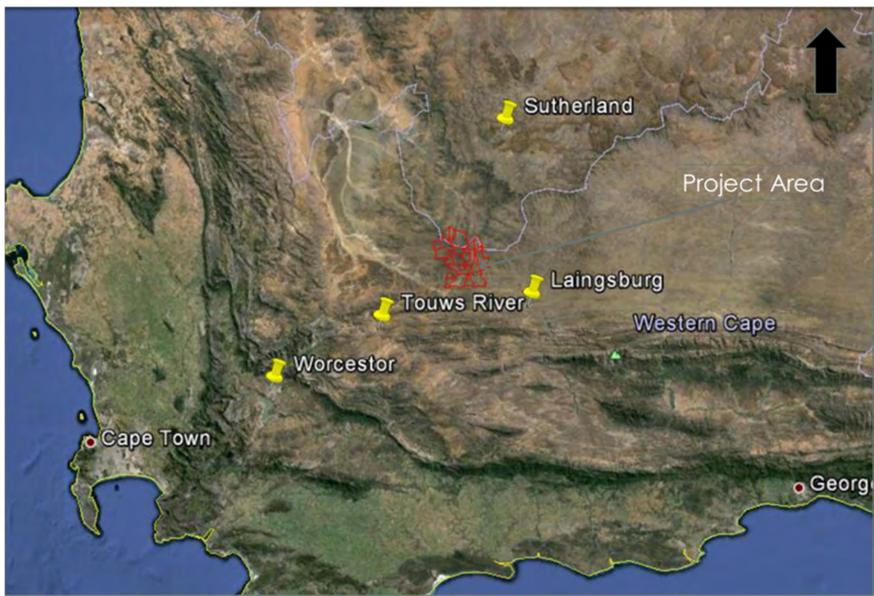


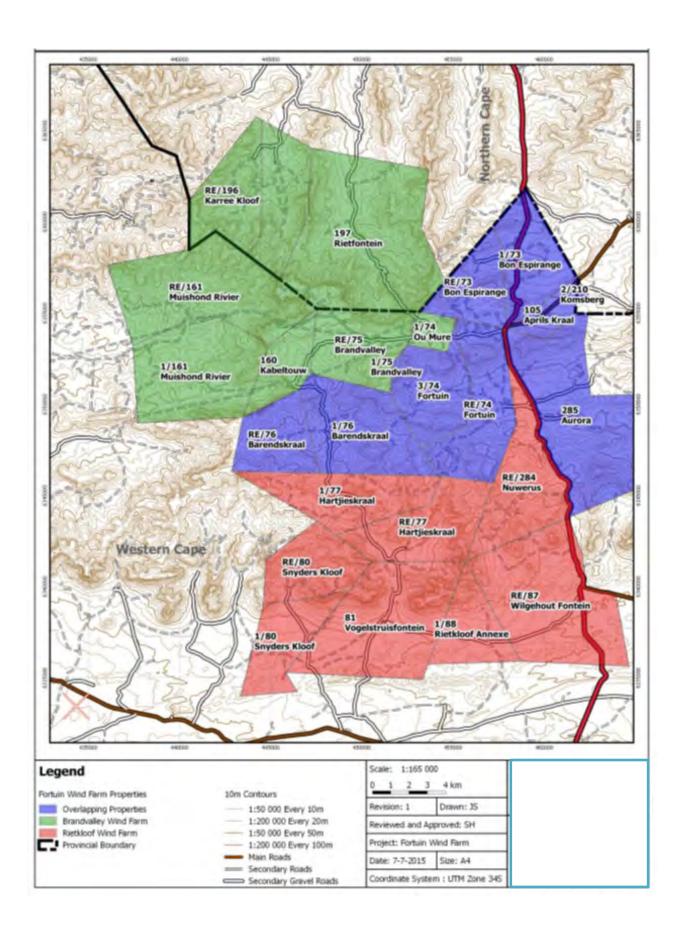
Figure 3: Locality of the G7 Brandvalley And Rietkloof Wind Energy Facilities. Located on the border of the Northern and Western Cape, South Africa.

PROPOSED RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITIES PROPERTY PORTIONS

Farm Name	Property	
Ou Mure	1/74	
Rietfontein	RE/197	
Fortuin	RE/74	
Fortuin	3/74	
Brandvalley	RE/75	
Barendskraal	RE/76	
Barendskraal	1/76	
Hartjieskraal	1/77	
Hartjieskraal	RE/77	
Nuwerus	RE/284	
Wilgehout Fontein	RE/87	
Vogelstruisfontein	81	
Rietkloof Annexe	1/88	
Snyders Kloof	RE/80	
Brandvalley	1/75	
Muishond Rivier	RE/161	
Muishond Rivier	1/161	
Kabeltouw	160	
Snyders Kloof	1/80	
Karree Kloof	1/196	

PROPOSED BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY PROPERTY PORTIONS

Farm Name	Property
Ou Mure	1/74
Rietfontein	RE/197
Fortuin	RE/74
Fortuin	3/74
Brandvalley	RE/75
Barendskraal	RE/76
Barendskraal	1/76
Hartjieskraal	1/77
Hartjieskraal	RE/77
Nuwerus	RE/284
Wilgehout Fontein	RE/87
Vogelstruisfontein	81
Rietkloof Annexe	1/88
Snyders Kloof	RE/80
Brandvalley	1/75
Muishond Rivier	RE/161
Muishond Rivier	1/161
Kabeltouw	160
Snyders Kloof	1/80
Karree Kloof	1/196
Bon Espirange	1/73
Bon Espirange	RE/73
Aprils Kraal	105
Aurora	285



I hereby wish to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for the **G7 Brandvalley And Rietkloof Wind Energy Facilities EIA processes** Name: Organization: Postal address: Email: Phone #: _____ Fax My initial comments, issues or concerns are:



Adres vir kommentaar:

EOH Coastal & Environmental Services

Belinda Huddy Die Punt, Sakenommer 408, 4^{de} vloer 76 Regent straat See Punt Kaapstad 8005

Tel: (021) 045 0900 Faks: (046) 622 6564 E-pos: b.huddy@cesnet.co.za



Doel van hierdie dokument

Die doel van die dokument is om te verseker dat belanghebbende persone wat geaffekteer word deur die voorgestelde projek, voorsien word van die nodige inligting rakende die voorstelde konstruksie, die proses wat gevolg word en geleentheid gebied word om betrokke te raak in die OIS (Omgewings Impak Studie) proses.

Deur te registreer as 'n **Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Party** (B&GP) word individue of groepe die geleentheid gebied om by te dra tot idees, kwessies en bekommernisse rakende die projek. B&GPs kry ook die geleentheid om verslae te oordeel en kommentaar daarop te lewer. Alle kommentaar ontvang word in die verslae ingesluit, wat ingedien word aan die Bevoegde Gesag (besluitnemende staatsorganisasie).

Die ontwikkelaar

'Brandvalley Wind Farm' (Edms) Bpk en 'Rietkloof Wind Farm' (Edms) Bpk is beide filiaalmaatskappye van 'G7 Renewable Energies' (Edms) Bpk, tans 'n mark leier in die Suid Afrikaanse herwinbare energie industrie. G7 se hoof fokus is op wind energie met 'n wêreldwye opwekking portefeulje met 'n kapasiteit groter as 500 MW reeds geinstalleer (http://www.g7energies.com/projects).



Die omgewings impak studie praktisyn

COASTAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (CES) spesialiseer in impak studies en omgewings bestuur. Ons is gestig in 1990 toe ons betrokke was as hoof leidende consultant vir 'n groot mineraal ontgunnings myn Omgewings Impak Studie (OIS) in Suid Afrika, en sedert die voltooiing van daardie eerste OIS, het ons omvang/bestek van werk uitgebrei om 'n wye verskeidenheid omgewings advise dienste aan die publiek en privaat-sektor kliënte te bied byde binne Suid-Afrika sowel as internasionaal. Dit sluit in 'n talryke hernubare energie (HE) projekte vir beide die staat en privaat sektor. Omgewings impak studies in die HE sector is 'n uitdagende en dinamiese veld, met deurlopende verbetering en begrip van HE-verwante impakte op die breër omgewing van 'n Suid-Afrikaanse perspektief.

Toepaslike omgewings bestuur strategieë in die sector vereis 'n goeie begrip van die unieke kwessies verwant aan HE (bv. avifauna en vlermuise), en baie van die groot impakte assosieer met HE verwant aan die menslike omgewing (bv. geraas, kulturele erfenis en visuele impak). Sodoende, is versigtige belanghebbende en plaaslike gemeenskapsbetrokkenheid die sleutel tot suksesvolle voltooiing van so 'n HE projek onteleding. CES het ook ondervinding in omgewings beheer beampte (OBB) take vir omgewings bestuur van 'n HE projek post-magtiging. Dit sal van waarde en betekenis wees veral soos die HE sektor groei en konstruksie van die fasiliteite begin.

Die omgewings impak studie proses

Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) is aangestel deur 'G7 Renewable Energies' (Edms) Bpk om die nodige omgewings ondersoeke te onderneem vir die wind energie fasiliteit, en om aansoek te doen vir goedkeuring van die Bevoegde Owerheid (Departement van Omgewings Aangeleenthede (DOA)), vir die konstruksie en bedryf van die wind energie fasiliteit, soos vereis deur die Suid Afrikaanse omgewings wetgewing.

TOEPASLIKE WETGEWING

The Omgewings Impak Studie Regulasies (OIS), verklaar in terme van gedeelte 24(5) van hoofstuk 5 in die Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur Wet (NEMA) (Wet No 107 van 1998, soos aangepas) tesame met die lys van voorgeskrewe aktiwiteite (Staatskennisgeweing (GN) R.983 R.984 and R.985 van 4 Desember 2014), identifiseer aktiwiteite wat nie mag voortgaan sonder die magtiging van die bevoegde owerheid, wat in hierdie geval die Departement van Omgewings Aangeleenthede is (DOA-Nasionaal).

Die voorgestelde projek is onderhewig aan 'n volle Omvangs en Omgewings Impak Studie in terme van die volgende aktiwiteite:

Kennisgewing nommer	Aktiwiteit Nommer	Beskrywing
Lyskennisgewing 2 van R984 OIS Regulasies van		(i) Die ontwikkeling van fasiliteite of infrastruktuur vir die opwekking van elektrisiteit vanaf 'n hernubare hulpbron waar die elektrisiteit 20 megawatt of meer, uitgesonderd waar sodanige ontwikkeling van fasiliteite of infrastruktuur vir fotovoltaïese installasies is, en plaasvind binne 'n stedelike gebied.
4 Desember 2014		Die ontwikkeling van die turbines, vertoonwoordig die konstruksie van kraglyne en die gepaardgaande infrastruktuur om elektrisiteit op te wek uit 'n hernubare hulpbron (wind energie), waar die elektrisiteit uitset heel moontelik meer as 20 megawatt sal wees.
Lyskennisgewing 2 van R984 OIS	(9)	(ii) Die ontwikkeling van fasiliteite of infrastruktuur vir die transmissie en verspreiding van elektrisiteit met 'n kapasiteit van 275 kilovolt of meer, buite 'n stedelike gebied of industriële kompleks.
Regulasies van 4 Desember 2014		Die ontwikkeling van die turbines, vertoonwoordig die konstruksie van kraglyne en die gepaardgaande infrastruktuur om elektrisiteit op te wek uit 'n hernubare hulpbron (wind energie), met 'n kapasiteit van 275 kilovolt of meer. Die voorgestelde ligging vir die wind energie fasiliteit val buite 'n stedelike gebied of industriële kompleks.
Lyskennisgewing 2 van R984 OIS Regulasies van 4 Desember 2014		Die skoonmaak van 'n gebied van 20 hektaar of meer van inheemse plantegroei , uitgesonderd waar sodanige goedkeuring van inheemse plantegroei nodig is vir- (i) die onderneming van 'n lineêre aktiwiteit; of (ii) instandhouding wat gedoen word in ooreenstemming met 'n onderhoud bestuur plan.
		Werwyder van 'n gebied van 20 hektaar of meer van inheemse plantegroei sal moontelik plaasvind tydens die konstruksiefase van die wind energie fasiliteit , die kraglyn, toegangsroetes en verwante infrastruktuur.

		Die ontwikkeling van 'n pad wyer as 4 meter met 'n reserwe van minder as 13,5 meter.
Lyskennisgewing 3 van R985 OIS Regulasies van 4 Desember	(4)	f) In die Wes- Kaap: i . Areas buite stedelike gebiede;
2014		(aa) Gebiede met inheemse plantegroei;
		Die toegangspaaie sal waarskynlik tydens die konstruksiefase wyer as 4 meter of met 'n reserwe van minder as 13,5 meter wees.
	(12)	Die verwydering van 'n gebied van 300 vierkante meter of meer van plantegroei, behalwe waar sulke verwydering plaasvind onder goedkeuring van 'n instandhouding ooreenkoms, met 'n onderhoud bestuur plan.
		a) Wes-Kaap provinsies:
Lyskennisgewing 3 van R985 OIS Regulasies van 4 Desember		i. Binne 'n kritieke bedreigde area of bedreigde ekosisteem in terme van artikel 52 van die NEMBA, of voor die publikasie van so 'n lys gelys , in 'n gebied wat geïdentifiseer is as krities bedreig in die Nasionale Ruimtelike Biodiversiteit Assessering 2004;
2014		ii. Binne kritiese biodiversiteits areas geïdentifiseer in bioruimtelike planne ; of
		iv. Op land, waar, in die tyd van die intreding van hierdie Kennisgewing of daarna, sodanige grond gesoneer was as oop ruimte, bewaring, of 'n soortgelyke sonering .
		Plantegroei verwydering van 'n gebied van 300 vierkante meter of meer van inheemse plantegroei sal waarskynlik plaasvind tydens die konstruksiefase van die projek.

BENADRING TOT DIE BESTEKOPNAME EN OIS VERSLAG

The EIA for the proposed project is presently in the SCOPING phase. This phase serves primarily to inform the public and relevant authorities about the proposed project and to determine any impacts. These impacts will then be extensively addressed by specialists in the field during the environmental impact assessment (EIA) phase. Only after the full EIA report has been submitted will a decision be made by relevant authorities.

Die bestekopname proses

Adverteer & Registrasie van B&GPs

Verspreiding van AID Dokument aan B&GPs

Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Partye
Vir kommentaar

Samestelling van B&GP kommentaar

Hersiening van Konsep Omvangsbepalings Verslag deur B&GPs

Openbare Vergadering

Indiening van Omvangsbepalings Verslag by 'DEA' Department of Environmental Affairs

Aanvarding van Omvangsbepalings Verslag deur DEA & Instruksie om voort te gaan na die OIS fase

Die Omgewings Impak Studie Fase

Hierdie fase is meer kompleks en meer gedetailleerd as die Omvangsbepalings fase, want dit fokus op die onderneming van 'n aantal spesialis studies wat identifiseer is gedurende die Omvangsbepalings fase.

Hierdie studies voorsien spesialis insette tot die OIS proses, gebasseer op wetenskaplike ingligting. B&GP's sal weer gekonsulteer word gedurende hierdie fase, en sal die geleentheid gegee word om kommentaar te lewer op die Konsep Omgewings Impak Studie (OIS) wat die spesialis verslae sal bevat. Gedurende die fase sal 'n Omgewings Bestuur Program ook voorberei word vir die projek.

Die Omgewings Magtigings Fase

Die finale Omgewings Impak Verslag (OIV) wod aan die nasionale Departement van Omgewingsake (DEA), wat na oorweging van die verslag, 'n besluit sal neem rakende die magtiging van die ontwikkeling. Die magtiging van 'n ontwikkeling het 'n aantal bindende voorwaardes, wat sal vervat word in die Omgewingsmagtiging dokument na besluitneming. Hierdie dokument sal versprei word aan alle geregistreerde B&GPe binne twee weke van ontvangs vanaf die DEA.

Projek beskrywing

'Brandvalley Wind Farm' (Edms) Bpk en 'Rietkloof Wind Farm' (Edms) Bpk, beide filiaalmaatskappye van 'G7 Renewable Energies' (Edms) Bpk, stel voor die ontwikkeling van twee (2) 140MW wind energie fasiliteite (WEFs) naby Laingsburg, op die grens van die Noord en die Weskaap Provinsies, Suid Afrika.

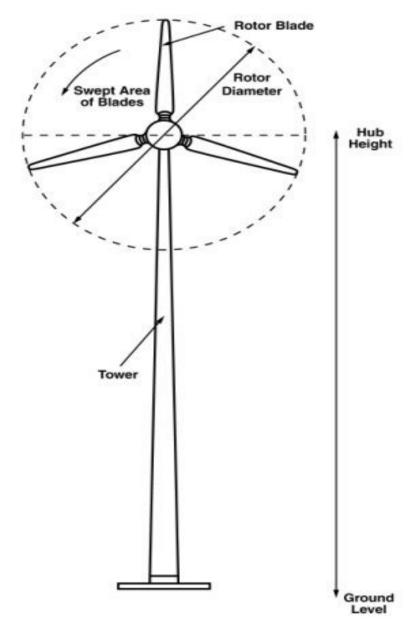
Die Brandvalley en Rietkloof wind energie fasiliteite sal uit ongeveer 100 turbines bestaan, met middelpunt hoogtes van 100m en rotor deursneë van 140m, met elk wat 2-4MW krag opwek, afhangende van die model en die grootte van die gekose turbine tipe. Die fasiliteite sal naburige eiendomme op die noordelike en suidelike dele van verskeie gedeeltes van die land op die Karoo Hoogland beslaan, wat onderskeidelik binne die Witzenberg (Ceres) en die Laingsburg Plaaslike Munisipaliteite val, wat verder binne die Namakwa, die Kaapse Wynland en die Sentraal Karoo Distriksmunisipaliteite val.

Die voorgestelde Brandvalley en Rietkloof WEF projekte is bedoel om in die Komsberg Eskom infrastruktuur in te voer, wat in 2016/2017 gebou sal word. Daar is drie addisionele koppelings alternatiewe vir elke projek. Die twee fasiliteite sal 'n maksimum opwekkings uitset van 280 MW hê, van ongeveer 140 MW elk.

A wind energie fasiliteit (wind plaas) bestaan uit een of meer wind turbines. Die wind turbine bestaan uit 'n toring, 'n gondel en rotorlemme (sien diagram hieronder). Wanneer die wind waai, draai die rotorlemme. Die kragopwekker, gehuisves in die gondel, skakel dan die beweging oor na elektrisiteit, wat dan gebruik kan word. Die energie so geskep word beskou as 'n hernubare bron aangesien dit 'n nie-verbruikende benutting van 'n natuurlike hulpbron verteenwoordig.

Turbine modelle het verskillende opwek kapasiteit (bv 1mW of 4MW turbines). Die belangrikste kenmerke wat verskil is die middelpunt hoogte (wat tussen 80-120 meter hoog kan wees) en rotor lem lengte (40-140 meter in deursneë).

Die finale grootte van die wind turbines sal afhang van die tegniese evaluering op die wind data versamel tydens veldwerk, maar sal tipies bestaan uit rotor turbines (3 x 56m lemme) met rotor deursneë van sowat 110-140 meter, gehuisves op 'n 100-120 meter naafhoogte staal of saamgestelde materiaal torings (Figuur 1).



Figuur 1. Tipiese wind turbine struktuur.

potensiële impakte en voordele

Tydens veldwerk, sal projek-spesifieke studies onderneem word as deel van die OIS-proses om die lewensvatbaarheid/haalbaarheid van die voorgestelde projek, in terme van die omgewing, te bevestig, en om enige areas van spesiale omgewings sensitiwiteit binne die studie area af te baken. Die spesifieke posisie van die wind turbines en die gepaardgaande infrastruktuur sal verder ingelig word deur die resultate van die wind hulpbron monitering sowel as die omgewing sensitiwiteite, geïdentifiseer deur die OIS proses.

Na beraming sal die volgende spesialis studies uitgevoer word binne die voorgestelde windplaas projek gebied, om enige potensiële impakte te bepaal, positief en/of negatief, wat moontelik mag voorkom as gevolg van die potensiële magtiging van die projek:

Visuele Impak Studie

A windplaas sal normaalweg 'n hoë sigbaarheid hê, hoofsaaklik te danke aan die hoogte van die turbines. Gevolglik sal die visuele impakte (met die klem op die gemeenskap se 'sin van erfenis' of 'pleksbegrip') van die voorgestelde fasiliteite geassesseer word.

Geraas Impak Studie

Die geraas impak studie sal onderneem word in oorenstemming met die Suid Afrikaanse Nasionale Standaard (SANS) 10328 "Metodes vir omgewings geraas impak ontledings".

Sosio-ekonomies Impak Studie

Die potensiële impak en voordele van die sosio-ekonomiese gevolge van die projek sal ontleed word.

Ekologies Impak Studie

Die ligging van enige spesies van spesiale kommer/besorgdheid sal identifiseer word, en die ligging aangeteken word om sodoende versagting en bestuur maatreëls vir die projek voor te stel.

Landbou Impak Studie

Potensiële impakte op die landbou hulpbronne sal ontleed word.

Voëllewe Impak Studie

Potensiële impakte op voëls, veral migrerende spesies, sal beoordeel word in die vorm van 'n 12 maande voor-konstruksie voël moniterings program.

• Vlermuis Impak Studie

Potensiële impakte op vlermuise sal ontleed word in die vorm van 'n 12 maande voorkonstruksie vlermuis moniterings program.

Erfenis/argeologiese Impak Studie

Potensiële impakte op Suid-Afrikaanse kulturele, erfenis, argeologiese en paleontologiese hulpbronne sal beoordeel word.

Paleontologiese Impak Studie

Potensiële impakte op paleontologiese funksies en hulpbronne sal ontleed word.

Potensiële voordele van wind energie fasiliteite:

Die Suid-Afrikaanse regering erken die land se hoë potensial vlak vir hernubare energie en het tans 'n teiken van 17,8 GW van hernubare energie teen 2030 vasgestel (hoofsaaklik vanaf wind en sonenergie). Dit vereis dat \sim 42% aandeel van die nuwe elektrisiteits produksie vanaf 2030 al bedryf moet word.

The South African Government has recognised the country's high level of renewable energy potential and presently has in place targets of 17.8 GW of renewable energy by 2030 (to be produced mainly from wind and solar). This amounts to ~42% share of the new electricity generation capacity to be brought online by 2030.

Die voorgestelde projek is dus voordelig vir die volgende redes:

Elektrisiteits voorsiening

Oor die laaste paar jaar is Suid-Afrika nadelig aangeraak deur onderbrekings in elektrisiteitsvoorsiening. Die skepping van 'n gedesentraliseerde kragopwekking fasiliteit (d.w.s kragopwekking fasiliteite nie in die tradisionele, gesentraliseerde opwek-streke van Suid-Afrika

geleë nie) in die naby omgewing van die teikenmark wat die fasiliteite boog om te voorsien, sal 'n addisionele bron van energie vir sulke gebiede verteenwoordig, veral tydens koue fronte en gedurende die winter seisoen wanneer verbruik en wind opbrengste hoër is. Die projek sal verder bydra tot die nasionale energie teiken, soos deur die Departement van Energie (DvO) in die 2010 Geïntegreerde Hulpbronplan uiteen gesit, waar 'n 42% aandeel van nuwe kragopwekking spesifiek vanaf hernubare energie vervaardigers deur onafhanklike kragprodusente (IPP's) teen 2030 gewens word.

Groen Energie

Die groeiende kommer, onder meer te opsigte van klimaat verandering en die voortgaande uitbuiting van nie-hernubare hulpbronne het gelei tot verhoogde internasionale druk op lande om hul aandeel in hernubare energie opwekking te verhoog. Die Suid Afrikaanse regering erken die land se hoë vlak van hernubare energie potensiaal, en het 'n teiken van 17.8 GW gestel op hernubare energie kapasiteit teen die jaar 2030. Die voorgestelde hernubare energie fasiliteit word dus beskou as van nasionale belang, in afwagting van die projek bydrae tot elektrisiteit voorsiening en verminderde afhanklikheid op fossiel energie bronne, landwyd.

Klimaat verandering

Die elektrisiteit opgewek deur die wind plaas sal sommige fossiel-brandstof gebaseerde vorme van elektrisiteit verplaas. Dwarsdeur die projek se leeftyd, sal van die wind plaas verwag word om positief by te dra tot klimaat verandering versagting.

Ander voordele

Vêrdere voordele vir die plaaslike gemeenskap kan verskeie vorme van werk skepping en bydrae tot die plaaslike sosio-ekonomiese en ekonomiese ontwikkeling programme insluit.

Hoe kan u betrokke raak?

'n Publieke Deelname Proses (PDP) word uitgevoer as deel van die OIS. Die doel van die PDP is om almal wat geïnterresseerd is, of moontlik geaffekteer kan word deur die voorgestelde ontwikkeling, geleentheid te bied om insette te lewer in die proses.

Die Publieke Deelname Proses sal insluit:

- Advertensies in twee koerante:
- Kennisgewing borde by die voorgestelde aanleg;
- Verspreiding van die AID (hierdie dokument) aan alle B&GPs en belanghebbendes;
- Gemeenskap en focus groep vergaderings;
- Hersiening van al die kommentaar vanaf die registreerde B&GPs en belanghebbendes.

Indien u uself beskou as 'n geïnterresseerde en/of geaffekteerde persoon/party, is dit belangrik dat u betrokke raak en bly in die PDP. Om dit te kan doen, volg asseblief the stappe hieronder om seker te maak dat u voortdurend ingelig sal word van die projek ontwikkelinge, en dus sal verseker word dat u die geleentheid gegun sal word om aangeleenthede en kwessies met betrekking tot die projek te lig, voor besluitneming.

STAP 1: Registreer asseblief deur te reageer op hierdie kennisgewing en uitnodiging, met u naam en kontak besonderhede (soos voorsien op die dekblad hieronder). As 'n geregistreerde B&GP sal u deurgans in kennis gestel word van alle vergaderings, verslag hersienings en projek ontwikkelings deur die hele OIS proses.

STAP 2: Stuur asb vir ons enige kommentaar, knelpunte of navrae, wat u moontlik mag hê in verband met die voorgestelde Wind Energie Fasiliteit.

STAP 3: Woon vergaderings by wat deur die hele OIS proses gehou sal word. As 'n geregistreerde B&GP, sal u uitgenooi word na die vergaderings.

CES word vereis om in kommunikasie te treë met alle private en publike partye wat moontlik geinterresseerd en/of geaffekteer word deur die voorgestelde projek, om sodoende informasie te versprei vir hersiening en kommentaar op 'n deursigtige manier.

In dieselfde lig, is dit belangrik vir B&GPs op die volgende te let:

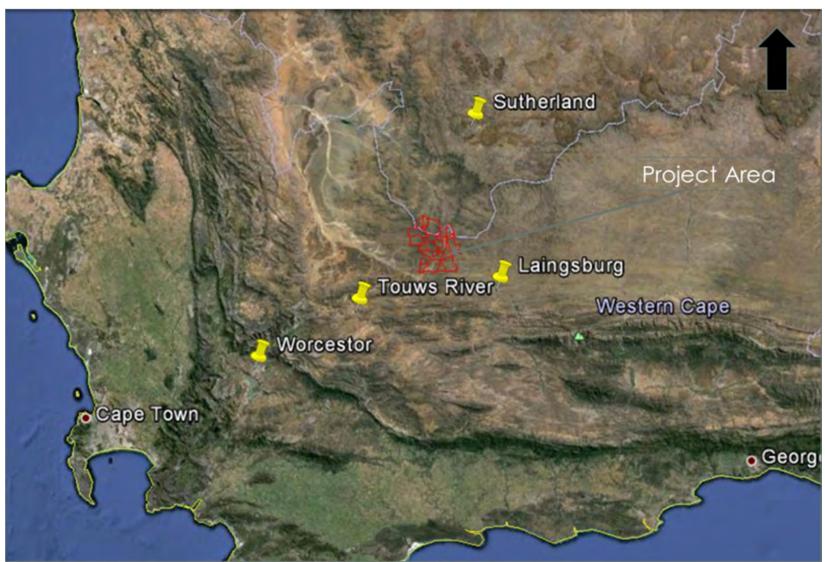
- Om CES in staat te stel om met u betrokke te wees, <u>MAAK ASB SEKER</u> dat u registreer op ons databasis deur kontak persoon hieronder u besonderhede te gee, en in kennis te stel van u belangstelling.
- 2. Aangesien die OIS proses deur spesifieke hersiening en kommentaar tydsraamwerke gereguleer word, is dit u verantwoordlikheid om u kommentaar binne die tydsberaming in te dien.

Kontak persoon vir naevrae en/of kommentaar:

Belinda Huddy

Die Punt, Sakenommer 408, 4^{de} vloer, 76 Regent Straat, See Punt, Kaapstad.

Tel: (021) 045 0900 Faks: (046) 622 6564 E-pos: b.huddy @cesnet.co.za



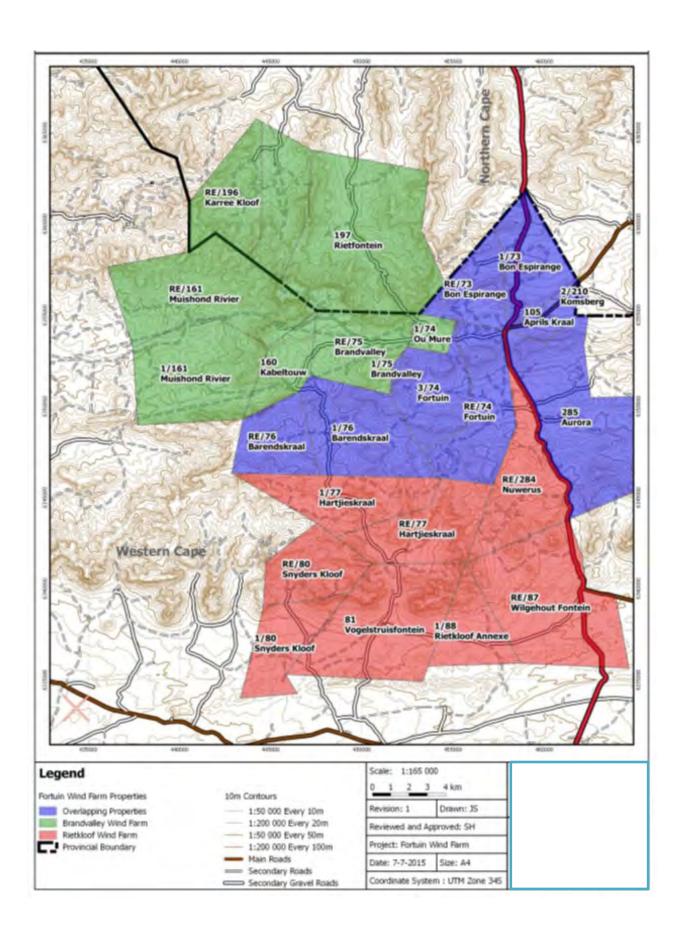
Figuur 3: Ligging van die G7 Brandvalley en Rietkloof Wind Energie Fasiliteite, op die van grens van die Noord en Weskaap, Suid Afrika.

PROPOSED RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITIES PROPERTY PORTIONS

Farm Name	Property
Ou Mure	1/74
Rietfontein	RE/197
Fortuin	RE/74
Fortuin	3/74
Brandvalley	RE/75
Barendskraal	RE/76
Barendskraal	1/76
Hartjieskraal	1/77
Hartjieskraal	RE/77
Nuwerus	RE/284
Wilgehout Fontein	RE/87
Vogelstruisfontein	81
Rietkloof Annexe	1/88
Snyders Kloof	RE/80
Brandvalley	1/75
Muishond Rivier	RE/161
Muishond Rivier	1/161
Kabeltouw	160
Snyders Kloof	1/80
Karree Kloof	1/196

PROPOSED BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY PROPERTY PORTIONS

Farm Name	Property
Ou Mure	1/74
Rietfontein	RE/197
Fortuin	RE/74
Fortuin	3/74
Brandvalley	RE/75
Barendskraal	RE/76
Barendskraal	1/76
Hartjieskraal	1/77
Hartjieskraal	RE/77
Nuwerus	RE/284
Wilgehout Fontein	RE/87
Vogelstruisfontein	81
Rietkloof Annexe	1/88
Snyders Kloof	RE/80
Brandvalley	1/75
Muishond Rivier	RE/161
Muishond Rivier	1/161
Kabeltouw	160
Snyders Kloof	1/80
Karree Kloof	1/196
Bon Espirange	1/73
Bon Espirange	RE/73
Aprils Kraal	105
Aurora	285



Ek wil hiermee registreer as 'n Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Party (B&GP) Vir die 'G7 Brandvalley en Rietkloof Wind Energie Fasiliteit' OIS proses Naam: Organisasie: Pos adres: E-pos: Telefoon #: _____ Faks My aanvanklike kommentaar, kwessies of kommernisse is:

APPENDIX C-2: THE I&AP DATABASE INCLUDING LIST OF LANDOWERS, NEIGHBOURS, GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, ORGANS OF STATE AND OTHER KEY STAKEHOLDERS.

C2.1. LIST OF LANDOWNERS FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT.

Land Owners	Farm Name	Property
Ou Mure Boerdery (Pty) Ltd c/o Polla van der Westhuizen	Ou Mure (Fortuin)	1/74
JJ le Roux Familie Trust c/o Kobus le Roux	Rietfontein	197
A de V Le Roux Family Trust c/o Andries Le Roux	Fortuin	RE/74
A de V Le Roux Family Trust c/o Andries Le Roux	Fortuin	3/74
Francois Conradie	Brandvalley	RE/75
Ou Mure Boerdery (Pty) Ltd c/o Polla van der Westhuizen	Barendskraal	RE/76
Mooi Nooientjies Trust c/o Christo Matthee	Barendskraal	1/76
A de V Le Roux Family Trust c/o Andries Le Roux	Brandvalley	1/75
Van Der Vyver (CJ) Trust c/o Izaak (Sakkie) van der Vyver / Christiaan van der Vyver	Muishond Rivier	RE/161
Kabeltouw Trust c/o Marianne Thomson	Muishond Rivier	1/161
Kabeltouw Trust c/o Marianne Thomson	Kabeltouw	160

C2.2. LIST OF LANDOWNERS/OCCUPIERS OF LAND IMMEDIATELY SURROUNDING AND WITHIN 5KMS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT.

Neighbours	Farm Name	Property
A de V Le Roux Familietrust c/o Andries le Roux	Klipbanksfontein	RE/198
Douglas & Esme Calldo	Ek Kraal	1/199
Marina Conradie	Ek Kraal	RE/199
Standvastigheid Familie Trust c/o Francois Conradie	Appels Fontein	RE/201
D.R VD Walt or John H Hamman	Klipbanks Fontein	395
Nico van der Merwe	Hasjes Vley	RE/162
Standvastigheid Familie Trust	Standvastigheid	RE/210
Charl Gerhardus du Plessis	Oude Huis	RE/195
Turn Around Trading 101 (Pty) Ltd	Luipaards Kloof	RE/79
Hendrik Jakobus Visser	Oliviers Berg	RE/159
P U UYS FamilieTrust	Oliviers Berg	1/159
J & B Trust	Karree Kloof	RE/196
Gielie Hanekom Family Trust c/o Gielie Hanekom	Aurora	285
Douglas & Esme Calldo	Bon Espirange	1/73
Marina Conradie	Bon Espirange	RE/73
Douglas & Esme Calldo	Aprils Kraal	105
Extended Neighbours	Farm Name	Property
Hendrik Jakobus Visser	Gats Rivier	1/156
Hendrik Jakobus Visser	Gats Rivier	RE/156
Aletta Jacoba du Plessis	Brandenburg	RE/164
Koedoesfontein Trust	Amandelboom	1/158
Charl Francois Marais Keuler c/o Johan le Roux	Maaitjiegoedhoek	3/193
Koedoesfontein Trust c/o Johan le Roux	Urias Gat	4/193
Johan le Roux	Urias Gat	RE/193
De List Trust c/o Johan le Roux	Urias Gat	6/193

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Cobie Conradie	Klipbanks Fontein	1/198
Jacobus Hendrik Johannes Steenkamp	Groenland	2/199
Dirk Van Zyl Trust c/o Erasmus van Zyl	De Hoop	RE/209
Wolwekop Trust	Rheebokke Fontein	3/209
Le Roux Familietrust c/o Mrs Alta Le Roux	Leeuwenfontein	RE/71
Gielie Hanekom Family Trust	Annex Joseph's Kraal	84
Jozef Martinus Le Roes	Josephs Kraal	1/85
Francois Willem Marais c/o Elmaree Marais	Hartjieskraal	3/86
Van Der Vyver (CJ) Trust c/o Izaak (Sakkie) Van Der Vyver / Christiaan Van Der Vyver	Rietfonteinspoort	RE/277
Calvin Francois Trust c/o Genine Hector	Boelhouer	RE/276
Eerstegeluk Boerdery C C c/o Mr Steve Swanepoel	Paal Fontein	98
C S W Business Trust	Palmiet Fontein	1/97
Paalfontein Farm C C	Keur Kloof	RE/97
Petterson Trust	Zeekoe Gat	96
C S W Business Trust	Palmiet Fontein	RE/91
Turn Around Trading 101 Pty Ltd c/o Mr. Riaan Stassen	Luipaards Kloof	1/79
Witzenberg Prop Pty Ltd	Smits Winkel	1/163
M.L. Heyns, on Behlaf of Johannes Abraham Heyns	Smits Winkel / Alleen Eienaar	163
M.L. Heyns, on Behlaf of Johannes Abraham Heyns	Smits Winkel / Alleen Eienaar	RE/163

C2.3. LIST OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS RELEVANT TO THE PROPOSED PROJECT.

Government	Affiliation	Designation
Mmamohale Kabasa	Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)	Case officer
Dikeledi Mokotong	Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)	
Herman Alberts	Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)	
Andre Oosthuizen	Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)	
Ms Wilma Lutsch	Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)	DEA: Directorate Biodiversity and Conservation
Ms Tendani Mashamba	Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)	DEA: Directorate Biodiversity Conservation
Francini van Staden	Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEADP)	Directorate: Development Management (Region 3)
Arabel McClelland	Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEADP)	Directorate: Development Management (Region 2)
Andre Oosthuizen	Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEADP)	
Ms Onwabile Ndzumo	Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC)	Case officer
Ms Dineo Moleko	Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC)	Assistant Director: Impact Management
Mrs Judy Scholtz	Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC)	Personal Assistant to Mr Fisher
Mr Bryan Fisher	Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC)	Director: Environmental Quality Management

C2.4. LIST OF OTHER ORGANS OF STATE OF RELEVANCE TO THE PROPOSED PROJECT.

Organs of State	Affiliation	Designation
Colonel Loy de Jager	Department of Defence/ SA Army	Signal Formation
Mr Fabion Smith	Department of Water& Sanitation (DWS)	
Mary Jean Gabriel	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)	Director
	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Delegate of the Minister (Act
Ms Mashudu Marubin	(DAFF)	70 of 1970)
	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	
Ms Thoko Buthelezi	(DAFF)	AgriLand Liaison office
Cor van der Walt	Western Cape Department of Agriculture	
Phyllis Pienaar	Western Cape Department of Agriculture	
Mpho Mabaso	Department of Energy (DoE)	Director: Renewable Energies
	Department of Economic Development and	
Mr Solly Fourie	Tourism	Head of Department
Mr Luchen Reddy	Department: Science & Technology	
Sunday Mabaso	Department of Mineral Resources (Northern Cape)	Regional Manager
	Department of Mineral Resources (Western	
Duduzile Kunene	Cape)	Regional Manager
		Directorate: Environmental
Jacob Dikgang	Department of Transport	Analysis
	Department of Rural Development and Land	
Lucky Legodi	Reform	

C2.5. LIST OF IDENTIFIED KEY STAKEHOLDERS FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT.

Key Stakeholders	Affiliation	Designation
Chris Fortuin	Namakwa District Municipality (Karoo Hoogland)	Municipal Manager
Anna Straus	Namakwa District Municipality (Karoo Hoogland)	
Hein Boock	Cape Winelands District Municipality (Witzenberg)	
Stafanus Jooste	Central Karoo District Municipality (Laingsburg)	Municipal Manager
Anita Grobbelaar	Witzenberg (Ceres) Local Municipality	
J. Venter	Laingsburg Local Municipality	
Pietie Williams	Laingsburg Local Municipality	Municipal Manager
Reginald Badela	Ward	Ward 12 Councilor (Witzenberg)
G. W. Mollendorf	Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality	Municipal Manager
Ronald Visagie	Ward	Ward 4 Councilor (Witzenberg)
Raadslid JJ van der Colff (Johan)	Ward	Ward 3 Councilor (Karoo Hoogland)
Ms Magie Bobbejee	Ward	Ward 1 Councilor (Laingsburg)
Benjamin Walton	Cape Nature	Central Karoo & Eden District Municipal Areas
Troy Smuts	Heritage Western Cape	
Guy Thomas	Heritage Western Cape	Heritage Officer
Andrew September	Heritage Western Cape	Heritage Officer
Zwelibanzi Shiceka	Heritage Western Cape (Assistant Director)	Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport

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Lungile Motsisi	Eskom Transmission Land Management	Investigations and Audit
Barbara van Geems	Eskom	Land and development
Philip Hine	SAHRA	Heritage
Natasha Higgitt	SAHRA	Heritage
- I succession in a grant	Northern Cape Provincial Heritage	
Ratha Timothy	Resource Authority	
Frik Linde	Witteberg Private Nature Reserve	Private Nature Game Reserve
	SAAO (South African Astronomical	
Dr Ramotholo Sefako	Observatory)	Telescope Operations (TOPS)
Administration	SALT (South African Large Telescope)	Administration
Adrian Tiplady	SKA (Square Kilometer Array)	Site BID Manager
Tshegofatso Monama	SKA (Square Kilometer Array)	
J. Venter	Laingsburg Tourism	IDP Officer
Carl Opperman	Farmer's Association	Chief Executive Officer
Jeanne Boshoff	Farmer's Association	Senior Media Liaison Officer
Christy B.	Renewable Energy Project Manager	EWT
Simon Gear	BirdLife	BirdLife
Samantha Ralston	Birdlife	BirdLife
	SACAA South African Civil Aviation	
Riaan Myburgh	Authority	Senior Manager
	SACAA South African Civil Aviation	
Mr Gawie Bestbier	Authority SACAA South African Civil Aviation	
Ms Chinga Mazhetese	Authority	
Wis Offinga Waznetese	Authority	Manager of the Western and Northen
Phillip De Lange	ATNS	Cape
Philippa Huntly	WESSA	
Mlungisi Ngwenya	SAWS	
Alisha Viljoen	Sentech	
Elma Louren	SANRAL	
Anne Flynn	Falcon Oil and Gas Ltd	Financial Controller for Falcon
		Local representative for Falcon based
Sas Nel	Falcon Oil and Gas Ltd	in Durbanville
Kobus Stadler	G7 Renewable Energies	Site Liaison Officer
		Operations Manager: Wayleave
Daniel Cornelius	Telkom (Network Engineering)	Management
Keverne Thurling	Telkom (National Radio Site Engineering)	
Ms S Grey (Sherly)	MTN	National Property Manager
Charles van Reenen	MTN	MTN – Innovation Centre Engineering
Craig Barnes	Vodacom	Network
Coert Smit	BreedeNet	Network Operations Director
<u>Vivian Kiewitz</u>	Cell C	-

C2.6. LIST OF I&APs WHO REQUESTED TO BE REGISTERED FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT/ PROVIDED COMMENT.

Registered IAPs	Affiliation
Mr. Koos Saailmans, Rietpoort Trust	The Chairman: Rietpoort Trust
Joseph Padbury	Project Developer
Michael Mangnall	Mainstream Country Development Manager
Steve Swanepoel	Eerstegeluk Boerdery Bk and Paalfontein Farm Bk
Warren Petterson	Zeekoegat Plaas (Farm), Matjiesfontein

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John Geeringh	Senior Consultant Environmental Management: Eskom GC: Land Development
Connelius Petrus Willemse	Palmiet Fontein Farm
Nicole Abraham	Environmental Coordinator, SANRAL
Anne Flynn	Group Financial Controller Falcon Oil & Gas
Ferdi Smit	System Specialist Radar Technical Services Cape Town International Airport
Phillip De Lange	Manager: Technical Support Technical Services Cape Town International Airport
Matjiesfontein Village	Matjiesfontein Village
Mr Stephen Pienaar	Penta P (Pty) Ltd
Paolo Fagnoli	Roggeveld Wind Power (Pty) Ltd
Matthys Heyns	Professional Valuer
Blueberry Hill Guest Farm	
Matthys Heyns	Professional Valuer
G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd	Developer
Dr Marianne Thomson	Landowner
Dr Cornelius von der Heyden	Landowner
Gail Louw	Landowner
Michael Barnes	BioTherm
Irene Bezuidenhout	BioTherm

APPENDIX C-3: LETTERS CIRCULATED TO LAND OWNERS, OCCUPIERS OF LAND IMMEDIATELY SURROUNDING AND WITHIN 5KMS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT DEVELOPMENT SITE, GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, ORGANS OF STATE AND KEY STAKEHOLDERS.

C3.1. LETTER OF NOTIFICATION AND CONSENT FORMS SENT TO LANDOWNERS (IN ENGLISH AND AFRIKAANS).



To whom it may concern

ATTENTION: OWNER OR PERSON IN CONTROL OF THE LAND WHERE THE ACTIVITY IS TO BE UNDERTAKEN

NOTIFICATION: <u>ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF TWO WIND ENERGY PROJECTS NEAR LAINGSBURG ON THE BORDER OF THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA.</u>

In accordance with the requirements of section 41 (2) (b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2014) made in terms of section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to notify, "the occupier of the site and the owner or person in control of the site where the activity is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken" as well as give written notice to "owner, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken". In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by EOH Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd and Rietkloof Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd (subsidiaries of G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd) propose constructing two (2) 140MW wind energy facilities (wind farms) near Laingsburg, on the border of the Northern and Western Cape Province, South Africa. The proposed project will be located on various portions of land across the Karoo Hoogland, the Witzenberg (Ceres) and the Laingsburg Local Municipalities, which fall within the Namakwa, the Cape Winelands and the Central Karoo District Municipalities, respectively. The proposed facilities will comprise of 50 turbines on each wind farm, generating 2-4MW of power per turbine with a total maximum generating capacity of approximately 140MW per wind farm.

In accordance with the EIA regulations, the proposed development will require a full Scoping and EIA process. The National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) will be the decision making authority for this application.

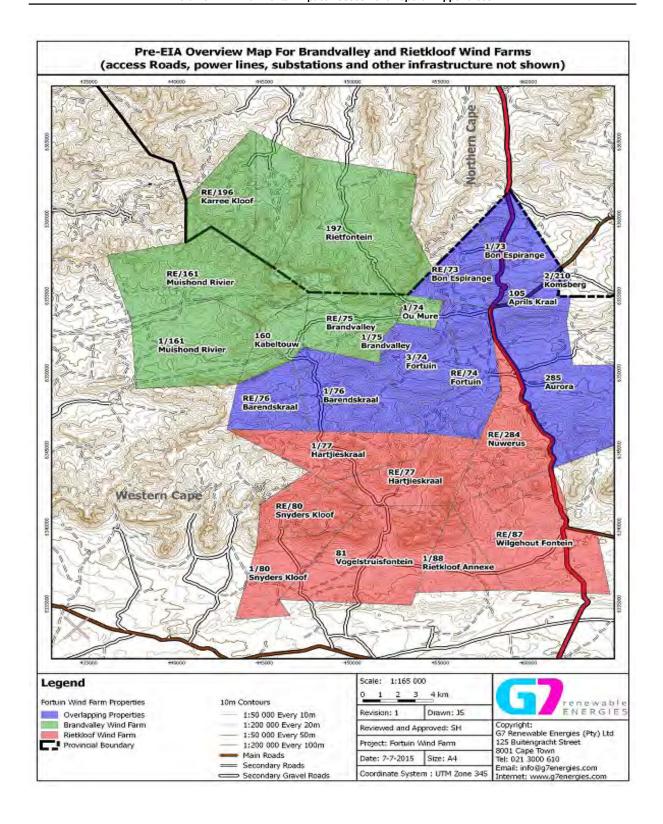
- > EOH Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) have been appointed by G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd, to conduct the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessments for the proposed development.
- Following the release of the Scoping and EIA report a public meeting will be held to present the project and to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed development. You will be notified of the date, time and venue for the public meeting accordingly.
- ➤ EOH CES would appreciate it if you could **confirm** your **receipt** of this notification via email, fax, phone or post.

For more information, please feel free to contact me at the EOH CES Cape Town office numbers shown below.

Yours sincerely,

Belinda Huddy

Environmental Consultant



ATTENTION: OWNER OR PERSON IN CONTROL OF THE LAND WHERE THE ACTIVITY IS TO BE UNDERTAKEN

RE: CONSENT IN TERMS OF REGULATION 16(1) OF THE NEMA EIA REGULATIONS FOR UNDERTAKING AN EIA FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF TWO WIND ENERGY PROJECTS NEAR LAINGSBURG ON THE BORDER OF THE NORTHERN CAPE AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA.

G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd proposes to construct and operate two 140MW wind energy facilities (wind farms) near Laingsburg on the border of the Northern and Western Cape Province in South Africa. The proposed project will entail the construction and operation of approximately 100 wind turbines, each generating 2-4MW of power with a total generating capacity of approximately 280MW.

This form is to be completed by the owner or authorized person in control of the land to provide consent for the undertaking of an EIA on the property for the purpose of the above-mentioned activities.

Landowner	
name:	
Property Portion(s):	
Property	
address:	
Contact telepho	ne
number:	
Contact	nail
address:	
The landowner is entitled to participate in the public participation process as contemplated regulation 54, and will be provided with sufficient information to enable him / her to participate.	111
Declaration	
	:he
I, the undersigned, ID no being to owner or authorized persons in control of the land, herby acknowledge that I have been adequate informed of the intention to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment on the above mentioned property and of my right to participate in the public participation process. I thereby go consent to the undertaking of the proposed activities that will be the subject of an EIA process the proposed wind farm, subject to environmental authorization for these activities being obtained Signature:	ely ve- ive for
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27 Augustus 2015

Wie dit mag aangaan:

AANDAG: EIENAAR, OF PERSOON IN BEHEER VAN GROND WAAROP DIE VOORGESTELDE AKTIWITEIT SAL GESKIED.

KENNISGEWING: OMGEWINGSIMPAKSTUDIE VIR DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN TWEE WINDENERGIE PROJEKTE NABY LAINGSBURG, DIREK OP EN TEENAAN DIE NOORDKAAP-WESKAAP GRENSLYN.

In gevolge die vereistes voortgelê deur gedeelte 41 (2)(b), artikel 24 in terme van die Omgewingsimpakbepaling (OIB) Regulasies (2014), vasgestel deur die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur (Wet Nr 107 van 1998) soos gewysig, is ons vereis om "die inwoner van die perseël en die eienaar of persoon in beheer van die perseël waar die voorgestelde aktiwiteit onderneem sal word, of enige alternatiewe terrein waar die aktiwiteit onderneem sal word" in kennis te stel, sowel as skriftelike kennisgewing te lewer aan "die eienaar, persone in beheer van, en bewoners van grond aangrensend die terrein waar die aktiwiteit is of onderneem gaan word, of enige alternatiewe terrein waar die aktiwiteit onderneem staan te word". In ooreenstemming met hierdie vereiste, vind asseblief hierdie brief van kennisgewing vir 'n omgewingsimpakstudie, uitgevoer deur 'EOH Coastal en Environmental Services', ten opsigte van die bogenoemde projek.

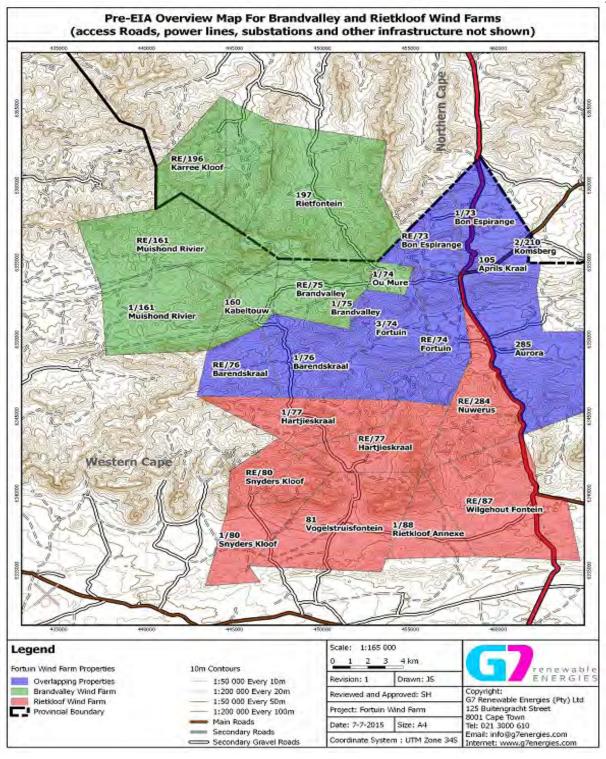
G7 Renewable Energies (Edms) Bpk beoog om twee 140 MW windenergie fasiliteite (wind plase) naby Laingsburg te bou, op die grens van die Noord-Kaap en Wes-Kaap Provinsie in Suid-Afrika. Die voorgestelde projek sal op verskeie gedeeltes van die noordelike en suidelike gebiede van die Karoo Hoogland Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, die Witzenberg Plaaslike Munisipaliteit (Ceres), en die Laingsburg Plaaslike Munisipaliteit geleë wees, onderskeidelik vervat binne die Namakwa Distrik Munisipaliteit, die Kaapse Wynland Distriksmunisipaliteit en die Sentraal Karoo Distriksmunisipaliteit. Die voorgestelde projek behels die konstruksie en bedryf van ongeveer 100 windenergie turbines, elke met 'n opwek kapasiteit van 2-4MW, met 'n totale opwekkingsvermoë van ongeveer 280MW.

- ➤ EOH Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) Kaapstad, is aangestel deur G7 Renewable Energies (Edms) Bpk ten einde die Omvangsbepaling en twee Omgewingsimpakstudies vir die voorgestelde ontwikkeling uit te voer. Die aktiwiteite wat ons glo veroorsaak sal word deur die voorgestelde ontwikkeling, word in die aansoek, en die Agtergrondinligtingsdokument (AID), albei hieraan geheg, bevat.
- Ook aangeheg is 'n toestemmingsbrief, wat deur die eienaar of gemagtigde persoon in beheer van die land, voltooi moet word om toestemming te verleen aan die onderneming van 'n OIB op die eiendom, spesifiek gerig op die bogenoemde aktiwiteite. U word vriendelik genooi om die vorm te voltooi en terug te stuur sodra moontelik.
- ➤ EOH CES sal dit hoogs waardeer as u u ontvangs van hierdie kennisgewing met e-pos, faks, telefoon of met pos kan bevestig. Vir meer inligting , skakel gerus die EOH CES kantoor in kaapstad, op die kontak besonderhede hieronder vertoon.

Die Uwe,

Amber Jackson
Omgewingskonsultant

Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report - Appendices



AANDAG: EIENAAR, OF PERSOON IN BEHEER VAN GROND WAAROP DIE VOORGESTELDE AKTIWITEIT SAL GESKIED

RE: TOESTEMMING IN TERME VAN REGULASIE 16(1) VAN DIE NEMA REGULASIES, VIR DIE UITVOERING VAN 'N OMGEWINGSIMPAKSTUDIE VIR DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN TWEE WINDENERGIE PROJEKTE NABY LAINGSBURG, DIREK OP EN TEENAAN DIE NOOR-KAAP EN WES-KAAP PROVINSIALE GRENS, SUID-AFRIKA.

'G7 Renewable Energies' (Edms) Bpk beoog om twee 140 MW windenergie fasiliteite (wind plase) naby Laingsburg te bou en te bedryf, op die provinsiale grens van die Noord en Wes Kaap in Suid-Afrika. Die voorgestelde projek behels die konstruksie en bedryf van ongeveer 100 wind turbines, elke met 'n opwek kapasiteit van 2-4MW, met 'n totale opwekkingsvermoë van ongeveer 280MW.

Hierdie vorm moet voltooi word deur die eienaar of gemagtigde persoon in beheer van die land, om toestemming te verleen aan die onderneming van 'n OIB op die eiendom, spesifiek gerig op die bogenoemde aktiwiteite.

Eiendom besonderhede
Grondeienaar naam: Eindom gedeelte(s):
Eiendom adress:
Kontak telefoon nommer:
Kontak epos adress:
Die grondeienaar is geregtig om deel te neem in die proses van openbare deelname soos uitgelê in regulasie 54, en sal voorsien word met voldoende inligting om hom/haar in staat te stel om deel te neem aan die proses.
Verklaring
Ek, die ondertekene, ID nommer, synde die eienaar of gemagtigde persone in beheer van die land, erken hiermee dat ek voldoende in kennis gestel is van die voorneme om 'n Omgewingsimpakstudie te onderneem op die bogenoemde eiendom/me, en van my reg om deel te neem in die proses van openbare deelname. Hiermee gee ek toestemming tot die onderneming van die voorgestelde aktiwiteite, wat die onderwerp van 'n OIB-proses vir die voorgestelde windplaas is (onderhewig aan omgewingsmagtiging sal wees).
Handtekening: Datum:
Addisionele kommentaar:

C3.2 LETTER OF NOTIFICATION SENT TO OCCUPIERS OF LAND IMMEDIATELY SURROUNDING AND WITHIN 5KMS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT.



27 August 2014

To whom it may concern

ATTENTION: OWNERS AND/OR OCCUPIERS OF LAND IMMEDIATELY SURROUNDING OR WITHIN 5KM RADIUS OF FARMS INVOLVED IN PROJECT

NOTIFICATION: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED BRANDVALLEY AND RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITIES, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES, SOUTH AFRICA.

In accordance with the requirements of section 41 (b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2014) made in terms of section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to give written notice to the owner or person in control of the land where the activity is to take place. In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by EOH Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd and Rietkloof Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd (subsidiaries of G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd) propose constructing two (2) 140MW wind energy facilities (wind farms) near Laingsburg, on the border of the Northern and Western Cape Province, South Africa. The proposed project will be located on various portions of land across the Karoo Hoogland, the Witzenberg (Ceres) and the Laingsburg Local Municipalities, which fall within the Namakwa, the Cape Winelands and the Central Karoo District Municipalities, respectively. The proposed facilities will comprise of 50 turbines on each wind farm, generating 2-4MW of power per turbine with a total maximum generating capacity of approximately 140MW per wind farm.

In accordance with the EIA regulations, the proposed development will require a full Scoping and EIA process. The National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) will be the decision making authority for this application.

- > EOH Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) have been appointed by G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd, to conduct the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessments for the proposed development.
- > Following the release of the Scoping and EIA report a public meeting will be held to present the project and to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed development. You will be notified of the date, time and venue for the public meeting accordingly.
- > EOH CES would appreciate it if you could **confirm** your **receipt** of this notification via email, fax,

For more information, please feel free to contact me at the EOH CES Cape Town office numbers shown below.

Yours sincerely,

Belinda Huddy

Environmental Consultant

Directors: AM Avis (MD), A Bohbot and JW King

Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd Tel: +27 21 045 0900 The Point, Suite 408, 4th floor, 76 Regent Road

Sea Point, 8000, Cape Town, South Africa www.eoh.co.za | www.cesnet.co.za

reg no: 2012/151672/07

C3.3. LETTERS OF NOTIFICATION SENT TO ORGANS OF STATE, KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND OTHER IA&Ps.



27 August 2015

Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning Directorate; Development Facilitation Private Bag X9086, Cape Town, 8000

NOTIFICATION: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED BRANDVALLEY AND RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITIES, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES, SOUTH AFRICA.

In accordance with the requirements of section 41 (2) (b) (v) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2014) made in terms of section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to, "give written notice to any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity". In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by EOH Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd and Rietkloof Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd (subsidiaries of G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd) propose constructing two (2) 140MW wind energy facilities (wind farms) near Laingsburg, on the border of the Northern and Western Cape Province, South Africa. The proposed project will be located on various portions of land across the Karoo Hoogland, the Witzenberg (Ceres) and the Laingsburg Local Municipalities, which fall within the Namakwa, the Cape Winelands and the Central Karoo District Municipalities, respectively. The proposed facilities will comprise of 50 turbines on each wind farm, generating 2-4MW of power per turbine with a total maximum generating capacity of approximately 140MW per wind farm.

In accordance with the EIA regulations, the proposed development will require a full Scoping and EIA process. The National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) will be the decision making authority for this application.

- EOH Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) have been appointed by G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd, to conduct the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessments for the proposed development.
- Following the release of the Scoping and EIA report a public meeting will be held to present the project and to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed development. You will be notified of the date, time and venue for the public meeting accordingly.
- EOH CES would appreciate it if you could confirm your receipt of this notification via email, fax, phone or post.

For more information, please feel free to contact me at the EOH CES Cape Town office numbers shown below

Yours sincerely,

Belinda Huddy Environmental Consultant

Consulting | Technology | Outsourcing Directors, AM Avis (MD), A Bohbol and JW King Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd Tei: -27 21 945 0850: The Point, Sulle 409, 4° floor, 76 Regent Road Sea Point, 8000, Cape Town, South Africa www.ooh.co.za | www.cesnet.co.za reg.soc.2012/151672/07



27 August 2015

Department of Environment and Nature Conservation Director: Environmental Quality Management Private Bag X6120 Kimberley 8300

NOTIFICATION: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED BRANDVALLEY AND RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITIES, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES, SOUTH AFRICA.

In accordance with the requirements of section 41 (2) (b) (v) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2014) made in terms of section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to, "give written notice to any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity". In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by EOH Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

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In accordance with the EIA regulations, the proposed development will require a full Scoping and EIA process. The National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) will be the decision making authority for this application.

- EOH Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) have been appointed by G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd, to conduct the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessments for the proposed development.
- Following the release of the Scoping and EIA report a public meeting will be held to present the project and to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed development. You will be notified of the date, time and venue for the public meeting accordingly.
- EOH CES would appreciate it if you could confirm your receipt of this notification via email, fax, phone or post.

For more information, please feel free to contact me at the EOH CES Cape Town office numbers shown below.

Yours sincerely,

Belinda Huddy Environmental Consultant

Consulting | Technology | Outsourcing
Directors: AM Avia (MD), A Bohbor and JW King

Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd Tel; +27.21.045.0800, 10 The Poles, Suite 406, 4th floor, 76 Regent Road, See Point, 6000, Cape Town, South Africa www.eoh.co.za | www.coanet.co.za rep no: 2012/15167/207



27 August 2014

To whom it may concern

NOTIFICATION: <u>ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED BRANDVALLEY AND RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITIES, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES, SOUTH AFRICA.</u>

In accordance with the requirements of section 41 (2) (b) (v) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2014) made in terms of section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to, "give written notice to any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity". In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by EOH Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd and Rietkloof Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd (subsidiaries of G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd) propose constructing two (2) 140MW wind energy facilities (wind farms) near Laingsburg, on the border of the Northern and Western Cape Province, South Africa. The proposed project will be located on various portions of land across the Karoo Hoogland, the Witzenberg (Ceres) and the Laingsburg Local Municipalities, which fall within the Namakwa, the Cape Winelands and the Central Karoo District Municipalities, respectively. The proposed facilities will comprise of 50 turbines on each wind farm, generating 2-4MW of power per turbine with a total maximum generating capacity of approximately 140MW per wind farm.

In accordance with the EIA regulations, the proposed development will require a full Scoping and EIA process. The National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) will be the decision making authority for this application.

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- Following the release of the Scoping and EIA report a public meeting will be held to present the project and to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed development. You will be notified of the date, time and venue for the public meeting accordingly.
- EOH CES would appreciate it if you could confirm your receipt of this notification via email, fax, phone or post.

For more information, please feel free to contact me at the EOH CES Cape Town office numbers shown below.

Yours sincerely,

Belinda Huddy

Environmental Consultant

Consulting | Technology | Outnourcing Directors: AM Avis (MD), A Bohbol and JW (Ong Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd Tel: ±27.21 645 0900 The Point, Suite 408, 4" floor, 76 Regent Rourd Seg Point, 6000, Cape Town, South Africal www.eoh.co.za | www.cesnet.co.za reg no: 2012/15167/207



19 October 2015

Dear Interested and Affected Parties

NOTIFICATION: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED BRANDVALLEY AND RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITIES, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES, SOUTH AFRICA.

In accordance with the requirements of section 41 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2014) made in terms of section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to notify all Interested and Affected Parties. In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental basic assessment being carried out by EOH Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd and Rietkloof Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd (subsidiaries of G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd) propose constructing two (2) 140MW wind energy facilities (wind farms) near Laingsburg, on the border of the Northern and Western Cape Province, South Africa. The proposed project will be located on various portions of land across the Karoo Hoogland, the Witzenberg (Ceres) and the Laingsburg Local Municipalities, which fall within the Namakwa, the Cape Winelands and the Central Karoo District Municipalities, respectively. The proposed facilities will comprise of 50 turbines on each wind farm, generating 2-4MW of power per turbine with a total maximum generating capacity of approximately 140MW per wind farm.

In accordance with the EIA regulations, the proposed development will require a full Scoping and EIA process. The National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) will be the decision making authority for this application.

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- Following the release of the Scoping and EIA report a public meeting will be held to present the project and to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed development. You will be notified of the date, time and venue for the public meeting accordingly.
- EOH CES would appreciate it if you could confirm your receipt of this notification via email, fax, phone or post.

For more information, please feel free to contact me at the EOH CES Cape Town office numbers shown below.

Yours sincerely,

Consulting | Technology | Outnourcing Directors: AM Avis (MD), A Bohbol and JW King Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd Tol: +27 21 045 0900 The Point, Suite 400, Ath floor, 76 Regent Roud Sea Point, 8000, Cape Town, South Africa www.eoh.co.za i ywww.ceanet.co.za reg no: 2012/15167207



10 July 2015

To whom it may concern

ATTENTION: OWNER OR PERSON IN CONTROL OF THE LAND WHERE THE ACTIVITY IS TO BE UNDERTAKEN

NOTIFICATION: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF TWO WIND ENERGY PROJECTS NEAR LAINGSBURG ON THE BORDER OF THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA.

In accordance with the requirements of section 41 (2) (b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2014) made in terms of section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to notify, "the occupier of the site and the owner or person in control of the site where the activity is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken" as well as give written notice to "owner, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken." In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by EOH Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd is proposing to construct two 140MW wind energy facilities (wind farms) near Laingsburg on the border of the Northern and Western Cape Province in South Africa. The proposed project will be located on Northern and Southern sections of various portions within the Karoo Hoogland, the Witzenberg (Ceres) and the Laingsburg Local Municipalities, which fall within the Namakwa District Municipality, the Cape Winelands District Municipality and the Central Karoo District Municipality, respectively. The proposed project will entail the construction and operation of approximately 100 wind turbines, each generating 2-4MW of power with a total generating capacity of approximately 280MW.

- EOH Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) of Cape-Town have been appointed by G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd, to conduct Scoping and two Environmental Impact Assessments for the proposed development. The activities that we believe will be triggered by the proposed development are listed in the application and the Background Information Document (BID) that is attached to this letter.
- Attached is a consent form to be completed by the owner or authorized person in control of the land to provide consent for the undertaking of an EIA on the property for the purpose of the above-mentioned activities. Kindly complete and return the form at your earliest convenience.
- EOH CES would highly appreciate it if you could confirm your receipt of this notification via email, fax, phone or post. For more information, please feel free to contact me at the EOH CES Cape Town office numbers shown below.

Yours sincerely,

Amber Jackson

Environmental Consultant

Consulting | Technology | Outsourcing Directors: AM Avik (MD): A Robbot and JW King Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd tel: +27 46 622 2364 | Tax: +27 46 622 3564 76 Regent Road The Point / Checkers Centre, Sea Point Cape Town, 8005 , South Africa www.sch.co.za | www.cesnet.co.za reg no: 2012/151672/07



27 August 2014

To whom it may concern

ATTENTION: OWNERS AND/OR OCCUPIERS OF LAND IMMEDIATELY SURROUNDING OR WITHIN 5KM RADIUS OF FARMS INVOLVED IN PROJECT

NOTIFICATION: <u>ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED BRANDVALLEY AND RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITIES, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES, SOUTH AFRICA.</u>

In accordance with the requirements of section 41 (b) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2014) made in terms of section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to give written notice to the owner or person in control of the land where the activity is to take place. In accordance with this requirement, please find herewith a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by EOH Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd and Rietkloof Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd (subsidiaries of G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd) propose constructing two (2) 140MW wind energy facilities (wind farms) near Laingsburg, on the border of the Northern and Western Cape Province, South Africa. The proposed project will be located on various portions of land across the Karoo Hoogland, the Witzenberg (Ceres) and the Laingsburg Local Municipalities, which fall within the Namakwa, the Cape Winelands and the Central Karoo District Municipalities, respectively. The proposed facilities will comprise of 50 turbines on each wind farm, generating 2-4MW of power per turbine with a total maximum generating capacity of approximately 140MW per wind farm.

In accordance with the EIA regulations, the proposed development will require a full Scoping and EIA process. The National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) will be the decision making authority for this application.

- EOH Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) have been appointed by G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd, to conduct the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessments for the proposed development.
- Following the release of the Scoping and EIA report a public meeting will be held to present the project and to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed development. You will be notified of the date, time and venue for the public meeting accordingly.
- > EOH CES would appreciate it if you could confirm your receipt of this notification via email, fax phone or post

For more information, please feel free to contact me at the EOH CES Cape Town office numbers shown below.

Yours sincerely,

Belinda Huddy Environmental Consultant

Consulting | Technology | Oursourcing
Directors: AM Avia (MD), A Bohbol and JW King

Coastal and Environmental Services (Pky) Ltd Tet: +27 21 045 0800 The Point, Suite 406, 4th floor, 76 Regent Road Sea Point, 8000, Cape Town, South Africa www.eoh.so.za | www.cesnet.co.za reg no: 2012/151072077

C3.4. LETTER OF NOTIFICATION OF RELEASE OF DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR PUBLIC **REVIEW SENT TO ALL IA&Ps.**



25 January 2016

Dear Interested and Affected Party,

NOTIFICATION: RELEASE OF DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES, SOUTH AFRICA.

Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd, subsidiary of G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd, are proposing to construct a wind energy facility (WEF) also referred to as a wind farm, with an energy generating capacity of up to 140MW, near Laingsburg on the border of the Northern and Western Cape Provinces in South Africa. The proposed Brandvalley WEF is located within the Namakwa, the Cape Winelands and the Central Karoo District Municipalities. The proposed project will entail the construction and operation of up to 70 potential wind turbines each generating between 1.5MW and 4MW in capacity, each with a foundation of 25m in diameter and 4m in depth.

An application to apply for Environmental Authorisation will be undertaken through an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), as amended.

In accordance with the requirements of Regulation 41 of the EIA Regulations (2014) made in terms of section 24 of the NEMA, EOH Coastal & Environmental Services (EOH CES) would like to notify I&APs of the release of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) for public review and comment. The review period is from 25 January 2016 until 23 February 2016. Please ensure that comments are submitted on or before 23 February 2016.

The full DSR can be accessed from:

- Copies of the Draft Scoping Report will be available for review at the following locations:
- Laingsburg Public Library (Van Riebeeck Street, Laingsburg).
- Touw River Public Library (Corner Jane and Logan Streets Touws River).
- Electronic copies available on the link (http://data.g7energies.com/eia/brandvalley and http://www.cesnet.co.za/public-documents.html).

A public meeting will be held for all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to find out more information on the proposed projects, to raise any issues and to pose questions to the project team.

Could aid Engrammatil Services (Pty) Ltd.

Survey See Free Proceedings of the Contract of

www.eoh.co.za | www.cesnet.co.za Description of the last of the



Coastal & Environmental Services

When: Thursday the 11th February 2016 Where: Laingsburg Flood Museum Auditorium

Time: The Project Team will be available at the venue from 15:00 to 18:00 for an Open

House and 18:00 to 19:30 for a Public Meeting.

For more information, please feel free to contact the undersigned at the EOH CES Cape Town office numbers shown below.

Yours sincerely,

Belinda Huddy

Environmental Consultant

T - JULY 040 0400 THE PROPERTY AND LOCATION AND L

www.eoh.co.za | www.cesnet.co.za

C3.5. LETTER OF NOTIFICATION OF EXTENTION OF COMMENT PERIOD FOR DRAFT SCOPING REPORT PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD SENT TO ALL I&APS TO WHICH THE NOTIFICATION EMAIL BOUNCED.



Coastal & Environmental Services

04 February 2016

Dear Interested and Affected Party,

NOTIFICATION: EXTENSION OF PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD FOR RELEASE OF DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES, SOUTH AFRICA.

Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd, subsidiary of G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd, are proposing to construct a wind energy facility (WEF) also referred to as a wind farm, with an energy generating capacity of up to 140MW, near Laingsburg on the border of the Northern and Western Cape Provinces in South Africa. The proposed Brandvalley WEF is located within the Namakwa, the Cape Winelands and the Central Karoo District Municipalities. The proposed project will entail the construction and operation of up to 70 potential wind turbines each generating between 1.5MW and 4MW in capacity, each with a foundation of 25m in diameter and 4m in depth.

In accordance with the requirements of Regulation 41 of the EIA Regulations (2014) made in terms of section 24 of the NEMA, EOH Coastal & Environmental Services (EOH CES) would like to remind I&APs of the release of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) for public review and comment.

In reference to previous correspondence, dated 29 January 2016, please note that the comment period has been extended to Monday 29 February 2016.

The full DSR can be accessed from:

- Copies of the Draft Scoping Report will be available for review at the following locations:
- Laingsburg Public Library (Van Riebeeck Street, Laingsburg).
- Touw River Public Library (Corner Jane and Logan Streets Touws River).
- Electronic copies available on the link (http://data.g7energies.com/eia/brandvalley and http://www.cesnet.co.za/public-documents.html).

A public meeting will be held for all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to find out more information on the proposed projects, to raise any issues and to pose questions to the project team.

When: Thursday the 11th February 2016

Where: Laingsburg Flood Museum Auditorium

Time: The Project Team will be available at the venue from 15:00 to 18:00 for an Open House and 18:00 to 19:30 for a Public Meeting.

For more information, please feel free to contact the undersigned at the EOH CES Cape Town office numbers shown below.

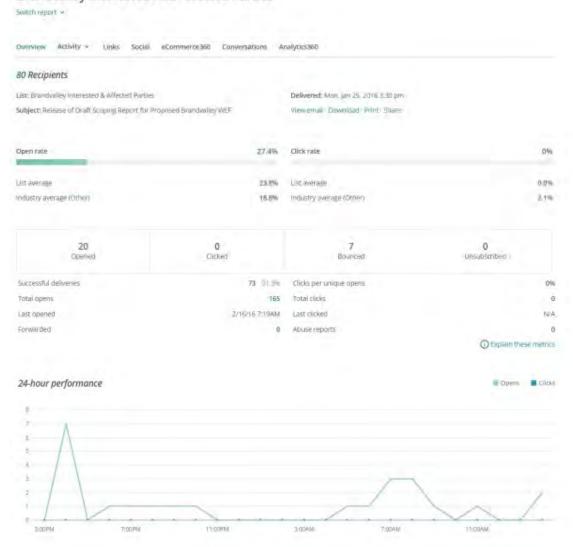
Dental and Environmental Services (Fly. 136)

On Part Service Inc. Or an extent of the Territory

www.soli.co.za | www.cesnet.co.za

C3.6. PROOF OF NOTIFICATION OF RELEASE OF DRAFT SCOPING REPORT.

Brandvalley Interested And Affected Parties

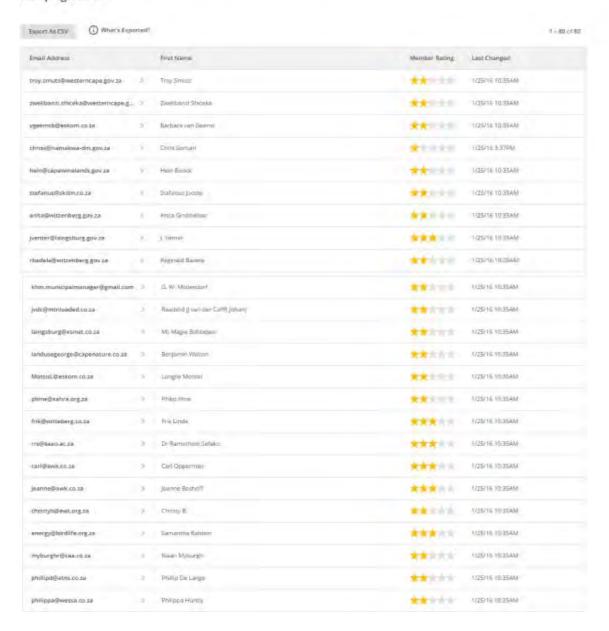


Brandvalley Interested And Affected Parties

Switch report 8



Campaign sent



Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report – Appendices

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lourense@nra.co.za	×	Elma Louren	***	1/25/16 10:35AM
demo@lafrica.com	è	Mr. Koss Saarnans, Riespoort Trust	***	1/25/16 10/35AM
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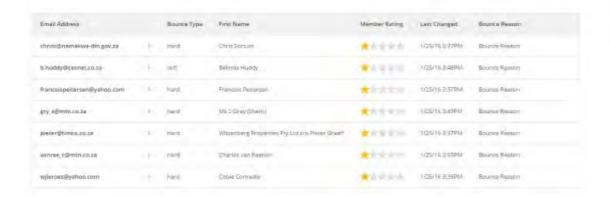
Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report – Appendices

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jcstadler17@gmail.com	>	Kobus Stadler	*****	1/25/16 10:35AM
john@pointbreak.com.na	>	John H Hamman	***	1/25/16 10:35AM
joseph.padbury@gmail.com	5	Joseph Radbury	*****	1/25/16 10:35AM
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Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report - Appendices

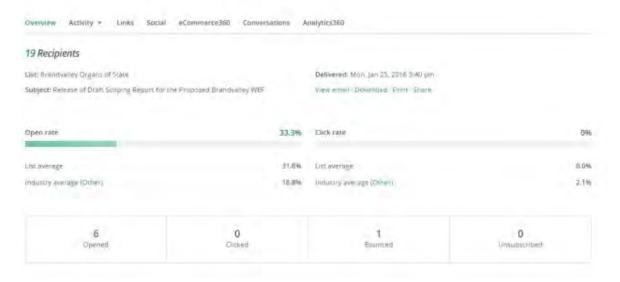
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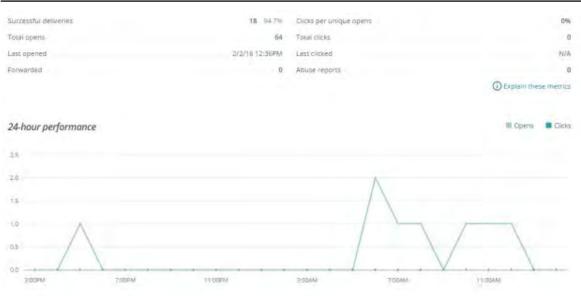




Brandvalley Organs Of State

Switch report *



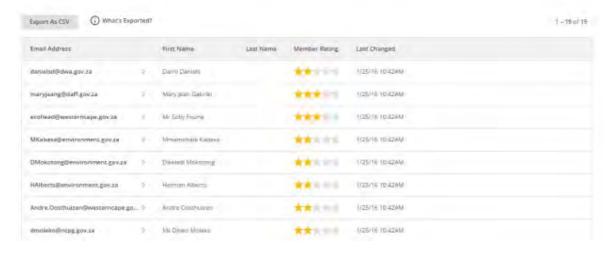


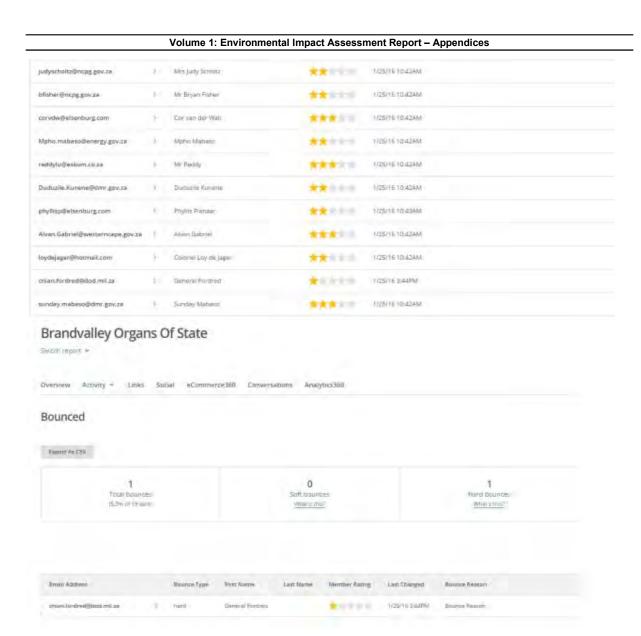
Brandvalley Organs Of State

Switch report *



Campaign sent





REGISTERED MAIL TO I&APs WITHOUT EMAIL ADDRESSED ON THE DATABASE - 25 January 2016

List of REGISTERED LETTERS Lys van GEREGISTREERDE BRIEWE (with an insurance option/met 'n versekeringsopsie) Full tracking and tracing/Volledige volg en spoor Name and address of sender: EOH (ocutor) 3 Environmental Servica Enquiries/Navrae Naam en adres van afsender:.... ShareCall SUITE 408 4th Floor, The Point, 76 number/nommer 0800 111 502 www.postoffice.co.za Insured Insurance Affix Track and Trace Name and address of addressee Postage Service fee customer copy Versekerde Verseke-Plak Volg-en-Spoor-Kliëntafskrif Naam en adres van geadresseerde Posgeld Diensgeld bedrag ringsgeld Aletta du Piessiv REGISTERED LETTER ith a domestic insurance option recall 0860 111 502 www.sapo.co RC 064 627 963 ZA POBOX TO TOUW RINT 6880 CUSTOMER COPY 301028R REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option) ShareCall 0860 111 502 www.sepo.co.t RC 064 627 977 ZA NEGIZ MILLE LUZO PO Box 156 Lainguburg 6900 CUSTOMER COPY 301028R REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option) State Cell 0860 115 502 www.sapo.co.zs RC 064 627 946 ZA MS Alta 10 ROUX 89 Erasmus Av. Centurion 0157 CUSTOMER COPY 301028R Josef Martinus 10 Rues REGISTERED LETTER RC 064 627 950 ZA 22 HOSPITOI STreet 6900 CUSTOMER COPY 301028R Pieter and Marina REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option) ShareCall 0850 111 502 www.sapc.co.z. RC 064 627 800 ZA POBOX 183 Langeburg CUSTOMER COPY 301028R 6 7 8 9 10 Total R R R Number of letters posted Totaal Getal briewe gepos Signature of client Handtekening van kliënt.... Date stamp Signature of accepting officer Handtekening van aanneembeampte... The value of the contents of these letters is as indicated and compensation is not payable for a letter received unconditionally. Compensation is limited to nR100,00. No compensation is payable without documentary. proof. Optional insurance of up to R2 000,00 is available and applies to domestic registered letters only. Die waarde van die inhoud van hierdie briewe is soos aangedui en vergoeding sal nie betaal word vir 'n brief wat sonder voorbehoud ontvang word nie. Vergoeding is beperk tot R100,00. Geen vergoeding is sonder Datumstempel dokumentêre bewys betaalbaar nie. Opsionele versekering van tot R2 000,00 is beskikbaar en is slegs op binnelandse geregistreerde briewe van toepassing. 701248

REGISTERED MAIL TO I&APs TO WHOM THE NOTIFICATION EMAIL BOUNCED - 29 January 2016

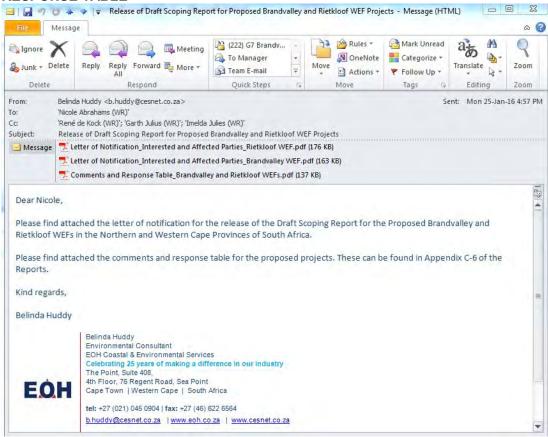
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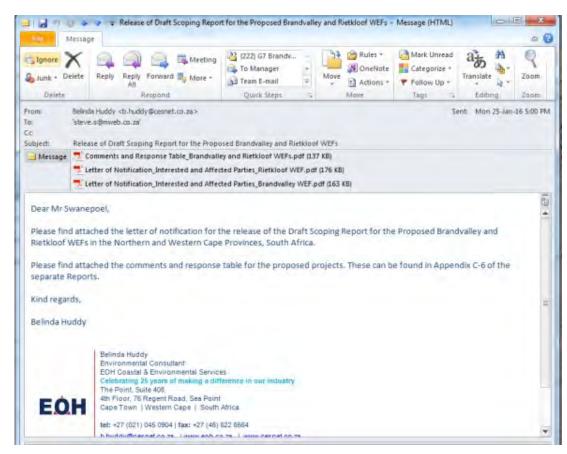
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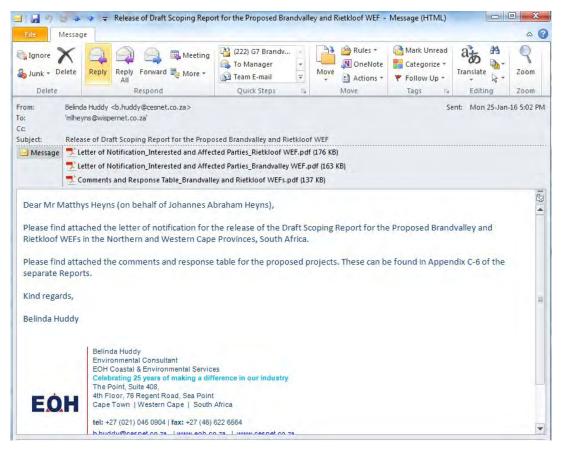
REGISTERED MAIL TO INFORM I&APS TO WHOM THE NOTIFICATION EMAIL BOUNCED TO INFORM THEM OF THE EXTENDED PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD – 03 February 2016

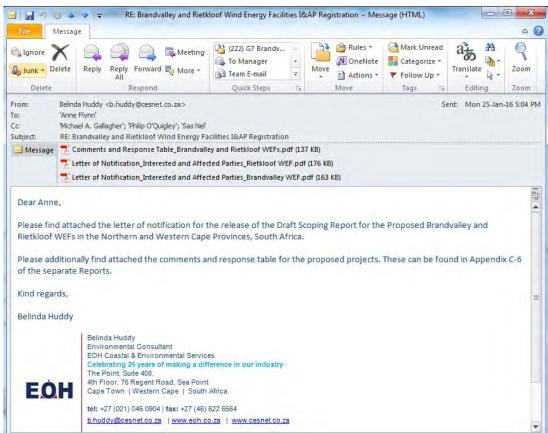
List of REGISTERED LETTERS Lys van GEREGISTREERDE BRIEWE (with an insurance option/met 'n versekeringsopsie) Full tracking and tracing/Volledige volg en spoor Name and address of sender: ECH Coostal & Environmental Services Name en adres van afsender: ECH Coostal & Environmental Services Suite (108) 4th Floor, The Point 76 Regent Road, Sea Point, South Africa, 6005 Enquiries/Navrae ShareCall number/nommer 0800 111 502 www.postoffice.co.za Insurance fee Affix Track and Trace Postage Service fee Name and address of addresses Versekerde bedrag Verseice Plak Volg-en-Spoor-Posgeld Diensgald Naam en adres van geadresseerde ringsgeld REGISTERED LETTER Pieter Grooff RC 064 625 684 ZA CUSTOWER COPY SOIGER PO Box 90 Ceres 6835 REGISTERED LETTER Sett a dosestic conserve out on Cobie Confactie P.O. Box 36 (a RC 064 625 698 ZA CUSTOMER DOPY 191128R Laingsburg REDISTERED LETTER Genine Hector CHSTOWER COPY SHOULD REQUISITERED LETTER RECUSE THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O PO Box 300 Sanom Hof Bellille, 75 Cornnetius' Petrus PO Box 185, Coungsburg, 6900 CUSTOMER COPY SHOUR ā 8 B 9 10 Total R R R Number of letters posted Totaal Getal briewe gapos Signature of client Handtekening van kliënt. Date stamp SEA POINT P.O. Signature of accepting officer Handtekening van aanneemboampte. EB 2013 The value of the contents of these letters is as indicated and compensation is not payable for a letter received unconditionally. Compensation is imited to nRt100,00. No compensation is payable without documentary proof. Optional insurance of up to R2 000,00 is available and applies to domestic registered letters only. COUNTER 2 Die waarde van die inhoud van hierdie briewe is soos aangedui en vargoeding sal nie botaal word vir 'n brief wat sonder voorbehoud ontvang word nie. Vergoeding is beperk tot R100,00. Geen vargoeding is sonder Datumstempel dokumentère bewys betaaibaar nie. Opsionele versukuring van tot R2 000,00 is beskikbear en is slegs op binnelandse geregistraerde briewe van loepassing. 701248

ADDITIONAL EMAILS SENT TO I&APS TO CIRCULATE THE DSR COMMENTS AND RESPONSE TABLE

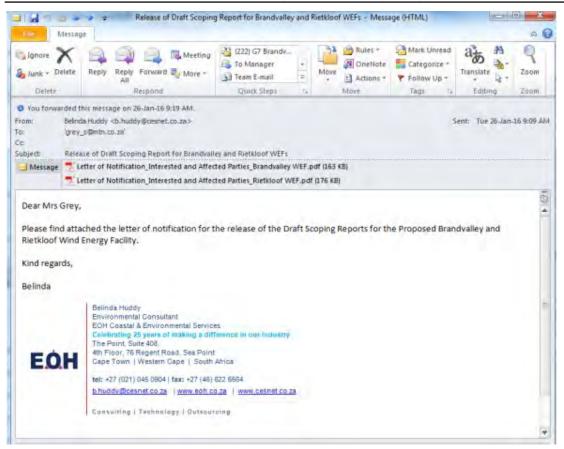


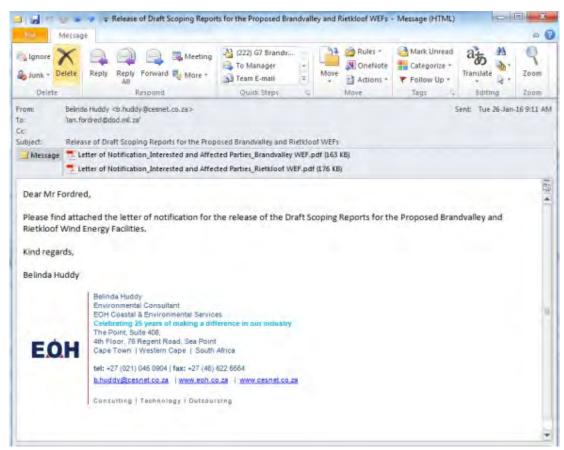




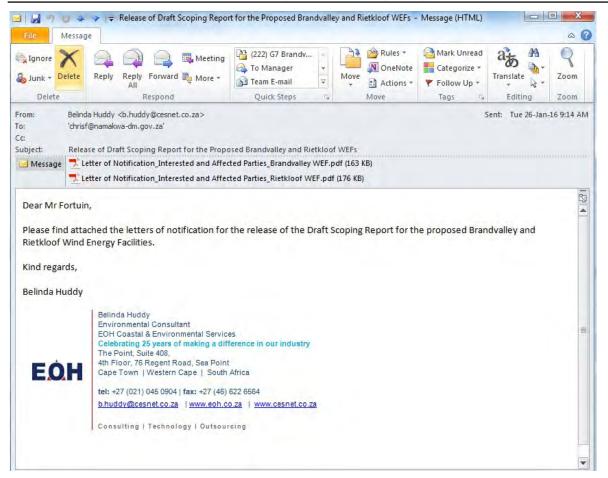


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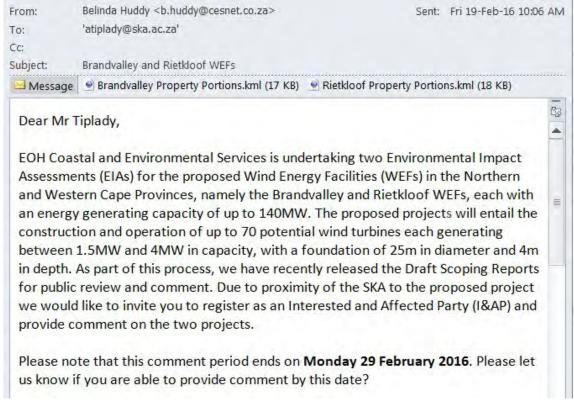




Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report - Appendices



PROOF OF NOTIFICATION SENT TO SKA



The full DSR can be accessed from:

- Copies of the Draft Scoping Report will be available for review at the following locations:
 - o Laingsburg Public Library (Van Riebeeck Street, Laingsburg).
 - Touw River Public Library (Corner Jane and Logan Streets Touws River).
- Electronic copies available on the link (http://data.g7energies.com/eia/brandvalley and http://www.cesnet.co.za/public-documents.html).

I have attached KML files indicating the proposed property portions of the WEFs.

For more information, please feel free to contact me on the contact detail provided below.

Kind regards,

Belinda Huddy

PROOF OF COURIER OF CDs TO ESKOM, AS REQUESTED DURING COMMENT PERIOD FOR DSR.



I&APS REMOVED FROM THE DATABASE AND THE REASONING.

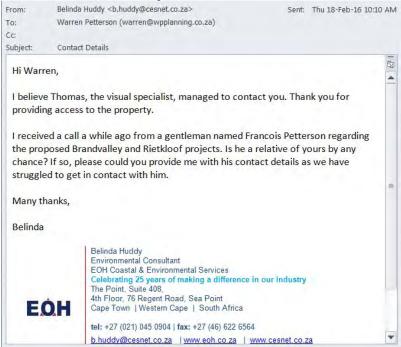
Name	Affiliation	Reason
Witzenberg Properties Pty Ltd/ Pieter Graaff	Hasjes Vley RE/162	No longer a landowner as the property was sold.
Francois Pietersen	I&AP	Contact details provided were incorrect. Attempts have been made to contact him.
Brian Joubert	Cell C	Replaced with Vivian Kiewitz.
General Fordred	Department of Defence/ SA Army	General Fordred has retired. Replaced with Colonel Loy de Jager.
Darril Daniels	Department of Water & Sanitation	Replaced with Mr Fabion Smith

PROOF OF ATTEMPTS TO CONTACT I&APS

Email from Farmer's Association offering to contact members in the area who are affected by the proposed project. The Farmer's Association is registered on the I&AP database and had been informed of the project throughout the process.



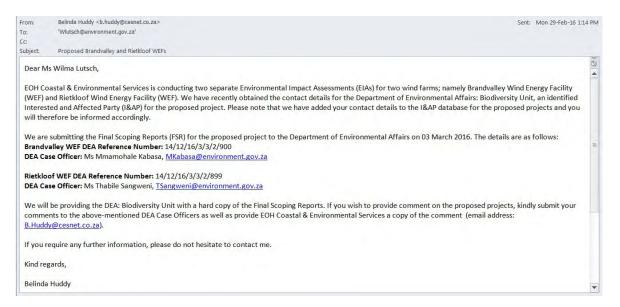
Attempts were made to contact Francois Petterson/Pieterson whose email bounced. Other landowners in the area were additionally contacted for his contact details.





PROOF OF NOTIFICATION SENT TO DEA: BIODIVERSITY UNIT TO INFORM OF SUBMISSION OF FSR

A hard copy of the Final Scoping Report was additionally provided to DEA: Directorate Biodiversity and Conservation.

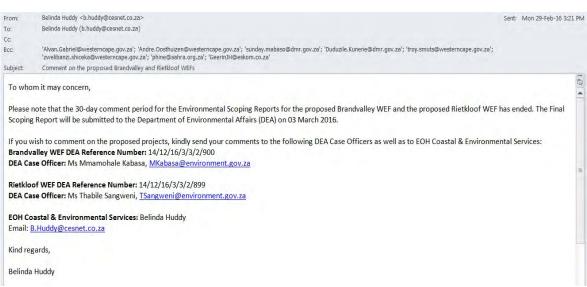


PROOF OF NOTIFICATION SENT TO ORGANS OF STATE TO INFORM OF SUBMISSION OF FINAL SCOPING REPORT

The following Organs of State were notified of the submission of the Final Scoping Report (FSR) and informed that any outstanding comments were to be directed to the DEA:

- Department of Defence
- Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)
- Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)
- Western Cape Department of Agriculture
- Department of Energy
- Department of Economic Development and Tourism
- Department of Science and Technology
- Department of Mineral Resources
- Heritage Western Cape
- South African Heritage Resources Agency

From: Belinda Huddy <b.huddy@cesnet.co.za> Sent: Mon 29-Feb-16 3:15 PM To: Belinda Huddy (b.huddy@cesnet.co.za) CC 'loydejager@hotmail.com'; 'ian.fordred@dod.mil.za'; 'danielsd@dwa.gov.za'; 'maryjeang@daff.gov.za'; 'corvdw@elsenburg.com'; 'phyllisp@elsenburg.com'; 'Mpho.mabaso@energy.gov.za'; 'ecohead@westerncape.gov.za'; 'reddylu@eskom.co.za' Bcc: Subject: Comment on the proposed Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs To whom it may concern. Please note that the 30-day comment period for the Environmental Scoping Reports for the proposed Brandvalley WEF and the proposed Rietkloof WEF has ended. The Final Scoping Report will be submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) on 03 March 2016. If you wish to comment on the proposed projects, kindly send your comments to the following DEA Case Officers as well as to EOH Coastal & Environmental Services: Brandvalley WEF DEA Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/900 DEA Case Officer: Ms Mmamohale Kabasa, MKabasa@environment.gov.za Rietkloof WEF DEA Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/899 DEA Case Officer: Ms Thabile Sangweni, <u>TSangweni@environment.gov.za</u> EOH Coastal & Environmental Services: Belinda Huddy Email: B.Huddy@cesnet.co.za Kind regards, Belinda Huddy



C3.7. LETTER OF NOTIFICATION OF RELEASE OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW SENT TO ALL I&APs.



Coastal & Environmental Services

25 May 2016

Dear Interested and Affected Party,

NOTIFICATION: RELEASE OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES, SOUTH AFRICA.

DEA Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/900

In accordance with the requirements of Regulation 41 of the EIA Regulations (2014) made in terms of section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA), EOH Coastal & Environmental Services (EOH CES) would like to notify Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) that the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) is currently available for public review and comment for a 30-day period.

The report can be downloaded from the website at the following link: http://data.g7energies.com/eia/brandvalley.

A hard copy of the report will also be available at the following public libraries:

- Laingsburg Public Library (Van Riebeeck Street, Laingsburg).
- Touws River Public Library (Corner Jane and Logan Streets Touws River).

The review period is from **25 May 2016** until **24 June 2016**. Please ensure that comments are submitted on or before 24 June 2016. For more information, or submission of written comments, please contact by phone, post or email the person below:

A public meeting will be held for all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to find out more information on the proposed projects, to raise any issues and to pose questions to the project team.

When: Wednesday the 22 June 2016

Where: Laingsburg Flood Museum Auditorium

Time: 18:00 to 19:30

For more information, please feel free to contact the undersigned at the EOH CES Cape Town

EOH Coastal and Environmental Services

Attention: Belinda Huddy

Address: The Point, Suite 408, 4th Floor, 76 Regent Road, Sea Point, Cape Town, 8005

Tel: 021 045 0904:

Email: b.huddy@cesnet.co.za

Yours sincerely, Belinda Huddy

Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd T+27 21 045 0900

The Point, Suite 406, 4th Floor, 76 Regent Road, See Point, Cape Town, 3000, South AFrical see no. 2012/151672/07

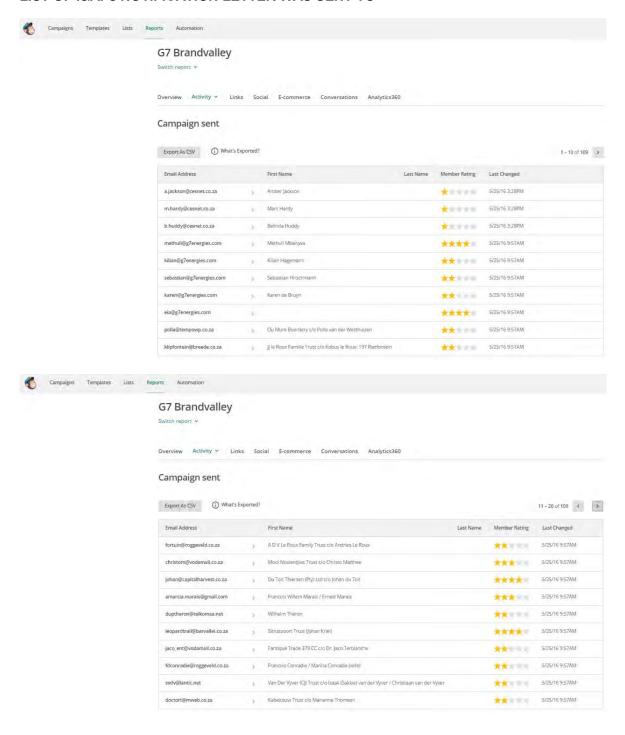
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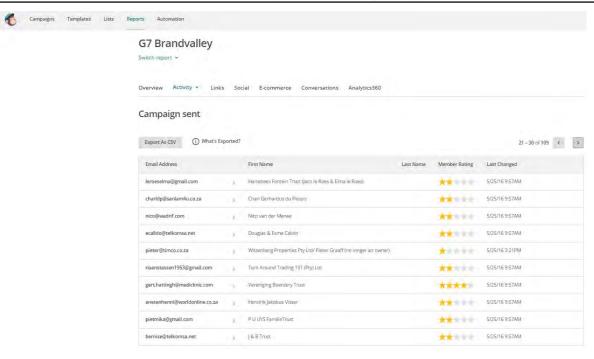
www.eoh.co.za | www.cesnet.co.za

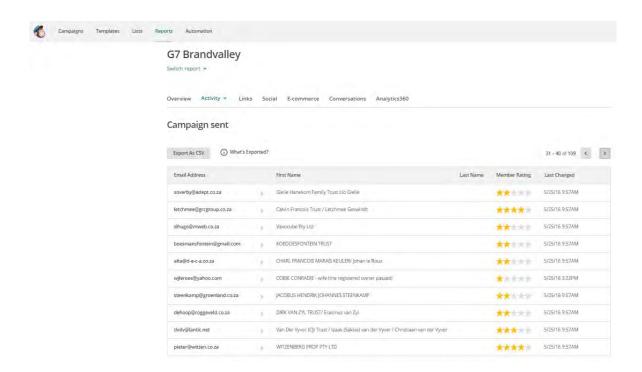
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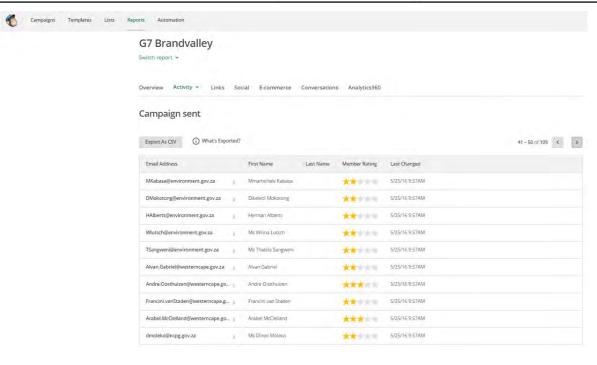
C3.8. PROOF OF NOTIFICATION OF RELEASE OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT.

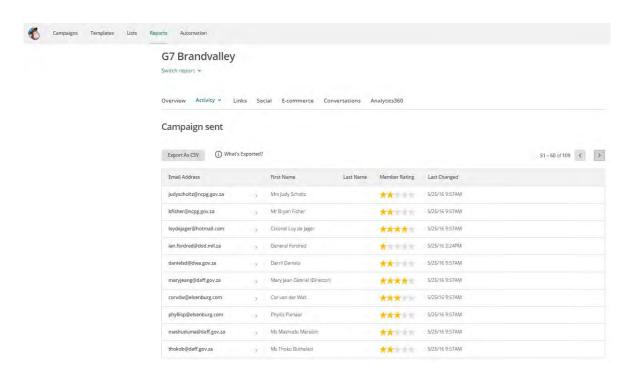
LIST OF I&APS NOTIFICATION LETTER WAS SENT TO

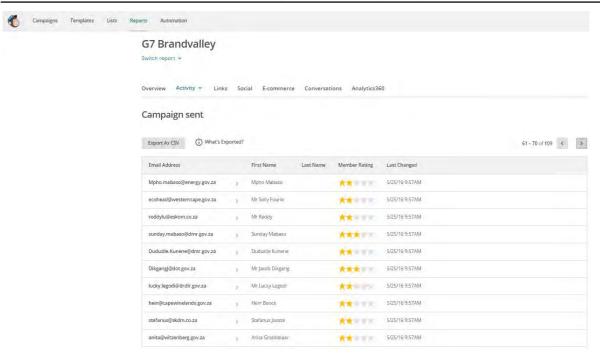


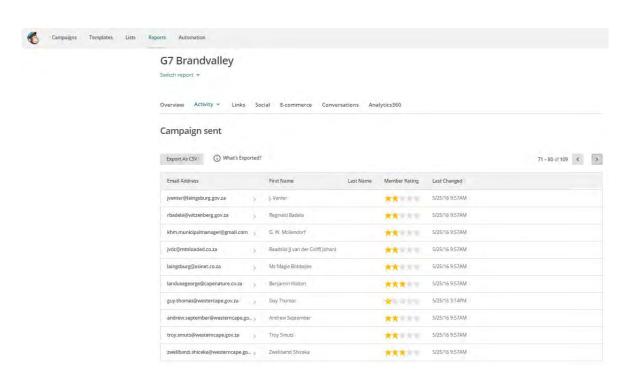


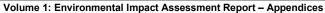


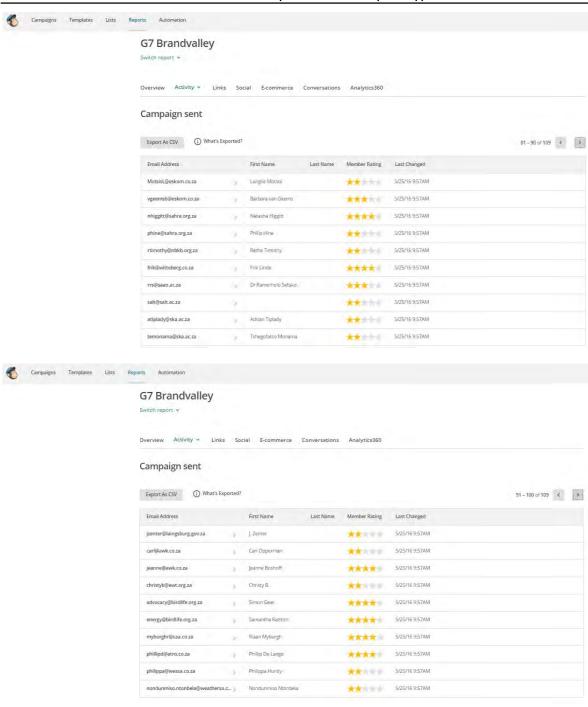




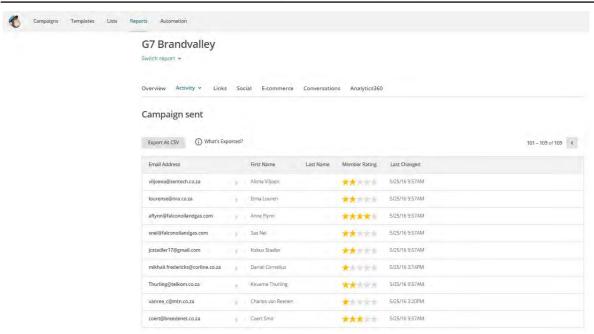








Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report - Appendices



REGISTERED MAIL TO I&APS WITHOUT EMAIL ADDRESSED ON THE DATABASE OR WHOSE EMAIL ADDRESSES BOUNCED - 01 June 2016

List of REGISTERED LETTERS Lys van GEREGISTREERDE BRIEWE

(with an insurance option/met 'n versekeringsopsie)

Full tracking and tracing/Volledige volg en spoor



Name and address of sender: EOH Coastal and Environmental Services. The Point, Suite 408, 4th Floor-76 Regent Road Sea Point, Capo Town

Enquiries/Navrae ShareCall number/nommer 0800 111 502 www.postoffice.co.za

	Name and address of addressee	Insured amount Versekerde	Insurance fee Verseke-	Postage	Service fee	Affix Track and Trace customer copy	
	Naam en adres van geadresseerde	bedrag	ringsgeld	Posgeld	Diensgeld	Plak Volg-en-Spoor- Kliëntafskrif	
1	Marina Conradie					REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option) ShareCall 0860 111 502 www.sapo.co.za RC 064 625 653 ZA	
	PO Box 183 Laingsburg 6900					CHICTOMED CODY THINGS	
2	Pieter Graaff		Ņ I			REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option) ShareCall 0860 111 502 www.sapo.co.z	
	PO Box 92 Ceres 6835						
3	Neels Willemse					REGISTERED LETTER with a domastic insurance opinion in the share Call 0860 111 502 www.sapo.ce RC 064 625 295 ZA	
	PO BOX 156 Laingsburg 6900					CUSTOMER COPY 301028	
4	Cobie Conradio					REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option ShareCall 0860 111 502 www.sapo.co. RC 064 625	
	PO Box 36 Laingsburg 6900					CUSTOMER COPY 3010285	
5	Aletta Jacoba Du Plessis					REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance opties sharecall 9880 111 502 www.sapc.c. RC 064 625 313 ZA	
	PC Box 70 Touws River 6880					CUSTOMER CORY 19402	
6	Daniel Cornelius					REGISTERED LETTER (with a dornestic Insurance option ShareCall 0860 111 502 www.sapo.co. RC 064 625 300 ZA	
	10 dan Smuts Drive Pinelands 7401					CUSTOMER COPY 301028	
7	Mrs Alta le Roux	,				REGISTERED LETTER fwith a domestic insurance option ShareCall 0850 111 502 www.sapc.co.	
-	89 Frasmus Ave Raslouw AH Centurion					RC 064 625 327 ZA	
В	Jozef Martinus Le Rocs					REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option ShareCall 0860 111 502 www.sapo.co.	
0	Hospitalstraat 22 laingsburg 690	0				RC 064 625 335 ZA	
	Crenine Hector					REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option shareCall 0860 111 502 www.sapo.co. RC 064 625 358 ZA	
9	PO BOX 360 Sanlam Hof Bellville 7	532				CUSTOMER COPY 301028R	
0	Cornnelius Petrus					REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option ShareCall 0860 111 502 www.sapo.co. R C 0.64 6.25	
0	Po Box 165 Laingsburg 6900					CUSTOURS CONTRACTOR	
Ī	Total	D	D	D	D	COSTOMER COPY 301028F	
	mber of letters posted tal briewe gepos	R	R	R	R		

Signature of client Handtekening van kliënt...

Signature of accepting officer Handtekening van aanneembeampte.....

The value of the contents of these letters is as indicated and compensation is not payable for a letter received unconditionally. Compensation is limited to nR100,00. No compensation is payable without documentary proof. Optional insurance of up to R2 000,00 is available and applies to domestic registered letters only.

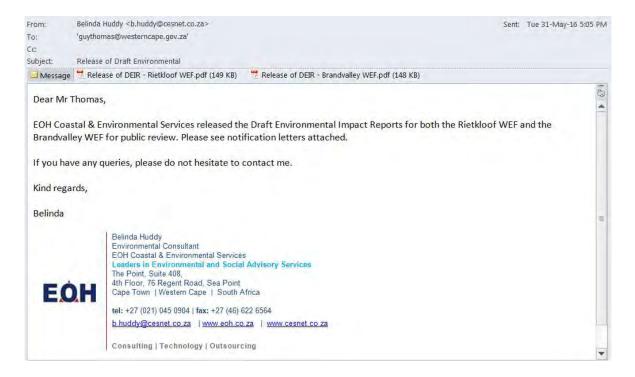
Die waarde van die inhoud van hierdie briewe is soos aangedui en vergoeding sal nie betaal word vir 'n brief wat sonder voorbehoud ontvang word nie. Vergoeding is beperk tot R100,00. Geen vergoeding is sonder dokumentêre bewys betaalbaar nie. Opsionele versekering van tot R2 000,00 is beskikbaar en is slegs op binnelandse geregistreerde briewe van toepassing.



701248

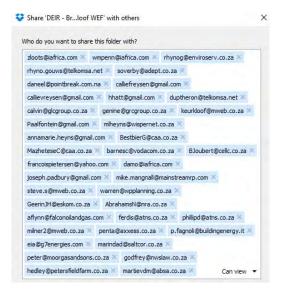
Email Addresses that bounced:



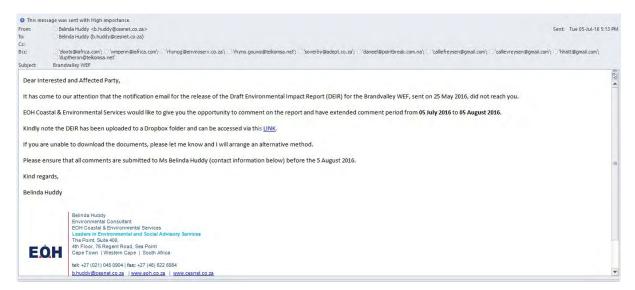


C3.9 RECIRCULATION OF THE DRAFT EIA REPORT TO CORRECT PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FROM

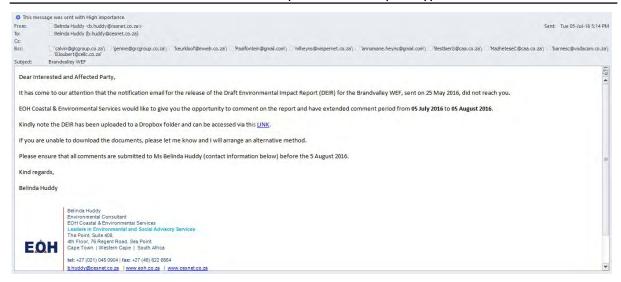
Invitation to Dropbox Link for Brandvalley WEF DEIR to those that did not receive the notification

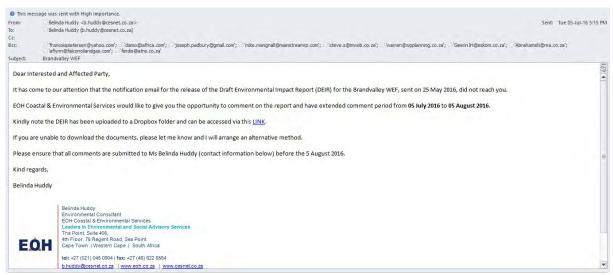


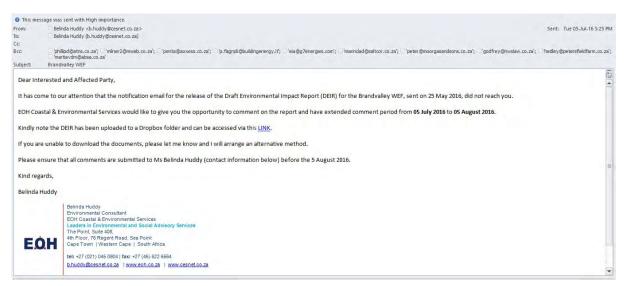
Notification of extension of PPP Period on Draft EIA Report



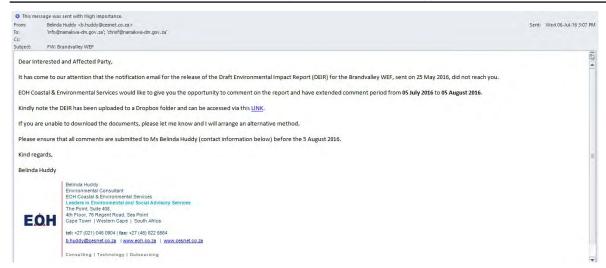
Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report - Appendices

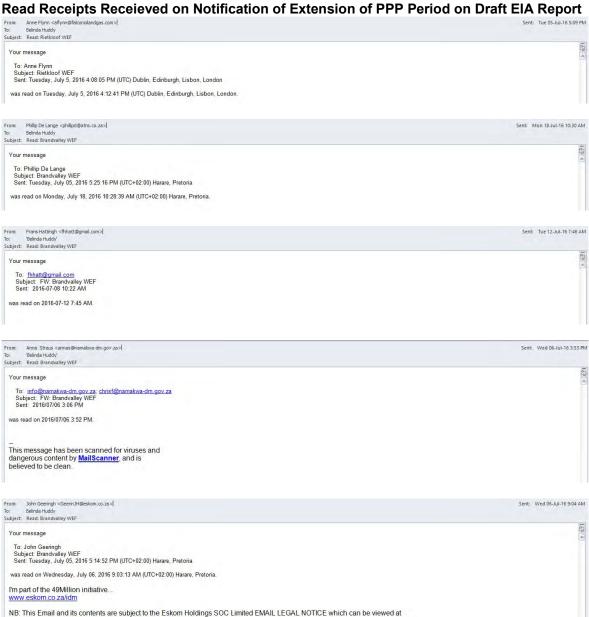






Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report - Appendices



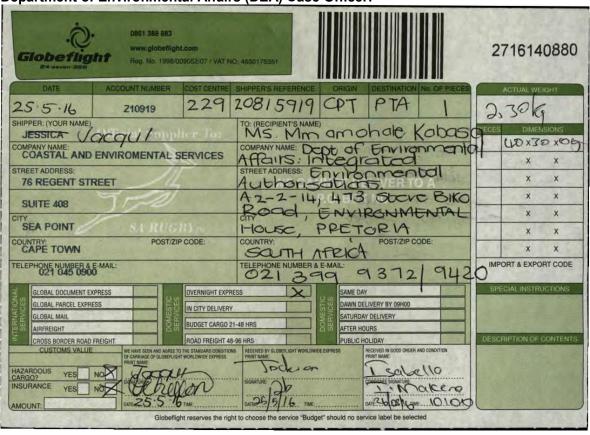


http://www.eskom.co.za/Pages/Email Legal Spam Disclaimer.aspx

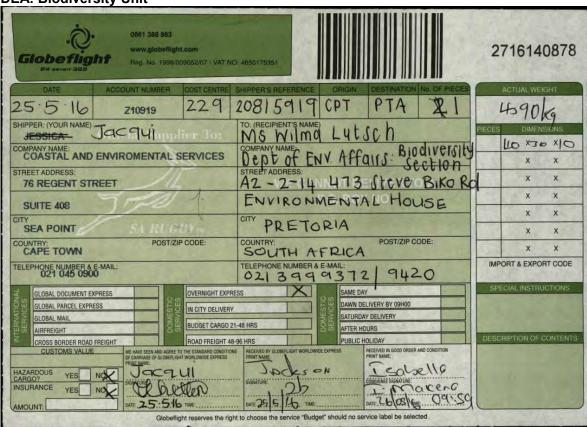
Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report – Appendices



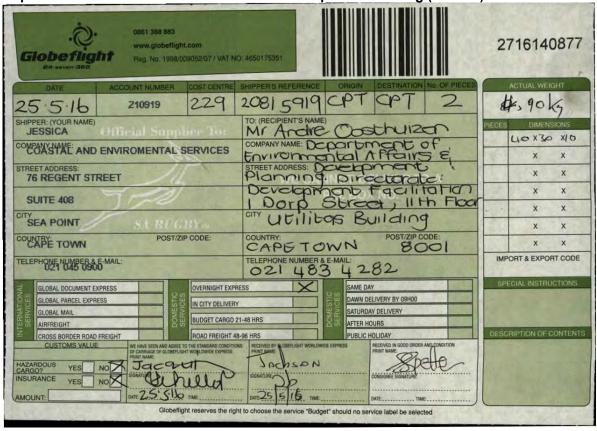
PROOF OF COURIER OF HARD COPIES OF THE DRAFT EIA REPORT Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) Case Officer:



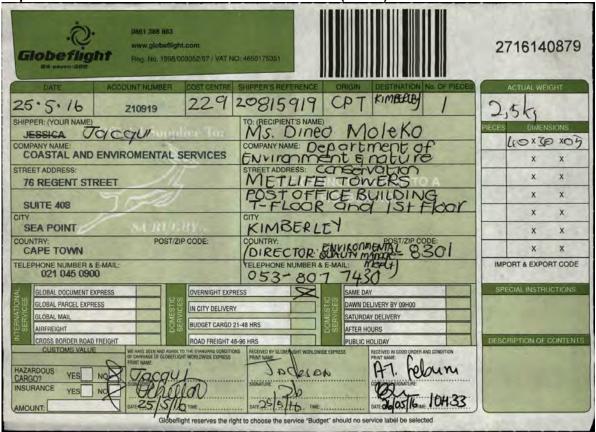
DEA: Biodiversity Unit



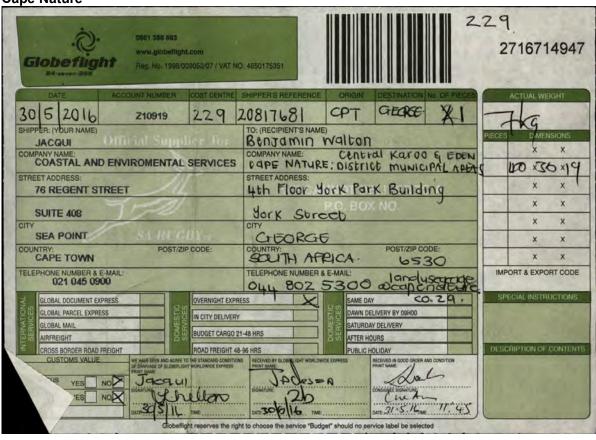
Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&P)



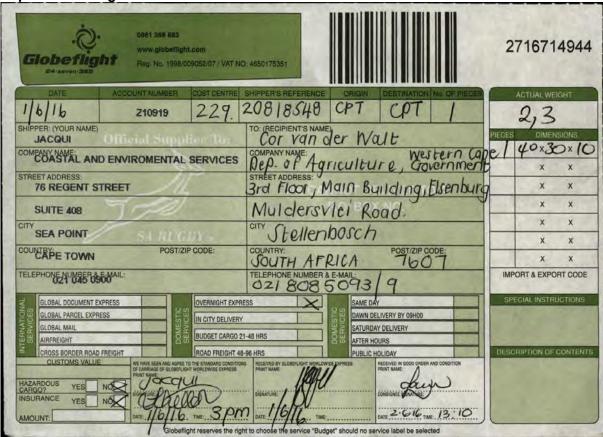
Department of Environment & Nature Conservation (DENC)



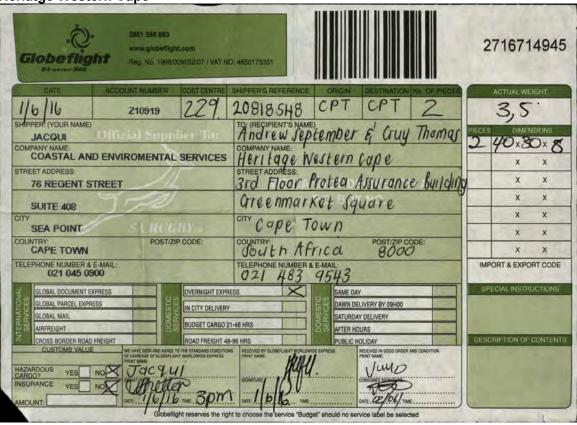
Cape Nature



Department of Agriculture



Heriatge Western Cape



APPENDIX C-4: COPY OF NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS PLACED TO NOTIFY I&APS AT PROJECT INITIATION AND FOR RELEASE OF DSR AND PROOF OF AVAILABILITY OF DSR.

NOTIFYING I&APS OF THE PROPOSED BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY PROJECT:

C4.1 DIE BEELD (PROVINCIAL) – 27 August 2015

OMGEWINGSIMPAKSTUDIE-PROSES

BEOOGDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE BRANDVALLEI- EN RIETKLOOF-WINDENERGIEFASILITEITE IN DIE NOORD-KAAP EN WES-KAAP, SUID-AFRIKA.

Kennis word hiermee gegee ingevolge Regulasie 41 van die Omgewingsimpakstudieregulasies (OIS), gepubliseer in die Staatskoerant-no. 982, No. 38282 van 4 Desember 2014, kragtens artikel 24 (5) van die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur, 1998 (Wet-no. 107 van 1998), met die doel om 'n OIS-proses te inisieer vir die bogenoemde projek.

Voorgestelde Projek: Brandvalley Wind Farm (Edms.) Bpk. en Rietkloof Wind Farm (Edms.) Bpk., beide filiaalmaatskappye van G7 Renewable Energies (Edms.) Bpk., beplan om twee (2) 140 MW-windenergiefasiliteite (windplase) naby Laingsburg op te rig, op die grens van die Noord-Kaap- en Wes-Kaap-provinsies in Suid-Afrika. Die voorgestelde Brandvallei- en Rietkloof-windenergiefasiliteite (WEF) sal geleë wees op die naburige eiendomme van verskeie gedeeltes van die noordelike en suidelike dele van die Karoo Hoogland Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, die Witzenberg (Ceres) Plaaslike Munisipaliteit en die Laingsburg Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, wat onderskeidelik binne die Namakwa-, die Kaapse Wynland- en die Sentraal-Karoo-distriksmunisipaliteite val. Die voorgestelde projek sal die konstruksie en bedryf van ongeveer 50 windturbines, elke met 'n opwekvermoë van 2-4 MW- energie, met 'n gesamentlike opwekkingsvermoë van ongeveer 140 MW per windplaas, behels.

In ooreenstemming met die OIB-regulasies, sal die voorgestelde ontwikkeling 'n volle bestekopname en OIS-proses vereis. G7 Renewable Energies het EOH Coastal and Environmental Services (CES) aangestel om die OIS-proses uit te voer, as onafhanklike konsultante. Die Nasionale Departement van Omgewingsake (DOS) sal die besluitnemende owerheid vir hierdie aansoek wees.



U word hiermee uitgenooi om te registreer as 'n belanghebbende en geaffekteerde party.

Skakel asseblief die projekbestuurder:

Me. Belinda Huddy

The Point, Suite 408, 4^{de} verdieping, Regentweg 76, Seepunt, Kaapstad, 8005;

Tel: 021 045 0904; of e-pos: b.huddy@cesnet.co.za

PROOF OF PLACEMENT



G'n keer aan goue Wayde

VIDEO: Die 23-Jarige Wayde van Niekerk het Woensdag Suld-Afrika se eerste wêreldkamploen in die 400 m (43-48 s) geword. "Jy maak jou pa se hart so bly, het sy stilefpa, Steven Swarts, gesê. Te midde van trane in sy ouerhuls toe thy eerste oor die wenstreep by die Wêreldkam-ploenskap in Belijng hardloop, het sy familielede ook op en af gespring van opgewondenheid.

'Manie Groenewald het Baardskeerdersbos op map gesit' - Liedjieboer

VIDEO: Manie Groenewald, wat verlede week in die ouderdom van 78 oorlede is, is nie net bekend as dle stem van



Baardskeerdersbos-orkes nie, hy Baardskeerdersbos-orkes nie, hy het as't ware die Strandveldse dorpie "op die map gesit"; vertel Anton Goosen. Kom luister na die musiek wat wyle Manie Groe-newald bekend gemaak het,

Beeld

Powerball

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4 + powerball	32	R 15,795.10
4	502	R 383.00
3 + powerbat	1 090	R 361.70
3	20 147	R 18.60
2 + powerball	14 463	R 1120

EQH.



Sy video wys hoe hy 2 op TV skiet

Afgedankte plaas dit op Twitter voor selfdood

Shourt SMS na doors

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Die sideter, Vester Lee Flanagan. Foto: WDBJT, REUTERS

haar familie, haar ouers en haar broer." Parker en Hurst was die afgelo







MEDIA MELDIA OUTEUPSIECE Herdle doarnat is utgegied dur die eiemant, Medicala, Kirgswey 60, Aucdand Dark, Johanmeholog, en is in Americala, Kirgswey 60, Aucdand Dark, Johanmeholog, en is in SuberMinia Operation des principations of Leichter (Poy) Ltd., 83 Herdelberogwest, Edy Deep projeduksuspark, Johannesburg, Genh bridg, artifelt of foto hierin mag sondier verfort vom Metilala gersproducere word nie gropolip 441, 12(7) van ingropolip 441, 12(7) van

C4.2 THE CAPE TIMES (PROVINCIAL) – 27 August 2015

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE BRANDVALLEY AND RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITIES, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES, SOUTH AFRICA.

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations published in the Government Notice No. 982 in Government Gazette No 38282 of 04 December 2014, under Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act 1998 (Act No 107 of 1998) for the intent to undertake EIA processes.

Proposed Project: Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd and Rietkloof Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd, subsidiaries of G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd, are proposing to construct two (2) 140MW wind energy facilities (wind farms) near Laingsburg on the border of the Northern and Western Cape Province in South Africa. The proposed Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEF projects will be located on neighbouring properties on northern and southern sections of various portions of land across the Karoo Hoogland, the Witzenberg (Ceres) and the Laingsburg Local Municipalities, which fall within the Namakwa, the Cape Winelands and the Central Karoo District Municipalities respectively. The proposed project will entail the construction and operation of approximately 50 wind turbines each generating 2-4MW of power per turbine with a total maximum generating capacity of approximately 140MW per wind farm.

In accordance with the EIA regulations, the proposed development will require a full Scoping and EIA process. G7 Renewable Energies has appointed EOH Coastal and Environmental Services (CES) to conduct the EIA process. The National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) will be the decision making authority for this application.



You are invited to **register** as an **interested and affected** party.

Please contact:

Ms. Belinda Huddy
The Point, Suite 408, 4th Floor,
76 Regent Road, Sea Point, Cape Town, 8005;
Tel: 021 045 0904; or Email: b.huddy@cesnet.co.za

PROOF OF PLACEMENT

2 WORLD NEWS

CAPE TIMES THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2015

Russia, Nato need common rules to reduce risk of war

world

Two killed during live broadcast

Three deaths at violent India rally

Blasts: China sacks safety official

'Bigoted, boorish' **Gay Pride marches**



africa

Suicide bombers kill each other

40 people ineligible for election

French ruling 'genocide denial'

President signs deal to end war in South Sudan



DIVINE RITES

Naga saktus, or naked Hinda Indy men; participate in a procession during the Kumbh Mela, or pitcher festival, at Trimbakeshwar in Nasik, India, yesterday, Millions

Picture AP

Picture AP

Picture AP

INDONESIA, MALAYSIA DEPLOY RAPID RESPONSE TEAMS

Special force to fight piracy

South East Asia has become SINGAPORE: Malaysia and Indonesia are deploying rapid reaction teams to combat a robbery and piracy hotspot the world's maritime armed

Don't phone Libya, no one will answer...

Thailand destroys over two tons of ivory

Extensive plans on Hungarian border over migrants

was also consider the army as record of migrants, many Syrian refuges, Syrian refuges,

1200 were detained by 9.50m.
In Germany, which
In State of the International Int

Follow the CAPP on its social me platforms and

EOH E

TRIPOLI: Libya's landline phone system broke down in much of the country after unknown people damaged submarine cables in an area held by Islamic State, officials said yesterday, in another sign of the country's collapse. Libya is in chaos, with two governments allied to armed groups fighting for control four years after the ousting of Muammar Gaddafi, while Islamic State has expanded by exploiting a security vacuum.

The chaos has reduced oil,

gas and electricity production to a trickle, disrupted the import of wheat, food and hospital drugs and scared away foreign embassies and airlines.

The telecommunications ministry in Tripoli said land phone connections in the eastern and stopped " against a tion in Sir Libya's M

It add security r fix the da





C4.3 DIE WINDPOMP NUUSBRIEF (LOCAL) – 27 August 2015

OMGEWINGSIMPAKSTUDIE-PROSES

BEOOGDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE BRANDVALLEI- EN RIETKLOOF-WINDENERGIEFASILITEITE IN DIE NOORD-KAAP EN WES-KAAP, SUID-AFRIKA.

Kennis word hiermee gegee ingevolge Regulasie 41 van die Omgewingsimpakstudieregulasies (OIS), gepubliseer in die Staatskoerant-no. 982, No. 38282 van 4 Desember 2014, kragtens artikel 24 (5) van die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur, 1998 (Wet-no. 107 van 1998), met die doel om 'n OIS-proses te inisieer vir die bogenoemde projek.

Voorgestelde Projek: Brandvalley Wind Farm (Edms.) Bpk. en Rietkloof Wind Farm (Edms.) Bpk., beide filiaalmaatskappye van G7 Renewable Energies (Edms.) Bpk., beplan om twee (2) 140 MW-windenergiefasiliteite (windplase) naby Laingsburg op te rig, op die grens van die Noord-Kaap- en Wes-Kaap-provinsies in Suid-Afrika. Die voorgestelde Brandvallei- en Rietkloof-windenergiefasiliteite (WEF) sal geleë wees op die naburige eiendomme van verskeie gedeeltes van die noordelike en suidelike dele van die Karoo Hoogland Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, die Witzenberg (Ceres) Plaaslike Munisipaliteit en die Laingsburg Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, wat onderskeidelik binne die Namakwa-, die Kaapse Wynland- en die Sentraal-Karoo-distriksmunisipaliteite val. Die voorgestelde projek sal die konstruksie en bedryf van ongeveer 50 windturbines, elke met 'n opwekvermoë van 2-4 MW- energie, met 'n gesamentlike opwekkingsvermoë van ongeveer 140 MW per windplaas, behels.

In ooreenstemming met die OIB-regulasies, sal die voorgestelde ontwikkeling 'n volle bestekopname en OIS-proses vereis. G7 Renewable Energies het EOH Coastal and Environmental Services (CES) aangestel om die OIS-proses uit te voer, as onafhanklike konsultante. Die Nasionale Departement van Omgewingsake (DOS) sal die besluitnemende owerheid vir hierdie aansoek wees.

U word hiermee uitgenooi om te registreer as 'n belanghebbende en geaffekteerde partv.



Skakel asseblief die projekbestuurder:

Me. Belinda Huddy

The Point, Suite 408, 4^{de} verdieping, Regentweg 76, Seepunt, Kaapstad, 8005;

Tel: 021 045 0904; of e-pos: b.huddy@cesnet.co.za

PROOF OF PLACEMENT IN DIE WINDPOMP

KENNISGEWING

OMGEWINGSIMPAKSTUDIE-PROSES

BEOOGDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE BRANDVALLEI- EN RIETKLOOF-WINDENERGIEFASILITEITE IN DIE NOORD-KAAP EN WES-KAAP, SUID-AFRIKA.

Kennis word hiermee gegee ingevolge Regulasie 41 van die
Omgewingsimpakstudieregulasies (OIS), gepubliseer in die Staatskoerant-no. 982, No.
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U word hiermee uitgenooi om te registreer as 'n belanghebbende en geaffekteerde party.

Skakel asseblief die projekbestuurder:

Me. Belinda Huddy
The Point, Suite 408, 4de verdieping,
Regentweg 76, Seepunt, Kaapstad, 8005;
Tel: 021 045 0904; of e-pos: b.huddy@cesnet.co.za



Die Windpomp

13

NOTIFYING I&APS OF THE RELEASE OF THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY PROJECT:

C4.4 DIE VOLKSBLAD (PROVINCIAL) – 27 January 2016

OMGEWINGSIMPAKSTUDIE PROSES VIR DIE BEOOGDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGIE AANLEG IN DIE NOORD- EN WES-KAAP PROVINSIES, SUID-AFRIKA.

KENNISGEWING RAKENDE DIE OPENBARE DEELNAME PROSES: VRYSTELLING VAN DIE KONSEP OMVANGSBEPALINGSVERSLAG EN DIE GEPAARDGAANDE OPENBARE VERGADERING.

Voorgestelde projek: 'Brandvalley Wind Farm' (Edms) Bpk beoog om 'n wind energie aanleg (WEA) of windplaas, te bou, met 'n energie opwekkingsvermoë van tot en met 140 MW, naby Laingsburg, Wes van die R354 pad. Die projek is geleë op die grens van die Noord- en Wes-Kaap Provinsies van Suid-Afrika.

Die voorgestelde Brandvalley WEA projek sal geleë wees op verskeie gedeeltes van die Karoo Hoogland, die Witzenberg (Ceres) en die Laingsburg Plaaslike Munisipaliteite, wat onderskeidelik binne die Namakwa-, die Kaapse Wynland- en die Sentraal-Karoo Distriksmunisipaliteite val. Die voorgestelde projek behels die konstruksie en bedryf van tot en met 70 potensiële wind turbines, elk met 'n opwekkingsvermoë van tussen 1.5MW en 4MW, en 'n fondament van 25m in deursnêe en 4m in diepte.



Die Konsep Omvangbepalingsverslag is reeds vrygestel vir openbare insae. Die oorsig periode is vanaf Maandag 25 Januarie 2016 tot Dinsdag 23 Februarie 2016. Maak asseblief seker dat u kommentaar ons bereik voor of op 23 Februarie 2016. Registreer asseblief as 'n Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Party om ons in staat te stel om u op hoogte te hou van die OIB proses, deur Belinda Huddy van EOH CES (kontak besonderhede hieronder) te kontak.

Waar kan u toegang tot die verslae kry: Afskrifte van die Konsep Omvangbepalingsverslag sal beskikbaar wees aan die publiek by die volgende plekke:

- Laingsburg Openbase Biblioteek (Van Riebeeck Straat, Laingsburg).
- Touws Rivier Openbare Biblioteek (Hoek van Jane en Logan Straat, Touws River).
- Elektroniese afskrifte is beskikbaar vanaf die volgende skakel (http://data.g7energies.com/eia/brandvalley en http://www.cesnet.co.za/public-documents.html).

Openbase vergadering: 'n Openbare vergadering sal gehou word vir alle Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Partye (B&GPe) om meer uit te vind en inligting te kry oor die voorgestelde ontwikkeling, en om enige kwessies en vrae aan die projek span te rig. As u wil bywoon, RSVP asseblief by Mev. Belinda Huddy (sien assebliefkontak besonderhede hieronder).

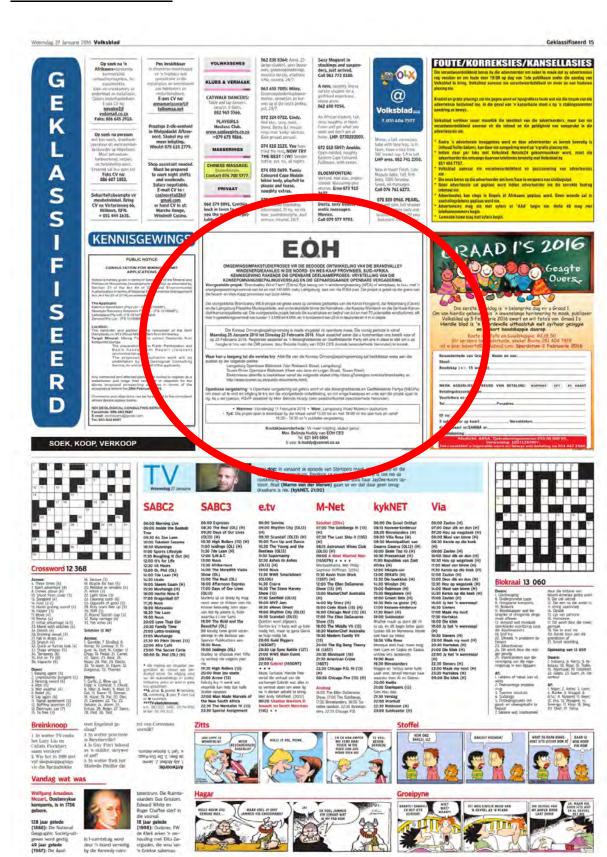
Wanneer: Donderdag 11 Februarie 2016 Waar; Laingsburg Vloed Museum ouditorium

Tyd: Die projek span is beskibaar by die lokaal vanaf 15:00 tot en met 18:00 vir die opehuis en vanaf 16:00-19:30 vir 'n publieke vergadering.

Kontak besonderhede: Vir meer inligting, skakel gerus: Mev. Belinda Huddy van EOH CES

Tel: 021 045 0904; of Epos: b.huddy@cesnet.co.za

PROOF OF PLACEMENT



C4.5 DIE BURGER (PROVINCIAL) - 25 January 2016



OMGEWINGSIMPAKSTUDIE PROSESSE VIR DIE BEOOGDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE BRANDVALLEY EN RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGIE AANLEGTE IN DIE NOORD- EN WES-KAAP PROVINSIES, SUID-AFRIKA.

KENNISGEWING RAKENDE DIE OPENBARE DEELNAME PROSES: VRYSTELLING VAN DIE KONSEP OMVANGSBEPALINGSVERSLAE EN DIE GEPAARDGAANDE OPENBARE VERGADERING.

Kennis word hiermee gegee in terme van Regulasie 41 van die Omgewingsinvloedbepaling (OIB) Regulasies gepubliseer in Goewerment Kennisgewing Nr. 982 in Staatskoerant Nr 38282 van 4 Desember 2014, kragtens Artikel 24 van die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur 1998 (Wet No 107 van 1998) (WNOB), soos gewysig, vir die vrystelling van die twee Konsep Omvangbepalingsverslae (OBV), vir die bogenoemde projekte, vir openbare insae.

Voorgestelde projekte: 'Brandvalley Wind Farm' (Edms) Bpk en 'Rietkloof Wind Farm' (Edms) Bpk, beoog om twee (2) wind energie aanlegte (WEAs) of windplase, te bou, met 'n energie opwekkingsvermoë van tot en met 140 MW elk, naby Laingsburg, Wes van die R354 pad. Die projekte is geleë op die grens van die Noord- en Wes-Kaap Provinsies van Suid-Afrika. Die voorgestelde Brandvalley en Rietkloof WEAs projekte sal geleë wees op die aangresende eiendomme van die noordelike en suidelike dele van verskeie gedeeltes van die Karoo Hoogland, die Witzenberg (Ceres) en die Laingsburg Plaaslike Munisipaliteite, wat onderskeidelik binne die Namakwa-, die Kaapse Wynland- en die Sentraal-Karoo Distriksmunisipaliteite val. Albei voorgestelde projekte behels die konstruksie en bedryf van tot en met 70 potensiële wind turbines, elk met 'n opwekkingsvermoë van tussen 1.5MW en 4MW, en 'n fondament van 25m in deursnëe en 4m in diepte. Die aansoeke sluit die gepaardgaande infrastruktuur in.

Volgens die OIB Regulasies, vereis elk van die voorgestelde ontwikkelings 'n volledige Omvangsbepalings en OIB-proses. 'EOH Coastal and Environmental Services' (CES) is aangestel om die twee OIB prosesse en die gekombineerde proses van openbare deelname uit te voer. Die Nasionale Departement van Omgewingsake (DOS) is die besluitnemende owerheid vir beide aansoeke.

Die Konsep Omvangbepalingsverslae is reeds vrygestel vir openbare insae. Die oorsig periode is vanaf **Maandag 25 Januarie 2016 tot Dinsdag 23 Februarie 2016**. Maak asseblief seker dat u kommentaar ons bereik voor of op 23 Februarie 2016. Registreer asseblief as 'n Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Party om ons in staat te stel om u op hoogte te hou van die twee OIB prosesse, deur Belinda Huddy van EOH CES (kontak besonderhede hieronder) te kontak.

Waar kan u toegang tot die verslae kry: Afskrifte van die Konsep Omvangbepalingsverslae sal beskikbaar wees aan die publiek by die volgende plekke:

- Laingsburg Openbase Biblioteek (Van Riebeeck Straat, Laingsburg).
- Touws Rivier Openbare Biblioteek (Hoek van Jane en Logan Straat, Touws River).
- Elektroniese afskrifte is beskikbaar vanaf die volgende skakel (http://data.g7energies.com/eia/brandvalley en http://data.g7energies.com/eia/rietkloof).

Openbase vergadering: 'n Openbare vergadering sal gehou word vir alle Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Partye (B&GPe) om meer uit te vind en inligting te kry oor die voorgestelde ontwikkelings, en om enige kwessies en vrae aan die projek span te rig. As u wil bywoon, RSVP asseblief by Mev. Belinda Huddy (sien assebliefkontak besonderhede hieronder).

Wanneer: Donderdag 11 Februarie 2016 **Waar:** Laingsburg Vloed Museum ouditorium **Tyd:** Die projek span is beskibaar by die lokaal vanaf 15:00 tot en met 19:30 vir die ope-huis.

Kontak besonderhede: Vir meer inligting, skakel gerus: **Mev. Belinda Huddy van EOH CES** The Point, Suite 408, 4^e Vloer, 76 Regent Straat, See Punt, Kaapstad, 8005

Tel: 021 045 0904; of Epos: b.huddy@cesnet.co.za

PROOF OF PLACEMENT

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OMGEWINGSIMPAXSTUDIE PROSESSE VIR DIE BEOOGDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE BRAUDVALLET ER RIETNLOOF WIND DERFOIE AANLEGT EN DIE NOORD ON WESKAAR POKNINSES, SUDO-AFRIKA KENNISOEWING RAKENDE DIE OPENBARE DEELNAME PROSES: VRYSTELLING VAN DIE KONSEP OMVANGSBEPALINGSVERSLAE EN DIE GEPRAADGAANDE OPENBARE VERKLABSVERSLAE EN DIE GEPRAADGAANDE OPENBARE DI

EOH

C4.6 DIE NOORDWESTER (LOCAL) – 29 January 2016

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESSES FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF BRANDVALLEY AND RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITIES, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES, SOUTH AFRICA.

NOTIFICATION OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS: AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORTS AND A PUBLIC MEETING

Notice is hereby given in terms of Regulation 41 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations published in the Government Notice No. 982 in Government Gazette No 38282 of 4 December 2014, under Section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act 1998 (Act No 107 of 1998) (NEMA), as amended, for the release of the two Draft Scoping Reports (DSRs), for the abovementioned projects, for public review.

Proposed Projects: Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd and Rietkloof Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd, are proposing to construct two (2) wind energy facilities (WEFs) or wind farms, with an energy generating capacity of up to 140MW each, near Laingsburg west of the R354 road. The projects are located on the border of the Northern and Western Cape Province in South Africa. The proposed Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEF projects will be located on neighbouring properties on northern and southern sections of various portions of land across the Karoo Hoogland, the Witzenberg (Ceres) and the Laingsburg Local Municipalities, which fall within the Namakwa, the Cape Winelands and the Central Karoo District Municipalities respectively. Each of the proposed projects will entail the construction and operation of up to 90 potential wind turbines, each with a generating capacity between 1.5MW and 4MW and a foundation of 25m in diameter and 4m in depth. Associated infrastructure will also be applied for.

In accordance with the EIA Regulations, each of the proposed developments require a full Scoping and EIA process. EOH Coastal and Environmental Services (CES) has been appointed to conduct the two EIA processes and the combined public participation process. The National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) will be the decision making authority for these applications.



The DSRs have been released for public review. The review period is from Monday 25th of January 2016 until Tuesday the 23rd of February 2016. Please ensure that your comments reach us on or before 23 February 2016. In order to be kept informed throughout the two EIA processes, please register as an Interested and Affected Party by contacting Belinda Huddy from EOH CES (contact details below).

Where can you access the reports: Copies of the Draft Scoping Reports will be available for review at the following locations:

- Laingsburg Public Library (Van Riebeeck Street, Laingsburg).
- Touws River Public Library (Corner of Jane and Logan Street Touws River).
- Electronic copies are available via the following links
 (http://data.g7energies.com/eia/brandvalley; http://data.g7energies.com/eia/rietkloof and
 http://www.cesnet.co.za/public-documents.html).

Public meeting: A public meeting will be held for all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to find out more information on the proposed projects, to raise any issues and to pose questions to the project team. If you would like to attend, please rsvp to Belinda Huddy – please see contact details below.

When: Thursday 11 February 2016

Where: Laingsburg Flood Museum Auditorium

Time: The Project Team will be available at the venue from 15:00 to 18:00 for an Open House

and 18:00 to 19:30 for a Public Meeting.

Contact details: For more information, please contact: Ms. Belinda Huddy from EOH CES

The Point, Suite 408, 4th Floor, 76 Regent Road, Sea Point, Cape Town, 8005

Tel: 021 045 0904; or Email: b.huddy@cesnet.co.za

PROOF OF PLACEMENT

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JAARVERSLAG 2014/2015

Ingavolga Artikel 21 (a) van die Wet op Munisipalo Stoleles. Wet 32 van 2000, saamgelese met Artikel 127 (5)(a) van die Wet op Munisipalo Finansiële Bestuur, Wet 55 van 2003, word lede van die publiek bewe die reggebied van Karoo Hoogland Munisipalitiel en Regeringsinstansiële on die Privaat Sektor uitgerool.om kommentaar op die Konpop Jaarverslag van die 2014/2015 Finansiële jaar te lever.

wor.

Die verelagis ter insae by die Munsipale Kantore van Ka-roo Hoogland gedurende kantoorien.

Skriftelike kommentaar kan aan die Munisipale Bestuur-der, Privastaak X03, Williston, 8520 gerig word. Die slui-tingdotum vir kommentaar is Vrydag, 26 Februarie 2016 om 12:00.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESSES FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF BRANDVALLEY AND RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITIES, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES, SOUTH AFRICA. NOTIFICATION OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS: AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORTS AND A PUBLIC MEETING

Notice is nereby given in terms of Regulation 41 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations published in the Government Notice No. 982 in Government Gazette No. 38282 of 4 December 2014, under Section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act 1968 (Act Mo 107 of 1998) (NRMA), as amended, for the release of the two Draft Scoping Reports (DSRs), for the abovernmentioned projects, for public review.

Proposed Projects. Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd, and Rieddoof Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd, are proposing to construct two (2) wind energy facilities (WEFs) or wind farms, with an energy generating capacity of up to 140MN each, near Laingsburg west of the RSS road. The project are located on the border of the Northern and Western Cape Province in South Africa. The proposed Brandvalley and Riedcoof ViFE projects will be located on neighbouring properties on northern and southern sections of various portions of land across the Karbo Hoogland, the Wiczerberg (Ceres) and the Laingsburg Local Municipatities, which fall within the Namakvar, the Cape Windshot and the Certark Karbo Dark Municipatities which fall within the construction and operation of up to 90 potential wind furbines, each with a generating capacity between 1.5MM and 4MM and a foundation of 25m in diameter and 4m in depth. Associated infrastructure will take be applied for.

in accordance with the EIA Regulations, each of the proposed developments require a full Secong and EIA process. EOH Coastal and Environmental Services (CES) has been appointed to sorted the two EIA processes and the combined public participation process. The National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) will be the decision making authority for these

Mnr GW Von Möllendorf

JAPIE ONTHOU DIE TANKWA KAROO-ERS

En die storie van drie Hendrikke

Genete Lexer.

Geagle Lever.

in Mens shors soms dat mensus set. "As seemand van daandle orsgewing kon. kan jir hom? har mare associal Dit is goeie mense wat daarvandaan kom." Ek is 'n beieje werziging om te verzigemeen. Aan die anderskant dirk ek tog dat ont omgewing 'n rol speel in who uns to Dit is die gevoel wat ek oor die mense van die Tankwa-Karoo het – en ek bedoel die hele Karoo soos wat Calvina bedoel wanneer hulle van die Karoo praat.
Oom Hendrik van Baalen was

bedoel wanneer hulle van die Karoo prain.
Oon Hendrik van Baalen was Karoo prain.
Oon Hendrik van Baalen was tenand van daardie wêreld wat 'n elescortige Indruk op my gelaat het. By en sy familie het nie 'n maklike begin gehad in: Tog het hulle bulle suksesvol gevestig en 'n merk gemak. Die censte maal wat cit by oon Hendrik aan huis gekom het, was ek saam met iemand anders om 'n vergadering in die omgewing toe te spreek. Om drink een koffen, naar die souere en die Lamie spreek, Om drink eers koffie, maar dit is somer en die tannie bring sommer water saam. Dit was vir my simbolies van die-soort gasvrybeid wat jy daar kon ontvang. Jy hoef nie te vra nie, Jy kry sommer.

Soos dit gaan, het dit droog

geraak. Toe dit wel kom reën, het dit 'n bistjie rof gegaan en die hoere (waarvan oom Hendrik een was het vloedkaade gekry, Oom Hendrik is woos eitter van die hoere-versnijstig. Die met die henviel van die welke Oom Hendrik doen sy bes, maar die deure by toe. Die laaste of welke Oom Hendrik doen sy bes, maar die deure by toe Die laaste of welke oom deur die plaastlike parlementslid 'versnek ie rij dat die minister van Lundbou die gebied moes kom besoek, Minister Hendrik Schoeman willig in en 'n versadering woed belt. Die is 'n groot ockzasie en alenal is teen-woordig. Op die deur van die De Bosewinkel pryk mog 'n ouerkeieningsliet van minister Adriaan Visik Hendrik Schoeman wild in die karon waak. Oom Hendrik kom aus die 'Norden de Parlements of de Politieke winde in die karon waak. Oom Hendrik kom aus die

man kan siden hoe die politieke winde in die Kartoo wai.

Oom Hendrik kom aan die woord om die boere se saak is stel. Sy toespraak koop min omer ser "Minister, ons waardeer dit dat jy die moeite gedoen het om ont te kon besook, waart oes ber jou hulp noeidig. Ek wil het vir jou so in Suid-Afrika is daar drie Hedrik wat jy aandag aan mooel gee. Die eerste een is Hendrik Verwoord. Die tweede een is Hendrik verwoord. Die tweede een is Hendrik verwoord bot in woord wat hier woor jou taan. En dit is hierdie derde Hendrik wat nou vir jou vra: Holp assebiel die boere."

Wat allos bygodra het, woet 'm mean nie. Die felt is egger dat die pleidooi om bystand die of oow oer geval het nie. Die tweede Hendrik bet die Hend

Groete, Japie.

50 Jaar gelede

DIE NOORDWESTER:14 Je-nie 1966. Volgens 'n brief wat Noordwes Kaapland Ontwik-Nedrowes vereniging van die de-partement van geologiese op-name ontvang het, is Calvinia distrik ingeslutt in die gebied waar die soektog na ofte on-derneem sal word. Die brief meld dat die aanduidings van oliedraende neerstae belo-



BY AKADEMIE

NOORDWESTER op Calvinia TEL. (027) 3411026 FAKS (0273) 411686

KENNISGEWING AAN EN RAADPLEGING MET GRONDEIS-NAARS, WETTIGE OKKUPEERDERS EN ANDER GEAFFEK-TEERDE PARTYE IN VERBAND MET 'N AANSOEK VIR MYRHEGE IN TERME VAN DIE WET OP MINERALE EN PE-TROLLEIN HULPBRONNE, 2002 (WET 28 VAN 2002), DIE WET OP NASIONALE OMGEWINGSBESTUUR, WET NO. 107 VAN 1998 SOOS GEWYSIG, EN DIE OMGEWINGSIMPAKBE-PALINGS RECULASIES VAN 2014.

Verwysings Nr. NC 30/5/1/2/10095 MR NAAM VAN AANSOEKER

Carreryon Soutwerke (Edms) Bok

AGTERIAGNON
Carravior Soutwarks he assauck gedoon vir 'n Mynnig wat op 2
Desember 2015 aanvaar is dour die Oppartement van Minerale Mulbronne op Gedeelle 8 van die pass joedend 45 in die Landons
van Carravior, Noord Kaap Prinnie wat 20 0 305mb beneue.

PROJEKBESKRYWING

PROJEKBESKRYWING
De prosits gleid 70km vanut Carrarvon op die H386 pad na Priesika,
In die Landissässirk van Camarvon, Noord-Kaap Provinsie. Die soutsa pamyn word door verdamplingsprossess on die kristalisemingsout uit ondergrondes soutwater in kristalisemingsdamme wat geshrapp eils word waarne die bemark sall word.

OMGEWINGSBESTUURSPROGRAM

REGISTRASIE PROSES

Belanghebbende en ge-affekteerde partye word versoek om op die databasie te registreer binne 30 dae van die publikasie soos volg.

KONTAK: Mrr W.J. Costhuizen Fel: E-pos:

Pos adres: Posbus 19823/Hadisonpark, 8368 Stege persons wat geregistreer het sal verdere korrespondent en kommunikasie in die verband ontverig.

EQH

The OSRs have been released for public review. The review period is from Monday 25° of January 2016 unit Tuesday the 23° of February 2016. Please ensure that your comments reach us on or before 23 February 2018. In order to be kept informed throughout the two EIA processes, please register as an infarestation and Affected Party by contacting Belinda Huadly from EOH CES (contact details below).

- Where can you access the reports: Copies of the Draft Scoping Reports will be available for review at the following locations:

 Langsburg Public Library (Van Riebeeck Street, Laingsburg).

 Towns River Public Library (Corner of Jane and Logan Street Towns River).

 Electronic copies are available via the following links. http://data.greenjes.com/eis/brandle/inter/in

Public meeting: A public meeting will be held for all interested and Affacted Parites (I&APs) to find out more information on the proposed projects, to raise any issues and to pose questions to the project team. If you would like to attend, please rayp to Belinda Huddy – please see contact certails below.

When: Thursday 11 February 2016 When: Thursday 11 February 2016
Where: Laingaburg Flood Museum Auditorium
Time: The Project Team will be available at the venue from 15:00 to 18:00 for an Open
House and 18:00 to 19:30 for a Public Meeting

Contact details: For more information, please contact. Ms. Belinda Huddy from ECH CES The Point, Suite 408, 4" Floor, 76 Regent Road, Sea Point, Cape Town, 8005 Tel: 021 045 0904; or Email: b.huddy@ceanet.co.za



KAROO HOOGLAND

MUNICIPALITY/MUNISIPALITEIT

NOTICE 003/01/2016

PUBLIC MEETINGS - FEBRUARY 2016 THE REVISED DRAFT INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN (IDP) AND BUDGET FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 2016 TO 30 JUNE 2017

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 29(1)(b) of the Municipal Systems Act (Act 32 of 2000) that public meetings will be held in February 2016 to obtain the public's input for the five year integrated Development Pari (IDP) and dight Budget as envisaged by Section 17 of Municipal Finance Management Act (Act 56 of 2003).

PUBLIC MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED AS FOLLOW:

WARD	DATE	TIME	VENUE	STAKEHOLDERS
Ward 1 and 3: Williston	9 FEBRUARY 2016	17:30	To be confirmed	Whole Community
Ward 2 and 3: Fraserburg	10 FEBRUARY 2016	17:30	To be confirmed	Whole Community
Ward 4 and 3: Sutherland	11FEBRUARY 2016	17:30	To be confirmed	Whole Community

All enquiries can be directed to Mr Allistar Gibbons at (023) 571 1020.

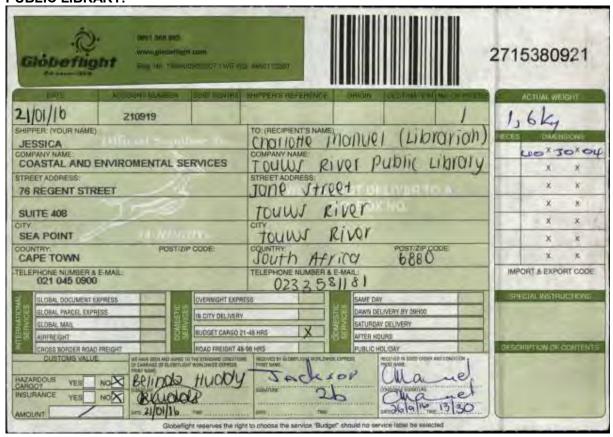
Mr Gustav Von Mollendorf

PROOF OF AVAILABILTY OF DSR FOR PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD:

C4.7. PROOF OF PLACEMENT OF DRAFT SCOPING REPORT IN THE LAINGSBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY.



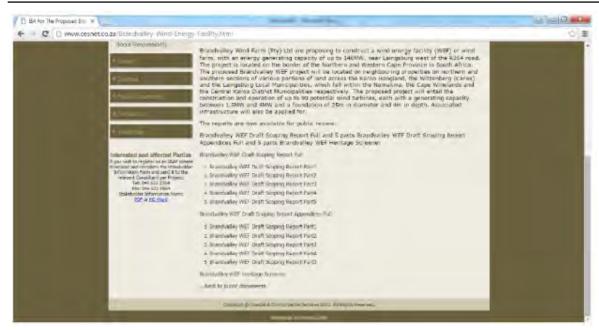
C4.8. PROOF OF PLACEMENT OF DRAFT SCOPING REPORT IN THE TOUWS RIVER PUBLIC LIBRARY.



C4.9. PROOF OF PLACEMENT OF DRAFT SCOPING REPORT ON EOH CES WEBSITE



Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report - Appendices



C4.10. PROOF OF PLACEMENT OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT IN THE TOUWS RIVER PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Head librarian Laingsburg Public Library Van Riebeeck Street Laignsburg Tel: 023 551 1019

NOTIFICATION REGARDING THE RELEASE OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 140 MW BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA. DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/900

AND

RELEASE OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 140 MW RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITY, IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA. DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/899

Please find enclosed one hard copy of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the above-mentioned projects for placement in the Laignsburg Public Library from 25 May 2016 until 24 June 2016. These reports are intended for review by interested members of the public. Please ensure that the public have access to the reports, and that it is not removed from the Public Library premises for the duration of the public comment period.

Please sign/ stamp this letter as proof of acknowledgement of receipt.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely Belinda Huddy EOH CES 021 045 0900



24.05.2016

The following two (2) documents:

- DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 140 MW RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITY, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA. DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/899
- DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 140 MW BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA. DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/900

Have been placed in the TOUWSRIVIER Library	y for public access
nave been placed in the Library	y for public access
Received by Charlotte	
Signiture: Ma_wel	
Date: 25/05/2016.	

Please fax this signed letter as proof of receipt to:

Attention:

Ms Amber Jackson
Environmental Consultant
EOH Coastal and Environmental Services
a.jackson@cesnet.co.za
Phone: +27 21 045 0900
Fax: +27 46 622 6564

Consulting | Technology | Outsourcing

Directors AM Avis (MD), A Bohbot and JW King

Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd Tel: +27 21 045 0090. The Point, Suite 408, 4th floor, 76 Regent Road Sea Point, 8000, Cape Town, South Africa www.ech.co.za | www.cesnet.co.za reg no: 2012/151672/07

C4.11. PROOF OF PLACEMENT OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT IN THE LAINGSBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Head librarian Touws River Public Library Corner Jane and Logan Streets Touws River Tel: 023 358 1786

NOTIFICATION REGARDING THE RELEASE OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 140 MW BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA, DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/900

AND

RELEASE OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 140 MW RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITY, IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA, DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/899

Please find enclosed one hard copy of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the above-mentioned projects for placement in the Touws River Public Library from 25 May 2016 until 24 June 2016. These reports are intended for review by interested members of the public. Please ensure that the public have access to the reports, and that it is not removed from the Public Library premises for the duration of the public comment period.

Please sign/ stamp this letter as proof of acknowledgement of receipt.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely Belinda Huddy EOH CES 021 045 0900



24.05.2016

The following two (2) documents:

- DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 140 MW RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITY, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA. DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/899
- DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 140 MW BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA. DEA Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/900

Have been placed in the CUNCISPUIG PUBLIC Library for public access.

Received by:

Signiture:

Date:....

Please fax this signed letter as proof of receipt to:

Attention:

Ms Amber Jackson Environmental Consultant EOH Coastal and Environmental Services a.jackson@cesnet.co.za Phone: +27 21 045 0900 Fax: +27 46 622 6564

Consulting | Technology | Outsourcing

Directors: AM Avis (MD), A Bohbot and JW King

Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd Tel: +27 21 045 0999 The Point, Suite 408, 4th floor, 76 Regent Road Sea Point, 8000, Cape Town, South Africa www.eeh.co.za | www.cesnet.co.za reg no: 2012/151672/07

APPENDIX C-5: COPY OF SITE NOTICE TEXT AND POSTERS PLACED AT VARIOUS POINTS NOTIFYING I&APS OF THE PROPOSED WIND ENERGY PROJECT AND PHOTOGRAPHS OF PLACEMENT

C5.1 SITE NOTICE AND PROOF OF PLACEMENT

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE BRANDVALLEY AND RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITIES, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES, SOUTH AFRICA. NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESSES

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations published in Government Notice R982 in Government Gazette No 38282 of 04 December 2014, under Section 24 of the National Environmental Management Act 1998 (Act No 107 of 1998), as amended, that Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd and Rietkloof Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd, subsidiaries of G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd, are proposing to construct two (2) 140MW wind energy facilities (wind farms) near Laingsburg on the border of the Northern and Western Cape Province in South Africa.

The proposed wind energy projects will entail the construction and operation of approximately 50 wind turbines on each farm, generating 2-4MW of power per turbine with a total generating capacity of approximately 140MW per wind farm.

In terms of the EIA regulations, the proposed development will require a full scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd has appointed EOH Coastal and Environmental Services (CES) to undertake the EIA Processes. The application will be submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA).

If you have any comments or queries, or if you require further information, please contact

Ms. Belinda Huddy at:-

Tel: 021 045 0900; or Fax: 046 622 6564; or Email: b.huddy@cesnet.co.za



Locations of site notice erection







Plate C5 – 1: Site notice 1 erected at the Ou Mure/Brandvallei Farm Turnoff from the R354.





Plate C5 – 2: Site notice 2 erected at the Rietkloof Farm Turnoff from the R354.



Plate C5 – 3: Site notice 3 erected at the Keurkloof Farm Turnoff from the R354, near the N1.

C5.2 POSTER (ENGLISH AND AFRIKAANS) AND PROOF OF PLACEMENT

BRANDVALLEY AND RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITIES, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES, SOUTH AFRICA.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd and Rietkloof Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd (subsidiaries of G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd) - propose constructing two (2) 140MW wind energy facilities (wind farms) near Laingsburg on the border of the Northern and Western Cape Province, South Africa. The proposed facility will comprise of:

- 100 turbines
- Each generate 2-4MW of power
- 280 MW total Power

EOH Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) has been appointed by G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Limited to undertake environmental assessments for the wind farms, and to apply for approval from the national Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), for construction and operation, as required by South Africa's environmental legislation.

STAY INFORMED

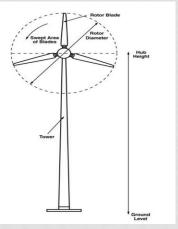
For further information or to register as an interested and affected party please contact Belinda Huddy

Email: B.Huddy@cesnet.co.za

Tel: 021 045 0900 Fax: 046 622 6564









BRANDVALLEY EN RIETKLOOF WINDENERGIE FASILITEITE, IN DIE NOORD EN WES KAAP, SUID-AFRIKA.

PROJEK BESKRYWING

'Brandvalley Wind Farm' (Edms) Bpk en 'Rietkloof Wind Farm' (Edms) Bpk (albei filiaalmaatskappye van 'G7 Renewable Energies' (Edms) Bpk - beoog die konstruksie en bedryf van twee (2) 140 MW windenergie fasiliteite (wind plase), naby Laingsburg, op die grens tussen die Noord en Wes-Kaap Provinsies, Suid-Afrika. Die beplande aanleg sal uit die volgende bestaan:

- 100 turbines
- Elke turbine wek 2-4MW krag
- 'n Totale krag uitset van 280 MW

'EOH Coastal & Environmental Services' (CES) is deur 'G7 Renewable Energies' (Edms) Beperk aangestel om verskeie omgewings assesserings uit te voer vir die wind plase, en om aansoek te doen vir omgewings goedkeuring vanaf die nasionale Departement van Omgewingsake (DOS), vir die konstruksie en bedryf, soos vereis deur die omgewingswetgewing van Suid-Afrika.

BLY INGELIG

Vir meer inligting, of om te registreer as 'n belangstellende en geaffekteerde party, kontak: Mev. Belinda Huddy

E-pos: B.Huddy@cesnet.co.za

Tel: 021 045 0900 Faks: 046 622 6564





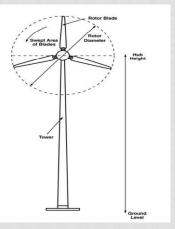








Plate C5 – 4: Posters Places at the Municipal Building in Laingsburg.





Plate C5 – 4: Posters Places at the the Laingsburg and Touws River Public Libraries.

APPENDIX C-6: COMMENTS AND RESPONSE TABLE AND MINUTES FROM PUBLIC MEETING

C6.1 COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT

A Background Information Document (BID) per project was circulated from 27 August 2015 during which potential Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) were afforded the opportunity to register as I&APs, submit comments and or concerns on the proposed wind farm developments. All comments received were recorded in the table below, along with responses from the EAP and the applicant.

The Draft Scoping Report was circulated for a 30-day period from 25 January 2016 to 23 February 2016. All comments received during this public participation period are recorded below in Table 2. An open day and a public meeting was held on the 11th of February 2016. All comments or questions asked during this meeting was recorded in Table 3 below, along as the responses from the EAP and the applicant.

The Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report was circulated for a 30-day period from 25 May 2016 to 24 June 2016. To correct a PPP error, the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report was recirculated for a 30-day period from 5 July 2016 to 5 August 2016 to ensure all I&APs were afforded 30-days to comment on the report. All comments received during this public participation period were recorded below in the table below.

Please see Appendix C6.6 for original copies of all comments received to date.

Table 1: Parties who submitted comments

No	I&AP	Date received				
COM	COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT					
1.	Mr Matthys L. Heys, on behalf of J.A. Heyns (property owner)	16 September 2015				
2.	Ms Nicole Abrahams (South African National Roads Agency SOC Limited (SANRAL))	21 September 2015				
3.	Mr Steve Swanepoel	2 October 2015				
4.	Ms Anne Flynn (Falcon Oil & Gas Ltd)	21 October 2015				
5.	Mr Connelius Petrus Willemse (C.S.W. Boerdery)/ Sophia Katrina Willemse	26 October 2015				
COM	COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT					
6.	Serame Motlhake and Alishea Viljoen (Sentech)	02 February 2016				
7.	Warren Petterson (Zeekoegat)	09 February 2016				
8.	Ms L Tools-Bernado (Department of Environment and Nature Conservation, Northern Cape Province)	10 February 2016				
9.	John Geeringh (Eskom, Senior Consultant Environmental Management)	12 February 2016				
10.	Warren Petterson (Zeekoegat)	15 February 2016				
11.	Department of Environmental Affairs: Integrated Environmental Authorisations	16 February 2016				

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No	I&AP	Date received
12.	Stephan Pienaar (PENTA P PTY LTD)	20 February 2016
13.	Arabel McClelland (DEA&DP)	23 February 2016
14.	Fancini van Staden (DEA&DP)	23 February 2016
15.	Dr Ramotholo Sefako (South African Astronomical Observatory – SAAO)	23 February 2016
16.	Adrian Tiplady (SKA)	24 February 2016
17.	Benjamin Walton (CapeNature)	25 February 2016
18.	South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	25 February 2016
19.	Stephan Pienaar (PENTA P PTY LTD)	28 February 2016
20.	Heritage Western Cape (HWC)	01 March 2016
<u>21.</u>	Department of Environmental Affairs: Integrated Environmental Authorisations	<u>19 April 2016</u>
	MENTS RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT	
<u>22.</u>	Ms L Tools-Bernado (Department of Environment and Nature Conservation, Northern Cape Province)	<u>02 June 2016</u>
<u>23.</u>	Department of Environmental Affairs: Integrated Environmental Authorisations	<u>14 June 2016</u>
<u>24.</u>	<u>Dr. Cornelius von der Heyden</u>	<u>20 June 2016</u>
<u>25.</u>	<u>Dr Marianne Thomson</u>	20 June 2016
<u>26.</u>	Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	24 June 2016
<u>27.</u>	Department of Environmental Affairs: Biodiversity and Conservation	28 June 2016
<u>28.</u>	Samantha Ralston (BirdLifeSA)	28 June 2016
<u>29.</u>	South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	<u>30 June 2016</u>
<u>30.</u>	Warren Petterson	4 July 2016
<u>31.</u>	Stephen Pienaar	<u>5 July 2016</u>
<u>32.</u>	Warren Petterson	<u>26 July 2016</u>
<u>33.</u>	Gail Louw and Steve Swanepoel	<u>27 July 2016</u>
<u>34.</u>	Michael Barnes and Irene Bezuidenhout	28 July 2016
<u>35.</u>	<u>CapeNature</u>	29 July 2016

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Table 2: Comments and Responses

	COMMENT BY	COMMENT/ISSUE RAISED	RESPONSE
1.	Mr Matthys L. Heyns, on behalf of J.A. Heyns (property owner)	behalf of J.A. Heyns District. The farm is part of the land involved in the project. We support as an I&AP for the proposed project and will therefore be info	
2.	Ms Nicole Abrahams (SANRAL)	The South African National Roads Agency SOC Limited (SANRAL) has received information regarding the above 2 proposed projects relating to the establishment of wind energy facilities/farms. The following comments should be noted: a. If abnormal loads have to be transported by road to the proposed site, a permit has to be obtained from the provincial government. b. SANRAL requires detail plans for approval of any alteration or upgrading measures that are required at any access intersection with N1 National Road. The plans must be produced by an ECSA registered consulting engineer. All cost associated with road alteration or upgrading will be for the applicants account. c. Access information - Kilometre distance nearest to the access (see attached form, on which you can see the blue marker boards every 200m along the National Road). The status of the access – gravel or surfaced roads, with or without turning lanes. d. If services need to be constructed parallel within 60m measured from the road reserve fence, over or under the national road, (in this case the N1) the service owner must apply for a written permission from SANRAL, before any work may be carried out. Attached please find an application form for the proposed encroachment. e. Transport plan f. SANRAL must be consulted before the transport of abnormal loads commence on national roads. Please forward Transport Traffic Plan to Mr Garth Julius from this office at juliusg@nra.co.za.	Please see the responses below that correlates to the numbering of your comments: a. An abnormal load application will be submitted should the project be awarded preferred bidder status under the REIPPPP. b. No alteration or upgrades of the N1 are contemplated at this stage, however, if required the plans will be communicated to SANRAL as requested. c. Information on access will be shared throughout the EIA and the relevant forms will be submitted to SANRAL for consideration. d. At this stage it is unknown whether any services parallel within 60m to the N1 will be required. Should this be required in the future, the relevant work permission/ approvals will be applied for. e. It is unclear what the meaning of comment "e" is, but pleased note that a transport plan will be prepared should this project be selected as a preferred bidder under the REIPPPP. SANRAL will be consulted as requested.
3.	Mr Steve Swanepoel	"Aangeheg hierby, met betrekking tot ekologiese, kommersiële en maatskaplike kwessies". Attached hereby, with regards to ecological, commercial and social issues. Comment: The Karoo is world-renowned for its great expanse, beauty and clear skies. Most notably, the reason for the establishment of the SALT array at Sutherland. Botanists, Herpologists, palaeontologists and tourists frequent the Karoo (and fly in on our registered airstrip) as a	We note your objection to the projects and endeavour to provide sufficient information that is available at this stage to address your concerns. As per your request, Mr Pettersen was registered as an I&AP and will therefore be kept informed throughout the process. We note your concern that the proposed wind energy facilities (WEFs) will impact on the registered airstrip. The Civil Aviation Authority has been informed of the proposed development and will ensure that the proposed WEFs does not impact on any aviation related activities in terms of the Civil Aviation Act, 2009 (Act 13 of 2009). If any potential impacts are identified, mitigation or avoidance measures will be considered before the construction of the development. Therefore, the

COMMENT BY	COMMENT/ISSUE RAISED	RESPONSE
	result of the wide selection of fauna and flora and traces of early civilisation. In short, the Karoo is a special place with a fragile ecosystem, as a result of the harsh climate. This is an area which should	registered airstrip referred to in your comment will certainly be protected in terms of the Civil Aviation Act, 2009 (Act 13 of 2009).
	never be disfigured or disturbed. We respectively, run guest houses on adjoining properties, which are	We agree that the Karoo is a unique environment that is characterised by all the qualities stated. In order to avoid or reduce any negative impacts and enhance positive impacts associated with the wind farms on this area, various specialist
	frequented by nature-lovers and people seeking unspoilt nature and tranquillity.	studies will be undertaken to inform the EIA phase. Impacts will be assessed and mitigation measures will be recommended. All mitigation measures will be included in an Environmental Management Plan (EMP). In order to ensure that the EMP is implemented during the construction an independent Environmental Control Officer (ECO), as well as external auditors, will undertake regular audits to ensure compliance. If the proposed development is authorised, the applicant is obliged, by law, to implement all the conditions of approval and the EMP. A draft EMP and all specialist assessment reports will be made available for review and input during the EIA phase. The EIA process will ensure that the impacts can be reduced to an acceptable level before the project is authorised and can be managed in reasonable manner during the construction and operational phases. It is noted that you operate a guest houses on the adjoining properties that may
		also benefit from the project site team during the various stages of development. Please see the below responses to address your concerns regarding the Karoo, which correlates to the numbering of your specific comment:
	We wish to object to the erection of a proposed wind-farm in the Matjiesfontein area, as this would result in: 1. Unsightly structures defacing the unspoilt countryside.	1. Various aspects associated with the visual impact of wind turbines will be assessed in detail in a visual impact assessment. This assessment will determine sensitive receptors (areas and/or people that falls within the zone of influence) i.e. the areas from where the turbines will be visible from. This will assist the visual specialist to determine the level and extent of visual impacts and to determine/recommend mitigation measures to reduce visual impacts.
	2. Damage or destruction of ecology during and after construction.	2. An ecological impact assessment will be undertaken by a specialist in order to identify ecological sensitivities resulting from the project before, during and after construction, including both fauna and flora. The impacts will be assessed and suitable mitigation measures will be recommended for implementation.
	 Further construction to establish the infrastructure required for operating a concern in such a remote location would bring about further disruptions. 	3. The design of the wind farm aimed to keep the footprint as small as feasibly possible and use existing infrastructure as far as possible i.e. opted for the upgrade of existing farm access roads as opposed to developing new routes. Regardless, new infrastructure will be required. The identification of any potential disruptions and the assessment of associated impacts will be undertaken by a suite of specialists including visual, ecology, noise, traffic, socio-economic, heritage, birds, bats, agriculture and aquatic.
	 Erection of conduits (pylons, etc) would deface the countryside and pose a threat to already beleaguered fauna and flora. 	4. Please note that the overhead powerlines will be assessed in a separate environmental process and are not included in the scope of this assessment. This future process will also be informed by a visual impact assessment in order to determine the impact of the electrical infrastructure. The proposed project areas are within close proximity of existing high voltage powerlines (specifically, two 400kV and one 765kV line), running north of the site. The impact on the additional infrastructure will therefore not be a new impact on the already tampered

COMMENT BY	COMMENT/ISSUE RAISED	RESPONSE
		landscape but would potentially contribute to the existing visual impact. Please also note that specialists will assess the proposed route for the powerlines to ensure that the impacts on flora and fauna (including birds and bats) are assessed.
	5. The viability of such a venture, by nature of its actual objective, is questionable.	5. The applicant has been measuring the wind resource in the area for the past five years. This monitoring data has confirmed that this area has a very good wind resource which would make it viable (economically and technically) for the generation of electricity. Should the two proposed projects received environmental authorisations, the applicant intends to submit the projects to the Department of Energy under the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) with the aim to obtain a power purchase agreement from Eskom to feed electricity to the grid. Under the REIPPPP, projects compete (based on 70% price/tariff and 30% economic development plans) to be selected as a preferred bidder. Qualifying projects with the lowest tariff and high scores of economic development have a high chance to be selected. The high wind resource in the proposed site area guarantees the project to have low tariff and high chances of success in the REIPPPP. Generating power from wind energy in South Africa is currently the cheapest technology as a result of the competitive REIPPP programme. For more information on this programme, please see the draft scoping report.
	6. Have alternative locations, such as those in proximity of industrial areas been investigated or considered.	6. An environmental and technical pre-feasibility assessment was undertaken in order to determine which areas of South Africa could potentially be suitable for wind farm developments. After much consideration from initial 11 potential sites, the applicant selected this area (part of 4 from the 11) based on the wind resource, the proximity to existing Eskom substations to connect to the national grid, site extent, land suitability,the landowner support for clean energy development and no foreseeable environmental fatal flaw. The pre-feasibility assessment confirmed mainly technical viability and the focus of the EIA process is for detailed environmental assessment (both biophysical and social) feasibility of the project area.
	7. What impact studies have been carried out to date and do they justify the erection of such a concern in this location?	7. As mentioned under point 6, a pre-feasibility assessment was undertaken to determine the technical feasibility of the projects. Desktop assessments based on open source environmental data was undertaken, and reported on in the draft scoping report, to determine whether there are any environmental flaws associated with the proposed site. No environmental limitations were identified, but this will be confirmed by the specialist assessments.
	8. Would the local population be utilised for the construction labour and if not, would this create a sustainable source of employment to them. Migrant labour could seriously disadvantage locals and would bring no economical value to the locals, only to the operators of such a concern.	8. Local labour will be used during the construction period as far as possible, however the project is of a specialised nature and therefore skilled staff will also be required during construction. Depending on the locally available skills, some staff will have to be employed from other parts of the country and internationally. The details of all the proposed project's employment numbers will be included in the bid intended for submission under the REIPPPP as part of the socio-economic development plans. Local procurement and employment are part of the socio-economic development scoring on which REIPPP bids are adjudicated. Should the project be successful under the REIPPPP, it will be audited against the commitments made to ensure that local labour are employed as specified. The operational phase of the project has lower employment requirements and mainly skilled technicians. Bursaries and training on operation would be part of proposals

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			for the project's economic development contributions. A socio-economic impact assessment will also be undertaken to inform the EIA phase.
		9. Do the proponents of this venture place any value on local upliftment or relief of poverty to the local population, which is already prevalent in the area.	9. One of requirements under the REIPPPP is that each project must commit a specific percentage of the revenue toward a community upliftment programme within 50km of the project site. This is also part of the socio-economic development contributions that would be submitted to the bidding programme. The surrounding local communities will beconsulted prior to construction to determine the needs of the community and to establish a trust that be used as a vehicle to spend the fund on determined community projects. The implementation will be audited against the commitments made in the bid which are contractually binding.
		10. Would the contractors guarantee the upholding of points raised in 8 and 9.	10. As briefly mentioned under points 8 and 9, the commitments will be contractually binding to the project once it has been selected as a preferred bidder. A quarterly reporting of all the contributions made by the project and the Department of Energy conducts regular audits of information submitted. The project may incur penalties and may even have its power-purchase agreement revoked if not compliant.
		11. What compensation could be expected to the landowners and/or local population in the event of the concern becoming in breach of points 8,9 and 10, with particular reference to loss of any kind, such as decline in tourism, business and framing operations in the area.	11. A socio-economic impact assessment will be undertaken in the EIA Phase to determine whether the proposed project could potentially impact farming, result in a loss of tourism or other business activities in the area. There is no compensation contemplated for local individuals or businesses beyond the socio-economic development obligations discussed above as that may prove impractical. The consequences of not adhering to commitments made in terms of the REIPPP regarding points 8, 9 and 10 is discussed above.
4.	Ms Anne Flynn (Falcon Oil & Gas Ltd)	Falcon Oil & Gas Ltd ("Falcon") is the holder of a Technical Cooperation Permit ("TCP") with reference number 12/2/013/1 issued in terms of section 77 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act 28 of 2002 ("the MPRDA") over an area of 30,356.958 square kilometres in the Western Karoo. Falcon was issued with a TCP as early as 27 August 2009 and applied for exploration rights on 31 August 2010. As the holder of a TCP, Falcon has, in terms of section 78 of the MPRDA, the exclusive right to apply for an be granted an exploration right.	The information regarding the Falcon TCP is noted. We refer to the contents of the TCP as below: 6.1 This Technical Co-operation Permit will commence on the Effective Date and, unless abandoned, cancelled, relinquished, suspended and/or terminated, will continue to be in force and effect for a period not exceeding 1 (one) year from the Effective Date. Although the one terminated on 27 October 2010, the TCP remains in force in terms of Section 79 (5) of the MPRDA due to the lodging of the application for an exploration right. The TCP is issued for a 12-month period in terms of section 77(1) of the MPRDA, which allows the permit holder to conduct a desktop study (e.g.
		The establishment of the G7 Brandvalley and Rietkloof Wind Energy Faciliteis on land in respect of which Falcon holds a TCP and expects to explore potentially curtails Falcon's ability to exercise these rights to the fullest extent. From an exploration point of view, Falcon's proposed seismic survey to be conducted in the second year of its exploration program, was planned on lands with no major industrial and/or civil activities in the vicinity of the proposed seismic lines. From a technological point of view, the seismic method is imaging the sub-surface by transmitting seismic waves towards the Earth's interior and then recording the reflected seismic waves. Noise generated in the neighbourhood of a seismic line will disturb seismic data acquisition and hamper the high-	acquire existing seismic and other data, etc.), but does not allow for any actual exploration activities. Falcon has not been granted an exploration right, which has been exercised. Lodging an application for an exploration right in terms of the MPRDA does not provide exclusive development rights, as under the South African legislation all applications are considered on merit to be decided by the competent authority. In other words, the mere lodging of an application for an exploration right in terms of the MPRDA and acceptance of the application by the DMR does not afford exclusive development rights to Falcon. The application for exploration is still pending. It may or may not be approved by the DMR. It would be administratively unfair (and legally indefensible) to deny

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		resolution and good quality imaging of the underlying geological strata. Construction or daily operation of a windfarm will generate high levels of ground vibration and above surface noise that would obstruct Falcon's seismic data gathering.	Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd and or Rietkloof Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd a right to develop and construct a project on the basis of a potential exploration, which may or may not be approved by the DMR.
		From a field development point of view the adverse effect of the G7 Brandvalley and Rietkloof Wind Energy Facilities on Falcon's planned shale gas project is significant. Drilling activities, infrastructure development, gas transmission (pipelines), etc. would all be severely curtailed to render the co-existence with a densely populated windmill platform in the area potentially impossible.	The developer itself has secured the necessary land rights to the project development site through notarised and registered lease agreements with the landowners of the area, some of which date back 2010. Falcon seeks to engage in exploration for shale gas. The manner which this would be done and the areas on the Project Site are at this stage unknown - although clearly this will involve invasive exploration methods.
		The impact of the proposed wind farm on Falcon's rights and proposed activities needs to be assessed as part of the EIA process. A proposed method of assessment has to be developed in consultation with interested parties and approved by competent authority.	In the developer's opinion, Brandvalley and Rietkloof does not affect any right which Falcon holds in terms of the TCP. The proposed Brandvalley wind farm makes up much less than 1% of the proposed exploration site and accordingly, it is unclear how wind turbines on such 1% will have the effect of severely curtailing Falcon's rights or activities. In addition, it must be noted that the vast majority of the proposed Rietkloof wind farm falls outside the area for which Falcon is applying for an exploration right. A map demonstrating this will be included in the environmental impact report.
			It is not practical to pre-empt the decision of the exploration permit application, hence, solutions can be discussed if/when the environmental authorisation has been granted and Falcon has been granted an exploration right.
			The developer will remain available to engage further with Falcon should they receive an exploration right. Apart from rerouting the draft seismic survey line, a range of technical solutions could be explored.
			An assessment of rights falls outside of the scope of the EIA as per the requirements listed in Appendix 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations 982 of 2014.
5.	Mr Connelius Petrus Willemse (C.S.W. Boerdery)/ Sophia Katrina Willemse	Ek wil net vra dat die area wat gebruik word toegekamp sal word vir diere wat miskien daar kan loop, en om te keer dat mense ook daar kan seerkry, of stout is. Translated: I would just like to ask for the area that will be used to be fenced for animals that could walk in the area, as well as to ensure that no persons (such as those who are naughty) get hurt.	Dankie vir u kommentaar. Om die projek area te omhein bykommend tot bestaande plaas omheinings word nie tans beplan nie as gevolg van die kostes betrokke by die oprig en instandhouding van nuwe omheinings rondom strukture wat dit nie benodig in terme van sekuritieit nie. Die substasie wat beplan word vir op die terrein sal omhein word om seker te maak die mense in die area is veilig. Tydens die konstruksie en operasionele fases sal verskeidenheid gesondheids- en veiligheid prosedures in terme van toepaslike wetgewing in plek wees om veiligheid van alle mense op terrein te verseker. Alhoewel daar beheerde toegang in plek sal wees vir die projek area, sal die projek bestuurder sekuriteit personeel aanstel tydens die operasionele fase wat ongemagtigde toegang tot die projek area sal moniteer.
			Translated: Thank you for your comment. It is unlikely that the project area will be fenced in addition to existing fences around farms due to the financial costs of erecting and maintaining new fences around structures that does not require this safety measure. The onsite substation will likely be fenced off with access limited to authorized personal to ensure the safety of people within the project area. During the construction and operational phases, various health and safety

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			procedures compliant with relevant legislation will be in place to ensure safety of all people onsite. Only construction workers will be allowed on site during the construction phase. These staff members will be familiar with all the site protocols and what is acceptable behavior. Any transgressions will be subject to a fine system to ensure adherence to the policies and plans. While the project site will have a controlled access, the project operator will appoint security personnel during the operational phase who will monitor and ensure that there are no unauthorised persons on the project site.
6.	Serame Motlhake and Alishea Viljoen (Sentech)	There will be no impact (preliminary studies done in July 2015) on any of the Sentech networks because of remote location of the plant.	Thank you for the comment on the proposed project. We have taken note of the response and will continue to inform Sentech throughout the Environmental Impact Assessment process.
7.	Warren Petterson (Zeekoegat)	Thank you for your recent correspondence. As close neighbours to the proposed wind farm I would like to raise certain concerns. I have the farm as a means of enjoying and appreciating the pristine environment it is located in. We believe that there is already an approval in place for a wind farm (or two) adjacent to the proposed Rietkloof and Brandvalley farms. Although this makes sense in terms of centralising services and minimising operational costs, I believe that the scale of the proposed operation in total will have an unacceptable impact on the area.	We note your concerns regarding the projects and endeavour to provide sufficient information that is available at this stage to address your concerns. Please note that the closest Rietkloof wind turbine is approximately 9km from your property and the closest Brandvalley wind turbine is approximately 16km away. Correct, there are three Wind Energy Facilities (WEFs) (Roggeveld, Soetwater and Karusa) in close proximity of the Eskom Komsberg substation previously awarded preferred bidder status under the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) managed by the Department of Energy. Only one of them (Roggeveld) is adjacent to the proposed Brandvalley project, but not adjacent to the proposed Rietkloof project. The construction of these projects will likely commence during the second half of 2016. There are many environmental, cost and social benefits to group wind energy facilities in one area, and this was the key objective of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ) conducted by the CSIR from 2013-2015 that has subsequently identified several of these countrywide. The grouping of facilities in this Rietkloof and Brandvalley project areas are supported by the above mentioned SEA. The SEAs Electrical Grid Infrastructure component identifies this area as a corridor for electrical infrastructure expansion, and the proposed expansion of the Komsberg Substation will serve to accommodate additional projects in future. Please see Chapter 4 of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) for more information on the project need and desirability. The combined (cumulative) impacts can be of a higher significance as opposed to the impact of one wind energy facility only. To ensure that the project does not result in unacceptable impacts, the cumulative impacts associated with all proposed projects in the study area will be assessed by the specialists to inform
		All the studies have taken the each individual proposal as a standalone unit, no reference is made to the entire project and the significance of that. I am sure that you will agree that the projects together make a massive wind farm. This will have a far greater impact on the Heritage of the area, the nature of the area and of course the visual impact will be substantial. Surely a proposal of this scale needs more than just a Heritage Screener.	the Brandvalley and Rietkloof Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA). As indicated in the draft scoping report, all specialists will consider and assess the potential cumulative impacts assuming the worst case scenario i.e. that all projects proposed will be constructed. A heritage impact assessment will be undertaken to determine the impact on heritage features. A Notice of Intent to Develop was submitted to the Heritage Western Cape and the South African Heritage Resources Agency to determine whether a Palaeontology Impact Assessment will be required. The findings of the heritage impact assessment will be made available for public comment during the

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		EIA Phase.
	Creating buffers along roads to minimise what can be seen when driving by, does not solve the proliferation of the countryside beyond, which is visible from many of the surrounding farms including ours.	A visual impact assessment (VIA) will determine the areas sensitive to change in the landscape which can include nearby houses, tourist destinations etc. Viewshed analyses will be undertaken to determine the visibility of the wind farm from these various sensitive points*. The findings of the visual impact assessment will be made available for public comment during the EIA Phase. *Should you wish our farm to be included in the VIA, kindly provide us with GPS coordinates of the viewpoint(s) on your farm you want assessed.
	Any natural environment can absorb or sustain a certain amount of negative input. Once again the accumulative size of this proposal will have a negative impact on a massive area of pristine countryside with significant historical and heritage value.	Both the visual and heritage specialists will assess cumulative impacts.
	Furthermore, from an economic point of view, we believe that although wind farms such as these are generally built to assist our struggling state energy supplier, they are predominantly done as a lucrative commercial venture by foreign investors. All the infrastructure is costed in foreign currency, which would of increased substantially with the current exchange rate scenario. As the selling price of the energy is fixed in ZAR (actually cents) the payback terms and timeframes become more difficult. As a result the risk of failure increases. One should ask is the sacrifice of the natural landscape worth it? possibly as a reasonable scale.	G7's response follows: Under the REIPPPP, financial model parameters (payback terms, return on equity, capex with up-to-date foreign exchange assumptions etc.) are finalised at what's referred to as "Financial Close", the time when all contracts for construction and financing of a wind farm are finalised. This occurs shortly before start of construction but 1-2 years after being appointed Preferred Bidder (which in turn can only come after obtaining environmental authorisation). If at that point the project is no longer economically feasible for whatever reason, Financial Close cannot be achieved as no funding can be raised for construction, the project will not be built and no environmental impacts will occur. If at that point the project is economically feasible, exchange rate hedges ensure that no adverse consequences occur during the construction period. In addition, the REIPPPP allows certain adjustments to the electricity tariff to be made for any exchange rate fluctuations between the day an REIPPPP bid is submitted and Financial Close. Finally, since operational costs for wind farms are very low compared to most other forms of electricity generation and since almost all operation and maintenance is done locally, exchange rate fluctuations have very little impact on the viability of a
		wind farm once it has been built. For these reasons, there is no "risk of failure" in this context. If the wind farm is built, it will be viable and not fail. Otherwise the wind farm simply won't be built.
	Further risks on the success of the establishments are changing weather patterns. Sure the wind factor is measured for a long period, however as a resident I can assure you that the weather patterns have changed over the past few years, one of the most significant changes being the reduction in windy days. This will impact on potential power outputs as well as the potential income for those farmers who signed agreements whereby they receive a percentage of the revenue generated by each turbine.	Wind resources have already been studied over an extensive period of time and compared with historical data with the intention to assess and account for such interannual variations. Such information has already been taken into account by the developer to determine the viability of the proposed wind farms. In addition, under the REIPPPP and sound investment practices (which all private capital to be employed here is bound by), neither Preferred Bidder nor Financial Close can be reached without a detailed analysis of this aspect. However, such analysis is unfortunately beyond the scope of the EIA.
	From an environmental perspective, there is a tremendous amount of small wildlife spread across this area. I am no specialist, however the traffic, presence of people, and the turbines themselves giving off some sounds and vibrations is sure to ensure that the animals disappear.	The potential ecological, noise, social and traffic impacts will be assessed to inform the EIA phase. Various mitigation measures will be recommended in order to reduce or avoid negative impacts and enhance positive impacts. All mitigation measures will be included in an Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

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	In torse of where to place these WEE's gurely alternatives about the	In order to ensure that the EMPr is implemented during the construction phase, an independent Environmental Control Officer (ECO), as well as external auditors, will undertake regular audits to ensure compliance. If the proposed development is authorised, the applicant is obliged, by law, to implement all the conditions of approval and the EMP. A draft EMPr and all specialist assessment reports will be made available for review and input during the EIA phase. The EIA process will ensure that the impacts can be reduced to an acceptable level before the project is authorised and can be managed in reasonable manner during the construction and operational phases. Please note that various alternatives were identified and included in Chapter 3 in
	In terms of where to place these WEF's, surely alternatives should be looked at. I may have missed that part, however it is my understanding that part of an Environmental Study should involve looking at alternatives. We look forward to seeing what alternatives were considered in your Draft EIR, which is what I believe to be the next step in this process.	the DSRs. Alternatives to be considered also include access road location alternatives, construction camp location alternatives, onsite substation location alternatives as well as incremental alternatives for turbine locations. In addition, the no-go alternative will also be assessed. As noted in the DSR numerous (14) sites were subject to a feasibility study conducted by CES in 2009.
	Firstly more "disturbed" areas possibly closer to urbanisation and the required power sub stations and grids are more ideally located. Although wind is a prerequisite, I am sure that there are areas along or close to the coast that have enough wind, are more disturbed and a lot closer to the required substations and power lines. It is difficult to believe that destroying a massive part of the Karoo is the best solution?	An environmental and technical pre-feasibility assessment was undertaken in order to determine which areas of South Africa could potentially be suitable for wind farm developments. After much deliberations, the applicant selected this area based on the following:
		Wind resource: Analysis of publicly available information, proprietary information and specialist analysis of five years' worth of on-site weather data indicated that the site has sufficient wind resource to make a wind energy facility financially viable.
		Site extent: Sufficient land can be secured under long-term lease agreements to allow for the required number of wind turbines to make the project feasible.
		Grid access: Grid access and the distance to a viable connection point were key considerations in terms of prioritising appropriate sites. Ease of access into the Eskom electricity grid is vital to the viability of a wind facility. Projects which are in close proximity to a connection point and/or demand centre are favourable, and reduce the losses associated with power transmission. Grid access is deemed favourable for this site due to the existence of the existing Eskom Komsberg Substation. Eskom is currently considering the Komsberg Substation as a hub for connecting several renewable energy projects being developed in the area.
		Land suitability: The current land use of the site properties is an important consideration for site selection in terms of limiting disruption to existing land use practices. Agricultural land was preferred as the majority of farming practices can continue in tandem to the operation of the wind farm once the construction and commissioning of the project is complete. Sites that facilitate easy construction conditions (relatively flat, limited watercourse crossings, lack of major rock outcrops) are also favoured during site selection. Proximity to aerodromes: The proximity to aerodromes and possible interactions
		with these facilities was considered as part of site selection.

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			Landowner support: The selection of sites where the landowners are supportive of the development of renewable energy is essential for ensuring the success of the project. The landowners do not view the development as a conflict with their current land use practices.
8.	Ms L Tools-Bernado (Department of Environment and Nature Conservation, Northern Cape Province)	Draft Scoping Report for the Proposed Development of the 140MW Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility, in the Northern and Western Cape Province, South Africa. The Department confirms having received the Draft scoping report x 1 CD for public review for environmental authorisation of the above mentioned project on the 08 th February 2016. As required in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014. The applications has been assigned the reference number NC/NAT/ZFM/KHE/BLA1/2016. Kindly quote this reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application. Please note that the responsible officer is going to be Ms. Onwabile Ndzumo and can be contacted at (027) 718 8800.	Thank you for confirming receipt of the Draft Scoping Report and providing the reference number and the relevant contact details for the DENC officer responsible. We will communicate with Ms Onwabile Ndzumo going forward and provide the DENC reference number for any future correspondence.
9.	John Geeringh (Senior Consultant Environmental management, Eskom)	Please find attached Eskom requirements for works at or near Eskom infrastructure. Please send me copies of all reports on CD via registered mail.	Copies of all reports were sent to John Geeringh and receipt was confirmed.
10.	Warren Petterson (Zeekoegat)	Highlights and red text were provided by Warren Petterson. This comment should be read in conjunction with the comment recorded in line 7. We note your concerns regarding the projects and endeavour to provide sufficient information that is available at this stage to address your concerns. Please note that the closest Rietkloof wind turbine is approximately 9km from your property and the closest Brandvalley wind turbine is approximately 16km away. This is very close in the Karoo.	We note your concern.
		Correct, there are three Wind Energy Facilities (WEFs) (Roggeveld, Soetwater and Karusa) in close proximity of the Eskom Komsberg substation previously awarded preferred bidder status under the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) managed by the Department of Energy. Only one of them (Roggeveld) is adjacent to the proposed Brandvalley project, but not adjacent to the proposed Rietkloof project. I believe that all these WEF's will abut each other and create a massive facility that will almost industrialise the area and magnify the impacts that we are trying to avoid. The construction of these projects will likely commence during the second half of 2016. There are many environmental, cost and social benefits to group wind energy facilities in one area, and this was the key objective of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ) conducted by the CSIR from 2013-2015 that has subsequently identified several of these	All specialists will assess cumulative impacts within the planning context of this area considering that the area is earmarked for renewable energy development (see the Renewable Energy Development Zones and Strategic Environmental Assessment for Electrical Grid Infrastructure). Potential positive environmental benefits include the 1) protection of heritage features as without identifying heritage features and protecting it as part of this project, farming practices might continue to impact on it; 2) energy generation from a renewable energy resource will help South Africa to move towards the target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It will also increase the generation capacity in line with the Integrated Resource Plan for South Africa and 3) social and financial benefits to the local community in terms of job creation, secondary spending in the area, need for goods and services that will stimulate the local economy, skills transfer and community upliftment. The EIA report together with all the specialist reports will outline exactly what environmental benefits there will be, if any.

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	countrywide. The grouping of facilities in this Rietkloof and Brandvalley project areas are supported by the above mentioned SEA. The SEAs Electrical Grid Infrastructure component identifies this area as a corridor for electrical infrastructure expansion, and the proposed expansion of the Komsberg Substation will serve to accommodate additional projects in future. Please see Chapter 4 of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) for more information on the project need and desirability. It cannot be possible that there are in fact "Environmental benefits", possibly cost and social?	
	A visual impact assessment (VIA) will determine the areas sensitive to change in the landscape which can include nearby houses, tourist destinations etc. Viewshed analyses will be undertaken to determine the visibility of the wind farm from these various sensitive points*. The findings of the visual impact assessment will be made available for public comment during the EIA Phase. *Should you wish our farm to be included in the VIA, kindly provide us with GPS coordinates of the viewpoint(s) on your farm you want assessed. Please see attached kmz with 3 of the many possible Viewpoints.	Thank you for providing the three viewpoints. The visual specialist will include these as potential sensitive visual receptors in the visual impact assessment. From recent satellite imagery it appears as if there are no development at these viewpoints, so do those viewpoints refer to existing or proposed developments?
	Please note that various alternatives were identified and included in Chapter 3 in the DSRs. Alternatives to be considered also include access road location alternatives, construction camp location alternatives, onsite substation location alternatives as well as incremental alternatives for turbine locations. In addition, the no-go alternative will also be assessed. These are local scale alternatives As noted in the DSR numerous (14) sites were subject to a feasibility study conducted by CES in 2009. These are the alternatives that we want a better understanding of, and the reasoning behind the noncompliance/failure of the other 12 sites?	The Department of Environmental Affairs has very specific requirements for the identification of alternatives as stated in Appendix 2 of the 2014 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations. It is not a requirement to consider potential alternatives on a larger scale. Although this is not a requirement for Environmental Impact Assessment processes, the pre-feasibility assessment was a high level assessment undertaken to assess sites in Beaufort West, Calvinia, Klawer, Kleinsee, Lamberts Bay, Richtersveld, Struisbay, Sutherland, Swartbergvleid, Swellendam, Uitvlugt, Vredendal and Witberg. Subsequent to this pre-feasibility assessment the applicant continued to pursue some of these areas as well as other new identified areas based on confirmed wind resources, the landowner support, proximity of grid access, site extent and land suitability. Most of the sites initially investigated were not pursued due to potentially higher environmental impacts
	Site extent: Sufficient land can be secured under long-term lease agreements to allow for the required number of wind turbines to make the project feasible. Some argue that you are taking advantage of a generally poor farming community	The repsonse from the community during the recent public meeting held on 11 February 2016 was overwhelmingly positive and the local community fully support and welcome this development. The mayor of Laingsburg correctly indicated that 1% of the turnover will be given to the community which exceeds Municipal income tax. These funds will result in direct community upliftment. Others may argue that a generally poor or struggling farming community is taking advantage of wind farms as a means to sustainable income.
	Grid access: Grid access and the distance to a viable connection point were key considerations in terms of prioritising appropriate sites. Ease of access into the Eskom electricity grid is vital to the viability of a wind facility. Projects which are in close proximity to a connection point and/or demand centre are favourable, and reduce the losses associated with power transmission. Grid access is deemed favourable for this site due to the existence of the existing Eskom Komsberg Substation. Eskom is currently considering the Komsberg	Eskom intends to expand the existing Eskom Komsberg substation and are thereby attracting more renewable energy development to the area. The Karoo covers a large area within the middle of South Africa. It would therefore not be possible to avoid all impacts associated with electrical infrastructure to the Karoo. By expanding the existing substation it reduces the need for a greenfield development at a different location which is preferred from an environmental and cost perspective. Also, this part of the Karoo has been disturbed for many years. Two very large 400kV power lines were built here in the 1970's and an even larger

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			ion as a hub for connecting several renewable energy projects	765kV power line in 2015. Three large 140MW wind farms have recently been
			leveloped in the area. You are not answering the question.	approved here and will enter construction in late 2015. This does not "destroy" the
			erg is in the Karoo. The Karoo is undisturbed. Why destroy it.	Karoo as more than 99% of the vegetation in the area is left intact.
11.	Department of	DEA C	OMMMENT ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT	RELEVANT CHAPTER /SECTION OF THE FINAL SCOPING REPORT
	Environmental Affairs:	i.	Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are	Please see Chapter 1, Section 1.3 as well as revision 1 of the application
	Integrated Environmental Authorisations		applied for, are specific and that it can be linked to the	<u>form.</u>
	Authorisations		development activity or infrastructure as described in	
			the project description.	
		ii.	If activities applied for in the application differ from	An amended application form was submitted with updated listed activities
			those mentioned in the final SR, an amended	(GN 983, Activity 9(i) and (ii) was removed). The application form
			application form must be submitted. Please note that	template available on the DEA website was used.
			the Department's application form template has been	
			amended and can be downloaded from the following	
			link:	
			https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms.	
		iii.	Please ensure that the application form is signed by	The amended application was signed by the applicant. Signed consent
			the applicant and that a signed land owner's	forms from land owners were provided and are also provided in Appendix
			notification form is submitted to this Department.	<u>C-7.</u>
		iv.	The Final SR must provide evidence that all identified	Please see Appendix C-2 and C-3.
			and relevant competent authorities have been given	
			an opportunity to comment on the proposed	
			development; particularly the Square Kilometre Array	
			South Africa, the South African Astronomical	
			Observatory, the Department of Agriculture and the	
			Department of Mineral Resources.	
		٧.	The final SR must investigate and identify all traffic	Please see Chapter 7.
			impact associated with the proposed development.	
		vi.	Should in-house specialists be used for any specialist	Noted, the visual impact assessment and the agricultural impact
			study, then the specialist study must be peer reviewed	assessment will be peer reviewed.
			by an external specialist.	
		vii.	The final Scoping Report must indicate all private and	Please see Chapter 6, Section 6.1.
			government nature protection areas in the area,	
			including any Important Bird Areas.	
		viii.	The final Scoping Report must indicate and describe	Please see Chapter 4, Section 4.3.5 and Chapter 6, Section 6.1.3 and
			the competing land uses in the area. This must further	<u>6.1.4.</u>
			motivate the desirability of locating the wind energy	
			facility at the preferred location.	
		ix.	Please ensure that all issues raised and comments	Please see Chapter 8 for PPP details, Appendix C-6 for a copy of the
			received during the circulation of the SR from	comments and responses report, I&AP database in C-2 and Appendix
			registered I&APs and organs of state which have	C3.3 and C3.6 for proof that attempts were made to obtain input from the
			jurisdiction (including the Department's Biodiversity	various organs of state.
			Section) in respect of the proposed activity are	

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	adequately addressed in the Final SR. Should you b	<u>e</u>
	unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitte	<u>d</u>
	to the Department of the attempts that were made t	-
	obtain comments. The Public Participation Proces	<u>s</u>
	must be conducted in terms of the Regulation 39, 40	<u>.</u>
	41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014.	
	x. <u>Please provide a description of any identifie</u>	
	alternatives for the proposed activity that are feasible	<u>advantages and disadvantages of the proposed project in Chapter 4.</u>
	and reasonable, including the advantages an	<u>d</u>
	disadvantages that the proposed activity of	<u>r</u>
	alternatives will have on the environment and on the	<u>e</u>
	community that may be affected by the activity as pe	<u>r</u>
	Appendix 2 of the EIA Regulations, 2014	=
	Alternatively, you should submit written proof of a	<u>n</u>
	investigation and motivation if no reasonable of	<u>r</u>
	feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 2.	
	xi. In accordance with Appendix 2 of the EIA Regulation	Refer to Chapter 1, Section 1.6 and Appendix D for CVs.
	2014, the details of –	
	i) <u>the EAP who prepared the report; and</u>	
	xii. <u>ii) the expertise of the EAP to carry out Scoping an</u>	<u>d</u>
	Environmental Impact Assessment procedures mus	<u>st</u>
	<u>be submitted.</u>	
	xiii. You are further reminded that the final SR to b	e Noted.
	submitted to this Department must comply with a	${f f m m m m m m m m m m m m m $
	requirements in terms of the scope of assessment an	-
	content of Scoping reports in accordance wit	
	Appendix 2 and Regulations 21(1) of the El.	$ ar{A} $
	Regulations, 2014.	
	xiv. Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the El.	A Noted.
	Regulations 2014, this application will lapse of the	<u>e</u>
	applicant fails to meet any of the timeframe	
	prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless a	
	extension has been granted in terms of Regulation	<u>1</u>
	<u>3(7).</u>	

	COMMENT BY	COMMENT/ISSUE RAISED	RESPONSE
12.	Stephan Pienaar (PENTA P	Re: NOTICE OF OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	We acknowledge your comments, the order of their significance and your objection
	PTY LTD)	OF THE RIETKLOOF WEF, WESTERN CAPE Having only recently	to the proposed Rietkloof wind energy facility. Please note that you have been
		becoming aware of this proposed development I have not previously	registered as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for the proposed project and
		registered as an I&AP but I believe that I am still entitled to do so and	will be kept informed accordingly.
		attached hereto my registration form. I wish to hereby submit my	
		objection to this development which arises from a number of concerns	We note your concerns regarding potential impacts to your communication
		and I will deal with these in their order of significance from my point of	systems. Breede Net radio network is an I&AP and was therefore informed of the
		view.	proposed development with the request to comment in case there are any
			foreseeable issues (with signal interference). The telecommunication link between
		My company Penta P (Pty) Ltd is the owner of the farm Aasvogelbosch	Brandkop and your property was carefully considered in the turbine layout design.
		(Portion 1 of Keurkloof 97) some distance due south of the proposed	The applicant guarantees that there will be no issues with your Breede Net
		development. My sole means of communication from the farm is via the	communication link (in the configuration as of February 2016) caused by the wind
		Breedenet Radio Network which I utilize both for the internet and voice	farm development. In the unlikely event that there are any issues, it will be
		communication (VOIP). I do not have a Telkom fixed line facility and,	immediately rectified at the applicant's sole expense. Mitigation can be achieved by
		due to the location of the farm being in a deep signal "shadow" from	a repeater station via the Breede Net network at one of the wind measurement
		any of the cellphone service providers, no cellphone reception is available at the farmhouse. The farmhouse is situated at 33 12 20S 20	masts in the South of the project site or via access to the wind farm's fibre optic Internet connection. However, the applicant is convinced that no issues are to be
		30 40E. You will appreciated that from a security and safety position,	expected due to the fact that this communication corridor was avoided by not
		an effective, reliable and continuous means of communication is	placing any project infrastructure (other than harmless roads) inside this corridor.
		essential for any farm.	placing any project infrastructure (other than harmless roads) inside this comdon.
l	i	My first concern is the following: From the information presented in	The location and routing of Breed Net's Brandkop mast and your "Client 3" link
		your Draft Environmental Scoping Report dated 26 January 2016 it is	providing those services was sent by Breede Net to the applicant already on 12
		clear that the proposed facility is directly in line between the antenna on	March 2015. The information was sent in Google Earth (KMZ) file format including
		farm and Breedenet's antenna on Brandkop on the farm Brandvalley.	the transmitter and receiver locations as well as the frequency of the link. From this
		am very concerned that, should the project go ahead, the signal quality	information, the first Fresnel Zone was calculated and integrated into the applicants
		to and from my farm will be significantly reduced by interference from	layout design as a no-go zone. In the applicant's own and overseas studies
		the turbines. This will place my family and property in jeopardy should	undertaken for other projects and having dealt extensively with other providers
		an emergency arise for which I require immediate and urgent	such as Telkom, Eskom and Sentech including their own specialist studies, the
		assistance. It will furthermore impact on my usual day to day means of	generally accepted rule to avoid any potential electromagnetic interference on
		communication via the internet. I will require an investigation by an	existing telecommunication infrastructure is to not place any fixed structures in
		independent, industry recognised radio communication specialist to	direct line of sight of communication links and avoid the infringement of the first
		assure me that such interference will not occur. In addition thereto I will	Fresnel Zone in order to guarantee the signal quality and stability. There are
		request such specialist to record the current signal quality and strength	divergent views in the industry regarding the effect and extent to which moving
		which will serve as reference values for future comparisons.	blades infringing on the first Fresnel Zone impact signal quality. Some specialist
			studies show that there is an impact on the signal while other reports highlight that
			there are sufficient gaps between the blades to not cause any significant
			interference. Due to the knowledge gap and the uncertainty regarding the blade
			impacts, the applicant has taken the conservative approach and has added an
			additional buffer of one blade length around the first Fresnel zone. These rules and
			the provided data, including buffers, have informed the turbine placement process
			and therefore avoids any potential issues with your communication link.

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	My second concern relates to what I perceive to be a total	Figure 2.3 and Figure 3.1 of the Scoping Report indicates the conceptual layout
	understatement in your draft report on the physical impact which will be	including proposed turbine positions, crane pad positions, on-site substation
	caused by the construction of access roads to the turbine sites. I notice	alternatives, on-site construction camp options and access routes for the proposed
	that you have not included a civil engineer on your sub-consultant team	Rietkloof WEF. The road to the south of the Rietkloof site is an existing access
	which I am sure would have cast a different light on this issue. Your	road that will need to be upgraded and therefore forms part of the access road
	draft report makes scant mention of this significant issue in para 3.2.1	alternative 1, 2 and 3 which will be assessed in the EIA phase. However, please
	and even then rather concentrates on the environmentally less	find attached an updated map.
	significant "access roads" than the potentially more destructive what	
	you term "side roads" or "secondary roads". The impact of construction	
	roads between 8m and 12m in width up on to and along the ridges will	
	be major yet this is brushed over in your report.	
	As an aside, the figures 2.3 and 3.1 in your draft report are not correct.	
	I suspect this is due to inexperienced use of GIS tools and should have	
	been picked up by your report reviewer. It is also puzzling while the	
	report in 3.5.1.2 lists both Access Roads 2 and 3 which are not	
	significantly different but does not consider the road along the south of	
	the project area which leads to 3 of the 5 proposed construction camp	
	sites as an access road. This road will surely have to be upgraded.	
	My third concern relates to aesthetical matters. I understand that in the	It is acknowledged that the Karoo is generally pristine and that the rural landscape
	greater scheme of things the loss to a few individuals of the very real	is of significance to some individuals. The areas chosen for the Rietkloof wind farm
	value of residing in a typical rural landscape with pristine vistas (for	has been already affected by development somewhat. The rural landscape of this
	which many of the local residents chose to live here) will not carry	part of the Karoo has been disturbed for many years. Two very large 400kV power
	much weight. It is, however, difficult to accept that there are no suitable	lines were built here in the 1970's and an even larger 765kV power line in 2015.
	alternative sites to be found.	Please note that a substantial number of national, regional and local alternatives to
		the Rietkloof site have been considered in detail. Please refer to appendix 1 of the
		Comments and Responses Report (CRR) which provides supplementary
		information in this regard (please find attached).
	In your draft report Chapter 3 -Alternatives commences with:	As required by the 2014 EIA Regulations, various alternatives were identified and
	According to Appendix 2(2) of the EIA Regulations (GN R. 982 of	included in Chapter 3. Alternatives include layout alternatives for access roads,
	2014), a Scoping Report must contain all the information necessary for	construction camps, onsite substations and the no-go development alternative.
	a proper understanding of the process, informing all preferred	Additional motivations for the preferred site location and technology were
	alternatives, including location alternatives, the scope of the	described in Chapter 4. However, in order to address your concerns in this regard
	assessment, and the consultation process to be undertaken through	directly, supplementary information has been made available in appendix 1 to the
	the environmental impact assessment process, and must include – (h)	CRR for your consideration.
	a full description of the process followed to reach the proposed	
	preferred activity, site and location within the site, including - (i) details	
	of alternatives considered; (x) if no alternatives, including alternative	
	locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not	
	considering such; and (xi) a concluding statement indicating the	
	preferred alternatives, including the preferred location of the activity.	

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		Unless I am mistaken the report on which I am commenting, is this "Scoping Report" yet no details on any of the alternatives considered are presented as required by the Regulations. Mentioned is made of a "detailed and rigorous pre-feasibilty assessment" providing a "reasonable justification" for selecting the Rietkloof site. Making such an assessment available "on request" surely does not comply with the Regulations which call for such information to be part of the Scoping Report.	
		I trust that you will consider my concerns and that they will be receiving the attention called for in NEMA and its Regulations.	
13.	Arabel McClelland (DEADP)	1. The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) dated 20 January 2016 that were received by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (hereinafter referred to as "the Department") on 25 January 2016, and the telephonic conversation on 23 February 2016, refer.	Thank you for the comment on the proposed Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility. Your understanding of the proposed project is correct.
		2. It is understood that the applicant, Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Lt, proposes the following development: 2.1 The development of a 140 megawatt (MW) wind energy facility comprising of 70 turbines; 2.2 Each turbine will have a generating capacity between 1.5MW and 4MW; 2.3 Each turbine will have a foundation of 25m in diameter and 4m in depth; 2.4 The turbine structures will have a maximum hub height of up to	
		120m per turbine and a rotor diameter of up to 140m; and 2.5 Associated substation and ancillary infrastructure (access roads, overhead power lines, electrical transformers, wind measuring lattice masts etc.).	
		The following consolidated comment by various directorates in Department is hereby offered:	3. Please note that the contact details provided were included in the updated Interested and Affected Party database.
		3. Directorate: Development Management (Region 2) – Arabel McClelland (Arabel.McClelland@westerncape.gov.za; Tel: (021) 483 2660): 3.1 Please include the Department of Environmental Affairs' reference number in future documentation for referencing purposes.	3.1 The DEA reference number will be included in all future correspondence.
		3.2 With respect to the applicable 2014 EIA listed activities listed in Table 1-1 of the DSR, the following is noted:	3.2.1 It is noted, and the application form will be updated accordingly.
		3.2.1 Activity 20 of Government Notice (GN) No. R. 983 refers to an activity identified in terms of section 53(1) of the National	3.2.2 It is noted, and the application form will be updated accordingly.
		Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 20014) (NEM:BA). Please note that such activities identified in terms of section 53(1) of the NEM:BA have not yet been gazetted and as such,	3.2.3 It is noted, and the application form will be updated accordingly.

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	activity 30 of this listing notice should be excluded from the application. 3.2.2 Activities 12 and 14 of the GN No. R. 985 refer to systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans. Please note that these plans have not been formally adopted by the competent authority of the Western Cape. 3.2.3. Activity 14 of GN No. R. 985 also refers to "sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in Chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority." Similarly, please be advised that the draft Environmental Management Framework for the Cape Winelands District Municipality has not been formally adopted by the competent authority.	
	3.3 The pages number of Chapter 1 should be amended as they are not sequential.	3.3 The numbering will be corrected for the submission of the Final Scoping Report.
	3.4 Section 1.3 of the DSR incorrectly refers to the triggering of at least one listed activity in GN No. R. 985, which require a full Scoping and EIA process to be followed. This should be amended to GN No. R. 984.	3.4 Section 1.3 will be corrected to reflect the triggering of at least one activity in GN No. R. 984, which requires a full Scoping and EIA process to be followed.
	3.5. Clarity on the following is required and must be address in the EIA Report: 3.5.1 Chapter 2, sub-section 2.4.1(3)(ii)(h) of the DSR refers to the site being "rehabilitated where practical and reasonable." It is recommended that additional information be provided with respect to the proposed rehabilitation measures, management thereof and responsible parties. 3.5.2 Section 3.3 of the DSR outline "incremental alternatives" with respect to the turbine layouts and positions and briefly mentions some factors that may influence this. However, the project description states that "up to 70 wind turbine positions" may be proposed. The description allows for an expansive range of turbine positions; therefore it is recommended that clarity is provided either on how factors influence the selection and placement of the turbines, or how the potential positions are eliminated based on the maximise number of wind turbines. 3.5.3 Figure 6-11 depicts the Critically Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Ecological Support Area (ESAs) within the proposed project area. However, the titles of the first two maps have been incorrectly labelled and should be switched so that the first map (top left) refers to the Cape Winelands DM. 3.5.4 This Directorate supports the identified specialist studies indicated in the Plan of Study for the EIA that are to be undertaken to inform the EIA phase of the application.	Please note that additional information will be provided in the EIA Report for the following: 3.5.1 Rehabilitation measures and management thereof will be included in the Environmental Management Plan as recommended by the various specialist assessments. 3.5.2 Please see the information provided on the factors that influence the placement of the 70 positions. The layout of turbines will furthermore be informed and amended to accommodate the findings from the specialist assessments during the EIA phase. 3.5.3 The titles were corrected to reflect the correct municipality. 3.5.4 We note your support for the identified specialist studies as indicated in the Plan of Study for EIA.
	3.6 Given the scale and location of the proposed development, it is recommended that the potential impacts for the construction, operational and decommissioning phases be clearly distinguished. Furthermore, due to the scale of the construction works in relatively remote location and the substantial size of the construction site (~10ha) and on-site concrete batching plant (a further ~1ha), it is recommended that the potential impacts associated with the contractor's base camp	3.6 The potential impacts for the construction, operational and decommissioning phases will be more clearly separated in the EIA Report and Environmental Management Plan. All specialist assessments will consider and assess the potential impacts associated with the proposed construction camp and concrete batching plant. Additional information on the workforce will be provided during the EIA phase.

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		include provision of basic services for the site and personnel, as well as	
		the construction work spread out across a more expansive area, be	
		adequately considered and assessed in the EIA Report. In addition, it is	
		recommended that the approximate size of the workforce required	
		during the construction phase be indicated in the EIA Report.	
14.	Fancini van Staden (DEADP)	4. Directorate: Development Management (Region 3) – Fracini van Staden	Please note that the contact details provided were included in the updated Interested and Affected Party database
		(<u>Francini.vanStaden@westerncape.gov.za</u> ; Tel (044) 805 8617):	
		4.1. Based on information contained in the DSR, this Directorate	As requested, the biophysical impacts will be considered in aquatic, ecology and
		requires that the following impacts pertaining to the receiving	agricultural impact assessments during the EIA Phase. Potential increase in noise
		environment be assessed and taken into account with the final design	generation on the receiving environment will be considered in the Noise Impact
		and layout of the proposed wind energy facility:	Assessment. Dust impacts will be considered by the EAP and recommendations to mitigate will be included in the EMP.
		4.1.1 Biophysical Impacts	
		4.1.1.1 Potential impacts on surface water resources that occur in close	
		proximity to the site and possible riparian zones;	
		4.1.1.2 Potential impacts of increased surface water run-off (viz.	
		increased soil erosion) associated with the establishment of hard	
		surfaces and vegetation clearing (mainly during the construction	
		phase);	
		4.1.1.3 Potential impacts on ground and surface water quality due to	
		hydrocarbon spillages from vehicles during construction and	
		operational phase of the development;	
		4.1.1.5 Destruction of flora within development area ranging from	
		construction activities such as vegetation clearing and topsoil stripping	
		within the site;	
		4.1.16 The disruption of ecological processes and loss of landscape	
		connectivity; 4.1.1.7 Faunal displacement mainly during the construction phase of	
		the project and adverse impacts on avifauna as a result of potential	
		habitat loss:	
		4.1.1.8 Potential biophysical impacts of the development on formally	
		and informally protected areas;	
		4.1.1.9 Potential impacts of the development on the soil and	
		agricultural potential of the site;	
		4.1.1.10 Potential impacts of the proposed development on subsurface	
		drainage patterns; and	
		4.1.1.11 Potential increase in dust and noise generation on the	
		receiving environment during the construction phase.	
		4.1.2 Development site	The proposed turbine footprints and associated infrastructure will be ground-
		4.1.2.1 A thorough assessment of the turbine footprints for the	truthed and assessed in the EIA Phase of the proposed project.
		aforementioned anticipated biophysical and other impacts must be	a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a
		conducted, as well as the development footprint of any associated	
		development components or facilities (e.g. ancillary infrastructure,	
		substation and other electrical infrastructure development, etc.).	
Ì		4.1.3 Socio-Economic	Please note that a transport plan can only be compiled once the turbine model and
		4.1.3.1 A thorough assessment of road transport and access safety	turbine manufacturer are selected and the number of turbines are confirmed. Such
		1	

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		pertaining to the delivery of turbine components for the proposed development; 4.1.3.2 The potential job creation during the construction and operational phases of the proposed development; and 4.1.3.3 The potential for education and training development initiatives to enable the youth to develop skills, especially in the fields of science and technology.	a detailed study will be undertaken post-EIA once the information becomes available. In order to ensure that the project will not impact on traffic, various mitigation measures will be included in the EMP. The Socio-Economic Assessment will consider the potential for job creation and the potential for education and training initiatives in the EIA Phase. Please also note that the details of community upliftment projects are not known at this stage and will be determined through a collaborative process with the local community. What will be assessed though is the potential for the WEF to financially contribute to community upliftment projects.
		4.2 According to the DSR, the proposed Brandvalley wind energy facility may connect to a shared onsite Eskom 33/132kV substation, which could then be connected via an off-site overhead 132kV power line to the Komsberg substation. Proof of consultation and/ or any preliminary agreements with Eskom in this regard must be included in the EIA Report.	Unfortunately, there's no preliminary agreement with Eskom that can be shared. Correspondence involving grid connection is confidential of nature as this directly affects the tariff per kwh. The grid connection can only be discussed with Eskom once the next bid date for the REIPPPP is confirmed. Grid connection will be secured through a cost estimate letter which will only be in place post-EIA. Eskom is a registered Interested and Affected Party in the EIA process.
		4.3 According to the DSR, a site selection process was following which resulted in the proposal of the wind energy facility on the proposed development site. It is furthermore notes that an access road, construction camp and substation site alternatives will be assessed. It is recommended that the EIA Report provide a more detailed assessment of the different types of technology alternatives (e.g. wind energy vs. solar energy) and a detailed description why the proposed wind energy facility is considered more feasible that other alternatives.	Please see Appendix 1 to the CRR.
		4.4Accoriding to the DSR, the development site falls within a CBA and ESA. Development proposed which are not aligned to the management goals of CBAs and ESAs should not be supported. The desired management outcomes for the CBA is to maintain natural land, rehabilitation degraded land to a natural or near natural state and to manage for no further degradation. In this regard the mitigation hierarchy must be followed and unacceptable impacts on CBAs and ESAs should firstly be avoided. If after having investigated alternatives to avoid the impacts altogether, it can be shown that avoidance is not possible, then alternatives to mitigate and manage the impacts must be explored. Unavoidable residual impacts should be rehabilitated. If after rehabilitation certain residual impacts of medium or high significance will remain, then option to offset the biodiversity impacts should be explored.	Mitigation and rehabilitation measures will be explored for any unavoidable residual impacts to ensure that the proposed projects are in accordance with the CBA and ESA management aims.
		5. Please direct all enquired to the officials indicated in this correspondence should you require any further clarity on any of the issues/comments provided.	The officials indicated in the correspondence provided by DEA&DP will be notified going forward.
		6. The Department reserved the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on the information received	Noted.
15.	Dr Ramotholo Sefako (SAAO)	We have studied your draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the proposed construction of the Brandvalley and Rietkloof Wind Energy facilities in Northern and Western Cape provinces around the Karoo. We note that parts of the proposed facilities are within the Sutherland	Thank you for the comment relating to both the Rietkloof and Brandvalley wind farm projects. Please note that the document this comment pertains to, is the Draft Scoping Report and the EIA Report will be made available at a later stage. One farm portion of the proposed Brandvalley wind farm, namely Farm 197 Rietfontein, is located within the Sutherland Central Astronomy Advantage Area (AAA). The closest turbine on this property is approximately 73km from the SALT. The

		Central Astronomy Advantage Areas, which was declared by the Minister of Science and Technology and published in the Government Gazette (No. 37434, Notice 199 of 2014) on 12 March 2014 as part of the Astronomy Geographic Advantage (AGA) Act 2007. A Central Astronomy Advantage Area (Central AAA) is defined as an area declared by the Minister so that activities, which may affect astronomy and related scientific endeavours, or astronomy advantage, such as light pollution or radio frequency interference, may be restricted or prohibited in the Central AAA to ensure or facilitate the protection of a Core Astronomy Advantage Area (Core AAA) from such activities. Basically activities that may be detrimental to astronomy and related endeavours may be restricted or prohibited in the Central AAA. Our main concern with the proposed facilities is with regard to any night lighting associated with the wind turbines, dust pollution during construction of the facilities and/or any other aspect of the development that will cause light/or air pollution. Accordingly, we wish to point out	proposed Rietkloof wind farm falls outside of the Sutherland Central AAA. We acknowledge that the SALT is sensitive to dust, light and other interferences that may visually obstruct viewing. Mitigation measures to reduce potential light and dust pollution during the construction and operational stages of the Brandvalley wind energy facility will be included in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP). The SAAO will be afforded the opportunity to comment on these mitigation measures. Discussions will be advanced (outside of the EIA process) with the SAAO/SALT and the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) in order to ensure that proposed mitigations accommodate the lighting requirements in accordance with the Civil Aviation Act 13 of 2009 and the Astronomy Geographic Advantage Act 21 of 2007.
		that all development near Sutherland and surrounding areas must confirm to the Astronomy Geographic Advantage Act Regulations. You draft document does not mention optical astronomy or how the Southern African Large Telescope (SALT), the largest optical telescope in the Southern Hemisphere, will be protected again light and dust emissions as a result of the development of your facilities. It is important that potential impacts to astronomy relating to dust and lighting at night and mitigation measures that will be taken to protect optical astronomy at SALT are part of the EIA process. The SAAO reserves the right to object to the proposed construction of the Brandvalley and Rietkloof Wind Energy Facilities, if they are found	
		to pose a threat to optical astronomy at SAAO's observing station near Sutherland.	
16. Ac	Adrian Tiplady (SKA)	This letter is in response to your email request, to provide an assessment on the potential development of Brandvalley/Rietkloof wind electricity generation facility and the risk it may pose on the Square Kilometre Array Project. A high level risk assessment has been conducted at the South African SKA Project Office to determine the potential impact of such facility on the Square Kilometre Array. This letter serves to confirm the outcomes of the risk assessment, and proposals for any future investigations associated with this facility. I. The nearest SKA station has been identified as SKA Station SKA-2379, at approximately 75km/78km from the proposed location of	Thank you for confirming that the proposed Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility would pose a very low risk to the SKA and therefore no mitigation measures are required at this stage. Kindly provide us with the coordinates of SKA-2379 for future reference. Please note that the SKA will be kept informed throughout the project, as requested. Noted.

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		II. Based on the distance to the nearest SKA station, and the information currently available on the detailed design of wind facilities, this wind energy facility poses a very low risk of detrimental impact on the SKA;	
		III. Any transmitters that are to be established, or have been established, at the site for the purposes of voice and data communication will be required to comply with the relevant AGA regulations concerning the restriction of use of the radio frequency spectrum that applies in the area concerned;	
		IV. As a result of the very low risk associated with the Brandvalley/Rietkloof wind facility, no mitigation measures would be required at this stage. However, the South African SKA Project Office would like to be kept informed of progress with this project, and reserves the right to further risk assessments at a later stage.	
		This technical advice is provided by the South African SKA Project Office on the basis of the protection requirements of the SKA in South Africa, and does not constitute legal approval of the renewable energy projects in terms of the Astronomy Geographic Advantage Act, the Management Authority, and its regulations or declarations.	
17.	Benjamin Walton (CapeNature)	CapeNature, as a custodian of biodiversity in the Western Cape, would like to thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed change of land use and development activities, and wish to make the following comment. The covering letters dated 20 January with hard- and electronic copies of the draft Scoping Reports (SR) and Plan of Study for EIA (POSEIA) concerning the above-mentioned applications, namely Rietkloof and Brandvalley; received per mail from <i>Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd</i> by Scientific Services on the 22 nd of January 2016, refers.	
		1. Based on limited internal staff capacity constraints CapeNature has insufficient time available to scrutinize the document in depth; and can only provide limited input and advice at this stage. Various diagrams show the proposed development area which is not only "shared" with another application, the proposed Rietkloof Wind Energy Facility (WEF), but has differing project domains which is unclear. In addition, clarity is sought on why the application is "shared" with another and not submitted as a single application. For the interests of brevity the third project map in Appendix G of both reports is referred to the "project area" (see Fig. 1).	Please note that two separate applications and two EIAs are currently undertaken i.e. one per wind farm. The two proposed projects have three overlapping properties, but the project footprints do not overlap. CES, please refer them to a map showing this. The proposed projects are subjected to two separate EIA processes in order to apply for 140MW capacity per WEF in accordance with the maximum generation capacity per WEF as stipulated under the Department of Energy's Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Programme (REIPPPP).

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	Figure 1: Showing the project area proposed for the Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs over the great escarpment of the Groot Karoo (image courtesy of Google Earth). 2. CapeNature supports the development of renewable energy facilities, including wind driven turbines. However, it must be recognised that the potential impacts on biodiversity of this relatively new technology are not yet fully understood in South Africa. We are concerned that the cumulative impacts of these facilities, if not properly considered and planned for, could be quite significant. It is therefore essential that a precautionary approach is taken and that turbines are placed outside of ecologically sensitive area. It is also vital that a clear monitoring and reporting protocol is established so that lessons learned from newly established facilities can be shared with the wider community. CapeNature requires at least two season worth of bat and bird monitoring data; as well as affected small mammal monitoring data.	The support of renewable energy facilities has been noted. We additionally note your concern regarding the gaps in our knowledge with respect to wind energy technologies in South Africa. Project induced cumulative impacts will be considered in the EIA Phase by all specialists. Due to the complex and dynamic nature of the environment and gaps in knowledge, the Precautionary Principle will be adopted throughout the EIA Process to account for uncertainty. All mitigation measures to manage impacts, will be recorded in the EMP. The EMP is considered a living document and allows for amendments possibly from industry lessons learned.
	3. CapeNature required concise Botanical / Freshwater Assessments of properties which are untransformed or designated sensitive areas, to be conducted by suitably qualified Botanists / Freshwater specialists. Please consult TOR for the Fynbos Forum Ecosystem Guidelines for Environmental Assessments in that regard, as well as contextualising a survey i.t.o. the published Biodiversity Sector Plans, as well as the National Freshwater Ecosystems Priority Areas map; available at hhtp://bgis.sanbi.org. In this regard CapeNature also requires specific input from avifaunal and faunal specialists concerning impacts to bats, birds and small mammals.	An Ecological Impact Assessment and an Aquatic Impact Assessment will be undertaken in the EIA stage of the project. The specialists will be cognisant of the ToR provided in the Fynbos Forum Ecosystem Guidelines for Environmental Assessments, the Biodiversity Sector Plans and the National Freshwater Ecosystems Priority Area (NFEPA) map. Please note that the NFEPAs were considered in the desktop analysis of the receiving environment in the Scoping Report. An Avifaunal Impact Assessment and a Bat Impact Assessment will be undertaken in the EIA Phase to supplement the 12-month avifaunal and bat monitoring currently underway. The findings will be included in the EIA and made available for I&APs to comment on. Impacts on fauna will be assessed in the Ecological Impact Assessment undertaken in the EIA Phase.
	4. BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT The mapped vegetation units predominantly occurring at the affected properties are: unprotected Central Mountain Shale Renosterveld (FRs 5); hardly protected Koedoesberge-Moordenaars Karoo (SKv 6); and moderately protected Tanqua Wash Riviere (AZi 7).	We note your concerns regarding the Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and the Ecological Sensitive Areas (ESAs). The desktop analysis of the proposed location does confirm that the project area falls within mapped CBAs and ESAs. Please note that the area proposed for development was previously transformed through grazing and other agricultural activities. These areas will therefore be

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COMMENT BY	CapeNature will not support further loss of threatened ecosystems, the transformation of identified sensitive areas or untransformed natural areas; and neither incompatible land uses for biodiversity conservation objectives. Selecting remaining areas of natural vegetation and habitat have been designated as either: declared Protected Areas; Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) or Ecological Support Areas (ESAs), as habitat required as part of the CBA conservation network; in addition to Other Natural Areas. Intact CBAs and ESAs are required to prevent further degradation of the landscape, and ecosystem functioning and services by maintaining ecological and hydrological corridor linkages. Degraded lands within identified sensitive areas have also been selected to maintain ecological connectivity. Most of the property falls within a designated sensitive area (see Fig. 2) selected for various criteria. A restricted form of infrastructural development is permissible within the Critical Biodiversity Areas network (Western Cape Biodiversity Framework) based on merit; whereas it is advisable to avoid intact sensitive vegetation and sensitive wetlands / riparian corridors and related features by placing Tower Points outside of rivers and associated foodplains. Proposed Brandvalley & Rietkloof shared WEF Western Cape Biodiversity Framework Proposed Brandvalley & Rietkloof shared WEF Western Cape Biodiversity Framework Proposed Brandvalley & Rietkloof shared WEF Western Cape Biodiversity Framework Proposed Brandvalley & Rietkloof shared WEF Western Cape Biodiversity Framework Proposed Brandvalley & Rietkloof shared WEF Western Cape Biodiversity Framework Proposed Brandvalley & Rietkloof shared WEF Rigaria, Critical Biodiversity Framework Proposed Brandvalley & Rietkloof shared WEF Rigaria Critical Biodiversity Framework Proposed Brandvalley Areas proposed for the Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs in context of the Western Cape Biodiversity Frameworkl with the Remainder of Farm Rietfontein No. 197 shown in	groundtruthed by the ecologist to determine the status of the vegetation and recommendations will be provided as to the turbine positions and the associated infrastructure.
	Frameworkl with the Remainder of Farm Rietfontein No. 197 shown in the Northern Cape Province. 6. SENSITIVE AREAS: FEPAs The project area straddles numerous Upstream River Freshwater	An Aquatic Impact Assessment will be undertaken in the EIA Phase of the project.
	Ecosystems Priority Areas (FEPA) and associated sub-quaternary catchment areas. The implications for management for River FEPAs	The ToR of the assessment includes the identification of aquatic features and assessing impacts on specifically the NFEPA features, important wetlands and rivers; the determination of the ecological state of any aquatic system, estimating

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		and associated sub-quaternary catchments is that surrounding land and smaller stream networks need to be managed to maintain the current condition of river reaches; and improve the conditions of rivers and rehabilitate rivers to their former condition where required. Long term maintenance of the hydrological and ecological structure and functioning of rivers is important for protection of ecological infrastructure. Thus ground water and surface watercourses must not be contaminated by pollutants, and measures placed to prevent erosion and increased storm water runoff impacting on land and watercourses everywhere. The project area has a high degree topographical variability, with many kloofs (ravines) and is a high priority un-fragmented landscape being the source area for the Groot River, amongst others.	their biodiversity, conservation and ecosystem services; recommendations for buffer zones and no-go areas around delineated wetlands areas; assessment of potential impacts and the provision of mitigation measures to minimise any negative impacts on identified aquatic features. The relevant aspects., such as the avoidance of ground water and surface water contamination and preventative measures for soil erosion will be provide in the Environmental Management / Monitoring Plans.
		7. Should the EAP responsible for drafting the SR conduct biophysical assessments internally then a review of the required assessments (e.g. botanical and freshwater) must be done by an independent specialist who meets the requirements of Regulation 13 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2014.	The specialist reports that are conducted internally (including the Agricultural Impact Assessment and the Visual Impact Assessment) will be externally reviewed. All other specialist studies (including the Ecological Impact Assessment and the Aquatic Impact Assessment) will be conducted by external and independent specialists.
		8. CapeNature require: 8.1 Detailed baselines assessments of watercourses, wetlands and associated features; and botanical / ecological assessment of the vegetation communities; baseline assessments of avifaunal and faunal occurrence; and also assessments of archaeological, paleontological and heritage features within the study domain. 8.2 The depiction of the proposed road network also provided for as a GIS shapefiles; 8.3 The depiction of the proposed transmission and distribution line servitudes and potential substations; 8.4 Proof of assurance of supply of water; 8.5 Description and source of gravel surfacing material; 8.6 No-Go areas delineated for protection of designated sensitive areas or untransformed areas. 8.7 The description of the Wind Turbine positions also provided for as a GIS shapefiles. CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any additional information that may be received. Your concern for the environment is appreciated.	8.1 All specialist reports, including but not limited to the Aquatic, Ecological, Heritage, Avifaunal and Bat Impact Assessments will assess the baseline and will be released for comment with the Environmental Impact Assessment Report. These will be provided to CapeNature for comment. Whether a Palaeontology Impact Assessment is required will be confirmed by the Heritage Western Cape and SAHRA. 8.2 Please find attached the shapefiles for the proposed infrastructure. Please note that this infrastructure is preliminary and that the alternatives will be further considered in the EIA Phase. 8.3 The proposed transmission and distribution line will be assessed in two separate Basic Assessments (BAs) — one for Brandvalley WEF and one for Rietkloof WEF. CapeNature will continue to be registered as an I&AP for these projects and will be informed accordingly. The substation alternatives will be provided with the shapefiles referred to in 8.2. 8.4 Information regarding the supply of water will only become available after the EIA was undertaken and the preferred construction camp are confirmed. Water will likely be sourced from boreholes which will be subjected to the required permit applications to obtain approval in terms of the National Water Act (No. 36, 1998). 8.5 Information regarding the gravel surfacing material will be available post-EIA Phase of the project once the footprint of the project are confirmed based on the
		·	number of authorised turbine positions etc. Material will either be transported from existing quarries or borrow pits, or a separate environmental process will be undertaken to apply for authorisation should a new borrow pit be established. 8.6 The no-go areas will be recommended by all specialists once groundtruthing has been undertaken. 8.7 The proposed turbine positions will be provided.
18.	South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	EOH Coastal and Environmental Services have been appointed to conduct a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Process for the Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility (WEF) near Majiesfontein,	These comments have been a noted. Please note that a Heritage, Palaeontology and Visual Impact Assessment was undertaken to inform the EIA process. See Appendix G.

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	Western Cape Province and in the Northern Cape Province. The proposed project will cover 270 km2, and will include wind turbines, underground cables, internal access roads, 33kV overhead powerlines, construction camps, possible new boreholes and temporary water tanks, 132kV overhead powerlines and an extension of the existing 400kV Komsberg substation.	
	A small section of the project area is located within the Northern Cape Province i.e farm Rietfontein 197. It must be noted that SAHRA cannot comment on the section of the development within the Western Cape. Comments from Heritage Western Cape (HWC) must be sought for the areas of the proposed development located within the Western Cape Province.	
	EOH Coastal and Environmental Services appointed Ceder Tower Services (Pty) Ltd to conduct the Heritage studies for the project.	
	Galimberti, Bluff and Wiltshire, 2016. Heritage Screener for the Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility.	
	According to the maps provided, 8 proposed turbines are to be located within the Northern Cape. The Heritage Screener report has noted that the area in which these turbines are to be located is an area that has been subjected to previous heritage studies, including palaeontological studies. The section of the proposed development in the Northern Cape is located in an area of very high palaeontological sensitivity. Additionally the proposed project area is underlain by formations of moderate and very high fossil sensitivity. According to a map provided, one heritage resources is located within the Northern Cape section of the proposed development. The Heritage Statement for the area noted that heritage resources in the landscape include stone walling and burial grounds and graves.	
	Recommendations provided in the report are as follows (as they pertain to the Northern Cape sections of the proposed development): Area A (an area recommended by the authors) will only require a walk-through by an archaeologist once the position of the turbines is finalised; and A Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) is to be conducted on Area A and comments issued on the Roggeveld WEF must be taken into account.	
	Interim Comment	
	Regarding archaeological and palaeontological heritage resources, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit accepts the submitted Heritage Screener Report. However, we cannot promote the recommendation that a HIA not be conducted for the proposed	

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		development Area A. While there have been many other studies conducted over the properties in questions, they have not assessed the specific impacts of the proposed development.	
		The following conditions must be adhered to and must form part of the Scoping and EIA phase of the project:	
		 A Heritage component must be included in the Scoping Report. This must be in the form of a Heritage Scoping report where detailed background is provide on the heritage resources within the area to inform the EIA phase of the project; A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) must be completed for the proposed Brandvalley EIA phase. The heritage reports must CLEARLY state which heritage resources are located within the Northern Cape and Western Cape Provinces to allow the relevant Heritage Resource Authority (HRA) to provide comments. The report must also clearly state the distance between each proposed project activity and identified resources via detailed descriptions and a map; The HIA must include the following studies: An Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA); A Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA); An assessment of Burial Grounds and Graves, if relevant; Incorporate comments regarding heritage resources recorded during the public consultation phase of the project; and A VIA must be completed on identified heritage resources. The applicant is responsible for ensuring that comments from HWC are received regarding the areas of the proposed development located in the Western Cape Province. Final comments will be published once the above has been submitted along with the Scoping and EIA for the project. 	
		Decisions regarding Built Environment will be provided by Ngwao-Boswa Jwa Kapa Bokone (NBKB), the Northern Cape Provincial Heritage Resource Authority (Ratha Timothy - rtimothy@nbkb.org.za / 053 8312537).	
		Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.	
19.	Stephan Pienaar (PENTA P PTY LTD)	I presume your comment: "other than harmless roads", refer to the roads from a signal interference position.	Correct, referring to roads as harmless was in the context of the impact the roads could have on signal interference. All environmental impacts associated with the access roads will be assessed by specialists in the EIA phase
		I note with appreciation that the possible effect of my Breedenet link	The applicant undertakes to conduct such a study at own cost should the project
		has been considered. In order to quantify whether the development	be awarded preferred bidder status by the Department of Energy under the

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	(should it proceed) did have an effect on my communication signal with Breedenet, I will require a measurement and recording of the signal quality and strength to be carried out by Breedenet to serve as a reference for future measurements. This as well as any future measurements should the need for it arise, would obviously be at the applicant's sole expense.	REIPPP Programme. The study to measure and record the status quo would be based on the information provided to the applicant as of 12 March 2015. Should the service provider consider changing the linking configurations, they should communicate this to the applicant to ensure that there is no interruptions to the signal.
		It is proposed that this commitment to assess the status quo be included in the Environmental Management Plan to ensure that it becomes a condition of approval, should the DEA issue a positive decision on this application.
	My comment regarding Figures 2.3 and 3.1 relates to the incorrect overlay of the proposed infrastructure on the topographical image by some 4 km in a northerly direction. On these figures a number of the turbines are located in valleys. As this is more pronounced in the south of the area there is possibly a scaling issue between the images used to produce the figures. This error does not occur in other figures so I suggest that this be rectified for your final scoping report.	Please note that this has been rectified and a new map was included in the Final Scoping Report as well as attached to the previous response to your initial comment.
	Your comment that the pristine environment of the Karoo has been disturbed by the existing three power lines cannot be contested. What can be contested is the visual impact those developments have compared to that of the proposed wind farm. The power lines are low level structures generally following valley lines and do not nearly have the same impact that the presence of the large number of turbines which, are of necessity sites on top of the mountains, will have. When you drive through the area you hardly notice the power lines, apart from the short period you are close to them, whereas the turbines will be visible from any viewpoint in the affected area. Furthermore, the power lines are static structures and their greyish weathered material tend to blend with the surrounding landscape which nearly always forms a backdrop when viewing them. On the other hand, the turbines are always bright white and their revolving blades constantly attracts the eye. So to try and down play the visual impact of the turbines because of the presence of power lines seems to ignore degrees of visual impact. In your risk table turbines should rank higher (negatively) than power lines.	We agree that the significance of visual impacts of powerlines and wind farms are not of equal significance. Mention was made to the existing powerlines to indicate that the area was already somewhat visually disturbed. We note your concern regarding the additional visual impacts of the proposed wind turbines which will be assessed in the Visual Impact Assessment.
	In the Appendix 1 which you attached mention is made in the past tense to the "Final Scoping Report" yet the time line of Table 8-2 of the draft report notes that the final report is still to be published. I presume the use of word "Final" in Appendix 1 is in error.	Please note that the information was included in the FSR to be submitted to the DEA during the course of this week.
	Appendix 1 notes fourteen sites as "alternatives" yet there is no direct comparison with the Rietkloof site. In terms of Scoping Report requirements "alternatives" does not mean "micro" alternatives such as	Please note the definition for Alternatives as included in the 2014 EIA Regulations: "Alternatives", in relation to a proposed activity, means different means of meeting the general purpose and requirements of the activity, which may include

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	sites for camps, roads alignments and the like. The Scoping Report	alternatives to the
	should compare the Rietkloof site or (then the Roggeveld regional	-
	alternative in its phases?) with the alternatives in Appendix 1 directly.	(a) the property on which or location where it is proposed to undertake the activity;
	The current structure does not clearly demonstrate why the Rietkloof	(b) the type of activity to be undertaken;
	site is preferred over the other true alternatives.	(c) the design or layout of the activity;
	From your Draft Scoping Report:	(d) the technology to be used in the activity;
	"3.2.1 Location alternatives	(e) the operational aspects of the activity; and
	Project area location alternative	(f) the option of not implementing the activity.
	The proposed site was selected through an environmental and social	
	pre-feasibility assessment commissioned by the applicant for fourteen	Therefore, the design or layout of the wind energy facility is deemed a type of
	(14) potential WEF locations throughout South Africa, including several	alternative.
	sites within the Roggeveld area"	
	This reads to mean that the Roggeveld was part of the fourteen sites	The additional information on the national and regional alternatives considered,
	which it was not.	were included in order to provide further background on how the applicant came
		about to select the Rietkloof wind energy facility as a feasible alternative. The
		Riektloof project was compared with two other regional/local alternatives namely
		phase 5 and east of Rietkloof. These areas were rigorously evaluated and
		seriously considered, but proved infeasible for various reasons described below
		and were therefore ranked lower than the Rietkloof project.
		As discussed in Appendix 1, the Phase 5 alternative proved infeasible due to the
		fact that none of the affected landowners were open to the idea of wind energy
		development on their properties. Regardless of the significant wind resources
		available, the applicant could not proceed with this project. In comparison, all
		Rietkloof landowners were open to wind farm development which deemed
		Rietkloof feasible from that point of view.
		The location east of Rietkloof was also considered as an alternative site to
		Rietkloof. After further investigations it was found that this area was not as suitable
		and therefore discarded for the following reasons:
		closer proximity to the R354 road and associated higher visual impacts;
		fewer favorable topographical features with high wind resources - the few
		exposed ridges which do exist are more isolated and scattered (instead of
		continuous like at Rietkloof) which would require much more electrical and road
		infrastructure and therefore would result in a much higher environmental impact
		and development cost; and
		a number of the affected landowners have signed exclusive agreements with
		the proponent's competitors.
		The investigation of alternatives provided in the Final Scoping Report meets the
		requirements in terms of the 2014 EIA Regulations.
		requirements in terms of the 2014 EIA Regulations.

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20	Heritage Western Cape (HWC)	Notification of Intent to Develop: Proposed Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility on Remainder and Portion 1 of Farm Barenskraal 76, Remainder and Portion 1 of Farm Brandvalley 75 and Portion 3 of Farm Fortuin 74, Laingsburg, Central Karoo, Submitted in terms of	These comments have been a noted. Please note that a Heritage, Palaeontology and Visual Impact Assessment was undertaken to inform the EIA process. See Appendix G.
		Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)	Dear Mr September,
		Case Number: 15110409AS0219E Notification of Intent to Develop: Proposed Brandvalley Wind Energy	Thank you for comment from Heritage Western Cape on the Brandvalley WEF. We have, however, picked up a slight error in the property portions. The comment makes reference to Portion 1 and 3 of Fortuin 74 which should be Remainder and
		Facility on the Remainder of Kabeltouw 160, the Remainder and Portion1 of farm Muishond River 161, Witzenberg, Submitted in terms	Portion 3 of Fortuin 74. Please could I request that this is amended?
		of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)	Please find attached a KML of the property portions for your information.
		,	Many thanks,
		Case Number: 1602170101AS0219E	Belinda Huddy
		Heritage Western Cape is in receipt of your application for the above matter received on 19 February 2016. This matter was discussed at the Heritage Officers meeting held on 29 February 2016.	
		You are hereby notified that since there is reason to believe that the proposed wind energy facility will impact on heritage resources, HWC required that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) that satisfies the provisions of section 38(3) of the NHRA be submitted. This HIA must have specific reference to the following: - Impacts to archaeological heritage resources - Impacts to palaeontological heritage resources - Visual impacts of the proposed development - Impact to the built environment including a detailed site development plan	
		The required HIA must have an integrated set of recommendations.	
		The comments of relevant registered conservation bodies and the relevant Municipality must be requested and included in the HIA where provided. Proof of these requests must be supplied.	
		HWC reserves the right to request additional information as required.	
		Should you have any further queries, please contact the official above and quote the case number.	

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21.	Department of Environmental Affairs: Integrated Environmental Authorisations	DEA Additional Requirements listed in the letter from DEA accepting the Scoping Report Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the final EIAr. This includes but is not limited to the Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation, the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), the provincial Departments of Agriculture, the South	Where to find item in the DEIR Please see Appendix C-6 for the comments and response table and Appendix C-2 for the Laborate inclusive of the relevant stakeholder. The list of stakeholders in the database includes all those listed in the Scoping Approval.
		African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), the Department of Transport, the Central Karoo District Municipality, the Laingsburg Local Municipality, the Namakwa District Municipality, the Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality, the Cape Winelands District Municipality, the Witzenberg Local Municipality, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), the South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL), the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), BirdLife SA, the Department of Mineral Resources, the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, the Department of Environmental Affairs: Directorate Biodiversity and Conservation, and the South African Astronomy Observation (SAAO).	
		Please be advised that the contact person for renewable projects at the SAAO office is Dr Ramotholo Sefako and he can be contacted on Tel: (011) 447 0025 or E-mail: rrs@saao.ac.za.	Noted. These details have been added to the I&AP Database as provided in Appendix C-2.5.
		Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the EIAr. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.	Please see all proof of notification of I&APs in Appendix C-3
		The EAP must, in order to give effect to Regulation 8, give registered I&APs access to, and an opportunity to comment on the report in writing within 30 days before submitting the final EIAr to the Department.	Noted. The I&APs will be notified of the release of the Draft EIR and of the 30 day comment period. Hard copies of the DEIR will be available at two different libraries as well as electronically online.
		EIA additional information requirement	
		The EIAr must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.	Please see Chapter 11 of the DEIR for the Impact Assessment.

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	The listed activities represented in the EIAr and the application form must be the same and correct.	Noted. Please see Chapter Error! Reference source not found., Section Error! Reference source not found., Table 1-1 which is the same as the listed activities applied for in the amended application form (attached to this report).
	The EIAr must provide the technical details for the proposed facility in a table format as well as their description and/or dimensions. A sample for the minimum information required is listed under point 2 of the EIA information required for wind energy facilities below.	Refer to Error! Reference source not found. in the EIA Report.
	The EIAr must provide the four corner coordinate points for the proposed development site (note that if the site has numerous bend points, at each bend point coordinates must be provided) as well as the start, middle and end point of all linear activities.	Please see Chapter Error! Reference source not found. of the EIA report, for all coordinates of all linear activities.
	The EIAr must provide the following:	Please see Chapter Error! Reference source not found. of the EIA report for a project description of the proposed project.
	 Clear indication of the envisioned area for the proposed wind energy facility; i.e. placing of wind turbines and all associated infrastructure should be mapped at an appropriate scale. Clear description of all associated infrastructure. This description must include, but is not limited to the following: Power lines; Internal roads infrastructure; and; All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown area, guard house and control room etc. All necessary details regarding all possible locations and sizes of the proposed satellite substation and the main substation. 	
	The ElAr must also include a comments and response report in accordance with Appendix 2 h (iii) of the ElA Regulations, 2014.	Please see Appendix C-6 for the Comments and Response Table.
	The ElAr must include the detail inclusive of the PPP in accordance with Regulation 41 of the EIA Regulations.	Please see Chapter 6 and Appendix C.
	Details of the future plans for the site and infrastructure after decommissioning in 20-30 years and the possibility of upgrading the proposed infrastructure to more advanced technologies.	Refer to Section 2.7.2 (g).
	It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the EIAr process as the development property possibly falls within geographically designated areas in terms of GN R. 985 Activity	Noted. The relevant authorities will be continuously consulted throughout the EIA process.

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	4 (a)(ii)(bb)(cc)(dd)(ee) and 4 (f)(i)(aa), Activity 12 (a)(i)(ii) and 12(d)(i), Activity 14 (x)(xii)(a)(c)(a)(ii)(bb)(ee)(ff) and 14	
	(f)(i)(bb)(dd)(ee)(ff), Activity 18(a)(ii)(bb)(cc)(dd)(ee)(ii) and 18(f)(i)(aa),	
	Written comments must be obtained and submitted to this Department.	
	In addition, a graphical representation of the proposed development	
	within the respective geographical areas must be provided.	
	The EAP must provide a motivation and applicability of Activity 17 of	Please note that Activity 17 was excluded from the revised application form
	GNR 984 as they state that the Competent Authority for this application will be DMR.	(Revision 2) attached to this report.
	The terms of reference for the aquatic impact assessment must	Please see Appendix G for the Aquatic Impact Assessment
	include, inter alia the following:	
	> Site inspection to assess the site and in particular, the areas that are	
	identified as potential risk areas. The site inspection must also gather	
	the necessary information relating to the status of the drainage	
	features (natural and man-made) and existing water storage facilities on site.	
	The terms of reference for the ecological assessment must also	Please see Appendix G for the Ecology Impact Assessment
	investigate the following:	
	> The property falls within a National Protected Area Expansion	
	Strategy Focus Area (NPAES). The ecological study must assess the	
	impact of the proposed development on the integrity of the NPAES in the area.	
	> Must indicate the location of both private and government nature protection areas in the area.	
	 Must indicate and describe the competing land uses in the area. 	
	The terms of reference for the visual assessment must also investigate	Please see the Appendix G for the Visual Impact Assessment
	the following:	
		SAAO has been included as an I&AP, and have provided comments. See
	Assess and rate the cumulative impact of multiple WEFs in the	Appendices C-2 and C-6.
	landscape. The South African Astronomy Observatory must be thoroughly	
	engaged and their comments included as part of the ElAr.	
	A significant amount of materials and equipment will be delivered to the	Please see the Appendix H in the EMP for the Traffic Impact Assessment
	site during the construction phase of the development and will thus	. 19200 000 and 1 ppolition for the frame impact, 199000110110
	have impacts on the environment. The impacts of this activity must be	
	fully identified and assessed. A traffic impact assessment must form	
	part of the ElAr and the terms of reference must include, inter alia the	

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	following:	
	 Evaluate the impacts of the proposed development on existing road network and traffic volumes. The study must determine the specific traffic needs during the different phases of implementation, namely wind turbine construction and installation, operation and decommissioning. Identify the position and suitability of the preferred access road alternative. Evaluate the roadway capacity of the road network. Confirm the associated clearances required for the necessary equipment to be transported from the point of delivery to the various sites. Confirm freight and transport requirements during construction, operation and maintenance. Propose origins and destinations of equipment. Determine (Abnormal) Permit requirements if any. 	Noted. Although the project is not located on high potential agricultural land as
	pivoted or active agricultural land, the Department of Agriculture must	confirmed by the agricultural impact assessment (see Appendix G), the
	be included in the public participation process for this development.	Department of Agriculture has been included in the public participation process.
	The Bat and Avifaunal specialist assessments must assess and make recommendations for definite measurements for the preferred hub heights and rotor diameter.	Please see the Bat and Avifauna Impact Assessments in Appendix G. Recommendations were made for the preferred hub height of 120m and 140m rotor diameter.
	Should in-house specialists be used for any specialist study, then the specialist study must be peer reviewed by external specialists.	Noted. The Visual Impact Assessment and the Agricultural Impact Assessment, undertaken by internal EOH CES specialists, have been peer reviewed. See Appendix G for copies of the peer reviews.
	Information on services required on the site, e.g. sewage, refuse removal, water and electricity. Who will supply these services and has an agreement and confirmation of capacity been obtained? Proof of these agreements must be provided.	Please see Section 2.7.2
	The EIAr must provide a detailed description of the need and desirability, not only providing motivation on the need for clean energy in South Africa of the proposed activity. The need and desirability must also indicate if the proposed development is needed in the region and if the current proposed location is desirable for the proposed activity compared to other sites. The need and desirability must take into	Please see Chapter Error! Reference source not found. for the Need and Desirability of the proposed project.

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	account cumulative impacts of the proposed development in the area.	
	A copy of the final site layout map. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. roads. The layout map must indicate the following:	Please see Chapter 10 of the EIA report.
	 Wind turbine positions and its associated infrastructure; Permanent laydown area footprint; Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible); Wetlands, drainage lines, rivers, stream and water crossing of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used; The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure; Substation(s) and/or transformer(s) sites including their entire footprint; Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network; All existing infrastructure on the site, especially roads; Buffer areas; Buffer areas; 	
	 All "no-go" areas. An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process. 	Please see Chapter 10 of the EIA report.
	A map combining the final layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.	Please see Chapter 10 of the EIA report.
	A shapefile of the preferred development layout/footprint must be submitted to this Department. The shapefile must be created using the Hartebeesthoek 94 Datum and the data should be in Decimal Degree Format using the WGS 84 Spheroid. The shapefile must include at a minimum the following extensions i.eshp; .shx; .dbf; .prj; and, .xml (Metadata file). If specific symbology was assigned to the file, then the .avl and/or the .lyr file must also be included. Data must be mapped at a scale of 1:10 000 (please specify if an alternative scale was used).	This will be included with the Final EIA submission to DEA.

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	The metadata must include a description of the base data used for	
	· ·	
	digitizing.	
1 1	Annual dia A. FIA information annual additional annual activities	
	Appendix A: EIA information required for wind energy facilities	
	General site information	Please see Table 2-1 of the EIA report.
	The following general site information is required:	·
	Descriptions of all affected farm portions	
	21 digit Surveyor General codes of all affected farm portions.	
	Copies of deeds of all affected farm portions	This will be provided along with the Final EIA Report.
	Photos of areas that give a visual perspective of all parts of the site	Please see the images included on page xvi of the EIA Report.
	 Photographs from sensitive visual receptors (tourism routes, tourism facilities, etc.) 	Please see Appendix G for the Visual Impact Assessment
	Facility design specifications including:	Please see Error! Reference source not found., Error! Reference source not
	> Type of technology, Structure height, Surface area to be covered (including associated infrastructure such as roads), Structure orientation, Laydown area	found. and Chapter 2 of the EIA report.
	dimensions (construction period and thereafter), Generation capacity. Generation capacity of the facility	
	as a whole at delivery points.	
	This information must be indicated on the first page of the	
	EIAr. It is also advised that it be double checked as there are	
	too many mistakes in the applications that have been	
	received that take too much time from authorities to correct.	
	Technical details for the proposed facility	Please see Chapter Error! Reference source not found. and Error! Reference source not found.
	Site maps and GIS information	All GIS information will be provided electronically to the DEA for decision making
	Regional map and GIS information	All GIS information will be provided electronically to the DEA for decision making
	Important stakeholders	Please note that Ms Mashudu Marubini (Delegate of the Minister), Ms Thoko Buthelezi (AgriLand Liaison office) and Mr John Geeringh (Eskom Transmission) were notified of the EIA process as per the I&AP database included in Appendix C-2.
	Agriculture study requirements	Please note that the Agricultural Impact Assessment was undertaken in line with these requirements.

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		Astronomy Geographic Advantage Act. 2007 (Act No. 21 of 2007)	Refer to Chapter Error! Reference source not found.
		The purpose of the Act is to preserve the geographic advantage areas that attract investment in astronomy. The entire Northern Cape Province excluding the Sol Plaatjie Municipality had been declared an astronomy advantage area. The Northern Cape optical and radio telescope sites were declared core astronomy advantage areas. The Act allowed for the declaration of the Southern Africa Large Telescope (SALT), MeerKAT and Square Kilometre Array (SKA) as astronomy and related scientific endeavours that had to be protected.	SAAO and SKA have been included as I&APs, and have provided comments. See Appendices C-2 and C-6.
		You are requested to indicate the applicability of the Astronomy Geographic Advantage Act, Act No. 21 of 2007 on the application in the BAR/EIR. You must obtain comments from the Southern African Large Telescope (SALT) if the proposed development is situated within a declared astronomy advantage area.	
22.	Ms L Tools-Bernado (Department of Environment and Nature Conservation, Northern Cape Province)	EIA Report for the Proposed Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility, Northern and Western Cape Province, South Africa. The Department confirms having received the EIA Report and x1 CD for public review for environmental authorisation of the above mentioned project on the 23 rd May 2016. As required in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014. The application has been assigned the reference number NC/NAT/NAM/BRA1/2016. Kindly quote this reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application. Please note the responsible officer is going to be Ms. Onwabile Ndzumo and can be contacted at (027) 718 8800.	Thank you for confirmation of receipt of the Draft EIA Report. We will continue to contact Ms Onwabile Ndzumo as the relevant DENC officer responsible for the proposed project as well as continue to use the reference number provided for any future correspondence.
23.	Department of Environmental Affairs: Integrated Environmental Authorisations	i. Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and that it can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description. ii. If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final EIAr, an amended application form must be submitted. Please note that the Department's application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following link https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms.	Please see revision 3 of the application form submitted with the draft EIA Report. All relevant listed activities applied for can be linked to the proposed development activities and infrastructure in the project description. The activities applied for in the revised application form (revision 3), received by the DEA on 08 June 2016, are the same as those mentioned in the Draft EIAr and remains the same in the Final EIAr.
		iii. Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the ElAr from registered l&APs and organs of states which jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed and included in the Final ElAr. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final ElAr. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof	All comments received were adequately addressed in the Revised EIAr and recorded in this comments and response table. Please see Appendix C6.6 for proof of correspondence and reminder emails circulated to authorities as attempts to obtain comments. Please see Appendix C for proof of PPP compliant to Regulations 39-44.

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	should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 and 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014.	
	 iv. The Public Participation Report must contain clear and legible copies of the newspaper adverts. 	Copies of the newspaper adverts were included in Appendix C4.
	v. The preferred Layout Plan with the preferred substation, service routes, existing roads and new road, and construction camp must be indicted in the final ElAr. A map combining the final Layout Map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map must also be included in the final ElAr.	Please note that the revised 58 turbine layout was included and discussed in Chapter 10 of the revised EIA Report.
	vi. Recommendations provided by specialist reports must be considered and used to inform the preferred layout alternative. Specifically, turbines and associated services must be removed from all sensitive areas as recommended by the specialists.	Please note that the revised 58 turbine layout was included and discussed in Chapter 10of the revised EIA Report. All specialists were provided the opportunity to comment on the revised layout. Letters are included in Appendix G.
	 vii. Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist's recommendations were taken into consideration in the final Layout Plan. 	Please note that the revised 58 turbine layout was included and discussed in Chapter 10 of the revised EIA Report, including a discussion of how specialist findings informed the layout.
	viii. The submitted ecological shape files place/locate turbines 35 – 46 in the Very High Ecological Sensitive Areas that are designated as "no-go" areas that should be avoided from development especially for the placing of turbines. The preferred layout must be amended to remove these turbines from the "no-go" areas.	An additional walkthrough was undertaken by the ecologist during August 2016 to verify the sensitivity of the project development area. The ecologist identified no-go zones within the project development area. The proposed layout was revised to avoid the confirmed no-go zones. In order to avoid the no-go areas, turbines 10, 11, 21, 22, 23, 27, 33, 36, 38, 39, 42 and 43 were removed. The remaining 58 turbine positions were confirmed to be acceptable for development by all specialists (please see Appendix G for specialist confirmation letters).
	 ix. Please note that the final EIAr must comply with all conditions of the acceptance of the scoping report signed on 15 April 2016, and must address all commented contained in this comments letter. 	Please see Table D of the Revised EIA Report indicating the relevant sections the comments are addressed in.
	 We note that the avifaunal shapefiles submitted are google KML files. Please note all shapefiles submitted must comply with the requirements as states in the acceptance of scoping report signed on 15 April 2016. 	Please see the enclosed CD containing all the required shapefiles.
	 xi. The EMPr must include a provision to make the following reports available to the Department and applicable competent authority on request: alien/invasive plant management report; plant rescue and protection report; and re-vegetation and habitat rehabilitation report. 	Please note that the EMPr was updated accordingly.
	xii. Due to the number of similar applications in the area, all the specialist assessments must include a cumulative environmental impact statement. Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined and where possible the size of the identified impact must be indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land.	All specialist studies that informed the proposed development considered and assessed cumulative impacts potentially associated with the development of numerous renewable energy developments in close proximity to once another. The CES assessment methodology, approved in the Plan of Study for EIA, was used to assess cumulative impacts. Please see Appendix G for detailed cumulative impact
	 xiii. Identified cumulative impacts significance rating must be rated with significance rating methodology approved with the acceptance of the scoping report. 	assessments, included in the specialist assessments and addendums to the reports which serves as proof that other specialist assessments were considered. Please also see Chapter 11 of the revised EIA Report indicating that the need and

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		xiv. The cumulative impacts significance rating must inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.	desirability of the proposed development has been informed by cumulative impacts
		xv. Detailed cumulative impact assessments must be provided in the EIAr for all specialist studies conducted. The specialist studies must provide proof that other specialist reports that was conducted for renewable energy projects in the area were reviewed and indicated how the recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions have been taken into consideration when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.	
		xvi. The EIAr must provide the technical details for the proposed facility in a table format as well as their description and/or dimensions. A sample of the minimum information requires is listed under point 2 of the EIA information required for wind energy facilities as requested in the acceptance of the SR.	Please see Table F of the revised EIAr as per the requirement.
		xvii. You are further reminded that the final EIAr to be submitted to this Department must comply with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of the EIAr in accordance with Appendix 3 of the EIA Regulations, 2014.	Noted, the EIAr are fully compliant with Appendix 3 of EIA Regulations.
		xviii. Further note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations 2014, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of the Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7).	Please note that the EAP requested an additional 50-days in terms of Regulation 23 (1) (b). The EIA process will therefore be concluded in 350 days.
		xix. You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.	No activity will be undertaken unless an environmental authorisation has been obtained.
24.	Dr. Cornelius von der Heyden	I am writing as representative of the Kabeltouw Trust, owner of the farms Muishondrivier 1/161 and Kabeltouw 160, situate in the Laingsburg area and part of the "Brandvalley Wind Farm Project". I hereby wish to record the full support of the Kabeltouw Trust for the proposed project "Brandvalley Wind Farm Project". Further the Kabeltouw Trust records that its trustees and beneficiaries support not only the "Brandvalley Wind Farm Project", which is partially situate on the Trusts farms, but also fully supports the "Rietkloof Wind Farm	Your support for the proposed development as well as the proposed Rietkloof Wind Energy Facility are noted.
		Project" which project is linked and neighbouring. Yours sincerely Dr Cornelius von der Heyden	
25.	Dr Marianne Thomson	I am writing as representative of the Kabeltouw Trust, owner of the farms Muishondrivier 1/161 and Kabeltouw 160, situate in the Laingsburg area and part of the "Brandvalley Wind Farm Project".	Your support for the proposed development as well as the proposed Rietkloof Wind Energy Facility are noted.
		I hereby wish to record the full support of the Kabeltouw Trust for the proposed project "Brandvalley Wind Farm Project". Further the Kabeltouw Trust records that its trustees and beneficiaries support not only the "Brandvalley Wind Farm Project", which is partially	

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		situate on the Trusts farms, but also fully supports the "Rietkloof Wind Farm Project" which project is linked and neighbouring.	
26.	Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	The Draft Environmental Impact Assessment (DA) Report dated June 2016 that was received by the Department on 7 June 2016, refers. The following consolidated comment by the Directorates: Development Management is hereby offered.	Thank you for providing detailed feedback on the Draft EIA Report.
		Directorate: Development Management (Region 2) Arabel McClelland (Arabel.McClelland@westerncape.gov.za; Tel: (021) 483 2660):	Correct, the proposed development as well as the footprint proposed for the electrical infrastructure are entirely within the Komsberg Wind Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ) (to be Gazetted).
		2.1 It is recognised that all potential negative impacts, with the exception of visual impact, can be mitigated to a low or moderate significance. Cognisance is taken of the fact that the proposed wind energy facility (WEF) is located within a region earmarked for such facilities, namely the Komsberg Wind Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ), as per the Strategic Environmental Assessment for wind and solar PV energy in South Africa.	
		2.2 Based on the information provided, the wind turbines itself will result in numerous potential significant impacts. It is however apparent that significant impacts on the receiving environment can also be attributed to associated infrastructure, especially the access roads. As	All mitigation measures proposed by specialists for the proposed wind turbines and associated infrastructure were included in the EMPr which will become a condition to the Environmental Authorisation, should this project receive a positive decision.
		such, it is considered essential that all recommended mitigation measures relating to the WEF as a whole, as well as its associated infrastructure, are reflected in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and implemented accordingly.	The number of access roads will be limited as far as possible by using existing roads and where new roads are required, the impacts will be mitigated through measures recorded in the EMPr.
			Please also note that the layout has been revised. The number of turbines have been reduced to 58 and the access roads reduced from 12m wide to 9 m wide. The total footprint has been reduced from 160ha to 110ha which amounts to 31%. All specialists commented on the revised layout and confirmed that the reduced layout are considered acceptable and can receive environmental authorisation.
		2.3 Further to the above, existing roads should be utilised as far as possible and where feasible and new roads that require construction should be kept to a minimum. In addition, consideration should be given to rerouting the preferred access road route to avoid impacts on heritage and freshwater features.	The construction of new roads will be limited as far as possible. The current layout follows existing roads where possible. Any new access roads will be informed by geotechnical investigations and detailed engineering input during the detailed design phase that can only take place post-EIA. Therefore, a 200m wide corridor will be applied for to allow for the rerouting of access roads to allow for careful placement of the infrastructure to avoid impacts to the aquatic environment and identified heritage features. Please also note that the width of the access roads was reduced from 12m wide to 9 m.
		2.4 This Directorate supports the findings and recommendations of the specialist studies undertaken for the proposed WEF. Notably, as per Section 9.1.1 of the Draft EIA Report, the reduction in the number of wind turbines from 70 to 68 (i.e. excluding turbines 38 and 42) is	We note this Directorate supports the findings and recommendations of the specialist studies. We furthermore note the support for the reduction of turbines from 70 to 68.
		supported in light of the very high ecological sensitivity of the site. (In this regard, also see comment 3.3.3 below.) Furthermore, it is noted that additional noise modelling may further reduce the number of wind	Please note that subsequently, the layout was revised to reduce the number of turbines to 58. Please see Appendix G for comment from the noise specialist on the revised layout confirming that the placement of turbines is considered

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		turbines in areas of high sensitivity.	acceptable.
		2.5 The proposed buffer zones and no-go areas, as detailed in the Draft EIA Report and delineated by the various specialists, must be respected at all times.	Please note that all proposed buffer zones and no-go areas, as identified by the specialists, were considered in the combined sensitive analysis. Please also note that the ecologist undertook a second walkthrough to verify and confirm the ecoogy no-go zones. Please see Chapter 10 of the Revised EIA Report for a summary of layout changes made to avoid sensitive features.
		2.6 Although it is acknowledged that the preferred location of the substation is Substation 4, this position should ideally be adjusted to relocate the substation outside of the identified freshwater buffer areas (i.e. outside of the 32m watercourse buffer).	Please note that the substation 4 position was amended to avoid the 32m buffer from the delineated watercourse. This is reflected in the revised site layout map included in Appendix F and Chapter 10 of the Revised EIA Report.
		2.7 The construction camp and concrete-batching plant must be located outside buffers and areas of high sensitivity.	The preferred construction camp position 1 was amended to avoid all sensitive buffers. Please note that the batching plant will be established within the footprint of the construction camp which avoids sensitive features.
		2.8 In line with the heritage specialist's recommendation, once the final layout of the Brandvalley WEF has been established, a more intensive survey of these areas should be conducted and further recommendations and mitigation measures made, if necessary. (In this regard, also see comment 3.7 below.)	The mitigation to undertake an additional heritage survey of the final layout was included in the EMPr which will become a condition to the EA, should this project receive a positive decision.
		2.9 The requirement for an Open Space Management Plan is noted. According to the EMPr, this has been contained in Chapter 4; however, said chapter contains tables outlining specific measures related to aspects and objectives. A mitigation measure for the Planning and Design Phase recommends that such a plan must be compiled, which should include management of biodiversity within the affected areas, as well as that in the adjacent rangeland. It is recommended that the Open Space Management Plan be compiled and included as an addendum to the EMPr, similar to that compiled for storm water management.	Please note that an Open Space Management Plan was included in Chapter 9of the EMPr.
		2.10 The following additional comments are offered: 2.10.1 Some figures, drawings, maps as well as tables in the hard copy of the report were printed in portrait orientation resulting in portions of the figures and tables being cut off. This made some aspects of the document illegible.	Thank you for indicating these errors which has been corrected in the Revised EIA Report.
		2.10.2 The report includes various references throughout that indicate further assessment will be undertaken in the EIA phase, or through specialist input. This is misleading in some instances as the report currently under review is the Draft EIA Report and therefore should contain the information that is being alluded to.	Thank for indicating thes errors. The report will make reference to assessments that were undertaken in the EIA phase and input that was provided.
		 Directorate: Development Management (Region 3) - Francini van Staden (Francini.vanStaden@westerncape.gov.za; Tel: (044) 805 8617): 	
		National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy (NPAES) and REDZ	The proposed WEF is located in an area where the Komsberg Renewable Energy Development Zone overlaps with the Western Karoo NPAES focus area which are both areas identified through broad scale planning. The closest protected area to
		It is noted that the development sites fall within the Western Karoo	the proposed site is the Anysberg Nature Reserve. The goal of NPAES is to

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	NPAES focus area, as well as the Komsberg Wind REDZ. This Directorate does not have clarity whether the overlapping of these broad scale strategic planning goals are compatible and request that this be clarified in the Final EIA Report to be submitted to the	achieve cost-effective protected area expansion for ecological sustainability and increased resilience to climate change1. The document does not list conflicting land uses.
	competent authority.	The strategic planning goals of the REDZ are to earmark areas where large scale wind and solar PV energy facilities can be developed in a manner that limits the potential for significant negative impact on the natural environment, while yielding the highest possible social and economic benefits to the country. These REDZs were identified to support the Strategic Infrastructure Plan (SIP) 8 of the National Infrastructure Plan.
		Increased Renewable Energy development in South Africa indirectly supports sustainability and increased resilience to climate change as it reduces reliance on coal-fired power generation.
		On a local scale, the development footprint of 92km ² amounts to a fraction of the total Western Karoo NPAES area. Of the 92km ² the actual footprint would only be approximately 110ha (revised layout).
		The ecologist assessed the impact of the development on the NPAES Focus Area, and determined that the total extent of habitat lost to the current development is not highly significant and would not compromise the overall availability of land to meet conservation goals within the affected NPAES.
		Additionally: 1. Based on the mapping information there is no continuity between the expansion focus area and the nature reserve. 2. It is important to note that the focus areas do not preclude development from occurring in these areas. As stated in the BGIS information sheet, "These areas should not be seen as future boundaries of protected areas, as in many cases only a portion of a particular focus area would be required to meet the protected area targets set in the NPAES." 3. It is important to note that the proposed development footprint is small and limited to the sites for substations and pylons for overhead lines, thus still allowing for ecological connectivity and thus can still be used for conservation purposes. 4. The SEA undertaken for the REDZ did take environmentally sensitive areas into account in order to "identify areas where large scale wind and solar PV energy facilities can be developed in a manner that limits significant negative impacts on the environment, while yielding the highest possible socio-economic benefits to the country".
		Therefore, it is concluded that on a local scale the REDz and NPAES Focus Areas are compatible.

¹ Government of South Africa, 2010. National Protected Area Expansion Strategy for South Africa 2008. Government of South Africa, Pretoria.

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		3.2. Reduced cumulative impact through combined development footprints 3.2.1. This Directorate advises that attention be given to confining potential impacts on the receiving biophysical environment by combining the disturbance footprints of the two different development proposals. It is noted from the Draft EIA Report that construction camps for both the Rietkloof and Brandvalley WEFs can be combined in such a manner to accommodate landowner concerns and to reduce the biophysical impact. This Directorate supports the collaboration between WEFs for the purpose of confining the potential impacts to a single area.	Although the two projects namely Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs are developed in parallel on adjacent properties, it remains two separate applications. Both projects are still in the planning phase and will only proceed if positive EAs are issued and if both projects are successful under the REIPPPP. Therefore, each project was considered as a standalone project. To assess cumulative impacts associated with Brandvalley, the impacts associated with all other renewable energy facilities including Rietkloof WEF within 30km from the Brandvalley project were considered. The intention is to develop two standalone projects as the outcome of the REIPPPP cannot be assumed. It is possible that only one project could receive preferred bidder status, and therefore each environmental authorisation should approve all infrastructure required by the specific project. However, in the event that both projects receive preferred bidder status in the same REIPPPP round and can be constructed simultaneously, strong support will be given to combining infrastructure such as construction camps. However, it is not possible to commit to this so early in the development process and therefore request that the associated infrastructure per project be authorised separately.
Ì		3.3. Ecology impacts and mitigation	
		3.3.1. The Brandvalley WEF development site is located at the junction of three different conservation plans and impact on the ecological connectivity is therefore expected on a broader scale. The competent authority should therefore consider the potential impact on the broad-scale ecological connectivity, which extends beyond the parameters of the footprint of the proposed WEF development	3.3.1 Please see section 5.4 of the EIA Report that provides an overview of the three conservation plans.
		3.3.2. The Draft EIA Report indicates that the turbines will be located on the higher-lying ridges of the site, which has a higher sensitivity rating in relation to the adjacent lowlands and most of the affected areas, which are considered to be of moderate to high sensitivity based on the likely presence of species or habitats that are of conservation concern. This Directorate does not support the placement of any turbines within an area that is has a very high sensitivity rating.	3.3.2 Please note that the layout has been revised to avoid all very-high sensitive features. The number of turbines have been reduced from 68 to 58 and the access roads reduced from 12m wide to 9m wide. The total footprint has been reduced from 160ha to 110ha which amounts to 31%. All specialists commented on the revised layout and confirmed that the reduced layout are considered acceptable and can receive environmental authorisation.
		3.3.3. As per comment 2.4 above, this Directorate supports the elimination of turbine 38 and turbine 42, which will reduce the overall footprint of the turbines and access roads and subsequently lower the ecological impact of the development.	3.3.3 We note your support for the removal of turbines 38 and 42.
		3.3.4. This Directorate <u>does not support</u> the placement of any turbines within an area that is rated with a high sensitivity, including the twelve (12) turbines (turbines 35 - 46) within the Snydersberg area.	3.3.4 Please note that the ecologist undertook a site walkthrough of all areas deemed potentially high or very-high sensitive to determine the exact no-go zones with high confidence. The layout was revised to avoid all confirmed no-go zones. Turbines 36, 38, 39, 42 and 43 within the Snydersberg area was removed but turbines 35, 37, 40, 41, 44, 45 and 46 was confirmed to be outside of the no-go
		3.3.5. Impact mitigation and avoidance strategies as prescribed in the Draft EIA Report must be implemented for the turbines within	zones and acceptable. This was confirmed by all specialists (see Appendix G).

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	areas that are rated moderate and low sensitivity. 3.3.6. This Directorate advises that the mitigation hierarchy be applied to address the potential impacts on both the biophysical and ecological environment, which may result from disturbance footprint from both the proposed turbines and access roads. This Directorate recommends that the design and planning of access roads and placement of turbines adopt a conservative approach to either avoid or minimise the potential impact on the biophysical and broad-scale ecological environment.	3.3.5 and 3.3.6 Please note that impact mitigation measures recommended by specialists were included in the EMPr (see Appendix H). The recommendation to undertake a second ecological walkthrough during the wet season was implemented during August 2016 and the findings informed the revsied layout. Turbines were either moved or completely removed. Therefore, the mitigation measure of avoidance was followed as turbines were moved or removed to avoid sensitive features. Access roads were also revised to avoid sensitive areas as far as possible and the width was reduced from 12m to 9m.
	3.3.7. This Directorate is further concerned about the moderate negative cumulative impact on the broad-scale ecological environment due to the large number of wind energy developments proposed within the identified REDZ and the subsequent loss of habitat and corridor connectivity within a Critical Biodiversity Area. The Draft EIA Report further indicates that the cumulative ecological impact would remain a moderate negative significance rating, even if mitigation measures are applied. The Draft EIA Report states that the impact cannot be further reduced; yet the proposal has not considered excluding turbines in areas of high ecological sensitivity. This Directorate therefore recommends that areas with a very high and high ecological sensitivity be treated as 'no-go' areas.	3.3.7 Please note that the ecologist undertook a site walkthrough of all areas deemed potentially high or very-high sensitive to determine the exact no-go zones with high confidence. The layout was revised to avoid all confirmed no-go zones by reducing the number of turbines from 68 to 58.
	3.3.8. This Directorate remains concerned about the 'gaps in knowledge' which may only become available over the long-term, i.e. how fauna will adapt to the turbine generated noises, and how this can ultimately affect fauna behaviour and ecosystem dynamics. Monitoring the WEFs over the long-term for such information gain is advised.	3.3.8 Please note that the gaps in knowledge were addressed in the Revised EIA Report.
	Aquatic impacts and mitigation 3.4.1. The final layout should limit the impact on the aquatic environment by delineating watercourses and wetlands, including river crossings, as far as possible.	3.4.1 Please note that the wetlands and some watercourses were delineated by the aquatic specialist during the site visit. The final layout avoids surface water features with the exception of access roads. Due to the layout of existing roads and the nature of the project site, it will not be possible to avoid all surface water road crossings. However, no roads or infrastructure will impact on aquatic environment
	3.4.2. This Directorate supports the use of existing roads regardless whether these cross any wetlands in order to minimise scale of any potential impacts due to new construction activities that are associated with the proposed development.	without the approval from the Department of Water and Sanitation. 3.4.2 The support to use existing roads are noted.
	3.4.3. This Directorate does not support any transmission line towers, substations or construction camps within the delineated watercourses and associated buffers.	3.4.3 The final layout was amended to shift the construction camp and substation outside of the buffers around the delineated watercourses. The detailed design to determine the exact pylon positions can only be undertaken after the EIA process. Transmission line towers will avoid delineated watercourses and associated buffers
	3.4.4. This Directorate supports the recommendation made in the Draft EIA Report that a comprehensive rehabilitation plan be	as far as possible. However, this might not be possible to avoid entirely due to technical constraints. No transmission line tower will impact on the aquatic

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	implemented from the project onset within aquatic areas (inclusion of buffers) to ensure a net benefit to the aquatic environment.	environment without the approval from the Department of Water and Sanitation. 3.3.4 The support for the rehabilitation plan is noted.
	3.4.5. It is not clear what the increased surface water run-off impacts will be (i.e. downstream riparian changes), or how this will be managed. It is recommended that this should be addressed in the Final EIA Report, with recommendations included in the aforementioned comprehensive rehabilitation plan.	3.4.5 Please note that recommendation measures were included in the revised EMPr (please see Appendix H).
	3.4.6. Any potential impacts on the sub-surface drainage lines as a result of cut and fill activities should be firstly avoided by sound placement of the proposed wind turbines or be minimised through a conservative design and layout approach, which takes due cognisance of the site specific biophysical attributes, as well as the broad-scale ecological environment (e.g. corridor connectivity).	3.4.6 The detailed design will be undertaken to avoid cut and fill and where unavoidable, manage the impacts associated with it.
	3.5. Avifaunal impacts and mitigation	3.5.1 Please note that the revised layout avoids both these localities.
	3.5.1. This Directorate recommends that the two avifauna! collision risk localities be excluded from the WEF layout (i.e. the saddle between the two Syndersberg plateaux and the col in the ridge between the Ou Mure and Fortuin Farm valleys).	
	3.5.2. 3.5.2 Eliminating areas of concern or notable risk are important for control of unanticipated and cumulative impacts across a wider area, including short term climatic variances, as described in the Draft EIA Report (i.e. near absence of Verreaux's Eagle and resulting reciprocal avifauna) situations).	3.5.2 Please note that the recommendations made by the avifauna specialist were included in the EMPr, which would become a Condition to the EA, should this project receive a positive decision.
	3.6. Bats impacts and mitigation 3.6.1. The bat sensitivity map must be adhered to during the final turbine layout revision; no deviation from the bat sensitivity and	3.6.1 The bat sensitivite areas informed the revised layout. There are no turbines placed in areas considered high sensitive, the high sensitive buffer or the areas considered to be moderate sensitive. This was confirmed by the bat specialist (see comment on the revised layout included in Appendix G).
	associated specialist recommendations is supported.	confinent on the revised layout included in Appendix G).
	3.6.2. The competent authority must consider the broad-scale bat connectivity impact, which extends beyond the parameters of this WEF development.	3.6.2 Please note that this potential cumulative impact was assessed by the bat specialist (please see Appendix G).
	3.6.3. Cumulative high sensitivity areas that may be identified should be adapted to lower the cumulative effects of several wind energy facilities in the area.	3.6.3 The current layout avoids all high and moderate sensitive areas identified.
	3.6.4. This Directorate <u>does not support</u> the placement of turbines in areas of identified high or moderate bat sensitivity.	3.6.4 Please note that there are no turbines placed in areas considered high sensitive, the high sensitive buffer or the areas considered to be moderate sensitive. This was confirmed by the bat specialist (see comment on the revised layout included in Appendix G).
	3.7. Archaeology, heritage and paleontological impact and mitigation	3.7.1 Please see response provided for comment 2.8

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	3.7.1 As per comment 2.8 above, the final Brandvalley WEF layout must be subjected to an intensive heritage, archaeological and paleontological survey, as per the specialist recommendations. All resulting micro-sitting mitigation measures identified must be strictly adhered to.	
	3.8. Visual and health impact 3.8.1. This Directorate acknowledges the visual intrusion due to turbine size/height and visibility, and the lack of screening opportunities in the landscape. This Directorate therefore recommends the elimination of wind turbines from any high sensitivity areas.	3.8.1 Please note that no visual high sensitive areas were identified by the visual specialist.
	3.8.2. This Directorate <u>does not support</u> the location of turbines within 800m from an occupied building.	3.8.2 Please note that no turbines are located within 800m of occupied buildings.
	3.8.3. This Directorate recommends that international standards and guidelines pertaining to shadow flickering be adopted, as per the recommendations made in the Draft EIA Report.	3.8.3 Please note that the visual specialist undertook a shadow flicker assessment and determined that the revised layout will have no impacts.
	3.9. Borrow-pit material 3.9.1 It is not clear whether the borrow-pit material required for the WEF development will be sourced from approved borrow-pits. An application for approval in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) must be lodged with the relevant authority should any new borrow-pits be required	3.9.1 This is unclear at this stage of the development process. Material will either be sourced from an existing borrow pit or a new borrow pit. Should there be a need to establish a borrow pit, this will be assessed in a separate application to this EIA process.
	3.10. Adaptive management approach	
	3.10.1. This Directorate supports the adoption of an adaptive management approach, with specific reference to bats, including other ecological impacts.	3.10.1 The support is noted.
	3.10.2. This Directorate supports the recommendation made in the Draft EIA Report, namely that any suggested adaptive changes to the initial mitigation measures, be adopted within a maximum two (2) weeks from the date of the recommendation, unless where future time periods apply.	3.10.2 The support is noted.

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		4. Please direct all enquiries to the officials indicated in this correspondence should you require any clarity on any of the comments provided. 5. The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on the information received.	All future correspondence will be addressed to the relevant officials.
27.	Department of Environmental Affairs: Biodiversity and Conservation	The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation within the Branch: Biodiversity Conservation in National Department of Environmental Affairs received request for comments on the above-mentioned project. After careful scrutiny and evaluation of the DEIR we have noted the following: • The Western Cape portion of the proposed development is a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA). The area has an extensive tract of unfragmented natural vegetation and has been identified as a priority area in terms of the National Protection Area Expansion Strategy to meet the conservation targets of the country. The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation is concerned about the cumulative impacts associated with the development on the Central Mountains Shale Renosterveld should other developments of the same magnitude in the immediate area be approved. These may have an impact on future conservation options in the area. It is important that the areas of very high sensitivity are avoided in the northern extent.	Please note that the ecologist undertook a site walkthrough of all areas deemed potentially high or very-high sensitive to determine the exact no-go zones with high confidence. The layout was revised to avoid all confirmed no-go zones. Turbines 36, 38, 39, 42 and 43 within the Snydersberg area was removed but turbines 35, 37, 40, 41, 44, 45 and 46 was confirmed to be outside of the no-go zones and acceptable. This was confirmed by all specialists (see Appendix G). Please also note that the ecologist assessed the cumulative impact on CBA's that could occur as a result of the numerous renewable energy applications in the area. Please see the revised ecology impact assessment included in Appendix G.
		The proposed development will result in transformation of the intact habitat within the CBA. Furthermore, it will fragment the landscape connectivity and impact on ecological functioning of the area.	Please see the revised ecology impact assessment included in Appendix G which includes an assessment of the potential transformation and fragmentation of the development area.
		The high lying ridges and high lying plateau which forms the northern-most extension, central and north east of the proposed development area of a concern and are considered to be highly sensitive as are habitats for the listed species. These must be avoided.	Please note that the ecologist undertook a site walkthrough of all areas deemed potentially high or very-high sensitive (including higher lying ridges and plateau's) to determine the exact no-go zones with high confidence. The layout was revised to avoid all confirmed no-go zones. Turbines 36, 38, 39, 42 and 43 within the Snydersberg area was removed but turbines 35, 37, 40, 41, 44, 45 and 46 was
		It is the opinion of the Ecological Specialist that turbines (28-32 & 5-8) are located within areas of high elevation along the western and southern margins of the site respectively. These turbines must therefore be moved to areas of least sensitivity and access roads in these areas must be re-routed so that they are aligned to existing farm roads. Furthermore, turbines 14, 25 and 26 must be moved from the steep slopes to areas where the impacts will be acceptable.	confirmed to be outside of the no-go zones and acceptable. This was confirmed by all specialists (see Appendix G). Please note that turbines 14, 25 and 26 are proposed in areas with acceptable slopes.

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	 All construction camps, laydown areas, batching plants and storage areas must be more than 50m from any demarcated water courses. The footprint of Construction Camp 3 must be adjusted so that it is positioned outside the buffer of the drainage lines. 	Please note that the proposed layout of the construction camp was amended to avoid watercourses and the associated buffers.
	 All access roads must be routed next to existing routes to minimise erosion and overall biodiversity impacts on the area. 	We note the support for all access roads to follow existing roads. Existing roads will be used as far as possible to avoid environmental impacts. Where new roads are required, it will be designed to avoid sensitive features and if not possible, impacts will be mitigated by implementing the EMPr.
	The proposed development occurs within the following catchments: Tankwa River, Muishond River, Groot River and Roggeveld River, these catchments are characterised by several perennial watercourses. Furthermore, according to the National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Area (NFEPA), several large natural wetlands occur within the study area. However, based on the Aquatic Assessment, the wetlands observed in the study area have been impacts on by previous land use activities but are still of value since they act as sponge area within the arid environment providing habitat for species and filter runoff during peak flow periods. Development in these areas should be strictly avoided.	Please note that the aquatic ecologist recommended mitigation measures to manage impacts to the surface water features. These mitigation measures were included in the EMPr.
	Water Use Licence in terms of Section 21 of the National Water Act is required for activities that will take place in certain areas. Should any of the present roads be upgraded, appropriate erosion minimising culverts must be installed and bridges must be designed in such a way that reinstates the natural water course levels.	Should the development trigger the need for a Water Use Licence, it will be applied for prior to commencing with the construction phase. Appropriate design measures to manage erosion will be included in the design to avoid and or manage potential impacts.
	Pre- and post-construction monitoring must be implemented in accordance with BirdLife South Africa/Endangered Wildlife Trust: Best practice guidelines for avian monitoring and impact mitigation at proposed wind energy development sites in Southern Africa. This includes but not limited to: Post construction monitoring should use similar methodology as pre-construction monitoring to ensure comparability of results, but should also include the collection of mortality data Post-construction monitoring should start within 6 months of the turbines becoming operational and should span a period of at least 12 months Post-construction monitoring by an independent specialist should take place for at least two years after operation has started. Reports regarding bird monitoring must be submitted to the provincial environmental department and DEA on a quarterly basis. The report will assist all stakeholders in potential and additional mitigation measures and to establish protocols for a bird-monitoring	Please note that a 12-month pre-construction monitoring campaign has been undertaken (see Appendix G for the avifaunal impact assessment). Post-construction avifauna monitoring will be undertaken as recommended.

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COMMENT BY	programme for wind energy developments in South Africa. The results of post construction monitoring may highlight the need for additional mitigation measures that may need to be incorporated in the environmental management programme. CONCLUSION The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation notes that the proposed development is within a CBA and a large proportion of the development is located within the higher elevation parts which have more favourable wind conditions but also considered highly sensitive on account of high species abundance as well as ecological integrity. It is our opinion that the proposed layout of the facility will have significant impact on the biodiversity of the area and we recommend that: Turbines 14, 25 and 26 must be moved from the steep slopes to areas where the impacts will be acceptable Turbines (28-32 & 5-8) located within areas of high elevation along the western and southern margins of the site respectively be moved to areas of least sensitivity and access roads in these areas must be re-routed so that they are aligned to existing farm roads. Turbines 35-46 must be moved from the very high ecological sensitivity area too Turbine placement in the two key bird flight paths referred to	Please note that the Ecologist if of the opinion that the broad-scale CBA maps for the study area are considered inadequate for use at a fine scale and the data collected on-site is considered to be of greater weight than the CBA status. The CBA status of the site is considered secondary to the actual assessed biodiversity status of the different parts of the site. A variety of different no-go areas have been identified across the site, associated with confirmed populations of listed plant species as well as rare and important habitats that should not be disturbed. In response to these areas, the final layout of the facility has been adjusted to avoid impact to the sensitive features and in addition to removing turbine positions 38 and 42, an additional 10 turbines were removed from the proposed layout. The road width was reduced from 12m to nine metres. The proposed layout amendments, as a mitigation measure, reduced the overall project footprint from 160ha to 110ha. In terms of ecological impact, the most important aspect of this reduction is the implementation of avoidance of the identified sensitive parts of the site. The edge of the escarpment in the Snyderskloof area is considered the most sensitive and has been mapped as a no-go area. The internal plateau is however large and is not as sensitive as the rest of the area and turbines in this less
	as the Snydersberg saddle and Fortuin-Ou Mur Col must be strictly avoided as birds tend to use the saddles as they pass across the ridge lines, these may cause collision risk to species of conservation concern. No turbines must be erected within 100m on either side of the lowest points. • Turbines located within High Bat Sensitivity must be relocated. The High Sensitivity valley areas serve as commuting corridors for bats in the larger area. We acknowledge that they long term and/or cumulative impacts may negatively impact biodiversity in the area, more research needs to done to fully understand these impacts on the species. It is important that possible cumulative regional effects of multiple wind energy facilities be considered in the development process. While one project alone may result in few ecological concerns, multiple projects across one landscape could substantially multiple effects.	sensitive area is considered acceptable. However, as this area has been identified as important for fauna, camera trapping has been initiated in this area to evaluate the current use of the area by fauna. The revised layout ensured that turbines are placed in areas of acceptable slopes, outside the avifauna bird corridors and outside of bat high sensitive areas. It was agreed at the site meeting (attended by DEA (both directorates), DEA&DP, the ecologist, CES, applicant and CapeNature) that additional information was required in order to make an informed decision. Therefore, an additional ecology walkthrough was undertaken during August 2016 to verify and confirm the sensitivity of the project area.
	To fully understand the characteristics, ecological dynamics of the receiving environment and management alternatives proposed by the specialist, a site visit with the Ecological Specialist, the provincial commenting authority, DEA case officers must be done. This will allow officials to gather information that will inform decision making on final turbine location, access routes, construction camp and substation for the proposed development. The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation reserves the right to revise the above comments should additional	

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		information on this application be made available at a later stage.	
28.	Samantha Ralston (BirdLife)	Unfortunately, I was not able to get around to having a look at the EIAs for Brandvalley and Rietkloof until today and now I am unable to download the reports from the website provided. I realise that we have missed the deadline for comment, but would appreciate a copy of the reports for our records.	You have been invited you to a Dropbox folder with the Brandvalley WEF and Rietkloof WEF Draft Environmental Impact Reports for your records.
29.	South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)	EOH Coastal and Environmental Services were appointed by Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process in support of an Environmental Authorisation Application for the proposed Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility (WEF), on several farms located in the Western and Northern Cape Provinces. A draft EIA was conducted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the EIA Regulations, 2014. The proposed 140MW WEF will consist of 70 turbines with foundations measuring 25 m in diameter and 4 m in depth. Associated infrastructure will include an on-site substation, laydown area per turbine (70 m x 50 m), electrical turbine transformers, underground cabling, access roads 12 m wide, overhead powerlines, and a grid connection (part of two separate Basic Assessment processes). Temporary infrastructure will include a 10 ha construction camp and a 1 ha on-site concrete batching plant. Celeste Booth was appointed to conduct the Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) and John Almond was appointed to conduct the Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) for the project. SAHRA cannot comment on the sections of the proposed project located within the Western Cape. Nine of the proposed turbines are located within the Northern Cape. Comments for the Western Cape sections of the development must be sought from Heritage Western Cape (HWC). The discussion and comments below pertain only to the Northern Cape section of the development.	Thank you for providing a final comment on the proposed development. Please note that Heritage Western Cape was invited to comment on the project development area that falls within the Western Cape.
		Booth, 2016. A Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) for the Proposed Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility (WEF) situated in the Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality (Namakwa District Municipality), the Witzenburg Local Municipality (Cape Winelands District Municipality) and Laingsburg Local Municipality (Central Karoo District Municipality). No heritage resources were identified within the development footprint in the Northern Cape section of the proposed WEF. It must be noted that no track logs were submitted as part of the report; however, the photographs provided in the report indicate a sufficient coverage of the project area. Recommendations provided in the report include the following: No further studies or mitigation is required, unless the layout of the turbines and associated infrastructure is altered; The upgrade/construction of the internal access roads should	Thank you for confirming that the documents provided are considered sufficient. Archaeological: It is noted that further studies or mitigation may be required if the layout of the turbines and associated infrastructure is altered. Please note that comment was obtainced from the heritage specialist on the revised

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	be limited to the existing internal roads as far as possible; • An archaeological heritage walk-down survey must be conducted if any changes of the wind turbines, associated infrastructure and roads outside the scope of this study are made for the final layout and further recommendations and mitigation measures be suggested if necessary; • If concentration of historical and pre-colonial archaeological heritage material and/or human remains (including burials and graves) are uncovered during construction, all work within close vicinity of the find must cease immediately and be reported to SAHRA so that systematic and professional investigation/excavation can be undertaken. Phase 2 mitigation in the form of test-pitting/sampling or systematic excavation and collections of the pre-colonial shell middens and associated artefacts will then be conducted to establish the contextual status of the sites and possibly remove the archaeological deposit before development activities within the specific area can continue; and • Construction managers/foreman and/or the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) should be informed before construction starts on the possible types of heritage sites and cultural material they may encounter and the procedures to follow when they finds sites. Almond, 2016. Palaeontological Heritage Assessment: Combined Desktop & Field-Based Study - Proposed Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility Laingsburg, Western & Northern Cape Provinces The Northern Cape section of the proposed project area is underlain by the Abrahamskraal Formation. One occurrence of plant stem casts or burrows (Loc 194) was identified within the Abrahamskraal Formation on the farm Rietfontein 197. This occurrence appears to be located approximately 100m from Turbine 42 and should not be impacted by construction activities. Recommendations provided in the report include monitoring of all major surface clearance and deeper (>1 m) excavations for fossil material (bones, teeth, petrified wood etc) by the ECO on an on-going basis during	layout (see Appendix H); The upgrade/construction of internal access roads will be limited to the existing internal roads as far as possible; An archaeological heritage walk-through will be conducted prior to construction; If concentration of historical and pre-colonial archaeological heritage material and/or human remains (including burials and grave) are uncovered during construction, all work within close vicinity of the find will cease immediately and be reported to SAHRA; and Construction managers / foreman and / or the ECO will be informed of possible types of heritage sites and cultural material they may encounter before construction starts as well as the procedures to follow when they find sites. Palaeontological: Monitoring of all major surface clearance and deeper (>1m) excavations for fossil materials will be on-going during the construction phase. Significant fossils will be reported to SAHRA for recording and sampling.
	It must be reiterated that SAHRA cannot comment on sections of the Brandvalley WEF facility located within the Western Cape Province.	

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	COMMENT BY	COMMENT/ISSUE RAISED Comments must be sought from Heritage Western Cape (HWC) for those sections. The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts the submitted HIA and PIA promotes the respective recommendations included in the reports pertaining to the Northern Cape sections of the proposed development. The following additional conditions must be included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr): If the layout of the turbines, roads and other associated infrastructure proposed for the Northern Cape section of the development is altered, a heritage walk-down including a palaeontological walk-down must be conducted prior to construction. A Walk-Down report must be submitted to SAHRA for comment. No construction may commence without comments from SAHRA; and If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and	Please note that these recommendations are included in the EMPr.
		ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM Unit (Natasha Higgitt/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) must be alerted. If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Itumeleng Masiteng/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately. A professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required. Additionally, all outstanding appendices from the Draft EIA must be uploaded to the case file, along with the final EIA and EMPr once completed. SAHRA must be informed if the Environmental Authorisation for the project is granted and the relevant documents should be uploaded to the case file. Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.	All outstanding appendices were uploaded to the case file.
30.	Warren Petterson	-	Email from CES to Warren Petterson It has been noted that you have not opened the email sent on 25 May 2016 informing all Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) of the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment (DEIR) for the Brandvalley WEF and the Rietkloof WEF. The 30-day comment period subsequently ended on the 25 June 2016. However, if you intend to submit comment on these reports, we will provide

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		an additional period for which you can submit your comments. Please let me know if you wish to provide comment? If so, kindly submit your comments by Friday 08 July 2016, the latest.
	Neither Steve or myself seem to have record of your email sent 25 May 2016.	Thank you for letting EOH CES know that you and Steve did not receive the email and thank you for providing the comment below.
	None the less, our objection stands as per our previous correspondence to yourselves. Furthermore, it has come to my attention that certain areas along the West Coast do in fact accommodate certain WEF's after you seemed to allude to the fact that	To correct the error, all I&APs that did not receive correspondence previously have now been afforded with a 30-day comment period ending on 5 August 2016. Please submit any further comments or concerns on or before 5 August 2016.
	the wind in these areas was not suitably sufficient. These areas are disturbed from an environmental perspective and any WEF would have far less of an impact in this flat and less sensitive area. It was also	Please note that this error was rectified by providing an additional opportunity to comment for 30-days up to 5 August 2016.
	noticeable that these facilities in this area are far more concentrated than the proposal that you have for our area, once again limiting any impact on a pristine landscape, vs the subject proposal which seems to be very extensive.	Your objection is noted. It is acknowledged that there are wind farms developed on the West Coast. It can however not be concluded that if there's a successful wind farm that the entire region would be suitable. The areas the applicant considered within the West Coast were not suitable for wind farm development and were considered fatally-flawed for the reasons provided in the report. This does not
	Surely concentrating these facilities is more cost effective for the deployment of infrastructure and thus proposal as a whole, especially when the rate agreed for selling power is as low as it is in this instance.	mean that the entire West Coast region will not be suitable for a wind project development. The siting of wind farms depends on a number of site specific factors, which are taken into account when deciding on the suitability of a particular site. Please specify which areas along the West Coast are considered disturbed
	We do not support this proposal as you have presented and proposed it and feel it lacks insight into potential impacts in the area (especially environmental). Furthermore, the economic impact to the country, never mind the area is marginal if that at all, at great environmental cost. All this whilst the international investors stand to benefit significantly at our cost.	from an environmental perspective as it is not clear from the comment. As mentioned, there are many criteria considered to determine whether a site is suitable for wind farm development including but not limited to wind resources and the minimum average wind speed, proximity to grid connection, land use, environmental aspects, topography, legislated setback areas etc. If the site is environmentally disturbed, it unfortunately does not automatically make for a good site to place wind turbines.
	We trust that you will note our concerns.	Environmental impacts are considered for each individual project and are informed
	Please feel free to contact us if you feel the need for any further input from us regarding these concerns.	by the project specific biophysical environment and the nature of the development. The proposed layout was assessed during the EIA process and these findings have informed the final proposed layout that take site specific environmental
	Thanks	sensitivities into account. It is agreeable that developing renewable energy projects in concentrated areas
	Warren Petterson Pr. Pln A/189/2010 T: 021 552 5255 F: 021 551 4020 C: 083 639 8888 E: warren@wpplanning.co.za	does have other benefits such as lower grid connection costs affecting the cost effectiveness of the facilities. Please take note, as indicated in the report, that the project is being developed in an area earmarked for the establishment of one of the Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZs).
		Various entities and developers of projects independently determine the economic viability of such projects, and decide on the price for bidding the tariff under the Department of Energy's Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP). Please note that the low tariff's bid by wind farms in the past is a strong motivation for developing more wind farms. The Roggeveld Wind Power, a wind farm authorised within the Komsberg REDZ,

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			submitted the lowest tariff to date. This low tariff was only possible as a result of the excellent wind conditions. Developing more wind farms in the Komsberg REDZ that could bid low tariffs are beneficial to South Africa as a whole. It is unclear from the comment whether there is a specific concern or a concern as a whole. Please note that the EIA process has been informed by independent specialists who have assessed impacts associated with the proposed development and rated the significance of such impacts on the various specialist areas, including the biophysical and social environment. The EIA process was undertaken in terms of the EIA requirements and the specialist assessments fully complied with the requirements listed in the 2014 EIA Regulations. Please feel free to specify what your concern relates to as it is unclear from the comment. The REIPPPP is run by the Department of Energy with an intent to attract the participation of both local and international investors. All your concerns have been noted.
31.	Stephen Pienaar	Dear Belinda, Steve Swanepoel forwarded me the message below. 1. I also did not receive any notification at penta@axxess.co.za about the release of the DEIR so it does seem that your transmission of email messages is problematical. 2. As a registered I&AP I expect all notifications to be addressed to me directly and not as a cc in notifications to others. 3. Given that I as a registered I&AP and others did not receive notification of the release of the DEIR and thus could not comment within the 30 day period, the expiry date of the comment period must be extended to 30 days after successful notification to I&AP's. All four of the email addresses in the emails below uses different ISP's and not one received notification so it is hardly conceivable that the problem lies with our email systems while we did receive emails from others in the period mentioned. 4. To expect us to review the DEIR and respond with only four days notification is not acceptable. 1. I await your confirmation that the comment period has been extended to 3 August 2016.	Thank you for letting us know that you had not received the notification email. We apologise for any inconvenience and have acknowledged your email below. To correct the error, all I&APs that did not receive correspondence previously have now been afforded with a 30-day comment period ending on 5 August 2016. Please submit any further comments or concerns on or before 5 August 2016.
32.	Warren Petterson	Belinda Our concerns and comments submitted to date remain. In addition, certain other issues have come to light that we feel are not appropriately addressed by yourselves, especially in the light of you being "Environmental Impact Practitioners" who should have the interest of the environment rather than capitalist ventures at heart. As we understand the extent of the proposed layout of the facility, it would seem that there will be many kilometres of internal access and	Any concerns regarding the development, the EIA process or the Environmental Assessment Practitioners should be submitted and be made public record in the public participation information in this report (comments and responses). The EAP and EOH CES have no interest in the project other than fair compensation for the work undertaken in terms of NEMA and applicable regulations. Please see the revised EIA report for a copy of the EAP Declaration of Independence. It is correct that the project will require access roads to be constructed in order to access the various infrastructure components. In order to minimise impacts, it has
		road reticulation networks to the turbines and other facilities, all between 6m and 12m wide. Many difficult to access points will require	been recommended that existing roads and tracks be used as far as possible. Furthermore, as a mitigation measure, the developer has reduced the width of the

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	longer and "windy" roads in order to traverse the rugged topography. This alone will add up to a significant amount of pristine fynbos that has to be sacrifices over and above that of the turbine footprint themselves. In addition the impact or erosion in these areas, especially on slopes is significant, and one can expect these roads to deteriorate rapidly or be maintained at an unsustainable cost which we believe has not been accounted for. Along with this road network will be a network of cables, adding further to this impact and the visual impact.	roads from 12m to be limited to 9m wide. Each road constructed is a cost to the project, and therefore, only where necessary and warranted will roads be constructed. The layout of access roads was also amended to avoid sensitive features. In order to allow for the micro-sitting of the roads that does not follow existing roads, a 200m corridor will be applied for. This will allow for engineering designs to be fully optimised and informed by geotechnical investigations to indirectly reduce erosion risk through careful placement. There are sufficient mitigation measures for erosion control included in the EMPr.
		Please refer to the ecologist specialist report regarding the impacts on vegetation and potential erosion. The residual impact significance on the vegetation after mitigation is moderate, which is acceptable with implementation of mitigation measures.
		If authorised, the project will be obliged to implement measures recommended in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). The EMPr include soil erosion management plan and storm water drainage management in order to ensure that there is no adverse impact due to erosion. The roads are anticipated to be kept at high quality status in order to facilitate the operation and maintenance of the project, therefore such costs would have to be accommodated by the project. Once the construction phase is completed, the vehicle movement will reduce substantially and will be limited to maintenance and operational activities. The maintenance of access road is not considered to be an unsustainable cost.
	The inconsiderate and sparse placement of these turbines with little consideration to contours and natural drainage systems, will result in a far greater amount of negative impacts as outlined above.	Due to technical considerations, wind turbines cannot be positioned next to each other as they would experience turbulence effects from the next. The placement of turbines also requires elevated areas (typically ridge tops), which depend of the topography of each area. Sometimes, topography determines the wider area on which the project is sited. Please note that careful consideration was given to the topography and slopes of the study area during the preliminary design phase of the project.
	Your list of key stake holders is outdated and incorrect. Several of the listed people no longer work for the relevant organisations. This would raise the question of whether these organisations have in fact made comment or merely deemed not to be concerned due to "no reply"?	It is not clear which stakeholders are being referred to. CES as a matter of principle seeks contact details for these stakeholders utilising existing resources. It is occasionally the case, (ward councillors for example) that these details are outdated, however, CES is confident that all key stakeholders (as identified by us or required by the various decision and commenting authorities) have been appropriately engaged throughout this EIA process. Prior to the submission of the Revised DEIR, key stakeholders were contacted to confirm the correct contact persons and details.
	You have conceded to having noted may of the concerns presented to you, one in particular the cumulative effect of this massive proposal. I am yet to see any substantive answers to the concerns other that you having made a note of the particular item.	The potential for cumulative impacts have been noted by CES as being relevant to this reporting process, and fully addressed in the reporting for all the different specialist fields. All the specialists have considered the cumulative impacts due to other projects being proposed in the area and provided an addendum to serve as proof that cumulative impacts were considered and that the assessment is sufficient to inform decision making.
		The cumulative impacts have been substantively and sufficiently addressed in the report as indicated above.

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	You mention that labour will be sourced from Laingsburg and Sutherland, what about Matjiesfontein which has a massive unemployment problem and is closer to the proposed facility than the other two towns?	Employment seekers from the nearest towns, including Matjiesfontein and Touwsriver, will be considered for employment opportunities. This was corrected in the EIA Report.
	Foundations are to be 25m wide and 4m deep. Digging these holes along the coastal areas where you penetrate various soil types is vastly different to this area where you will need to blast into rock for most of the way? Has this been taken into consideration along with the side effects of a significant amount of blasting across a wide area?	Yes, blasting has been identified in the report as a negative impact that will be experienced during the construction phase (see section on ecology, noise and bats). The mitigation measures proposed include the limitation of blasting to only as needed. Refer to Tables 4.1 and 4.2 in the EMPr for action and aspect specific mitigation measures in this regard.
		A geotechnical assessment is normally undertaken prior to any digging or blasting work is undertaken. This is to ensure that suitable position with "workable" soil profile is chosen before work is commenced in order to limit digging or blasting underground rock.
	When assessing your alternatives, the reasons for certain options not working or being viable are in most instances exactly the same conditions that prevail in the subject area.	As mentioned earlier, project specific circumstances and factors determine whether a site becomes preferred from a development point of view. When assessing site specific alternatives, there are various aspects considered including technical, landowner feedback, ecology, visual, noise, agricultural, bat, birds, heritage, palaeontology, aquatic and social. The reasoning referred to by Mr Petterson could therefore easily appear to be the same if one does not assess all these alternatives in relation to each other.
	When assessing your "buildable" areas, we believe little thought has gone into the extent of work, cost and environmental damage that will occur during constructing the roads as well as the turbine sites.	The applicant has provided the information considered for siting of turbines and buildable areas, which is included in section 3 of the report. The purpose of the EIA process is to determine the extent and significance of impacts on the biophysical and social environment due to the proposed development. The applicant has responded below as follows:
		 The buildable areas, as explained in the report, are determined through spatial parameters and technical considerations. The process for outlining these boundaries is informed by best-practices in land-use planning, engineering design, wind farm optimisation, as well as preference of the landowners. The process is rigorous to ensure that all suitable areas are considered. These areas are further refined as a result of environmental sensitivity, micro siting economic and detailed engineering input.
		It can be assured that meticulous planning informed the layout to date and all factors have been considered thoroughly.
	You mention that a solar energy facility would not be suitable. I am sure that you could find a suitable position somewhere in a remote part of the country, along the same power line, and use up far less space. The extent of this proposal is extreme, and not even comparable with similar facilities around the province.	The current site has been chosen due to it being remote amongst various other factors including wind resource and proximity to the grid, which make it viable from a development perspective. Should solar development opportunity arise in other "remote areas", the feasibility of such a development would be considered on own merits. It is important to note that the remoteness of this current site is one of the factors that make it suitable for wind farm development in light of the required legislated setbacks from residential areas etc.
		As mentioned above, topography and landscape contribute to the siting of turbine

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		positions, which determine the extent of the project. The site extent is very comparable to other projects of the same capacity which are operational around the country.
	Your proposal falls into one of the more favourable "zones" for this type of activity according to your report. We are however aware of several other proposals being done by other companies that fall into areas not highlighted on your table. Is there a reason for this, could you have perhaps found a more suitable place?	That is correct. The establishment of the REDZS is not designed to preclude the development of projects elsewhere. The REDZs are designed to declare the identified "suitable" areas as development zones for renewable energy projects, which reinforces the desirability of the current location. The other developments considered were based on the DEA list of renewable energy developments in the area (within a 30km zone).
	When reading your need and desirability summary, it seems as if you are basing your assessment more on economic, civil and social impacts rather than Environmental impacts to the extent that your report becomes more of a motivational report than an assessment. I would have thought that your primary concern here would be the environment, being an EAP? You also seem to try and justify	The need and desirability considers the project from all perspectives and not only environmental. To consider the sustainability of the WEF, the EAP considered economic, social and environmental aspects. The need and desirability chapter was guided by the DEA&DP guideline to ensure that this chapter is sufficient to meet the requirements.
	environmental destruction by hiding behind various legislation?	The purpose of the EIA process is to identify and consider environmental impacts, which is comprised of the majority of the content in the report, including the specialist's volumes. It is unclear what is meant by the statement around hiding behind various legislation. Please note that the legislation overview was provided to sketch the planning environment. It is correct that there are many planning and legislative pieces in place in support of renewable energy development in South Africa. All the applicable legislation to this development were considered from a need and desirability perspective.
	You speak of the various animals and the potential impact the development may have on them. In particular the highly endangered Riverine Rabbit seems to have been side-lined. You concede that this may be the most endangered animal in South Africa, but no effort has been made to confirm whether there are any of these animals in your massive subject area. You assume that there are none based on the topography whilst admitting they occur in surrounding areas? Surely this should be confirmed and the correct measures taken to preserve any of this species should they be found?	The ecologist has confirmed that the site is NOT a habitat for the Riverine Rabbit. Fauna monitoring has been recommended by the specialist and has started on the site.
	There should also be some concern over the fact that the surrounding IBA's would be potential breeding grounds for endangered birds which would over time move out to areas of similar vegetation, of the subject area is one, however the proposed development would restrict this potential. All the species mentioned in your report are in fact found on our properties which neighbour the proposed development. Furthermore we often see Marshall Eagles and assume that they would also be present on the subject properties. This is contrary to what your bird watchers observed.	The closest Important Bird Area (IBA) is the Anysberg Nature Reserve which is located approximately 40km south of the project area. The following information is included in the report and avifauna 12-month preconstruction monitoring: "Conditions for birds on the Rietkloof ridges are always poor. Food resources and suitable nesting habitat on the hilltops are both very limited, and the often persistent winds curb bird flight activities. Thus the local ridgetop avifauna is always depauperate in diversity and numbers relative to conditions in adjacent valleys. Conditions across the monitoring period became progressively drier and this period was the driest for this region since the 1930s. As a consequence of the aridity, the number and diversity of birds across

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		the entire development area, and especially on the hilltop and ridge areas, was markedly lower than on nearby, similar areas monitored in previous preconstruction assessments"
		During the 12-months bird monitoring undertaken at both Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEF "a single, immature, Martial Eagle was seen on Eskom pylons" (Williams, 2016). See Appendix G for the avifauna impact assessment.
	Your noise specialists mention that the noise levels of the turbines will negatively impact many of the fauna that use sounds for either finding prey of defending themselves from prey. Once again the extent of the facility means that this impact will be over a vast area. We feel that you could have far less impact in an area where you could concentrate the facility within to reasonable size. There should be more concern over the moderate to high level impact on loss of habitat to various species across the subject area.	The ecology specialist highlighted potential noise impacts to fauna as less understood and the noise specialist did not comment on any noise impacts to fauna. Wind turbines generate different noise levels at different speeds. Above certain wind speeds, the noise of wind will mask the noise of the turbine. In general, fauna still flourish in areas close to existing roads and other noise generating developments and the assumption could be made that fauna adapt or relocate. As a precautionary approach, the impacts have been rated as high. A proposed mitigation measure is to undertake continuous monitoring in order to generate a body of knowledge in how fauna behave in the area and also in the presence of wind turbines during the operational phase.
	You regard the impact on the social environment to be low. This is very unlikely with the opportunity for work to surely attract those from outside the municipal boundaries to either do the work or subside off those doing it by means of unsavoury social practices such as prostitution, drug and alcohol peddling.	The social impact assessment was undertaken by an independent specialist who has undertaken numerous assessments for renewable energy developments in South Africa. The experienced specialist is familiar with the social ills that could be attracted to the area and therefore assessed this potential impact. The social impact assessment concluded that the residual impact will be low positive based on the socio-economic development benefits that will be accrued as result of the project in the area. However, other negative impacts may also be experienced but the impact is expected to be low. The project will put certain measures in place to mitigate for these negative impacts. The workers will need to sign a code of conduct and agree not to put the project into disrepute while in the employ.
	One can expect the increase in stock theft which is currently a problem, to increase, all the subject property owners are subject to stock theft currently, with additional people transgressing their (and our) properties, this problem can only increase. Any income generated by having a turbine on one's farm, can be expected to be lost in stock theft.	Certain measures will be put in place to ensure that risks associated with impact to local farming practices are mitigated. Project workers will not be allowed to loiter outside of the demarcated project areas and there will be no employment at the gate allowed. All staff employed by the project will need to carry their identification cards to ensure that the risk of outsiders taking advantage of the situation is reduced. The financial benefits should therefore far outweigh stock theft, which according to the comment is currently a problem. There's also the potential for the increased activity onsite to reduce stock theft. As the project development area is remote with only a few people residing on the farms, there are many opportunities for stock theft to take place. However, with increased activity on site it might make it difficult to steal stock unnoticed.
	Your economic overview fails to provide figures. What financial advantages can these communities expect? We have a good idea what the "cost" is!	The socio-economic benefits are obligations to the project in terms of the REIPPPP. While these are not yet specifically defined, there are specific thresholds in terms of the REIPPPP, which include at least 2.5% community ownership, 1.5% spend to economic development initiative as well as SED component weighting.
	This development will by no means save the country from having the high coal emission levels currently experienced. When the wind does blow, the power generated is so insignificant, one cannot claim to be	Please note that the development of renewable energy is part of broader government policy to provide a diversified energy mix i.e. the Integrated Resource Plan. The future energy mix of South Africa is not intended to steer away from coal

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	Reading your construction phase and operational phase requirements it becomes obvious that such remote destinations are not suited to this scale of equipment deployment, and all the associated management, planning and logistics. Look for alternatives that are suitable closer to the ports, services and required infrastructure. Developments like this do pristine areas more harm than good.	completely, but in order to be resilient against climate change, there's a massive need to move towards renewable energy sources and reduce our dependence on coal. It is correct that one wind farm does not add the same capacity to the grid on its own when compared to for instance a coal-fired power station. However, please note that this is not as a result of insufficient development potential, but rather due to the cap of 1400MW per project. There is evidence that the currently installed wind farms have already saved the country and Eskom millions of Rands in avoiding loading shedding (substituting gas turbines). The lower cost of electricity from wind farms is also a benefit experienced by South Africa. There is more evidence of benefit than actual cost to the country when considering the facts. The EAP considers this comment to be contradicting to the suggestion made by the I&AP to find "other" remote areas in South Africa for development. Please note that there are wind energy projects that have been built inland in South Africa, such as the Noblesfontein Wind Farm in Victoria West, that have shown to be completely feasible to deliver wind turbines to remote locations. The logistics and transportation process is undertaken by the project proponent but they are required to implement the traffic management plan stipulated in the Environmental
	Cultural and heritage impacts seem to very high in your assessment. Is it worth sacrificing all this for what you are trying to achieve here?	Management Programme. Please also note that there are three 140MW wind farms that will be constructed in the Komsberg REDZ during the coming months. The transport assessments were completed and it is confirmed to be feasible to transport infrastructure from port to site. Please note that all heritage features will be avoided and therefore not impacted on.
	The visual impact based on your specialist findings is high in general. Having said this I do not see any superimposed examples to illustrate his findings. This may prove the impact to be far greater than assumed?	Wind turbines are generally large and therefore, almost impossible to mitigate its visual impacts. The residual impacts of the visual impact assessment remain high. The VIA specialist report includes photomontages, which give a visual illustration of the turbines from identified viewpoints including viewpoints from the highest point on your property. Please see Appendix G of the Visual Impact Assessment report.
	The sense of place impact is also found to be very high, and as residents of the area we are not prepared to sacrifice this for some commercial venture which is destructive in nature with little/limited value to greater society.	Please note that regardless of whether the proposed WEF is authorised or not, the sense of place will be impacted through the construction of three WEFs in the project region as well as the existing Eskom powerlines and substation. The value to greater society was assessed by the social specialist who determined that the project "represents an investment in clean, renewable energy infrastructure, which, given the challenges created by climate change, represents a positive social benefit for society as a whole. In addition, the majority of the potential negative impacts, including the impacts associated with construction workers and the influx of job seekers, can be effectively mitigated".
	In general, your average ecological sensitivity is high across the entire project area according to your maps. Is this then the ideal environment for such infrastructure? The average score for all environmental aspects in terms of significance was generally higher than one would want for such infrastructure, which we feel could be accommodated in	The ecological specialist recommended that a walkthrough be undertaken as a mitigation measure. This additional walkthrough was undertaken during August 2016 and the proponent has moved turbines from the sensitive areas as a mitigation measure. Please see the revised layout.

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		a more suitable environment, established far easier at a far lower cost.	
		Your recommendation suggests that there are "extreme" environmental advantages? Besides potential green energy there don't seem to be any, but rather a significant cost to the environment.	While the commencement of the project will result in negative impacts, which have been thoroughly discussed in the report, there are also positive gains as a result as indicated by some specialists. For example, palaeontology may benefit from the excavations where there might be discoveries or information regarding the palaeontological resources. Similarly, ecological monitoring will benefit from the project as new data will be obtained to inform the understanding the interaction of fauna with wind turbines.
		You mention "extreme" social benefits to "local" communities. Your description of this and implementation methodologies are absent, or have we missed something? Without proper strategy and implementation, the chance of success is little.	
		Your illustration of how the VIA proves that there will be no or little visual impact is very inadequate and unconvincing. Stating that the distance (approximately 10km) from the nearest turbine is sufficient mitigation is a poor attempt at trying to convince the concerned IAP's that they will not see anything.	The VIA has been undertaken by a qualified specialist whose findings are based on his professional assessments and the study has been peer reviewed. The photomontages have been generated from certain view points and therefore the outcome would be specific to each viewpoint. It is not stated in any of the reports (specialist or EIA) that IAPs will not see anything – this is an incorrect stamen n Mr Petterson's part.
		The above seems to lend itself towards a motivation rather than an "assessment", thus questioning the validity of this EIA. One would expect a far more objective approach.	CES and the EAP are confident that the specialist studies, and the EIA as a whole, have identified and assessed all anticpated impacts associated with the proposed project, and has undertaken this work in terms of the prescribed regulations. As such, the findings of the EIA are informed by all these specialist assessments, of which the respective specialists are independent, and free to make their findings and recommendation in an unbiased manner.
		Based on the points mentioned above, as well as all previous correspondence and concerns raised regarding this WEF we strongly object to the proposal and will by no means support it. Little attention was paid to the appropriate placement of the facility from an environmental perspective.	Noted. As the EAP for the EIA process in terms of regulations, we are satisfied that the proposal has met the requirements, and the decision will be up to the competent authority.
		Please let me know if you have any questions. Regards	
		Warren Petterson	
33.	Gail Louw and Steve Swanepoel	Good day Belinda, Unfortunately Steve and I were unable to access the report and thus have relied on Warren Pettersen to study and respond accordingly. Kindly note that we are in total agreement with his points of concern and on those grounds duly continue to object strongly to the proposal.	The report was made available for an additional 30 days to all I&APs that did not receive notification. Thank you for your comment. Please see responses above to Warren Pettersen's comments.
		Kindest regards, Gail and Steve KEURKLOOF COTTAGE Tel: 0283161401	

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		Cell: 0833829118	
		Fax: 0867199339	
		Email: keurkloof@mweb.co.za	
34.	Michael Barnes and Irene Bezuidenhout (BioTherm)	Hi Thomas	Hi Tom,
		I hope you are well.	No problem. Michael Barnes and Irene Bezuidenhout have been registered as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) for the Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEF
		Please register us as IAPs for the Brandvalley WEF. I understand that the project is quite advanced. I would just like to be kept up to date on	projects and will therefore be informed accordingly.
		the progress.	Kind regards,
		Kind regards Michael Barnes	Belinda Huddy
		Hi Belinda,	
		Please could you register Michael Barnes and Irene Bezuidenhout as I&APs on Rietkloof and Brandvalley WEFs. Their contact details are the following:	
		Michael Barnes Senior Associate BioTherm Energy (Pty) Ltd Building 1, Leslie Ave East, Design Quarter District, Fourways P: +27 (0) 11 367 4644 F: +27 (0) 11 367 4601 M: +27 (0) 76 808 2055 E: mbarnes@biothermenergy.com	
		Irene Bezuidenhout Environmental Manager BioTherm Energy (Pty) Ltd Building 1, Leslie Ave East Design Quarter District, Fourways P: +27 (0) 11 367 4600 F: +27 (0) 86 428 4746 M:+27 (0) 76 822 3484 E: Ibezuidenhout@biothermenergy.com	
		Thanks, Tom	
35.	CapeNature	CapeNature, as custodian of biodiversity in the Western Cape ² , would like to thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed change of land use and development activities, and wish to make the following comment. The covering letters dated 24 March with draft Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIARs) concerning the abovementioned WEF applications, received per mail from Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd by Scientific Services on the 31st of May 2016; and covering letters dated 6 June 2016 with draft Basic Assessment Reports (BARs) concerning the abovementioned Electrical	Thank you for the comments submitted on the proposed applications.

 $^{^{2}\,\}mbox{Section}$ 9, Western Cape Nature Conservation Board Act 15 of 1998

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	network applications, received per mail from Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd by Scientific Services on the 13th of June 2016; and previous comment issued by CapeNature on the 25th of February 2016, respectively refer. For ease of brevity CapeNature has issued a single comment here concerning the proposed Wind Energy Facilities (WEF) and dependent 132 kV Overhead Distribution Lines and associated 33/ 132 kV ESKOM substations for G7 Rietkloof and Brandvalley developments. BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	Agreed.
	The mapped vegetation units ³ predominantly occurring at the affected properties in the Western Cape are: unprotected Central Mountain Shale Renosterveld (FRs 5); hardly protected Koedoesberge-Moordenaars Karoo (SKv 6); and moderately protected Tanqua Wash Riviere (AZi 7). Figure 1: Showing the domain of the draft REDZ Komsberg focus area ⁴ in context of the National Protected Area Expansion Strategy and Protected Area network.	
	3. Fatal flaws 3.1. The combined project area straddles numerous Upstream River Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (FEPA) and associated subquaternary catchment areas. The project area has a high degree of topographical variability, with many kloofs (ravines) and is a high priority un-fragmented landscape being the source area for the Groot River, amongst others. The proposed road network (12 metre width once completed) will severely alter and compromise wetlands and landscape connectivity.	The Present Ecological State scores (PES) for the respective sub-quaternary catchments within the study area were rated as Natural by DWS (2014) and listed as having high ecological importance and high to very high ecological sensitivity. The likely impacts with regard the riparian areas and water courses include: * Loss of riparian systems and alluvial water courses in the construction, operation and decommissioning phases * Impact on riparian systems through the possible increase in surface water runoff on riparian form and function during the operation and decommissioning phases * Loss of wetlands and wetland function in the construction phase *Increase in sedimentation and erosion in the construction, operation and decommissioning phases * Potential impact on localised surface water quality during the construction and decommissioning phases * Storage of hazardous substances particular in the construction phase The proposed layout would seem to have limited impact on the aquatic environment as the proposed structures for the most part have either avoided the delineated watercourses and wetlands with the exception of a number of water course crossings by the proposed access roads. Use of any existing roads will further support this conclusion, particularly with regard the wetland crossings, although the wetlands concerned are already impacted by the surrounding roads, dams and farming activities. Please note that the road width has been reduced from the initially proposed 12meters to the current proposed 9meters. Where any road upgrades are required

³ Mucina L & Rutherford MC (eds) (2006) Vegetation of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland. Strelitzia 19. South African National Biodiversity Institute, Pretoria

⁴ Wind and Solar PV Energy Strategic Environmental Assessment- REDZs Database

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		it is understood that these current crossings may be upgraded by increasing the current size of the culverts and provide additional erosion protection, thus a possible net benefit to the local aquatic systems. Should any of the present road crossings need to be upgraded then the opportunity exists to improve the current state (lack of habitat continuity) for example by replacing pipe culverts with box culverts, while also reducing the height of the bridge footings (culvert bases) to reinstate natural water course levels.
		The wetland areas, were dominated by impacts such as the dam, and the conversion to agricultural lands, thus most were Moderately Modified (PES = C), Largely Modified (PES = D) or somewhere between (PES = C/D). These systems do still contain value in terms of acting as sponge areas within an arid environment, provide additional aquatic habitat (mostly for birds) and filter any runoff during peak flow periods. For this reason, all the wetlands were rated as having a Moderate Ecological Sensitivity and Importance Score (EIS). Impact on the possible loss of wetlands due to the potential need to upgrade the existing crossing through the most northern wetland. The southern-most structures are outside of the wetland boundary and the proposed 50m buffer, but located within 500m of the wetland boundaries. The potential impacts could occur during the construction and again in the decommissioning phase. The impact is likely to be a MODERATE (-) without mitigation and a LOW (-) with mitigation. Based on the above the EAP does not consider the project as fatally flawed due to impacts on FEPA and wetlands within the project area.
	3.2. Most of the property falls within designated sensitive areas selected for various criteria. It should be noted that industrial WEFs are incompatible with conservation objectives for Critical Biodiversity Areas and related Ecological Support Areas.	This was assessed by the ecologist who stated the following: "Within the study area, the extensive CBA within the Western Cape portion of the site is based on several different criteria. A large proportion of this CBA is related to the fact that is has been identified as a priority area within the National Protected Area Expansion Strategy for South Africa (NPAES). This area was identified as a priority area on the grounds that apart from being an extensive tract of unfragmented natural vegetation, it is also an area of high climate and landscape variation which is likely to be resilient to climate change. Such areas are likely to be more climatically stable over time, providing refugia where plants and animals can persist. As such, it is important to recognize that the site is therefore not replaceable due to the fact that there are not similar areas that can perform the same function and which contain a similar set of species available elsewhere. In addition, the highest-lying ridges are considered most important in terms of ecological patterns and processes in the area and these occupy a very small proportion of the site with the result that these are likely to experience a disproportionate impact from the development which also targets these areas for development.
		Overall, the CBA maps for the study area are considered inadequate for use at a fine scale and the data collected on-site is considered to be of greater weight than the CBA status. Therefore, the CBA status of the site is considered secondary to the actual assessed biodiversity status of the different parts of the site. Within the Western Cape, the higher ridges are identified as the most important and the lower

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	3.3. The conflict between protection of biodiversity patterns of the National Protected Area Expansion Strategy (NPAES) areas and promotion of industrial development of WEFs (see Figs. 1 and 2) within the Komsberg Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ). CapeNature supports the implementation and declaration of further protected areas within the Lower Karoo areas.	lying areas are generally considered significantly less sensitive. Where CBAs have been designed for connectivity and not to capture high biodiversity areas, they are less vulnerable to habitat loss and in the current case, there are significant gaps in the strings of turbines and it is not likely that the development would disrupt the connectivity of the landscape for the majority of species. In terms of the impact of the development on the NPAES Focus Area, the total extent of habitat lost to the current development is not highly significant and would not compromise the overall availability of land to meet conservation goals within the affected NPAES. However, the density of renewable energy developments in the area is high and the cumulative impact of development may have an impact on future conservation options in the area. It is however also pertinent to consider the extent to which wind energy development is compatible with biodiversity conservation. The actual footprint of the development is low and the majority (98%) of the affected area will remain intact. With mitigation and avoidance, the impact on vegetation and plant species can be reduced to an acceptable level and as such, the development can be considered compatible with the maintenance of plant diversity. The area is a priority area for flora and there are no faunal species within the development area that are a very high conservation priority, the overall impact on biodiversity features of concern would be relatively low. Furthermore, as the total footprint of the development is low, the potential for future rehabilitation of the area after decommissioning of the facility is high and so in the long-term, the potential future conservation value of the area would remain largely intact." The proposed WEF is located in an area where the Komsberg Renewable Energy Development Zone overlaps with the Western Karoo NPAES focus area which are both areas identified through broad scale planning. The closest protected area to the proposed site is the Anys

⁵ Todd, S. Environmental Impact Assessment for the Proposed Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility: Fauna & Flora Specialist Impact Assessment Report.

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		electrical infrastructure and 240km² for Rietkloof WEF and electrical infrastructure amounts to a fraction of the total Western Karoo NPAES area. Of these areas the actual footprint would only be approximately 200ha per WEF (including electrical infrastructure).
		The ecologist assessed the impact of the development on the NPAES Focus Area, and determined that the total extent of habitat lost to the current development is not highly significant and would not compromise the overall availability of land to meet conservation goals within the affected NPAES.
		Additionally: 1. Based on the mapping information there is no continuity between the expansion focus area and the nature reserve. 2. It is important to note that the focus areas do not preclude development from occurring in these areas. As stated in the BGIS information sheet, "These areas should not be seen as future boundaries of protected areas, as in many cases only a portion of a particular focus area would be required to meet the protected area targets set in the NPAES." As can be seen from the map included below only a portion of the NPAES in this area is affected by the proposed development, thus still allowing for expansion should this be required. 3. It is important to note that the proposed development footprint is small and limited to the sites for substations and pylons for overhead lines, thus still allowing for ecological connectivity and thus can still be used for conservation purposes. 4. The SEA undertaken for the REDZ did take environmentally sensitive areas into account in order to "identify areas where large scale wind and solar PV energy facilities can be developed in a manner that limits significant negative impacts on the environment, while yielding the highest possible socio-economic benefits to the country".
		Therefore, it is concluded that on a local scale the REDz and NPAES Focus Areas are compatible.
	3.4. The cumulative impacts on, inter alia, the presently un-fragmented, unprotected and pristine Central Mountain Shale Renosterveld (FRs 5); Roggeveld Shale Renosterveld (FRs 3); and Tanqua Escarpment Shrubland (SKv 4) are unprecedented (see Fig. 3); and are not supported.	We note the lack of support from CapeNature. Please note the findings of the ecology impact assessment and the cumulative impact statement: "Cumulative impacts are a concern at the site due to the large amount of wind energy development in the area. Furthermore the powerline development is within CBAs and could result in increased habitat fragmentation and reduced landscape connectivity. Overall, though the predicted footprint from powerlines is low and the cumulative impact of the development is considered to be Low after mitigation."
	Based on the available information CapeNature strongly objects to the proposed development of the Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs and associated infrastructure.	Please note that CapeNature is a registered I&AP and will receive future correspondence to inform any revised comments.
	CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comment and request further information based on any additional information that may be received. Your concern for the environment is appreciated.	

APPENDIX 1 TO THE COMMENTS AND RESPONSES TABLE: Supplementary information to location alternatives

The information <u>underlined</u> below was included to Chapter 3 (alternatives) of the Final Scoping Report in order to address comments from Interested and Affected Parties.

The project proponent has undertaken various extensive processes in order to determine and select the current site location namely Brandvalley wind farm. The process involved integrated feasibility assessments (including spatial, environmental and technical) using a combination of internal tools and external input from third party stakeholders such as consultants, landowners and authorities.

The project area selection process has been considered from the following perspectives:

- National consideration of the potential development sites from various locations within the borders of South Africa, using predetermined criteria, including environmental, legislative and technical.
- Regional determination of the suitability of positioning of the site within a chosen locality using evaluative spatial, technical and legal parameters.
- <u>Local detailed evaluation of factors that influence project feasibility and the optimal location of the project infrastructure within the site boundaries.</u>

A detailed overview of the site selection process is provided below.

National Alternatives

The wind resource is the main determining factor of project success due to the highly competitive nature of the REIPPPP, however environmental and social considerations are also crucial to ensure sustainable development. The applicant therefore identified fourteen areas in South Africa that could potentially have significant wind resources (see Figure 1). These areas were subjected to an environmental and social pre-feasibility assessment that was undertaken by CES during 2009. The high level assessment determined the significance of the environmental and socio-economic issues, potential fatal flaws and to rank the sites.

The pre-feasibility assessment considered the following key factors:

- Visual impact including proximity to scenic areas, sense of place, prevailing land use, areas of conservation or recreational use, topography, proximity to dense settlements and shadow flicker:
- Noise/ acoustic considerations including proximity to existing ambient noise sources and settlements;
- Impacts to avifauna (birds) and bats based on proximity to important bird areas, migratory routes and local bird and bat data;
- Terrestrial ecology (fauna and flora) assessed in terms of local species and biomes;
- Hydrology impacts in terms of the presence of wetlands and surface water features, potential alterations to watercourses and the associated permit requirements;
- Heritage impacts to local heritage features;
- Road access and power line servitudes;
- Potential safety impact considerations; and
- Proximity to airfields in terms of the restrictions imposed by Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Regulations.

The pre-feasibility assessment determined that two sites namely Swellendam 2 and Uitvlugt are potentially fatally flawed as indicated in Table 1. Although the other sites had various areas of concern/ risk⁶ they were not deemed fatally flawed from an environmental and social perspective.

The applicant proceeded to assess the remaining twelve sites to determine technical feasibility, including:

- Wind resource: Analysis of publicly available information, proprietary information and specialist on-site analysis of weather data to determine the wind resource.
- Site extent to ensure that sufficient land can be secured under long-term lease agreements to allow for a minimum number of wind turbines to make the project feasible.
- Grid access: Grid access and the distance to a viable connection point were key
 considerations in terms of prioritising appropriate sites. Ease of access into the
 Eskom electricity grid is vital to the viability of a wind facility. Projects which are in
 close proximity to a connection point and/or demand centre are favourable, and
 reduce the losses associated with power transmission.
- Land suitability: The current land use of the site properties was an important consideration for site selection in terms of limiting disruption to existing land use practices. Agricultural land was preferred as the majority of farming practices can continue in tandem to the operation of the wind farm once the construction and commissioning of the project is complete. Sites that facilitate easy construction conditions (relatively flat, limited watercourse crossings, lack of major rock outcrops) were also favoured during site selection.
- Proximity to aerodromes: The proximity to aerodromes and possible interactions with these facilities was considered as part of site selection.
- Landowner support: The selection of sites where the landowners are supportive of the development of renewable energy is essential for ensuring the success of the project.

⁶ Extreme risk: Significant mitigatory actions required to reduce these risks and in some cases it may not be possible to mitigate. Major risk: These risks are of a serious nature, and without effective mitigation measures would be major hindrances to the project proceeding. Medium risk: These risks are of a less serious nature but still important, and need to be reduced to as low as reasonably possible for the benefit of the environment or social network affected. Minor risk: These risks are generally acceptable to the project and environment, and mitigation is desirable but not essential.

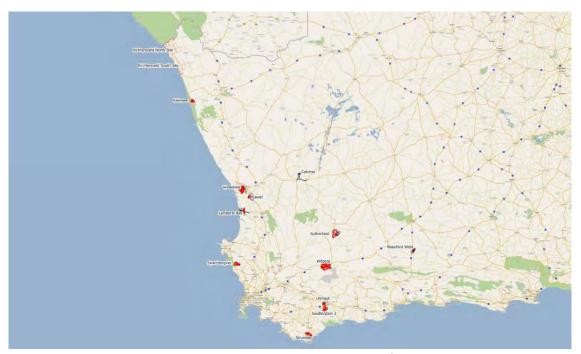


Figure 1: Potential suitable areas investigated in the 2009 pre-feasibility assessment Table 1: Outcome of the environmental and social pre-feasibility assessment

Overall Risk Categorisation											
Site	<u>Visu</u> al	Acou stic	Bird s	Bat s	Fau na	Flo ra	Hydro logy	Herit age	Acces s	Safe ty	Fatall Y Flawe d
Kleins ee	Mino <u>r</u> Risk	Minor Risk	Mino r Risk	Maj or Ris k	Mino r Risk	Min or Ris k	Minor Risk	Mino r Risk	Minor Risk	Mino r Risk	<u>No</u>
Richt ersvel d South	Medi um Risk	Minor Risk	Medi um Risk	Me diu m Ris k	Mino r Risk	Min or Ris k	Minor Risk	Medi um Risk	Minor Risk	Mino r Risk	<u>No</u>
Richt ersvel d North	Medi um Risk	Minor Risk	Medi um Risk	Me diu m Ris k	Mino r Risk	Min or Ris k	Minor Risk	Medi um Risk	Minor Risk	Mino r Risk	<u>No</u>
<u>Lamb</u> <u>erts</u>	Extre me	Minor Risk	Medi um	<u>Maj</u> or	Mino <u>r</u>	Min or	Minor Risk	Mino <u>r</u>	Minor Risk	Mino <u>r</u>	<u>No</u>

<u>Bay</u>	<u>Risk</u>		<u>Risk</u>	Ris <u>k</u>	<u>Risk</u>	Ris k		<u>Risk</u>		<u>Risk</u>	
Witbe rg	Medi um Risk	Minor Risk	Majo <u>r</u> Risk	Maj or Ris k	Mino r Risk	Min or Ris k	Minor Risk	Mino r Risk	Mediu m Risk	Mino r Risk	<u>No</u>
Beauf ort West	Medi um Risk	Minor Risk	Majo r Risk	Me diu m Ris k	Mino r Risk	Min or Ris k	Mediu m Risk	Mino r Risk	Minor Risk	Mino r Risk	<u>No</u>
Suthe rland	Mino r Risk	Minor Risk	<u>Majo</u> <u>r</u> <u>Risk</u>	Maj or Ris k	Mino r Risk	Min or Ris k	Minor Risk	Medi um Risk	Mediu m Risk	Mino r Risk	<u>No</u>
Vrede ndal	Extre me Risk	Minor Risk	Medi um Risk	Maj or Ris <u>k</u>	Mino r Risk	Min or Ris k	Minor Risk	Medi um Risk	Minor Risk	Mino r Risk	<u>No</u>
<u>Calvi</u> <u>nia</u>	Medi um Risk	Minor Risk	Mino r Risk	Maj or Ris <u>k</u>	Medi um Risk	Me diu m Ris k	Minor Risk	Mino r Risk	Minor Risk	Mino r Risk	<u>No</u>
<u>Klawe</u>	Extre me Risk	Minor Risk	Medi um Risk	Maj or Ris <u>k</u>	Mino r Risk	Min or Ris k	Mediu m Risk	Mino r Risk	Minor Risk	Mino r Risk	<u>No</u>
Struis bay	<u>Majo</u> <u>r</u> <u>Risk</u>	Minor Risk	Extr eme Risk	Ext re me Ris k	Mino r Risk	Min or Ris k	Minor Risk	Mino r Risk	Minor Risk	Majo r Risk	<u>No</u>
Swart bergvl ei	Extre me Risk	<u>Major</u> <u>Risk</u>	Extr eme Risk	Ext re me Ris k	Mino r Risk	Me diu m Ris k	Minor Risk	Mino r Risk	Minor Risk	Majo <u>r</u> Risk	<u>No</u>
<u>Uitvlu</u>	Extre me	Minor Risk	Extr eme	Ext re	Mino <u>r</u>	Me diu	Minor Risk	Mino <u>r</u>	Minor Risk	Mino <u>r</u>	Poten tially

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	Risk		<u>Risk</u>	me Ris <u>k</u>	<u>Risk</u>	m Ris k		<u>Risk</u>		<u>Risk</u>	
Swell enda m 2	Extre me Risk	Extre me Risk	Extr eme Risk	Maj or Ris <u>k</u>	Mino r Risk	Mediu Riski	Minor Risk	Mino r Risk	Minor Risk	Medi um Risk	Poten tially

<u>Table 2: Technical considerations of the sites assessed to be environmentally feasible sites</u>

Overall Risk 0	Overall Risk Categorisation									
Site	Go / No-go (not necessarily the status quo)	<u>Motivation</u>								
<u>Kleinsee</u>	This project was considered a no-go.	The Kleinzee mining area where this site is located was subjected to a tender for land rights with conditions seen technically and financially unfeasible to the developer.								
Richtersveld South	This project was considered a no-go.	Unfavorable wind conditions.								
Richtersveld North	The applicant proceeded with the development of this site.	All technical and environmental prescreenings seemed to be favorable.								
<u>Lamberts</u> <u>Bay</u>	The applicant proceeded with the development of this site.	All technical and environmental prescreenings seemed to be favorable. Further wind resource evaluation showed that the site had low wind resources.								
<u>Witberg</u>	The applicant proceeded with the development of this site.	All technical and environmental prescreenings seemed to be favorable.								
Beaufort West	This project was considered a no-go.	Unfavorable wind conditions								
Sutherland	This project was considered a no-go.	Unfavorable wind conditions								
<u>Vredendal</u>	This project was considered a no-go.	High environmental risk and less favorable wind conditions								
<u>Calvinia</u>	This project was considered a no-qo.	Limited space and grid connection options for a feasible wind farm.								
Klawer	The applicant proceeded with the development of this site.	All technical and environmental prescreenings seemed to be favorable.								
<u>Struisbay</u>	This project was considered a no-go.	High environmental risks in terms of birds and bats.								
Swartbergvlei	This project was considered a no-go.	High environmental risks in terms of birds and bats.								

These initial pre-feasibility assessments assisted G7 with forthcoming decisions as to which site alternatives to be prioritised for the development of wind energy facilities. Even though the Roggeveld area per se was not included in this national assessment, the Sutherland site was taken as a proxy regarding environmental risks before environmental impact assessment processes commenced in mid-2010. The final environmental impact assessment report and resulting environmental authorisation in 2014 confirmed that the area had comparatively low environmental sensitivities and that bird and bat risks were actually lower than originally thought for Sutherland.

In addition, the DEA's strategic environmental assessment (SEA) for wind and solar farms identified an area of about 160x60km, centred on Eskom's Komsberg substation, as one of only a few priority areas for wind farm development in South Africa. The SEA itself is based on a large number of environmental and technical criteria and therefore supports the applicant's findings.

Regional Alternatives

Apart from the sites described in Table 2, the applicant also proceeded with researching the greater Roggeveld area. An environmental impact assessment (EIA) process commenced in mid-2010 for a 750MW WEF. Before completing the process, DEA requested that separate EIA processes be undertaken for each 140MW WEF in accordance with the maximum generation capacity per WEF as stipulated under the Department of Energy's Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP). The original 750MW project was therefore divided into various phases, each with a potential to generate 140MW.

These detailed environmental impact assessments done as part of the earlier 750MW project Roggeveld lead the developer to believe that there is an acceptable risk of environmental impacts by wind farms in this area. Based on high quality wind measurements conducted since 2010, the wind resource in this area also proved to be exceptionally high, further evidenced by the first phase's ability to bid the lowest tariff (R0.56/kWh) of all wind farm projects in round 4 of the REIPPPP in August 2014. Advanced 3-dimensional wind modelling conducted for an area about 25km around the first phase showed that the surrounding terrain (which includes the Brandvalley site) held very similar, if not better wind potential and therefore was considered to be feasible for further wind farm development.

A number of possible 140MW phases were investigated further. Phase 2, now the Karreebosch wind farm, lies north of the Roggeveld wind farm (phase 1) and obtained environmental authorisation in January 2015. Another two phases, 3 and 4, now referred to as the Brandvalley and Rietkloof wind farms respectively, are currently undergoing their environmental impact assessment process.

As an alternative, a fifth phase located immediately southwest of the current Brandvalley project site was considered for potential project development, but was considered no-go for wind farm development for reasons described below.

Phase 5 alternative

Phase 5 consisted of the properties immediately southwest of Brandvalley, up to about 13km away where the terrain falls off into the southern tips of the comparatively flat Tankwa Karoo. According to the applicant's wind map this region exhibits even better wind resources than phase 1 (Roggeveld Wind Farm) due to the presence of many elongated mountain ridges which are ideally exposed to the prevailing wind directions. The area was also expected to have similar ecological sensitivities to Roggeveld due to the comparable biophysical environment.

However, this alternative proved infeasible due to the fact that none of the affected landowners were open to the idea of wind energy development on their properties. All further assessments and investigations therefore did not progress any further.

Local alternatives

The main project components are the wind turbines themselves which inform the layout of associated infrastructure such as roads, crane pads, substation positions or power lines. Within the Brandvalley area, detailed consideration was given to selecting areas that would be suitable for turbine placement or project infrastructure. In the selection process some alternative areas were eliminated for the following reasons:

Wind resources

An extensive wind measurement campaign has been undertaken for the greater Roggeveld area for over five years which, together with short duration wind data from 80m masts on site, was used to compute a high resolution wind map for the Brandvalley study area to inform the turbine placement within.

In order to ensure that a project has a good chance of being constructed in the highly competitive REIPPPP market, wind turbines must be placed in the areas with the highest wind resources. Typically, ridgelines prove most suitable in this respect due to flow acceleration effects which occur in such exposed spots and no wind shading from surrounding hills. Average wind speeds in the valleys between tend to be very low for the opposite reasons.

However, within the ridge systems present on site, some of them do not show the expected high wind resources due to lower exposure (shorter and/or smaller slopes upwind) at these locations. This can also be caused by wind shading caused by neighbouring ridgelines or unfavourable predominant wind direction compared to the topographical layout of a location, although their wind potential is still higher than any position in the valleys.

An overview of the wind resources (red= high, yellow = average, green/blue = low) measured and modelled for Brandvalley site (red dotted line), the demarcation of the buildable areas (black polygons mainly around the ridge tops) and the 70 selected most feasible turbine positions are indicated in the in the Figure 2 below.

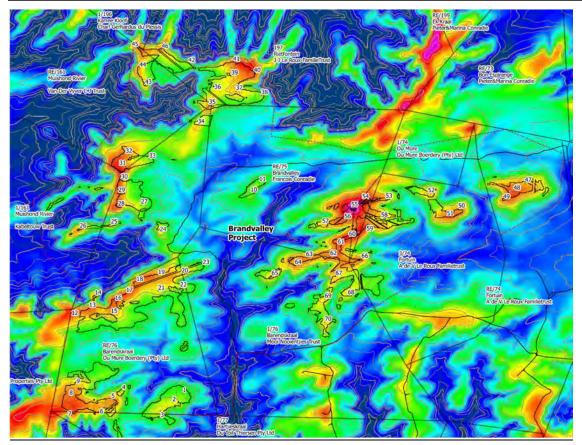


Figure 2: wind resources for the Brandvalley wind energy facility

As indicated in Figure 2, the southeast corner and the northern section, certain ridges to the have medium or high wind resources, but were disqualified as potential alternatives for turbine placement either because they were not within a "buildable area" or as a result of landowner input as explained below.

<u>Buildable Areas</u>

Buildable Areas are custom defined areas based on all preliminary technical and environmental parameters (before EIA and in-depth technical studies) which demarcate where turbine placement is feasible and exclude areas where not. They are based on maximum allowable slopes, setbacks from farmsteads, setbacks from neighbouring farms required by provincial land use regulations and finally required buffers from Eskom power lines. In addition, the process of identifying buildable areas takes into account certain no-go zones to avoid potential electromagnetic interference on existing telecommunication infrastructure.

The buildable areas for the Brandvalley Wind Farm exclude high slopes of more than 8 degrees for civil and electrical engineering design and environmental reasons (due to sensitive vegetation on slopes), erosion control and slope stability. Setbacks of 3 times tip height from existing Eskom transmission lines (400kV and 765kV) were applied. All direct point to point links of telecommunication providers available at the time of the application were buffered adequately to avoid potential risk of interference. These included the providers Eskom, Telkom, Sentech, Transnet, Cell C, MTN, Vodacom and Breede Net who have facilities in the area. The providers are part of the the I&AP list and are therefore not only informed of the development, but also have the chance to comment in case there are any issues.

In terms of the applicable Zoning Scheme regulations in the Western Cape, renewable energy projects may be granted a Consent Use on an Agriculture Zone when an application has been submitted to the relevant municipality. One of the key parameters for wind turbine placement is that the structure must be positioned at a distance of 1.5 times tip height (from foundation to tip of the blade). This parameter was applied to positioning all the turbines from the outer boundaries of the project properties.

Landowner input

The project proponent and the landowners entered into negotiation for a long-term lease agreement for the land to be used for project development. During these discussions, the landowners had the opportunity to state preference for certain areas of their properties to be excluded from the development. The applicant also consulted with the landowners during the conceptualisation phase to discuss the site development plans. The landowners, in turn, expressed a preference for certain infrastructure to be placed at different locations within their properties. This meant that some areas of potential development would be excluded due to landowner preferences. In case of this Brandvalley project, alternative positions for siting of infrastructure had to be considered in light of landowner input.

Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.

<u>C6.2 PUBLIC MEETING AND PRESENTATION G7 BRANDVALLEY AND RIEKTLOOF WEF'S:</u> <u>Thursday 11 February 2016.</u>

LOCATION:	Laingsburg Flood Museum, Laingsburg
DATE:	Thursday 11 February 2016
TIME:	Open- house from 15:00- 18:00.
	Formal presentation 18:00 to 19:00 followed by questions and answers session.
ATTENDEES:	Please see register of attendees below

Agenda:

- 1. An open house was held from 15:00 18:00.
- 2. Belinda Huddy presented on the Draft Scoping Report, including:
 - > An introduction to the proposed project and the project team.
 - An explanation of the EIA process.
 - A brief outline on the Renewable Energy plans and programme in South Afirca and how the proposed wind farms fit into the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP).
 - > A description of the proposed projects, including their location and the proposed infrastructure.
 - > The potential environmental impacts that have been identified to date and the proposed specialist studies to be undertaken in the EIA Phase of the project.
 - An explanation of the Public Participation Process and how the Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) can get involved in the proposed projects.
 - > Details on how the I&APs can provide comments on the proposed projects.
- 3. The presentation was followed by a questions and answer session.
- 4. The questions and answers are not repeated verbatim, but notes are recorded in Table 2.

1. Table 1: Notes on questions and answers

MH – Marc Hardy (Environmental Assessment Practitioner from EOH CES), **MM** – Methuli Mbanjwa (Representative from G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd), **KdB** – Karen de Bruyn (Representative from G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd)

Item	Question / Issue – Participant	Response
1	How many Volts are involved in terms of production from each WEF?	MH: Each turbine can generate between 1.5 and 4 megawatt (MW).
	I understand the generation capacity, but how many volts does each WEF generate.	KdB : The electricity is generated at 690V which is then stepped up to 33kV at the turbine. The 33kV is then transmitted via overhead or underground 33kV transmission lines to an onsite 33/132kV substation. From there the electricity gets distributed to the national grid via overhead 132kV distribution lines.
2	We are experienced in these projects, have had previous WEFs around. One item that will definitely be a problem is road access. [Participant] wants G7 to use the same access roads in order to avoid vegetation loss (because it doesn't rain in this region and thus won't grow well in future). One road to be used and only one road.	MH & KdB: Existing roads will be used as far as possible. KdB: Existing farm roads are favoured where possible to reduce the number of new roads to be established.
3	Test holes previously made – complaint that persons didn't manage the on-site incident well. Moved off and onto access roads, causing mud and vegetation loss.	MH: Unfortunately, your on-site management is only as good as your Environmental Control Office (ECO), but special care will be taken.
		KdB: All contractors must adhere to site rules that are in place to avoid incidences like this. Special care will continue to be taken and

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Item	Question / Issue – Participant	Response
4	Before test holes are dug they need to create one access road and stick to it	contractors will be penalised for contraventions. MH: We will appoint an ECO earlier in the planning process – i.e. to incorporate ECO into planning and contractor issues, with specific emphasis on enforcement.
		KdB: Site rules with penalties were communicated to the wind farm landowners for input. All contractors must adhere to the site rules that are in place.
		Correction: an ECO will be appointed to oversee the construction phase. Prior to the construction phase, site rules will govern onsite activities during the planning phase to mitigate impacts to the environment.
5	What are the social benefits of the project for the community? Wilhelm Theron stated that 1% of the turnover should be given to community in shareholding agreement. Trustees are already settled in the community and payment structure would	MH: The social side is part of the investigation. DoE and developer need to settle on the money and remuneration. MH stated community has latitude to arrange with the developer.
	already be set up. Municipal income tax will be much less than what can be done with that sort of capital (1% turnover). Mentioned building community centres and schools and such as the benefactor of this proposed fund.	Further comment on socio-economic benefits: The Department of Energy 's Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) adjudicates project submitted through criteria and scoring that are based on 70% price (tariff) and 30% economic development. The REIPPPP rules stipulate socio-economic contributions to the local community (with 30km radius).
6	We are currently in El Niño. Will the WEFs change rainfall patterns?	MH: No studies show any influence on rain, only microclimate affected in terms of air movement.
7	How long will EIA take. Won't it need to be completed within Eskom timeframes (i.e. REIPPPP timeframes)	MH: replied the process takes roughly 9 months, i.e. hopefully we have a RoD by end October 2016, but that is best case scenario and won't necessarily happen.
8	Has G7 received the money to build substation for the first phase?	KdB: Yes, Bon Espirange will be built by Roggeveld Wind Power (Pty) Ltd. In the future, it will be open for use by other preferred bidder projects through a co-operative initiative in agreement with Eskom.
		Comment: Roggeveld Wind Power will have the necessary funding to construct the project and the Bon Espirange substation once the project has reached financial close.
	Who will own the substation then?	kdB: Eskom regards Bon Espirange as being a potential hub for future development, and want to avoid multiple lines crossing the R354 to Komsberg. All high voltage infrastructure needs

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Item	Question / Issue – Participant	Response
		to be ceded to Eskom and therefore, once constructed, the high voltage part of Bon Espirange will be managed by Eskom.
9	Where is Bon Espirange?	MH: Until Eskom unbundles distribution. [Participant]: on Piet's farm.
		Please note: "Piet's farm" refers to the Remainder of Farm 73 Bon Espirange owned by Mr Piet Conradie.
10	Will Komsberg be used?	Yes, a 132kV overhead distribution line will connect Bon Espirange to Komsberg. Other preferred bidder projects connecting to Komsberg will be responsible for part of the cost of connection.
11	Has the sister WEF been continued in terms of process? (Participant referred to ACED (Hidden Valley) Karus and Soetwater WEF projects) Francois Conradie indicated that they are only just now completing their holes. Holes are only dug to test soil and formations.	The projects were awarded preferred bidder status during the same round (Bid Window 4 and 4.5) as Roggeveld Wind Power, but we are unsure what progress have been made. MH: Holes refer to geotechnical assessments to determine the geological formation to inform the foundation designs.
		Comment: Mr F Conradie owns some properties that are leased for the Hidden Valley project.
12	Birds and Bats and such are usually problems, do we see the same for this project?	MH: The specialists are almost done with the monitoring schemes (completed in May 2016 for bats, February 2016 for avifauna). KdB: Preliminary results indicate that it is not a high sensitivity, but it will be confirmed by the final monitoring results. MH: The results will be included in the EIA report and will be given to the DEA.
13	Douglas Calldo bemoaned that VIA that says someone can't develop but there are already 'millions' of power cables there. Do CES have inset there? (i.e. appeal for CES to use VIA results with certain background understanding). Douglas Calldo stated that they do not care about how the turbines look as they think it is quite beautiful.	MH: We do take visual impact into consideration, but it is highly personal in nature. These studies only show where the turbines can be seen, not 'how' it will impact (i.e. personal interpretation).
	Most attendees agreed turbines are pretty.	MH: Most of his previous projects – visual impact is the first thing that comes up, but is it worse than power stations in Witbank? Participant stated landowners prefer turbines, while neighbours don't (participants suggesting that it is likely so because neighbours are not compensated).
14	Are turbines usually in valley floors, or in the mountains?	MH: Usually in the mountains. KdB: The turbines are proposed on the ridges as that is where the best wind resource is. In terms of placement on the ridges, the turbines would preferably be placed on the crest which is less sensitive botanically than the side slopes.

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Item	Question / Issue – Participant	Response
15	Sand and water? Where would that come from?	MH: Water still undecided, will be used for drinking and washing and batching.
		KdB: Very low quantities of water will be required for the operational phase and the bulk of the water requirements are required for construction activities. Roggeveld Wind Power recently obtained permission from the Department of Water and Sanitation to obtain water from existing boreholes.
		MM : For phase one (Roggeveld Wind Power), we have already identified an existing batching plant location on Siegfriedts plant and have put in applications to DWS for use of two boreholes during construction, maybe we use the same for this one.
	Can you transfer water rights and can you abstract from any borehole?	KdB & MM: No, you would need to submit a new application for the specific water abstraction proposed to the Department of Water Affairs for approval.
16	To what degree will roads be upgraded?	MH: Laterite surfacing, not tar.
17	Will farm owners still have access after the WEF is constructed?	MH & KdB: Yes, landowners will continue to have access.
18	Will Brandvalley and Rietkloof be seen as one project?	MH: No, under REIPPPP it will be split due to 140MW cap.
		KdB: If both are authorised and awarded preferred bidder status at the same time, then there could be some overlap during the construction phase. The overlap also depends on who will be appointed for the implementation of the projects. To minimise environmental impacts, the project footprint and costs one will want to combine as far as possible but at this point we don't know.
19	Who is building the phase one for G7? What material will the turbines be?	MM: Roggeveld Wind Power will appoint a contractor soon and it is likely to be Acciona Energy (Spanish company). The appointed contractor will supply turbines and will subcontract others to do wetworking, cabling, substation and power lines etc. MH: Steel turbines will be used.
		KdB: It could be steel or concrete as steel towers are currently highly in demand and thus concrete can be used depending on availability. Concrete towers are assembled onsite by fitting a number of keystones to one another.
21	Timespan – how long is construction?	KdB: Between 18-24months, but there are many incentives to complete the construction phase faster.
22	When do you imagine construction it will begin? (not this project, but the previous one).	KdB: At this stage there are some aspects to address and it depends on a number of things. It will likely be towards the middle/end of 2016

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Item	Question / Issue – Participant	Response
		or early 2017.
23	Construction phase – what work opportunities will there be? Surely someone will be appointed to do grunt work.	MH: This is one of our recommendations. SANCO municipal labour desk will be main person to drive that.
		MM: Contractor is obliged to use local labour and procure local services by Department of Energy. If services cannot be procured locally, contractors will source services from elsewhere. Participant stated a few projects are now running completed, so this will be a good influx of work.
24	BUT – how many people estimates will be used?	[Participant]: They wouldn't know, as they aren't the contractors.
		MH: At least 100 people.
		Correction: the number of employees will vary throughout the construction phase and will typically be ramped up during peak construction periods. The employment opportunities can range up to 300.
25	Will construction workers stay over on site? (accommodation)	MH: People won't sleep over, but there will be a construction camp. MM: All equipment will be stored onsite, but labourers will be transported in and out daily.
		KdB: Security staff will stay overnight.

MH thanked everyone for coming, and KdB said that people will be kept involved and should contact if they have any questions.

C6.3 REGSITER OF I&APS WHO ATTENDED THE OPEN DAY AND PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON 11th FEBRUARY 2016

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Project:	Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs	
Meeting:	Open House and Public Meeting	
Venue:	Laingsburg Flood Museum Auditorium	
Date:	11.02.2016	

Name	Affiliation	Contact details	Signature
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Douglas Callolo	swarthand	0235511812	DJallo
Francis Couralie		023-5571817	Hourodie.
Wilhelm Thero	/		
JANNIC THERUN	Parans Rivier	0725157515	An
5e Stadler	G7	0827391061	7
DEGIPRIOT LOST	Nuvolus	082 4432752	TAILS
Christo Matthe	, Berndshreer	0825683002	Mac

Name	Affiliation	Contact details	Signature
E. L. Margis	Hartiteskroal	0839935152	E.L. mai
E. L. Marquis Methuli Mbanjwa	97	0213000610	570
Karen de Brugn	97	0838229629	1/2
Wilhelm Theron	Wilge hout Forl	0834474227	Tols
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<u>C6.4 PUBLIC MEETING AND PRESENTATION G7 BRANDVALLEY AND RIEKTLOOF WEF'S:</u> Wednesday 22nd June 2016.

EIA AND BA FOR THE PROPOSED 140MW BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY
AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE, NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES
AND THE EIA AND BA FOR THE PROPOSED 140MW RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY
FACILITY AND ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES, SOUTH
AFRICA

Notes from the Public Meeting and Presentation of the draft Environmental Impact Assessment Reports and Draft Basic Assessment Reports

LOCATION:	Laingsburg Flood Museum, Laingsburg
DATE:	22nd June 2016
TIME:	Formal presentation 18:00 to 19:00 followed by questions and answers session.
ATTENDEES:	Please see register of attendees below

Agenda:

- 1. Both project Draft EIR's and Draft BAR's were presented.
- 2. The presentation was followed by a questions and answer session.
- 3. The questions and answers are not repeated verbatim, but notes are recorded in Table 2.

Table 2: Notes on questions and answers

MH – Marc Hardy (Environmental Assessment Practitioner from EOH CES), MM – Methuli Mbanjwa (Representative from G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd), CB - Christi Botha (Representative from G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd), KdB – Karen de Bruyn (Representative from G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd); GR – Gideon Raath (EOH CES)

Item	Question / Issue – Participant	Response
1	Mr. Francois Conradie noted that often with construction projects an immediate result is the emergence of invasive alien species, which the companies then do not manage over the long term referring to Eskom as an example. These issues are long term in nature and the farmer is stuck with the resulting invasion while the developer does not attempt any long term control. The exact same concern was also noted for erosion.	GR: Both issues were incorporated into both projects' EMPRs, providing mitigation measures and plans for both. In both instances the developer does have clear responsibility towards the control of the IAP and the prevention and minimisation of erosion.
2	No other concerns or questions were raised	-

MH thanked everyone for coming and said that people will be kept involved and should contact EOH CES if they have any questions.

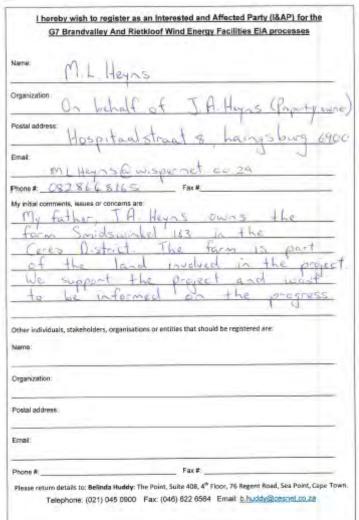
$\underline{\text{C6.5}}$ REGSITER OF I&APS WHO ATTENDED THE PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON 22^{nd} June $\underline{2016}$

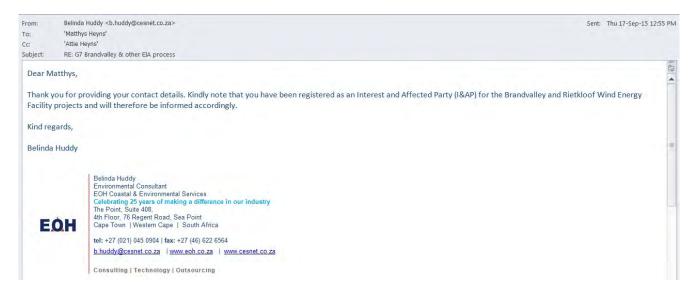
Warse: Laingshorg Hood & Date: 22.06.2016	Open House and Public Meeting Laingshurg Hood Museum Auditorium 22.06.2016	Brandualley and Rietkloof WES and 132 kV Overhead Distribution Line Projects Open House and Public Meeting Laingshorg Flood Museum Auditorium 22.06.2016	
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C6.6 CORRESPONDENCE WITH I&APS

MATTHYS HEYNS







SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL ROADS AGENCY LIMITED (SANRAL)

From: Nicole Abrahams (WR) [mailto:AbrahamsN@nra.co.za]
Sent: 17 September 2015 09:15 AM
To: 'b.huddy@cesnet.co.za'
Cc: René de Kock (WR)

Subject: EIA for proposed Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs

Good day Ms Belinda Huddy

I have received notice of the above listed project and would like to verify whether this could potentially impact on Sanral. Could you kindly forward me a locality plan, one that specifically shows the location of the proposed project in

Do note, that of particular interest/concern is if, and where this project interconnects with the national road.

I trust that you will find the above in order.

Regards



Ms Nicole Abrahams Environmental Coordinator Tel: +27 21 957 4602 Fax: +27 21 910 1699 Email: Abrahamsn@nra.co.za

Reg.No. 1998/009584/30



Western Region
1 Havenga Street, Oakdale, 7530
Private Bag X19, Bellville, 7535
www.sanral.co.za
SANRAL Fraud Hotline: 0800204558

From: Belinda Huddy [mailto:b.huddy@cesnet.co.za]
Sent: 17 September 2015 01:00 PM To: Nicole Abrahams (WR) < <u>Abrahams N@nra.co.za</u>>
Cc: René de Kock (WR) < <u>Dekockr@nra.co.za</u>> Subject: RE: EIA for proposed Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs

Thank you for your interest in the proposed project.

Please see the locality maps for the two projects (Brandvalley and Rietkloof Wind Energy Facilities) attached. The proposed project locations are in relative close proximity to the N1 and alongside the R354.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Kind regards,



Belinds Huddy Environmental Consultant
EOH Coastal & Environmental Services
Celebrating 25 years of making a difference in our industry
The Point, Suite 408,
4H Floor, 76 Regent Road, Sea Point
Cape Town | Western Cape | South Africa tel: +27 (021) 045 0904 | fax: +27 (46) 622 6564 b.huddy@cesnet.co.za | www.eoh.co.za | www.cesnet.co.za

Consulting | Technology | Outsourcing

From: Nicole Abrahams (WR) [mailto:AbrahamsN@nra.co.za] To: 'b.huddy@cesnet.co.za'

Cc: René de Kock (WR); Garth Julius (WR); Imelda Julies (WR) Subject: FW: EIA for proposed Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs Dear Belinda The above listed project bears reference The South African National Roads Agency SOC Limited (SANRAL) has received information regarding the above 2 proposed projects relating to the establishment of wind energy facilities/farms. The following comments should be noted: a. If abnormal loads have to be transported by road to the proposed site, a permit has to be obtained from the provincial government.
b. SANRAL requires detail plans for approval of any alteration or upgrading measures that are required at any access - intersection with N1 National Road. The plans must be produced by an ECSA registered consulting engineer. All cost associated with road alteration or upgrading will be for the applicants account. c. Access information - Kilometre distance nearest to the access fee attached form, on which you can see the blue marker boards every 200m along the National Road). The status of the access – gravel or surfaced roads, with or d. If services need to be constructed parallel within 60m measured from the road reserve fence, over or under the national road, (in this case the N1) the service owner must apply for a written permission from SANRAL, before any work may be carried out. Attached please find an application form for the proposed encroachment. e. Transport plan
f. SANRAL must be consulted before the transport of abnormal loads commence on national roads. Please forward Transport Traffic Plan to Mr Garth Julius from this office at juliusg@nra.co.za Transport plan Do not hesitate to contact the sender should you have any further queries. I trust that you will find the above in order. Nicole Abrahams Belinda Huddy <b.huddy@cesnet.co.za> Sent: Tue 22-Sep-15 4:44 PM 'Nicole Abrahams (WR)' To: 'René de Kock (WR)'; 'Garth Julius (WR)'; 'Imelda Julies (WR)' Subject: RE: EIA for proposed Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs Thank you for your feedback. We have taken note of the below-mentioned comments and terms to be adhered to. Kind regards. Belinda Huddy Belinda Huddy
Environmental Consultant
EOH Coastal & Environmental Services
Celebrating 2 years of making a difference
The Point, Suite 408,
4th Floor, 76 Regent Road, Sea Point
Cape Town | Western Cape | South Afroa ence in our industry EOH tel: +27 (021) 045 0904 | fax: +27 (46) 622 6564 b.huddy@cesnet.co.za | www.eoh.co.za | www.cesnet.co.za Consulting | Technology | Outsourcing

STEVE SWANEPOEL

From: Steve Swanepoel [mailto:steve.s@mweb.co.za]

Sent: 02 October 2015 01:09 PM

To: b.huddy@cesnet.co.za; warren@wpplanning.co.za; keurkloof@mweb.co.za

Subject: REGISTRASIE BGP-BRANDVALLEY EN RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGIE FASILITEIT

Dag Belinda

Aangeheg vir u verdere aandag.

Groete

Steve Swanepoel

Organisasis: EFRSTEGETUK BOERDERY BK 611 Pos adres: POSBUS 78, CROENPUNT 8061 E-pos: Steve S @ MWeD CO. Za Telefoon #	P)
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warren @ wpplanning.co.Za	_
elefoon #: Faks #:	-0.0
Vorder asb besonderhede terug aan: Mev Belinda Huddy : Die Punt, Sakenommer 408, 4 ^{te} vloer, 76 Re Street, See Punt, Kaapstad.	agent
Telefoon: (021) 045 0900 Faks: (048) 622 6564 E-pos: <u>b.huddy@cesnet.co.za</u>	

The Karoo is world-renowned for its great expanse, beauty and clear skies. Most notably, the reason for the establishment of the SALT array at Sutherland. Botanists, Herpologists, palaeontologists and tourists frequent the Karoo (and fly in on our registered airstrip) as a result of the wide selection of fauna and flora and traces of early civilisation. In short, the Karoo is a special place with a fragile eco-system, as a result of the harsh climate. This is an area which should never be disfigured or disturbed.

We respectively, run guest houses on adjoining properties, which are frequented by nature-lovers and people seeking unspoilt nature and tranquillity.

We wish to object to the erection of a proposed wind-farm in the Matjiesfontein area, as this would result in:

- Unsightly structures defacing the unspoilt countryside
- Damage or destruction of ecology during and after construction.

 Further construction to establish the infrastructure required for operating a concern 3. in such a remote location would bring about further disruptions.
- Erection of conduits (pylons, etc) would deface the countryside and pose a threat to already 4 beleaguered fauna and flora.
- The viability of such a venture, by nature of its actual objective, is questionable.
- Have alternative locations, such as those in proximity of industrial areas been investigated or considered. 6
- What impact studies have been carried out todate and do they justify the erection of such a concern in this location?
- 8 Would the local population be utilised for the construction labour and if not, would this create a sustainable source of employment to them. Migrant labour could seriously disadvantage locals and would bring no economical value to the locals, only to the operators of such a concern.
- 9. Do the proponents of this venture place any value on local upliftment or relief of poverty to the local population, which
- 10.
- is already prevalent in the area.

 Would the contractors guarantee the upholding of points raised in 8 and 9.

 What compensation could be expected to the landowners and/or local population in the event of the concern 11. becoming in breach of points 8,9 and 10, with particular reference to loss of any kind, such as decline in tourism, business and framing operations in the area.



FALCON OIL & GAS

From: Anne Flynn [mailto:aflynn@falconoilandgas.com]

Sent: 21 October 2015 11:13 AM To: b.huddy@cesnet.co.za

Cc: Michael A. Gallagher; Philip O'Quigley; Sas Nel

Subject: Brandvalley and Rietkloof Wind Energy Facilities I&AP Registration

Dear Belinda,

Further to your emails on Monday please find attached the completed I&AP form regarding the Brandvalley and Rietkloof Wind Energy Facilities.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

Kind regards, Anne.

Anne Flynn

Group Financial Controller | FALCON OIL & GAS LTD. Styne House, Upper Hatch Street, Dublin 2, Ireland Office: +353 1 417 1900 | Direct: +353 1 417 0812

Email: aflynn@falconoilandgas.com | website: www.falconoilandgas.com

hereby wish to register as an Interested an	
G7 Brandvalley And Rietkloof Wind Ener	gy Facilities EIA processes
Name:	
Anne Flynn	
Organization: Forteen Dil & See Ltd	
Postal address:	
STYNE HOUSE, LIPPER HATCH STERE	, oughn a meumo
Email:	
aflymofakoroulandges.com	
Phone # + 455 - 1 - 41+19-00 FXX#	NA
My initial comments, issues or concerns are:	
Please see Appordix A attach	e-l
	
i en reverión nue esta	
Other individuals, stakeholders, organisations or entities that she	ould be registered are:
Name:	
145.04	
Organization:	
Postal address:	
Email.	
Phone #: Fax #:	
Please return details to: Belinda Huddy: The Point, Suite 408, 4*	
Telephone: (021) 045 0900 Fax: (046) 622 656	

Appendix A

Interest

Falcon Oil & Gas Ltd ("Falcon") is the holder of a Technical Co-operation Permit ("TCP") with reference number 12/2/013/1 issued in terms of section 77 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act 28 of 2002 ("the MPRDA") over an area of 30,326.958 square kilometres in the Western Karoo. Falcon was issued with a TCP as early as 27 August 2009 and applied for exploration rights on 31 August 2010. As the holder of a TCP, Falcon has, in terms of section 78 of the MPRDA, the exclusive right to apply for and be granted an exploration right.

Views and Concerns

The establishment of the G7 Brandvalley and Rietkloof Wind Energy Facilities on land in respect of which Falcon holds a TCP and expects to explore potentially curtails Falcon's ability to exercise these rights to the fullest extent.

From an exploration point of view, Falcon's proposed seismic survey, to be conducted in the second year of its exploration program, was planned on lands with no major industrial and/or civil activities in the vicinity of the proposed seismic lines. From a technological point of view, the seismic method is imaging the sub-surface by transmitting seismic waves towards the Earth's interior and then recording the reflected seismic waves. Noise generated in the neighbourhood of a seismic line will disturb seismic data acquisition and hamper the high-resolution and good quality imaging of the underlying geological strata. Construction or daily operation of a windfarm will generate high levels of ground vibration and above surface noise that would obstruct Falcon's seismic data gathering.

From a field development point of view the adverse effect of the G7 Brandvalley and Rietkloof Wind Energy Facilities on Falcon's planned shale gas project is significant. Drilling activities, infrastructure development, gas transmission (pipelines), etc. would all be severely curtailed to render the coexistence with a densely populated windmill platform in the area potentially impossible.

The impact of the proposed wind farm on Falcon's rights and proposed activities needs to be assessed as part of the EiA process. A proposed method of assessment has to be developed in consultation with interested parties and approved by the competent authority.

From: Belinda Huddy [mailto:b.huddy@cesnet.co.za]

Sent: 21 October 2015 15:14

To: Anne Flynn

Cc: Michael A. Gallagher; Philip O'Quigley; Sas Nel

Subject: RE: Brandvalley and Rietkloof Wind Energy Facilities I&AP Registration

Dear Anne

Thank you for your interest in the proposed Brandvalley and Rietkloof Wind Energy Facilities. Kindly note that your comments have been received. You have additionally been registered as an Interested & Affected Party (I&AP) for the proposed projects and will therefore be informed accordingly.

Many thanks.

Belinda Huddy

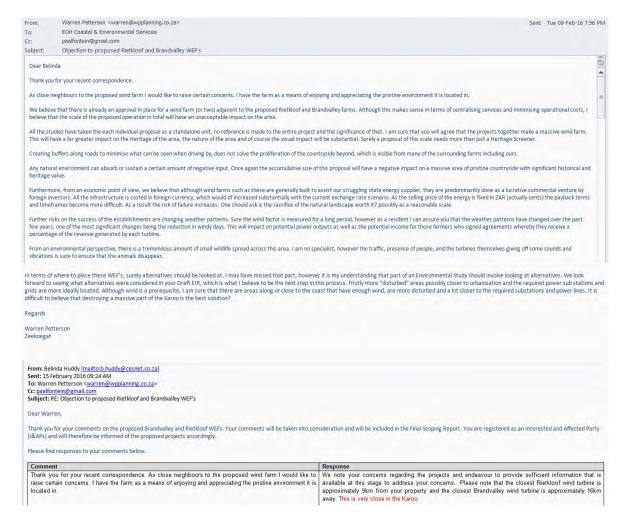
EOH

Belinda Huddy
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b.huddy@cesnet.co.za | www.eoh.co.za | www.cesnet.co.za

From: Anne Flynn Anne Flynn Anne Flynn Anne Flynn Anne Hydra (Wed 21-Oct-15 4/34 PM To: Wed 21-Oct-15

WARREN PETTERSON



◆ Next
◆ Previou

We believe that there is already an approval in place for a wind farm (or two) adjacent to the proposed Rietkloof and Brandvalley farms. Although this makes sense in terms of centralising services and minimising operational costs, I believe that the scale of the proposed operation in total will have an unacceptable impact on the area.	proximity of the Eskom Komsberg substation previously awarded preferred bidder status under the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) managed by the Department of Energy. Only one of them (Roggeveld) is adjacent to the proposed Brandvalley project, but not adjacent to the proposed Rietkloof project. It believe that all these WEF swill abut each other and create a massive facility that will almost industrialise the area and magnify the impacts that we are trying to avoid. The construction of these projects will likely commence during the second half of 2016. There are many environmental, cost and social benefits to group wind energy facilities in one area, and this was the key objective of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ) conducted by the CSIR from 2013-2015 that has subsequently identified several of these countrywide. The grouping of facilities in this Rietkloof and Brandvalley project areas are supported by the above mentioned SEA. The SEAS Electrical Grid Infrastructure component identifies this area as a condrof for electrical infrastructure expansion, and the proposed expansion of the Komsberg Substation will serve to accommodate additional projects in future. Please see Chapter 4 of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) for more information on the project need and desirability. It cannot be possible that there are in fact "Environmental benefits", possibly cost and social? The combined (cumulative) impacts can be of a higher significance as opposed to the impact of one wind energy facility only. To ensure that the project does not result in unacceptable impacts, the cumulative impacts associated with all proposed projects in the study area will be assessed by the specialists to
All the studies have taken the each individual proposal as a standalone unit, no reference is made to the entire project and the significance of that. I am sure that you will agree that the projects together make a massive wind farm. This will have a far greater impact on the Heirlage of the area, the nature of the area and of course the visual impact will be substantial. Surely a proposal of this scale needs more than just a	inform the Brandvalley and Rietkloof Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA). As indicated in the draft scoping report, all specialists will consider and assess the potential cumulative impacts assuming the worst case scenario i.e. that all projects proposed will be constructed.
Heritage Screener.	A heritage impact assessment will be undertaken to determine the impact on heritage features. A Notice o Intent to Develop was submitted to the Heritage Western Cape and the South African Heritage Resourcer Agency to determine whether a Palaeentology Impact Assessment will be required. The findings of the heritage impact assessment will be made available for public comment during the EIA Phase.
Creating buffers along roads to minimise what can be seen when driving by, does not solve the proliferation of the countryside beyond, which is visible from many of the surrounding farms including ours.	A visual impact assessment (VIA) will determine the areas sensitive to change in the landscape which car include nearby houses, tourist destinations etc. Viewshed analyses will be undertaken to determine the visibility of the wind farm from these various sensitive points." The findings of the visual impac assessment will be made available for public comment during the EIA phase. 'Should you wish our farm to be included in the VIA, kindly provide us with GPS coordinates of the viewpoint(s) on your farm you want assessed. Please see attached kmz with 3 of the many possible Viewpoints.
Any natural environment can absorb or sustain a certain amount of negative input. Once again the accumulative size of this proposal will have a negative impact on a massive area of pristine countryside with significant historical and heritage value.	Both the visual and heritage specialists will assess cumulative impacts.
Any natural environment can absorb or sustain a certain amount of negative input. Once again the accumulative size of this proposal will have a negative impact on a massive area of pristine countryside with significant historical and heritage value.	Both the visual and heritage specialists will assess cumulative impacts.
Furthermore, from an economic point of view, we believe that although wind farms such as these are generally built to assist our struggling state energy supplier, they are predominantly done as a lucrative commercial venture by foreign investors. All the infrastructure is costed in foreign currency, which would of increased substantially with the current exchange rate scenario. As the selling price of the energy is fixed in ZAR (actually cents) the psyback terms and timeframes become more difficult. As a result the risk of failure increases. One should ask is the sacrifice of the natural landscape worth it? possibly as a reasonable scale.	G7's response follows: Under the REIPPPP, financial model parameters (payback terms, return on equity, capex with up-to-date foreign exchange assumptions etc.) are finalised at what's referred to as "Financial Close", the time when all contracts for construction and financing of a wind farm are finalised. This occurs shortly before start of construction but 1-2 years after being appointed Preferred Bidder (which in turn can only come after obtaining environmental authorisation). If at that point the project is no longer economically feasible for whatever reason, Financial Close cannot be achieved as no funding can be raised for construction, the project will not be built and no environmental impacts will occur. If at that point the project is economically feasible, exchange rate hedges ensure that no adverse consequences occur during the construction period. In addition, the REIPPPP allows certain adjustments to the electricity tariff to be made for any exchange rate fluctuations between the day an REIPPPP bid is submitted and Financial Close.
	Finally, since operational costs for wind farms are very low compared to most other forms of electricity generation and since almost all operation and maintenance is done locally, exchange rate fluctuations have very little impact on the viability of a wind farm once it has been built.
	For these reasons, there is no "risk of failure" in this context. If the wind farm is built, it will be viable and not fail. Otherwise the wind farm simply won't be built.
Further risks on the success of the establishments are changing weather patterns. Sure the wind factor is measured for a long period, however as a resident I can assure you that the weather patterns have changed over the past few years, one of the most significant changes being the reduction in windy days. This will impact on potential power outputs as well as the potential income for those farmers who signed agreements whereby they receive a percentage of the revenue generated by each turbine.	been taken into account by the developer to determine the viability of the proposed wind farms. In
From an environmental perspective, there is a tremendous amount of small wildlife spread across this area. I am no specialist, however the traffic, presence of people, and the turbines themselves giving off some sounds and vibrations is sure to ensure that the animals disappear.	
In terms of where to place these WEF's, surely alternatives should be looked at. I may have missed that part, however it is my understanding that part of an Environmental Study should involve looking at alternatives. We look forward to seeing what alternatives were considered in your Draft EIR, which is what I believe to be the next step in this process.	Please note that various alternatives were identified and included in Chapter 3 in the DSRs. Alternatives to be considered also include access road location alternatives, construction camp location alternatives onsite substation location alternatives as well as incremental alternatives for turbine locations. In addition the no-go alternative will also be assessed. These are local scale alternatives. As noted in the DSR numerous (14) sites were subject to a feasibility study conducted by CES in 2009 These are the alternatives that we want a better understanding of, and the reasoning behind the noncompliance/failure of the other 12 steep?

An environmental and technical pre-feasibility assessment was undertaken in order to determine which areas of South Africa could potentially be suitable for wind farm developments. After much deliberations, Firstly more "disturbed" areas possibly closer to urbanisation and the required power sub stations and grids are more ideally located. Although wind is a prerequisite, I am sure that there are areas along or close to the coast that have enough wind, are more disturbed and a lot closer to the required substations and power lines. It is difficult to believe that destroying a massive part of the Karoo is the best solution? the applicant selected this area based on the following: Wind resource: Analysis of publicly available information, proprietary information and specialist analysis of five years' worth of on-site weather data indicated that the site has sufficient wind resource to make a wind energy facility financially viable. Site extent: Sufficient land can be secured under long-term lease agreements to allow for the required number of wind turbines to make the project feasible. Some argue that you are taking advantage of a generally poor farming community
Grid access: Grid access and the distance to a viable connection point were key considerations in terms of prioritising appropriate sites. Ease of access into the Eskom electricity grid is vital to the viability of a wind facility. Projects which are in close proximity to a connection point and/or demand centre are favourable, and reduce the losses associated with power transmission. Grid access is deemed favourable for this site due to the existence of the existing Eskom Komsberg Substation. Eskom is currently considering the Komsberg Substation as a hub for connecting several renewable energy projects being developed in the area. You are not answering the question. Komsberg is in the Karoo. The Karoo is ndisturbed. Why destroy it. Land suitability: The current land use of the site properties is an important consideration for site selection Lami suitability. The current said use of the step opportunes as important consideration for site selection in terms of limiting disruption to existing land use practices. Agricultural land was preferred as the majority of farming practices can continue in tandem to the operation of the wind farm once the construction and commissioning of the project is complete. Sites that facilitate easy construction conditions (relatively flat, limited watercourse crossings, lack of major rock outcrops) are also favoured Many thanks, Belinda Belinds Huddy
Environmental Consultant
EOH Coastal & Environmental Services
Celebrating 26 years of making a difference
The Point, Suite 408,
41 Histor, 78 Regent Road, Sea Point
Cape Town | Western Cape | South Africa EOH tel: +27 (021) 045 0904 | fax: +27 (46) 622 6564 b.huddv@cesnet.co.ze | www.eoh.co.ze | www.cesnet.co.ze Consulting | Technology | Outsourcing From: Warren Petterson <warren@wpplanning.co.za> Sent: Mon 15-Feb-16 7:52 PM Belinda Huddy paalfontein@gmail.com RE: Objection to proposed Rietkloof and Brandvalley WEF's Thanks Belinda. Attached some significant viewpoints from my farm. From: Belinda Huddy [mailto:b.huddy@cesnet.co.za] Sent: 15 February 2016 09:24 AM To: Warren Petterson < warren@wpplanning.co.za> Cc: paalfontein@gmail.com
Subject: RE: Objection to proposed Rietkloof and Brandvalley WEF's Thank you for your comments on the proposed Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs. Your comments will be taken into consideration and will be included in the Final Scoping Report. You are registered as an Interested and Affected Party (I&APs) and will therefore be informed of the proposed projects accordingly.

STEPHAN PIENAAR

Please find responses to your comments below.



Return to: Lungisa Bosman Fax: 046 622 6564



Coastal & Environmental Services

COMMENTS FORM - INTERESTED & AFFECTED PARTY

Project for which you wish to register: RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITY

Title: MR. / MRS. / MS / D	R. / PROF	Last Name:	PIENAAR		
First Names: STEPHAN					
Name of Company / Organisa	ation:	PENTA P (PTY)	LTD		
Language Preference:	ENGLISH	AFRIK	AANS	XHOSA	
Contact details					
Postal Address:		Email Address:	penta@axxess.	.co.za	
P O BOX 90		Contact number:	082 892 8606		
LAINGSBURG	1	Fax number:			
6900					
Issues/Concerns:					
AS	SET OUT IN MY	SUBMISSION DA	TED 20 FEBRUAR	RY 2016	
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Comments Form

P O Box 90 LAINGSBURG 6900

20 February 2016

EOH Coastal & Environmental Services
The Point, Suite 408, 4th Floor,
76 Regent Road, Sea Point,
8005
Cape Town

For Attention: Mrs B Huddy

Dear Mrs Huddy

Re: NOTICE OF OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE RIETKLOOF WEF, WESTERN CAPE

Having only recently becoming aware of this proposed development I have not previously registered as an I&AP but I believe that I am still entitled to do so and attached hereto my registration form.

I wish to hereby submit my objection to this development which arises from a number of concerns and I will deal with these in their order of significance from my point of view.

My company Penta P (Pty) Ltd is the owner of the farm Aasvogelbosch (Portion 1 of Keurkloof 97) some distance due south of the proposed development. My sole means of communication from the farm is via the Breedenet Radio Network which I utilize both for the internet and voice communication (VOIP). I do not have a Telkom fixed line facility and, due to the location of the farm being in a deep signal "shadow" from any of the cellphone service providers, no cellphone reception is available at the farmhouse. The farmhouse is situated at 33 12 20S 20 30 40E. You will appreciated that from a security and safety position, an effective, reliable and continuous means of communication is essential for any farm.

My first concern is the following: From the information presented in your Draft Environmental Scoping Report dated 26 January 2016 it is clear that the proposed facility is directly in line between the antenna on farm and Breedenet's antenna on Brandkop on the farm Brandvalley. I am very concerned that, should the project go ahead, the signal quality to and from my farm will be significantly reduced by interference from the turbines. This will place my family and property in jeopardy should an emergency arise for which I require immediate and urgent assistance. It will furthermore impact on my usual day to day means of communication via the internet. I will require an investigation by an independent, industry recognised radio communication specialist to assure me that such interference will not occur. In addition thereto I will request such specialist to record the current signal quality and strength which will serve as reference values for future comparisons.

My second concern relates to what I perceive to be a total understatement in your draft report on the physical impact which will be caused by the construction of access roads to the turbine sites. I notice that you have not included a civil engineer on your sub-consultant team which I am sure would have cast a different light on this issue. Your draft report makes scant mention of this significant issue in para 3.2.1 and even then rather concentrates on the environmentally less significant "access roads" than the potentially more destructive what you term "side roads" or "secondary roads". The impact of construction roads between 8m and 12m in width up on to and along the ridges will be major yet this is brushed over in your report.

As an aside, the figures 2.3 and 3.1 in your draft report are not correct. I suspect this is due to inexperienced use of GIS tools and should have been picked up by your report reviewer. It is also puzzling while the report in 3.5.1.2 lists both Access Roads 2 and 3 which are not significantly different but does not consider the road along the south of the project area which leads to 3 of the 5 proposed construction camp sites as an access road. This road will surely have to be upgraded.

My third concern relates to aesthetical matters. I understand that in the greater scheme of things the loss to a few individuals of the very real value of residing in a typical rural landscape with pristine vistas (for which many of the local residents chose to live here) will not carry much weight. It is, however, difficult to accept that there are no suitable alternative sites to be found.

In your draft report Chapter 3 -Alternatives commences with:

According to Appendix 2(2) of the EIA Regulations (GN R. 982 of 2014), a Scoping Report must contain all the information necessary for a proper understanding of the process, informing all preferred alternatives, including location alternatives, the scope of the assessment, and the consultation process to be undertaken through the environmental impact assessment process, and must include –

(h) a full description of the process followed to reach the proposed preferred activity, site and location within the site, including -

(i) details of alternatives considered;

(x) if no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not considering such; and

(xi) a concluding statement indicating the preferred alternatives, including the preferred location of the activity.

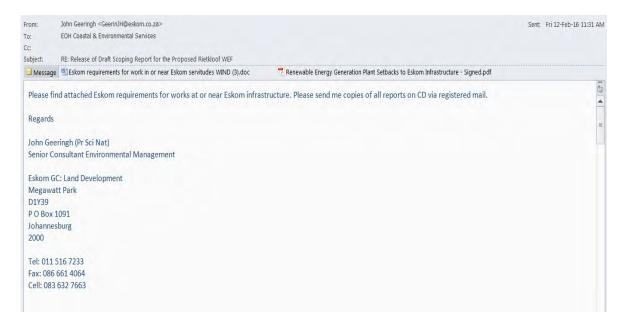
Unless I am mistaken the report on which I am commenting, is this "Scoping Report" yet no details on any of the alternatives considered are presented as required by the Regulations. Mentioned is made of a "detailed and rigorous pre-feasibilty assessment.." providing a "...reasonable justification.." for selecting the Rietkloof site. Making such an assessment available "on request" surely does not comply with the Regulations which call for such information to be part of the Scoping Report.

I trust that you will consider my concerns and that they will be receiving the attention called for in NEMA and its Regulations.

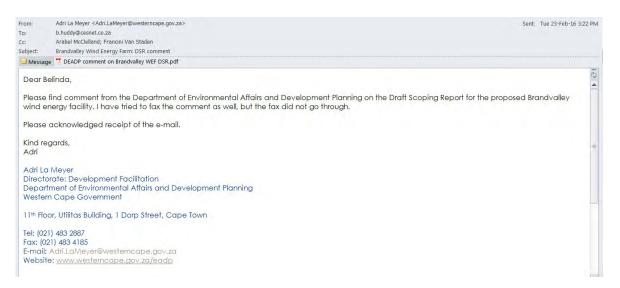
Yours faithfully,

S G Pienaar Pr Eng

ESKOM



DEAD&P



COMMENT FROM DEA&DP ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT



Adri La Meyer

DIRECTORATE: DEVELOPMENT FACILITATION

Adri.LaMeyer@westerncape.gov.za

REFERENCES:

16/3/3/6/4/2/1/B1/5/1250/15 (Development Management: Region 2) 16/3/3/6/4/2/1/C1/6/022B/16 (Development Management: Region 3)

DATE:

2016 -02- 23

The Board of Directors EOH Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd The Point, Suite 408, 4th Floor 76 Regent Road SEA POINT 8000

For attention: Ms Belinda Huddy

Tel: (021) 045 0904 Fox: (046) 622 6564

Dear Madam

COMMENT ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT AND PLAN OF STUDY FOR EIA FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 140MW BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES (KAROO HOOGLAND, LAINGSBURG AND WITZENBERG LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES)

- The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) dated 20 January 2016 that were received by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (hereinafter referred to as "the Department") on 25 January 2016, and the telephonic conversation on 23 February 2016, refer.
- It is understood that the applicant, Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd., proposes the following development:
- 2.1 The development of a 140 megawatt (MW) wind energy facility comprising of 70 turbines:
- 2.2 Each turbine will have a generating capacity of between 1.5 MW and 4 MW;
- 2.3 Each turbine will have a foundation of 25m in diameter and 4m in depth;
- 2.4 The turbine structures will have a maximum hub height of up to 120m per turbine and a rator diameter of up to 140m; and
- 2.5 Associated substation and ancillary infrastructure (access roads, overhead power lines, electrical turbine transformers, wind measuring lattice mosts, etc.).

The following consolidated comment by various directorates in Department is hereby offered:

11th Floor, 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001 1et: +27 21 483 2887 1ax: +27 21 483 4185

Private Bag X9086, Cape Town, 8000 www.westerncape.gov,zo/eadp

- Directorate: Development Management (Region 2) Arabel McClelland (Arabel.McClelland@westerncape.gov.za; Tel: (021) 483 2660):
- 3.1 Please include the Department of Environmental Affairs' reference number in future documentation for referencing purposes.
- 3.2 With respect to the applicable 2014 EIA listed activities listed in Table 1-1 of the DSR, the following is noted:
- 3.2.1 Activity 30 of Government Notice (GN) No. R. 983 refers to an activity identified in terms of section 53(1) of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004) (NEM:BA). Please note that such activities identified in terms of section 53(1) of the NEM:BA have not yet been gazetted and as such, activity 30 of this listing notice should be excluded from the application.
- 3.2.2 Activities 12 and 14 of GN No. R. 985 refer to systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans. Please note that these plans have not been formally adopted by the competent authority for the Western Cape.
- 3.2.3 Activity 14 of GN No. R. 985 also refers to "sensitive areas as identified in an environmental management framework as contemplated in chapter 5 of the Act and as adopted by the competent authority." Similarly, please be advised that the draft Environmental Management Framework for the Cape Winelands District Municipality has not been formally adopted by the competent authority.
- 3.3 The page numbers of Chapter 1 should be amended as they are not sequential.
- 3.4 Section 1.3 of the DSR incorrectly refers to the triggering of at least one listed activity in GN No. R. 985, which require a full Scoping and EIA process to be followed. This should be amended to refer to GN No. R. 984.
- 3.5 Clarity on the following is required and must be addressed in the EIA Report:
- 3.5.1 Chapter 2, sub-section 2.4.1(3)(ii)(h) of the DSR refers to the site being "rehabilitated where practical and reasonable." It is recommended that additional information be provided with respect to the proposed rehabilitation measures, management thereof and responsible parties.
- 3.5.2 Section 3.3 of the DSR outlines "incremental alternatives" with respect to the turbine layouts and positions and briefly mentions some factors that may influence this. However, the project description states that "up to 70 wind turbine positions" may be proposed. The description allows for an expansive range of turbine positions; therefore it is recommended that clarity is provided either on how factors influence the selection and placement of the turbines, or how the potential positions are eliminated based on the maximum number of wind turbines.
- 3.5.3 Figure 6-11 depicts the Critically Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Ecological Support Area (ESAs) within the proposed project area. However, the titles of the first two maps have been incorrectly labelled and should be switched so that the first map (top left) refers to the Cape Winelands DM.
- 3.5.4 This Directorate supports the identified specialist studies indicated in the Plan of Study for EIA that are to be undertaken to inform the EIA phase of the application.
- 3.6 Given the scale and location of the proposed development, it is recommended that the potential impacts for the construction, operational and decommissioning phases be clearly distinguished. Furthermore, due to the scale of the construction works in a relatively remote location and the

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2

substantial size of the construction camp (~10ha) and on-site concrete batching plant (a further ~1ha), it is recommended that the potential impacts associated with the contractor's base camp, including provision of basic services for the site and personnel, as well as the construction work spread out across a more expansive area, be adequately considered and assessed in the EIA Report. In addition, it is recommended that the approximate size of the workforce required during the construction phase be indicated in the EIA Report.

- Directorate: Development Management (Region 3) Francini van Staden (<u>Francini.vanStaden@westerncape.gov.za</u>; Tel: (044) 805 8617):
- 4.1 Based on information contained in the DSR, this Directorate requires that the following impacts pertaining to the receiving environment be assessed and taken into account with the final design and layout of the proposed wind energy facility:

4.1.1 Biophysical Impacts

- 4.1.1.1 Potential impacts on surface water resources that occur in close proximity to the site and possible riparian zones;
- 4.1.1.2 Potential impacts of increased surface water run-off (viz. increased soil erosion) associated with the establishment of hard surfaces and vegetation clearing (mainly during the construction phase);
- 4.1.1.3 Potential impacts on ground and surface water quality due to hydrocarbon spillages from vehicles during the construction phase of the development;
- 4.1.1.4 Potential impacts on soils due to hydrocarbon spillages from vehicles during the construction and operational phase of the development;
- 4.1.1.5 Destruction of flora within the development area ranging from construction activities such as vegetation clearing and topsoil stripping within the site;
- 4.1.1.6 The disruption of ecological processes and loss of landscape connectivity;
- 4.1.1.7 Faunal displacement mainly during the construction phase of the project and adverse impacts on avifauna as a result of potential habitat loss;
- 4.1.1.8 Potential biophysical impacts of the development on formally and informally protected areas;
- 4.1.1.9 Potential impacts of the development on the soil and agricultural potential of the site;
- 4.1.1.10 Potential impacts of the proposed development on subsurface drainage patterns; and
- 4.1.1.11 Potential increase in dust and noise generation on the receiving environment during the construction phase.

4.1.2 Development site

4.1.2.1 A thorough assessment of the turbine footprints for the aforementioned anticipated biophysical and other impacts must be conducted, as well as the development footprint of any associated development components or facilities (e.g. ancillary infrastructure, substation and other electrical infrastructure developments, etc.).

4.1.3 Socio-Economic

- 4.1.3.1 A thorough assessment of road transport and access safety pertaining to the delivery of turbine components for the proposed development;
- 4.1.3.2 The potential for job creation during the construction and operational phases of the proposed development; and



- 4.1.3.3 The potential for education and training development initiatives to enable the youth to develop skills, especially in the fields of science and technology.
- 4.2 According to the DSR, the proposed Brandvalley wind energy facility may connect to a shared onsite Eskom 33/132kV substation, which could then be connected via an off-site overhead 132kV power line to the Komsberg substation. Proof of consultation and/ or any preliminary agreements with Eskom in this regard must be included in the EIA Report.
- 4.3 According to the DSR, a site selection process was followed which resulted in the proposal of the wind energy facility on the proposed development site. It is furthermore noted that an access road, construction camp and substation site alternatives will be assessed. It is recommended that the EIA Report provide a more detailed assessment on the different types of technology alternatives (e.g. wind energy vs. solar energy) and a detailed description why the proposed wind energy facility is considered more feasible than other alternatives,
- 4.4 According to the DSR, the development site falls within a CBA and ESA. Development proposals which are not aligned to the management goals of CBAs and ESAs should not be supported. The desired management outcomes for the CBA is to maintain natural land, rehabilitate degraded land to a natural or near natural state and to manage for no further degradation. In this regard the mitigation hierarchy must be followed and unacceptable impacts on CBAs and ESAs should firstly be avoided. If after having investigated alternatives to avoid the impacts altogether, it can be shown that avoidance is not possible, then alternatives to mitigate and manage the impacts must be explored. Unavoidable residual impacts should be rehabilitated. If after rehabilitation certain residual impacts of medium or higher significance will remain, then options to offset the biodiversity impacts should be explored.
- Please direct all enquiries to the officials indicated in this correspondence should you require any clarity on any of the issues/comments provided.
- The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on the information received.

Yours faithfully

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING







COMMENT FROM DEA&DP ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT



Adri La Meyer

DIRECTORATE: DEVELOPMENT FACILITATION

Adri.LaMeyer@westerncape.gov.za

REFERENCES:

16/3/3/6/4/2/1/B1/5/1250/15 (Development Management: Region 2) 16/3/3/6/4/2/1/C1/6/0228/16 (Development Management: Region 3)

DATE: 2016 -06- 2 4

The Board of Directors
EOH Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd
The Point, Suite 408, 4th Floor
76 Regent Road
SEA POINT
8000

For attention: Mr Gideon Raath

Tel: (021) 045 0900 E-mail: <u>a.raath@cesnet.co.za</u>

Dear Sir

COMMENT ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 140MW BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES (KAROO HOOGLAND, LAINGSBURG AND WITZENBERG LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES) (DEA REFERENCE NO: 14/12/16/3/3/2/900)

- The Draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report dated June 2016 that was received by the Department on 7 June 2016, refers. The following consolidated comment by the Directorates: Development Management is hereby offered.
- Directorate: Development Management (Region 2) Arabel McClelland (Arabel.McClelland@westerncape.gov.za; Tel: (021) 483 2660):
- 2.1 It is recognised that all potential negative impacts, with the exception of visual impact, can be mitigated to a low or moderate significance. Cognisance is taken of the fact that the proposed wind energy facility (WEF) is located within a region earmarked for such facilities, namely the Komsberg Wind Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ), as per the Strategic Environmental Assessment for wind and solar PV energy in South Africa.
- 2.2 Based on the information provided, the wind turbines itself will result in numerous potential significant impacts. It is however apparent that significant impacts on the receiving environment can also be attributed to associated infrastructure, especially the access roads. As such, it is

11th Floor, 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001 tel: +27 21 483 2887 fax: +27 21 483 4185 Private Bag X9086, Cape Town, 8000 www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp considered essential that all recommended mitigation measures relating to the WEF as a whole, as well as its associated infrastructure, are reflected in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and implemented accordingly.

- 2.3 Further to the above, existing roads should be utilised as far as possible and where feasible and new roads that require construction should be kept to a minimum. In addition, consideration should be given to rerouting the preferred access road route to avoid impacts on heritage and freshwaler features.
- 2.4 This Directorate supports the findings and recommendations of the specialist studies undertaken for the proposed WEF. Notably, as per Section 9.1.1 of the Draft EIA Report, the reduction in the number of wind turbines from 70 to 68 (i.e. excluding turbines 38 and 42) is supported in light of the very high ecological sensitivity of the site. (In this regard, also see comment 3.3.3 below.) Furthermore, it is noted that additional noise modelling may further reduce the number of wind turbines in areas of high sensitivity.
- 2.5 The proposed buffer zones and no-go areas, as detailed in the Draft EIA Report and delineated by the various specialists, must be respected at all times.
- 2.6 Although it is acknowledged that the preferred location of the substation is Substation 4, this position should ideally be adjusted to relocate the substation outside of the identified freshwater buffer areas (i.e. outside of the 32m watercourse buffer).
- 2.7 The construction camp and concrete-batching plant must be located outside buffers and areas of high sensitivity.
- 2.8 In line with the heritage specialist's recommendation, once the final layout of the Brandvalley WEF has been established, a more intensive survey of these areas should be conducted and further recommendations and mitigation measures made, if necessary. (In this regard, also see comment 3.7 below.)
- 2.9 The requirement for an Open Space Management Plan is noted. According to the EMPr, this has been contained in Chapter 4; however, said chapter contains tables outlining specific measures related to aspects and objectives. A mitigation measure for the Planning and Design Phase recommends that such a plan must be compiled, which should include management of biodiversity within the affected areas, as well as Ihat in the adjacent rangeland. It is recommended that the Open Space Management Plan be compiled and included as an addendum to the EMPr, similar to that compiled for storm water management.
- 2.10 The following additional comments are offered:
- 2.10.1 Some figures, drawings, maps as well as tables in the hard copy of the report were printed in portrait orientation resulting in portions of the figures and tables being cut off. This made some aspects of the document illegible.
- 2.10.2The report includes various references throughout that indicate further assessment will be undertaken in the EIA phase, or through specialist input. This is misleading in some instances as the report currently under review is the Draft EIA Report and therefore should contain the information that is being alluded to.



- Directorate: Development Management (Region 3) Francini van Staden (Francini.vanStaden@westerncape.gov.za; Tel: (044) 805 8617):
- 3.1 National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy (NPAES) and REDZ
- 3.1.1 It is noted that the development sites fall within the Western Karoo NPAES focus area, as well as the Komsberg Wind REDZ. This Directorate does not have clarity whether the overlapping of these broad scale strategic planning goals are compatible and request that this be clarified in the Final EIA Report to be submitted to the competent authority.
- 3.2 Reduced cumulative impact through combined development footprints
- 3.2.1 This Directorate advises that attention be given to confining potential impacts on the receiving biophysical environment by combining the disturbance footprints of the two different development proposals. It is noted from the Draft EIA Report that construction camps for both the Rietkloof and Brandvalley WEFs can be combined in such a manner to accommodate landowner concerns and to reduce the biophysical impact. This Directorate supports the collaboration between WEFs for the purpose of confining the potential impacts to a single area.
- 3.3 Ecology impacts and mitigation
- 3.3.1 The Brandvalley WEF development site is located at the junction of three different conservation plans and impact on the ecological connectivity is therefore expected on a broader scale. The competent authority should therefore consider the potential impact on the broad-scale ecological connectivity, which extends beyond the parameters of the footprint of the proposed WEF development.
- 3.3.2 The Draft EIA Report indicates that the turbines will be located on the higher-lying ridges of the site. which has a higher sensitivity rating in relation to the adjacent lowlands and most of the affected areas, which are considered to be of moderate to high sensitivity based on the likely presence of species or habitats that are of conservation concern. This Directorate does not support the placement of any turbines within an area that is has a very high sensitivity rating.
- 3.3.3 As per comment 2.4 above, this Directorate supports the elimination of turbine 38 and turbine 42, which will reduce the overall footprint of the turbines and access roads and subsequently lower the ecological impact of the development.
- 3.3.4 This Directorate <u>does not support</u> the placement of any turbines within an area that is rated with a high sensitivity, including the twelve (12) turbines (turbines 35 46) within the Snydersberg area.
- 3.3.5 Impact mitigation and avoidance strategies as prescribed in the Draft EIA Report must be implemented for the turbines within areas that are rated moderate and low sensitivity.
- 3.3.6 This Directorate advises that the mitigation hierarchy be applied to address the potential impacts on both the biophysical and ecological environment, which may result from disturbance footprint from both the proposed turbines and access roads. This Directorate recommends that the design and planning of access roads and placement of turbines adopt a conservative approach to either avoid or minimise the potential impact on the biophysical and broad-scale ecological environment.
- 3.3.7 This Directorate is further concerned about the moderate negative cumulative impact on the broad-scale ecological environment due to the large number of wind energy developments proposed within the identified REDZ and the subsequent loss of habitat and corridor connectivity within a Critical Biodiversity Area. The Draft EIA Report further indicates that the cumulative ecological impact would remain a moderate negative significance rating, even if mitigation measures are applied. The Draft EIA Report states that the impact cannot be further reduced; yet



- the proposal has not considered excluding turbines in areas of high ecological sensitivity. This Directorate therefore recommends that areas with a very high and high ecological sensitivity be treated as 'no-go' areas.
- 3.3.8 This Directorate remains concerned about the 'gaps in knowledge' which may only become available over the long-term, i.e. how fauna will adapt to the turbine generated noises, and how this can ultimately affect fauna behaviour and ecosystem dynamics. Monitoring the WEFs over the long-term for such information gain is advised.
- 3.4 Aquatic impacts and mitigation
- 3.4.1 The final layout should limit the impact on the aquatic environment by delineating watercourses and wetlands, including river crossings, as far as possible.
- 3.4.2 This Directorate supports the use of existing roads regardless whether these cross any wetlands in order to minimise scale of any potential impacts due to new construction activities that are associated with the proposed development.
- 3.4.3 This Directorate <u>does not support</u> any transmission line towers, substations or construction camps within the delineated watercourses and associated buffers.
- 3.4.4 This Directorate supports the recommendation made in the Draft EIA Report that a comprehensive rehabilitation plan be implemented from the project onset within aquatic areas (inclusion of buffers) to ensure a net benefit to the aquatic environment.
- 3.4.5 It is not clear what the increased surface water run-off impacts will be (i.e. downstream riparian changes), or how this will be managed. It is recommended that this should be addressed in the Final EIA Report, with recommendations included in the aforementioned comprehensive rehabilitation plan.
- 3.4.6 Any potential impacts on the sub-surface drainage lines as a result of cut and fill activities should be firstly avoided by sound placement of the proposed wind turbines or be minimised through a conservative design and layout approach, which takes due cognisance of the site specific biophysical attributes, as well as the broad-scale ecological environment (e.g. corridor connectivity).
- 3.5 Avifaunal impacts and mitigation
- 3.5.1 This Directorate recommends that the two avifaunal collision risk localities be excluded from the WEF layout (i.e. the saddle between the two Syndersberg plateaux and the col in the ridge between the Ou Mure and Fortuin Farm valleys).
- 3.5.2 Eliminating areas of concern or notable risk are important for control of unanticipated and cumulative impacts across a wider area, including short term climatic variances, as described in the Draft EIA Report (i.e. near absence of Verreaux's Eagle and resulting reciprocal avidaunal situations).
- 3.6 Bats impacts and mitigalion
- 3.6.1 The bat sensitivity map must be adhered to during the final turbine layout revision; no deviation from the bat sensitivity and associated specialist recommendations is supported,
- 3.6.2 The competent authority must consider the broad-scale bat connectivity impact, which extends beyond the parameters of this WEF development.
- 3.6.3 Cumulative high sensitivity areas that may be identified should be adapted to lower the cumulative effects of several wind energy facilities in the area.
- 3.6.4 This Directorate <u>does not support</u> the placement of turbines in areas of identified high or moderate bat sensitivity.



- 3.7 Archaeology, heritage and paleontological impact and mitigation
- 3.7.1 As per comment 2.8 above, the final Brandvalley WEF layout must be subjected to an intensive heritage, archaeological and paleontological survey, as per the specialist recommendations. All resulting micro-sitting mitigation measures identified must be strictly adhered to.
- 3.8 Visual and health impact
- 3.8.1 This Directorate acknowledges the visual intrusion due to turbine size/height and visibility, and the lack of screening opportunities in the landscape. This Directorate therefore recommends the elimination of wind turbines from any high sensitivity areas.
- 3.8.2 This Directorate does not support the location of turbines within 800m from an occupied building.
- 3.8.3 This Directorate recommends that international standards and guidelines pertaining to shadow flickering be adopted, as per the recommendations made in the Draft EIA Report.
- 3.9 Borrow-pit material
- 3.9.1 It is not clear whether the borrow-pit material required for the WEF development will be sourced from approved borrow-pits. An application for approval in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002) must be lodged with the relevant authority should any new borrow-pits be required.
- 3.10 Adaptive management approach
- 3.10.1This Directorate supports the adoption of an adaptive management approach, with specific reference to bats, including other ecological impacts.
- 3.10.2This Directorate supports the recommendation made in the Draft EIA Report, namely that any suggested adaptive changes to the initial mitigation measures, be adopted within a maximum two (2) weeks from the date of the recommendation, unless where future time periods apply.
- Please direct all enquiries to the officials indicated in this correspondence should you require any clarity on any of the comments provided.
- The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on the information received.

Yours faithfully

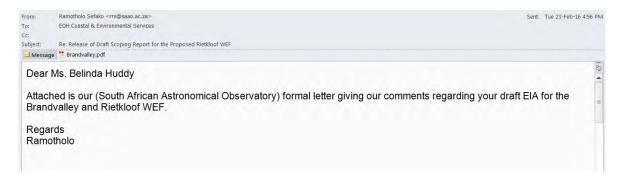
PP HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Copy to: Ms Mmamohale Kabasa (DEA case officer)

E-mail: MKabasa@environment.apv.zg

SAAO





PO Box 9 Observatory 7935 South Africa Tet: 021 447 0025 Fax: 021 447 3639 Int. Code: +27 rrs@saao.ac.za

www.saso.ac.za

23 February 2015

Ms. Belinda Huddy The Point, Suite 408, 4th Floor 76 Regent Road, Sea Point Cape Town, 8005

Dear Ms. Huddy

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE BRANDVALLEY AND RIETKLOOF WIND ENERGY FACILITIES, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES, SOUTH AFRICA.

We have studied your draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process for the proposed construction of the Brandvalley and Rietkloof Wind Energy facilities in the Northern and Western Cape Provinces around the Karroo.

We note that parts of the proposed facilities are within the Sutherland Central Astronomy Advantage Area, which was declared by the Minister of Science and Technology and published in the Government Gazette (No. 37434, Notice 199 of 2014) on 12 March 2014 as part of the Astronomy Geographic Advantage (AGA) Act of 2007.

A Central Astronomy Advantage Area (Central AAA) is defined as an area declared by the Minister so that activities, which may affect astronomy and related scientific endeavours, or astronomy advantage, such as light pollution or radio frequency interference, may be restricted or prohibited in the Central AAA to ensure or facilitate the protection of a Core Astronomy Advantage Area (Core AAA) from such activities. Basically activities that may be detrimental to astronomy and related endeavours may be restricted or prohibited in the Central AAA

Our main concern with the proposed facilities is with regard to any night lighting associated with the wind turbines, dust pollution during construction of the facilities and/or any other aspect of the development that will cause light and/or air pollution. Accordingly, we wish to point out that all developments near Sutherland and surrounding areas must conform to the Astronomy Geographic Advantage Act Regulations.

You draft document does not mention optical astronomy or how the Southern African Large Telescope (SALT), the largest optical telescope in the Southern Hemisphere, will be protected against light and dust emissions as a result of the development of your facilities. It is important that potential impacts to astronomy relating to dust and lighting at night and mitigation measures that will be taken to protect optical astronomy at SALT are part of the EIA

process.

The SAAO reserves the right to object to the proposed construction of the Brandvalley and Rietkloof Wind Energy Facilities, if they are found to pose a threat to optical astronomy at SAAO's observing station near Sutherland.

Yours sincerely

De Ramotholo Sefako

Head of Telescopes Operations, SAAO

Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report - Appendices

SKA

On 19/02/2016 10:06 AM, Belinda Huddy wrote:

Dear Mr Tiplady,

EOH Coastal and Environmental Services is undertaking two Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) for the proposed Wind Energy Facilities (WEFs) in the Northern and Western Cape Provinces, namely the Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs, each with an energy generating capacity of up to 140MW. The proposed projects will entail the construction and operation of up to 70 potential wind furbines each generating between 1.5MW and 4MW in capacity, with a foundation of 22 prin in diameter and 4m in depth. As part of this process, we have recently released the Draft Scoping Reports for public review and comment. Due to proximity of the SKo to the proposed project we would like to invite you to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) and provide comment on the two projects.

Please note that this comment period ends on Monday 29 February 2016. Please let us know if you are able to provide comment by this date?

The full DSR can be accessed from:

Copies of the Draft Scoping Report will be available for review at the following locations:

Laingsburg Public Library (Vorne Rebeck Street, Laingsburg).

Town Kiner Public Library (Corner Jane and Logan Streets Towns River).

Electronic copies available on the link (http://data.g?energies.com/eia/brandvalley and http://www.cesnet.co.za/public-documents.html).

I have attached KML files indicating the proposed property portions of the WEFs.

For more information, please feel free to contact me on the contact detail provided below.

Kind regards,

Belinda Huddy







Belinda Huddy Environmental Consultant EOH Coastal & Environmental Services The Point, Suite 408, 4th Floor, 76 Regent Road, Sea Point, Cape Town 8005

E-mail: b.huddy@cesnet.co.za

Date: 24 February 2016

Dear Belinda,

RE: DEVELOPMENT OF BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY, NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCES, SOUTH AFRICA

This letter is in response to your email request, to provide an assessment on the potential development of Brandvalley wind electricity generation facility and the risk it may pose on the Square Kilometre Array Project.

A high level risk assessment has been conducted at the South African SKA Project Office to determine the potential impact of such facility on the Square Kilometre Array. This letter serves to confirm the outcomes of the risk assessment, and proposals for any future investigations associated with this facility.

- The nearest SKA station has been identified as SKA Station SKA-2379, at approximately 75km from the proposed location of Brandvalley wind facility;
- Based on the distance to the nearest SKA station, and the information currently available on the detailed design of wind facilities, this wind energy facility poses a very low risk of detrimental impact on the SKA;
- III. Any transmitters that are to be established, or have been established, at the site for the purposes of voice and data communication will be required to comply with the relevant AGA regulations concerning the restriction of use of the radio frequency spectrum that applies in the area concerned;
- As a result of the very low risk associated with the Brandvalley wind facility, no mitigation measures would be required at this stage. However, the South African SKA Project Office would like to be kept informed of progress with this project, and reserves the right to further risk assessments at a later stage.

This technical advice is provided by the South African SKA Project Office on the basis of the protection requirements of the SKA in South Africa, and does not constitute legal approval of the renewable energy projects in terms of the Astronomy Geographic Advantage Act, the Management Authority, and its regulations or declarations.



OUTH AFRICA SQUARE KILOMETRE ARRAY
SKA South Africa Project Office





Regards,

Dr. Adrian Tiplady Head of Strategy SKA South Africa Tel: 011 442 2434 Fax: 011 442 2454 atiplady@ska.ac.za

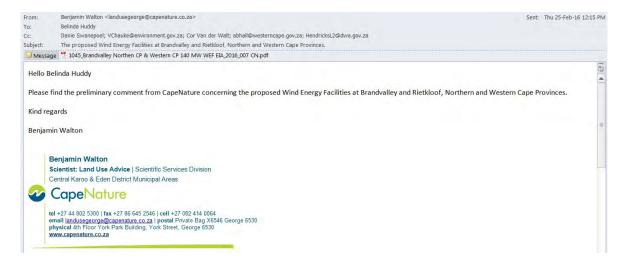


S Q U A R E K I L O M E SKA South Africa Project Office



Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report - Appendices

CAPE NATURE





SCIENTIFIC SERVICES

postal Private Bag X6546, GEORGE, 6530

physical 4th Floor York Park Building, York Street, GEORGE, 6530

website www.capenature.co.za enquiries Mr. BA Walton tel. +27 44 802 5300

fax +27 44 802 5313 fax2email +27 86 645 2546

email | landusegeorge@capenature.co.za SSD ref. # 14/2/6/1/5/2_LAIN/BrandWEF_2016/007 # 14/2/6/1/5/2_LAIN/RietWEF_2016/008

date 25th of February 2016

Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd GRAHAMSTOWN Tel.: 046 622 2364 6139 Fax: 046 622 6564

b.huddy@cesnet.co.za

Attention: Ms Belinda Huddy

APPLICATION IN TERMS OF THE NEMA EIA REGULATIONS FOR THE PROPOSED CHANGE OF LAND USE BY CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF A 400 MW WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE OVER THE CAPE WINELANDS AND CENTRAL KAROO AND NAMAKWA DISTRICT MUNICIPAL AREAS, WESTERN AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

DEA # unknown

CapeNature, as custodian of biodiversity in the Western Cape¹, would like to thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed change of land use and development activities, and wish to make the following comment. The covering letters dated 20 January with hard- and electronic copies of the draft Scoping Reports (SR) and Plan of Study for EIA (POSEIA) concerning the abovementioned applications, namely Rietkloof and Brandvalley; received per mail from *Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd* by Scientific Services on the 22nd of January 2016, refers.

 Based on limited internal staff capacity constraints CapeNature has insufficient time available to scrutinize the document in depth; and can only provide limited input and advice at this stage. Various diagrams show the proposed development area which is not only "shared" with another application, the proposed Rietkloof Wind Energy Facility (WEF), but has differing project

Page 1 of 6

¹ Section 9, Western Cape Nature Conservation Board Act 15 of 1998

domains which is unclear. In addition clarity is sought on why the application is "shared" with another and not submitted as a single application. For the interests of brevity the third project map in Appendix G of both reports is referred to as the "project area" (see Fig. 1).



Figure 1: Showing the project area proposed for the Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs over the great escarpment of the Groot Karoo (image courtesy of Google Earth).

2. CapeNature supports the development of renewable energy facilities, including wind driven turbines. However, it must be recognised that the potential impacts on biodiversity of this relatively new technology are not yet fully understood in South Africa. We are concerned that the cumulative impacts of these facilities, if not properly considered and planned for, could be quite significant. It is therefore essential that a precautionary approach is taken and that turbines are placed outside of ecologically sensitive areas. It is also vital that a clear monitoring and reporting protocol is established so that lessons learned from newly established facilities can be shared with the wider community. CapeNature requires at least two seasons worth of bat and bird monitoring data; as well as affected small mammal monitoring data.

Page 2 of 6

The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board trades as CapeNature

Board Members: Prof Gavin Maneveldt (Chairperson), Mr Carl Lotter (Vice Chairperson), Mr Mervyn Burton, Prof Francois Hanekorn, Dr Bruce McKenzie, Ms Merle McOmbring-Hodges, Adv Mandla Mdludiv, Mr Danie Nel, Prof Aubrey Redlinghuis, Mr Paul Slack 3. CapeNature requires concise Botanical / Freshwater Assessments of properties which are untransformed or designated sensitive areas, to be conducted by suitably qualified Botanists / Freshwater specialists. Please consult the TOR for the Fynbos Forum Ecosystem Guidelines² for Environmental Assessment in that regard, as well as contextualizing a survey i.t.o. the published Biodiversity Sector Plans, as well as the National Freshwater Ecosystems Priority Areas map; available at http://bgis.sanbi.org. In this regard CapeNature also requires specific input from avifaunal and faunal specialists concerning impacts to bats, birds and small mammals.

4. BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The mapped vegetation units³ predominantly occurring at the affected properties are: *unprotected* Central Mountain Shale Renosterveld (FRs 5); *hardly protected* Koedoesberge-Moordenaars Karoo (SKv 6); and *moderately protected* Tanqua Wash Riviere (AZi 7).

5. SENSITIVE AREAS: CBAs and ESAs

CapeNature will not support further loss of threatened ecosystems, the transformation of identified sensitive areas or untransformed natural areas; and neither incompatible land uses for biodiversity conservation objectives. Selected remaining areas of natural vegetation and habitat have been designated as either: declared Protected Areas; Critical Biodiversity Areas⁴ (CBAs) or Ecological Support Areas (ESAs), as habitat required as part of the CBA conservation network; in addition to Other Natural Areas. Intact CBAs and ESAs are required to prevent further degradation of the landscape, and ecosystem functioning and services by maintaining ecological and hydrological corridor linkages. Degraded lands within identified sensitive areas have also been selected to maintain ecological connectivity. Most of the property falls within a designated sensitive area (see Fig. 2) selected for various criteria. A

The Western Cape Nation Conservation Board trades as CapeNature

Board Members: Prof Gavin Maneveldt (Chairperson), Ar Carl Lotter (Vice Chairperson), Ar Mervyn Burton, Prof Francisi Hanekom, Dr Bruce McKenzer, Ms Meile McCmberg-Hodges, Adv Mandia Maludiu, Mt Danie Nel, Prof Aubrey Radinghus, Mr Paul Slack

² De Villiers CC, Driver A, Clark B, Euston-Brown DIW, Day EG, Job N, Helme NA, Holmes PM, Brownlie S and Rebelo AB (2005) Fynbos Forum Ecosystem Guidelines for Environmental Assessment in the Western Cape, Fynbos Forum and Botanical Society of South Africa, Kirstenbosch

³ Mucina L & Rutherford MC (eds) (2006) Vegetation of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland, Strelitzia 19. South African National Biodiversity Institute, Pretoria

⁴ Skawno AL, Holness SD and Desmet P (2009) Biodiversity Assessment of the Central Karoo District Municipality. DEADP Report EADP05/2008, 52 pp

restricted form of infrastructural development is permissible within the Critical Biodiversity Areas network (Western Cape Biodiversity Framework) based on merit; whereas it is advisable to avoid intact sensitive vegetation and sensitive wetlands / riparian corridors and related features by placing Tower Points outside of rivers and associated floodplains.

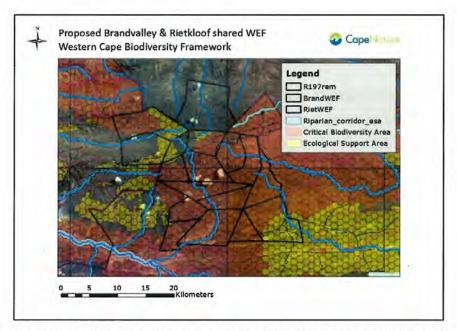


Figure 2: Showing the project area proposed for the Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs in context of the Western Cape Biodiversity Framework; with the Remainder of Farm Rietfontein No. 197 shown in the Northern Cape Province.

6. SENSITIVE AREAS: FEPAs

The project area straddles numerous **Upstream River Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (FEPA)** and associated sub-quaternary catchment areas. The implication for management for River FEPAs and associated sub-quaternary catchments is that surrounding land and smaller stream networks need to be managed to maintain the current condition of river reaches; and improve the condition of rivers and rehabilitate rivers to their former condition where

Page 4 of 6

The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board trades as CapeNature

Board Members: Prof Gavin Maneveldt (Chairpeson), Mr Carl Lotter (Vice Chairpeson), Mr Mervyn Burton, Prof Francois Hanekom, Dr Bruce McKenzie, Ms Merle McOrribring-Hodges, Adv Mandla Mdiudiu, Mr Danie Nel, Prof Aubrey Redlinghuis, Mr Paul Slack required. Long term maintenance of the hydrological and ecological structure and functioning of rivers is important for protection of ecological infrastructure. Thus ground water and surface watercourses must not be contaminated by pollutants, and measures placed to prevent erosion and increased storm water runoff impacting on land and watercourses elsewhere. The project area has a high degree topographical variability, with many kloofs (ravines) and is a high priority un-fragmented landscape being the source area for the Groot River, amongst others.

 Should the EAP responsible for drafting the SR conduct biophysical assessments internally then a review of the required assessments (e.g. botanical and freshwater) must be done by an independent specialist who meets the requirements of Regulation 13 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2014⁵.

8. CapeNature requires:

- 8.1. Detailed baseline assessments of watercourses, wetlands and associated features; and botanical / ecological assessments of the vegetation communities; baseline assessments of avifaunal and faunal occurrence; and also assessments of archaeological, palaeontological and heritage features within the study domain.
- 8.2. The depiction of the proposed road network also provided for as a GIS shapefile;
- 8.3. The depiction of the proposed transmission and distribution line servitudes and potential substations;
- 8.4. Proof of assurance of supply of water;
- 8.5. Description and source of gravel surfacing material;
- 8.6. No-Go areas delineated for protection of designated sensitive areas or untransformed areas.
- 8.7. The depiction of the Wind Turbine positions also provided for as a GIS shapefile.

Page 5 of 6

The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board trades as CapeNature

Board Members: Prof Gavirr Maneyeldt (Chairperson), Mr Call Letter (Vice Chairperson), Mr Mervyrr Button, Prof Francos Franskorn, Brucis McKistale, Ms Melle McCombring-Hodges, Adv Mandja Malludiu, Mr Danie Nel, Prof Authery Kratingerin, Mr Polytislack

Government Gazette No. 38282, GN No. R. 982 (2014) National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations

CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comment and request further information based on any additional information that may be received. Your concern for the environment is appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Benjamin Walton

Bhallo

For: Manager: Scientific Services: Land Use Advice

CapeNature

Copies to:

(1) Mr V Chauke (DEA: Integrated Environmental Authorisations)

(2) Mr D Swanepoel (DEA&DP: Land Management)

(3) Mr C vd Walt (WCG: Department of Agriculture)

(4) Mr A Hall (Heritage Western Cape)

(5) Ms L Hendriks (DWA)

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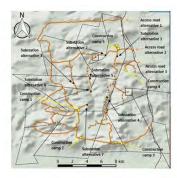
The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board trades as CapeNature

Soard Members Prof Savin Manuveldt (Chairperson), Mr Cail Letter (Vice Chairperson), Mr Mervyn Button, Prof Prancois Hanokom, Dr.

Bruce McKenzie, Ms Merle McCmbring-Hodges, Adv Manuta Malludiu, Mr Dante Wel, Prof Aubrey Realinghuis, Mr Paul Stack

STEPHAN PIENAAR





- 3. I presume your comment: "other than harmless roads", refer to the roads from a signal interference position.
- 4. Your comment that the pristine environment of the Karoo has been disturbed by the existing three power lines cannot be contested. What can be contested is the visual impact those developments have compared to that of the proposed wind farm. The power lines are low level structures generally following valley lines and do not nearly have the same impact that the presence of the large number of turbines which, are of necessity sites on top of the mountains, will have. When you drive through the area you hardly notice the power lines, apart from the short period you are close to them, whereas the furbines will be visible from any viewpoint in the affected area. Furthermore, the power lines are static structures and their greyish weathered material tend to blend with the surrounding landscape which nearly always forms a backdrop when viewing them. On the other hand, the turbines are always bright white and their revolving blades constantly attracts the eye. So to try and down play the visual impact of the turbines because of the presence of power lines seems to ignore degrees of visual impact. In your risk table turbines should rank higher (negatively) than power lines.
- 5. In the Appendix 1 which you attached mention is made in the past tense to the "Final Scoping Report" yet the time line of Table 8-2 of the draft report notes that the final report is still to be published. I presume the use of word "Final" in Appendix 1 is in error.
- 6. Appendix 1 notes fourteen sites as "alternatives" yet there is no direct comparison with the Rietkloof site. In terms of Scoping Report requirements "alternatives" does not mean "micro" alternatives such as sites for camps, roads alignments and the like. The Scoping Report should compare the Rietkloof site or (then the Roggeveld regional alternative in its phases?) with the alternatives in Appendix 1 directly. The current structure does not clearly demonstrate why the Rietkloof site is preferred over the other true alternatives. From your Draft Scoping Report:

"3.2.1 Location alternatives

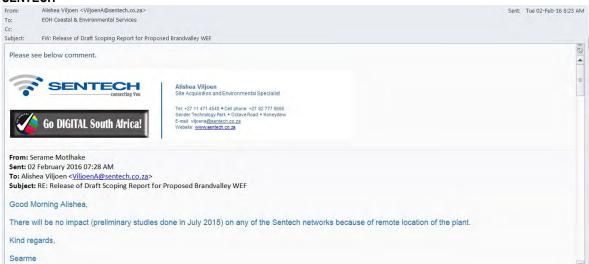
Project area location alternative

The proposed site was selected through an environmental and social pre-feasibility assessment commissioned by the applicant for fourteen (14) potential WEF locations throughout South Africa, including several sites within the Roggeveld area

This reads to mean that the Roggeveld was part of the fourteen sites which it was not.

Kind regards Stephan Pienaar

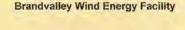
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SAHRA - INTERIM COMMENT



Our Ref:



South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town PO. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001 www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt

Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za CaseID: 9103 Date: Thursday February 25, 2016 Page No: 1

Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: EOH Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) - Cape Town
The Point, Suite 408,
4th Floor, 76 Regent Road, Sea Point

EOH Coastal & Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility bordering the Western and Northern Cape Provinces.

EOH Coastal and Environmental Services have been appointed to conduct a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment Process for the Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility (WEF) near Majiesfontein, Western Cape Province and in the Northern Cape Province. The proposed project will cover 270 km², and will include wind turbines, underground cables, internal access roads, 33kV overhead powerlines, construction camps, possible new boreholes and temporary water tanks, 132kV overhead powerlines and an extension of the existing 400kV Komsberg substation.

A small section of the project area is located within the Northern Cape Province i.e farm Rietfontein 197. It must be noted that SAHRA cannot comment on the section of the development within the Western Cape. Comments from Heritage Western Cape (HWC) must be sought for the areas of the proposed development located within the Western Cape Province.

EOH Coastal and Environmental Services appointed Ceder Tower Services (Pty) Ltd to conduct the Heritage studies for the project.

Galimberti, Bluff and Wiltshire, 2016. Heritage Screener for the Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility.

According to the maps provided, 8 proposed turbines are to be located within the Northern Cape. The Heritage Screener report has noted that the area in which these turbines are to be located is an area that has been subjected to previous heritage studies, including palaeontological studies. The section of the proposed development in the Northern Cape is located in an area of very high palaeontological sensitivity. Additionally the proposed project area is underlain by formations of moderate and very high fossil sensitivity. According to a map provided, one heritage resources is located within the Northern Cape section of the proposed development. The Heritage Statement for the area noted that heritage resources in the landscape include stone walling and burial grounds and graves.

Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility Our Ref: In agency of the Secretary South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town PO Box 4637 | Cape Town PO Box 4637 | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 112 Harrington Street | Cape Town PO Box 4637 | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 113 Harrington Street | Cape Town PO Box 4637 | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 113 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 114 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 115 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 115 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 115 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 115 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 115 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 115 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 115 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 115 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 115 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 115 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 115 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 115 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 115 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 115 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 115 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 115 Harrington Street | Cape Town Red South African Heritage Resources Agency | 115 Harrington Street | 115 Harringto

Recommendations provided in the report are as follows (as they pertain to the Northern Cape sections of the proposed development):

- Area A (an area recommended by the authors) will only require a walk-through by an archaeologist
 once the position of the turbines is finalised; and
- A Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) is to be conducted on Area A and comments issued on the Roggeveld WEF must be taken into account.

Interim Comment

Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za

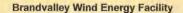
CaseID: 9103

Regarding archaeological and palaeontological heritage resources, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit accepts the submitted Heritage Screener Report. However, we cannot promote the recommendation that a HIA not be conducted for the proposed development Area A. While there have been many other studies conducted over the properties in questions, they have not assessed the specific impacts of the proposed development.

The following conditions must be adhered to and must form part of the Scoping and EIA phase of the project:

- A Heritage component must be included in the Scoping Report. This must be in the form of a Heritage Scoping report where detailed background is provide on the heritage resources within the area to inform the EIA phase of the project;
- A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) must be completed for the proposed Brandvalley EIA phase.
- The heritage reports must CLEARLY state which heritage resources are located within the Northern
 Cape and Western Cape Provinces to allow the relevant Heritage Resource Authority (HRA) to provide
 comments. The report must also clearly state the distance between each proposed project activity and
 identified resources via detailed descriptions and a map;
- . The HIA must include the following studies:
 - An Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA);
 - A Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA);
 - An assessment of Burial Grounds and Graves, if relevant;
 - Incorporate comments regarding heritage resources recorded during the public consultation phase of the project; and
 - A VIA must be completed on identified heritage resources.

The applicant is responsible for ensuring that comments from HWC are received regarding the areas of the proposed development located in the Western Cape Province.



Our Ref:



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T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: mfcetanara org za South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001 www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt

Date: Thursday February 25, 2016

Page No: 3

Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 9103

Final comments will be published once the above has been submitted along with the Scoping and EIA for the project.

Decisions regarding Built Environment will be provided by Ngwao-Boswa Jwa Kapa Bokone (NBKB), the Northern Cape Provincial Heritage Resource Authority (Ratha Timothy - rtimothy@nbkb.org.za / 053 831 2537).

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Natasha Higgitt Heritage Officer

South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine

SAHRA Head Archaeologist (Acting)

South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: http://www.sahra.org.za/node/356317 (DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/900)

Terms & Conditions:

Our Ref:



an agency of the

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt

Date: Thursday February 25, 2016

Page No: 4

Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 9103

- 1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.

 2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.

 3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.

SAHRA - FIANL COMMENT

Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility

Our Ref:



STANDARD (E. APTOLING AND JE WIL South African Heritage Resources Agency 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001 www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt

Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za CaseID: 9103

Date: Thursday June 30, 2016

Page No: 1

Final Comment

In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: EOH Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) - Cape Town The Point, Suite 408, 4th Floor, 76 Regent Road, Sea Point

EOH Coastal & Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility bordering the Western and Northern Cape Provinces.

EOH Coastal and Environmental Services were appointed by Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process in support of an Environmental Authorisation Application for the proposed Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility (WEF), on several farms located in the Western and Northern Cape Provinces. A draft EIA was conducted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) and the EIA Regulations, 2014. The proposed 140MW WEF will consist of 70 turbines with foundations measuring 25 m in diameter and 4 m in depth. Associated infrastructure will include an on-site substation, laydown area per turbine (70 m x 50 m), electrical turbine transformers, underground cabling, access roads 12 m wide, overhead powerlines, and a grid connection (part of two separate Basic Assessment processes). Temporary infrastructure will include a 10 ha construction camp and a 1 ha on-site concrete batching plant. Celeste Booth was appointed to conduct the Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) and John Almond was appointed to conduct the Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA) for the project.

SAHRA cannot comment on the sections of the proposed project located within the Western Cape. Nine of the proposed turbines are located within the Northern Cape. Comments for the Western Cape sections of the development must be sought from Heritage Western Cape (HWC). The discussion and comments below pertain only to the Northern Cape section of the development.

Booth, 2016. A Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) for the Proposed Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility (WEF) situated in the Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality (Namakwa District Municipality), the Witzenburg Local Municipality (Cape Winelands District Municipality) and Laingsburg Local Municipality (Central Karoo District Municipality).

No heritage resources were identified within the development footprint in the Northern Cape section of the proposed WEF. It must be noted that no track logs were submitted as part of the report; however, the photographs provided in the report indicate a sufficient coverage of the project area.

Our Ref:



an agency of the

South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Herrington Street | Cape Town P.C. Box 4637 | Cape Iown | 8001 | www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt

Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za CaseID: 9103 Date: Thursday June 30, 2016

Page No: 2

Recommendations provided in the report include the following:

- No further studies or mitigation is required, unless the layout of the turbines and associated infrastructure is altered;
- The upgrade/construction of the internal access roads should be limited to the existing internal roads as far as possible;
- An archaeological heritage walk-down survey must be conducted if any changes of the wind turbines, associated infrastructure and roads outside the scope of this study are made for the final layout and further recommendations and mitigation measures be suggested if necessary;
- If concentration of historical and pre-colonial archaeological heritage material and/or human remains (including burials and graves) are uncovered during construction, all work within close vicinity of the find must cease immediately and be reported to SAHRA so that systematic and professional investigation/excavation can be undertaken. Phase 2 mitigation in the form of test-pitting/sampling or systematic excavation and collections of the pre-colonial shell middens and associated artefacts will then be conducted to establish the contextual status of the sites and possibly remove the archaeological deposit before development activities within the specific area can continue; and
- Construction managers/foreman and/or the Environmental Control Officer (ECO) should be informed
 before construction starts on the possible types of heritage sites and cultural material they may
 encounter and the procedures to follow when they finds sites.

Almond, 2016. Palaeontological Heritage Assessment: Combined Desktop & Field-Based Study - Proposed Brandvalley Wind Energy Facility Laingsburg, Western & Northern Cape Provinces

The Northern Cape section of the proposed project area is underlain by the Abrahamskraal Formation. One occurrence of plant stem casts or burrows (Loc 194) was identified within the Abrahamskraal Formation on the farm Rietfontein 197. This occurrence appears to be located approximately 100m from Turbine 42 and should not be impacted by construction activities. Recommendations provided in the report include monitoring of all major surface clearance and deeper (>1 m) excavations for fossil material (bones, teeth, petrified wood etc) by the ECO on an on-going basis during the construction phase. Significant fossils must be reported to SAHRA for recording and sampling by a professional palaeontologist.

The Visual Impact Assessment shows that approximately 6-10 wind turbines will be visible for the majority of the farm Rietfontein 197. The Heritage Screener conducted for the project noted the presence of a stone walled site (Site 53138) located in the middle of the farm. The site was not rated as highly significant, and therefore the visual impact on the site by the proposed Brandvalley WEF should be negligible.

Final Comment

Our Ref:



South African Haritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town PC. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001 | www.sahra.org.za

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt

Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za CaseID: 9103 Date: Thursday June 30, 2016 Page No: 3

It must be reiterated that SAHRA cannot comment on sections of the Brandvalley WEF facility located within the Western Cape Province. Comments must be sought from Heritage Western Cape (HWC) for those sections.

The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit accepts the submitted HIA and PIA promotes the respective recommendations included in the reports pertaining to the Northern Cape sections of the proposed development. The following additional conditions must be included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr):

- If the layout of the turbines, roads and other associated infrastructure proposed for the Northern Cape section of the development is altered, a heritage walk-down including a palaeontological walk-down must be conducted prior to construction. A Walk-Down report must be submitted to SAHRA for comment. No construction may commence without comments from SAHRA; and
- If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g. remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, charcoal and ash concentrations), fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found during the proposed development, SAHRA APM Unit (Natasha Higgitt/Phillip Hine 021 462 5402) must be alerted. If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Itumeleng Masiteng/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately. A professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required.

Additionally, all outstanding appendices from the Draft EIA must be uploaded to the case file, along with the final EIA and EMPr once completed. SAHRA must be informed if the Environmental Authorisation for the project is granted and the relevant documents should be uploaded to the case file.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully



Our Ref:



www.sahra.org.za

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: inlo@sahra.org.za South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town | P.C. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001

Date: Thursday June 30, 2016

Page No: 4

Enquiries: Natasha Higgitt

Email: nhiggitt@sahra.org.za

CaseID: 9103

Natasha Higgitt Heritage Officer

South African Heritage Resources Agency

Phillip Hine

SAHRA Head Archaeologist (Acting) South African Heritage Resources Agency

Direct URL to case: http://www.sahra.org.za/node/356317 (DEA, Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/900)

Terms & Conditions:

- 1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for
- 2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
- 3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.

HERITAGE WESTERN CAPE (HWC)

HM/CENTRAL KAROO/LAINGSBURG/REMAINDER AND PORTION 1 OF Our Ref:

BARENDSKRAAL 76, REMAINDER AND

PORTION 1 OF FARM BRANDVALLEY 75,

REMAINDER AND PORTION 1 & 3 OF FARM FORTUIN 74

Case No.: 15110409AS0219E Enquiries: Andrew September

E-mail: andrew.september@westerncape.gov.za

021 483 9543 Tel Date: 01 March 2016

Belinda Huddy The Point Suite 408 4th Floor 76 Regent Road Sea Point 8005

b.huddy@cesnet.co.za

RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP: HIA REQUIRED In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the Western Cape Provincial Gazette 6061, Notice 298 of 2003

Erfenis

Heritage

NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP: PROPOSED BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY ON THE REMAINDER AND PORTION 1 OF FARM BARENDSKRAAL 76, REMAINDER AND PORTION 1 OF FARM BRANDVALLEY 75 AND PORTION 1 & 3 OF FARM FORTUIN 74, LAINGSBURG, CENTRAL KAROO, SUBMITTED IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(8) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (ACT 25 OF 1999)

CASE NUMBER: 15110409AS0219E

The matter above has reference.

Heritage Western Cape is in receipt of your application for the above matter received on 19 February 2016. This matter was discussed at the Heritage Officers meeting held on 29 February 2016.

You are hereby notified that, since there is reason to believe that the proposed wind energy facility will impact on heritage resources, HWC requires that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) that satisfies the provisions of section 38(3) of the NHRA be submitted. This HIA must have specific reference to the following:

- Impacts to archaeological heritage resources
- Impacts to palaeontological heritage resources
- Visual impacts of the proposed development
- Impacts to the built environment including a detailed site development plan

The required HIA must have an integrated set of recommendations.

The comments of relevant registered conservation bodies and the relevant Municipality must be requested and included in the HIA where provided. Proof of these requests must be supplied.

HWC reserves the right to request additional information as required.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the official above and quote the case number.

Yours faithfully

Dr. Errol Myburg

(Interim CEO: Heritage Western Cape)

www.westerncape.gov.za/cas



Our Ref:

HM/CAPE WINELANDS\WITZENBERG\WITZENBERG DMA\ THE REMAINDER OF KABELTOUW 160, REMAINDER OF

PORTION 1 OF FARM MUISHOND RIVER 161

Case No.: 16021701AS0219E

Enquiries: Andrew September

E-mall: andrew.september@westerncape.gov.za

Tel 021 483 9543 Date: 01 March 2016

Belinda Huddy The Point Suite 408 4th Floor 76 Regent Road Sea Point 8005

b.huddy@cesnet.co.za



RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP: HIA REQUIRED In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the Western Cape Provincial Gazette 6061, Notice 298 of 2003

NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP: PROPOSED BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY ON THE REMAINDER OF KABELTOUW 160, THE REMAINDER AND PORTION 1 OF FARM MUISHOND RIVER 161, WITZENBERG, SUBMITTED IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(8) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (ACT 25 OF 1999)

CASE NUMBER: 16021701AS0219E

The matter above has reference.

Heritage Western Cape is in receipt of your application for the above matter received on 19 February 2016. This matter was discussed at the Heritage Officers meeting held on 29 February 2016.

You are hereby notified that, since there is reason to believe that the proposed wind energy facility will impact on heritage resources, HWC requires that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) that satisfies the provisions of section 38(3) of the NHRA be submitted. This HIA must have specific reference to the following:

- Impacts to archaeological heritage resources
- impacts to palaeontological heritage resources
- Visual impacts of the proposed development
- Impacts to the built environment including a detailed site development plan

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The comments of relevant registered conservation bodies and the relevant Municipality must be requested and included in the HIA where provided. Proof of these requests must be supplied.

HWC reserves the right to request additional information as required.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the official above and quote the case number.

Yours faithfully

Dr. Errol Myburg

(Interim CEO: Heritage Western Cape)

www.westerncape.gov.za/cas



PROOF OF RECEIPT OF DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FROM DENC



the denc

Department:

Environment & Nature Conservation NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X6102, Kimberley, 8300, Methife Towers, T-Floor, Tel: 053 807 7300, Fax: 053 807 7328

Enquiries Olpatilisilo Navrae Imibuzo

O Ndzumo

Letifia: Datum Umhla

10th February 2016

oforomen:

Reference : Tshupelo : Verwysing :

NC/NAT/NAM/BLA1/2016 14/12/16/3/3/2/900

Belinda Huddy

Coastal and Environmental Services (pty) ltd

The Point Suite 408 4th Floor 76 Regent Road Sea Point Cape Town 8000

Email: b.huddy@cesnet.zco.za

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 140 MW BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY, IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE, SOUTH-AFRICA.

The Department confirms having received the **Draft scoping report and X 1 CD** for public review for environmental authorisation of the above mentioned project on the **08**th **February 2016.** As required in term of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014.

The application has been assigned the reference number NC/NAT/ZFM/KHE/BLA1/2016. Kindly quote this reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application. Please note the responsible officer is going to be Ms. Onwabile Ndzumo and can be contacted at (027) 718 8800.

Yours faithfully

Ms. L. Tools-Bernado EIA: Administration

PROOF OF RECEIPT OF DRAFT ENVIROMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FROM DENC



the denc

Department: Environment & Nature Conservation NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X6102, Kimberley, 8300, Metlife Towers, T-Floor, Tel: 053 807 7300, Fax: 053 807 7328

Enquiries Dipatlisilo Navrae

O Ndzumo

Date : Letiha:

02nd June 2016

Reference Tshupelo Verwysing Isalathiso

NC/NAT/NAM/BRA1/2016 14/12/16/3/3/2/900

Belinda Huddy Coastal and Environmental Services (pty) ltd The Point, Suite 408, 4th Floor 76 Regent Road, Sea Point Cape Town 8000

Email: b.huddy@cesnet.zco.za

EIA REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY, NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE, SOUTH – AFRICA.

The Department confirms having received the **EIA Report and X 1 CD** for public review for environmental authorisation of the above mentioned project on the **23rd May 2016**. As required in term of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014.

The application has been assigned the reference number NC/NAT/NAM/BRA1/2016. Kindly quote this reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application. Please note the responsible officer is going to be Ms. Onwabile Ndzumo and can be contacted at (027) 718 8800.

Yours faithfully

Ms. L. Tools-Bernado EIA: Administration

Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report - Appendices

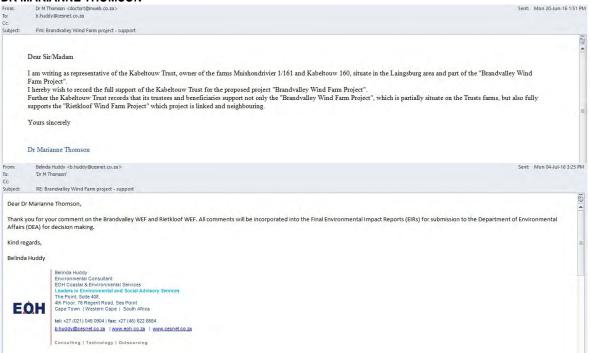
DR CORNELIUS VON DER HEYDEN



From: Belinds Huddy & Sent): Sent: Mon O4-Jul-16 3:24 PM
To: Comelus von der Heyden'
Co: Skonma'
Subject: RE Branchatelle Wind Farm project - support:

Dear Dr Comellus von der Heyden,
Thank you for your comment on the Brandvalley WiEF and Rietbloof WEF. All comments will be incorporated into the Final Environmental Impact Reports (BiRs) for aubmitation to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) for decision making:
Klind regards,
Ballinds Huddy
Sellinds Huddy

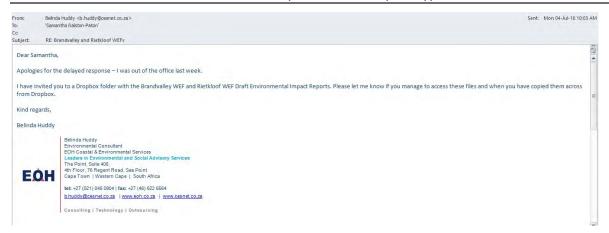
DR MARIANNE THOMSON



BIRDLIFE



Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report - Appendices



COMMENT FROM DEA: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT





Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA · 0001· Environment House · 473 Sieve Biko Road, Arcadia, · PRETORIA Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9584

Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/900 Enquiries: T Mashamba Tel: 012 399 9584 Email: tmashamba@environment.

Mr Marc Hardy EOH Coastal & Environmental Services The Point, Suite 408 4th Floor, 76 Reagent Road Sea Point 8005

Fax: 046 622 6564

Dear Mr Hardy

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 140 MW BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY (WEF), IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation within the Branch: Biodiversity Conservation in National Department of Environmental Affairs received request for comments on the above-mentioned project. After careful scrutiny and evaluation of the DEIAR we have noted the following:

- The Western Cape portion of the proposed development is a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA). This area has an extensive tract of unfragmented natural vegetation and has been identified as a priority area in terms of the National Protected Area Expansion Strategy to meet the conservation targets of the country. The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation is concerned about the cumulative impacts associated with the development on the Central Mountains Shale Renosterveld should other developments of the same magnitude in the immediate area be approved. These may have an impact on future conservation options in the area. It is important that the areas of very high sensitivity are avoided in the northern extent
- The proposed development will result in transformation of the intact habitat within the CBA Furthermore, it will fragment the landscape connectivity and impact on ecological functioning of the area
- The high lying ridges and high lying plateau which forms the northern—most extension, central and north east of the proposed development area are of a concern and are considered to be highly sensitive as are habitats for the listed species. These must be avoided.
- It is the opinion of the Ecological Specialist that turbines (28-32 & 5-8) are located within areas of high elevation along the western and the southern margins of the site respectively. These turbines must therefore be moved to areas of least sensitivity and access roads in these areas must be re-routed so that they are aligned to existing farm roads. Furthermore, turbines 14, 25 and 26 must be moved from the steep slopes to areas where the impacts will be acceptable
- All construction camps, laydown areas, batching plants and storage areas must be more than 50m from any demarcated water courses. The footprint of Construction Camp 3 must be adjusted so that it is positioned outside the buffer of the drainage lines.
- All access roads must be routed next to existing routes to minimise erosion and overall biodiversity impacts on the area
- The proposed development occurs within the following catchments: Tankwa River, Muishond River, Groot River and Roggeveld River, these catchments are characterised by several perennial watercourses. Furthermore, according to the National Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Area (NFEPA), several large natural wetlands occur within the study area. However, based on the Aquatic Assessment, the wetlands observed within the study area have been impacted on by previous land use activities but are still of value since they act as sponge area within the and

environment providing habitat for species and filter runoff during peak flow periods Development in these areas should be strictly avoided

- Water Use Licence in terms of Section 21 of the National Water Act is required for activities that will take place in certain areas. Should any of the present roads be upgraded, appropriate erosion minimising culverts must be installed and bridges must be designed in such a way that reinstates the natural water course levels
- Pre- and post-construction monitoring must be implemented in accordance with BirdLife South Africa/Endangered Wildlife Trust: Best practice guidelines for avian monitoring and impact mitigation at proposed wind energy development sites in Southern Africa. This includes but not limited to:
 - Post construction monitoring should use similar methodology as pre-construction monitoring to ensure comparability of results, but should also include the collection of mortality data
 - Post-construction monitoring should start within 6 months of the turbines becoming operational and should span a period of at least 12 months
 - Post-construction monitoring by an independent specialist should take place for at least two years after operation has started. Reports regarding bird monitoring must be submitted to the provincial environmental department and DEA on a quarterly basis. The report will assist all stakeholders in identifying potential and additional mittgation measures and to establish protocols for a bird-monitoring programme for wind energy development in South Africa.
 - The results of post construction monitoring may highlight the need for additional mitigation measures that may need to be incorporated in then environmental management programme

4. CONCLUSION:

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation notes that the proposed development is within a CBA and a large proportion of the development is located within the higher elevation parts which have more favorable wind conditions but also considered highly sensitive on account of high species abundance as well as ecological integrity. It is our opinion that the proposed layout of the facility will have significant impact on the biodiversity of the area and we recommend that:

- Turbines 14, 25 and 26 must be moved from the steep slopes to areas where the impacts will be acceptable
- Turbines (28-32 & 5-8) located within areas of high elevation along the western and the southern
 margins of the site respectively be moved to areas of least sensitivity and access roads in these
 areas must be re-routed so that they are aligned to existing farm roads.
- Turbines 35-46 must be moved from the very high ecological sensitivity areas too
- Turbine placement in the two key bird flight paths referred to as the Snydersberg saddle and Fortuin-Ou Mur Col must be strictly avoided as birds tend to uses the saddles as they pass across the ridge lines, these may cause collision risk to species of conservation concern. No turbines must be erected within 100m on either side of the lowest points
- Turbines located within High Bat Sensitivity must be relocated, The High sensitivity valley areas serve as commuting corridors for bats in the larger area

We acknowledge that the long term and / or cumulative impacts may negatively impact biodiversity in the area, more research needs to be done to fully understand these impacts on the species. It is important that possible cumulative regional effects of multiple wind energy facilities be considered in the development process. While one project alone may result in few ecological concerns, multiple projects across one landscape could substantially multiply adverse effects

To fully understand the characteristics, ecological dynamics of the receiving environment and management alternatives proposed by the specialist, a site visit with the Ecological Specialist, the

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 140 MW BRANDVALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY (WEF), IN THE NORTHERN AND WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

provincial commenting authority, DEA case officers must be done. This will allow officials to gather information that will inform decision making on final turbine location, access routes, construction camp and substation for the proposed development The Directorate Biodiversity Conservation reserves the right to revise the above comments should additional information on this application is made available at a later stage.

Ms Wilma Lutsch

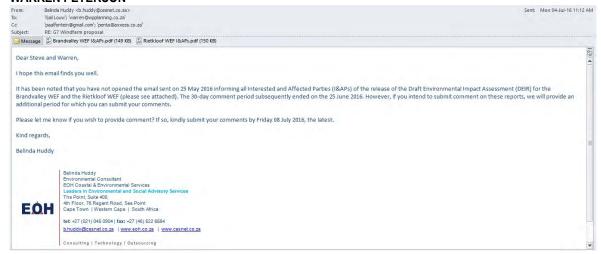
Director: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Environmental Affairs

Letter Signed by: Stanley Tshitwamulomoni

Designation: Control Biodiversity Officer: Grade B

Date: 28/ 06/2014

WARREN PETERSON



arren Petterson <warren@wpplanning.co.za> elinda Huddy; 'Gail Louw' aaifontein@gmail.com; penta@axxess.co.za RE: G7 Windfarm proposal Subject: Belinda Our concerns and comments submitted to date remain. In addition, certain other issues have come to light that we feel are not appropriately addressed by yourselves, especially in the light of you being "Environmental Impact Practitioners" who should have the interest of the environment rather than capitalist ventures at heart. As we understand the extent of the proposed layout of the facility, it would seem that there will be many kilometres of internal access and road reticulation networks to the turbines and other facilities, all between 6m and 12m wide. Many difficult to access points will require longer and "windy" roads in order to traverse the rugged topography. This alone will add up to a significant amount of pristine fynbos that has to be sacrifices over and above that of the turbine footprint themselves. In addition the impact or erosion in these areas, especially on slopes is significant, and one can expect these roads to deteriorate rapidly or be maintained at an unsustainable cost which we believe has not been accounted for. Along with this road network will be a network of cables, adding further to this impact and the visual impact. The inconsiderate and sparse placement of these turbines with little consideration to contours and natural drainage systems, will result in a far greater amount of negative impacts as outlined above. Your list of key stake holders is outdated and incorrect. Several of the listed people no longer work for the relevant organisations. This would raise the question of whether these organisations have in fact made comment or merely deemed not to be concerned due to "no reply"? You have conceded to having noted may of the concerns presented to you, one in particular the cumulative effect of this massive proposal. I am yet to see any substantive answers to the concerns other that you having made a note of the particular item. You mention that labour will be sourced from Laingsburg and Sutherland, what about Matjiesfontein which has a massive unemployment problem and is closer to the proposed facility than the other two towns? Foundations are to be 25m wide and 4m deep. Digging these holes along the coastal areas where you penetrate various soil types is vastly different to this area where you will need to blast into rock for most of the way? Has this been taken into consideration along with the side effects of a significant amount of blasting across a wide area? When assessing your alternatives, the reasons for certain options not working or being viable are in most instances exactly the same conditions that prevail in the subject area. When assessing your "buildable" areas, we believe little thought has gone into the extent of work, cost and environmental damage that will occur during constructing the roads as well as the turbine sites.

Warren Petterson <warren@wpplanning.co.za> Belinda Huddy; 'Gail Louw' Sent: Tue 26-Jul-16 3:09 PM ail.com: penta@axxess.co.za When assessing your "buildable" areas, we believe little thought has gone into the extent of work, cost and environmental damage that will occur during constructing the roads as well as the turbine sites. You mention that a solar energy facility would not be suitable. I am sure that you could find a suitable position somewhere in a remote part of the country, along the same power line, and use up far less space. The extent of this proposal is extreme, and not even comparable with similar facilities around the province Your proposal falls into one of the more favourable "zones" for this type of activity according to your report. We are however aware of several other proposals being done by other companies that fall into areas not highlighted on your table. Is there a reason for this, could you have perhaps found a more suitable place? When reading your need and desirability summary, it seems as if you are basing your assessment more on economic, civil and social impacts rather than Environmental impacts to the extent that your report becomes ivational report than an assessment. I would have thought that your primary concern here would be the environment, being an EAP? You also seem to try and justify environmental destruction by hiding behind various legislation? You speak of the various animals and the potential impact the development may have on them. In particular the highly endangered Riverine Rabbit seems to have been side-lined. You concede that this may be the most endangered animal in South Africa, but no effort has been made to confirm whether there are any of these animals in your massive subject area. You assume that there are none based on the topography whilst admitting they occur in surrounding areas? Surely this should be confirmed and the correct measures taken to preserve any of this species should they be found? tould also be some concern over the fact that the surrounding IBA's would be potential breeding grounds for endangered birds which would over time move out to areas of similar vegetation, of the subject area is one, however the proposed development would restrict this potential. All the species mentioned in your report are in fact found on our properties which neighbour the proposed development. Furthermore we often see Marshall Eagles and assume that they would also be present on the subject properties. This is contrary to what your bird watchers observed. Your noise specialists mention that the noise levels of the turbines will negatively impact many of the fauna that use sounds for either finding prey of defending themselves from prey. Once again the extent of the facility means that this impact will be over a vast area. We feel that you could have far less impact in an area where you could concentrate the facility within to reasonable size. There should be more concern over the moderate to high level impact on loss of habitat to various species across the subject area. You regard the impact on the social environment to be low. This is very unlikely with the opportunity for work to surely attract those from outside the municipal boundaries to either do the work or subside off those doing it by means of unsavoury social practices such as prostitution, drug and alcohol peddling. One can expect the increase in stock theft which is currently a problem, to increase, all the subject property owners are subject to stock theft currently, with additional people transgressing their (and our) properties, this problem can only increase. Any income generated by having a turbine on one's farm, can be expected to be lost in stock theft.

Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report - Appendices



From: Warren Petterson oweren@wpplanning.co.za> Sent: Tue 26-Jul-16 3:09 PM
To: Delinds Huddy; Tail Low
Cc patienten@gmail.com.peta@axxees.co.za
Subject: RE GT Windram proposal
His delines and proposal metallic proposal and will by no means support it. Little attention was paid to the appropriate placement of the facility from an environmental perspective.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards

Warren Petterson

STEPHAAN PIENAAR



GAIL LOUW AND STEVE SWANEPOEL



Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report – Appendices

BENJAMIN WALTON (CAPE NATURE)





SCIENTIFIC SERVICES

Private Bag X6546, GEDRGE, 6530 postal physical 4th Floor York Park Building, York Street, GEORGE, 6530 website www.capenature.co.za enquiries Mr BA Walton tel +27 44 802 5300 fax +27 44 802 5313 fax2email +27 86 645 2546 email landusegeorge@capenature.co.za

SSD ref. # 14/2/6/1/5/2_LAIN/BrandWEF_2016/007 # 14/2/6/1/5/2_LAIN/RietWEF_2016/008 # 14/2/6/1/5/2_LAIN/BODS_2016/057 # 14/2/6/1/5/2_LAIN/RODS_2016/058

date 29th of July 2016

Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd GRAHAMSTOWN Tel.: 046 622 2364 6139 Fax: 046 622 6564

m.hardy@cesnet.co.za

Attention: Mr Marc Hardy

APPLICATION IN TERMS OF THE NEMA EIA REGULATIONS FOR THE PROPOSED CHANGE OF LAND USE BY CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF TWO 140 MW WIND ENERGY FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE OVER THE CENTRAL KAROO AND NAMAKWA DISTRICT MUNICIPAL AREAS, WESTERN AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

DEA reference # 14/12/16/3/3/2/899 Rietkloof WEF
DEA reference # 14/12/16/3/3/2/900 Brandvalley WEF
DEA reference # 14/12/16/3/3/1/1590 Rietkloof 132 kV
DEA reference # 14/12/16/3/3/1/1591 Brandvalley 132 kV

CapeNature, as custodian of biodiversity in the Western Cape¹, would like to thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed change of land use and development activities, and wish to make the following comment. The covering letters dated 24 March with draft Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EIARs) concerning the abovementioned WEF applications, received per mail from Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd by Scientific Services on the 31st of May 2016; and covering letters dated 6 June 2016 with draft Basic Assessment Reports (BARs) concerning the abovementioned Electrical network applications, received per mail from Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd by Scientific Services on the 13th of June 2016; and previous comment issued by CapeNature on the 25th of February 2016, respectively refer.

Page 1 of 6

¹ Section 9, Western Cape Nature Conservation Board Act 15 of 1998

 For ease of brevity CapeNature has issued a single comment here concerning the proposed Wind Energy Facilities (WEF) and dependent 132 kV Overhead Distribution Lines and associated 33/ 132 kV ESKOM substations for G7 Rietkloof and Brandvalley developments.

2. BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The mapped vegetation units² predominantly occurring at the affected properties in the Western Cape are: *unprotected* Central Mountain Shale Renosterveld (FRs 5); *hardly protected* Koedoesberge-Moordenaars Karoo (SKv 6); and *moderately protected* Tanqua Wash Riviere (AZi 7).

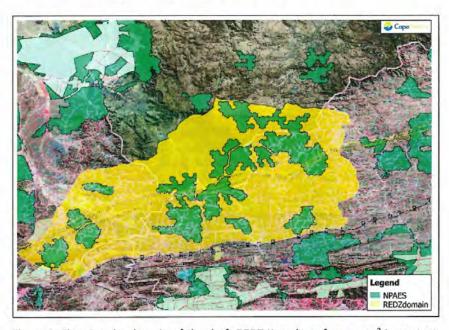


Figure 1: Showing the domain of the draft REDZ Komsberg focus area³ in context of the National Protected Area Expansion Strategy and Protected Area network.

Page 2 of 6

The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board trades as CapeNature

Board Members: Prof Gavin Maneveldt (Chairperson), Mr Cari Lotter (Vice Chairperson), Mr Mervyn Burton. Prof Denver Hendricks. Dr Colin Johnson, Dr Bruce McKerzie, Ms Merie McOmbring-Hodges, Adv Mandia Mdiudiu, Mr Danie Nel, Prof Aubrey Redlinghuis. Mr Paul Slack, Prof Karrilla Swart-Arries

² Mucina L & Rutherford MC (eds) (2006) Vegetation of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland. Strelitzia 19. South African National Biodiversity Institute, Pretoria

³ Wind and Solar PV Energy Strategic Environmental Assessment- REDZs Database

3. Fatal flaws

- 3.1. The combined project area straddles numerous Upstream River Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas (FEPA) and associated subquaternary catchment areas. The project area has a high degree of topographical variability, with many kloofs (ravines) and is a high priority un-fragmented landscape being the source area for the Groot River, amongst others. The proposed road network (12 metre width once completed) will severely alter and compromise wetlands and landscape connectivity.
- 3.2. Most of the property falls within designated sensitive areas selected for various criteria. It should be noted that industrial WEFs are incompatible with conservation objectives for Critical Biodiversity Areas and related Ecological Support Areas.
- 3.3. The conflict between protection of biodiversity patterns of the National Protected Area Expansion Strategy (NPAES) areas and promotion of industrial development of WEFs (see Figs. 1 and 2) within the Komsberg Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ). CapeNature supports the implementation and declaration of further protected areas within the Lower Karoo areas.
- 3.4. The cumulative impacts on, inter alia, the presently un-fragmented, unprotected and pristine Central Mountain Shale Renosterveld (FRs 5); Roggeveld Shale Renosterveld (FRs 3); and Tanqua Escarpment Shrubland (SKv 4) are unprecedented (see Fig. 3); and are not supported.

Based on the available information CapeNature strongly objects to the proposed development of the Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs and associated infrastructure.

CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comment and request further information based on any additional information that may be received. Your concern for the environment is appreciated.

Page 3 of 6

The Western Cape Notice Cornervation Scool frades as CapeNature

Reard Mambers Prof. Gavin Mamevoldt (Champerson), An Carl Lotter (Vice Champerson), Mi Marein Barton, Prof. Deutver Handricks.

Di Colin Johnson, Di Burce McKemm, Ms Mean McConfirma (Indiges, Adv Manufer Multiple), Mi Dinner Wei, Frof Aubstry Kosmignus, Mr Faul Stack, Prof. Remitta Swart Arites.

Yours sincerely

Benjamin Walton

Bhalton

For: Manager: Scientific Services: Land Use Advice

CapeNature

Copies to:

- (1) Mr M Essop (DEA: Strategic Infrastructure Developments)
- (2) Mr V Chauke (DEA: Integrated Environmental Authorisations)
- (3) Mr S Tshitwamulomoni (DEA: Biodiversity & Conservation)
- (4) Mr G Benjamin (DEA&DP: Land Management)
- (5) Mr C vd Walt (WCG: Department of Agriculture)
- (6) Mr A Hall (Heritage Western Cape)
- (7) Mr C Abrahams (BG:CMA)

Page 4 of 6

The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board frades as CapeNature

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Dr Cofin Johnson, Dr Bruce McKenzie, Ms Merle McOmbring-Hadges, Adv Mandia Mdludiu, Mr Danie Nei, Prof Aubrey Redlinghuis.

Mr Paul Slack, Prof Karrilla Swart-Arries

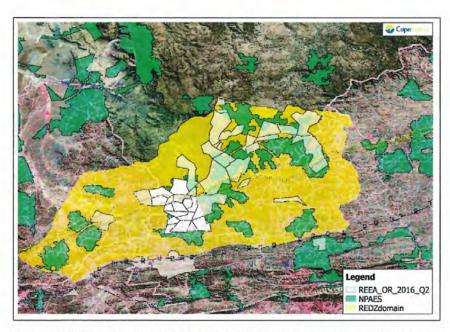


Figure 2: Showing the domain of the draft REDZ Komsberg focus area wherein the proposed Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs (white polygon) and dependent 132 kV Overhead Distribution Lines are proposed - in addition to approved and proposed WEFs.

Page 5 of 6

The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board trades as CapeNature

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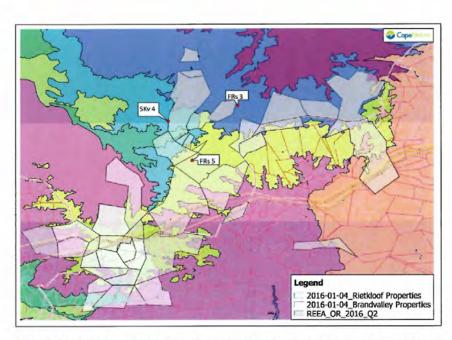
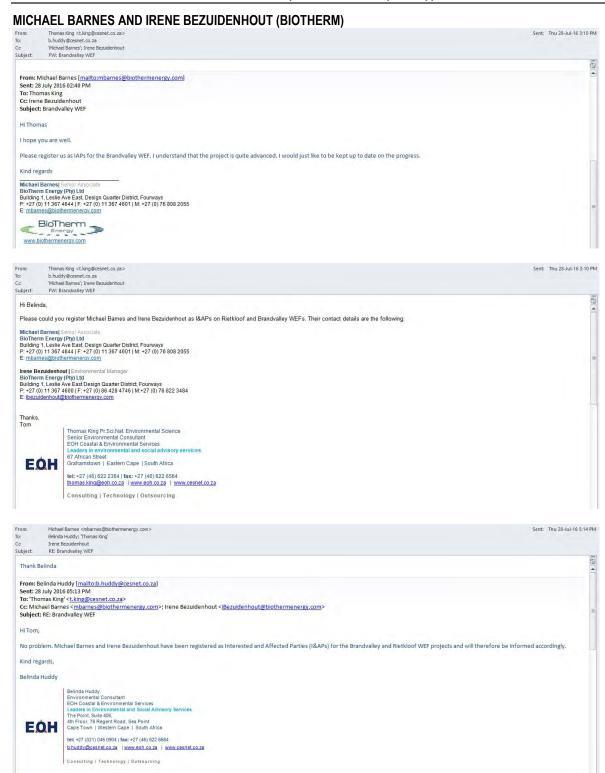


Figure 3: Showing the affected vegetation units wherein the proposed Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs (white polygon) are proposed - in addition to approved and proposed WEFs.

Page 6 of 6

The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board trades as CapeNature Board Members: Prof Gavin Maneveldt (Chairperson), Mr Carl Lotter (Vice Chairperson), Mr Mervyn Burton, Prof Denver Hendricks, Dr Colin Johnson, Dr Bruce McKenzie, Ms Metle McOmbring-Hadges, Adv Mandla Mdludlu, Mr Danie Nel, Prof Aubrey Redlinghuis. Mr Paul Slack, Prof Kamilla Swart-Arries



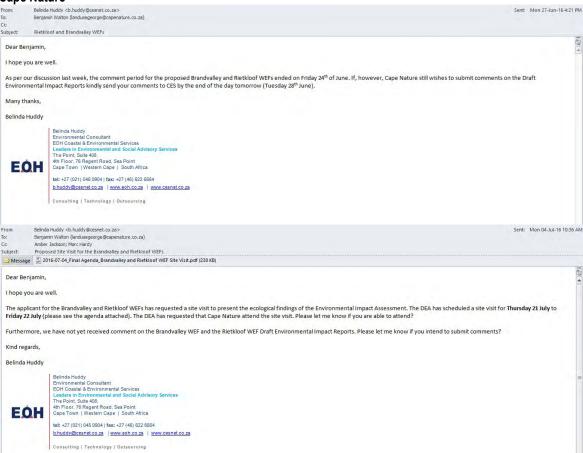
<u>Please see Appendix B for acknowledgement of receipt and comments from DEA on the Scoping Report and Draft</u> Environmental Report.

REMINDER EMAILS TO I&APS TO PROVIDE COMMENT

DEA: Biodiversity Conservation

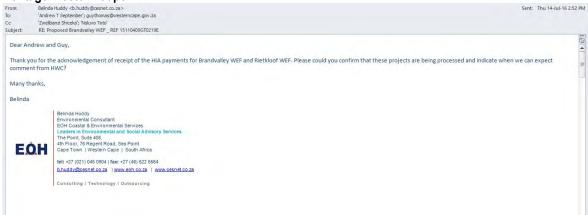


Cape Nature



Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report - Appendices

Heritage Western Cape



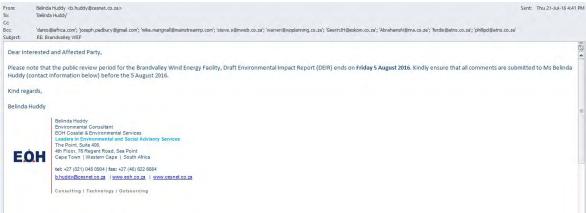
BirdLife



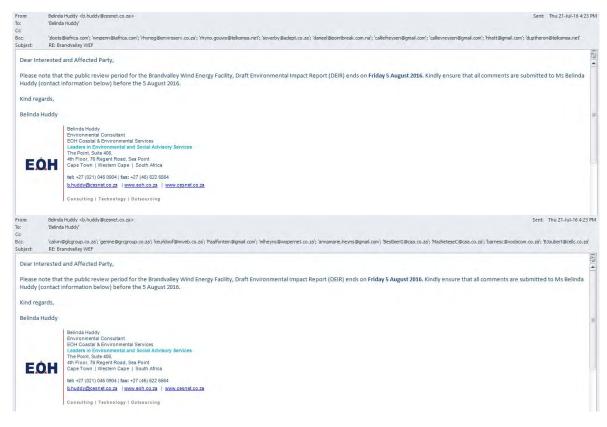
Department of Agriculture

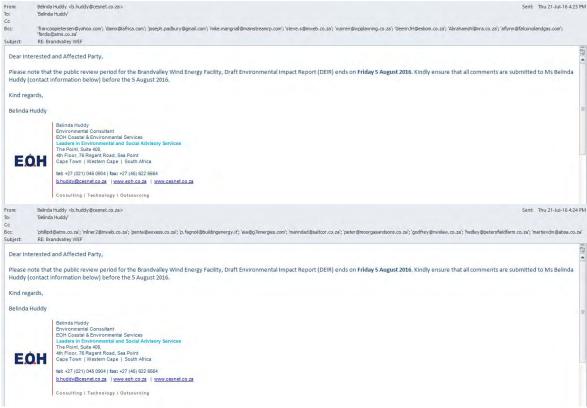


I&APs



Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report - Appendices





Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report - Appendices

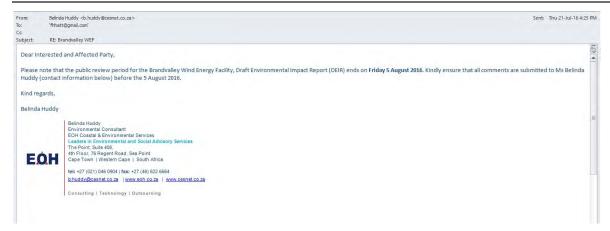


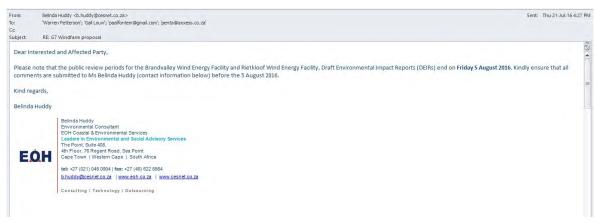






Volume 1: Environmental Impact Assessment Report - Appendices





APPENDIX C-7: LANDOWNER CONSENT FORMS



AANDAG: EIENAAR, OF PERSOON IN BEHEER VAN GROND WAAROP DIE VOORGESTELDE AKTIWITEIT SAL GESKIED

RE: TOESTEMMING IN TERME VAN REGULASIE 16(1) VAN DIE NEMA REGULASIES, VIR DIE UITVOERING VAN 'N OMGEWINGSIMPAKSTUDIE VIR DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN TWEE WINDENERGIE PROJEKTE NABY LAINGSBURG, DIREK OP EN TEENAAN DIE NOOR-KAAP EN WES-KAAP PROVINSIALE GRENS, SUID-AFRIKA.

'G7 Renewable Energies' (Edms) Bpk beoog om twee 140 MW windenergie fasiliteite (wind plase) naby Laingsburg te bou en te bedryf, op die provinsiale grens van die Noord en Wes Kaap in Suid-Afrika. Die voorgestelde projek behels die konstruksie en bedryf van ongeveer 100 wind turbines, elke met 'n opwek kapasiteit van 2-4MW, met 'n totale opwekkingsvermoë van ongeveer 280MW.

Hierdie vorm moet voltool word deur die elenaar of gemagtigde persoon in beheer van die land, om toesterming te verleen aan die onderneming van 'n OIB op die elendom, spesifiek gerig op die bogenoemde aktiwiteite.

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EOH Coastal & Environmental Services



AANDAG: EIENAAR, OF PERSOON IN BEHEER VAN GROND WAAROP DIE VOORGESTELDE

RE; TOESTEMMING IN TERME VAN REGULASIE 16(1) VAN DIE NEMA REGULASIES, VIR DIE UITVOERING VAN 'N OMGEWINGSIMPAKSTUDIE VIR DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN TWEE WINDENERGIE PROJEKTE NABY LAINGSBURG, DIREK OP EN TEENAAN DIE NOOR-KAAP EN WES-KAAP PROVINSIALE GRENS, SUID-AFRIKA.

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Hierdie vorm moet voltooi word deur die eienaar of gemagtigde persoon in beheer van die land, om toestemming te verleen aan die onderneming van 'n DIB op die eiendom, spesifiek gerig op die bogenoemde aktiwiteitie.

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AANDAG; EIENAAR, OF PERSOON IN BEHEER VAN GROND WAAROP DIE VOORGESTELDE AKTIWITEIT SAL GESKIED

RE: TOESTEMMING IN TERME VAN REGULASIE 18(1) VAN DIE NEMA REGULASIES, VIR DIE UITVOERING VAN 'N OMGEWINGSIMPAKSTUDIE VIR DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN TWEE WINDENERGIE PROJEKTE NABY LAINGSBURG, DIREK OP EN TEENAAN DIE NOOR-KAAP EN WES-KAAP PROVINSIALE GRENS, SUID-AFRIKA.

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Eiendom besonderhede



AANDAG, EIENAAR, OF PERSOON IN BEHEER VAN GROND WAAROP DIE VOORGESTELDE AKTIWITEIT SAL GESKIED

RE: TOESTEMMING IN TERME VAN REGULASIE 16(1) VAN DIE NEMA REGULASIES, VIR DIE UITVOERING VAN 'N OMGEWINGSIMPAKSTUDIE VIR DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN TWEE WINDENERGIE PROJEKTE NABY LAINGSBURG, DIREK OP EN TEENAAN DIE NOOR-KAAP EN WES-KAAP PROVINSIALE GRENS, SUID-AFRIKA.

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Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd tel: +27 46 522 2364 | fax +27 46 522 6564 76 Regent Road The Point / Olisakins Centre Sea Point Cape Town, 8005 . South Africa www.dok.bc.aza | www.ces.net.co.za rag no: 2012/161672/07.



10 Julie 2015

Wie dit mag aangaan:

AANDAG: EIENAAR, OF PERSOON IN BEHEER VAN GROND WAAROP DIE VOORGESTELDE AKTIWITEIT SAL GESKIED.

KENNISGEWING: OMGEWINGSIMPAKSTUDIE VIR DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN TWEE WINDENERGIE PROJEKTE NABY LAINGSBURG, DIREK OP EN TEENAAN DIE NOORDKAAP-WESKAAP GRENSLYN,

In gevolge die vereistes voortgelê deur gedeelte 41 (2)(b), artikel 24 in terme van die Omgewingsimpakbepaling (OIB) Regulasies (2014), vasgestel deur die Wet op Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur (Wet Nr 107 van 1998) soos gewysig, is ons vereis om "die Inwoner van die perseël en die eienaar of persoon in beheer van die perseël waar die voorgestelde aktiviteit onderneem sal word, of enige altematiewe terrein waar die aktiviteit onderneem sal word in kennis te stel, sowel as skriftelike kennisgewing te lewer aan "die elenaar, persone in beheer van, en bewoners van grond aangrensend die terrein waar die aktiviteit is of onderneem gaan word, of enige alternatiewe terrein waar die aktiviteit is of onderneem gaan word, of enige alternatiewe terrein waar die aktiviteit onderneem staan te word". In ooreenstemming met hierdie vereiste, vind asseblief hierdie brief van kennisgewing vir 'n omgewingsimpakstudie, uitgevoer deur 'EOH Coastal en Environmental Services', ten opsigte van die bogenoemde projek.

G7 Renewable Energies (Edms) Bpk beoog om twee 140 MW windenergie faailiteite (wind plase) naby Laingsburg te bou, op die grens van die Noord-Kaap en Wes-Kaap Provinsie in Suid-Afrika. Die voorgestelde projek sal op verskeie gedeeltes van die noordelike en suidelike gebiede van die Karoo Hoogtand Plaaslike Munisipaliteit, die Witzenberg Plaaslike Munisipaliteit (Gres), en die Laingsburg Plaaslike Munisipaliteit geleë wees, onderskeidelik vervat binne die Namakwa Distrik Munisipaliteit, die Kaapse Wynland Distriksmunisipaliteit en die Sentraal Karoo Distriksmunisipaliteit. Die voorgestelde projek behels die konstruksie en bedryf van ongeveer 100 windenergie turbines, elke met 'n opwek kapasiteit van 2-4MW, met 'n totale opwekkingsvermoë van ongeveer 280MW.

EOH Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) Kaapstad, - is aangestel deur G7 Renewable Energies (Edms) Bipk ten einde die Omwangsbepeling en twee Omgewingsimpakstudies vir die voorgestelde ontwikkeling uit te voer. Die aktiwiteite wat ons glo veroorsaak sal word deur die voorgestelde ontwikkeling, word in die aansoek, en die Agtergrondinligtingsdokument (AID), albei hieraan geheg, bevat.

Ook aangeheg is 'n toestemmingsbrief, wat deur die eienaar of gemagtigde persoon in beheer van die land, voltool moet word om toestemming te verleen aan die onderneming van 'n OIB op die eiendom, spesifiek gerig op die bogenoemde aktiwiteite. U word vriendelik genool om die vorm te voltool en terug te stuur sodra moontelik.

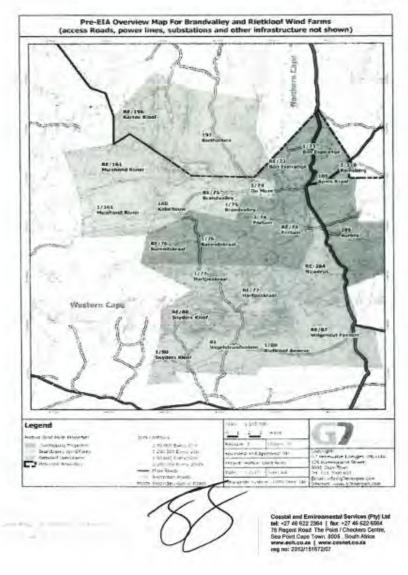
EOH CES sal dit hoogs waardeer as u untvangs van hierdie kennisgewing met e-pos, faks, telefoon of met pos kan bevestig. Vir meer inligting, skakel gerus die EOH CES kantoor in kaapstad, op die kontak besonderhede hieronder vertoon.

Die Uwe.

Amber Jackson Omgewingskonsulter

> Coastal anti Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd tet+27 46 622 2364 | fax +627 48 622 6564 76 Regent Road The Point (Checkers Cartley, See Point Cape Town, 6005, South Africa www.cok.oz.a | www.cok.oz.a | veg.oo: 2012/15/167207







AANDAG: EIENAAR, OF PERSOON IN BEHEER VAN GROND WAAROP DIE VOORGESTELDE AKTIWITEIT SAL GESKIED

RE: TOESTEMMING IN TERME VAN REGULASIE 16(1) VAN DIE NEMA REGULASIES, VIR DIE UITVOERING VAN 'N OMGEWINGSIMPAKSTUDIE VIR DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN TWEE WINDENERGIE PROJEKTE NABY LAINGSBURG, DIREK OP EN TEENAAN DIE NOOR-KAAP EN WES-KAAP PROVINSIALE GRENS, SUID-AFRIKA.

'G7 Renewable Energies' (Edms) Bpk beoog om twee 140 MW windenergie fasilitelte (wind plase) naby Laingsburg te bou en te bedryf, op die provinsiale grens van die Noord en Wes Kaap in Suid-Afrika. Die voorgestelde projek behels die konstruksie en bedryf van ongeveer 100 wind turbines, elke met 'n opwek kapasiteit van 2-4MW, met 'n totale opwekkingsvermoë van ongeveer 280MW.

Hierdie vorm moet voltool word deur die eienaar of gemagtigde persoon in beheer van die land, om toestemming te verleen aan die onderneming van 'n OIB op die eiendom, spesifiek gerig op die bogenoemde aktiwiteite.

Grondelenaar naam: Eindom gedeelte(s):	
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Eiendom adress:	Klipfontein, Laingsburg, 6900
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regulasie 54, en sal voorsien wa aan die proses. Verklaring Ek. synde die eienaar of gemagtig kennis gestel is van die voorne eiendom/me, en van my reg otestemming tot die ondernemi	ord met voldoende inligting om hom/haar in staat te stel om deel te neem de persone in beheer van die land, erken hiermee dat ek voldoende ir eme om 'n Omgewingsimpakstudie te onderneem op die bogenoemde m deel te neem in die proses van openbare deelname. Hiermee gee a
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Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd lei: +27.46.822.2364, | fax: +27.46.822.6564 / Respect Rose The Point (Checkers Centre, Sea Point Cape Town, 8005, South Africa www.boh.co.zz | www.zesoet.co.zz reg not 2012/15/67207

Elendom besonderhede

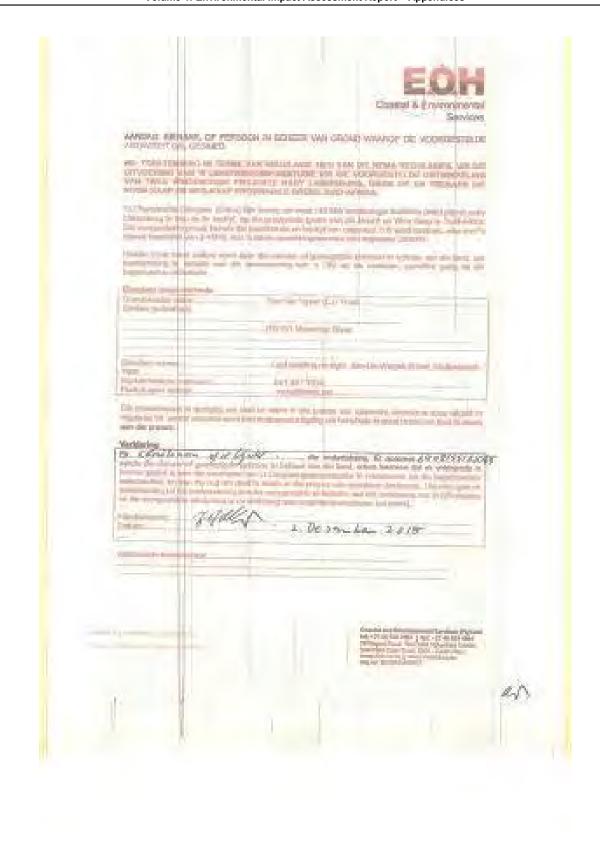
AANDAG: EIENAAR, OF PERSOON IN BEHEER VAN GROND WAAROP DIE VOORGESTELDE AKTIWITEIT SAL GESKIED

RE: TOESTEMMING IN TERME VAN REGULASIE 16(1) VAN DIE NEMA REGULASIES, VIR DIE UITVOERING VAN 'N OMGEWINGSIMPAKSTUDIE VIR DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN TWEE WINDENERGIE PROJEKTE NABY LAINGSBURG, DIREK OP EN TEENAAN DIE NOOR-KAAP EN WES-KAAP PROVINSIALE GRENS, SUID-AFRIKA.

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telephonoming to die onderneming van die voorgestelde aktiviteite, wat die onderwerp van 'n Ole- proses vir die voorgestelde windolaas is (onderhewig aan omgewingsmagtiging sal wees). Handtekening: 27,0,7,30,15	Esket	k



APPENDIX C-8: MINUTES FROM MEETING WITH DEA

tel: +27 (21) 045 0900 | fax: +27 (46) 622 6564

	MEET	ING MINUTES
	PRE-APPL	ICATION MEETING
GES	DATE	14 July 2015
Coastal & Environmental Services	VENUE	Department of Environmenta Affairs, A2-2-14, 473 Steve
An EOH Company.		Biko Rd, Environmental
The Point, Suite 408.		House, Pretoria.
4th Floor, 76 Regent Road, Sea Point, 8005	TIME OF MEETING	11h00
Cape Town Western Cape South Africa	MINUTES BY	Amber Jackson

PROJECT

ATTENDED BY			
NAME AFFILIATION		CONTACT DETAILS	
NAIVIE	AFFILIATION	Email	Number
Mmamohale Kabasa	DEA (likely case officer)	MKabasa@environmen t.gov.za	012 399 8801
Dikeledi Mokotong	DEA (strategic infrastructure projects)	DMokotong@environm ent.gov.za	012 399 9420
Herman Alberts	DEA (Environmental Officer Specialised Production - Strategic Infrastructure Developments)	HAlberts@environment .gov.za	012 399 9371
Kilian Hagemann	G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd	kilian@g7energies.com	021 300 0610
Amber Jackson	EOH Coastal and Environmental Services	a.jackson@cesnet.co.z a	021 045 0900
Via telecom			
Methuli Mbanjwa	G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd	methuli@g7energies.co m	021 300 0610
Sebastian Hirschmann	G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd	sebastian@g7energies. com	021 300 0610

A pre-application meeting was held with the applicant, environmental consultant and DEA to determine and clarify the appropriate way forward to conduct the Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed Brandvalley and Rietkloof Wind Energy Facilities (WEF). Topics of discussion and outcomes are outline below.

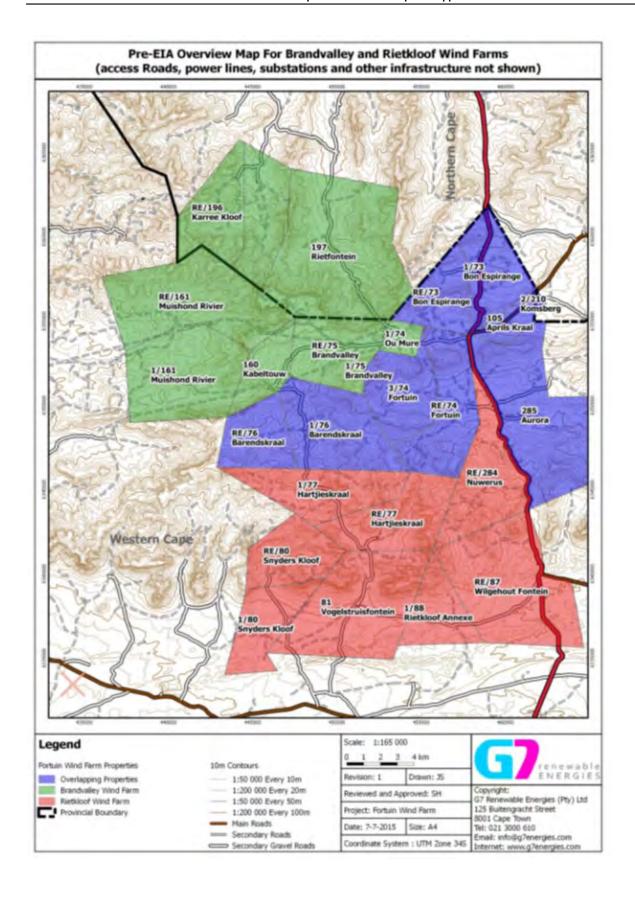
Topic	Discussion	Outcome
Application	The applications discussed are for the next two phases (3 and 4) of the Roggeveld WEF. The Roggeveld WEF received a positive environmental authorisation in August 2014. The two projects are directly adjacent to each other, but the exact boundary is not yet known.	
	To address this uncertainty, should G7 lodge one application and split it later or submit two separate applications from the beginning?	DEA requested that no splitting occurs and that two different applications should be submitted.
	Therefore the applications will be lodged by two separate entities:	
	Brandvalley Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd	
	Rietkloof Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd Both are subsidiaries of G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd	
	Refer to Figure 1 below.	DEA confirmed that the two
	The Brandvalley WEF (green) and Rietkloof WEF (red) are on neighbouring properties. Both WEF's occupy a	separate applications can include the same property

Brandvalley and Rietkloof

Wind Farms

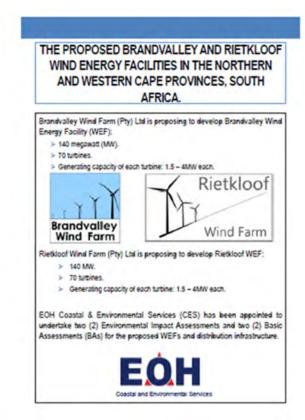
Grid connection	portion of the adjoining properties (blue). I.e. each WEF has some infrastructure (a few turbines, powerlines and/or roads) on different portions on the adjoining properties. Brandvalley the northern portion and Rietkloof the southern portion of the same adjoining properties. Eskom have proposed a new grid connection hub at Komsberg (not yet existing but to be built in 2016/2017) to allow all renewable energy projects in the area sufficient access to the grid. • Both the proposed Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEF projects are proposed to feed into the Eskom grid at Komsberg. • There are 3 grid connection alternatives proposed for each WEF. • Should both applications receive positive authorisation and be appointed Preferred Bidder in terms of the REIPPPP, Eskom may require that the facilities share one grid connection rather than run their own 132kV lines to Komsberg in order to reduce clutter. • Should only one WEF receive authorisation or become Preferred Bidder, it is likely the grid connection will differ from the shared alternative connection.	DEA confirmed that the same grid connection (i.e. same substation/power line footprint) can be authorised for two separate applications in order to give flexibility for later in terms which of the two projects will actually build it. Should only one of the two WEF's achieve Preferred Bidder status the authorised connection may be different to that required of the approved facility. If a project then has to change the authorised grid layout, DEA confirmed that only an amendment to the authorisation would be required (not a full basic assessment/EIA), provided that all connection alternatives were assessed
		and clearly included in the
Pre-construction Bird and Bat Monitoring.	The bird and bat monitoring requirements continually have shifting goal posts as time goes on with new and improved information. Due to the new Regulated EIA timeframes the entire environmental assessment timeframe hinges on the finalisation of the monitoring. G7 and CES would prefer to not do the monitoring and have the guidelines change halfway into the monitoring delaying the process as a whole, jeopardising the tightly regulated timeframes in the new 2014 regulations.	guidelines as at the time of the submission of the EIA application are to be used throughout the EIA, The monitoring must comply to those guidelines and The monitoring must be representative of the site (e.g. no single bat mast in the corner of the site). The monitoring would not be required to adjust or be redone retrospectively if new guidelines or monitoring criteria are released post EIA application.
WUL	Are there any new requirements to pre-empt the	Scoping phase is only
requirements in Scoping phase	application of the water-use licence in the scoping phase?	required to assess the normal environmental factors such as the presence of any drainage lines, rivers and wetlands.
Timelines	Should more information be required on the Scoping report, do the timeframes start again or is there a prescribed amount of time to address the request?	The DEA will comment on the Draft Scoping report and should they request any information it must be

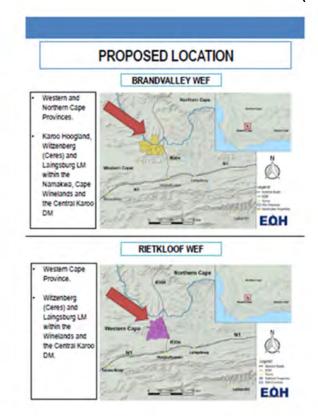
report. The DEA will decide if the request has been adequately addressed in the FSR and will either accept or reject the FSR. Should the report be: Accepted- the applicant can proceed to EIA phase. Rejected- the applicant can proceed to EIA phase. Rejected the applicant can proceed to EIA phase. Rejected the applicant will need to start again and lodge a new application. Accepted with conditions- the applicant can proceed with the EIA provided the conditions are adhered to. The same applies to EIA Reports regarding any issues or flaws in the report, which may then be addressed in the final report submitted for authorisation. This is distinctly different from past practise where DEA would never comment on draft reports and any issues found later lead to rejections. Report Submitty and method of report submission Closing remarks Note Note Note Report Note Note Report Note Report Note Report Note Report Note Report Note Report			
Report submissions Quantity and method of report submission Only 2 colour bound hard copies and 2 CD's are required for submission of reports. PPP Language of the public participation information: Newspapers adverts, site notices and BIDs. Is English sufficient or just the language of the area? The information needs to be disseminated in the language most accessible to the population living in the affected area. The information must be presented in English and also in the local language (Afrikaans in this case) Closing remarks Note When submitting the application and scoping report CES should submit a copy of these minutes with		EIA report which would result in a rejection instead of	The DEA will decide if the request has been adequately addressed in the FSR and will either accept or reject the FSR. Should the report be: Accepted- the applicant can proceed to EIA phase. Rejected- the applicant will need to start again and lodge a new application. Accepted with conditions-the applicant can proceed with the EIA provided the conditions are adhered to. The same applies to EIA Reports - the DEA will from now on comment on <i>Draft</i> EIA Reports regarding any issues or flaws in the report, which may then be addressed in the final report submitted for authorisation. This is distinctly different from past practise where DEA would never comment on draft reports and any issues found later lead to
PPP Language of the public participation information: Newspapers adverts, site notices and BIDs. Is English sufficient or just the language of the area? The information needs to be disseminated in the language most accessible to the population living in the affected area. The information must be presented in English and also in the local language (Afrikaans in this case) Closing remarks Note The information needs to be disseminated in the language most accessible to the population living in the affected area. The information must be presented in English and also in the local language (Afrikaans in this case) Closing remarks Note	· •	Quantity and method of report submission	Only 2 colour bound hard copies and 2 CD's are
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application and scoping report CES should submit a copy of these minutes with		Newspapers adverts, site notices and BIDs. Is English sufficient or just the language of the area?	disseminated in the language most accessible to the population living in the affected area. The information must be presented in English and also in the local language (Afrikaans in this case)
	Closing remarks	Note	application and scoping report CES should submit a

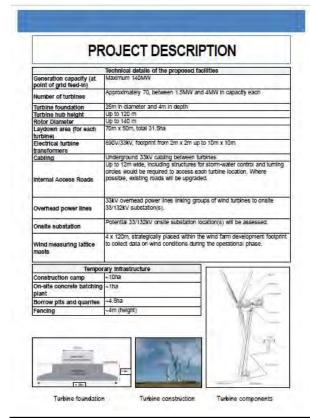


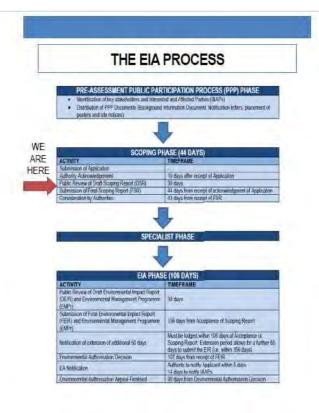
APPENDIX C-9: POSTERS AND PRESENTATION GIVEN AT THE PUBLIC MEETING

C9.1 POSTERS PLACED AT THE PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT (DSR)









ALTERNATIVES

BRANDVALLEY WEF



RIETKLOOF WEF



POTENTIAL IMPACTS

The following potential impacts were identified:

- Impacts on topography and geology;
- Change in land use from agricultural to power generation;
- Removal of top soil resulting in soil erosion;
- Impacts on surface and groundwater resources;
- Disruption to terrestrial ecosystems:
- Disruption to aquatic ecosystems;
- Impacts on fauna (including birds and bats) and flora;
- > Health and safety:
- > Impacts on archaeological, paleontological and/or cultural sites;
- Social disruptions:
- > Social benefits from the project including employment opportunities, social investment, training and skills development opportunities;
- ➤ Noise impacts:
- >Air quality impacts in the form of additional dust;
- > Alignment with planning instruments; and
- Impact on energy production.



PROPOSED SPECIALIST STUDIES: EIAs

- Archaeological Impact Assessment
- Agricultural Impact Assessment
- Aquatic Impact Assessment
- Avifaunal Impact Assessment
- Bat Impact Assessment
- **Ecological Impact** Assessment

- Heritage Impact Assessment
 - Noise Impact
 - Assessment
- Socio-Economic Impact Assessment
- Visual Assessment Specialist

THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

WHY GET INVOLVED: REGISTER AS AN I&AP

Complete registration/ comment sheet Contact EOH CES:

Ms Belinda Huddy Tel: 021 045 0900

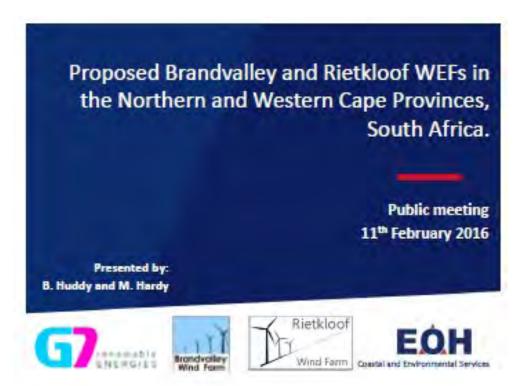
Fax: 046 622 2364 Email: b.huddy@cesnet.co.za Postal Address: The Point, Suit 408, 4th Floor, 76 Regent Road, Sea Point, 8005.

HANK YOU





C9.2 PRESENTATION GIVEN AT THE PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE DSR















Coastal and Environmental Services



- Grahamstown based environmental consultancy established in 1990.
- Specialise in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs).
- Offices located in Cape Town, East London, Port Elizabeth and Maputo.
- Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP).



G7



Holding Company: G7 Renewable Energies

- > Brandvalley Wind Farm (Ltd) Pty
- ➤ Rietkloof Wind Farm (Ltd) Pty







Legislative Requirement



 Brandvalley WEF and Rietkloof WEF each require Environmental Authorisation through two (2) separate Scoping & Environmental impact Assessments (EIAs) undertaken by EOH CES.



- The two (2) EIAs to be conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), as amended.
 - ➢ Both developments trigger listed activities in 2014 EIA Regulations Listing Notice 1 (GNR R983), Notice 2 (GNR 984) and Notice 3 (GNR 985).

The EIA Processes



ElAs undertaken in several phases:



Renewable Energy in SA

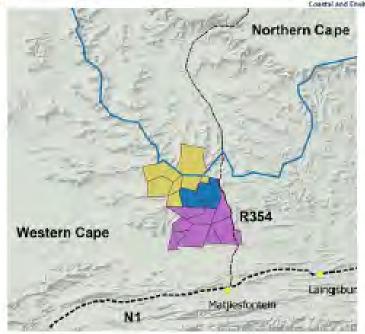


- South Africa experiencing constrained power supply → drive for alternative forms of power generation.
- · Plans and programmes:
 - > National Development Plan (NDP)
 - > Integrated Resources Plan 2010 2030 (IRP)
 - > Independent Power Producer Programme (IPPP)
 - Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPP)



Project Location





Project Description (for each WEF)



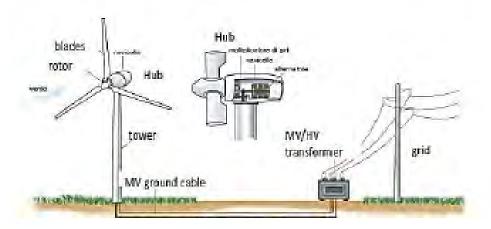
Coastal and Environmental Services

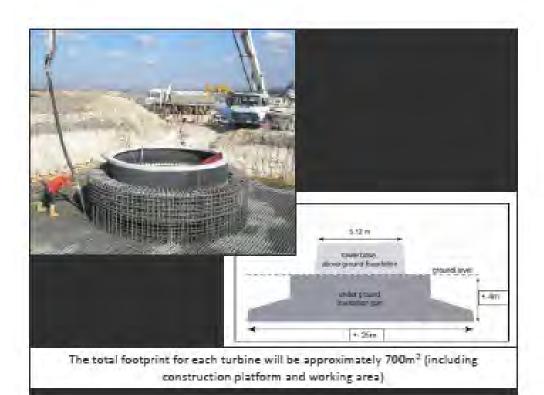
	alls of the proposed facilities
Generation capacity (at point of grid feed-in)	Maximum 140MW
Number of turblines	Approximately 70, between 1.5MW and 4MW in capacity each
Turbine foundation	25m in diameter and 4m in depth
Turbine hub height	Up to 120 m
Rotor Diameter	Up to 140 m
Laydown area (for each turbline).	70m x 50m, total 31.5ha
Electrical turbine transformers	690V/33kV, footprint from 2m x 2m up to 10m x 10m.
Cabling	Underground 33kV cabling between turbines
Internal Access Roads	Up to 12m wide, including structures for storm- water control and turning circles would be required to access each turbine location. Where possible, existing roads will be upgraded.
Overhead power lines	33kV overhead power lines linking groups of wind turbines to onsite 33/132kV substation(s).
Onsite substation	Potential 33/132kV onsite substation location(s) will be assessed.
Wind measuring lattice masts	4 x 120m, strategically placed within the wind farm development footprint to collect data on wind conditions during the operational phase.

Project Description



Temporary infrastructure		
Construction camp	~10ha	
On-site concrete batching plant	~1ha	
Borrow pits and quarries	~4.5ha	
Fencing	~4m (height)	







The proposed turbines will each generate 1.5 - 4MW of electrical power, and will be mounted on an 120m high tower structure on a concrete base slab.

Infrastructure Layout



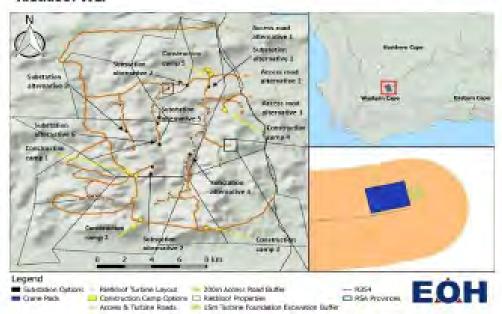
Brandvalley WEF

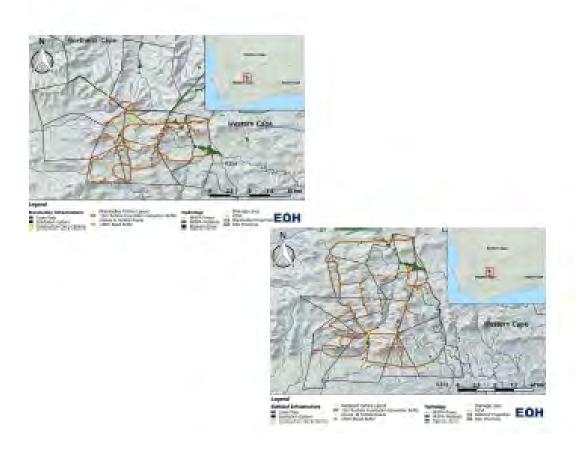


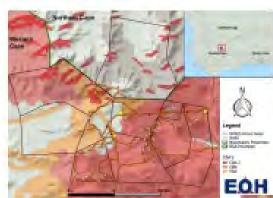
Infrastructure Layout



Rietkloof WEF









Potential Impacts



- > Topography and geology;
- > Land use;
- > Soil erosion;
- Surface and groundwater resources;
- > Terrestrial ecosystems;
- > Aquatic ecosystems;
- Feuna (including birds and bets) and flore;

- > Health and safety:
- Archaeological, paleontological and/or cultural sites;
- > Social disruptions;
- Social benefits;
- > Traffic;
- > Noise;
- > Air quality; and
- > Energy production.



Specialist Studies



- . The following specialist studies to be undertaken as part of EIA:
 - > Archaeological Impact Assessment
 - > Agricultural Impact Assessment
 - > Aquatic Impact Assessment
 - > Avifaunal Impact Assessment
 - > Bat Impact Assessment
 - > Ecological Impact Assessment
 - > Heritage Impact Assessment
 - > Noise Impact Assessment

- Socio-Economic Impact
 Assessment
- Visual Assessment Specialist



Public Participation Process (PPP)







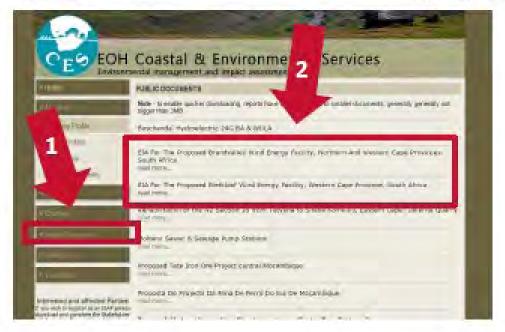
Public Participation Process (PPP)



- DSR public comment period ends 23 February 2016.
- Copies of the DSRs are at the Laingsburg and Touws River Library.
- Electronic copies available on the G7 and EOH CES websites: (http://data.g7energies.com/eia/brandvalley and http://www.cesnet.co.za/public-documents.html).
- All comments and responses will be captured in an updated Issues & Response Table.
- The reports will be revised based on comments received.
- Final Scoping Report will be submitted to DEA for decision making.

EOH CES WEBSITE





Question and Discussion





Get Involved: Register as an I&AP





Complete registration/ comment sheet or Contact EOH CES:

Ms Belinda Huddy

Tel: 021 045 0900 | Fax: 046 622 2364

Email: b.huddy@cesnet.co.za

Postal Address: The Point, Suit 408, 4th Floor, 76 Regent Road,
Sea Point, 8005.

C9.3 PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN AT THE PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE DSR



Plate 1: Posters displayed on the walls of the auditorium for the Open Day and Public Meeting.



Posters displayed on tables of the auditorium for the Open Day with a comment sheet where atteendees could provide comment.



Attendees of the Open Day.



The Presentation being given by EOH CES at the Public Meeting.



Attendees preparing for the Public Meeting.

C9.4 PRESENTATION GIVEN AT THE PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL **IMPACT REPORT (DEIR)**

Proposed Brandvalley and Rietkloof WEFs in the Northern and Western Cape Provinces, South Africa.

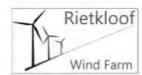
> **Public meeting** 22nd June 2016

Presented by:

M. Hardy (EAP) and G. Raath

















- Brandvalley WEF
 - > Project Location
 - Project Description
 - Specialist Studies
 - > Impacts Identified
 - > Alternatives
 - Sensitivity Analysis and Recommendations
- Rietkloof WEF
 - > Project Location
 - Project Description
 - > Specialist Studies
 - > Impacts Identified
 - > Alternatives
 - Sensitivity Analysis and Recommendations
- Public Participation Process (PPP)
- Get Involved













Coastal and Environmental Services



- Specialise in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs).
- Grahamstown originated environmental consultancy.
- Offices located in Johannesburg, Cape Town, East London, Port Elizabeth and Maputo.
- Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) Marc Hardy.



G7



Holding Company: G7 Renewable Energies

- ➤ Brandvalley Wind Farm (Ltd) Pty
- ➤ Rietkloof Wind Farm (Ltd) Pty







Legislative Requirement



Two separate Scoping & Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) undertaken by EOH CES to assess the potential environmental impacts for Brandvalley WEF and Rietkloof WEF.

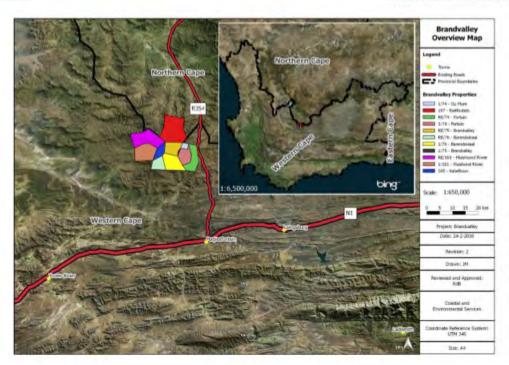


- EIAs conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), as amended, and its attendant 2014 EIA Regulations governing the process.
- Specialist Assessments undertaken as part of EIA Process.

Project Location – Brandvalley WEF



Coastal and Environmental Service



Project Description



Wind Turbine Fact Sheet

- Number of Turbines: 70
- Hub Height (m): 120
- Rotor Diameter(m): 140
- Capacity per Turbine (MW) 1.5-4 MW
- Foundation Diameter (m): 25
- Foundation Depth (m): 4

Area Fact Sheet

- Laydown Area (ha): 24.5
- Total Building Area (m) 200x200
- Construction Camp (ha)
- Road width (m):

Specialist Studies



- The following specialist studies were undertaken as part of each EIA:
 - > Archaeological Impact Assessment
 - > Agricultural Impact Assessment
 - > Aquatic Impact Assessment
 - > Avifaunal Impact Assessment
 - > Bat Impact Assessment
 - ➤ Ecological Impact Assessment
 - > Heritage Impact Assessment
 - > Noise Impact Assessment

- ➤ Socio-Economic Impact Assessment
- > Traffic Impact Assessment
- > Visual Assessment Specialist



Impacts Identified



DESCRIPTION OF IMPACT	Overall Significance With Mitigation
ATTENDATE ATTENDA	
Terrestrial Fauna Impacts	
Direct faunal impacts due to the construction and operation phase noise and physical disturbance	Moderate -
Visual Impacts	
Visual impact of construction and decommissioning activities, access road and on-site substation	Moderate -
Heritage Impacts	
Destruction of precolonial / stone age material, Stone Walling Features and associated Historical Artefact Scatters, Graves (formal and informal burials) or Homesteads / Farmhouse Complexes	Moderate -
Avifaunal Impacts	
Activities and/or presence of intrusive structures cause birds to permanently move away from infrastructure	Moderate -
Bat impacts	
Bat mortalities due to direct blade impact or barotrauma during foraging activities (not migration)	Moderate -

Impacts Identified



DESCRIPTION OF IMPACT	Overall Significance With Mitigation	
77 CONT. 10 A. S. CO. C.		
Paleontology Impacts		
Potential improved palaeontological database	High a	
Socio-Economic Impacts		
Creation of employment and business opportunities during the construction and operation phases	Moderate +	
Technical advice for local farmers and municipalities	Moderate +	
Benefits of a community trust	High +	
Promotion of clean renewable energy	Moderate +	
Agricultural Impacts		
Establishment of new access roads	High +	
Decommissioning and removal of renewable energy infrastructure on agricultural land	Moderate +	

Impacts Identified



CUMULATIVE IMPACTS		
Terrestrial Flora impacts		
Impact on CBAs and Broad-Scale Ecological Processes due habitat loss and the presence and operation of the facility	Moderate -	
Avifaunal Impacts		
The combined impacts from other renewable energy developments within close proximity to the Brandvalley wind farm	Moderate -	
Bat Impacts		
Cumulative bat mortalities due to direct blade impact or barotrauma during foraging (resident and migrating bats affected).	Moderate -	
Visual Impacts		
Cumulative Visual impact	High	
Palaeontological Impacts		
Potential improved palaeontological database	High+	
Socio-economic Impacts		
Cumulative visual impacts associated with the establishment of a number of WEFs on the on the areas rural sense of place and character of the landscape	Moderate -	
The establishment of a number of renewable energy facilities in the KHLM and LLM will create employment, skills development and training opportunities, creation of downstream business opportunities	riigh +	

Alternatives





Fundamental alternatives:

- 1 project location: Brandvalley Wind Farm
- 2 access road alternatives from the R354 to site
- 3 construction camp alternatives
- 4 onsite substation location alternatives

Technology alternatives:

 One technology alternative namely wind energy

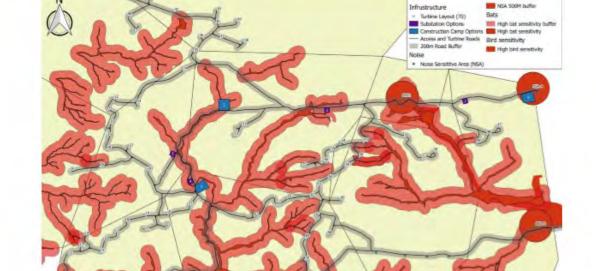
Incremental alternatives:

- · Turbine layout alternative
- · 200m buffer on access roads

Sensitivity Analysis

Birds, Bats and Noise





Findings

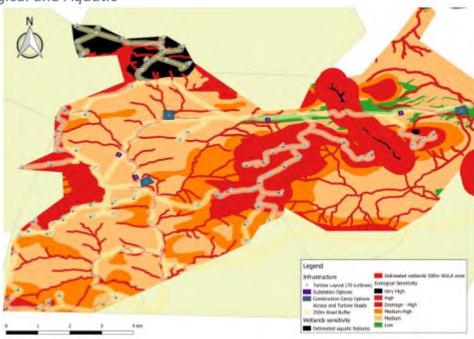
EOH

- ➤ Turbines 52 & 53 require additional noise modelling – depending on the outcome, these turbines may remain, be moved further south or removed if necessary.
- ➤ There are no turbines within the bat highsensitive areas or within the moderate bat sensitive areas. There are however turbines within the moderate sensitive buffer zone and the following turbines must be subject to a curtailment strategy: Turbines 14, 28 – 31, 42 – 45

Sensitivity Analysis



Ecological and Aquatic



Findings

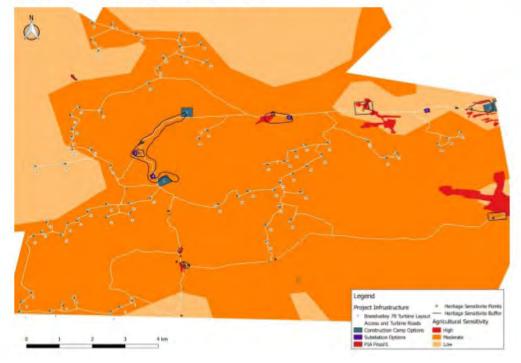


- 12 turbines (turbines 35-46) occur in an area of very high ecological sensitivity:
 - These turbines are located in the northern section of the project area in the Snydersberg area, this is considered the most sensitive area due to the high elevation of this area as well as the current low levels of human impact the likely presence of a number of species of conservation concern in this area.
 - The applicant agreed to remove two of the most productive wind turbines (Turbine 38 and Turbine 42).
 - Turbines within these areas are considered potentially acceptable provided that specific mitigation is implemented to reduce and avoid impact on sensitive species and features.
 - Specific ecological recommendations in this regard require pre- construction and operational monitoring.

Sensitivity Analysis



Heritage, Palaeontology and Agriculture



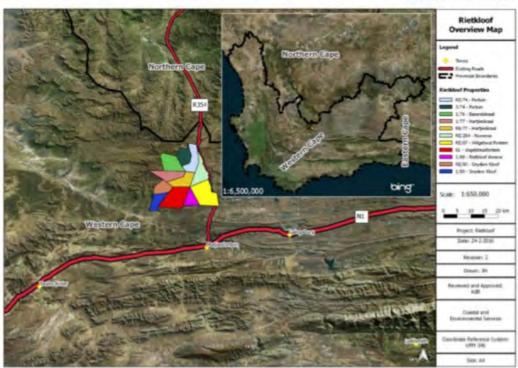
Preferred Alternatives



- > Pre-mitigation layout includes all 70 turbine positions
- Post-mitigation layout excludes turbine 38 and 42
- The preferred alternatives include:
 - Project area location: Brandvalley Wind Farm
 - Technology alternative: a WEF
 - Construction camp 1
 - Substation position 4 (provided it is relocated outside of 32m watercourse buffer)
 - Access road alternative 1 (provided the identified heritage features are avoided and the associated buffer areas are maintained)
 - 200m buffer zone around access road

Project Location – Rietkloof WEF





Project Description



Wind Turbine Fact Sheet

- Number of Turbines: 70
- Hub Height (m): 120
- Rotor Diameter(m): 140
- Capacity per Turbine (MW).
 1.5-4 MW
- Foundation Diameter (m).
- Foundation Depth (m):

Area Fact Sheet

- Laydown Area (ha): 24.5
- Total Building Area (m) 200x200
 - Construction Camp (ha) 10
- Road width (m):

Specialist Studies



- The following specialist studies were undertaken as part of each EIA:
 - > Archaeological Impact Assessment
 - > Agricultural Impact Assessment
 - > Aquatic Impact Assessment
 - > Avifaunal Impact Assessment
 - > Bat Impact Assessment
 - > Ecological Impact Assessment
 - > Heritage Impact Assessment
 - > Noise Impact Assessment

- Socio-Economic Impact Assessment
- > Traffic Impact Assessment
- > Visual Assessment Specialist



Impacts Identified



DESCRIPTION OF IMPACT	Overall Significance With Mitigation
Terrestrial Fauna Impacts	
Direct faunal impacts due to the construction and operation phase noise and physical disturbance	Moderate -
Visual Impacts	
Visual impact of construction and decommissioning activities, access road and on-site substation	Moderate -
Heritage Impacts	
Destruction of precolonial / stone age material, Stone Walling Features and associated Historical Artefact Scatters, Graves (formal and informal burials) or Homesteads / Farmhouse Complexes	
Avifaunal Impacts	
Activities and/or presence of intrusive structures cause birds to permanently move away from infrastructure	Moderate -
Bat impacts	
Bat mortalities due to direct blade impact or barotrauma during foraging activities (not migration)	Moderate -

Impacts Identified



ESCRIPTION OF IMPACT	Overall Significance With Mitigation	
Paleontology Impacts		
Potential improved palaeontological database	Higher	
Socio-Economic Impacts		
Creation of employment and business opportunities during the construction and operation phases	Moderate +	
Technical advice for local farmers and municipalities	Moderate +	
Benefits of a community trust	Sength in	
Promotion of clean renewable energy	Moderate +	
Agricultural Impacts		
Establishment of new access roads	right	
Decommissioning and removal of renewable energy infrastructure on agricultural land	Moderate +	

Impacts Identified



CUMULATIVE IMPACTS		
Terrestrial Flora Impacts		
Impact on CBAs and Broad-Scale Ecological Processes due habitat loss and the presence and operation of the facility	Moderate	
Avifaunal Impacts		
The combined impacts from other renewable energy developments within close proximity to the Brandvalley wind farm	Moderate	
Bat Impacts		
Cumulative bat mortalities due to direct blade impact or barotrauma during foraging (resident and migrating bats affected).	Moderate	
Visual Impacts		
Cumulative Visual impact		
Palaeontological Impacts		
Potential improved palaeontological database		
Socio-economic Impacts		
Cumulative visual impacts associated with the establishment of a number of WEFs on the on the areas rural sense of place and character of the landscape	Moderate	
The establishment of a number of renewable energy facilities in the KHLM and LLM will create employment, skills development and training opportunities, creation of downstream business opportunities		

Alternatives - Rietkloof WEF

EOH

> Fundamental alternatives:

- 1 project location: Rietkloof Wind Farm
- 3 access road alternatives from the R354 to site
- 13 construction camp alternatives
- 7 onsite substation location alternatives

Technology alternatives:

 1 technology alternative: wind energy

> Incremental alternatives:

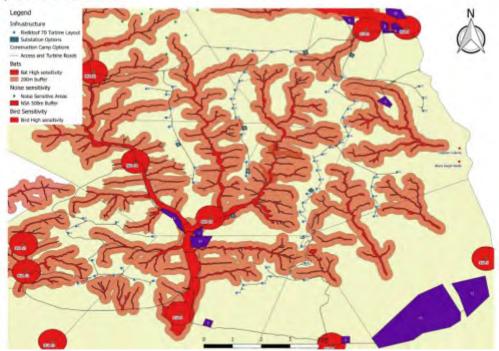
- Turbine layout alternative
- · 200m buffer on access roads



Sensitivity Analysis – Rietkloof WEF

EOH

Birds, Bats and Noise



Findings - Rietkloof WEF

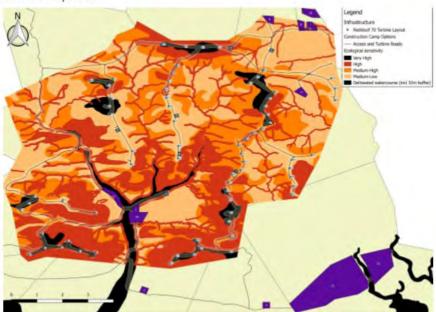


- Out of all the proposed project turbines 29 out of 70 turbines occur in areas of cumulative high sensitivity (all specialists).
- Turbines 8 & 13 require additional noise modelling depending on the outcome, these turbines may remain, be moved further south or removed if necessary.
- As per the preceding map, there are no turbines located within the bat high-sensitive areas, their associated buffer areas or within any moderate sensitive area. There are however turbines within the bat moderate sensitivity buffer zone. The following turbines would therefore be subject to a curtailment strategy to mitigate any potential impacts: 2, 4, 6, 8, 43, 52, 53, 57, 59, 63, 64, 69 and 70 require mitigation measures as per the recommendations outlined in the bat assessment.

Sensitivity Analysis - Rietkloof WEF



Ecological and Aquatic



Findings - Rietkloof WEF

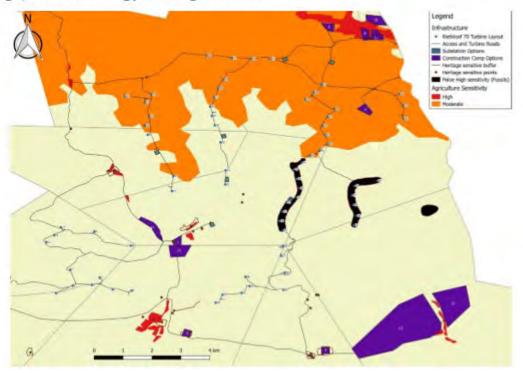


- 29 turbines are located within areas designated as very high ecological sensitivity:
 - Turbine 56 and Turbine 57 have been removed from the proposed layout due to the ecological sensitivities identified in the area.
 - Some of the turbines also occur in areas of high sensitivity. However, these need to be read in conjunction with the specialist recommendations and proposed mitigation measures.
 - Turbines within these areas are considered potentially acceptable provided that specific mitigation is implemented to reduce and avoid impact on sensitive species and features.
- Monitoring of key fauna within the study area, concentrating on the very high sensitivity area is required if development is allowed therein. This would aid in improving our understanding of the impacts of wind turbines on fauna and potentially inform mitigation for future wind development in the country.

Sensitivity Analysis – Rietkloof WEF



Heritage, Palaeontology and Agriculture



Findings-Rietkloof WEF



➤ Turbines 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, and 70 occur within an area of high paleontological sensitivity. It is recommended that these areas subject to a final site walk through by a paleontologist once the footprint for access roads and wind turbine placements are finalised and before construction begins.

Preferred Alternatives - Rietkloof WEF



- > Pre-mitigation layout includes all 70 turbine positions
- Post-mitigation layout excludes turbine 56 and 57
- The preferred alternatives include:
 - Project area location: Rietkloof Wind Farm
 - Technology alternative: a WEF
 - Construction camp 10
 - Substation position 5 (provided it is relocated outside of buffer area for bat sensitivity)
 - Access road alternative 2 (large sections of this corridor are excising gravel roads) provided the identified heritage features are avoided and the associated buffer areas are maintained)
 - 200m buffer zone around access road

Preferred Alternatives - Rietkloof WEF



- Access road running from the South Eastern ridge in a western direction, starting from Turbine 59 to connect to the main valley access road was added
- Access road running along the western ridge of the northern part of the wind farm, starting from Turbine 13 to connect to the main valley access road was added
- Proposed access road between Turbine 55 and Turbine 58 is no longer being considered



EAP Recommendations



- The majority of the impacts associated with the proposed projects can be mitigated by applying specialist study findings and recommendations;
- The nature of the site on which the facility is to be sited is suited to the development proposal, and falls within a strategically identified REDZ;
- The project applicant has taken the issues raised by interested and affected parties into consideration;
- The two IAPs objecting to the project on a visual impact basis have been demonstrated to be minimally affected by the potential visual intrusion imposed on their properties by the proposed facility by virtue of the relatively significant distance (17km) their properties are from the closest WEF turbine.
- The project has extensive potential environmental and socio-economic benefits including the generation of clean energy for the Western Cape, and
- The project will contribute directly and significantly to social upliftment through a community development trust and skills transfer.

Public Participation Process (PPP)





Public Participation Process (PPP)



- 1. DEIR public comment period ends 24 July 2016.
- Copies of the DEIR reports are at the Laingsburg and Touws River Library.
- 3. Electronic copies available on the following websites:

(http://data.g7energies.com/eia/brandvalley and http://data.g7energies.com/eia/rietkloof).

- All comments and responses will be captured in an updated Issues & Response Table.
- 5. The reports will be revised based on comments received.
- 6. Final EIR will be submitted to DEA for decision making.

Question and Discussion





Get Involved: Register as an I&AP





comment sheet
or
Contact EOH CES:

Ms Belinda Huddy

Tel: 021 045 0900 | Fax: 046 622 2364

Email: b.huddy@cesnet.co.za

Postal Address: The Point, Suit 408, 4th Floor, 76 Regent Road,

Sea Point, 8005.

C9.5 PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN AT THE PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE DEIR

