APPENDIX C7(2): COMMENTS RECIEVED

Comments on Basic Assessment Report

Review period 04 March 2021 – 06 May 2021

(C&RR: Point 1)



Savannah Public Process

From: Clarice Arendse Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 8:39 PM To: Savannah Public Process; Nicolene Venter Cc: **Richard Summers** RE: WIND GARDEN WIND FARM and FRONTEER WIND FARM: Notification of Subject: availability of BARs for review and comment Dear Nicolene Thank you for your assistance. We look forward to receiving the documentation in the morning. Kind regards, Clarice Arendse RICHARD SUMMERS INC. SENIOR ASSOCIATE From: Savannah Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com> **Sent:** Wednesday, 03 March 2021 20:37 To: Clarice Arendse Nicolene Venter <nicolene@savannahsa.com> Cc: Richard Summers Subject: RE: WIND GARDEN WIND FARM and FRONTEER WIND FARM: Notification of availability of BARs for review and comment Dear Clarice, The report will be available tomorrow morning – I will give you a call tomorrow as soon as the Reports have been uploaded. Kind regards,



t: +27 (0)11 656 3237 f: +27 (0) 86 684 0547 Nicolene Venter **Public Process**

e: Publicprocess@savannahsa.com c: +27 (0)60 978 8396

SAWEA Award for Leading Environmental Consultant on Wind Projects in 2013 & 2015

From: Clarice Arendse

Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 8:30 PM

Cc: Richard Summers ·

Subject: RE: WIND GARDEN WIND FARM and FRONTEER WIND FARM: Notification of availability of BARs for review and comment

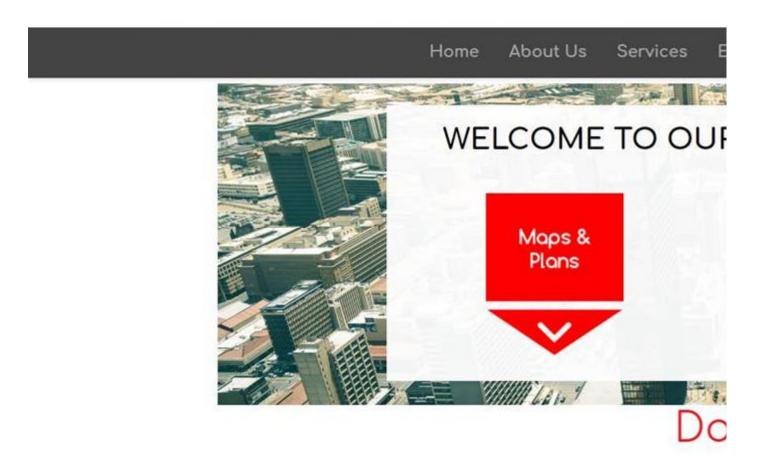
Dear Nicolene

Thank you for your speedy response.

I have tried to access the documentation via the release code below but it redirects me to your virtual consultation page (please see screen grab below). Please could you provide us with the WeTransfer link at your earliest convenience.







Eastern Cape Cluster



Kind regards,

Clarice Arendse

RICHARD SUMMERS INC.

SENIOR ASSOCIATE



From: Savannah Public Process < publicprocess@savannahsa.com >

Sent: Wednesday, 03 March 2021 20:23

To: Clarice Arendse Nicolene Venter < nicolene@savannahsa.com>

Cc: Richard Summers <

Subject: RE: WIND GARDEN WIND FARM and FRONTEER WIND FARM: Notification of availability of BARs for review

and comment

Dear Clarice,

Thank you for bringing the technical error under our attention – I am sending it to our service provider to attend to the matter.

Herewith the release code: 3dLVEW

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you are not successful with the downloading of the Report – we can send it via WeTransfer as well.

Note: The Reports will be available on the website tomorrow morning.

Kind regards,

From: Clarice Arendse

Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 8:16 PM

To: Savannah Public Process publicprocess@savannahsa.com; Nicolene Venter <</pre>nicolene@savannahsa.com

Cc: Richard Summers

Subject: RE: WIND GARDEN WIND FARM and FRONTEER WIND FARM: Notification of availability of BARs for review

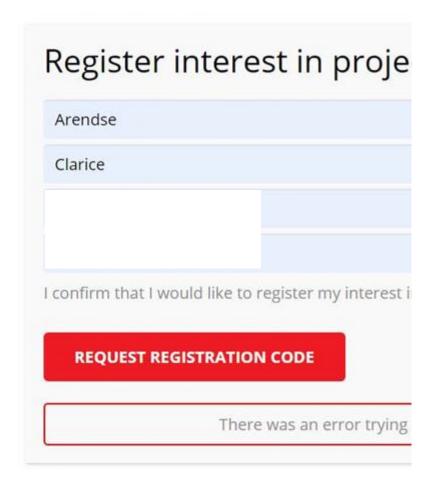
and comment Importance: High

Dear Nicolene

Please be advised that our office is unable to access the documentation as we have not received the registration code to date. We have again tried to register as an I&AP on your website as per the instructions without any success. Please see below screenshot of the error message received.

Kindly will you provide our firm with access to the relevant documentation as this will impact on our client's ability to comment effectively within the legislated timeframes.





We look forward to hearing from you as a matter of urgency.

Kind regards,

Clarice Arendse

RICHARD SUMMERS INC.

SENIOR ASSOCIATE



From: Savannah Public Process < <u>publicprocess@savannahsa.com</u>>

Date: 03 March 2021 at 19:14:24 SAST

To: Nicolene Venter < <u>nicolene@savannahsa.com</u>>

Subject: WIND GARDEN WIND FARM and FRONTEER WIND FARM: Notification of availability of

BARs for review and comment

WIND GARDEN WIND FARM AND FRONTEER WIND FARM, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Dear Stakeholders and Interested & Affected Parties,

The development of the Wind Garden Wind Farm with a contracted capacity of up to 264MW which will include up to 47 wind turbines and the Fronteer Wind Farm with a contracted capacity of up to 213MW which will include up to 38 wind turbines are proposed to be developed near Makhanda within the Cookhouse Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ), Sarah Baartman District Municipality, Eastern Cape Province..

This notification serves to inform you, as a registered Interested and Affected Party (I&AP), that the Basic Assessment (BA) Reports are available for a 30-day review and comment period from **Thursday**, **04 March 2021** until **Wednesday**, **07 April 2021**.

The BA Reports are available for downloading from our public participation platform https://savannahsa.com/public-documents/energy-generation/eastern-cape-cluster-of-renewable-energy-facilities/.

The attached notification letter also provides further details regarding the availability of the BA Reports.

Kind regards,

Nicolene Venter **Public Process**

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SAWEA Award for Leading Environmental Consultant on Wind Projects in 2013 & 2015

Savannah Public Process

From: Ntombodidi Dilima

Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 8:03 AM

To: Savannah Public Process

Subject: Re: WIND GARDEN WIND FARM and FRONTEER WIND FARM: Notification of

availability of BARs for review and comment

Attachments: image002.gif

Good day

Let me take this opportunity to thank you on bringing the development close to our rural area. I thank you for the information.

Regards Dbongs Trading (Pty)Ltd Ntombodidi Solo :Director

On Wed, 03 Mar 2021, 19:09 Savannah Public Process, <publicprocess@savannahsa.com> wrote:

WIND GARDEN WIND FARM AND FRONTEER WIND FARM, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Dear Stakeholders and Interested & Affected Parties,

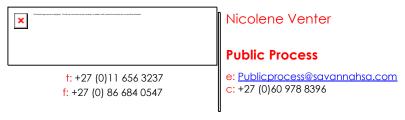
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The attached notification letter also provides further details regarding the availability of the BA Reports.

Kind regards,



SAWEA Award for Leading Environmental Consultant on Wind Projects in 2013 & 2015

Savannah Public Process

From: Nicolene Venter

Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 5:44 PM

To: Richard Summers; Savannah Public Process **Cc:** Angus Sholto-Douglas; Clarice Arendse

Subject: WIND GARDEN WIND FARM and FRONTEER WIND FARM: Response

Dear Richard,

Thank you for your e-mail correspondence below, we herewith acknowledge receipt thereof.

As per my voice note on your mobile phone at 12h53 today, the following:

- As a registered I&AP, you and your client's review, you still have your full 30-day review and comment period.
- As per the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, Regulation 3.(1) the commencement of the 30-day review and comment period starts tomorrow, and exclude the number of public holidays in March 2021 and April 2021.
- The BA Report for Wind Garden Wind Farm was available on our website at 08h00 this morning and Fronteer Wind Farm was available shortly before 11h25. I reviewed the content of the upload of Fronteer wind Farm prior to my call to Clarice, informing her, as promised, of the availability of the BA Report.

I hope you find the above in order and the project team is looking forward to further participation and your written comments on these two BA Reports.

Kind regards,



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Nicolene Venter

Public Participation & Social Consultant

e: <u>nicolene@savannahsa.com</u> c: +27 (0) 83 377 9112

SAWEA Award for Leading Environmental Consultant on Wind Projects in 2013 & 2015

From: Richard Summers

Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 9:47 AM

To: Savannah Public Process <publicprocess@savannahsa.com>; Nicolene Venter <nicolene@savannahsa.com>

Cc: Angus Sholto-Douglas <angus@kwandwe.co.za>; Clarice Arendse <clarice@summersinc.co.za>

Subject: RE: WIND GARDEN WIND FARM and FRONTEER WIND FARM: Notification of availability of BARs for review

and comment Importance: High

Dear EAP

Notwithstanding having registered as an I&AP in the manner requested and having met with you together with my clients in connection with these projects (as further evidence of our direct interest in these projects), we are still unable to access the documents. This despite having raised this with your offices yesterday evening and your undertaking yesterday that the reports would be uploaded this morning.

As you are aware, the clock on the PPP is now ticking. Your failure to make the reports available timeously is impacting negatively on our clients' ability to review the documentation and to participate in this process. This is unacceptable.

Kindly arrange for our offices to be provided with copies of the BARs (and any specialist reports) for these projects as a matter of urgency and in any event **before 12 noon today**.

Kind regards,

Richard Summers

RICHARD SUMMERS INC.

DIRECTOR



From: Savannah Public Process < <u>publicprocess@savannahsa.com</u>>

Sent: Wednesday, 03 March 2021 7:13 PM

To: Nicolene Venter < <u>nicolene@savannahsa.com</u>>

Subject: WIND GARDEN WIND FARM and FRONTEER WIND FARM: Notification of availability of BARs for review and

comment

WIND GARDEN WIND FARM AND FRONTEER WIND FARM, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

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Kind regards,



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Public Process

e: Publicprocess@savannahsa.com c: +27 (0)60 978 8396

SAWEA Award for Leading Environmental Consultant on Wind Projects in 2013 & 2015



Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd **Attention:** Ms. Nicolene Venter

Our ref: RWS/cfa/CSP20-003

Your ref:

Per e-mail: nicolene@savannahsa.com

10 March 2021

Dear Nicolene

RE: WIND GARDEN WIND FARM AND FRONTEER WIND FARM, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE – NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF BARS FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

- 1. We refer to the abovementioned projects and confirm that we act on behalf of Kwandwe Private Game Reserve ('Kwandwe') and Mr N Orphanides.
- 2. You will recall that on 26 May 2020, we requested access to the draft specialist reports at the earliest opportunity as the information therein would be directly relevant to identifying potential impacts on our client's. You noted then that our clients will be provided with an opportunity to review the information "Once the legislated public participation process commences".
- 3. On 3 December 2020, we met with representatives of Savannah and Wind Relic, together with representatives of Kwandwe at your instigation and request. During that meeting you specifically requested comments from Kwandwe in respect of the abovementioned projects despite the fact that our client had not been provided with copies of any project documentation as requested. At that meeting:
- 3.1. Savannah's representatives indicated that the specific purpose of the meeting was to obtain comments on the projects from our client regarding issues that should be addressed in the specialist reports.
- 3.2. Our client immediately indicated that without access to the reports and the relevant technical information, it was not possible for it to provide any meaningful input or comments. The only documents tabled (but not provided to our client) were several photomontages purporting to illustrate the turbines in the landscape.
- 3.3. We again repeated the request for access to the draft reports as having access to the relevant material would have enabled our clients to get a sense of the project layout, the

Dock Road Building Cnr Stanley & Dock Road V&A Waterfront, 8001 Cape Town

Director: Richard W. Summers Reg No: 2017/536164/21



number of turbines proposed as there may be avoidable impacts to our client's properties and its operations, and to make a meaningful contribution to the discussion.

- 3.4. Hylton Newcombe (of Wind Relic) indicated that the specialists reports were not available and were being reviewed and that it was anticipated that the reports would be finalised during January 2021.
- 4. It seems absurd that our client was requested to provide comments when it had not seen any project information, notwithstanding our repeated requests for access to the draft reports prior to the formal submission of the application. As it turns out, the requisite documentation was only made available to our clients on 4 March 2021 as part of the formal 30-day commenting period.
- 5. The purpose of this letter is to record:
- 5.1. Our clients frustration with the lack of early engagement on the substance of potential impacts on our clients when we had specifically requested this and Savannah had specifically sought our client's input without providing any relevant information which would enable our clients to do so.
- 5.2. Restricting our client's timeframes for comment to 30 days in these circumstances has impacted our clients' ability to formally engage with suitable specialists to interrogate the various specialist reports at the earliest possible stage to ensure that our clients provide meaningful inputs into the EIA process. Regulation 3(8) of the EIA Regulations provides for a 30-day period as bare minimum period for which public participation may be conducted. This does not mean that a 30-day period is appropriate.
- 5.3. The information released for comment in connection with the above projects is voluminous. The BAR alone (for one project) runs to over 300 pages. In addition, at least 10 specialist reports have been made available per project. The total volume of information tabled for each project exceeds 2000 pages per project.
- 5.4. It is not reasonable to expect our clients to digest that level of detailed information and to be able to comment within the stipulated timeframe of 30 days. Our clients obviously would wish to consult with its own specialists, some of whom are not really available at such short notice.
- 6. Rest assured that we will seek to provide as much comment on the BARs as is reasonably possible by the deadline of 7 April but failing a reasonable extension of the timeframe, we will continue to table such further comment as and when we are able to, subject to the availability



of the relevant specialists to be appointed by our clients.

- 7. To the extent that any additional comments (submitted after 7 April) are not taken into account by the appointed EAP or DEFF as the competent authority, that is a risk that ultimately will be borne by the project proponents.
- 8. In the circumstances, we hereby request that our clients be afforded <u>at least</u> an additional 21 days to provide comments in respect of the abovementioned projects.
- 9. We shall be most grateful if you will acknowledge receipt hereof.

Yours sincerely RICHARD SUMMERS INC

Per RW Summers