

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

KOMSBERG EAST & WEST WIND ENERGY FACILITIES INFRASTRUCTURE EMPr AMENDMENT TO COMPLY WITH CONDITION 17 & 18 AND PRESENTATION OF THE FINAL FACILITY LAYOUT TO COMPLY WITH CONDITION 15 OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATIONS (DFFE Ref. No.: 14/12/16/13/13/2/857 AND 14/12/16/3/3/2/856)

JULY 2021

The restrictions enforced in terms of Government Gazette 43096 which placed the country in a national state of disaster limiting the movement of people to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus has placed some limitations on the commencement and continuation of the public consultation as part of an EIA process. Considering these limitations, the following consultation process has been designed and will be implemented, on approval by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), to cater for the conducting of the public participation process which includes registered I&APs, the competent authority, directly impacted landowners/occupiers, adjacent landowners/occupiers, relevant Organs of State departments, Municipalities, ward councillors and other key stakeholders.

Projects Details

Proposed Activity: Komsberg Wind Farm (Pty) Ltd would like to amend the EMPr's and Facility Layouts for the authorised Komsberg East and West Wind Energy Facilities (14/12/16/3/3/2/857 and 14/12/16/3/3/2/856). The amendment is required to meet the EA requirements. The project entails the construction of the 2 x 275MW Komsberg East and Komsberg West Wind Energy Facilities and the associated infrastructure near of Sutherland, within the Laingsburg Local Municipality, Northern and Western Cape Provinces.

Location: The authorised Facilities are located-

Komsberg East: Portion 1, 3 and 4 of the Taayboschkraal 12, Portion 2 of Koornplaats 41; Portion 3 of Boschmans Kloof 9, Portion 0 of Anys Riviers 14 near Sutherland, within the Laingsburg Local Municipality, Western Cape Province.

Komsberg West: Portion 1 of De Plaat 205, Portion 2 of Schalkwysraal 204. Portion 0 of Vlakkloof 11; Portion 1 & 2 of Weldemoed 268, Portion 2 of Taayboschkraal 12 near Sutherland, Laingsburg Local Municipality, Western and Northern Cape Province

Public Participation Plan:

The public participation (PP) process will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Regulations 41 (5) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, (GNR 326). The aim of the public participation process is primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the proposed amendment is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs;
- » participation by I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed amendments; and

- » comments received from potential stakeholders and I&APs are recorded and incorporated into the amendment process.

The traditional means and opportunities available for the undertaking of public participation is still covered and implemented as part of this plan considering the current limitations. Alternative means of undertaking consultation has been designed and will be implemented by Savannah Environmental to ensure that I&APs are afforded sufficient opportunity to raise comments on the projects through an interactive web-based platform readily available and accessible to any person illustrating interest in the projects and enables the public participation process to be undertaken in line with Regulations 41 (5) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

The use of online tools enables stakeholders and I&APs to explore the project-specific content in their own time and allow them to participate in a meaningful way in the consultation process. The online platform allows for feedback and comments to be submitted by I&APs, in so doing saving time for the stakeholder and also giving the assurance that their comments have been submitted for inclusion in the project's reporting. The online stakeholder engagement platform considers the limitations applied by the Disaster Management Act Regulations prohibiting the gathering of people, as well as limitations which certain I&APs may have in terms of access to computers and internet as well as access to public spaces not open for operation or which have restricted access.

The benefits of the online stakeholder engagement platform include:

- Ability to create a dedicated project-specific online platform to enable easy access to project-related information.
- Allowing registered stakeholders and I&APs the opportunity to engage on a project without leaving their office or home.
- Enabling the PP team to maintain a complete database of I&APs through maintaining a record of persons accessing the online stakeholder consultation platform.
- Provides a resilient solution to a public consultation process.

Where registered I&APs do not have the applicable facilities (i.e. access to internet, mobile phones, or computers), provision has been made to include these I&APs in the consultation process by consulting with the Ward Councillor, the ward committee members, community representatives and local community forum members.

The schematic illustration below provides an overview of the tools that are available to I&APs and stakeholders to access project information and interact with the public participation team to obtain project information and resolve any queries that may arise, and to meet the requirements for public participation.

i. Register of I&APs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update the registered I7AP database were required• Receive all project related information
ii. Notifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notifications regarding the EMPr amendment process and availability of the amendment of the EMPr for public review to be sent via email, post or SMS notifications
iii. Public Involvement and consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submission of comments or queries via email, post or the online platform to the PP team• Availability of project information via email, post and/or the online platform
iv. Comment on the EMPr and Final Layout	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submission of comments via the online platform, email or post to the PP team• Comments recorded and responded to as part of the process
v. Recording of comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comments and Responses Report, including all comments received to be included in the PP reporting.

The PP plan, as set out in the table below, has been drafted for the above-mentioned projects to ensure compliance with the requirements of the EIA Regulations and that reasonable opportunity is provided to I&APs and that all administrative actions are reasonable. Proof of all notifications will be included in the public participation report which will be submitted along with the Final EMPr's and Final Layouts.

The PP plan is submitted to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), agreement before the PP process is undertaken for the proposed EMPr and Layout amendments.

Public Participation Plan: Discussion of approach and methodology to meet the requirements of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended)

Regulation	Approach & Methodology to meet requirements
<p>Regulation 41(5)(a)(b) - where public participation is conducted in terms of this regulation for an application or proposed application, subregulation (2)(a), (b), (c) and (d) need not be complied with again during the additional public participation process contemplated in regulations 19(1)(b) or 23(1)(b) or the public participation process contemplated in regulation 21(2)(d), on condition that-</p> <p>(a) Such a process has been preceded by a public participation process which included compliance with subregulation (2)(a), (b), (c) and (d); and</p> <p>(b) Written notice is given to registered and affected parties regarding where the-</p> <p>(i) Revised basic assessment report or, EMPr or closure plan, as contemplated in regulation 19(1)(b);</p> <p>(ii) Revised environmental impact assessment report or EMPr as contemplated in regulation 23(1)(b); or</p> <p>(iii) Environmental impact assessment report and EMPr as contemplated in regulation 21(2)(d);</p> <p>May be obtained, the manner in which and the person to whom representations on these reports or plans may be made and the date on which such representations are due.</p>	<p><u>Notification of availability of report and period for review using the following means:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notification letter (to be sent via email, fax or post) to registered I&APs. • SMS and/ or WhatsApp notifications where no other means are available. <p><u>Availability of the report for review, comments and consultation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report available on the Savannah Environmental website for download. • Electronic copies can be made available to parties via a secure Dropbox link (or other means) that will be emailed upon request for the documentation. • CDs to be posted, if requested. • Report will be submitted to the DFFE using the DFFE online portal. • Report will be submitted to Organs of State and commenting authorities via an agreed electronic platform (from the Savannah Environmental's website, CD, via a secure Dropbox link or WeTransfer, etc). <p><u>Submission of comments to PP team:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments can be submitted directly to the PP team using the Savannah Environmental online stakeholder engagement platform. • Written comments can also be submitted via email, post or fax. • Any comments provided telephonically or via instant message will be transcribed and recorded as formal comments.

Regulation	Approach & Methodology to meet requirements
Regulation 4(2) – Notification of decision on application	<p><u>Notification of the approval of the Final EMPr and Final Layout using the following means:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notification letter with details as outlined in the approved Final EMPr and Layout issued will be sent via email and fax. • Notifications that the approved Final EMPr and Layout has been issued and where to download and/or obtain a copy to communities via Ward Councillor and his/her ward committee members and identified and confirmed community representatives. • SMS or WhatsApp notification.

Tebogo Mapinga

From: Sindiswa Dlomo <SDlomo@environment.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 15 July 2021 3:35 PM
To: Tebogo Mapinga
Cc: Nicolene Venter; Matlhodi Mogorosi; Fiona Grimett
Subject: FW: PP Plan approval for the Komsberg East and Komsberg West WEF's final EMPr and Layout Approval- Pre-application request and PP Plan for approval - DFFE Ref. No.: 14/12/16/3/3/2/857&856
Attachments: SE3052 - Komsberg East & West WEF's EMPr PP Plan - Final.pdf; Pre-Application application_meetingrequest- DEA Ref- 14.12.16.3.3.2.857. & 14.12.16.3.3.2.856.pdf; Process for Submitting files to the CD IEA_062020.pdf

Afternoon Tebogo,

The attached Public Participation (PP) Plan received on 12 July 2021, for the proposed construction of the 275MW Komsberg East Wind Energy Facility Near Sutherland within the Laingsburg Local Municipality, Western Cape Province (14/12/16/3/3/2/857) and the proposed construction of the 275MW Komsberg West Wind Energy Facility Near Sutherland within the Laingsburg Local Municipality in the Northern and Western Cape Provinces (14/12/16/3/3/2/856) with Pre-Application Reference: 2021-07-0010, refers.

The Department has reviewed the attached PP Plan, submitted in terms of the Directions Regarding Measures to Address, Prevent and Combat the Spread of COVID-19 Relating to National Environmental Management Permits and Licences. The proposed plan contains suitable public consultation measures and is hereby **approved**.

Further note, that the attached directions apply with regards to the process for submitting draft documents to the Competent Authority for comment. Please ensure that you attach/upload this PP plan approval with the amended draft EMPrs and supporting documents, when submitting to the Department.

Regards,

Ms Sindiswa (Sindi) Dlomo
Designation: Deputy Director: National Infrastructure Projects
Chief Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
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From: Tebogo Mapinga <tebogo@savannahsa.com>
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 9:57 PM
To: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@environment.gov.za>
Cc: Nicolene Venter <nicolene@savannahsa.com>
Subject: RE: Komsberg East and Komsberg West WEF's Final EMPr and Layout Approval- Pre-application request and PP Plan for approval - DFFE Ref. No.: 14/12/16/3/3/2/857&856

Good evening

Please find the attached Komsberg East and Komsberg West WEF's Final EMPr's and Layout Approvals- Pre-application request and PP Plan for approval. Please note that the pre-application request was submitted as a formality however we do require the approval of the PP Plan as soon as possible. Your assistance in this regards will be highly appreciated. Please contact me should you have any queries in this regard.

Kind regard



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

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