

# SECTION F: APPENDICES

Basic Assessment for the Proposed Construction and Operation of Electrical Grid Infrastructure to support the Sutherland, Sutherland 2 and Rietrug Wind Energy Facilities (WEFs), Northern and Western Cape Provinces: DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

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## BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

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### Appendix I.2: Agenda, Minutes and Attendance Register of the Pre-Application Meeting

#### Agenda of the Pre-Application Meeting

Item No	Agenda item
1	Welcome and Introductions
2	Overview of the Mainstream projects in the area and current new project: Background, location and technical description
3	Overview and confirmation to the proposed Basic Assessment Process to be undertaken
4	Specialist studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- list of studies commissioned</li><li>- confirmation to assess cumulative impacts based on a 30km buffer and based on projects with a positive EA issued at the start of this BA</li></ul>
6	Questions and Discussion
7	Way forward and Closure

#### Minutes of the Pre-Application Meeting

##### MEETING MINUTES - PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 132kV AND 400kV TRANSMISSION LINES AND MAJOR TRANSMISSION SUBSTATION, SUTHERLAND, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Date: 22 May 2019 at 11 am

Venue: Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), Pretoria

Attendees:

Eugene Marais (EM): Mainstream Renewable Power (Pty) Ltd

Gesie Theron: Mainstream Renewable Power (Pty) Ltd

Surina Laurie (SL): CSIR

Jay-Jay Mpelane: DEA

Lerato Mokoena: DEA

##### Background:

The project applicant is proposing the development of a 132 kV transmission line, a major transmission substation and 400 kV line within the Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ): 2 Komsberg (see map included in Appendix 2). The 132 kV line routing proposed as part of this application has been previously assessed as part of the proposed construction of the electrical grid infrastructure for the Sutherland Wind Energy Facility (14/12/16/3/3/1/1816), Rietrug Wind Energy Facility (14/12/16/3/3/1/1815) and Sutherland 2 Wind Energy Facility (14/12/16/3/3/1/1814/AM1). These projects received Environmental Authorisation in February 2018. Within the authorisations, the alternative line routing "1" was submitted as the preferred routing and subsequently approved.

The 132 kV line routing proposed as part of this application was considered as alternative line routing "2". The line routing did not include any environmental fatal flaws and is a technical feasible option to enable the evacuation of the electricity generated by the abovementioned Wind Energy Facilities into the National Grid.

The applicant would like to present to proposed way in which the Basic Assessment for this application will be structured in order to seek agreement from the DEA on this approach.

##### Meeting minutes:

1. SL presented on the background of the Mainstream projects located in Sutherland, the previous Basic Assessment undertaken in 2016 and the current proposal.
2. JM indicated that the current proposed routing was included in the previous BA as an alternative. JM questioned how this alternative can now be the preferred alternative.
3. EM responded and stated that this is purely based on technical considerations since neither of the two routing options have environmental fatal flaws. The REIPPPP requires that a project has a feasible grid connection. The Suurplaat WEF owned by a third party (Engie), and will construct the substation that will enable the connection of the Mainstream projects to the third party substation. However, both Engie and Mainstream's projects will submit a bid in the next REIPPPP. Should the Suurplaat project not win, and Mainstream's project(s) do, then Mainstream will not have a feasible grid connection since the substation

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will not be constructed. Mainstream therefore needs to submit a feasible grid option as part of their bid. The current proposal is feasible since (1) Mainstream has landowner consent to construct the proposed Major Transmission Substation on Hamelkraal, (2) the proposed MTS is 60 km away from the Komsberg Substation and (3) there is currently no feasible connection to grid, should the projects be bid tomorrow.

4. JM indicated that a new BA may be undertaken for the proposed project and its not a problem that this line was presented as an alternative as part of the 2016 BA.
5. EM wanted to discuss the option of developing a Solar PV facility that would be partially located within a REDZ.
6. JM indicated that the proposed development of the Solar Facility and applicability of the REDZ would need to be discussed as part of a separate pre-application meeting.
7. SL presented on the specialist studies that will be undertaken to inform the BA process. These include terrestrial, birds, heritage, soils and agriculture and freshwater impact assessment. SL indicated that the previous BA included a visual assessment that did consider the impacts of the current line routing, the findings of this study will be included in the BA but a new study will not be undertaken for this project.\*
8. JM requested that the meeting minutes be submitted to the DEA for sign-off.
9. SL agreed that it will be submitted and thanked the DEA for their time.

**\*Post-Meeting Note from the CSIR:** Note that a Visual Impact Assessment has been undertaken for the proposed project, and is included in Appendix D.3 of the BA Report.

### Attendance Register of the Pre-Application Meeting



#### Attendance Register

Reason for meeting: DEA Pre-Application Meeting Mainstream Sutherland Projects

Date: 22 MAY 2010 Venue: DEA ENVIRONMENT HOUSE Time: 12H00

NAME	Company	Tel or Mobile nr	E-mail Address	Signature
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