

GRID CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE ZONNEQUA WIND FARM, KLEINSEE, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

DEA Ref.No.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2033

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT

CONTENTS

WRITTEN COMMENTS: BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT	1
Organs of State.....	1
Interested and Affected Parties	18
OTHER	19

The Grid Connection Infrastructure for the Zonnequa Wind Farm Basic Assessment process was announced on 27 March 2019. The Basic Assessment Report was made available for a 30-day review and comment period from **Wednesday, 29 May 2019** to **Monday, 01 July 2019** and comments received during the 30-day review and comment period are included in the Comments and Responses Report.

NOTE:

In terms Regulation 44(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, please note that the comments raised and responses provided at the various Focus Group Meetings held prior to the 30-day review period of the Basic Assessment Report have not been captured in this Comments and Responses Report. The minutes of the meetings are attached as **Appendix C7**.

List of Abbreviations / Acronyms

APM	Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit	BA Report / BAR	Basic Assessment Report
BGG	Burial Grounds and Graves Unit	CMA	Catchment Management Agency
C&RR	Comments and Responses Report	DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs	DR&PW	Department of Roads and Public Works
DWS	Department of Water and Sanitation	EMPr	Environmental Management Programme
I&AP	Interested and Affected Party	NEMA	National Environmental Management Act
NC	Northern Cape	NHRA	National Heritage Resources Act
SAHRA	South African Heritage Resources Agency	SAHRIS	South African Heritage Resources Information System
SARTSM	South African Road Traffic Safety Manual		

WRITTEN COMMENTS: BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

Organs of State

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
1.	<p>This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the final BAR:</p> <p>(a) Listed Activities</p> <p>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.</p> <p>ii. If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final BAR, 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://Awww.environment.gov.za/documents/forms.</p> <p>(b) Alternatives</p> <p>i. Please provide a description of any identified alternatives for the proposed activity that are feasible and reasonable, including the advantages and disadvantages that the proposed activity or alternatives will have on the environment and on the community that may be affected by the activity as per Appendix (2) (e) and 3 (1) (h) (i) of GN R.982 of 2014, as amended. Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 1.</p>	<p>Herman Alberts Case Officer DEA</p> <p>Letter: 01-07-2019</p>	<p>The information requirements for the final BA Report are noted and responded to below.</p> <p>All listed activities applied for within the Application for Environmental Authorisation and Chapter 6 of the final BA Report are relevant to the project and can be linked to the activity and infrastructure associated with the project.</p> <p>All activities applied for in the Application for Environmental Authorisation and included in the final BA Report are the same. Therefore, the application submitted to the DEA on 29 May 2019 is still correct and must be considered for the project.</p> <p>Chapter 3 of the final BA Report provides all details of the alternatives considered as part of the project. Alternatives considered as part of the project include location alternatives, grid connection alternatives and the 'Do-nothing' alternative. Where no reasonable alternatives were available for investigation motivation was provided.</p> <p>The advantages and disadvantages associated with the alternatives are included in Chapter 8 of the final BA Report.</p>

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	<p>(c) Project details</p> <p>i. The final BAR must provide the technical details for the proposed powerline in a table format as well as their description and/or dimensions, as per below.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="203 411 920 788"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="203 411 687 472">Component</th> <th data-bbox="687 411 920 472">Description / dimensions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="203 472 687 512">Length of powerline</td> <td data-bbox="687 472 920 512"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="203 512 687 552">Area of servitude</td> <td data-bbox="687 512 920 552"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="203 552 687 592">Clearance height of powerline</td> <td data-bbox="687 552 920 592"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="203 592 687 668">Area occupied by inverter / transformer stations / substations</td> <td data-bbox="687 592 920 668"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="203 668 687 708">Capacity of powerline</td> <td data-bbox="687 668 920 708"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="203 708 687 788">Area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas</td> <td data-bbox="687 708 920 788"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>ii. The final BAR 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.</p> <p>(d) Specialist Declaration of Interest</p> <p>i. Specialist Declaration of Interest forms must be attached to the final BAR. You are therefore requested to submit original signed Specialist Declaration of Interest forms for each specialist study conducted. The forms are available on Department's website (please use the Department's template).</p>	Component	Description / dimensions	Length of powerline		Area of servitude		Clearance height of powerline		Area occupied by inverter / transformer stations / substations		Capacity of powerline		Area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas			<p>The technical details required by the DEA have been included in Chapter 1, Table 1.2 of the final BA Report.</p> <p>A grid connection corridor was assessed for the development of the grid connection infrastructure. The corridor is linear and therefore the coordinates provided in the final BA Report provide the start, middle and end coordinate points of the 300m wide 22km long corridor. Refer to Appendix K of the final BA Report.</p> <p>Original signed Specialist Declaration of Interest Forms are included under Appendix L of the final BA Report. The DEA's template has been used and completed by the independent specialists.</p>
Component	Description / dimensions																
Length of powerline																	
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	<p>(e) Undertaking of an Oath</p> <p>i. The Department has noted that the submitted application form has an undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP. However, the aforementioned oath was not included in the draft BAR, but rather an appendix of the application form attached to the BAR. Please note that the final BAR must also have an undertaking under oath/ affirmation by the EAP.</p>		<p>The undertaking of oath by the EAP was included as Appendix M of the BA Report submitted to DEA for review and comment. The document included in this appendix is as per the DEA form for the Details of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner, Declaration of Interest and Undertaking Under Oath. The DEA template submitted as part of the BA Report is the most recent version found on the DEA website (https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms).</p> <p>The document is also included as Appendix M of the final BA Report. It is considered to be correct as per the template available on the DEA website (as at 23 July 2019). The template is dated 01 September 2018.</p>
	<p>ii. Based on the above, you are therefore required to include an undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP (administered by a Commissioner of Oaths) as per Appendix 1(3)(r) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that the BAR must include:</p> <p>"an undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP in relation to:</p> <p>(i) the correctness of the information provided in the reports;</p> <p>(ii) the inclusion of comments and inputs from stakeholders and I&APs;</p> <p>(iii) the inclusion of inputs and recommendations from the specialist reports where relevant; and</p> <p>(iv) any information provided by the EAP to interested and affected parties and any responses by the EAP to comments or inputs made by interested and affected parties".</p>		<p>The undertaking of oath by the EAP was included as Appendix M of the BA Report submitted to DEA for review and comment. The document included in this appendix is as per the DEA form for the Details of the Environmental Assessment Practitioner, Declaration of Interest and Undertaking Under Oath. The DEA template submitted as part of the BA Report is the most recent version found on the DEA website (https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms).</p> <p>The document is also included as Appendix M of the final BA Report. It is considered to be correct as per the template available on the DEA website (as at 23 July 2019). The template is dated 01 September 2018.</p>

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	<p>(f) Details and Expertise of the EAP You are required to include the details and expertise of the EAP in the BAR, including a curriculum vitae, in order to comply with the requirements of Appendix 1(3)(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p>		<p>The details and expertise of the EAP is included under section 1.5 of the final BA Report. Appendix A of the final BA Report includes the CVs of the EIA project consulting team and the independent specialists.</p>
	<p>(g) Public Participation Process i. The following information must be submitted with the final BAR:</p>		<p>The information required to be submitted with the final BA Report in terms of the Public Participation Process is noted and responded to below.</p>
	<p>» A list of registered interested and affected parties as per Regulation 42 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended;</p>		<p>It can be confirmed that the list of registered I&APs as per Regulation 42 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, was included in the BA Report submitted to the DEA for review and comment.</p> <p>The updated list of registered I&APs is attached as Appendix C1 of the final BA Report.</p>
	<p>» Copies of all comments received during the draft BAR comment period; and</p>		<p>All written comments received on the BA Report made available for a 30-day review period is included in Appendix C6 of the final BA Report.</p>
	<p>» A comment and response report which contains all comments received and responses provided to all comments and issues raised during the public participation process for the draft BAR. Please note that comments received from this Department must also form part of the comment and response report.</p>		<p>The comments and responses report, which contains all comments received and detailed responses provided, is attached as Appendix C8 of the final BA Report.</p>
	<p>ii. Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft BAR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final BAR.</p>		<p>All written comments received during the BA Report review and comment period are included in Appendix C6 of the final BA Report. All comments received have been adequately addressed in the comments and responses report which is attached as Appendix C8 of the final BA Report. Where required, the comments were addressed as part of the final BA Report.</p>

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	<p>iii. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final BAR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof 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 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p>		<p>No comments have been received from the Department's Biodiversity Section to date.</p> <p>The proof of correspondence to and from I&APs are included in Appendix C5 and correspondence to and from Organs of State are included in Appendix C4 of the final BA Report.</p> <p>The Public Participation Process was conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 and 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended and is described in Chapter 6 of the final BA Report and proof of the consultation process is included in Appendices C1 to C8 of the final BA Report.</p>

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	<p>(h) Environmental Management Programme</p> <p>i. It is drawn to your attention that in terms of Government Gazette No. 435 of 22 March 2019, applications for environmental authorisation for <u>substation and overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure</u>, when such facilities trigger activity 11 or 47 of the Environmental impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended, and any other listed and specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, the generic Environmental Management Programme, contemplated in Regulations 19(4) and Appendix 4(2) of EIA Regulations 2014, as amended must be used. As such, the following generic EMPr as contemplated in Regulation 19(4) and appendix 4(2) must be submitted as part of the final report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Generic EMPr for development and expansion for overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure; and » Generic EMPr for development and expansion of substation infrastructure for transmission and distribution of electricity. 		<p>The need to submit the Generic EMPrs for the development of overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure and for substation infrastructure for transmission and distribution of electricity is noted. The Generic EMPrs have been included as Appendix J(1) and Appendix J(2) as part of the final BA Report, as per the requirements stipulated in the comment.</p> <p>The Generic EMPrs have been included as per DEA's comments. The Generic EMPr templates were sourced from the DEA website and have previously been subject to a public participation process undertaken by the DEA.</p> <p>It must be noted that the applicant will comply with the requirements included in the Generic EMPr templates, which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Sourcing inputs from the contractor, once appointed, for Part B, Section 1 of the Generic EMPrs. This is as per the requirement of the EMPrs which states that "The template in this section is to be completed by the contractor, with each completed page signed and dated by the holder of the EA prior to commencement of the activity." » The Generic EMPrs will be made available to the public to provide access to the documents as per Regulation 26(h) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). This is as per Section 6 of the Generic EMPr templates which states that "Once completed and signed, to allow the public access to the generic EMPr, the holder of the EA must make the EMPr available to the public in accordance with the requirements of regulation 26(h) of the EIA Regulations."
	<p>ii. In addition to the above, if any specific environmental sensitivities/attributes are present on the site which require more specific impact management outcomes</p>		<p>Specific impact management outcomes and impact management actions identified for the project, based on site specific sensitivities, are included in Part C of the Generic EMPrs.</p>

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	<p>and impact management actions, not included in the pre-approved generic EMPr template, to manage impacts, those impact management outcomes and actions must be included in section C of the generic EMPr.</p>		<p>This information was sourced from the site-specific specialist studies that were made available during the 30-day review period of the BA Report. The Generic EMPr tables, as required by the template, have been used.</p>
	<p>General Please also ensure that the final BAR includes the period for which the Environmental Authorisation is required and the date on which the activity will be concluded as per Appendix 1 (3)(1)(q) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p>		<p>The final BA Report pertains to the Grid Connection Infrastructure for the Zonnequa Wind Farm, which is intended to be bid into the Department of Energy's (DoE) Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement (REIPPP) Programme. The construction of the Zonnequa Wind Farm and Grid Connection Infrastructure is thus contingent on the Project being awarded Preferred Bidder status, timelines of which are uncertain. Therefore, the Grid Connection Infrastructure Environmental Authorisation, if awarded, must follow the same date and period prescribed in the Zonnequa Wind Farm Environmental Authorisation (DEA Ref.: 14/12/16/3/3/1/1970), namely i) activity commencing within a period of five (05) years from the date of issue of the Environmental Authorisation, and ii) construction to be completed within five (05) years of the commencement of the activity on site.</p> <p>This information has also been included under section 10.6 of the final BA Report, as required in the comment.</p>
	<p>You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 19(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that: <i>"Where basic assessment must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority -</i> <i>(a) a basic assessment report, inclusive of specialist reports, an EMPr, and where applicable a closure plan, which have been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days</i></p>		<p>The project complies with Regulation 19(1)(a) as the final BA Report has been submitted to the competent authority within 90 days of lodging the application for Environmental Authorisation. The BA Report, which culminated in the final BA Report, was subject to a public participation process of 30 days and includes and responds to comments received, including comments of the competent authority.</p>

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	<p><i>and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority."</i></p>		
	<p>Should there be significant changes or new information that has been added to the BAR or EMPr which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process, you are required to comply with Regulation 19(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: <i>"the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority — (b) a notification in writing that the basic assessment report, inclusive of specialist reports an EMPr, and where applicable, a closure plan, will be submitted within 140 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the basic assessment report or EMPr or, where applicable, a closure plan, which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process contemplated in subregulation (1)(a) and that the revised reports or, EMPr or, where applicable, a closure plan will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days"</i>.</p>		<p>No significant changes or new information has been included in the final BA Report submitted to the DEA for decision-making.</p>
	<p>Should you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 19 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your application will lapse.</p>		<p>It is noted that should the prescribed timeframes in terms of Regulation 19 not be met, the Application for Environmental Authorisation will lapse.</p>
	<p>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.</p>		<p>It is noted that no activity may commence prior to obtaining an Environmental Authorisation from the DEA.</p>

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2.	<p>The following comments are made as a requirement in terms of section 3(4) of the NEMA Regulations and section 38(8) of the NHRA in the format provided in section 38(4) of the NHRA and must be included in the EMPr:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » 38(4)a – The SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed development; » 38(4)b – Specific conditions for the development include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The recommendations of the heritage specialists and the recommendations contained within the EMPr with regards to heritage resources are supported; ii. A report detailing the results of the walk-down of the final layout of the route must be submitted to SAHRA for comment prior to the construction phase; iii. A Fossil Finds Procedure must be developed for the construction phase of the development as per the recommendations of the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map; » 38(4)c(i) – 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 as per section 35(3) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule; 	<p>Natasha Higgitt Heritage Officer SAHRA</p> <p>Letter: 28-06-2019</p>	<p>The requirements provided by SAHRA for inclusion as part of the EMPr is noted. These requirements have been included in the Generic EMPrs (Appendix J(1) and Appendix J(2)) of the final BA Report) under Part C: Specific Environmental Attributes.</p> <p>It is noted that the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites (APM) Unit has no objections to the proposed development.</p> <p>It is noted that the recommendations of the heritage specialists are supported.</p> <p>The requirement for the submission of the walk-through results to SAHRA is included in the Generic EMPrs (Appendix J(1) and Appendix J(2)) of the final BA Report) under Part C: Specific Environmental Attributes.</p> <p>The requirement for the development of a Fossil Finds procedure in line with the recommendations of the SAHRIS Palaeo Sensitivity map is included in the Generic EMPrs (Appendix J(1) and Appendix J(2)) of the final BA Report) under Part C: Specific Environmental Attributes.</p> <p>The process to be followed if any evidence of archaeological sites or remains, fossils or other categories of heritage resources are found has been included in the Generic EMPrs (Appendix J(1) and Appendix J(2)) of the final BA Report) under Part C: Specific Environmental Attributes. The relevant contact details have also been included under Part C.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » 38(4)c(ii) – If unmarked human burials are uncovered, the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit (Thingahangwi Tshivhase/Mimi Seetelo 012 320 8490), must be alerted immediately as per section 36(6) of the NHRA. Non-compliance with this section of the NHRA is an offense in terms of section 51(1)e of the NHRA and item 5 of the Schedule; 		<p>The process to be followed if unmarked human burials are uncovered has been included in the Generic EMPs (Appendix J(1) and Appendix J(2)) of the final BA Report) under Part C: Specific Environmental Attributes. The relevant contact details have also been included under Part C.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » 38(4)d – See section 51(1) of the NHRA; 		<p>Section 51(1) of the NHRA is noted; this section of the Act refers to Offences and Penalties.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » 38(4)e – The following conditions apply with regards to the appointment of specialists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. If heritage resources are uncovered during the course of the development, a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the finds, must be contracted as soon as possible to inspect the heritage resource. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of archaeological or palaeontological significance, a Phase 2 rescue operation may be required subject to permits issued by SAHRA; 		<p>The conditions for the appointment of specialists should heritage resources be uncovered are included in the Generic EMPs (Appendix J(1) and Appendix J(2)) of the final BA Report) under Part C: Specific Environmental Attributes.</p>
	<p>As the BAR has been finalised prior to SAHRA providing this comment, this comment must be forwarded directly to the competent authority for consideration during the decision-making process. Proof of the delivery and receipt thereof of this comment must be supplied to SAHRA via the SAHRIS application;</p>		<p>It is confirmed that SAHRA submitted their comments (dated 28 June 2019) prior to the 30-day review period end date (01 July 2019). The comments received from SAHRA have been included and responded to in this C&R Report and have also been included in Appendix C6 of the final BA Report submitted to the competent authority for decision-making. The submission of the final BA Report to DEA therefore serves as proof of delivery of SAHRA's comments to the competent authority.</p> <p>A response to this matter has been captured on the project's ID CASE (Case no: 13833) informing SAHRA that the BA Report uploaded onto SAHRIS was indeed the BA Report and that the</p>

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	<p>The decision regarding the EA Application must be communicated to SAHRA and uploaded to the SAHRIS Case application.</p>		<p>comments submitted has been included and considered as part of the final BA Report.</p> <p>It can be confirmed that once the decision on the EA application has been issued by the DEA and received by the Applicant, that the EA will be uploaded onto SAHRIS for Case ID 13833.</p>
3.	<p>The Provincial Roads that will be affected by your proposal are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MR745, a class 3 Rural Road with a minimum road reserve width of 30m, and; • DR2964, a class 4 Rural Road with a minimum road reserve width of 25m <p>The Department of Roads and Public Works (DRPW) hereby grants the applicant approval to execute the proposed works.</p> <p>The following standard conditions must be complied with at all times in case of any work undertaken within the statutory road reserve or within a distance of 95 meters from the centerline of any building restriction road (advertising on Roads and Ribbon Development Act, no.21 of 1940) and within the statutory road reserve or within 5 meters from the statutory boundary of any public road (Roads Ordinance, 19 of 1976).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The applicant must submit a detailed layout design for approval prior to any works. The design must include but not limited to; the offset distance with respect to the centerline of the road(s), height clearance, etc. 2. The applicant must inform the District Roads Engineer at least 14 days before the works and immediately on completion of the works thereof quoting the Reference number and date of the letter of approval. 3. The applicant must investigate all the existing services (sewer lines, pipelines, underground cables and overhead cables) passing through or alongside that specific area. 	<p>V Ngcobo and C Ndubula DR&PW</p> <p>Letter: 01-07-2019</p>	<p>The approval received by the Department of Roads and Public Works for the project is noted.</p> <p>The conditions to be met for the undertaking of work within the statutory road reserve or within a distance of 95 meters from the centerline of any building restriction road and within the statutory road reserve or within 5 meters from the statutory boundary of any public road are noted by the developer. These requirements will be met should these conditions be triggered by the development.</p> <p>The developer takes note of this requirement and a detailed layout design for approval will be submitted to the Department prior to the construction phase of the project.</p> <p>It is noted by the developer that the District Roads Engineer must be notified at least 14 days before the works and immediately on completion of the works.</p> <p>It is noted by the developer that all existing services passing through must be investigated.</p>

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	4. The work must be carried out to the satisfaction of the District Roads Engineer and in close collaboration with the Traffic Section (as per SARTSM (South African Road Traffic Safety Manual) concerned.		It is noted by the developer that work must be undertaken through consultation with the District Roads Engineer and the Traffic Section.
	5. Poles or towers carrying power lines in excess of 22kV must be erected outside the statutory road width and not closer than 50 meters to the centerline of the road(s) concerned.		The developer takes note of this requirement. No response required.
	6. In cases where an overhead power line crosses a public road: a) The poles and/or towers must comply with the distances and road clearance as per ESKOM standards and; b) Provision must be made for a vertical clearance as prescribed by the standards set out in the latest ESKOM distribution guide, but in any case not less than 7.5 meters measured from the highest point of the road to the lowest point in the cable crossing the road reserve.		The double-circuit power line will traverse two public roads. The Eskom standards, as prescribed, will be considered for the design of the power line.
	7. All excavations within the statutory road width must be reinstated to the satisfaction of the District Roads Engineer concerned.		It is noted that where excavations are required within a statutory road width, these must be undertaken in consultation with the relevant District Roads Engineer.
	8. If any fence along the road boundaries is removed by the applicant or is damaged through his activities, it must be restored to the original standard.		The developer takes note that where fences along the road boundaries are damaged through the associated project activities, it will need to be restored to the original standard.
	9. By accepting this approval, the applicant undertakes; a) To maintain at his own cost at all times all proposed works (including all components) and to take all necessary precautions to ensure the safety of road users and that he will fully compensate the controlling authority/road authority for any expenditure incurred by such controlling authority/road authority in connection with repairs to the road damaged as a result of the installation or maintenance of or repairs to,		The conditions associated with the approval are noted by the applicant.

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	<p>or any shortcoming or defect, caused in any way whatsoever, in the relevant of powerline which you've installed in terms to this approval or any section of any such service.</p> <p>b) To remove or shift or relocate or alter at his own cost and without compensation, any installed service, etc, laid at a distance of more than five (5) meters outside the statutory road width of a public road but within a distance of 95 meters from the centerline of a building restriction road, if such removal or shifting or relocation of alteration is deemed necessary but the controlling authority/road authority as a result of the widening, construction or maintenance of such road; provided that such widening, construction or maintenance shall not involve a deviation of the road;</p> <p>c) To indemnify the controlling authority/road authority against all claims or whatever nature, including legal costs, by any person, including the applicant, originating form or as a result of the installation of the service etc., or as a result of the failure of the applicant to maintain or safeguard properly the said proposed works, etc.;</p>		
	<p>10. No work may be undertaken within the statutory width of a building restriction road/public road before sunrise or after sunset, except in a case of emergency, when it must be carried out in collaboration with the Traffic Section (as per SARTSM) concerned. This is to ensure the safety of road users. Adequate warning signs must be erected.</p>		<p>The limits in terms of undertaking work within the statutory width of a building restriction road/public road are noted by the developer.</p>
	<p>11. This approval does not exempt the applicant from complying with any other law that way be applicable to the proposed work and related activities</p>		<p>Comment noted. No response required.</p>

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	12. The work may only be carried out provided the foregoing conditions, where applicable, are accepted in full and provided all the prescriptions, requirements and obligations which the controlling authority/road authority might impose in connection with the work under or along the road(s), are accepted and complied with.		The developer takes note of the conditions provided by the Department.
	13. After construction, the applicant must submit one set of AS BUILT drawings electronically to the DRPW.		It is noted that one set of AS BUILT drawings must be submitted electronically to the Department.
4.	<p>Reference is hereby made to your Basic Assessment Report for the construction and operation of a grid connection solution for the proposed Zonnequa Wind Farm. The proposed activity will take place within the Lower Orange Water Management Area. The reports compiled by Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd on behalf of Genesis Zonnequa Wind (Pty) Ltd were presented to the Department of Water and Sanitation dated 03 July 2019.</p> <p>COMMENTS As mentioned in the report, the Department takes note that the proposed activity at the above mentioned location will include development of a 140MW Zonnequa Wind Farm and associated infrastructure on a site located in Kleinsee within Nama Khoi Local Municipality. The Department has evaluated the said Draft Basic Assessment Report and has no objection to the approval of the Basic Assessment Report. However, the following should be addressed and presented to Department by the applicant before approval of the Basic Assessment Report:</p> <p>a) Please note that the Department rates all perennial and non-perennial rivers together with all dry river beds and natural drainage and associated riparian areas extremely sensitive to development. An option of developing (construction of Zonnequa Wind Farm)</p>	<p>Vhonani Ramugondo Environmental Officer DWS: Lower Orange proto CMA: NC Provincial Operations</p> <p>Letter: 11-07-2019</p>	<p>Comment noted. No response required</p> <p>The approval of the BA Report by the DWS is noted. The conditions provided for by the DWS are noted for the development of the project and the applicant acknowledges the requirements. Responses to the specific requirements are included below.</p> <p>The Ecological Impact Assessment Report (Appendix D of the final BA Report) identified the Buffels River, located in the northern portion of the grid connection corridor as the most sensitive ecological feature present. The Buffels River is considered to be of a very high ecological sensitivity (i.e. no-go area), however the</p>

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p>furthest away from the all water course would be the preferred option;</p>		<p>specialist indicated that with the spanning of the double-circuit power line over the River (i.e. no power line towers placed within the River) the feature may be traversed.</p>
	<p>b) No development or construction should be done or may occur within 100 metres; 1:100 year flood line of a river/drainage lines (whichever is furthest) and 500 m of a pan/wetland without authorisation from this Department. The water courses should be delineated in order to provide an appropriate buffer to maintain such water courses;</p>		<p>The Buffels River is located in the northern portion of the grid connection corridor. No other water resources have been identified within the corridor assessed for the development of the grid connection infrastructure (Ecological Impact Assessment included in Appendix D of the final EIA Report). A water use licensing process will be undertaken and an application for the water use license will be submitted and obtained from the Department of Water and Sanitation prior to the commencement of the development.</p>
	<p>c) Vehicles and other machinery must be serviced well above the 1:100 year flood line or within a horizontal distance of 100 meters from any watercourse or 500 m of a wetland/pan. Oils and other potential pollutants must be disposed at an appropriate licensed site, with the necessary agreement from the owner of such a site;</p>		<p>The requirements for the servicing of vehicles and machinery and the disposal of oils and pollutants in relation to a watercourse are noted. This requirement is covered in the Generic EMPs (Appendix J(1) and Appendix J(2)) of the final BA Report.</p>
	<p>d) Storm water must be diverted from the construction works and roads must be managed in such a manner as to disperse runoff and to prevent the concentration of storm water. Storm water control works must be constructed, operated and maintained in a sustainable manner throughout the project;</p>		<p>The requirement for the management of stormwater identified by the DWS is noted. This requirement is covered in the Generic EMPs (Appendix J(1) and Appendix J(2)) of the final BA Report.</p>
	<p>e) Increased runoff due to vegetation clearance and/or soil compaction must be managed, and storm water leaving the construction site must in no way be contaminated by any substance, whether such substance is a solid, liquid, vapour or gas or a combination thereof which is produced, used, stored, dumped or spilled on the premises;</p>		<p>The requirement for the increase of runoff due to vegetation clearance is noted. This requirement is covered in the Generic EMPs (Appendix J(1) and Appendix J(2)) of the final BA Report.</p>

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p>f) A detailed layout plan needs to be submitted to the Department showing all the facilities in the proposed development including distance from the any watercourses. Details of the final design must also be included as soon as a decision has been made, as the details of this factor may influence the environmental impact both during the construction and operational phases of the project;</p>		<p>The developer acknowledges the need for the submission of the final detailed layout plan to the Department of Water and Sanitation. It is noted that the distances from watercourses must be indicated.</p> <p>The required information and details will be submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation once confirmed.</p>
	<p>g) Material with pollution generating potential must be limited in construction activities. Any hazardous substances must be handled according to the relevant legislation relating to transport, storage and use of the substance.</p>		<p>The requirements for the handling of hazardous substances are noted. These requirements are covered in the Generic EMPs (Appendix J(1) and Appendix J(2)) of the final BA Report.</p>
	<p>h) Any spillage of any hazardous materials including diesel that may occur during construction and operation must be reported immediately to our Department;</p>		<p>The requirement for the reporting of hazardous material spillages to the Department of Water and Sanitation is noted. This requirement is covered in the Generic EMPs (Appendix J(1) and Appendix J(2)) of the final BA Report.</p>
	<p>i) The final Basic Assessment Report must clearly show all water courses as defined in the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) as well as the delineated 1:100 year flood lines or 100 meters of a river/drainage line (whichever is furthest) and 500 metres.</p>		<p>The Ecological Impact Assessment Report (Appendix D of the final BA Report) identified the Buffels River, located in the northern portion of the grid connection corridor. No other water resources have been identified within the corridor assessed for the development of the grid connection infrastructure.</p> <p>The delineated 1:100 year flood lines or 100 meters for the Buffels River (whichever is furthest) and 500 meters will be provided as part of the water use license application to be submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation for approval.</p>
	<p>j) Clear color topographical map showing the property, facilities in the property, land use, water courses and location of water abstraction point.</p>		<p>Figure 10.1 and Figure 10.2 of the final BA Report provides topographical maps which illustrate the grid connection corridor assessed for the development of the grid connection infrastructure for the Zonnequa Wind Farm. These maps indicate the environmental features present, including water courses and</p>

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
			land use. It must be noted that no water is proposed to be extracted from the Buffels River.
	k) The disposal of general waste and that of hazardous waste must be carried out in an environmentally safe way as to prevent and/or minimise the potential for pollution of water resources and collection of which should be done by an accredited waste collector. All applicable Sections of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act 59 of 2008 should be strictly adhered to;		The appropriate handling and management of waste is covered in the Generic EMPs (Appendix J(1) and Appendix J(2)) of the final BA Report.
	l) Your client is therefore advised to apply and obtain the water use authorisation prior to commencement of the proposed activities. The applicant should send the intent to apply for a water use authorisation to the Department;		The developer acknowledges the requirement for obtaining the relevant water use license prior to the construction of the project. The Department of Water and Sanitation will be consulted regarding the intent to apply for a water use license.
	m) Should the project continue; pre-consultation meeting must be arranged and a site visit and must be conducted by DWS officials with the applicant, and then followed by a Water Use Licence Application (proof of consultation and submission of an application). This must be submitted to DWS in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) before any activities take place;		The need for the undertaking of a pre-consultation meeting and a site visit with the Department of Water and Sanitation is noted by the developer. This will be undertaken prior to the construction of the project.
	n) All applicable Sections of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act 59 of 2008 should be strictly adhered to;		The requirement to adhere to the applicable sections in the National Environmental Management: Waste Act is noted and will be adhered to.
	o) Section 19 & 20 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No.36 of 1998) should be adhered to;		The requirement to adhere to sections 19 and 20 in the National Water Act is noted and will be adhered to.
	This reply does not grant any exemption from the requirements of any applicable Act, Ordinance, Regulation or By-law.		Comment noted. No response required.

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	This office reserves the right to revise initial comments and request additional information that may arise from correspondence and/or upon inspection.		Comment noted. No response required.
	Please note that any use of water without authorization is illegal as it is in contravention of the National Water Act and is punishable by law.		It is noted that the use of water without authorisation is illegal, as per the requirements included in the National Water Act.

Interested and Affected Parties

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
5.	De Beers has no objection to the development. Just one correction and one feedback question for both Namas and Zonnekwa grid connection BAR's:	Anton Meyer Senior Environmental Officer De Beers Group of Companies Namaqualand Mines E-mail: 01-07-2019	Statement of no objection is acknowledged.
	Mining operations at Namaqualand Mines were suspended in 2010, not 2008 as mentioned in the BAR's.		It is noted that the mining operations were suspended in 2010 and not in 2008, as included in the BA Report made available for review. The final BA Report has been updated to reflect this change. Refer to Chapter 7 of the final BA Report.
	What system is in place to ensure that disturbances caused by the proposed wind farm grid connections are properly marked to avoid confusion with possible existing disturbances caused by diamond mining/prospecting operations?		All existing disturbances caused by diamond mining/prospecting operations must be recorded and noted, and any new disturbances caused by the proposed wind farm grid connection construction phase will be recorded and properly marked. The Environmental Control Officer (ECO) for the grid connection infrastructure can share these reports with De Beers where applicable, however further consultation between the developer and De Beers should take place in this regard.
	Can you possibly tell me if the coordinates where the proposed powerline intersects Sandkop 322 is in the BAR? If not, can you please send these to me?	E-mail: 25-06-2019	The KMZ file of the grid connection corridor was e-mailed to Mr Meyer in order to get a better understanding of where the corridor traverse the farm Sandkop 322

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
6.	My name is Ruaan and I'm currently in klieksee I would like to know more about the project.	Ruaan Fortuin I&AP E-mail: 05-06-2019	The BA notification letter was e-mailed to Mr Fortuin on 23 June 2019 and included in the e-mail was the Release Code for access to the BA Report.
	It is very interesting to see the plans and to be involved in such a big project. I'm still in beginning phase so please understand the spelling. It's also important for me and for south Africa. The date is not a sure as I can see but the process is moving. If you have more information share it with me.	E-mail: 25-06-2019	Mr Fortuin's interest in the project was acknowledged and was informed that the BA Report is available at the Kleinsee Public Library, should he not be able to download it from the Savannah Environmental website with the Release Code provided previously.

OTHER

General Comments

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
7.	The link is password protected. Could you kindly assist to get access to the documents	Nanine van Olmen DENC E-mail: 28-05-2019	The Release Code to provide full digital access to the report online was e-mailed to Ms Van Olmen on 28 May 2019.
8.	The HIA report for the Zonnequa Grid Connection and the Namas Grid Connection were not uploaded to the cases. As we are experiencing some issues with the document upload, please email me the reports for SAHRIS Case ID 13833 and 13835 so that I can review them in time for deadline.	Natasha Higgitt Heritage Officer SAHRA E-mail: 24-06-2019	The HIA Report was e-mailed as requested and proof of uploading onto SAHRIS was included. Proof of response included in Appendix C4 .
9.	Baie dankie ek het maar n week gelede eers die posstuk ontvang, die fout le hier ons kant want ons poskantoor is meer gesluit as oop en dan is die posbusse nog toegebou en agter slot en grendel en ai die plaasmense kry nou maar moeilik pos in die hande. Maar nietemin ons hou more aand Sandveld boerevereniging vergadering en sal dan aan led edit deurgee. Ek sal jou bel om te hoor wat ek moet verder doen.	Meisie Engelbrecht Chairperson Sandveld Farmers' Association E-mail: 24-06-2019	The Chairperson was thanked for sharing the information with the members of the Sandveld Farmers Association and was informed that they can contact the Savannah Environmental should additional information be required.

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
	<p>Translation</p> <p>Thank you, I received the letter last week. The problem is on our side as the post office is closed more often than being open and the post boxes have been closed behind locks. It is difficult to retrieve one's mail.</p> <p>The Sandveld Farmers Association is meeting tomorrow, and the information will be shared with the members.</p> <p>I will contact you to discuss the way forward.</p>		

Request for Registration as I&AP

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
10.	Please find attached form to register as an I&AP for the Namas and Zonnequa wind farm projects.	<p>Steyn de Vos Project Development Manager juwi Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd</p> <p>E-mail: 26-03-2019</p>	Request was acknowledged and registration confirmed per e-mail dated 28 March 2019. The I&AP was also informed that juwi Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd has been registered on the Grid Connection Infrastructure for the Zonnequa Wind Farm project.
11.	Please register G7 as an I&AP for this project.	<p>Veronique Fyfe Project Manager G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd</p> <p>E-mail: 28-03-2019</p>	Request was acknowledged and registration confirmed per e-mail dated 28 March 2019.
12.	Register as a landowner.	<p>Werner van Dyk Landowner</p> <p>Registration Form: 02-04-2019</p>	Registration form acknowledged and confirmed registration on project database.

Request for Release Code to Project Information / Report

NO.	COMMENT	RAISED BY	RESPONSE
13.	Please provide password to download BAR.	Steyn de Vos Project Development Manager juwi Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd E-mail: 28-05-2019	The Release Code to provide full digital access to the report online was e-mailed on 28 May 2019 as requested.
14.	Can I please get password to the document?	Abegail Makgato Environmentaql Manager West Coast Resources E-mail: 29-05-2019	The Release Code to provide full digital access to the report online was e-mailed on 29 May 2019 as requested.
15.	Please can you send me the documents for this as your website is still down.	Veronique Fyfe Project Manager G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd E-mail: 28-05-2019	The BA Report was uploaded and available for download on the 28 th of May 2019 and the Release Code to provide full digital access to the report online was e-mailed on the same day to the I&AP.
	Please can you send me the release codes for this.	E-mail: 03-06-2019	The e-mail dated 28 May 2019 in which the Release Code to provide full digital access to the report online was provided, was forwarded to Mrs Fyfe on 03 June 2019.
16.	Can you please send me the downlink link for the BAR?	Anton Meyer Senior Environmental Officer De Beers Group of Companies Namaqualand Mines E-mail: 01-07-2019	The link and Release Code to provide full digital access to the report online was e-mailed on 24 June 2019 and proof of the response is included in Appendix C5 of the final BA Report.