



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 · PRETORIA · 0001 · Environment House · 473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia · PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2300

Enquiries: Ms Matlhodi Mogorosi

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Mr Sheldon Vandrey
Umsobomvu Wind Power (Pty) Ltd
Waterfront Business Park
Building 4, First Floor
1204 Humeral Road
HUMERAIL
6001

Telephone Number: (041) 506 4900
Cell phone Number: (082) 325 6062
Email Address: Sheldon.vandrey@edf-re.co.za

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Vandrey

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT NO. 107 OF 1998, AS AMENDED: FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE UP TO 6KM EACH IN LENGTH UMSOBOMVU 2 X 400KV TURN-IN SYSTEM OVERHEAD LINES (OHL) NEAR MIDDELBURG AND NOUPOORT WITHIN THE INXUBA YETHEMBA AND UMSOBOMVU LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES IN THE EASTERN CAPE AND NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant authorisation. The Environmental Authorisation (EA) and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within fourteen (14) days of the date of the decision as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, Act No. 3 of 2000, you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, Act No. 4 of 2013 which stipulate that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuse or compromise your personal information in any way.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998 National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed.

Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest in the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@dffe.gov.za;

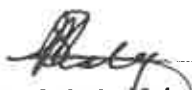
By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko
Arcadia
Pretoria
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation, or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@dffe.gov.za.

Yours faithfully


Mr. Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
Date: 13/06/2023

cc:	Dr Alan Carter	Coastal & Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd	Email: a.carter@cesnet.co.za
	Ms Nondwe Mdekazi	Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs, & Tourism	Email: Nondwe.Mdekazi@dedea.gov.za
	Ms Tsholo Makaudi	Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development, & Land Reform	Email: tmakaudi@ncpg.gov.za
	Mr Mzwandile Tantsi	Inxuba Yethemba Local Municipality	Email: tantsi@isat.gov.za
	Mr Amos Mpela	Umsobomvu Local Municipality	Email: mpela@umsobomvumun.co.za



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Environmental Authorisation

In terms of Regulation 25 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended

The construction of the Umsobomvu 2 x 400kV Turn-in System overhead powerlines (OHLs) (up to 6km each in length) near Middelburg and Noupoort, within the Inxuba Yethemba and the Umsobomvu Local Municipalities of the Chris Hani District Municipality and Pixley ka Seme District Municipality in the Eastern Cape and Northern Cape Provinces

Authorisation register number:	14/12/16/3/3/2/2300
Last amended:	First issue
Holder of authorisation:	Umsobomvu Wind Power (Pty) Ltd
Location of activity:	<u>Eastern Cape:</u> Farm 3, Portion 2 – Uitzicht <u>Northern Cape:</u> Farm 3, Portion 4 – Uitzicht Farm 3, Portion 6 – Uitzicht Farm 135, Remaining Extent – Elands Kloof <u>Eastern and Northern Cape:</u> Farm 3, Portion 8 – Uitzicht Inxuba Yethemba Local Municipality Umsobomvu Local Municipality Chris Hani District Municipality Pixley ka Seme District Municipality Eastern Cape Province Northern Cape Province

MS

This authorisation does not negate the holder of the authorisation's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.

Decision

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

Non-compliance with a condition of this Environmental Authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

Activities authorised

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, the Department hereby authorises –

UMSOBOMVU WIND POWER (PTY) LTD

(hereafter referred to as the **holder of the authorisation**)

with the following contact details –

Ms. Nomajama Dyasi
Umsobomvu Wind Power (Pty) Ltd
Waterfront Business Park
Building 4, First Floor
1204 Humerail Road

HUMERAIL

6001

Telephone Number: (041) 506 4900
Cell phone Number: (082) 325 6062
Email Address: Nomajama.Dyasi@edf-re.co.za

to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as "the activity") indicated in Listing Notice 1, Listing Notice 2 and Listing Notice 3 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended:

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>Listing Notice 1, Item 28</u></p> <p><i>"Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development:</i></p> <p><i>(ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare."</i></p>	<p>The proposed Umsobomvu 400kV Turn-in System will be in excess of 1ha (outside an urban area) and will occur on land which is used for agriculture (grazing).</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 2, Item 9</u></p> <p><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."</i></p>	<p>The proposed Umsobomvu 400kV Turn-in System will include two overhead powerlines (up to 6km each in length) and will be situated on rural, agricultural land.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 3, Item 12</u></p> <p><i>"The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation;</i></p> <p><i>(a) in the Eastern Cape;</i></p> <p><i>(ii) Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plan</i></p> <p><i>(g) in the Northern Cape</i></p> <p><i>(ii) Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans."</i></p>	<p>The proposed Umsobomvu 400kV Turn-in System will require the clearing of pylon footprints prior to construction. This will require the clearance of more than 300m² of indigenous vegetation.</p>

as described in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) dated March 2023 at:

SG 21 Digit Code

Farm Name	Portion/Farm No.	21 Digit Codes	Province
Uitzicht	Farm 3, Portion 2	C04800000000000300002	Eastern Cape
	Farm 3, Portion 4	C04800000000000300004	Northern Cape
	Farm 3, Portion 6	C04800000000000300006	Northern Cape
	Farm 3, Portion 8	C04800000000000300008	Eastern Cape and Northern Cape
Elands Kloof	Farm 135, Remaining Extent	C03000000000013500000	Northern Cape

Coordinate points along the 400kv Turn-in System overhead lines:

Point	Latitude	Longitude
Point 1	31°20'19.19"S	24°46'48.51"E
Point 2	31°20'31.27"S	24°48'22.79"E
Point 3	31°20'44.65"S	24°49'11.92"E
Point 4	31°20'54.84"S	24°49'22.69"E
Point 5	31°21'09.22"S	24°49'19.12"E
Point 6	31°21'14.70"S	24°49'24.31"E
Point 7	31°21'19.50"S	24°49'39.86"E
Point 8	31°21'24.29"S	24°49'44.24"E
Point 9	31°23'17.84"S	24°50'01.77"E
Point 10	31°23'56.57"S	24°49'59.38"E

- for the construction of the up to 6km each in length Umsobomvu 2 x 400kV Turn-in System overhead powerlines within 600m wide corridors near Middelburg and Noupoort, within the Inxuba Yethemba and Umsobomvu Local Municipalities in the Eastern Cape and Northern Cape Provinces, respectively, hereafter referred to as "the property".

The Umsobomvu 400kV Turn-in System will comprise the following:

- 2 x up to 6km each in length 400kV OHLs (assessed within 600m wide corridors) which will extend from the Eskom Koruson Substation to the Eskom 400kV distribution lines in a northwest and southwest direction from the substation. The OHL will also include a jeep track for service and maintenance purposes.

Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

Scope of authorisation

1. The construction of the up to 6km each in length Umsobomvu 2 x 400kV Turn-in System overhead powerlines within 600m wide corridors, which will extend from the Eskom Koruson Substation to the Eskom 400kV distribution lines in a northwest and southwest direction from the substation, near Middelburg and Noupoort, within Ward 9 of the Inxuba Yethemba Local Municipality and Ward 2 of the Umsobomvu Local Municipality in the Eastern and Northern Cape Provinces, respectively, as per the geographic coordinates cited in the table above is hereby approved.
2. Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this Environmental Authorisation, which form part of the Environmental Authorisation and are binding on the holder of the authorisation.
3. The holder of the authorisation is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this Environmental Authorisation. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the authorisation.
4. The activities authorised may only be carried out at the property as described above.
5. Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this Environmental Authorisation must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the holder of the authorisation to apply for further Environmental Authorisation in terms of the regulations.
6. The holder of an Environmental Authorisation must apply for an amendment of the Environmental Authorisation with the Competent Authority for any alienation, transfer or change of ownership rights in the property on which the activity is to take place.
7. This activity must commence within a period of ten (10) years from the date of issue of this Environmental Authorisation. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for Environmental Authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.
8. Construction must be completed within five (05) years of the commencement of the activity on site.

Notification of authorisation and right to appeal

9. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this Environmental Authorisation, of the decision to authorise the activity.
10. The notification referred to must –
 - 10.1. specify the date on which the authorisation was issued;
 - 10.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in the National Appeal Regulations, 2014;
 - 10.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation will be furnished on request; and
 - 10.4. give the reasons of the Competent Authority for the decision.

Commencement of the activity

11. The authorised activity shall not commence until the period for the submission of appeals has lapsed as per the National Appeal Regulations, 2014, and no appeal has been lodged against the decision. In terms of Section 43(7), an appeal under Section 43 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended will suspend the Environmental Authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal has been finalised.

Management of the activity

12. A final site layout plan for the power line (with micro-siting of the powerline route and pylon structures) and all mitigation measures as dictated by the final site layout plan, must be submitted to the Department for approval prior to construction. A copy of the final site layout map must be made available for comments to registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final development layout map must be submitted to the Department for written approval, prior to commencement of the activity. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible. The layout map must indicate the following:
 - 12.1. The final delineation of the centreline of the power line;

- 12.2. Positions of all infrastructures as approved;
 - 12.3. The specific position of the pylon structures and foundation footprints;
 - 12.4. All existing infrastructure on the site, especially roads;
 - 12.5. Any sensitive environmental features that will be affected by the power line; and
 - 12.6. All "no-go" and buffer areas.
13. The generic Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for the development of the two (02) 400kV turn-in system overhead powerlines, submitted as part of the EIAR is approved. The final site layout plan as per Condition 12 above, once approved, must be appended to Part B: Section 2 of the approved generic EMPr.
 14. The EMPr must be implemented and strictly enforced during all phases of the project. It shall be seen as a dynamic document and shall be included in all contract documentation for all phases of the development when approved.
 15. Changes to the approved EMPr must be submitted in accordance to the EIA Regulations applicable at the time.
 16. The Department reserves the right to amend the approved EMPr should any impacts that were not anticipated or covered in the EIAR be discovered.

Frequency and process of updating the EMPr

17. The EMPr must be updated where the findings of the environmental audit reports, contemplated in Condition 24 below, indicate insufficient mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity, or insufficient levels of compliance with the environmental authorisation or EMPr.
18. The updated EMPr must contain recommendations to rectify the shortcomings identified in the environmental audit report.
19. The updated EMPr must be submitted to the Department for approval together with the environmental audit report, as per Regulation 34 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended. The updated EMPr must have been subjected to a public participation process, which process has been agreed to by the Department, prior to submission of the updated EMPr to the Department for approval.
20. In assessing whether to grant approval of an EMPr which has been updated as a result of an audit, the Department will consider the processes prescribed in Regulation 35 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended. Prior to approving an amended EMPr, the Department may request such amendments to the EMPr as it deems appropriate to ensure that the EMPr sufficiently provides for avoidance, management and mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity.

21. The holder of the authorisation must apply for an amendment of an EMPr, if such amendment is required before an audit is required. The amendment process is prescribed in Regulation 37 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The holder of the authorisation must request comments on the proposed amendments to the impact management outcomes of the EMPr or amendments to the closure objectives of the closure plan from potentially interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, by using any of the methods provided for in the Act for a period of at least 30 days.

Monitoring

22. The holder of the authorisation must appoint an experienced Environmental Control Officer (ECO) for the construction phase of the development that will have the responsibility to ensure that the mitigation/rehabilitation measures and recommendations referred to in this environmental authorisation are implemented and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the approved EMPr.
- 22.1. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activities.
- 22.2. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
- 22.3. The ECO must keep record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a task schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
- 22.4. The ECO must remain employed until all rehabilitation measures, as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site is ready for operation.

Recording and reporting to the Department

23. All documentation e.g. audit/monitoring/compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to the Department in terms of this environmental authorisation, must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
24. The holder of the environmental authorisation must, for the period during which the environmental authorisation and EMPr remain valid, ensure that project compliance with the conditions of the environmental authorisation and the EMPr are audited, and that the audit reports are submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
25. The frequency of auditing and submission of the environmental audit reports must be as per the frequency indicated in the EMPr, taking into account the processes for such auditing as prescribed in Regulation 34 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

26. The holder of the authorisation must, in addition, submit environmental audit reports to the Department within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e. within 30 days of site handover) and a final environmental audit report within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities.
27. The environmental audit reports must be compiled in accordance with Appendix 7 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended and must indicate the date of the audit, the name of the auditor and the outcome of the audit in terms of compliance with the environmental authorisation conditions as well as the requirements of the approved EMPr.
28. Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on site and made available for inspection to any relevant and competent authority in respect of this development.

Notification to authorities

29. A written notification of commencement must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity. The notice must include a date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence, as well as a reference number.

Operation of the activity

30. A written notification of operation must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity operational phase.

Site closure and decommissioning

31. Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the holder of the authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and Competent Authority at that time.

Specific conditions

32. No activities, that require a water use license, will be allowed to encroach into a water resource without a water use authorisation being in place from the Department of Water and Sanitation.
33. No development is permitted within the identified no-go areas as detailed in the sensitivity maps.

34. Anti-collision devices such as bird flappers must be installed where powerlines cross avifaunal corridors.
The input of an avifaunal specialist must be obtained for the fitting of the anti-collision devices onto specific sections of the line once the exact positions of the towers have been surveyed and pegged.
 35. The road past the Verreaux's Eagle nest must not be used for construction access.
 36. A qualified ecologist or botanist must be commissioned to perform a final walk through of the alignment to identify all sensitive, protected plant or tree species that may be affected by the construction of the power line. This must inform the determination of the final delineation of the centreline within the assessed corridor as well as optimal pylon positions, as well as the final development layout plan to be submitted to the Department for approval as per condition 12 above.
 37. A permit must be obtained from the relevant nature conservation agency for the removal or destruction of indigenous, protected, or endangered plant or animal species and a copy of such permit/s must be submitted to the Department for record keeping. Copies of the permit/s must be included in the final EMPr to be submitted to this Department for approval before commencement of construction activities.
 38. A 30m buffer-zone must be demarcated for the suspected grave to avoid the placement of pylons in that area.
 39. If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g., remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments, marine shell, and charcoal/ash concentrations), unmarked human burials, fossils, or other categories of heritage resources are uncovered during construction, work in the immediate area must be halted, SAHRA must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist (depending on the nature of the finds) must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings.
 40. No exotic plants may be used for rehabilitation purposes. Only indigenous plants of the area may be utilised.
 41. Dust suppression measures must be implemented during the construction phase to limit the impacts of dust.
 42. Foundations and trenches must be backfilled with originally excavated materials as much as possible. Excess excavation materials must be disposed of only in approved areas or, if suitable, stockpiled for use in reclamation activities.
 43. Vegetation clearing must be kept to an absolute minimum.
 44. Construction must include design measures that allow surface and subsurface movement of water along drainage lines so as not to impede natural surface and subsurface flows. Drainage measures must promote the dissipation of storm water run-off.
 45. An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation and must incorporate reduction, recycling, re-use, and disposal where appropriate. Any solid waste must be disposed of at a landfill licensed in terms of Section 20 (b) of the National Environment Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act No.59 of 2008).
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General

46. A copy of this Environmental Authorisation, the audit and compliance monitoring reports, and the approved EMPr, must be made available for inspection and copying-

46.1. at the site of the authorised activity;

46.2. to anyone on request; and

46.3. where the holder of the Environmental Authorisation has a website, on such publicly accessible website.

47. National government, provincial government, local authorities or committees appointed in terms of the conditions of this authorisation or any other public authority shall not be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder of the authorisation or his/her successor in title in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction be temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance by the holder of the authorisation with the conditions of authorisation as set out in this document or any other subsequent document emanating from these conditions of authorisation.

Date of Environmental Authorisation: 13/06/2023



Mr Sabelo Malaza

**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment**

Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

1. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, *inter alia*, the following into consideration -

- The listed activities as applied for in the application form received on 06 February 2023.
- The information contained in the EIAr dated March 2023.
- The comments received from interested and affected parties as included in the EIAr dated March 2023.
- Mitigation measures as proposed in the EIAr and the generic EMPr.
- The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the appendices of the EIAr dated March 2023 and as appears below:

Title	Prepared by	Date
Ecological Impact Assessment	Coastal and Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd	June 2022
Avifaunal Impact Assessment	WildSkies Ecological Services (Pty) Ltd	March 2022
Soils and Agricultural Potential	INDEX (Pty) Ltd	September 2022
Heritage Impact Assessment	Umlando Archaeological Surveys and Heritage Management	May 2022
Palaeontology Impact Assessment	Natura Viva cc	May 2022

2. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was taken into account in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- The findings of all the specialist studies conducted and their recommended mitigation measures.
- The need for the proposed project stems from the response to the growing electricity demand, fuelled by increasing economic growth and social development, and placing increasing pressure on South Africa's existing power generation capacity. Coupled with this, is the growing awareness of environmentally responsible development, the impacts of climate change and the need for sustainable development. In addition, the construction of the Umsobomvu 400kV Turn-in System is to ensure that electrical energy generated by the WEFs can be evacuated from the Eskom Koruson Substation to the national electrical grid network via the existing Eskom 400kV distribution lines.

- c) The EIAr dated March 20223 identified all legislation and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the EIAr.
- d) The location of the proposed Umsobomvu 400kV Turn-in System overhead powerlines.
- e) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the EIAr dated March 2023 and the specialist studies have been adequately indicated.
- f) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken, and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended for public involvement.

3. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings -

- a) The identification and assessment of impacts are detailed in the EIAr dated March 2023 and sufficient assessment of the key identified issues and impacts have been completed.
- b) The procedure followed for impact assessment is adequate for the decision-making process.
- c) The information contained in the EIAr dated March 2023 is deemed to be accurate and credible.
- d) The proposed mitigation of impacts identified and assessed adequately curtails the identified impacts.
- e) EMPr measures for the pre-construction, construction and rehabilitation phases of the development were proposed and included in the EIAr and will be implemented to manage the identified environmental impacts during the construction phase.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the environmental authorisation, the authorised activities will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the authorised activities can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The environmental authorisation is accordingly **granted**.

Annexure 1: Locality Map

