



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA · 0001· Environment House · 473 Steve Biko, Arcadia· PRETORIA
Tel (+ 27 12) 399 9372

DEA Reference: 12/12/20/1782/1/AM2

Enquiries: Mr Muhammad Essop

Telephone: (012) 399 9406 **E-mail:** MEssop@environment.gov.za

Mr Michael Mangnall
South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 45063
CLAREMONT
7735

Telephone Number: (021) 657 4045
Email Address: Mike.Mangnall@mainstreamrp.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Mangnall

AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION ISSUED ON 10 NOVEMBER 2016 FOR THE 140 MEGAWATTS (MW) RIETRUG WIND ENERGY FACILITY NEAR SUTHERLAND, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Environmental Authorisation (EA) issued for the abovementioned application by this Department on 10 November 2016, the amendment dated 25 November 2016, your application for amendment of the EA received by this Department on 06 February 2017, the acknowledgement letter dated 10 February 2017, the draft report received on 21 February 2017, the comments issued by this Department on 07 March 2017 and the final report received on 11 May 2017, refer.

Based on a review of the reason for requesting an amendment to the above EA, this Department, in terms of Chapter 5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, has decided to amend the EA dated 10 November 2016 as amended as follows:

Amendment 1: Amendment of turbine specifications in the EA:

Page 04 of the EA:

"The 140 MW Rietrug Wind Energy Facility will comprise the following:

- *Up to 56 wind turbines with a height of up to 120 m and rotor diameter of up to 120 m;*
- *The wind turbines will be connected to another by means of medium voltage cables. The cables will be buried approximately 1m below ground level;*
- *An internal gravel road network will be constructed to facilitate movement between turbines on site. These roads will be up to 15 m wide and 8 km in length and will include drainage and cabling;*
- *Some existing public roads may need to be upgraded to facilitate the turbine transport;*
- *A hard standing laydown area of a maximum of 10,000m² will be constructed; and*
- *A site compound will be constructed for all contractors, this would be approximately 5,000m² in size."*

Is hereby amended to:

"The 140 MW Rietrug Wind Energy Facility will comprise the following:

- Up to 56 wind turbines with a height of up to 150m and rotor diameter of up to 150m;
- The wind turbines will be connected to another by means of medium voltage cables. The cables will be buried approximately 1m below ground level;
- An internal gravel road network will be constructed to facilitate movement between turbines on site. These roads will be up to 15m wide and 8km in length and will include drainage and cabling;
- Some existing public roads may need to be upgraded to facilitate the turbine transport;
- A hard standing laydown area of a maximum of 10,000m² will be constructed; and
- A site compound will be constructed for all contractors, this would be approximately 5,000m² in size."

Page 05 of the EA:

Technical details of the proposed facility:

| Component | Description / Dimensions |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Location of the site | Sutherland, Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality and Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape |
| Farm names | Portion 1 of Beeren Valley Farm 150 Remaining Extent of Beeren Valley Farm 150 Remaining Extent of Nootgedacht Farm 148 |
| Site access | Secondary road off the R 354 |
| Export capacity | 140MW |
| Proposed technology | Wind turbines |
| Number of turbines | 56 |
| Hub height from ground level | 120 m |
| Rotor diameter | 120 m |
| Width and length of internal roads | 15 m wide and 8 km |

Is hereby amended to:

Technical details of the proposed facility:

| Component | Description / Dimensions |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Location of the site | Sutherland, Karoo Hoogland Local Municipality and Namakwa District Municipality, Northern Cape |
| Farm names | Portion 1 of Beeren Valley Farm 150 Remaining Extent of Beeren Valley Farm 150 Remaining Extent of Nootgedacht Farm 148 |
| Site access | Secondary road off the R 354 |
| Export capacity | 140MW |
| Proposed technology | Wind turbines |
| Number of turbines | 56 |
| Hub height from ground level | 150m |
| Rotor diameter | 150m |
| Width and length of internal roads | 15m wide and 8km |

The mitigation measures and recommendations made by the specialists in the final report dated May 2017, must be adhered to and are included as an extension to the conditions of the EA dated 10 November 2016 as amended.

The reason for the amendment of the turbine specifications in the EA is due to the authorised hub height of 120m and rotor diameter of 120m no longer being the preferred wind turbine technology. The Holder wishes to install technology which will be aligned with the preferred turbine technology currently available in the markets that is best suited to the conditions of the site.

This proposed amendment letter must be read in conjunction with the EA dated 10 November 2016 as amended.

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

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of Government Notice No. R.993, which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties.

An appellant must submit an 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 applicant by the competent authority.

By post: Private Bag X447,
Pretoria,
0001; or
By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko Road,
Arcadia,
Pretoria.

Appeals must be submitted in writing to:

Mr Z Hassam, Director: Appeals and Legal Review, of this Department at the above mentioned addresses. Mr Hassam can also be contacted at:

Tel: (012) 399 9356

Email: Appealsdirector@environment.gov.za

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, an appeal under Section 43 of that Act 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.

For guidance on appeals submitted to the Minister in terms of NEMA and the SEMAs, please find a copy of the guideline on the administration of appeals on the Department's website: (https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations).

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs

Date: 25/08/2017

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| cc: | Ms Surina Laurie | CSIR | Email: slaurie@csir.co.za |
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