



# 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: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1057

Enquiries: Mr Lunga Dlova

Telephone: (012) 399 8524 E-mail: [LDlova@environment.gov.za](mailto:LDlova@environment.gov.za)

Mr Thomas Barkmann  
Vredenburg Windfarm (Pty) Ltd  
Box 1, 18 Cavendish Street  
Claremont  
**CAPE TOWN**  
7708

Telephone: (021) 483 4790  
E-mail: [Candice.evans@enercon.de](mailto:Candice.evans@enercon.de)

## PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Mr Barkmann

### **APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT NO. 107 OF 1998, AS AMENDED: THE CONSTRUCTION OF 140 MW BOULDERS WIND ENERGY FACILITY IN SALDANHA BAY LOCAL MUNICIPALITY WITHIN THE WEST COAST DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE**

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant authorisation in accordance with the appeal decision issued by the Minister on 30 August 2020. 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 14 (fourteen) 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

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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@environment.gov.za](mailto:appeals@environment.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](https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations) or request a copy of the documents at [appeals@environment.gov.za](mailto:appeals@environment.gov.za).

Yours faithfully



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

Date: 17/05/2021

cc:	Alan Carter	Coastal and Environmental Services (CES)	Email: <a href="mailto:a.carter@cesnet.co.za">a.carter@cesnet.co.za</a>
	Piet van Zyl	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs & Development Planning	Email: <a href="mailto:Pieter.vanZyl@westerncape.gov.za">Pieter.vanZyl@westerncape.gov.za</a>
	Nazeema Duarte	Saldanha Bay Local Municipality	Email: <a href="mailto:nazeema.duarte@sbm.gov.za">nazeema.duarte@sbm.gov.za</a>



## 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 140MW Boulders Wind Energy Facility in Saldanha Bay Local Municipality in the Western Cape  
Province

West Coast District Municipality

<b>Authorisation register number:</b>	14/12/16/3/3/2/1057
<b>Last amended:</b>	First issue
<b>Holder of authorisation:</b>	Vredenburg Windfarm (Pty) Ltd
<b>Location of activity:</b>	<i>The southern and eastern portion of the Farm Schuitjes Klip 3/22; Farms Boebezaks Kraal 2/40; Boebezaks Kraal 5/40; Het Schuytje 1/21; and Frans Vlei 2/46 in Ward number – 11 Saldanha Bay Local Municipality within the West Coast District Municipality in the Western Cape Province</i>

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.

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## 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 –

### **VREDENBURG WINDFARM (PTY) LTD**

with the following contact details –

Thomas Barkmann  
Vredenburg Windfarm (Pty) Ltd  
Box 1, 18 Cavendish Street  
Claremont  
**CAPE TOWN**  
7708

**Telephone:** (021) 483 4790  
**Fax:** (021) 483 4185  
**E-mail:** [Candice.evans@enercon.de](mailto:Candice.evans@enercon.de)

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>GN R. 983 Activity 11 (i):</u>  <i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity –</i>  <i>(i) Outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kV."</i></p>	<p>The project will include the development of an on-site substation and transformers with a capacity of more than 33kV and less than 275kV outside of an urban area.                       Substation Capacity: 132kV</p>
<p><u>GN R. 983 Activity 12 (ii) (a) and (c):</u>  <i>"The development of-</i>  <i>(ii) Infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more;</i>  <i>where such development occurs-</i>  <i>a) within a watercourse;</i>  <i>c) If no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse..."</i></p>	<p>Associated infrastructure and structures with a physical footprint of 100m<sup>2</sup> or more, such as grid connection infrastructure (i.e. cabling) and access roads will be constructed within a watercourse or within 32 meters of a watercourse located within the project site.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 983 Activity 19:</u>  <i>"The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse"</i></p>	<p>The upgrade or construction of road access for the Boulders Wind Farm will lead to material of more than 10m<sup>3</sup> being deposited into or removed from watercourses.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 983 Activity 24 (ii):</u>  <i>"The development of a road–</i>  <i>(ii) with a reserve wider than 13,5 meters, or where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 metres;</i></p>	<p>The Boulders Wind Farm will require access roads with sections up to a width of 8m, to be constructed as a result of logistical construction vehicle specification and operational requirements.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 983 Activity 28 (ii):</u>  <i>"Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes or</i></p>	<p>The development of the Boulders Wind Farm will take place within a project site with an extent of 5 102.13ha which has been historically used and is</p>

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Activity number	Activity description
<p><i>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>currently used for agricultural activities. The development footprint of the facility (infrastructure and associated areas) will cover an area greater than 1 hectare on land currently used for agriculture outside of an urban area. It is envisaged that the development footprint will be ~44ha in extent.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 983 Activity 56:</u></p> <p><i>"The widening of a road by more than 6 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre-</i></p> <p><i>(ii) where no reserve exists, where the existing road is wider than 8 metres;</i></p>	<p>The Boulders Wind Farm will require the widening of portions of existing roads by more than 6m, or the lengthening of existing roads by more than 1km to accommodate the logistical construction requirements to access the site and associated infrastructure.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 984 Activity 1:</u></p> <p><i>"The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more,</i></p>	<p>The Boulders Wind Farm will generate an electricity output of more than 20MW. The wind farm is expected to have a contracted capacity of up to 140MW.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 984 Activity 15:</u></p> <p><i>"The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation."</i></p>	<p>Vegetation clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation will occur during the construction phase of the facility and associated infrastructure.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 985 Activity 4:</u></p> <p><i>The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres -</i></p> <p><i>(i) in the Western Cape;</i></p> <p><i>(ii) in areas outside urban areas;</i></p> <p><i>(aa) in areas containing indigenous vegetation</i></p>	<p>Access road wider than 4m will be constructed outside of urban areas within areas containing indigenous vegetation, in the Western Cape.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 985 Activity 10:</u></p> <p><i>The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in</i></p>	<p>The construction and operation of the Boulders Wind Farm will require the storage of dangerous goods (i.e. fuels and oils) with a combined capacity of up to</p>

Activity number	Activity description
<p>containers with a combined capacity of 30 but not exceeding 80 cubic meters –</p> <p>(i) in the Western Cape;</p> <p>(ii) in all areas outside urban areas.</p>	<p>80m<sup>3</sup>. The development will take place within the Western Cape outside of urban areas.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 985 Activity 12:</u></p> <p>The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation;</p> <p>(i) in the Western Cape;</p> <p>(ii) within any critically endangered or endangered ecosystem listed in terms of section 52 of the NEMBA or prior to the publication of such a list, within an area that has been identified as critically endangered in the National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment 2004 and;</p> <p>(iii) within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans.</p>	<p>An area of more than 300m<sup>2</sup> of indigenous vegetation cover will be cleared for infrastructure and associated activities within the Boulders Wind Farm. The project site is located in the Western Cape, within an area which contains two endangered ecosystems, the Saldanha Granite Strandveld and the Saldanha Flats Strandveld. The project site also contains Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) 1 and CBA 2 areas as identified in the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (WCBSP) of 2017.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 985 Activity 14:</u></p> <p>The development of-</p> <p>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 10 square meters or more; where such development occurs –</p> <p>(a) within a watercourse; or</p> <p>(c) within 32 meters of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;</p> <p>(i) within the Western Cape;</p> <p>(j) outside urban areas;</p> <p>(ff) within critical biodiversity areas of ecosystem service areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority or in bioregional plans.</p>	<p>Infrastructure in excess of 10m<sup>2</sup> will be developed within a watercourse and within 32m of a watercourse for the development of the Boulders Wind Farm. The project site is located in the Western Cape, outside of urban areas and within CBA 1 and CBA 2 areas as identified in the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (WCBSP) of 2017.</p>
<p><u>GN R. 985 Activity 18:</u></p> <p>The widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre</p> <p>(i) in the Western Cape;</p>	<p>The upgrading of access roads for the project will involve the widening and/or lengthening of existing access roads. The Boulders Wind Farm will require</p>

Activity number	Activity description
(ii) within all areas outside urban areas; (aa) within areas containing indigenous vegetation.	access roads to be upgraded, which will include the widening of the roads as well as the lengthening of roads in some areas by more than 4m in width and more than 1km in length. The project site is located within the Western Cape, outside of urban areas and contains areas of indigenous vegetation that will be affected by this activity.

as described in the revised Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAr) dated April 2021 at:

**Farm names and numbers:**

- The southern and eastern portion of Schuitjes Klip 3/22
- Boebezaks Kraal 2/40;
- Boebezaks Kraal 5/40
- Het Schuytje 1/21
- Frans Vlei 2/46

**21 Digit SG code:**

C	0	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	2
C	0	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	5
C	0	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	6	0	0	0	0	2
C	0	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	3
C	0	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	1

**Boulders Wind Energy Facility coordinates:**

Site	Point	Latitude	Longitude
Boulders Wind Energy Facility (full infrastructure coordinate list is attached in Annexure 2)	WTG01	32°50'48.99"S	17°58'12.22"E
	WTG03	32°50'40.79"S	17°57'35.40"E
	WTG05	32°49'44.07"S	17°58'03.74"E
	WTG021	32°48'25.54"S	17°58'25.16"E
	WTG012	32°48'54.49"S	18° 01'07.11"E
	WTG030	32°47'54.45"S	17°59'57.44"E

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	WTG041	32°47'08.59"S	17°58'17.72"E
	WTG044	32°47'00.03"S	17°58'51.42"E

- for the proposed Boulders Wind Energy Facility in Saldanha Bay Local Municipality within the West Coast District Municipality in the Western Cape Province, hereafter referred to as "the property".

The location indicated in the locality plan and Development Area Geographic Coordinates (Annexure 2), attached in this environmental authorisation.

Technical details for the proposed 140 MW Boulders Wind Energy facility (Layout Alternative 2):

<b>Infrastructure and Turbine Design Specifications</b>	<b>Footprint and dimensions</b>
Access roads	Access to the Boulders Wind Farm project site is provided by an existing secondary gravel road traversing the length of project site. Along with the existing secondary gravel road, existing public and private farm roads are also present. The secondary gravel road located within the project site is the Stompneus Bay Secondary Road which traverses the project site in a north-south direction and a north-western direction (there are two legs of the secondary gravel road which meet in the centre of the project site) and provides access from Vredenburg to the project site and to St. Helena Bay, as well as access from Paternoster to the project site. The Regional road (R399) is the main road providing access to the general area within which the project site is located and is also the road from which the Stompneus Bay Secondary Gravel Road stems.
Number of turbines	45 (maximum)
Power output per turbine	3.15MW (maximum)
Facility output	140MW (maximum)
Turbine hub height	120 metres (maximum)

<b>Infrastructure and Turbine Design Specifications</b>	<b>Footprint and dimensions</b>
Foundation dimensions	570m <sup>2</sup> per turbine
Laydown area dimensions	2 624m <sup>2</sup> per turbine
Blade length	45 metres
Rotor diameter	103 metres (maximum)

## Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

### Scope of authorisation

1. The proposed 140 MW Boulders Wind Energy Facility in Saldanha Bay Local Municipality within the West Coast District Municipality in the Western Cape Province is hereby approved as per the geographic coordinates cited in the table above.
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. The revised Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) submitted as part of the revised EIAr dated April 2021 is approved and must be implemented and adhered to.
13. The revised 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.

14. Changes to the approved EMPr must be submitted in accordance to the EIA Regulations applicable at the time.
15. 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**

16. The EMPr must be updated where the findings of the environmental audit reports, contemplated in Condition 26 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.
17. The updated EMPr must contain recommendations to rectify the shortcomings identified in the environmental audit report.
18. 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.
19. 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.
20. 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**

21. 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.

- 21.1. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activities.
- 21.2. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
- 21.3. The ECO must keep record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a task schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
- 21.4. 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**

22. 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.
23. 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.
24. The frequency of auditing and of 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.
25. 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.
26. 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.
27. 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**

28. 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**

29. 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**

30. 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**

31. No activities will be allowed to encroach into a water resource without a water use authorisation being in place from the Department of Water and Sanitation.
32. All Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) must not be disturbed or removed prior to obtaining permit from relevant authorities.
33. No exotic plants may be used for rehabilitation purposes. Only indigenous plants of the area may be utilised.
34. Vegetation clearing must be kept to an absolute minimum. Mitigation measures as specified in the revised EIAr dated April 2021 must be implemented to reduce the risk of erosion and the invasion of alien species.
35. All wind turbines must avoid all areas (i.e. around farm buildings and graveyards, archaeological sites or complexes) designated as "no-go" areas as well as their buffers. The Lombard and Pienaar cemetery (2011/329) must be treated as a "no-go" area.
36. Accidentally discovered archaeological material must be reported to the Provincial Heritage Authority in terms of section 35 of the National Heritage Resources Act. The finds must also be reported to the appointed archaeologist for assessment and possible action.

37. Accidentally discovered human remains must immediately be reported to the Provincial Heritage Authority in terms of section 36 of the National Heritage Resources Act. The finds must also be reported to the appointed archaeologist for assessment and possible action.
38. The Heritage Western Cape Chance Fossil Finds Procedure must be included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and implemented in the case of fossil remains being encountered.
39. All buildings and structures which are already on the site and happens to be located within 1km of turbines, as well as any new structures built within the development footprint, must be bat-proofed to prevent the provision of new roosts within the development area.
40. Existing roads must be utilised wherever possible. New roads must be planned taking due cognisance of the topography to limit cut and fill requirements, must be undertaken properly with adequate drainage structures to avoid erosion impacts.
41. 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).
42. The recommendations of the EAP in the revised EIAR dated April 2021 and the specialist studies attached must be adhered to. In the event of any conflicting mitigation measures and conditions of the Environmental Authorisation, the specific condition of this Environmental Authorisation will take preference.

**General**

43. A copy of this Environmental Authorisation, the audit and compliance monitoring reports, and the approved EMPr, must be made available for inspection and copying-
- 43.1. at the site of the authorised activity;
  - 43.2. to anyone on request; and
44. where the holder of the Environmental Authorisation has a website, on such publicly accessible website.
45. 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: 17/05/2021



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 -

- a) The listed activities as applied for in the application form received on 28 February 2018.
- b) The information contained in the revised EIAR dated April 2021.
- c) The comments received from the Department of Water and Sanitation; Heritage Western Cape; Birdlife South Africa; Cape Nature; West Coast District Municipality; Saldanha Bay Local Municipality; Department of Rural Development & Land Reform; West Coast Bird Club; Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning; and interested and affected parties as included in the revised EIAR dated April 2021.
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the revised EIAR and the revised EMPr.
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the appendices of the revised EIAR dated April 2021 and as appears below:
  - Agricultural Impact Assessment of November 2018 and prepared by Freddie Ellis and Johann Laubscher;
  - Avifaunal Impact Assessment of July 2018, prepared by Bio insight;
  - Bat Impact Assessment of November 2018, prepared by Gaia Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd;
  - Fauna & Flora Impact Assessment of August 2019, prepared by 3 Foxes Biodiversity Solutions;
  - Freshwater Impact Assessment of November 2018, prepared by Scientific Aquatic Services;
  - Heritage Impact Assessment of 17 August 2019, prepared by Katie Smuts;
  - Noise Impact Assessment of May 2018, prepared by Enviro-Acoustic Research cc;
  - Social Impact Assessment of November 2018, prepared by Tony Barbour Environmental Consulting and Research;
  - Visual Impact Assessment of July 2019, prepared by LOGIS;
  - Visual Impact Assessment of December 2018, prepared by Coastal and Environmental Services (included as an Appendix);
  - Tourism/Economic Impact Assessment of August 2019, prepared by Urban-Econ Development Economists;
  - Transport Impact Assessment of November 2018, prepared by Innovative Transport Solutions.
  - Independent Wake Impact Assessment of January 2021, prepared by 3E Renewable Energy Services.

- Socio-Economic Assessment of January 2021, prepared by Urban-Econ Development Economists and Ueban-Econ

## 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.

- a) The findings of all the specialist studies conducted and their recommended mitigation measures.
- b) The need for the proposed project stems from the provision of electricity to the national grid.
- c) The revised EIAr dated April 2021 identified all legislation and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the revised EIAr.
- d) The location of the proposed wind energy facility.
- e) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the revised EIAr dated April 2021 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.

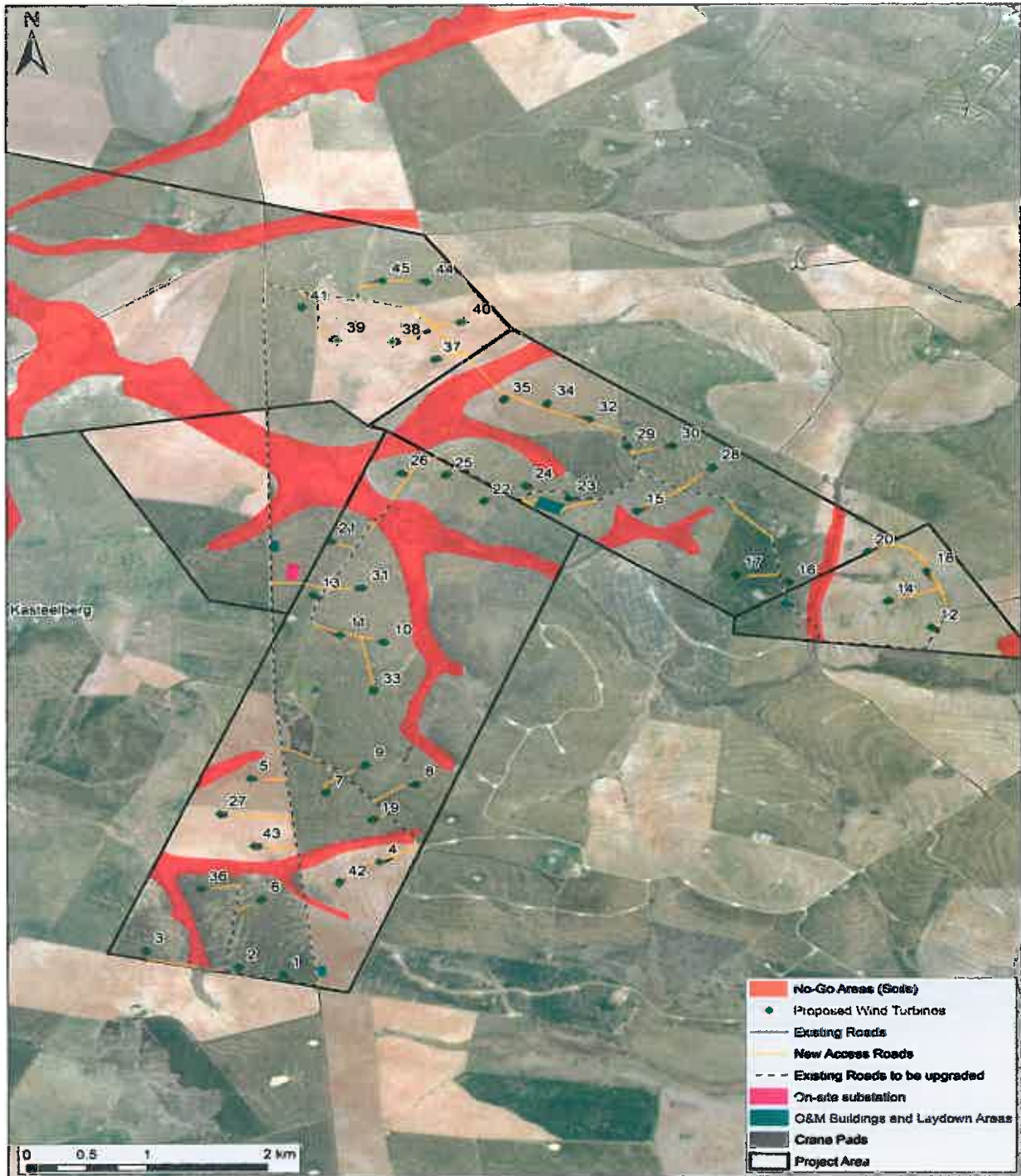
## 3. Findings

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 revised EIAr dated April 2021 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 revised EIAr dated April 2021 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 revised 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 2



**Development Area Geographic Coordinates: Wind turbine coordinates for the proposed Boulders Wind Farm project.**

WIND TURBINE LABEL NUMBER	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
WTG01	32°50'48.99"S	17°58'12.22"E

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WTG02	32°50'46.36"S	17°58'00.44"E
WTG03	32°50'40.79"S	17°57'35.40"E
WTG04	32°50'11.66"S	17°58'38.27"E
WTG05	32°49'44.07"S	17°58'03.74"E
WTG06	32°50'24.09"S	17°58'06.82"E
WTG07	32°49'49.00"S	17°58'24.01"E
WTG08	32°49'46.14"S	17°58'48.28"E
WTG09	32°49'39.64"S	17°58'34.79"E
WTG010	32°48'59.16"S	17°58'39.91"E
WTG011	32°48'56.68"S	17°58'28.06"E
WTG012	32°48'54.49"S	18° 01'07.11"E
WTG013	32°48'43.52"S	17°58'20.64"E
WTG014	32°48'45.99"S	18° 00'55.33"E
WTG015	32°48'16.09"S	17°59'47.77"E
WTG016	32°48'39.63"S	18° 00'28.77"E
WTG017	32°48'37.24"S	18° 00'14.18"E
WTG018	32°48'35.89"S	18° 01'06.04"E
WTG019	32°49'57.88"S	17°58'36.33"E
WTG020	32°48'29.65"S	18° 00'49.80"E
WTG021	32°48'25.54"S	17°58'25.16"E
WTG022	32°48'12.70"S	17°59'06.63"E
WTG023	32°48'11.64"S	17°59'29.61"E
WTG024	32°48'7.62"S	17°59'18.07"E
WTG025	32°48'4.06"S	17°58'56.39"E
WTG026	32°48'3.23"S	17°58'44.43"E
WTG027	32°49'55.79"S	17°57'55.49"E
WTG028	32°48'01.65"S	18° 00'08.18"E
WTG029	32°47'54.73"S	17°59'45.43"E
WTG030	32°47'54.45"S	17°59'57.44"E
WTG031	32°48'41.16"S	17°58'33.96"E
WTG032	32°47'45.63"S	17°59'35.34"E
WTG033	32°49'15.29"S	17°58'37.01"E
WTG034	32°47'40.26"S	17°59'24.06"E
WTG035	32°47'39.25"S	17°59'12.16"E

WTG036	32°50'20.53"S	17°57'50.18"E
WTG037	32°47'25.72"S	17°58'53.40"E
WTG038	32°47'19.77"S	17°58'42.23"E
WTG039	32°47'19.15"S	17°58'27.38"E
WTG040	32°47'13.20"S	17°59'01.43"E
WTG041	32°47'08.59"S	17°58'17.72"E
WTG042	32°50'18.78"S	17°58'27.48"E
WTG043	32°50'06.40"S	17°58'04.70"E
WTG044	32°47'00.03"S	17°58'51.42"E
WTG045	32°46'59.63"S	17°58'39.52"E

**Road coordinates for the proposed Boulders Wind Farm project.**

Segment Number	Road Type (New (N)/Upgraded (U))	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
A1	U	32° 50' 19,134"" S	17° 58' 0,963"" E
A2	U	32° 50' 47,562"" S	17° 57' 56,842"" E
A3	N	32° 50' 25,050"" S	17° 58' 5,337"" E
A4	N	32° 50' 20,346"" S	17° 57' 52,041"" E
A5	N	32° 50' 42,503"" S	17° 57' 35,599"" E
A6	N	32° 50' 6,808"" S	17° 58' 6,611"" E
A7	N	32° 49' 56,262"" S	17° 57' 57,320"" E
A8	N	32° 49' 44,455"" S	17° 58' 5,641"" E
B1	N	32° 49' 37,552"" S	17° 58' 20,791"" E
B2	U	32° 50' 4,988"" S	17° 58' 48,076"" E
B3	N	32° 49' 40,346"" S	17° 58' 32,958"" E
B4	N	32° 49' 47,358"" S	17° 58' 23,648"" E
B5	N	32° 49' 46,384"" S	17° 58' 46,439"" E
B6	N	32° 50' 17,572"" S	17° 58' 28,927"" E
C1	N	32° 48' 41,289"" S	17° 58' 24,046"" E
C2	N	32° 48' 42,372"" S	17° 58' 19,205"" E
C3	N	32° 48' 41,094"" S	17° 58' 32,123"" E
C4	U	32° 48' 11,000"" S	17° 58' 42,520"" E
C5	N	32° 47' 57,681"" S	17° 58' 54,116"" E
C6	U	32° 48' 11,909"" S	17° 59' 16,193"" E

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C7	N	32° 48' 12,453"" S	17° 59' 37,465"" E
C8	U	32° 48' 3,813"" S	17° 59' 49,323"" E
C9	U	32° 47' 49,626"" S	17° 59' 43,767"" E
C10	N	32° 48' 58,282"" S	17° 58' 38,267"" E
C11	N	32° 49' 13,695"" S	17° 58' 36,783"" E
C12	N	32° 48' 26,265"" S	17° 58' 26,861"" E
C13	N	32° 48' 3,163"" S	17° 58' 58,042"" E
C14	N	32° 48' 11,616"" S	17° 59' 8,056"" E
C15	N	32° 48' 8,200"" S	17° 59' 19,854"" E
C16	N	32° 47' 54,542"" S	17° 59' 55,207"" E
D1	U	32° 48' 12,679"" S	18° 0' 12,583"" E
D2	N	32° 48' 2,603"" S	18° 0' 6,542"" E
D3	N	32° 48' 14,972"" S	17° 59' 49,101"" E
D4	N	32° 48' 25,269"" S	18° 0' 24,650"" E
D5	U	32° 48' 58,836"" S	18° 0' 37,207"" E
D6	N	32° 48' 37,494"" S	18° 0' 16,092"" E
D7	U	32° 49' 1,937"" S	18° 1' 5,123"" E
D8	U	32° 48' 51,388"" S	18° 1' 10,550"" E
D9	N	32° 48' 29,094"" S	18° 0' 51,617"" E
D10	N	32° 48' 45,748"" S	18° 0' 57,247"" E
E1	N	32° 47' 46,529"" S	17° 59' 35,110"" E
E2	N	32° 47' 14,524"" S	17° 58' 53,154"" E
E3	U	32° 47' 1,059"" S	17° 58' 7,657"" E
E4	N	32° 47' 45,349"" S	17° 59' 33,267"" E
E5	N	32° 47' 25,250"" S	17° 58' 55,135"" E
E6	N	32° 47' 19,529"" S	17° 58' 44,032"" E
E7	N	32° 47' 13,371"" S	17° 58' 59,187"" E
E8	U	32° 47' 1,930"" S	17° 58' 32,947"" E
E9	N	32° 46' 59,495"" S	17° 58' 49,051"" E
E10	U	32° 47' 15,461"" S	17° 58' 22,076"" E
E11	N	32° 47' 18,017"" S	17° 58' 25,794"" E
E12	N	32° 47' 3,296"" S	17° 58' 18,301"" E
E13	N	32° 47' 6,927"" S	17° 58' 18,139"" E