



INTEGRATED RURAL & URBAN DEVELOPMENT EXPERTISE (PTY) LTD, TRADING AS INDEX

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Ref: Dassiesridge WEF Amendment
Date: 28 August 2019

EOH Coastal & Environmental Services
67 African Street
Grahamstown
Eastern Cape Province

For Attention: Ms. Caroline Evans

DASSIESRIDGE WEF PART 2 ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION (“EA”) AMENDMENT
Social Impact Assessment (“SIA”) – Opinion Letter

Herewith the requested opinion letter that relates to the changes to the EA amendment of the Dassiesridge WEF.

Details of the amendment, as provided, are:

SPECS	CURRENT	AMENDMENT
Turbines	67	47
Output	140MW	140MW
Hub Height	137m	“up to 137m”
Rotor Diameter	132m	“up to 175m”
Concrete Foundations	20m x 20m	30m x 30m
Hard Standing Area	2800m ²	3600m ²

Comments and the opinion, from a SIA perspective, follow:

EFFECT ON CURRENT IMPACTS

From a socio-economic perspective the above amendments would not result in significant changes to the anticipated impacts as identified and rated in the SIA report. However, the following changes to the intensity of the impacts could manifest as a result of the **decreased number of turbines**:

- Economic impacts during the construction phase: Possibly a slight reduction in the number of employment opportunities and the amount spent on local procurement.

- Economic impacts during the operational phase: The incomes derived through rental agreements would in all likelihood reduce.
- Impacts on the sense of place, specifically with regards to visual and noise impacts: It is likely that fewer turbines will reduce the anticipated negative impacts on the sense of place.
- Impacts on eco-tourism and the hunting industry: Depending on the locality of the turbines and their visual impacts, it is likely that the reduced number of turbines will impact less negatively on current activities and future opportunities in the area.

Changes to the impacts are anticipated to be slight, and would not affect their overall significance ratings.

EFFECT ON MITIGATION MEASURES

Additional management and mitigation measures, or changes to the proposed measures, would not be required as the changes to the impacts are slight.

EFFECT ON CURRENT EA CONDITIONS

Changes to the socio-economic EA conditions would not be required.

EFFECT ON CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

No effect on cumulative impacts would manifest.

LAND USE CHANGES

No significant impact on land use changes would occur from a socio-economic perspective. Current land uses such as grazing, eco-tourism, game farming, residential and so forth would continue.

We trust that you find the above in order, but please contact this office should additional information be required.

Yours sincerely,



M. Terblanche