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APPENDIX A: THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The Environmental Impact Assessment process comprises two key phases – the Scoping Phase and the Environmental Impact Assessment Phase. These phases are described in detail below.

A1. THE SCOPING PHASE

Scoping is the first step in the EIA process. It allows for all role players – stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) - to gain a greater understanding of the project by means of a public participation process. Scoping is also critical in as much as it facilitates the early identification of important natural and social issues that will need to be considered later in the process.

The principal objectives of the Scoping Phase are:-

- Describe the nature of the proposed project;
- Preliminary identification and assessment of potential environmental issues or impacts to be addressed in the subsequent EIA phase;
- Define the legal, policy and planning context for the proposed project;
- Describe important biophysical and socio-economic characteristics of the affected environment;
- Undertake a public participation process that provides opportunities for all I&APs to be involved;
- Identify feasible alternatives that must be assessed in the EIA phase; and
- Define the Plan of Study (PoS) for the EIA phase.

Each of the steps involved in the scoping phase is discussed in detail below.

A1.1. Project description

A description of the components of the proposed project is provided.

A1.2. Preliminary assessment of the project

Baseline data and information on the proposed development is collected, primarily from the project proponent, but also from preliminary site surveys and published literature, and from legislation, guidelines and other regulatory instruments, in order to determine the activities for which approval must be sought from the competent environmental authority.

Information sourced from the project proponent includes the proposed location and layout of the development, and the technology to be adopted. A preliminary assessment of this data and information, in the context of legal requirements and an understanding of the receiving environment, is by way of a preliminary risk assessment or fatal flaw analysis. It enables major risks to the project or to the receiving environment to be identified at an early stage in the EIA process, and informs subsequent decisions about aspects of the development identified as being potentially problematic.

A1.3. Legal context

The legislation relevant to the proposed Project is identified and reviewed.

A1.4. Identification of key bio-physical and socio-economic issues

The key biophysical and socio-economic issues related to the project are identified during the Scoping Phase. Relevant information is drawn from as wide a range of sources as possible, including local authorities, local communities, and specialists.

A1.5. Public Participation Process

A public participation process is an explicit requirement of the NEMA EIA regulations, and must take place throughout the EIA process. The approach to public consultation depends largely on the location of the proposed development, the nature of the project, the sensitivity of the receiving environment, the previous level of exposure of the public to the EIA process, and the level of education of those who will be affected by the proposed development. Among other things, involvement of the public in the EIA process is an opportunity to gather local knowledge from individuals, communities and organisations.

Key stakeholders are identified and notified of the proposed development and the ways in which they can be involved. These stakeholders include:-

- Local and regional authorities
- Ratepayers associations
- Ward councillors and representatives
- Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Community Based Organisations (CBOs)
- Landowners adjacent and close to the site of the proposed development.

Stakeholders and I&APs are informed of the proposed development by means of:-

- Advertisements in newspapers
- A background information document (BID)
- Letters to key stakeholders and neighbouring landowners/occupiers
- Notice boards placed at the site

All of the above must include name(s) and contact details - telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address(es) to which stakeholders and I&APs can direct written or verbal comments.

Advertisements are placed in a minimum of one local and one regional newspaper, depending on the nature and extent of the proposed development. Stakeholders and I&APs are encouraged to register by sending their names and contact details to the EAP, whereupon they are sent a copy of the BID, and are thereafter kept informed of and involved in all subsequent stages of the EIA process. The BID is a brief document that provides information on the nature and location of the proposed development, and details of how the EIA process will be undertaken. However, it is unlikely that the final design specifications of some proposed developments are known at this stage, and there may be changes to the information presented in the BID as the project progresses.

In addition, public meetings, open house meetings and/or focus group meetings may be held. In the early stages of the Scoping Phase these meetings provide an opportunity for the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to present and discuss the information in the BID, to elicit information from local sources, and to register I&APs. Comment forms provide a further way by which comments may be submitted. In the latter stages meetings provide opportunities to discuss the draft version of the Scoping Report before it is submitted to the competent environmental authority.

A1.6. Identification of alternatives

Possible alternatives to the proposed development must be identified during the Scoping Phase. These may include fundamental alternatives, such as maintaining the current land use, or proposing a development of a different nature to the one proposed by the project proponent. Design alternatives are intended to modify certain design aspects of the proposed project, such as alternative technologies, timing of activities, or the location of infrastructure, so as to minimise negative impacts on the environment. The identification of alternatives must be reasonable and practical.

A1.7. Plan of Study for the EIA Phase

The information and comments received and recorded during the Scoping Phase inform the larger and more comprehensive EIA Phase. This is usually achieved by the development of the Plan of Study (PoS) for the EIA. The PoS defines the actions, steps, and studies that must be undertaken in the EIA Phase.

A1.8. Scoping Reports

The data collected during the baseline data collection and public participation processes must be synthesised in a Scoping Report. In line with NEMA regulations, registered I&APs are entitled to comment, in writing, on all written submissions made to the competent authority by the applicant or the EAP managing an application. Accordingly a Draft Scoping Report is made available for public comment for a minimum period of 30 days. All comments on the draft report must be considered, and necessary changes made to the Draft before it is submitted for review to the competent authority as the final Scoping Report. This report includes the PoS discussed in A1.7 above.

A2. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PHASE

In terms of section 31 (2) of the EIA regulations (2010), an *environmental impact assessment report must include:-*

(h) An indication of the methodology used in determining the significance of potential environmental impacts.

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a comprehensive evaluation and study phase that addresses all the issues raised in the Scoping Phase. It is a substantial phase that has seven key objectives:-

- Describe the biophysical and socio-economic environment that is likely to be affected by the proposed development.
- Undertake specialist studies to address the key biophysical and socio-economic issues.
- Assess the significance of impacts that may occur from the proposed development.
- Assess the alternatives proposed during the Scoping Phase.
- Provide details of mitigation measures and management recommendations to reduce the significance of impacts.
- Provide a framework for the development of Environmental Management Plans.
- Continue with the public participation process.

A2.1. Specialist Studies

Specialist studies are undertaken to provide a detailed and thorough examination of key issues and environmental impacts. Specialists gather relevant data to identify and assess environmental impacts that might occur on the specific component of the environment that they are studying (for instance waste management, air quality, noise, vegetation, water quality, pollution, waste management). Once completed, these studies are synthesised in, and presented in full as appendices to the Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

Based largely on the issues raised during the scoping phase (refer to *Volume 1: Final Environmental Scoping Report: Proposed Plan 8 Grahamstown Wind Energy Project*, CES, January 2012) as well as legislation relevant/applicable to the proposed project (refer to Chapter 3 of *Volume 1: Final Environmental Scoping Report: Proposed Plan 8 Grahamstown Wind Energy Project*, CES, January 2012), a series of specialist studies were conducted during the EIA the results of which are summarised in this EIR.

The team of specialists that conducted the required studies are recognised in their respective fields

and have been utilised by CES for numerous wind farm EIA processes to date. Specialists were required to address the issues raised by I&APs during the Scoping phase in their reports by gathering baseline information and identifying the possible impacts related to the proposed project. Mitigation measures for impacts were also provided.

The detailed specialist studies have been compiled into a separate Specialist Studies Volume (*Volume 2: Proposed Plan 8 Grahamstown Wind Energy Project: Specialist Reports*) for the proposed project. The details and expertise of each of the specialists as well as signed declarations of their independence are also included in the Specialist Studies Volume and are therefore not repeated here.

The Terms of Reference (ToR) for each of the specialist studies were defined in the Final Scoping Report (*Volume 1: Proposed Plan 8 Grahamstown Wind Energy Project: Final Scoping Report - CES, January 2012*).

Although the specialists were given free rein on how they conducted their research and obtained their information, they were required to provide the reports in a specific layout and structure, so that a uniform report could be produced.

In addition to the above, in order to ensure that a direct comparison could be made between the various specialist studies, a set methodology was used by all the specialists when evaluating the significance of impacts. This methodology is discussed in detail in this appendix.

A2.2. Public Participation Process

The public participation process (PPP) initiated at the beginning of the Scoping Phase continues into the EIA Phase. Once again the PPP provides a platform from which all I&APs are able to voice their concerns and raise issues regarding the project.

A2.3. Assessment of the Significance of Impacts

It is necessary to determine the significance, or seriousness, of any impacts on the natural or social environment. It is common practice in the EIA Phase to use a significance rating scale that determines the spatial and temporal extent, and the severity and certainty of any impact occurring, including impacts relating to any project alternatives. This allows the overall significance of an impact or benefit to be determined.

The overall intent of undertaking a significance assessment is to provide the competent authority with information on the potential environmental impacts and benefits, thus allowing them to make an informed, balanced and fair decision.

A2.4. Mitigation Measures and Recommendations

Critical to any EIA is the recommendation of practical and reasonable mitigation measures and recommendations. These recommendations relate to the actions that are needed in order to avoid, minimise or offset any negative impacts from the development.

A3.5. Planning Input

An effective EIA process should actively engage and contribute to the project planning process so as to mitigate environmental impacts through improved design and layout.

A3.6. Environmental Impact Report

The above-mentioned tasks are synthesised in an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). This will allow the assessment of the relationship of environmental impacts to project actions, as well as to assess the overall significance of these impacts. The EIR will also provide sufficient information to allow the competent authority to make an informed decision.

A summary report covering key findings is prepared in a manner that is easy to read and understand. Text will be kept short and technical detail to a minimum, while information will be presented in the form of photographs and figures wherever possible.

A4. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLANS

Environmental management and action plans based on the findings and recommendations set out in the EIR are prepared. Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) and, where necessary, Social Management Plans (SMPs) consist of a set of practical and actionable mitigation, monitoring and institutional measures to be taken into account during construction and operation of the proposed development. The aim is to eliminate adverse environmental and social impacts, offset them, or reduce them to acceptable levels. These plans include: -

- The standards and guidelines that must be achieved in terms of environmental legislation.
- Mitigation measures and environmental specifications that must be implemented at 'ground level', that is, during construction and operation.
- Provide guidance through method statements to achieve the environmental specifications.
- Define corrective action that must be taken in the event of non-compliance with the specifications of the EMPs and SMPs.
- Prevent long-term or permanent environmental degradation.

A5. ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION AND APPEALS PROCESS

On thorough examination of the EIR, the competent authority will issue an Environmental Authorisation or reject the application. Should authorisation be granted, it will carry Conditions of Approval. The proponent is obliged to adhere to these conditions.

I&APs are notified of the decision and have 10 days in which to lodge a notice of intention to appeal the decision, and a further 30 days in which to submit the appeal.

A6. ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

Evaluating the significance of impacts

To ensure a direct comparison between various specialist studies, a standard rating scale has been defined and will be used to assess and quantify the identified impacts. This is necessary since impacts have a number of parameters that need to be assessed.

Five factors need to be considered when assessing the significance of impacts, namely:

- 1. Relationship of the impact to temporal scales** - the temporal scale defines the significance of the impact at various time scales, as an indication of the duration of the impact.
- 2. Relationship of the impact to spatial scales** - the spatial scale defines the physical extent of the impact.
- 3. The severity of the impact- the severity/beneficial scale** is used in order to scientifically evaluate how severe negative impacts would be, or how beneficial positive impacts would be on a particular affected system (for ecological impacts) or a particular affected party. The severity of impacts can be evaluated with and without mitigation in order to

demonstrate how serious the impact is when nothing is done about it. The word 'mitigation' means not just 'compensation', but also the ideas of containment and remedy. For beneficial impacts, optimization means anything that can enhance the benefits. However, mitigation or optimization must be practical, technically feasible and economically viable.

- 4. The likelihood of the impact occurring** - the likelihood of impacts taking place as a result of project actions differs between potential impacts. There is no doubt that some impacts would occur (e.g. loss of vegetation), but other impacts are not as likely to occur (e.g. vehicle accident), and may or may not result from the proposed development. Although some impacts may have a severe effect, the likelihood of them occurring may affect their overall significance.

Each criterion is ranked with scores assigned as presented in Table 7-1 to determine the overall **significance** of an activity. The criterion is then considered in two categories, viz. effect of the activity and the likelihood of the impact. The total scores recorded for the effect and likelihood are then read off the matrix presented in Table 7-2, to determine the overall significance of the impact (Table 7-3). The overall significance is either negative or positive. The **environmental significance** scale is an attempt to evaluate the importance of a particular impact. This evaluation needs to be undertaken in the relevant context, as an impact can either be ecological or social, or both. The evaluation of the significance of an impact relies heavily on the values of the person making the judgment. For this reason, impacts of especially a social nature need to reflect the values of the affected society.

Negative impacts that are ranked as being of **"VERY HIGH"** and **"HIGH"** significance will be investigated further to determine how the impact can be minimised or what alternative activities or mitigation measures can be implemented. These impacts may also assist decision makers i.e. lots of **HIGH** negative impacts may bring about a negative decision.

For impacts identified as having a negative impact of **"MODERATE"** significance, it is standard practice to investigate alternate activities and/or mitigation measures. The most effective and practical mitigations measures will then be proposed.

For impacts ranked as **"LOW"** significance, no investigations or alternatives will be considered. Possible management measures will be investigated to ensure that the impacts remain of low significance.

The significance scale is an attempt to evaluate the importance of a particular impact. This evaluation needs to be undertaken in the relevant context, as an impact can either be ecological or social, or both. The evaluation of the significance of an impact relies heavily on the values of the person making the judgment. For this reason, impacts of a social nature need to reflect the values of the affected society.

Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative Impacts affect the significance ranking of an impact because it considers the impact in terms of both on-site and off-site sources. For example, pollution making its way into a river from a development may be within acceptable national standards.

Activities in the surrounding area may also create pollution which does not exceed these standards. However, if both on-site and off-site activities take place simultaneously, the total pollution level at may exceed the standards. For this reason it is important to consider impacts in terms of their cumulative nature.

Seasonality

Although seasonality is not considered in the ranking of the significance, it may influence the evaluation during various times of year. As seasonality will only influence certain impacts, it will only be considered for these, with management measures being imposed accordingly (i.e. dust

suppression measures being implemented during the dry season).

Ranking of Evaluation Criteria

EFFE CT	Temporal scale		Score
	Short term	Less than 5 years	1
	Medium term	Between 5 and 20 years	2
	Long term	Between 20 and 40 years (a generation) and from a human perspective almost permanent.	3
	Permanent	Over 40 years and resulting in a permanent and lasting change that will always be there	4
	Spatial Scale		
	Localised	At localised scale and a few hectares in extent	1
	Study area	The proposed site and its immediate environs	2
	Regional	District and Provincial level	3
	National	Country	3
	International	Internationally	4
	Severity		Benefit
	Slight / Slightly Beneficial	Slight impacts on the affected system(s) or party(ies)	Slightly beneficial to the affected system(s) or party(ies)
Moderate / Moderately Beneficial	Moderate impacts on the affected system(s) or party(ies)	An impact of real benefit to the affected system(s) or party(ies)	2
Severe / Beneficial	Severe impacts on the affected system(s) or party(ies)	A substantial benefit to the affected system(s) or party(ies)	4
Very Severe / Very Beneficial	Very severe change to the affected system(s) or party(ies)	A very substantial benefit to the affected system(s) or party(ies)	8
LIKELIHO OD	Likelihood		
	Unlikely	The likelihood of these impacts occurring is slight	1
	May Occur	The likelihood of these impacts occurring is possible	2
	Probable	The likelihood of these impacts occurring is probable	3
	Definite	The likelihood is that this impact will definitely occur	4

** In certain cases it may not be possible to determine the severity of an impact thus it may be determined: Don't know/Can't know*

Table 7-2: The matrix that will be used for the impacts and their likelihood of occurrence

Likelihood		Effect													
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	1	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	2	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	3	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
4	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	

Table 7-3: Ranking matrix to provide an Environmental Significance

Environmental Significance		Positive	Negative
LOW	An acceptable impact for which mitigation is desirable but not essential. The impact by itself is insufficient even in combination with other low impacts to prevent development. These impacts will result in either positive or negative medium to short term effects on the social and/or natural environment	4-7	4-7
MODERATE	An important impact which requires mitigation. The impact is insufficient by itself to prevent the implementation of the project but which, in conjunction with other impacts may prevent its implementation. These impacts will usually result in either positive or negative medium to long term effect on the social and/or natural environment.	8-11	8-11
HIGH	A serious impact which, if not mitigated, may prevent the implementation of the project. These impacts would be considered by society as constituting a major and usually long term change to the natural and/or social environment and result in severe negative or beneficial effects.	12-15	12-15
VERY HIGH	A very serious impact which may be sufficient by itself to prevent the implementation of the project. The impact may result in permanent change. Very often these impacts are unmitigable and usually result in very severe effects or very beneficial effects.	16-20	16-20

Example of an environmental significance statement

Impact 1: Impact of noise on human health

Cause and Comment

The noise associated with Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) has the potential to impact on human health. A recommendation for the movement of large vehicles at night may impact on the sleep patterns of local communities.

Mitigation and Management

There are standard mitigation measures to ensure that vehicle noise is kept within acceptable limits. Vehicles should be kept in good repair; they should use standard exhaust and silencing equipment. Drivers should stick to designated speed limits. Roads should be kept in good condition.

Significance Statement

RATING		Temporal Scale		Spatial Scale		Severity of Impact		Risk or Likelihood		Total
	Without Mitigation	Short term	1	Localised	1	Moderate	2	Definite	4	8
With Mitigation	Short term	1	Localised	1	Slight	1	Unlikely	1	4	
Overall Significance without mitigation									MODERATE	
Overall Significance with mitigation									LOW-	

APPENDIX B: CORRESPONDENCE FROM AUTHORITIES AND KEY STAKEHOLDERS



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Tel (+ 27 12) 310 3911 · Fax (+ 2712) 322 2682

DEA Reference: 12/12/20/2523

Enquiries: Mr Muhammad Essop

Telephone: (012) 395 1734 Fax: (012) 320 7539 E-mail: MEssop@environment.gov.za

Mr Bill Rowlston
Coastal & Environmental Services (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 934
GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

Telephone Number: (046) 622 2364
Fax Number: (046) 622 6564

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Mr Rowlston

REJECTION OF THE AMENDED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND ENERGY FACILITY, GRAHAMSTOWN, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The amended Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) dated November 2013 for the abovementioned application, submitted in terms of the requirement of Regulation 34(1) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2010 refers.

Following a review of the application form received in October 2011, the EIAR dated August 2012 and the amended EIAR dated November 2013, the Department of Environmental Affairs ("the Department") rejects the amended EIAR in accordance with Regulation 34(2)(b) of the EIA Regulations, 2010. The Department requests that the EIAR be amended to include the following as a matter of urgency:

- a) A twelve month bird and bat monitoring study. The Bird and Bat monitoring must be conducted in accordance to the minimum requirements of the best practice guidelines prepared by Bird Life South Africa and the South African Bat Assessment Advisory Panel.
- b) The Department of Communications and SENTEC must be listed as registered Interested and Affected Parties. Comments from the Department of Communications and SENTEC must be provided in the amended EIAR.
- c) A Cumulative¹ Impact Assessment is required to be part of the amended EIAR, should there be other similar facilities in the region.
- d) A shapefile of the preferred development layout/footprint must be submitted to the Department. The shapefile must be created using the Hartebeesthoek 94 Datum and the data should be in Decimal Degree Format using the WGS 84 Spheroid. The shapefile must include at a minimum, the following extensions i.e. .shp; .shx; .dbf; .prj; and, .xml (Metadata file). If specific symbology was assigned to the file, then the .avl and/or the .lyr file must also be included. Data must be mapped at a scale of 1:10 000 (please specify if an alternative scale was used. The metadata must include a description of the base data used for digitising. The shapefile must be submitted in a zip file using the EIA application reference number as the title. The shape file must be submitted to:

¹ "cumulative impact", in relation to an activity, means the impact of an activity that in itself may not be significant, but may become significant when added to the existing and potential impacts eventuating from similar or diverse activities or undertakings in the area

Postal Address:

Department of Environmental Affairs
Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Physical address:

Department of Environmental Affairs
Fedsure Forum Building (corner of Pretorius and Lillian Ngoyi Streets)
4th Floor South Tower
315 Pretorius Street
Pretoria
0002

For Attention: Mr Muhammad Essop
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Strategic Infrastructure Developments
Telephone Number: (012) 395 1734
Fax Number: (012) 320 7539
Email Address: MEssop@environment.gov.za

The reasons for the decision are provided below:

- a) Regulation 31(2)(r) of the EIA Regulations, 2010 states that the EIAR must include *any specific information that may be required by the competent authority*. In this regard, the Department requires a 12 month Bird and Bat Monitoring report.
- b) Should the Department make a decision on the abovementioned application without the required information, it may be deemed as a premature decision resulting in a high risk of appeal against the decision or possible litigation.
- c) In another similar matter, a decision was made on an appeal by the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs where the Minister clearly indicated that the Department requires the 12 month Bird and Bat Monitoring report as part of the EIA process.
- d) The EAP was made aware of the requirements of the Department regarding the Bird and Bat monitoring requirement report. The Department subsequently sent out a letter to all EAP's via its database notifying them prior to the 3rd REIPPP bidding round of this requirement and again at the beginning of this year advising of the 12 month Bird and Bat monitoring report requirement.
- e) Please be aware that the Department communicates with the EAP managing the application and not directly with the applicant. As such, all communication will be sent to the EAP and the Department requests that the EAP submits correspondence and information to the Department.

Copies of the amended EIAR must be circulated to all key stakeholders, Organs of State and registered I&AP's for a duration of 40 days for comment. The issues raised by I&AP's must be addressed in a table format indicating the issue/concern raised and the EAP's response thereto and must include copies of the I&AP's correspondence as well as a copy of the Department's rejection letter.

The EAP must provide proof that all registered I&AP's have been notified of the availability of the amended SR.

On receipt of the abovementioned information, the Department will reconsider the report in accordance with Regulation 34(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2010.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Should you have any queries or wish to discuss the points raised above, please do not hesitate to contact the writer.

Yours faithfully



Mr Ishaam Abader
Deputy Director-General: Legal, Authorisations, Compliance and Enforcement
Department of Environmental Affairs

Date: 8/04/14

cc: Mr J Cope	Plan8 (Pty) Ltd	Tel: (021) 801 7272	Fax (021) 422 2621
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environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

2012 -02- 20

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Reference: 12/12/20/2523

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Tel: 012 310 3780 Fax: 012 320 7539 E-mail: tmaswime@environment.gov.za

Bill Rowlston
Coastal & Environmental Services
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6139

Fax: 046 622 6564

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF FINAL SCOPING REPORT: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND ENERGY PROJECT, MAKANA MUNICIPALITY, EASTERN CAPE

The Department confirms having received the final Scoping Report dated January 2012 for the abovementioned project on 26 January 2012.

You are hereby reminded that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely


Mr Ishaam Abader

Deputy Director-General: Environmental Quality and Protection
Department of Environmental Affairs

Letter signed by: Ms Mmatlala Rabothata

Designation: PEO: Environmental Impact Evaluation

Date: 14/02/2012

2012-04-02



agriculture,
forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, forestry & fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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From: Directorate Land Use and Soil Management
Tel: 012-319-7034 Fax: 012-329-5938 ThokoB@daff.gov.za
Enquiries: Help Desk Ref: 2011_10_0126

Coastal & Environmental Services
PO BOX 934
GRAHAMSTOWN
6139

2012-03-26

Dear Sir/Madam

**ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING ASSESSMENT (EIA) FOR WIND FARMS
PROPOSED BY PLAN 8 (PTY) LTD INFINITE ENERGY NEAR
GRAHAMSTOWN., EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE**

Your application letter dated 30 January 2012 refers.

With reference to the above-mentioned matter, this Department does not support the development. This application can be considered on receipts of footprints.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. M.' followed by a flourish.

DELEGATE OF THE MINISTER: LAND USE AND SOIL MANAGEMENT

LESLEY 2012/ PLAN 8



agriculture,
forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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From: Directorate Land Use and Soil Management
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Enquiries: Helpdesk Ref: 2012_05_0140

Coastal & Environmental Services
P O Box 934
GRAHAMSTOWN
6139

2012-08-30

Dear Sir/Madam

**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW:
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND ENERGY PROJECT,
EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE**

Your letter dated 26 April 2012 refers.

With reference to the above-mentioned matter this Department does not have an objection to the proposed establishment of a wind energy facility on the mentioned property. However the following needs to be adhered to:

- Any further extension or amendment to this proposed project should be reviewed in terms of subdivision of Agricultural Land Act, 70 (Act 70 of 1970)
- No sub-division for the purposes of demarcating the individual footprint area should be allowed
- No construction should be placed on area that are of high or unique agricultural value and those that are under cultivation.
- Natural vegetation should be restored after the construction of the plant to prevent degradation.
- Provision should be made for the control of runoff water where applicable.
- Water needed for the maintenance of the site should not be sourced from existing water rights allocated to the site or nearby farm portions that will negatively impact on agricultural production.
- The applicant should take responsibility of the maintenance and status of the natural resource base of the site.

This consent does not exempt any person from any provision of any other law, with special reference to the Conservation of Agricultural Resource Act, 1983 (Act 43 of 1983) and does not purport to interfere with the rights of any person who may have an interest in the agricultural land.

LESLEY 2012

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ms M.C. Marubini', is written over the printed name.

Ms M.C. Marubini

DELEGATE OF THE MINISTER: LAND USE AND SOIL MANAGEMENT



energy

Department:
Energy
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 59, PRETORIA 0001
Pretoria, Tel: 012 444 4147/4261

Fax: 012 444 4501

Mr. Anton Hough
Coastal and Environmental Services
PO Box 934
Grahamstown
6139

Fax: 046 622 6564

Dear Mr. Hough,

**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME AND SPECIALIST
REPORTS IN RESPECT OF THE PROPOSED GRAHAMSTOWN WIND ENERGY
PROJECT**

Your correspondence dated 26 April 2012 and 7 May 2012 has reference.

The Department of Energy has studied the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Reports and the Draft Environmental Management Programme and associated specialist reports on the proposed Grahamstown Wind Energy Project.

We hereby inform the Coastal and Environmental Services that we are satisfied with the report. We appreciate your endeavor to comply with prescribed legislation and thank you for your initiative to contribute to the development of the renewable energy sector in SouthAfrica.

We wish you all the best in securing a Positive Record of Decision from the Department of Environmental Affairs.

The Department would appreciate being kept informed of progress with this project.

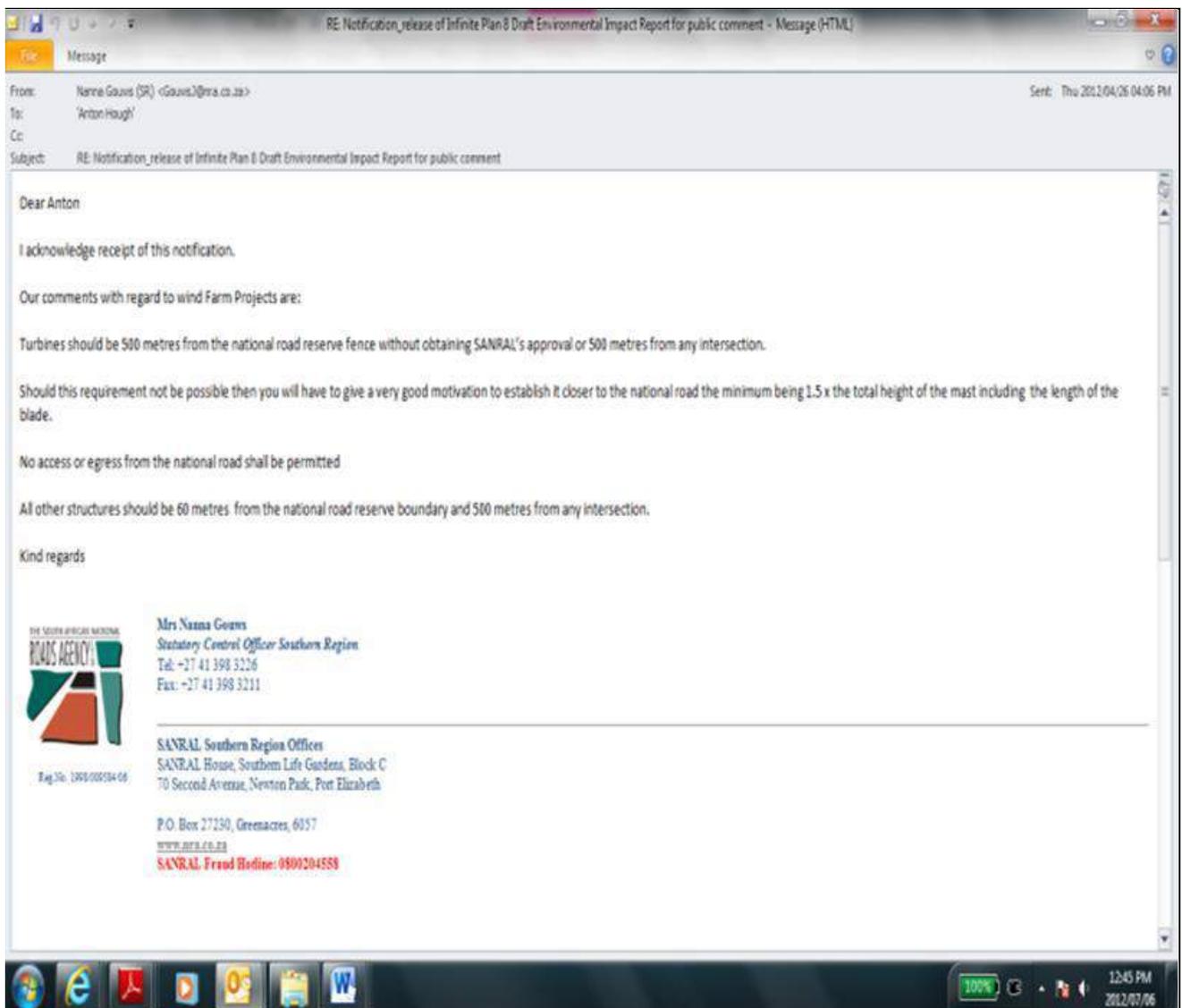
Yours truly



Ms. M Modise

Chief Director: Clean Energy (Active)

Date: 06/04/2012



From: Riana Meiring [mailto:RianaMeiring@makana.gov.za]
Sent: 25 July 2012 10:13 AM
To: Jadon Schmidt
Subject: RE: Plan8 Grahamstown Wind Energy Project

Dear Jadon

My comment as promised. The Directorate: LED supports any programme that contributes to a green economy, provided that the beneficiaries in the area benefit from local economic development programmes that emanates from the development. It is crucial that all land use management procedures and applications are followed and obtained. Projects promoting the green economy is supported on condition that the negative impact to the environment is considered and minimised and that the EIA results in a positive ROD.

Regards

Riana Meiring
Director: Local Economic Development
Makana Local Municipality
City Hall, Church Square, Grahamstown, 6139
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Plan8 Wind Energy Facility
Our Ref: 9/2/003/0002

Enquiries: Mariagrazia Galimberti
Tel: 021 462 4502
Email: mgalimberti@sahra.org.za
CaseID: 266

Date: Friday July 27, 2012

Page No: 1



Final Comment

In terms of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention:
Mr Anton Hough
Coastal and Environmental Services
P.O. Box 934
Grahamstown
6140

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND ENERGY PROJECT

Gess, R., December 2011. *Proposed Infinite Plan 8 Grahamstown Wind Farm, Eastern Cape Province of South Africa.*

Nilssen, P., December 2011. *Proposed development of the Plan 8 Grahamstown Wind Energy Project: including Farms Gilead 361, Penynes Kraal 362 and Tower Hill 363, Grahamstown, Makana Municipality, Eastern Cape Province.*

Plan8 Infinite Energy is proposing the establishment of a wind energy facility about 30 km east of Grahamstown, in the Makana Municipality.

A Scoping Report was submitted to SAHRA in January including an archaeological and a palaeontological impact assessment. No further studies were undertaken for the Environmental Impact Report.

The wind energy facility is proposed to have a generation capacity up to 67.5MW, with a maximum of 27 wind turbines distributed over about 2500ha. The entire area is characterised by undulate slopes and ridges, which are the preferred location for wind turbines.

The archaeologist warns that he was not able to survey the complete footprint of the development because of dense vegetation cover, however, after his survey he is confident that the general sensitivity of the area is low from an archaeological perspective. On the surveyed properties the specialist recorded a few *ex situ* Stone Age artefacts of low archaeological significance, two unmarked graves older than 80 years and an old and rusted horse/oxen drawn plough on Farm Gilead 361 and a cave with rock paintings on Peynes Kraal 362, known to the owner of the property.

The exact position of two wind turbines was changed between the scoping phase and the impact assessment phase, and therefore their footprint was not assessed. However, as mentioned above, the lack of significant material in proximity of these two turbines, and more in general in the entire surveyed area, does not warrant for a further assessments of the site.

Geologically the area is located 30km from Waterloo Farm, the black shale of which is considered as the most important Late Devonian palaeontological site in Africa. However, after the survey the palaeontologist concluded that the fossil significance of the footprint area of the wind energy facility is quite low, since the



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Plan8 Wind Energy Facility
Our Ref: 9/2/003/0002

Enquiries: Mariagrazia Galimberti
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Page No: 2



black shale of the Witpoort Formation deeply weathered here during the Tertiary and degraded into kaolin soft clay, which is currently exploited for mining along with silcrete.

The central part of the area is formed by quartzitic hills also derived from the degradation of the Witpoort Formation quartzite strata and here shallow-water ripples surfaces and ropy horizontal trace fossils were recorded; their significance is considered to be too low to engage into mitigation of the site.

The Witpoort Formation is in places overlain by fine grained brown shales of the Lake Mentz Subgroup, where only a few plant fragment fossils considered also to be of low significance were recorded.

Decision:

After considering the two impact assessments and the Environmental Impact Report SAHRA requires that:

- The two unmarked graves must be clearly demarcated and fenced off at least temporarily during construction. A fence must be placed around them, at least 5m from the perimeter of the graves.
- A buffer zone of 50m should be respected between the fence around the graves and the closest wind turbines, this buffer area may be reduced to 20m in the case of access roads.
- The old plough may be fenced off with the graves, however its exposure to the elements will undoubtedly continue its degradation. It is suggested that, if possible and if the landowner deems it suitable, the plough be moved under a covered area or indoor.
- While the rock art site is located in a gorge, and therefore not easily accessible from the ridges where the turbines will be located, it is recommended that the work force at the wind energy facility understands both the importance of the site from an archaeological perspective and why it should not be damaged.

If these recommendations are adhered to, the SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objections to the development. If any new evidence of archaeological sites or artefacts, palaeontological fossils, graves or other heritage resources are found during construction, SAHRA (Mariagrazia Galimberti/Colette Scheermeyer, Tel: 021 462 4502) and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, depending on the nature of the findings, must be alerted immediately.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully



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Plan8 Wind Energy Facility
Our Ref: 9/2/003/0002



Enquiries: Mariagrazia Galimberti
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Date: Friday July 27, 2012

Page No: 3

Mariagrazia Galimberti
Heritage Officer: Archaeology
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Colette Scheermeyer
SAHRA Head Archaeologist
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:
(DEA, Ref: 12/12/20/2523)

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.



The South African Heritage Resources Agency

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environmental affairs

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NEAS Reference: DEA/EIA/0000679/2011

DEA Reference: 12/12/20/2523

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Mr. Hylton Newcombe
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GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

Telephone: (046) 622-6564
Fax No: (046) 622-2364
Email: h.newcombe@cesnet.co.za

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Mr. Newcombe

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: PROPOSED PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND ENERGY PROJECT, WITHIN THE MAKANA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Your final Environmental Impact Assessment Report received by the Department on 02 August 2012 and the objection letter dated 25 August 2012 received from the Moll Property Trust refers.

The Department has reviewed the final EIR dated August 2012 and hereby request that the following information be submitted before a decision can be made on the final EIR:

1. Page 17 of the final EIR refers to a proposed 132kV overhead line and the topo-cadastral map on page 22 of the EIR refers to two power lines (an Eskom line and overhead power line). Please clarify if a new 132kV will be constructed for the proposed wind facility and if so, what route alignments were considered or investigated for this line and also please provide the Department with the co-ordinates for the proposed line (Start, Middle and end point). No alternatives are discussed for this line; if no alternative route alignment were investigated please give reasons and motivation as to why this was not done.
2. Please provide coordinates and footprint details of the substation site that will be constructed within the proposed development footprint.
3. Concerns were raised by I&APs on the process followed in the selection of the site alternative. The Department request that you give more detail in your amended EIR on how other site locations were eliminated and the reasons (in detail) that were taken into consideration when deciding that the Grahamstown site was the most feasible, reasonable, economically and environmentally viable site for the proposed development.
4. Please provide the Department with the final comments from Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Land Use and Soil Management) and also provide proof of delivery of the report to the Provincial Nature Conservation Department and Eastern Cape Parks Board.

5. Specialist Studies: I&APs raised concerns about both the fact that no Economic and Social Impact Assessment were conducted for the proposed development and the impact the proposed development will have on their game farming activities. The Department considers these concerns valid and critical, taking into consideration the fact that the area is dominated by Game Farms and also considering that the proposed might have negative impacts on such activities because of their visual impact and prominence. The Department hereby request that you conduct a cost benefit analysis study/ economic and social impact assessment for the proposed project focusing on the potential impact the proposed will have on the Game farm industry.
6. Comments and response report: a letter was received from Moll Property Trust dated 10 June. Your comment and response report fails to address issues stated in this letter. Having gone through the report and the letter from Mr de Villiers Moll, only two of his concerns were responded to. Please provide the department with a response to all issues raised by interested and affected parties.
7. A second objection letter has been received from the Moll Property Trust, this letter is attached. Please give response to all issues raised in this letter and include the response hereto in the Amended EIR.
8. Comments dated 02 October 2012 were received from the Provincial Department of Economic Development Environmental Affairs and Tourism; please give response to issues raised in this letter as part of your amended EIR.
9. Our telephonic discussion with regards to the proposed change to the current project scope. The Department advises that should the applicant (Plan 8 (Pty) Ltd) go ahead with the proposed changes; it would be advisable to take the EIR out for a second round of public participation. This will also give opportunities to those land owners that have complained about not being aware of the proposed project to bring forth their views and concerns with regards to this proposed development.
10. The Department awaits the requested information. You are hereby reminded that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours faithfully



Mr Mark Gordon

**Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs**

Letter signed by: Ms Fatima Rawjee

Designation: Acting Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Date: 19/10/2012

CC:

Mr Z Jessa	Plan 8 (Pty) Ltd	Tel: 072-592-2786	Fax: Zuben.jessa@plan-8.co.za
Mr. L Els	Eastern Cape DEDET	Tel: 014-508-5815	Fax: 041-585-1958
Ms. N Baart	Makana Local Municipality	Tel: 046-603-6131	Email: Ntombi.baart@makana.gov.za



Province of the
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Attention:	Ms Sindiswa Dlomo	Enquiries:	Alan Southwood
Organisation:	Department of Environmental Affairs	Ref:	12/12/20/2523
Postal address:	Private Bag X447 0001 Pretoria		
Tel:	012 395 1856		
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FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND ENERGY PROJECT

The letter dated 30th July 2012 from Coastal and Environmental Services refers.

The Department submits the following comments on these documents:

Environmental Impact Assessment Report

- ❖ **Page ix:** This Department is of the opinion that the impact of the proposed development on ecotourism and visual sensitivity of the properties in the vicinity of the site were not adequately dealt with. This is supported by the concerns raised by landowners and described in the First Paragraph on Page x and Appendix D8.
- ❖ **Page x:** Last Sentence of Last Paragraph: This statement will first have to be substantiated after the results of the first year of the bird monitoring programme are available.
- ❖ **Page xi: Bat Impact Assessment: Third Paragraph:** Does "bankability" mean "financially viable"?
- ❖ **Page xii: First Paragraph:** Serious consideration should be given to moving the turbine(s) during the micro-siting exercise so they do not affect this homestead.
- ❖ **Page xii: Second Paragraph: Last Sentence:** The EAPS opinion of the visual intrusion being moderate to low is contested on the basis of several objections from residents of surrounding farms. Refer to comment on Page xiii.
- ❖ **Page xii: Fourth Paragraph:** Serious consideration should be given to moving the turbine(s) during the micro-siting exercise so they do not affect the Main and Worker's Houses.
- ❖ **Page xviii: EAP's Recommendation: Bullet 5:** What issues were raised by which I&APs and what changes to the layout were made?
- ❖ **Page xviii: EAP's Recommendation: Bullet 6:** "The development has potential environmental ... (MLM)".
- ❖ **Page xviii: EAP's Recommendation: Bullet 7:** "The project may ... ; and"
- ❖ **Page xix: Second and Third Paragraphs:** This Department supports these recommendations.
- ❖ **Page xix: Second Last Paragraph:** It is suggested that the second sentence read: The project proponent must adhere to these conditions.
- ❖ **Page 8: Last Paragraph:** What is implied by "general authorisations" should be explained. What are the "existing sources" of water as 20379 m³ is a large quantity of water? Far less



water will be required if concrete is not mixed on site. For what purpose will water be required during the operational phase?

- ❖ **Page 14: Assumptions and Limitations:** Please refer to our comments on Pages xii regarding micro-siting.
- ❖ **Page 15: Last Paragraph:** Please refer to our comments on Pages xii regarding micro-siting.
- ❖ **Page 17: Last Sentence:** It is accepted the link between the substation and existing 132kV overhead power lines will be *via* an underground cable as Figure 2. 4 is not very clear in this regard.
- ❖ **Pages 19 to 22: Figures 2.3 to 2.6:** There should be some explanation of the Figures: what criteria were used to relocate the WTGs from their locality from the preliminary to final site layouts.
- ❖ **Page 23: (a) Geotechnical studies and foundation works:** This section raises a number of questions:
 - ❖ How and where will the approximately 500m³ of substrate excavated for each turbine be disposed of?
 - ❖ What is G5 fill material?
 - ❖ For what purpose will this fill material be used?
 - ❖ What commercial sources could be used?
 - ❖ Are the commercial sources and borrow pits on site licenced by the Department of Mineral Resources?
 - ❖ What will the source of the concrete be? It is preferable that the concrete is not mixed on site.

The earth and foundation works will require that substantial quantities of material must be excavated and transported and will thus be one of the major impacts of the proposed project. This Department would like to see a separate plan being compiled to deal with this aspect.

- ❖ **Page 24: (c) Roads:** It is stated that the gradient of roads "cannot be more than 6%" and "steep slopes may be need to be concreted". What is the definition of a "steep slope"? Is it more than 6%. Are there existing farm roads with a slope more than 6% that will be used?
- ❖ **Page 24: (d) Construction Platform:** What are the dimensions of the platforms? What kind of surface is required? Are they included in the WTGs footprints? What is "partially rehabilitated"? How will they be rehabilitated?
- ❖ **Page 25: (e) Grid connection and substation:** What is the size of the substation? What will it look like? The last sentence on this paragraph supports our assumption made in our comment on Page 17.
- ❖ **Page 25: (f) Water use requirements:** Concrete should not be mixed on site but transported in. What is the source of the water? Is the figure of 18,379 m³ over a period of 18 months correct? Will there be a conflict with water being used for agriculture?
- ❖ **Page 25: (g): Transport routes and volumes:** A Traffic Impact Assessment will be required to make provision for the large trucks using the intersection of the access road to the N2. Site distances on this section of the N2 are short and slip lanes for both east and west bound traffic may be required.
- ❖ **Page 26: 2.2.6 Refurbishment and rehabilitation of the site after operation:** Are all the sites covered with grass at present? By saying that "grass is replanted in order to restore the site' appearance to its original state implies this. The Ecological Specialist Report states that the area is covered by fairly diverse vegetation communities. Rehabilitation should involve more than just planting grass. Before the sites are cleared some plants should be rescued



so they can be used for rehabilitation. A Rehabilitation Plan thus needs to be compiled by a specialist prior to any site clearing.

- ❖ **Page 31: Species of Special Concern:** It would be appropriate to provide a list of the SSC and PSSC.
- ❖ **Page 34: Maps:** It is of concern that the Preliminary Layout Plan was still used to overlay information in the Report (such as Figures 3.3, and 3.4) and not the Final Layout as depicted in Figure 2.6. This makes it more difficult to assess the potential impact of the WTGs. For example, in the case of Figure 3.3, turbines are still located in Kowie Thicket.
- ❖ **Page 41: 3.3.3 Animal species of special concern:** Are there any species listed in the 1974 Ordinance or the ToPS?
- ❖ **Page 43: Figure 3.5:** The light blue area is not reflected in the Legend.
- ❖ **Page 50: Last Paragraph: Third bullet:** Below what population density does an area become acceptable for WTGs? Please explain how the population density criterion is used to decide if an area is appropriate for siting WTGs.
- ❖ **Page 50: Last Paragraph: Fourth bullet:** Please expand on this criterion: "potential and appetite"?
- ❖ **Page 50: Last Paragraph: Last bullet:** Why in particular Port Elizabeth?
- ❖ **Page 51: A different location:** It is of concern that the environment is not one of the "main determinants" in selecting potential locations. A sustainable impact on the environment is also a "critical factor to the overall feasibility of the project".
- ❖ **Page 51 and 52: A different location:** More discussion on how the decision was made to choose this site for development would be appropriate. How were the three sites chosen from the 29? Where are the other two sites? Where can this study be accessed?
- ❖ **Page 53: First Paragraph:** This site layout can only be considered optimal due to the iterative nature of developing this site layout plan and after the more detailed investigations "is conducted post-environmental authorization". Is the presumption being made that the competent authority will grant the authorization (Regulation 35 (1))?
- ❖ **Page 54: Low sensitivity:** Although areas may be highly impacted by current land-use, they will still provide some kind of value to ecosystem: they will never have no value to the ecosystem.
- ❖ **Page 54: Last Paragraph:** What does this paragraph mean?
- ❖ **Page 56: 6.2 Avifauna Assessment: First Paragraph:** The turbines should be moved as part of the assessment process as the Specialist was appointed to ascertain potential impacts on birds.
- ❖ **Page 57: Second Bullet:** The Avifaunal Management Plan must be accessible to all I&APs.
- ❖ **Pages 58 and 59:** It is difficult to read the Legends on certain Figures.
- ❖ **Page 60: 6.6 Visual Impact Assessment:** The Department is of the opinion that that the view expressed here is subjective. A number of I&APs have expressed severe reservations of what the visual impact will have on their future ability to attract clients to visit them. One can agree that power lines and pylons have affected the quality of the landscape and views but what agricultural activities have done this? Are the impact of the agricultural activities in this area any different from other similar areas, particularly as many properties have been set aside as conservation areas (game farms). We do not have power stations and coal mines in this area of the Eastern Cape so how can such a comparison be made? How can the assumption be made that in the future "viewers will experience them as positive rather than negative additions to the landscape"?



4 | Page

- ❖ **Page 63: Motorists:** The tall trees are alien invasive plants. There is most probably a legal requirement to remove them (CARA).
- ❖ **Page 65: Motorists:** Refer to comment on Page 63.
- ❖ **Page 66: 6.6.5 Shadow Flicker: Last Paragraph:** Consideration should be given to moving the WTG that causes the flicker.
- ❖ **Page 74: Construction:** This Department supports these recommendations. Working hours should be stipulated: 07h00 to 17h00 on week days; any work on weekdays or Public Holidays should be negotiated with the landowners.
- ❖ **Page 74: 6.8 Agricultural assessment: Third Paragraph:** As the soils have a high erosion index rating, the appropriate mitigation measures to prevent erosion during the construction of roads and excavation of foundations for WTGs must be prescribed in the EMP. Turbine 6 should be moved.
- ❖ **Page 74: 6.8 Agricultural assessment: Fourth Paragraph:** Refer to comment above.
- ❖ **Pages 74 and 75: 6.9 Geotechnical Assessment:** This section implies that there will be major technical and logistical challenges to upgrade access roads, excavate and cast foundations, and bury cables. All these impacts could easily have irreversible impacts on the environment if not managed properly. A separate assessment is thus required to deal with these issues. It would be a condition if a positive authorization were granted. Refer to comments on Pages 23 (a), (c) and (d). Cables must be buried. A bulldozer and a ripper must not be used due to the negative impacts on the environment.
- ❖ **Page 76: Mitigation and management:** Please explain the meaning of the second sentence: "Do not remove vegetation recommended)".
- ❖ **Page 78: Impact 4: Loss of Thicket Mosaic:** This turbine should be moved to an area of lower sensitivity.
- ❖ **Page 81: Impact 8: Fragmentation of vegetation and edge effects: Mitigation and management:** What fences: where are they located and what is their purpose? The turbine footprints should not be fenced.
- ❖ **Page 83: Cause and Comment:** Concrete should not be mixed on site. Refer to comment on Page 23 (a). What power lines? Power will be transferred to the ESKOM line via underground cables.
- ❖ **Page 84: Mitigation and Management:** These recommendations are essential to protect sensitive bird species.
- ❖ **Page 89: 7.1.6 Visual: Mitigation Measures:** All these mitigation measures are essential. No fires should be permitted. Smoking should be discouraged but if it takes place it should be in designated areas with fire extinguishers.
- ❖ **Page 91 Impact 17: Intrusion of large, highly visible wind turbines on the existing views of sensitive visual receptors:** It is imperative that all these Mitigation Measures are implemented. Refer to comments on Page 60.
- ❖ **Page 93: 7.1.7 Agriculture: Mitigation and Management:** Permits are required for the destruction or removal of any species listed in Schedules 3 and 4 of the Nature and Environmental Conservation Ordinance (No 19 of 1974), the ToPS Regulations and Government Notice 716 (7th September 2012) published in terms of the National Forest Act. Has the position of the turbines be discussed with staff of the Department of Agriculture (also recommended under Impacts 20 and 21; Page 107: 7.2.7 Mitigation Measures)?
- ❖ **Page 93: Pollution of water sources: Mitigation and Management:** Construction activities adjacent to water courses should not be closer than 100m from the 1:100 year flood levels. Construction should not take place closer than 100 m from drainage areas.



- ❖ **Page 94: Impact 21: Erosion and construction on land with a gradient: Mitigation and Management:** The impact of WTGs on livestock and game should be monitored over the life time of the project.
- ❖ **Page 96: Third Paragraph:** Why is it now "understood that the developer intends to bury all power lines underground" as this was previously stated as an accepted design principle throughout the report?
- ❖ **Page 96: Impact 3: Bird disturbance and displacement from area as a result of wind turbines and other infrastructure: Mitigation:** Pre-construction monitoring should be initiated as least a year before construction starts.
- ❖ **Page 98: 7.2.3 Bats: Mitigation and Management:** All mitigation and management measures stipulated must be implemented. The Department feels strongly that curtailment must be implemented from the time WTGs are put into operation. It is a fact that bat mortalities are caused by WTGs. Why wait until mortalities reach unacceptable levels before implementing curtailment? Costs to mitigate environmental impacts must be factored into the cost of running the wind farm. If the financial viability of the project is affected then perhaps the environmental costs are too high to mitigate?
- ❖ **Pages 100 to 102: Noise:** The WTGs should be moved further away from Peynes Kraal Farm and Workers Houses so that the day / night noise is less than 45 dB(A).
- ❖ **Page 104: Visual: Cause and Comment:** The statement that the landscape is not pristine and nor valued for its scenic views is subjective. Refer to comments on Page 60. There are many features that make this area scenically very attractive.
- ❖ **Page 105: Visual: Significance Statement:** The statement that "the severity of the impact is expected to be slight since the landscape has a low sensitivity to the development type: is subjective. The Department thus sees the Overall Significance as High. As little can be done to mitigate the visual impact, the Overall Significance remains High even with Mitigation.
- ❖ **Page 105: Impact 10: Mitigation Measures:** Refer to the comment on Page 66.
- ❖ **Page 107: Impacts on land value: "Mpumalanga"?** We should accept that at present we cannot assess the impact WTGs will have on property values in the Eastern Cape. The cautionary principle should thus be applied when deciding on their locality, particularly in this area with its broken topography and elevated areas. They will be very visible if located in such areas and the opinion of several owners of game farms is that the values of these properties will be significantly decreased if they tried to sell them as game farms. The fact that studies in other countries indicate that wind farms have not caused property values to decrease cannot be used as an argument to motivate for their establishment in South Africa.
- ❖ **Page 108: Impacts on tourism: Second Paragraph:** This Department agrees with the statement "it is unlikely that any study at this stage would provide an accurate assessment to which the visibility of the proposed facility would translate into a negative impact on tourism". Again, despite what studies in other countries indicate the reaction of tourists to the presence of wind farms is, extreme caution must be taken when making assumptions of what the impact of this project could be on the South Africa tourism industry. This is supported by correspondence from foreign tourists to game farms in the area that they would no longer visit the area if the WTGs were built (Pages 237 to 242).
- ❖ **Page 109: 8.1 Summary of Key Findings of the EIA: Second Paragraph: First Sentence:** The second part of the sentence does not make sense; "but their... views." Shadow flicker: refer to comment on Page 66.



- Page 109: 8.1 Summary of Key Findings of the EIA: Third Paragraph:** Pile driving: refer to Page 23 where the Department requires that a separate plan be compiled to deal with aspects of the foundations.
- ❖ **Page 109: 8.1 Summary of Key Findings of the EIA: Fourth Paragraph:** Noise: the turbines should be moved. Refer to comment on Pages 100 to 102.
 - ❖ **Page 109: 8.1 Summary of Key Findings of the EIA: Fifth Paragraph:** Monitor bird movements for a year prior to construction, then micro-site WTGs based on this information. Place bird markers on existing power lines running through property. Power will be transmitted in underground cables from the WTGs to the substation and from there to the ESKOM line.
 - ❖ **Page 110: 8.1 Summary of Key Findings of the EIA: First Paragraph:** Monitor bat movements for a year prior to construction, then micro-site WTGs based on this information. Refer to comments on Page 98 regarding curtailment.
 - ❖ **Page 110: 8.1 Summary of Key Findings of the EIA: Second Paragraph:** WTGs in sensitive areas must be moved.
 - ❖ **Page 110: 8.1 Summary of Key Findings of the EIA: Seventh Paragraph:** Due to visual impacts and concern of owners of neighbouring properties, WTGs should not be located on hilltops. The highest they should be located is on upper hill slopes. If at all possible they should not break the sky line but located with a hill slope as a back drop.
 - ❖ **Page 110: 8.1 Summary of Key Findings of the EIA: Figures 8-3 and 8-4:** Final Layout: WTGs 6 and 7 are isolated and consideration should be given moving them into groups comprised of WTGs 1 to 5 and / or 12 to 14 as the length of the service road would be reduced. The same applies to WTG 8 that could be moved into groups 9 to 11 or 15 to 19. What is the feasibility of moving WTGs 22 and 23 and locating them between 19 and 20?
 - ❖ **Page 119: EAP's Recommendation: Third Bullet:** The Department agrees that these WTGs should be moved.
 - ❖ **Page 119: EAP's Recommendation: Fifth Bullet:** The Department is very concerned that, despite the Public Participation Process, there are still a number of neighbouring landowners who only became aware of the project when the EIA Report was made available and who have major concerns about the visual impact of the WTGs on the value of their land and tourism operations. In a number of cases these issues were not resolved.
 - ❖ **Page 119: EAP's Recommendation: Second Paragraph:** Although this Department's generally agrees with the EAP's recommendation for the proposed Wind Energy Project the above-mentioned conflicts should be resolved before DEA makes a decision.
 - ❖ **Page 120: EAP's Recommendation: Second Paragraph:** The Department agrees that the project could only be granted authorisation subject to a strict set of conditions which must be initiated to mitigate potential negative impacts on the environment. All recommendations in the EMP must be followed.
 - ❖ **Page 120: EAP's Recommendation: Third Paragraph:** The Department supports the implementation of these monitoring programmes.
 - ❖ **Pages 120 to 126: Table:**
 - ❖ **Avifauna: Operation: Bird collisions with power lines:** Power line from substation to ESKOM to be underground. Mark ESKOM power lines with collision marking devices.
 - ❖ **Avifauna: Operation: Bird disturbance by turbines:** Monitor bird movements for a year prior to construction and the micro-site WTGs.
 - ❖ **Avifauna: Construction: Bird disturbance:** Specialist to walk through areas pre-construction to assess if any birds are breeding and to take appropriate action (nest removal) if they are.



- ❖ **Agriculture: Construction: Loss of vegetation:** Permits: Refer to comment on Page 93.
- ❖ **Ecological: Construction: Loss of plant species of special concern:** Permits: Refer to comment on Page 93.
- ❖ **Ecological: Construction: Loss of animal species of special concern: Fences:** Refer to comment on Page 81.
- ❖ **Ecological: Construction Disruption of ecosystem function and process: Fences:** Refer to comment on Page 81.
- ❖ **Visual: Construction: Intrusion of highly visible construction on sensitive viewers:** Flat coastal plain? This contradicts what is said on Page 110: hilltop sites?
- ❖ **Bat: Operation: Bat mortalities during foraging and migration:** Monitor bat movements for a year prior to construction, then micro-site WTGs based on this information. Refer to comments on Page 98 regarding curtailment.
- ❖ **Page 154 to 161: Appendix C: Plan of study submitted to DEA:** Please confirm that all the issues stipulated in the DEA's letter dated 24th February were dealt with.
- ❖ **Appendix D8: 1. General: Dave Young: 06/06/2012:** There is genuine concern from neighbouring landowners that if the project goes ahead the value of their land would decrease. The EIA has not addressed this issue to the satisfaction of these landowners.
- ❖ **Appendix D8: 2. Procedural: Murray Crous: 04/06/2012:** The Department is concerned that fears of certain I&IPs were not addressed satisfactorily. If the developer / EAP were aware that certain landowners had specific concerns about the potential impact why were these individuals not specifically consulted to try and resolve the issues?
- ❖ **Appendix D8: 2. Procedural: Dave De la Harpe: 14/12/2011:** It is apparent from correspondence received from a number of I&APs that a number of landowners were inadequately / unformed during the Public Participation Process although it started in September 2011. The EAP now know who they are and it would most probably be a good idea to individually contact them and try to resolve their specific issues.
- ❖ **Appendix D8: 2. Procedural: Murray Crous, Petra Schutrops: 14/12/2011:** Where were these comments incorporated into the EIR? What was the response from DEA that a SEA should be undertaken?
- ❖ **Appendix D8: 2. Procedural: Murray Crous: 04/06/2012:** The EAP should provide the information (Final Layout Plan) discussed under this issue to I&APS mentioned in Appendix D8 so they can direct queries to DEA if they wish.
- ❖ **Appendix D8: 3. Tourism and Business Operations: Murray Crous, Petra Schutrops: 12/12/2011:** The EAPs response supports this Departments concern that there is simply insufficient information to assess what the impact on hunting and tourism could be.
- ❖ **Appendix D8: 3. Tourism and Business Operations: Dave de La Harpe: 14/12/2011:** This response will not go far to provide reassurance that the value of the investment in the property will not decrease.
- ❖ **Appendix D8: 3. Tourism and Business Operations: A Timm: 04/06/2011:** The same issue is raised six months later but "these comments are noted". These landowners are genuinely concerned and the EAP should at least make an attempt to resolve them. Has DEA responded to the request for a SEA?
- ❖ **Appendix D8: 3. Visual: December 2011:** O Crous, Murray Crous and Petra Schutrops raised specific concerns. The Visual Specialist Study was completed as part of the EIA. The EAP should now answer these questions.
- ❖ **Appendix D8: 3. Visual: O Crous: 17/05/2012:** Were the visual montages sent to this person?



- ❖ **Appendix D8: 3: Visual: Dave Young: 21/05/2012:** Concerns about property values, visual impact (also Issue 06/06/2012) on prospective hunting clients and eco-tourists should be addressed more comprehensively.
- ❖ **Appendix D8: 3: Visual: Murray Crous: 04/06/2012:** Concerns about property values, visual impact on prospective hunting clients and eco-tourists should be addressed more comprehensively.
- ❖ **Appendix D8: 3: Visual: Murray Crous: 10/06/2012:** Has the turbine layout been revised? The last sentence on Page 66 states the house is surrounded by trees but does not confirm the layout was revised.
- ❖ **Appendix D8: 3: Visual: Murray Crous: 10/06/2012:** Please advise Mr Crous what provisions are made in the EIA Report for lighting.
- ❖ **Appendix D8: 3: Visual: XXL Reserve (Pty) Ltd: 18/06/2012:** Concerns about visual impact on prospective hunting clients should be addressed more comprehensively.
- ❖ **Appendix D8: 5. Land-use: A Timm: 04/06/2012:** The concern of the impact of wind farms on property values is again raised.
- ❖ **Appendix D8: 6. Noise: December 2011:** O Crous, Murray Crous and Petra Schutrops raised specific concerns. The Noise Specialist Study was completed as part of the EIA. The EAP should now answer these questions.
- ❖ **Appendix D8: 6. Noise: Dave Young: 21/05/2012:** Although the EAP claims no study assessed the impact noise levels will have on the breeding of game species, they should see it as an unresolved issue and do further research or recommend that a monitoring programme be initiated.
- ❖ **Appendix D9: Comments Report: Pages 215 to 242:** Most of the issues raised in this correspondence were summarized and included in Appendix D: Comments Report. Specific comment was made on a number of these issues.
- ❖ **Pages 250 to 253: Meeting Minutes:**
 - ❖ **Glen Dixon: Page 250:** A decision is made by the implementing authority once the EIA is submitted (R35). What is implied by "flaws"? A number of property owners still have major concerns ("objections") with certain aspects of the development. Refer to the comment on Appendix D8.
 - ❖ **Glen Dixon: Page 250:** It is of concern that the environment is not one of the "main determinants" in selecting potential locations. Refer to comment on Page 51.
 - ❖ **Murray Crous: Page 251:** Zuben did not answer the first question.
 - ❖ **Ossie Crous: Page 252:** Refer to comment on Appendix D8: 6. Noise: Dave Young: 21/05/2012.
 - ❖ **Murray Crous: Page 252:** Why is it "a problem that the Eastern Cape has game and a good electricity grid?" The negative effects must be mitigated. Care must be taken not to potentially jeopardise the game industry in the project area by the erection of WTGs.
 - ❖ **Ossie Crous: Page 253:** This was also noticed in the EIA Report. Refer to comment on Visual: Construction: Intrusion of highly visible construction on sensitive viewers: Page 124.
- ❖ **Pages 254 to 257: Meeting Minutes:**
 - ❖ **Pieter Moll and Dave Young: Page 254:** With a high technological development such as a wind farm that is novel in a rural area where game farming and tourism is an important part of the economy, it would be necessary to extend the Public Participation Process beyond the confines of the legal requirements to ensure that the developments is environmentally and socially sustainable.



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- ❖ **Dave Young, Pieter Moll: Page 255:** Refer to the comments on Appendix D8.
- ❖ **Pieter Moll: Page 255:** Did Pieter Moll submit his various concerns in writing and did the developer comment on them? It would be appropriate to discuss the technique used to locate wind farms in South Africa in Chapter 5: Alternatives.
- ❖ **Dave Young: Page 256:** It is the EAP's responsibility to undertake such studies and to appease land owner's concerns about the impact of TWGs on their property. Refer to the comments on Appendix D8.
- ❖ **Orgie Crous: Page 256:** How can the response "there will be an increase in property values" be reconciled with the statement under Dave Young that "no one actually knows what the impact" on property values will be?
- ❖ **Pieter Moll: Page 256:** R 54 (7) obliges the EAP to do this. Did CES ask Rubin if he "wants another comments and responses trail before the EIR is submitted? Refer to the comment on Pieter Noll and Dave Young: Page 254.
- ❖ **Page 258: Appendix D11:** It would have been appropriate to have provided this Departments' Regional Office in Port Elizabeth with the original documentation and not only the office in Grahamstown.

EMP

- ❖ Comments are included in the letter this Department sent to CES responding to a request to comment on the Draft EMP and Specialist Reports 31st May 2012 (copy attached).


DAYALAN GOVENDER
REGIONAL MANAGER: ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS: CACADU REGION

DATE: 02/10/2012





Province of the
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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
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Ref: 12/12/20/2523

Attention: Mr Anton Hough,

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME AND SPECIALIST REPORTS: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN ENERGY PROJECT

Your letter dated 4th May 2012 refers.

The Department submits the following comments on the documents:

Ecological Specialist Report

- Page 9: First Paragraph: "between 2 and 7 MW".
- Page 14 onwards: Plant names: a number of genus and species are not separated by a space.
- Page 20: Lubke *et al* 1988 is not in the reference list.
- Page 23: Are there any Threatened or Protected plant species promulgated in terms of the NEMBA growing on site? Permits are required to remove them.
- Pages 25 to 27: The comment for Page 23 also applies to animals.
- Page 25 and 26. Is it Branch 1988 or 1998? Refer to References on Page 47.
- Page 26: Is there a reference for Table 4-4?
- Page 26: Although there is a specialist study on bats there should be some mention of them under Mammals as they have specific significance in the case of wind farms.
- Page 27: Was the Provincial Conservation Ordinance consulted when Table 4-6 was compiled?
- Page 34: Figure 4-2: Names of the Protected Areas would be informative.
- Page 35: At the scale of this map some turbines are on the boundary between High and Medium Sensitivity, and between Medium and Low Sensitivity. During micro-siting can they not be moved to the areas of the lowest sensitivity?
- Page 40: "Some SSC will not transplant". What is the feasibility of collecting seeds or taking cuttings if they must be destroyed?
- Page 44: The Department agrees with the content of Section 7.
- Page 46: Refer to comment on Page 23.
- Page 46: DEDEA is now DEDEAT: Department of Economic Affairs, Environment and Tourism.
- Page 46: Section 78.3: last paragraph: See comment on Page 40.



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- Pages 47 to 48: Was data from the S A Frog Atlas, S A Butterfly Atlas, SABAP1 SABAP2 and other such initiatives consulted?
- Page 48: The reference Victor and Dold is incomplete.

Avifaunal Impact Assessment

- Figures 1, 2 and 9: Add the following: North Arrow; N2; boundary of study area.
- Appendix 2: Where were the Bird Numbers sourced?
- Appendix 3: The Table needs headings.

Specialist Bat Sensitivity Analysis

- Page 5: 2 to MW?
- Page 9 and Page 10 (Figure 3-2): What is the reference for the vegetation units?
- Page 15: Figure 4-2: The colour for *Tadarida* and *Miniopterus* is very similar so it is difficult to see the localities on the map.

Visual Impacts

- Page 33: 6.1.4.3: The tall trees are alien invasive trees (refer to Figure 6-4 on Page 37). There is most probably a legal requirement to remove them (CARA).

Agricultural Resources

- Page 6: Map 3: Indicate the boundary of the study site.
- Page 7: Map 4: From what reference was the map taken?
- Page 11: $(11.79/2\ 500)*100 = 0.476\%$?

General comment

- The recommendations made by most of the Specialists that fairly small changes in locality of some of the wind turbines will reduce their impact on a number of environmental parameters should be seriously considered.
- Mitigation measures recommended by all the Specialists must be incorporated into the EIR and the EMP as is stipulated on Page 33 of the EMP.

EMP

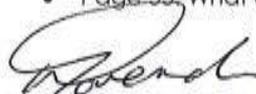
- Use of verbs: we suggest consistency in the use of "shall", "must", "will", "should", "are to be", "can be" and so on, as they all have slightly different meaning.
- Page 6: The paragraph "Current wind turbines ..." is duplicated.
- Page 15: Will the public be informed of the availability of the Policy?
- Page 16: Specify the Provincial legislation as it requires permits if the development will impact on Protected Plants.
- Page 16: Specify from whom Protected Plant Permits are required, namely DAFF and DEDEAT.



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- Page 21: We suggest that a representative from this Department serve on the Liaison Committee to monitor compliance of the Authorization and EMPr.
- Page 37: Provide more detail about buffer zones as recommended in Specialist Reports.
- Page 37: Power must be transmitted from turbines to the substation via underground cables. The only overhead line should be the high-voltage Eskom line that takes the power to the national grid.
- Page 37: Intermittent lighting must be used unless it contravenes aviation regulations.
- Page 37: A higher cut-in speed for the turbines, as recommended in the Specialist Report, should be seriously considered to reduce the potential impact on bats.
- Page 38: There is no yellow highlighted protocol.
- Page 39: Please quote any references used.
- Page 39: The Section "However, it must be confidence." seems out of context ("cut and paste")?
- Page 39: If bird records are submitted to SABAP2 they can be analysed as part of a formal protocol.
- Page 42: The Section "In addition to specialist." seems out of context ("cut and paste")?
- Page 42: Monkeys / Baboons (or any other scavengers) must not be able to open drums even if they are knocked / blown over.
- Page 52: No construction on Public Holidays.
- Page 52: Alien vegetation should not be burned (legal requirements: danger of runaway fires).
- Page 53: Turbine foundation should be located in flat areas ($\leq 5^\circ$).
- Page 55: What are the Civil Aviation regulations regarding the lighting of turbines?



DAYALAN GOVENDER

REGIONAL MANAGER: ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS: CACADU REGION

DATE: 31/05/2012



APPENDIX C: PLAN OF STUDY SUBMITTED TO DEA

According to regulation 28 (1) (i) of the EIA regulations (2010), A scoping report must include –

- (n) a plan of study for environmental impact assessment which sets out the proposed approach to the environmental impact assessment of the application, which must include –
- (i) a description of the tasks that will be undertaken as part of the environmental impact assessment process, including any specialist reports or specialised processes, and the manner in which such tasks will be undertaken;
 - (ii) an indication of the stages at which the competent authority will be consulted;
 - (iii) a description of the proposed method of assessing the environmental issues and alternatives, including the option of not proceeding with the activity; and
 - (iv) particulars of the public participation process that will be conducted during the environmental impact assessment process; and
- (o) any specific information required by the competent authority.

In line with the above-mentioned legislative requirement, this Chapter therefore sets out the Plan of Study (PoS) for the EIA phase of the assessment. **Consultation with DEA will be on-going throughout this EIA. However, it is anticipated that DEA will provide relevant comment with respect to the adequacy of this Plan of Study for the EIA, as it informs the content of the EIR and sufficiency thereof.**

EIA PHASE

The EIA phase has four key elements, namely:-

- **Specialist Studies:** Specialist studies identified as being necessary during the Scoping Phase, plus any additional studies that may be required by the authorities, will be undertaken during the initial phase of the EIA. Appropriately qualified and experienced specialists will be appointed to undertake the various assessments. Specialists will gather baseline information relevant to the study being undertaken and will assess impacts associated with the development. Specialists will also make recommendations to mitigate negative impacts and enhance benefits. The resulting information will be synthesised into the Environmental Impact Report (EIR), whilst the full specialist reports will be attached to the EIR as a Specialist Volume.
- **Environmental Impact Report (EIR):** The main purpose of this report is to gather and synthesise environmental information and evaluate the overall environmental impacts associated with the development, to consider mitigation measures and alternative options, and make recommendations in choosing the best development alternative. The EIR also identifies mitigation measures and management recommendations to minimise negative impacts and enhance benefits. The EIR and associated specialist reports are made available for public and authority review and comment. The availability of the report will be advertised in one Provincial and one local newspaper and the report will also be made available for public scrutiny in easily accessible locations.
- **Comments Report:** The comments report provides a detailed record of comments, issues and concerns raised by I&APs and the authorities during the review period, and also provides relevant responses to these comments.
- **Environmental Management Programme (EMPr):** The EMPr provides guidelines to the project proponent and the technical team on how best to implement the mitigation measures and management recommendations outlined in the EIR during the construction and operational phase.

In addition to the above, the **Public Participation Process** commenced during the Scoping Phase is continued, during which I&APs are afforded further opportunities to raise their issues, concerns

and comments regarding the proposed project. It is possible that some of the project details may have changed in response to the preliminary findings of the ESR, and as a result of design changes made by the project proponent. I&APs and key stakeholders are given the opportunity to review the Draft EIR before it is submitted to the authorities for consideration. Comments on the Draft EIR received from I&APs are included and addressed in the submitted EIR.

Specialist studies

The following Specialist Studies are proposed for the EIA Phase of the assessment:

- Visual Impact Assessment
- Noise Impact Assessment
- Ecological Impact Assessment (incorporating flora and fauna)
- Avifauna Impact Assessment
- Archaeological and Palaeontological Impact Assessment
- Bat (*Chiroptera*) Impact Assessment
- Agricultural Impact Assessment

The proposed Terms of Reference for the above studies, which outline the information required from the specialists, are provided in Sections 8.1.1.1 – 8.1.1.5 below and the methodology for assessing the significance of impacts and alternatives is described in Section 8.1.2 that follows. Specialists will also be required to address issues raised by I&APs in their reports.

Visual and Landscape Impact Assessment

The size of the structures is dictated by the design, and there is little that can be done to reduce their dimensions. Therefore, the Visual and Landscape Impact Assessment the details of which are provided below will focus on mitigation measures. The specific Terms of Reference for the Visual and Landscape Impact Assessment will therefore include:-

1. Conduct a site reconnaissance visit and photographic survey of the proposed project site.
2. Conduct a desk top mapping exercise to establish visual sensitivity:-
 - Describe and rate the scenic character and sense of place of the area and site.
 - Establish extent of visibility by mapping the view-sheds and zones of visual influence
 - Establish visual exposure to viewpoints
 - Establish the inherent visual sensitivity of the site by mapping slope grades, landforms, vegetation, special features and land use and overlaying all relevant above map layers to assimilate a visual sensitivity map.
3. Review relevant legislation, policies, guidelines and standards.
4. Preparation of a draft Visual Baseline/Sensitivity report
 - 2.** Assessing visual sensitivity criteria such as extent of visibility, the sites inherent sensitivity, visual sensitivity of the receptor's, visual absorption capacity of the area and visual intrusion on the character of the area
 - 3.** Prepare photomontages of the proposed development
 - 4.** Conduct shadow flickering modelling
 - 5.** Assess the proposed project against the visual impact criteria (visibility, visual exposure, sensitivity of site and receptor, visual absorption capacity and visual intrusion) for the site.
 - 6.** Assess impacts based on a synthesis of criteria for each site (criteria = nature of impact, extent, duration, intensity, probability and significance)
 - 7.** Establish mitigation measures/recommendations with regards to minimizing visual risk areas

Noise Impact Assessment

The objectives of the noise impact assessment will be to:

1. Identify all potential noise sensitive sites that could be impacted upon by activities relating to the construction and operation of the proposed wind energy facility.
2. Identify all noise sources relating to the activities of the facility during the construction and operation phases that could potentially result in a noise impact at the identified noise sensitive sites.
3. Determine the sound emission, operating cycle and nature of the sound emission from each of the identified noise sources.
4. Calculate the combined sound power level due to the sound emissions of the individual noise sources.
5. Calculate the expected rating level of sound at the identified noise sensitive sites from the combined sound power level emanating from identified noise sources.
6. Display the rating level of sound emitted by the noise sources in the form of noise contours superimposed on the map of the study area.
7. Determine the existing ambient levels of noise at identified noise sensitive sites by conducting representative sound measurements.
8. Determine the acceptable rating level for noise at the identified noise sensitive sites.
9. Calculate the noise impact at identified noise sensitive sites.
10. Assess the noise impact at identified noise sensitive sites in terms of:-
 - SANS 101 SANS 10103 for “The measurement and rating of environmental noise with respect to land use, health, annoyance and to speech communication”.
 - Noise Control Regulations.
 - World Health Organisation - Guidelines for Community Noise.
 - World Bank - Environmental Guidelines.
11. Investigate alternative noise mitigation procedures, if required, in collaboration with the design engineers of the facility and estimate the impact of noise upon implementation of such procedures.
12. Prepare and submit a full environmental noise impact report containing detailed procedures and findings of the investigation including recommended noise mitigation procedures, if relevant.

Ecological Impact Assessment

The assessment will follow on from the initial study, which included a site visit (see Chapter 4 above) conducted during the scoping phase, and will address any key issues raised by interested and affected parties. A considerable body of information on the flora and fauna of the Makana area and its environs has been assembled in the reports on previous studies of the area in general. Accordingly the study will comprise a desktop study of all available relevant literature.

However, a detailed survey of the site will be undertaken to determine the possibility of there being listed threatened or protected ecosystems and species on the proposed project site. If any of these are found, the Environmental Management Plan will include recommended measures to remove or otherwise protect plant species found on the site that are afforded protection under the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act during construction.

This specialist study will therefore include but will not be limited to –

1. A detailed description of the ecological (fauna and flora) environment within and immediately surrounding the footprint of the proposed development and will consider terrestrial fauna and flora. Fauna include mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and insects but not avifauna as these will be the subject of a separate specialist study (refer to Section 8.1.1.5 below). This aspect of the report will specifically include the identification of -
 - Areas of high biodiversity;
 - The presence of species of special concern, including sensitive, endemic and protected species;
 - Habitat associations and conservation status of the identified fauna and flora;
 - The presence of areas sensitive to invasion by alien species; and
 - The presence of conservation areas and sensitive habitats where disturbance should be

avoided or minimised.

2. Review relevant legislation, policies, guidelines and standards.
3. An assessment of the potential direct and indirect impacts resulting from the proposed development (including the wind turbines, associated infrastructure e.g. access road), both on the footprint and the immediate surrounding area during construction and operation;
4. A detailed description of appropriate mitigation measures that can be adopted to reduce negative impacts for each phase of the project, where required; and
5. Checklists of faunal groups identified in the region to date, highlighting sensitive species and their possible areas of distribution.

Avifauna Assessment

An avifauna specialist study will be conducted. The assessment will include:

1. A desk-top review of existing literature to seek:
 - Previous means of predicting bird mortality (and other impacts) of wind turbines affecting birds in groups similar to those in the study area.
 - Accounts of mortality at wind turbines
 - Information on the status, in Makana Municipality, Eastern Cape, South Africa and globally, of bird groups most likely to be affected
2. A site visit to identify species of special concern and assess the likely impacts of the construction and operational phases on the avifauna of the site.
 - Surveys will be conducted on at least two days at sites at either end, and in the middle of the proposed turbine corridor and, as a control against the post construction situation, one-day surveys at two similar sites outside the turbine affected area. Survey sites will be selected to reflect variation in local habitat and terrain.
 - At each site, a camp will be established in the early afternoon. Two hours of observations will be undertaken before dusk and two during the first hours of darkness (when night-migrating birds are likely to be flying at lower altitude). Observations will begin again at first light and continue for 3-4 hours (depending on bird activity levels and especially the use of thermals by soaring birds).
 - During daylight in each survey hour - 2 x 15 minutes for visual scans of birds crossing the proposed turbine corridor (with appraisal of flight height above the ground) - 2 x 10 minutes circular point surveys
 - After dark in each hour scans by night vision binoculars - 2 x 10 minutes focused on bird activity
3. Conduct a review of international literature and experience relating to operational wind farms; including state of the art plants around the world
4. Contextualize the literature and experience and relate it to the Eastern Cape scenario and local avifauna;
5. Map sensitive areas in and around the proposed project site(s);
6. Describe the affected environment and determine the status quo in terms of avifauna;
7. Indicate how an avifaunal resource or community will be affected by the proposed project;
8. Discuss gaps in the baseline data with respect to avifauna and relevant habitats;
9. List and describe the expected impacts;
10. Assess and evaluate the anticipated impacts, and;
11. Make recommendations for relevant mitigation measures which will allow the reduction of negative impacts and the maximization of the benefits associated with any identified positive impacts.

Although the avifauna specialist will assess avian collision risk and provide detailed explanations and ratings of the likelihood of collisions of various species, detailed avian collision modelling i.e. quantitatively assessing the collision risk potential (i.e. birds directly colliding with rotor blades and turbine towers) of the proposed wind farm cannot be undertaken. This is because the extent to which this can formally be modelled and quantified to arrive at predicted numbers of collisions, would depend largely on the primary data collection related to flight frequencies and species, but it is unlikely that even the best possible data collection between now and mid 2010 would provide

much confidence in such a model, as it would require more representative data collection across a range of conditions/seasons etc. In addition, very often the worst bird collision 'events' at wind farms around the world have been found to have occurred in extreme weather conditions, when flight behaviour etc is abnormal.

Archaeological and Palaeontological Impact Assessment

As part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed facility, it is necessary to undertake a phase one archaeological and historical survey to fulfil SAHRA requirements in accordance with the requirements of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999) which requires that "...any development or other activity which will change the character of a site exceeding 5 000m², or the rezoning or change of land use of a site exceeding 10 000 m², requires an archaeological impact assessment".

A heritage and archaeological impact assessment will therefore be conducted, the primary objective of which is to determine whether there are any indications that the proposed site is of archaeological significance. This will be a phase 1 assessment and will be largely desk-top although a site visit will be required to enable the specialist the opportunity to look for significant artefacts on the surface of the site. It is not expected that a more detailed Phase 2 assessment will be required but this remains to be confirmed.

The terms of reference for the Phase 1 archaeological study will be to:

1. Determine the likelihood of heritage or archaeological remains of significance on the proposed site within the Makana area;
2. Identify and map (where applicable) the location of any significant heritage or archaeological remains;
3. Assess the sensitivity and significance of heritage and archaeological remains in the site; and
4. Identify mitigatory measures to protect and maintain any valuable heritage archaeological sites and remains that may exist within the proposed site.

A palaeontological impact assessment will therefore be conducted, the primary objective of which is to determine whether there are any indications that the proposed site is of palaeontological significance. This will be a phase 1 assessment and will be largely desk-top although a site visit will be required to enable the specialist the opportunity to look for significant artefacts/fossils on the surface of the site. It is not expected that a more detailed Phase 2 assessment will be required but this remains to be confirmed.

The terms of reference for the Phase 1 palaeontological study will be to:

- Provide a summary of the relevant legislation;
- Conduct a site inspection as required by national legislation
- Determine the likelihood of palaeontological remains of significance in the proposed site;
- Identify and map (where applicable) the location of any significant palaeontological remains;
- Assess the sensitivity and significance of palaeontological remains in the site;
- Assess the significance of direct and cumulative impacts of the proposed development and viable alternatives on palaeontological resources;
- Identify mitigatory measures to protect and maintain any valuable palaeontological sites and remains that may exist within the proposed site.
- Prepare and submit any permit applications to relative authorities

Bat (Chiroptera) Impact Assessment

A bat (*Chiroptera*)faunal specialist study will be conducted. The assessment will include:

- A desk-top review of existing literature.
- A site visit to identify species of special concern and assess the likely impacts of the

- construction and operational phases on the *Chiroptera* of the site.
- Conduct a review of international literature and experience relating to operational wind farms; including state of the art plants around the world
 - Map sensitive areas in and around the proposed project site(s);
 - Describe the affected environment and determine the status quo in terms of bat (*Chiroptera*) fauna;
 - Indicate how bat faunal resource or community will be affected by the proposed project;
 - Discuss gaps in the baseline data with respect to bat fauna and relevant habitats;
 - List and describe the expected impacts;
 - Assess the significance of direct and cumulative impacts (including foraging impacts, roost impacts and migratory impacts) of the proposed development and viable alternatives with regard to bat fauna;
 - Assess and evaluate the anticipated impacts, and;
 - Make recommendations for relevant mitigation measures which will allow the reduction of negative impacts and the maximization of the benefits associated with any identified positive impacts.



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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NEAS Reference: DEA/EIA/0000679/2011

DEA Reference: 12/12/20/2523

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Mr. Hylton Newcombe
Coastal and Environmental Services
P.O. Box 934
GRAHAMSTOWN
6140

Telephone: (046) 622-6564
Fax No: (046) 622-2364
Email: h.newcombe@cesnet.co.za

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Mr. Newcombe

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION: PROPOSED PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND ENERGY PROJECT WITHIN THE MAKANA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

1. The Final Scoping Report (FSR) and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated January 2012 and received by the Department on 26 January 2012 refers.
2. The Department has evaluated the submitted FSR and the PoSEIA dated January 2012 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2010. The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of regulation 30(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations, 2010.
3. You may proceed with the environmental impact assessment process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2010. All comments and recommendations made by all stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) in the Draft Scoping Report and submitted as part of the FSR must be taken into consideration when preparing an environmental impact assessment report in respect of the proposed development.
4. Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR). This includes but is not limited to the Eastern Cape Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, the South Africa Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA), the Department of Agriculture and Land Use Management, the Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), the Department of Water Affairs (DWA), the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), the Department of Energy, Wildlife and Environmental Society of Southern Africa (WESSA), the EC Department of Transport, the South African National Roads

Agency Limited (SANRAL), Eskom Holdings SOC Limited, the Makana Local Municipality and other stakeholders. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Draft and Final EIR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.

5. Please ensure that the Final EIR includes at least one A3 regional map of the area and the site layout plan to illustrate the turbines positions and associated infrastructure. The maps must be of acceptable quality and as a minimum, have the following attributes:
 - Maps are relatable to one another;
 - Cardinal points;
 - Co-ordinates;
 - Legible legends;
 - Indicate alternatives;
 - Latest land cover;
 - Vegetation types of the study area; and
 - A3 size locality map.

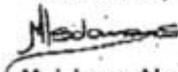
6. In addition, the following amendments and additional information are required for the EIR:
 - Details of the future plans for the site and infrastructure after decommissioning in 20-30 years and the possibility of upgrading the proposed infrastructure to more advanced technologies.
 - Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.
 - Information on services required on the site, e.g. sewage, refuse removal, water and electricity. Who will supply these services and has an agreement and confirmation of capacity been obtained? Proof of these agreements must be provided.
 - In addition the specialist studies identified in the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment, conduct Geotechnical Study, Wetland delineation studies (should the proposed development affect any wetland/s in the immediate vicinity) and a technical analysis and input of shadow and flicker affects.

7. A copy of the final site layout plan. EIR. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout plan. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. roads. The layout plan must indicate the following:
 - Position of the turbines and its associated infrastructure;
 - Foundation footprint;
 - Permanent laydown area footprint;
 - Construction period laydown footprint;
 - Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible);
 - Wetlands, drainage lines, rivers, stream and water crossing of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used;
 - Heritage sites that will be affected by the facility and associated infrastructure;
 - Sub-station(s) and/or transformer(s) sites including their entire footprint;
 - Cable routes and trench dimensions (where they are not along internal roads);
 - Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network;
 - Cut and fill areas at panel sites, along roads and at sub-station/transformer sites indicating the expected volume of each cut and fill;
 - Borrow pits;
 - Spoil heaps (temporary for topsoil and subsoil and permanently for excess material);

- All existing infrastructure on the site, especially roads;
 - Environmental sensitive features and buffer areas.
 - Buildings, including accommodation; and
 - All “no-go” areas.
8. An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process.
9. A map combining the final layout plan superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map.
10. The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) to be submitted as part of the EIR must include the following:
- All recommendations and mitigation measures to be recorded in the Final EIR.
 - The final site layout plan.
 - Measures as dictated by the final site lay-out plan and micro-siting.
 - A plant rescue and protection plan which allows for the maximum transplant of conservation important species from areas to be transformed. This plan must be compiled by a vegetation specialist familiar with the site and be implemented prior to commencement of the construction phase.
 - An open space management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility.
 - A re-vegetation and habitat rehabilitation plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility including timeframes for restoration which must indicate rehabilitation within the shortest possible time after completion of construction activities to reduce the amount of habitat converted at any one time and to speed up the recovery to natural habitats.
 - An alien invasive management plan to be implemented during construction and operation of the facility. The plan must include mitigation measures to reduce the invasion of alien species and ensure that the continuous monitoring and removal of alien species is undertaken.
 - A storm water management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility. The plan must ensure compliance with applicable regulations and prevent off-site migration of contaminated storm water or increased soil erosion. The plan must include the construction of appropriate 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.
 - An effective monitoring system to detect any leakage or spillage of all hazardous substances during their transportation, handling, use and storage. This must include precautionary measures to limit the possibility of oil and other toxic liquids from entering the soil or storm water systems.
 - An erosion management plan for monitoring and rehabilitating erosion events associated with the facility. Appropriate erosion mitigation must form part of this plan to prevent and reduce the risk of any potential erosion.
 - A transportation plan for the transport of turbine components, main assembly cranes and other large pieces of equipment.
 - A traffic management plan for the site access roads to ensure that no hazards would result from the increased truck traffic and that traffic flow would not be adversely impacted. This plan must include measures to minimize impacts on local commuters e.g. limiting construction vehicles travelling on public roadways during the morning and late afternoon commute time and avoid using roads through densely populated built-up areas so as not to disturb existing retail and commercial operations.

- An avifauna and bat monitoring programme to document the effect of the operation of the energy facility on avifauna and bats. This must be compiled by a qualified specialist.
 - Measures to protect hydrological features such as streams, rivers, pans, wetlands, dams and their catchments, and other environmental sensitive areas from construction impacts including the direct or indirect spillage of pollutants.
11. Please be advised that not all the activities applied for in the Application Form received on 26 January 2012 are specific and applicable with reference to the project description in the Final Scoping Report received on 26 January 2012. You are thus requested to amend the application form such that:
 - Listing notice activities applied for are specific; and
 - Listing notice activity applied for can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure in the project description.
 12. The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of regulation 67 with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations, and regulations 56 and 57 with regard to the allowance of a comment period for interested and affected parties on all reports submitted to the competent authority for decision-making. The reports referred to are listed in regulation 56(3a-3h).
 13. Further, it must be reiterated that, should an application for Environmental Authorisation be subject to the provisions of Chapter II, Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999, then this Department will not be able to make nor issue a decision in terms of your application for Environmental Authorisation pending a letter from the pertinent heritage authority categorically stating that the application fulfils the requirements of the relevant heritage resources authority as described in Chapter II, Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999.
 14. You are requested to submit two electronic copies (CD/DVD and two (2) hard copies of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to the Department as per regulation 34(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations, 2010.
 15. Please also find attached information that must be used in the preparation of the Environmental impact Report. This will enable the Department to speedily review the EIAR and make a decision on the application.
 16. 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.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Ishaam Abader
 Deputy Director-General: Environmental Quality and Protection
 Department of Environmental Affairs
 Letter signed by: Ms Milicent Solomons
 Designation: Acting Director: Environmental Impact Evaluation
 Date: 24/02/2012

CC	Mr Z Jessa	Plan 8 (Pty) Ltd	Tel: 072-502-2786	Fax: Zuben.jessa@plan-8.co.za
	Mr. L. Els	Eastern Cape DEDET	Tel: 014-508-5815	Fax: 041-585-1958
	Ms. N Baart	Makana Local Municipality	Tel: 046-603-6131	Email: Ntombi.baart@makana.gov.za

A. EIA INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR WIND FARM APPLICATIONS**1. General site information**

The following general site information is required:

- Descriptions of all affected farm portions
- 21 digit Surveyor General codes of all affected farm portions
- Copies of deeds of all affected farm portions
- Photos of areas that give a visual perspective of all parts of the site
- Photographs from sensitive visual receptors (tourism routes, tourism facilities, etc.)
- Turbine design specifications including:
 - Nacelle height
 - Blade length
 - Turbine shaft dimensions
 - Foundation dimensions
 - Laydown area dimensions (construction period and thereafter)
 - Blade rotation direction
 - Generation capacity
- Onsite measured wind parameters (speed, variability, etc.)
- Generation capacity of the facility as a whole at delivery points

This information must be indicated on the first page of any Scoping or EIA document. It is also advised that it be double checked as there are too many mistakes in the applications that have been received that take too much time from authorities to correct.

2. Site maps and GIS information

Site maps and GIS information should include at least the following:

- All maps/information layers must also be provided in ESRI Shapefile format
- All affected farm portions must be indicated
- The exact site of the application must be indicated (the areas that will be occupied by the application)
- A status quo map/layer must be provided that includes the following:
 - Current use of land on the site including:
 - Buildings and other structures
 - Agricultural fields
 - Grazing areas
 - Natural vegetation areas (natural veld not cultivated for the preceding 10 years) with an indication of the vegetation quality as well as fine scale mapping in respect of Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecological Support Areas
 - Critically endangered and endangered vegetation areas that occur on the site
 - Bare areas which may be susceptible to soil erosion
 - Cultural historical sites and elements
 - Rivers, streams and water courses
 - Ridgelines and 20m continuous contours with height references in the GIS database
 - Fountains, boreholes, dams (in-stream as well as off-stream) and reservoirs
 - High potential agricultural areas as defined by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
 - Buffer zones (also where it is dictated by elements outside the site):
 - 500m from any irrigated agricultural land

- 1km from residential areas
 - Indicate isolated residential, tourism facilities on or within 1km of the site
- A slope analysis map/layer that include the following slope ranges:
 - Less than 8% slope (preferred areas for turbines and infrastructure)
 - between 8% and 12% slope (potentially sensitive to turbines and infrastructure)
 - between 12% and 14% slope (highly sensitive to turbines and infrastructure)
 - steeper than 18 % slope (unsuitable for turbines and infrastructure)
- A map/layer that indicate locations of birds and bats including roosting and foraging areas (specialist input required)
- A site development proposal map(s)/layer(s) that indicate:
 - Turbine positions
 - Foundation footprint
 - Permanent laydown area footprint
 - Construction period laydown footprint
 - Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible)
 - River, stream and water crossing of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used
 - Substation(s) and/or transformer(s) sites including their entire footprint.
 - Cable routes and trench dimensions (where they are not along internal roads)
 - Connection routes to the distribution/transmission network (the connection must form part of the EIA even if the construction and maintenance thereof will be done by another entity such as ESKOM)
 - Cut and fill areas at turbine sites along roads and at substation/transformer sites indicating the expected volume of each cut and fill
 - Borrow pits
 - Spoil heaps (temporary for topsoil and subsoil and permanently for excess material)
 - Buildings including accommodation

With the above information authorities will be able to assess the strategic and site impacts of the application.

3. Regional map and GIS information

The regional map and GIS information should include at least the following:

- All maps/information layers must also be provided in ESRI Shapefile format
- The map/layer must cover an area of 20km around the site
- Indicate the following:
 - roads including their types (tarred or gravel) and category (national, provincial, local or private)
 - Railway lines and stations
 - Industrial areas
 - Harbours and airports
 - Electricity transmission and distribution lines and substations
 - Pipelines
 - A visibility assessment of the areas from where the facility will be visible
 - Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecological Support Areas
 - Critically Endangered and Endangered vegetation areas
 - Agricultural fields
 - Irrigated areas

- An indication of new road or changes and upgrades that must be done to existing roads in order to get equipment onto the site including cut and fill areas and crossings of rivers and streams.

4. Important stakeholders

Amongst other important stakeholders, comments from the National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries must be obtained and submitted to the Department. Request for comment must be submitted to:

Mrs. Anneliza Collett
Directorate: Land Use & Soil Management
Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries
Tel: 012 - 319 7508
Fax: 012 - 329 5938
e-mail: AnnelizaC@nda.agric.za
www.agis.agric.za

In addition, comments must be requested from Eskom (Mr Kevin Leask or Mr Ronald Marais (011) 8008111) regarding grid connectivity and capacity.

B. AGRICULTURE STUDY REQUIREMENTS

- Detailed soil assessment of the site in question, incorporating a radius of 50 m surrounding the site, on a scale of 1:10 000 or finer. The soil assessment should include the following:
 - Identification of the soil forms present on site
 - The size of the area where a particular soil form is found
 - GPS readings of soil survey points
 - The depth of the soil at each survey point
 - Soil colour
 - Limiting factors
 - Clay content
 - Slope of the site
 - A detailed map indicating the locality of the soil forms within the specified area,
 - Size of the site
- Exact locality of the site
- Current activities on the site, developments, buildings
- Surrounding developments / land uses and activities in a radius of 500 m of the site
- Access routes and the condition thereof
- Current status of the land (including erosion, vegetation and a degradation assessment)
- Possible land use options for the site
- Water availability, source and quality (if available)
- Detailed descriptions of why agriculture should or should not be the land use of choice
- Impact of the change of land use on the surrounding area
- A shape file containing the soil forms and relevant attribute data as depicted on the map

Agricultural study

- Detailed soil assessment of the site in question, incorporating a radius of 50 m surrounding the site, on a scale of 1:10 000 or finer. The soil assessment should include the following:
 - Identification of the soil forms present on site
 - The size of the area where a particular soil form is found
 - GPS readings of soil survey points
 - The depth of the soil at each survey point
 - Soil colour
 - Limiting factors
 - Clay content
 - Slope of the site
 - A detailed map indicating the locality of the soil forms within the specified area,
 - Size of the site
- Exact locality of the site
- Current activities on the site, developments, buildings
- Surrounding developments / land uses and activities in a radius of 500 m of the site
- Access routes and the condition thereof
- Current status of the land (including erosion, vegetation and a degradation assessment)
- Possible land use options for the site
- Water availability, source and quality (if available)
- Detailed descriptions of why agriculture should or should not be the land use of choice
- Impact of the change of land use on the surrounding area
- A shape file containing the soil forms and relevant attribute data as depicted on the map



APPENDIX D: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In terms of section 31 (2) of the EIA regulations (2010), an environmental impact assessment report must include:-

(e) Details of the public participation process conducted in terms of subregulation (1), including:

- (i) Steps undertaken in accordance with the plan of study;
- (ii) A list of persons, organisations and organs of state that were registered as interested and affected parties;
- (iii) A summary of comments received from, and a summary of issues raised by registered interested and affected parties, the date of receipt of these comments and the response of the EAP to those comments; and
- (iv) Copies of any representations, objections and comments received from registered interested and affected parties.

In line with the above-mentioned legislative requirement, this appendix of the EIR provides the details of the public participation process conducted for the proposed Plan 8 Grahamstown Wind Farm Project.

The EIA provides for the involvement of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), in forums that allow them to voice their opinions and concerns, at an early stage of the proposed project. Such engagement is critical in the EIA, as it contributes to a better understanding of the proposed project among I&APs, and raises important issues that need to be assessed in the EIA process. There are four key steps within the overall public participation process. These include -

- Notifying I&APs of the EIA;
- Holding public meetings;
- Making provision for I&APs to review and comment on all reports before they are finalised and submitted to the competent authority; and
- Making a record of responses to comments and concerns available to I&APs.

Each of the above mentioned steps, which comprised the public participation process of the proposed development, are discussed in detail.

Notifying Interested and Affected Parties of the EIA

As stipulated in Section 54 (2) of the EIA Regulations (GNR 543) which states that, “*the person conducting a public participation processmust give notice to all potential interested and affected parties of the application which is subjected to public participation.....*”, I&APs must be informed of the EIA process. In this regard, the following means of notification which took into consideration the requirements under Section 54 of the EIA Regulations were adopted:

Background information document

A four-page Background Information Document (BID) that provided basic information on the proposed project, the EIA process and contact details for registration as an I&AP was prepared. The BID was sent to all persons responding to the inception advertising and organisations identified as potential I&APs identified in previous EIA processes conducted in the area by CES. The BID is reproduced in Appendix D-1.

Written notices

Initial notification of the Plan 8 Grahamstown Wind Farm Project

Written notices were sent by registered mail to the owners and/or occupants of land immediately surrounding and within 100m of the proposed Plan 8 Grahamstown Wind Energy Project site. Copies of these letters are included in Appendix D2.

Letters were also sent to:

- Makana Local Municipality
- Ndlambe Local Municipality
- Wildlife and Environment Society of Southern Africa (WESSA)
- Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
- Civil Aviation Authority
- Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)
- Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (Eastern Cape)
- Department of Energy
- South African Heritage Resources Agency
- Eskom
- Vodacom South Africa Eastern Region
- Department of Water Affairs

Copies of these letters as well as the contact details of these stakeholders are included in Appendix D3.

Advertisements

Regional and local advertisements were placed in *The Herald* and *Grocott's Mail* on the 19th and 16th of September 2011 respectively in order to:-

- Advise readers of the intention to undertake an EIA for the proposed Plan 8 Grahamstown Wind Energy Project.
- Inform them of the dates, times and venues for public meetings, and;
- Invite them to register as I&APs.

A copy of the advertisement(s) is included in Appendix D-4. A second advertisement was placed in the Herald (2 November) and the Grocott's (4 November) in order to:-

- Advise I&APs of the release of the Draft Scoping Report for the proposed Plan 8 Grahamstown Wind Energy Project; and
- Inform them of where they can access the Draft Scoping Report for review
- Inform them of the date, time and venue for the public meeting.

A third round of advertisements (copy included in D-4) were placed in Grocott's Mail (26 April 2012) and The Herald (26 April 2012) newspapers on the in order to:-

- Advise I&APs of the release of the Draft EIA Report for the proposed Plan 8 Grahamstown Wind Energy Project; and
- Inform them of where they can access the Draft EIA Report for review;
- Inform them of the date, time and venue for the public meeting.

Site notices

The NEMA regulations require the erection of "a notice board at a place conspicuous to the public at the boundary or on the fence of the site where the activity to which the application relates is or is to be undertaken; and any alternative site mentioned in the application". A site notice was placed at the main entrances to the Farms Gilead, Tower Hill and Peynes Kraal. The text of the site notice and photographs of the fixed notices are provided in Appendix D5.

Registration of Interested and Affected Parties

A register of I&APs has been compiled, containing all available contact details of those who responded to the advertisements, registered as I&APs, attended the public meetings or submitted comments on the draft reports. This has been included in Appendix D12. Please note that I&APs

(excluding government, key stakeholders and immediate landowners) have had their personal details blacked out in an effort to protect their privacy.

Issues and Response Trail

A detailed record of all comments and observations made at the public meetings or via written correspondence has been recorded in the Issues and Response Trail (I&RT). This document also provides a record of the response to each issue. Where issues were raised at a public meeting, the verbal response given at the time has been noted. Appendix D8 displays the I&RT.

The document also contains responses prepared by the EAP to issues or questions raised after review of the draft documents.

Public review of the draft reports

Draft Scoping Report

In line with the second advertisements mentioned above, hard copies of the Draft Scoping report were placed at the Grahamstown Main Public Library so as to be easily accessible by the public. An electronic copy of the Draft Scoping report was also displayed on the EAP's (CES) website - www.cesnet.co.za - via the Public Documents link.

During the public review period (3rd November 2011 – 13th December 2011) for the Draft Environmental Scoping Report (ESR) a public meeting was held at the Graham Hotel's conference venue (14th November 2011) as advertised in the *Grocott's Mail on the 4th November 2011* prior to the meeting

All comments received following the review period were considered and necessary changes made to the Draft Scoping Report before submitting the Final Scoping Report to the competent authority, refer to: Coastal & Environmental Services, January 2012: *Final Environmental Scoping Report: Proposed Plan 8 Grahamstown Wind Energy Project, Makana Municipality, Eastern Cape*. CES, Grahamstown.

Issues and concerns arising from the Scoping phase

All issues and concerns raised by IAP's with regard to the Proposed Plan 8 Grahamstown Wind Energy Project (Coastal & Environmental Services, January 2012: *Final Environmental Scoping Report: Proposed Plan 8 Grahamstown Wind Energy Project, Makana Municipality,, Eastern Cape*. CES, Grahamstown), have been addressed in this report.

An additional stakeholder engagement meeting was held on the 23rd of January 2012 to address the queries of interested and affected parties. No new or different issues and concerns were raised and are adequately captured in the initial scoping phase issues and response table.

Draft EIR

In line with the third round of advertisements mentioned above, hard copies of the Draft Environmental Impact Report were placed at the Grahamstown Main Public Library so as to be easily accessible by the public. An electronic copy of the Draft Environmental Impact Report was also displayed on the EAP's (CES) website - www.cesnet.co.za - via the Public Documents link.

During the review period (26 April 2012 – 6 June 2012) a public meeting was held at the Graham Hotel's conference venue (17 May 2012) as advertised in the *Grocott's Mail and Herald* on the 26th of April 2012 prior to the meeting. The review period was extend to the 11th June 2012 after an extra-ordinary meeting was held on the 4th June 2012 to engage surrounding landowners (specifically Pieter Moll, Dave Young and Adri Timm) who claimed that were not aware of the project.

Final EIR

The Final EIR was submitted to DEA on the 2nd August 2012. On a document dated the 19th October 2012, the DEA requested further information, including a Socio-Economic Impact Assessment.

Socio-economic impact Assessment, Community Needs Analysis, revised turbine type and amended site layout

The DEA, per written response (dated 19th October 2012) to the Final EIR, requested additional information which included that a Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) be conducted for the project. A SEIA, together with a Community Needs Analysis was prepared and released for public review along with a revised turbine type and amended site layout. The review period was from the 3rd September to the 3rd October 2013.

Revised Final EIR

Comments received after the submission of the Final EIR in August 2012 as well as comments on the SEIA, Community Needs Analysis and revised turbines type, layout have been incorporated into this document. It will be submitted to registered I&As for a review period of 30 days, as well as to DEA.

APPENDIX D-1: BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT & INVITATION TO COMMENT

PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND ENERGY PROJECT

Background to the project: Plan 8 (Pty) Ltd, a renewable energy company, plans to develop a wind powered electricity generation facility (known as a 'wind farm') 30km outside of Grahamstown along the N2 in an easterly direction toward East London, in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa (refer to Figure 1). The proposed site is on the farms Gilead, Tower Hill and Peynes Kraal situated approximately 30km east of Grahamstown. Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) has been appointed by Plan 8 (Pty) Ltd to undertake the necessary environmental investigations for the wind farm, and to apply for approval from the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), for its construction and operation, as required by South Africa's environmental legislation. Details of the relevant laws, and an overview of the environmental impact assessment process, are provided on the next page.

Project description: The wind farm (refer to Figure 2 for relevant farm portions) is planned to host up to a maximum of 32 turbines, each with a nominal power output ranging between 2-3MW (Mega Watts). The total potential output of the wind farm would be 80MW, and will feed into the national grid.

Dimensions: The ultimate size of the wind turbines will depend on further technical assessments but will typically consist of rotor turbines with rotor diameters around 80 meters mounted atop an 80 to 100 meter steel tower. The tower and turbine design and colour have been optimized to minimize visual impact.



Figure 1: Locality map of the proposed Grahamstown wind farm site, Eastern Cape

AIM OF THIS DOCUMENT

The aim of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide people affected by and interested in the proposed project with information about this project, the process being followed and to provide them with an opportunity to be involved in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.



Return address for comments:

Mr Hylton Newcombe

P.O. Box 934
Grahamstown, 6140

Tel: (046) 622 2364

Fax: (046) 622 6564

Email:
h.newcombe@cesnet.co.za

Relevant Legislation

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations, made in terms of Section 24 of Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998), and the related Lists of Activities (Government Notices (GN) R.544, R.545 and R.546 of 18th June 2010) specify the activities that require either a Basic Assessment, or a full Scoping and EIA respectively. The activities triggered by the proposed development include:

Number and date of the relevant notice	Activity No(s)	Describe each listed activity
Listing Notice 1 R544	(10)	(10) The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity- (i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts; (ii) inside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of 275 kilovolts or more.
Listing Notice 1 R544	(38)	(38) The expansion of facilities for the transmission and distribution of electricity where the expanded capacity will exceed 275 kilovolts and the development footprint will increase.
Listing Notice 2 R545	(1)	(1) The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity is 20 megawatts or more.
Listing Notice 2 R545	(8)	(8) The construction 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.
Listing Notice 2 R545	(15)	(15) Physical alteration of undeveloped, vacant or derelict land for residential, retail, commercial, recreational, industrial or institutional use where the total area to be transformed is 20 hectares or more; Except where such physical alteration takes place for: (i) linear development activities; or (ii) agriculture or afforestation where activity 16 in this Schedule will apply.
Listing Notice 3 R546	(4)	(4) The construction of road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5metres.
Listing Notice 3 R546	(19)	(19) The widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre. (see GNR 546 for specific thresholds)

The Scoping phase

The Scoping Phase is important for informing the public and relevant authorities about the nature and size of the proposed project. A critical component of the Scoping Phase is the Public Participation Process, in which Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are given an opportunity to raise any issues or concerns they may have about the project. The process is outlined in "Approach to this EIA Process" below. The Draft Scoping Report will be made available for review by the authorities and all I&APs. This report will set the scope for the Environmental Impact Assessment Phase.

The Environmental Impact Assessment phase

This phase is more complex and more detailed than the Scoping phase, because it focuses on undertaking a number of specialist studies that have been identified as being necessary during the Scoping phase. These studies provide expert input into the EIA process based on scientific information. I&APs will be consulted again during this phase, and will be given an opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that will contain the specialist reports. During this phase an Environmental Management Plan must also be prepared for the project.

Environmental Authorisation phase

The final EIR is submitted to the Department of Water and Environment formerly the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) who, after considering the report, will issue an Environmental Authorisation either allowing the project to continue under certain conditions, or requiring additional work to be undertaken.

Potential issues for investigation

The following specialist studies will be conducted within the proposed wind farm site, to ascertain any potential impacts, positive and negative, that may occur as a result of pre-construction, construction and operational phases.

- **Visual and aesthetic impacts**

A wind farm will normally have a high visibility due mainly to the height of the turbines.

- **Noise impacts**

The Noise Impact Investigation will be conducted in accordance with the South African National Standard (SANS) 10328 "Methods for environmental noise impact assessments"

- **Ecological impacts**

The location of any species of special concern will be identified, and the location noted in order to inform the mitigation and management measures.

- **Avifaunal impacts**

Potential impacts to birds

- **Bat (Chiroptera) impacts**

Potential impacts to bats

- **Heritage and/or palaeontological impacts**

Potential impacts on heritage, cultural resources and/or fossils etc.

APPROACH TO THIS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The process required for the proposed Plan 8 Grahamstown Windfarm Project is an Environmental Impact Assessment. The Process serves primarily to inform the public and relevant authorities about the proposed project and to determine any impact(s). Should all impacts and issues be adequately addressed in the Environmental Impact Report, it will serve as the final document. The EIA process is as follows:



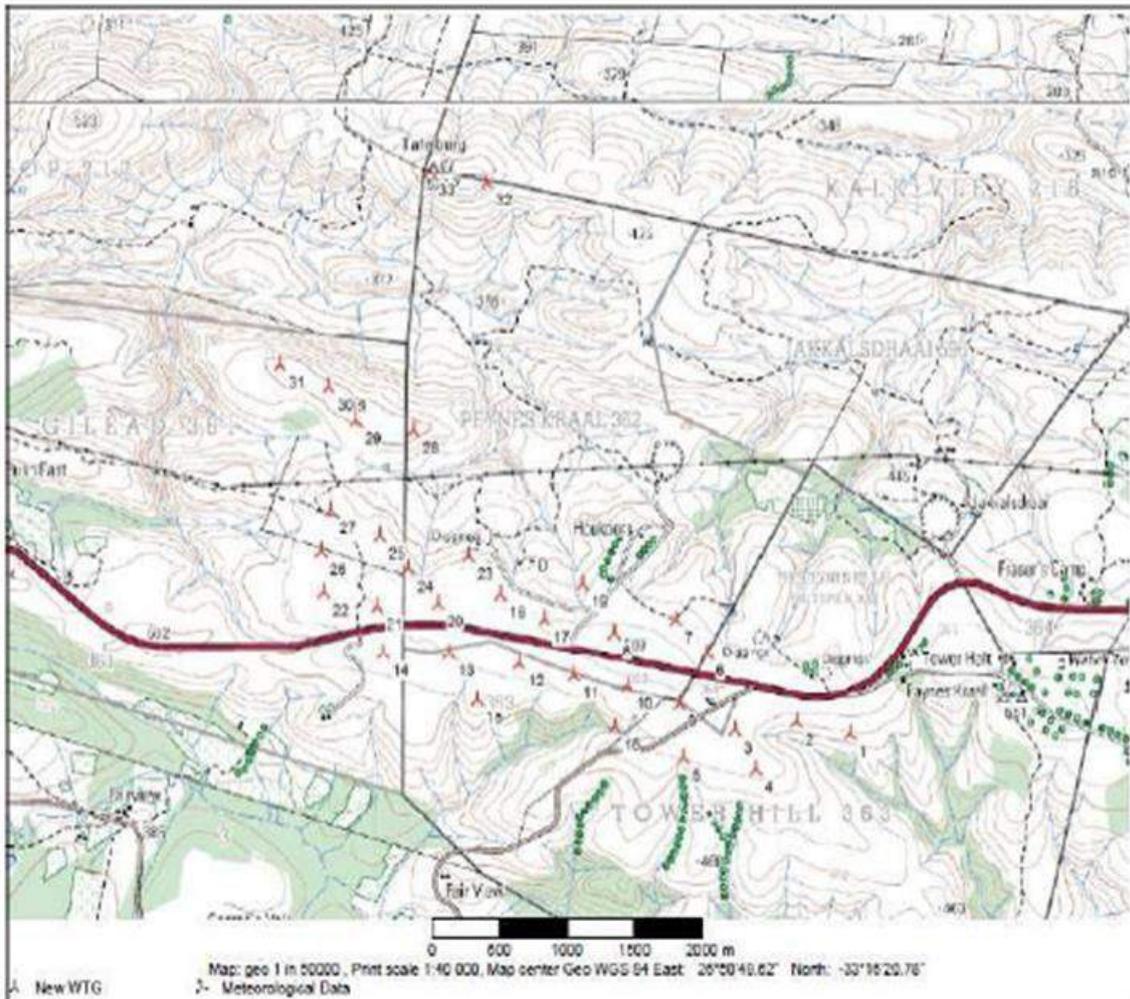


Figure 2: Locality map showing the location of the proposed wind farm and turbine layout

I hereby wish to register as an Interested and Affected Party (IAP) for the Plan 8 Grahamstown Wind Farm EIA process

Name: _____

Postal address: _____

Email: _____

Organization: _____

Phone #: _____ Fax #: _____

Please return details to: **Mr Hylton Newcombe**: P.O. Box 934, Grahamstown, 6140
 Telephone: (046) 622 2364; Fax: (046) 622 6564
 Email: h.newcombe@cesnet.co.za

APPENDIX D-2: CONTACT DETAILS AND COPY OF LETTER SENT TO OCCUPIERS OF LAND IMMEDIATELY SURROUNDING AND WITHIN THE PROPOSED PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND ENERGY PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

NAME	OCCUPATION/AFFILIATION	CONTACT			
		Telephone	Mobile	Fax	Email
<i>Immediate Landowners</i>					
Gavin Dixon	Farmer. Gilead Farm	46622 7758	84767509 7	86697 5204	gbd@geeneet.co.za
Morne and Marte Erwee	Tower Hill Farm		08230077 30 (Morne)		no email address
Wayne Nortier	Peynes Kraal Farm	466 361 810	82319320 7 (Wayne) 07952743 35 (Felicity)		waynenortier@gmail.com felicity@devilliers.co.za
<i>Surrounding Landowners</i>					
Glyn Dixon	Chairman - Coomb Farmers Association	466 227 776	727 641 303	866 204 765	claypits@geeneet.co.za
Orgie Crous	Farmer - Honeykop No361	46622 8474	82660997 4	46622 8474	no email address
Jeremy Allan			82784680 5		jjrallan@yahoo.com
Gilbert Coetzee	Coombesvale		82808596 1		gmd@geeneet.co.za
James Williamson	Glenvoid		82441205 5		james@geeneet.co.za
Andre Coetzee			82659271 0		no email address
Fred	Valleyview and	46622	83479276		valleyview@geeneet.co.za

COASTAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Environmental Management and Impact Assessment



67 African Street
P O Box 934
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SOUTH AFRICA
Tel: 046 622 2364
Fax: 046 622 6564
Email: info@cesnet.co.za
Website: www.cesnet.co.za

13 October 2011

ATTENTION: OWNERS AND/OR OCCUPIERS OF LAND IMMEDIATELY SURROUNDING OR WITHIN 100m OF PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND FARM NEAR GRAHAMSTOWN IN THE EASTERN CAPE

NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A WIND ENERGY PROJECT AT GRAHAMSTOWN IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE OF SOUTH AFRICA

In accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and relevant Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations made in terms of this Act (Government Notice No R.543) dated 18 June 2010, notification is hereby given in terms of Regulation 15: "Activity on land owned by person other than applicant". In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

Plan 8 (Pty) Ltd - a renewable energy company, plans to develop a wind power generation facility (known as a 'wind farm') 30km outside Grahamstown, toward East London, along the N2 located in the Makana Municipality in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. The proposed project is planned to host up to 32 turbines, each with a nominal power output ranging between 2-3 Mega Watts (MW). The total potential output of the wind farm would be 80MW. The wind farm will cover an area of approximately 2 550 hectares.

- Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) of Grahamstown have been appointed by Plan 8 (Pty) Limited, to conduct an environmental impact assessment for the proposed development. The activities that we believe will be triggered by the proposed development are listed in the application and the Background Information Document (BID) that is attached to this letter.
- A public meeting will be held to present the project and to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed development. You will be notified of the date, time and venue for the public meeting accordingly.
- CES would highly appreciate it if you could please send us a letter confirming your receipt of this notification. For more information, please feel free to contact Mr. Hylton Newcombe at the CES Grahamstown office numbers shown above.

Yours sincerely,

Hylton Newcombe
Environmental Consultant

East London: Tel: 043 742 3302 Fax: 043 742 3306 Email: cesel@cesnet.co.za

Henque 1018 t/a Coastal and Environmental Services • Reg no. CK 1997/061914/23 • Vat No. 4380172835

Members: Dr AM Avis (PhD Rhodes) • Prof RA Lubke (PhD Western Ontario)

Mrs CE Avis (MA Rhodes, CAIB) • Dr AR Carter (PhD Rhodes, CPA USA) • Mr WSJ Rowston (Bsc Hons CivEng)

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18 October 2011

ATTENTION: OWNERS AND/OR OCCUPIERS OF LAND IMMEDIATELY SURROUNDING OR WITHIN 100m OF PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND FARM NEAR GRAHAMSTOWN IN THE EASTERN CAPE

NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A WIND ENERGY PROJECT AT GRAHAMSTOWN IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE OF SOUTH AFRICA

In accordance with the requirements of section 56 (2) (b) (v) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2010) made in terms of section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to, "give written notice to the owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where a proposed development activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site". In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for a basic environmental assessment being carried out by Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

Plan 8 (Pty) Ltd - a renewable energy company, plans to develop a wind power generation facility (known as a 'wind farm') 30km outside Grahamstown, toward East London, along the N2 located in the Makana Municipality in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. The proposed project is planned to host up to 32 turbines, each with a nominal power output ranging between 2-3 Mega Watts (MW). The total potential output of the wind farm would be 80MW. The wind farm will cover an area of approximately 2 550 hectares.

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APPENDIX D-3: CONTACT DETAILS AND COPIES OF THE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, MUNICIPALITIES AND OTHER KEY PROOF OF REGISTERED LETTERS SENT TO THE ABOVE MENTIONED LANDOWNERS

NAME	OCCUPATION/ AFFILIATION	CONTACT			
		Telephone	Mobile	Fax	Email
<i>Government</i>					
Mr Briant Noncembu	DEDEA (Amathole)				Briant.Noncembu@ecape.gov.za
Carin Swart	DEDEA				Carin.Swart@deca.gov.za
Dan Malgas	DAFF Forestry				MalgasM@dwa.gov.za
S. Gwen	DAFF Forestry	(043) 604 5301			gwendolines@daff.gov.za
Anneliza Collett	DAFF Agri				annelizac@nda.gov.za
M Mathekgana	Dept of Energy	(012) 444-4261			mokgadi.mathekgana@energy.gov.za
<i>Municipality</i>					
NtonekNocweka	Makana Municipality			072 8195472	ntontela@makana.gov.za
AneleKwayimani	Makana Municipality	046 622 9186	046 603 6062	083 6955 406	anele.kwayimani@gmail.co.za
XhanliBokue	Makana Municipality			083 335 4843	
Casa Yonela	Makana Municipality			072 13302 92	casayo@webmail.co.za
<i>Key Stakeholders</i>					
NannaGouws	SANRAL				GouwsJ@nra.co.za
Mariagrazia	SAHRA				mgalimberti@sahra.org.za

COASTAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
Environmental Management and Impact Assessment



67 African Street
P O Box 934
Grahamstown 6139
SOUTH AFRICA
Tel: 046 622 2364
Fax: 046 622 6564
Email: info@cesnet.co.za
Website: www.cesnet.co.za

13 October 2011

Department of Environmental Affairs
Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Attention: Administration Officer

NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A WIND ENERGY PROJECT AT GRAHAMSTOWN IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE OF SOUTH AFRICA

In accordance with the requirements of section 54 (2) (b) (vi) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2010) made in terms of section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to, "give written notice to any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity". In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

Plan 8 (Pty) Ltd - a renewable energy company, plans to develop a wind power generation facility (known as a 'wind farm') 30km outside Grahamstown, toward East London, along the N2 located in the Makana Municipality in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. The proposed project is planned to host up to 32 turbines, each with a nominal power output ranging between 2-3 Mega Watts (MW). The total potential output of the wind farm would be 80MW. The wind farm will cover an area of approximately 2 550 hectares.

- Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) of Grahamstown have been appointed by Plan 8 (Pty) Limited, to conduct an environmental impact assessment for the proposed development. The activities that we believe will be triggered by the proposed development are listed in the application and the Background Information Document (BID) that is attached to this letter.
- A public meeting will be held to present the project and to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed development. You will be notified of the date, time and venue for the public meeting accordingly.
- CES would highly appreciate it if you could please send us a letter confirming your receipt of this notification. For more information, please feel free to contact Mr. Hylton Newcombe at the CES Grahamstown office numbers shown above.

Yours sincerely,

Hylton Newcombe
Environmental Consultant

East London: Tel: 043 742 3302 Fax: 043 742 3306 Email: ceel@cesnet.co.za

Henque 1018 t/a Coastal and Environmental Services • Reg no. CK 1997/061914/23 • Vat No. 4380172835
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Mrs CE Avis (MA Rhodes, CAJB) • Dr AR Carter (PhD Rhodes, CPA USA) • Mr WSJ Rowston (Bsc Hons CivEng)
Mrs J Gopal (B.Optom, Hons) • Dr KJ Whittington-Jones (PhD Rhodes) • Mr M Gopal • Mrs BK Emslie (B.Comm Accounting Rhodes)

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13 October 2011

Department of Economic Development and Environmental Affairs
Private Bag X5001
Greenacres,
Port Elizabeth
6057

Attention: Mr Leon Els

NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A WIND ENERGY PROJECT AT GRAHAMSTOWN IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE OF SOUTH AFRICA

In accordance with the requirements of section 54 (2) (b) (vi) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2010) made in terms of section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to, "give written notice to any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity". In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

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Yours sincerely,

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13 October 2011

Mr Ntomebekhaya Baart
Makana Local Municipality
City Hall,
High Street,
Grahamstown,
6140

ATTENTION: Mr Ntomebekhaya Baart

NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A WIND ENERGY PROJECT AT GRAHAMSTOWN IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE OF SOUTH AFRICA

In accordance with the requirements of section 54 (2) (b) (v) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2010) made in terms of section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to, "give written notice to the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area". In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

Plan 8 (Pty) Ltd - a renewable energy company, plans to develop a wind power generation facility (known as a 'wind farm') 30km outside Grahamstown, toward East London, along the N2 located in the Makana Municipality in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. The proposed project is planned to host up to 32 turbines, each with a nominal power output ranging between 2-3 Mega Watts (MW). The total potential output of the wind farm would be 80MW. The wind farm will cover an area of approximately 2 550 hectares.

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13 October 2011

South African Civil Aviation Authority
Private Bag X73
Halfway House
1685

To Whom It May Concern

NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A WIND ENERGY PROJECT AT GRAHAMSTOWN IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE OF SOUTH AFRICA

In accordance with the requirements of section 54 (2) (b) (vi) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2010) made in terms of section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to, "give written notice to any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity". In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

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Yours sincerely,

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Website: www.cesnet.co.za

13 October 2011

Mrs Anneliza Collett,
Directorate: Land Use and Soil Management,
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Private Bag X250,
Pretoria,
0001

ATTENTION: Mrs Anneliza Collett

NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A WIND ENERGY PROJECT AT GRAHAMSTOWN IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Website: www.cesnet.co.za

13 October 2011

Department of Energy
Private Bag X59
Pretoria
0001

ATTENTION: Ms M Mathekgana

CC: Mr A. Otto; Ms N. Qase

NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A WIND ENERGY PROJECT AT GRAHAMSTOWN IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Yours sincerely,

Hylton Newcombe
Environmental Consultant

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Henque 1018 t/a Coastal and Environmental Services • Reg no. CK 1997/061914/23 • Vat No. 4380172835

Members: Dr AM Avis (PhD Rhodes) • Prof RA Lubke (PhD Western Ontario)

Mrs CE Avis (MA Rhodes, CAIB) • Dr AR Carter (PhD Rhodes, CPA USA) • Mr WSJ Rowlston (Bsc Hons CivEng)

Mrs J Gopal (B.Optom, Hons) • Dr KJ Whittington-Jones (PhD Rhodes) • Mr M Gopal • Mrs BK Emslie (B.Comm Accounting Rhodes)

COASTAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
Environmental Management and Impact Assessment



67 African Street
P O Box 934
Grahamstown 6139
SOUTH AFRICA
Tel: 046 622 2364
Fax: 046 622 6564
Email: info@cesnet.co.za
Website: www.cesnet.co.za

13 October 2011

Department of Water Affairs
P.O. Box 7019
EAST LONDON
5200

ATTENTION: Ms Lizna Fourie

NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A WIND ENERGY PROJECT AT GRAHAMSTOWN IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE OF SOUTH AFRICA

In accordance with the requirements of section 54 (2) (b) (vi) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2010) made in terms of section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to, "give written notice to any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity". In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

Plan 8 (Pty) Ltd - a renewable energy company, plans to develop a wind power generation facility (known as a 'wind farm') 30km outside Grahamstown, toward East London, along the N2 located in the Makana Municipality in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. The proposed project is planned to host up to 32 turbines, each with a nominal power output ranging between 2-3 Mega Watts (MW). The total potential output of the wind farm would be 80MW. The wind farm will cover an area of approximately 2 550 hectares.

- Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) of Grahamstown have been appointed by Plan 8 (Pty) Limited, to conduct an environmental impact assessment for the proposed development. The activities that we believe will be triggered by the proposed development are listed in the application and the Background Information Document (BID) that is attached to this letter.
- A public meeting will be held to present the project and to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed development. You will be notified of the date, time and venue for the public meeting accordingly.
- CES would highly appreciate it if you could please send us a letter confirming your receipt of this notification. For more information, please feel free to contact Mr. Hylton Newcombe at the CES Grahamstown office numbers shown above

Yours sincerely,

Hylton Newcombe
Environmental Consultant

East London: Tel: 043 742 3302 Fax: 043 742 3306 Email: cesel@cesnet.co.za

Henque 1018 t/a Coastal and Environmental Services • Reg no, CK 1997/061914/23 • Var No. 4380172835

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Email: info@cesnet.co.za
Website: www.cesnet.co.za

13 October 2011

ESKOM Holdings Limited
Private Bag X1
Beacon Bay
5205

ATTENTION: Mr. Tom Smith,

NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A WIND ENERGY PROJECT AT GRAHAMSTOWN IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE OF SOUTH AFRICA

In accordance with the requirements of section 54 (2) (b) (vi) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2010) made in terms of section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to, "give written notice to any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity". In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

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Environmental Consultant

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Email: info@cesnet.co.za
Website: www.cesnet.co.za

13 October 2011

South African Heritage Resources Agency
P.O. Box 759
EAST LONDON
5200

ATTENTION: The Provincial Manager

CC: The Provincial Manager Western Cape Provincial Office

NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A WIND ENERGY PROJECT AT GRAHAMSTOWN IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE OF SOUTH AFRICA

In accordance with the requirements of section 54 (2) (b) (vi) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2010) made in terms of section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to, "give written notice to any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity". In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

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- Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) of Grahamstown have been appointed by Plan 8 (Pty) Limited, to conduct an environmental impact assessment for the proposed development. The activities that we believe will be triggered by the proposed development are listed in the application and the Background Information Document (BID) that is attached to this letter.
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Hylton Newcombe
Environmental Consultant

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19 October 2011

Pumzo Mdleleni
Vodacom
Vodacom SA Eastern Region
P.O. Box 27504
Greenacres
Port Elizabeth,
6004

ATTENTION: Pumzo Mdleleni,

NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A WIND ENERGY PROJECT AT GRAHAMSTOWN IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE OF SOUTH AFRICA

In accordance with the requirements of section 54 (2) (b) (vi) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2010) made in terms of section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to, "give written notice to any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity". In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

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Yours sincerely,

Hylton Newcombe
Environmental Consultant

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COASTAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
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Website: www.cesnet.co.za

13 October 2011

Wildlife and Environment Society of Southern Africa
PO Box 73,
Grahamstown,
6140,
Eastern Cape, South Africa

ATTENTION: Mrs. Jennifer Gon,

NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A WIND ENERGY PROJECT AT GRAHAMSTOWN IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE OF SOUTH AFRICA

In accordance with the requirements of section 54 (2) (b) (vi) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2010) made in terms of section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to, "give written notice to any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity". In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

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- Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) of Grahamstown have been appointed by Plan 8 (Pty) Limited, to conduct an environmental impact assessment for the proposed development. The activities that we believe will be triggered by the proposed development are listed in the application and the Background Information Document (BID) that is attached to this letter.
- A public meeting will be held to present the project and to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed development. You will be notified of the date, time and venue for the public meeting accordingly.
- CES would highly appreciate it if you could please send us a letter confirming your receipt of this notification. For more information, please feel free to contact Mr. Hylton Newcombe at the CES Grahamstown office numbers shown above

Yours sincerely,

Hylton Newcombe
Environmental Consultant

East London: Tel: 043 742 3302 Fax: 043 742 3306 Email: cesel@cesnet.co.za

Henque 1018 t/a Coastal and Environmental Services • Reg no. CK 1997/061914/23 • Vat No. 4380172835

Members: Dr AM Avis (PhD Rhodes) • Prof RA Lubke (PhD Western Ontario)

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Website: www.cesnet.co.za

13 April 2012

Adv. Rolly Dumezweni
Ndlambe Local Municipality
P.O. Box 13
Port Alfred
6170

ATTENTION: Municipal Manager-Adv. Rolly Dumezweni

NOTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A WIND ENERGY PROJECT AT GRAHAMSTOWN IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE OF SOUTH AFRICA

In accordance with the requirements of section 54 (2) (b) (v) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2010) made in terms of section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) as amended, we are required to, "give written notice to the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area". In accordance with this requirement, please find here-with a letter of notification for an environmental impact assessment being carried out by Coastal and Environmental Services in respect of the above-mentioned project.

Plan 8 (Pty) Ltd - a renewable energy company, plans to develop a wind power generation facility (known as a 'wind farm') 30km outside Grahamstown, toward East London, along the N2 located in the Makana and Ndlambe Municipalities in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. The proposed project is planned to host up to 27 turbines, each with a nominal power output ranging between 2-3 Mega Watts (MW). The total potential output of the wind farm would be 67.5MW. The wind farm will cover an area of approximately 2 550 hectares.

- Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) of Grahamstown have been appointed by Plan 8 (Pty) Limited, to conduct an environmental impact assessment for the proposed development. The activities that we believe will be triggered by the proposed development are listed in the application and the Background Information Document (BID) that is attached to this letter.
- Public meetings will be held to present the project and to give the public an opportunity to comment on proposed development. You will be notified of the date, time and venue for the public meetings the accordingly.
- CES would highly appreciate it if you could please send us a letter confirming your receipt of this notification. For more information, please feel free to contact Mr. Jadon Schmidt at the CES Grahamstown office numbers shown above.

Yours sincerely,

Jadon Schmidt
Senior Environmental Consultant

East London: Tel: 043 742 3302 Fax: 043 742 3306 Email: cesel@cesnet.co.za

Henque 1018 t/a Coastal and Environmental Services • Reg no. CK 1997/061914/23 • Vat No. 4380172835
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Mrs J Gopal (B.Optom, Hons) • Dr KJ Whittington-Jones (PhD Rhodes) • Mr M Gopal

Proof of invoice for the mailing of the registered letters

List of REGISTERED LETTERS
Lys van GEREGISTREERDE BRIEWE (B2)
 (with an insurance option/met 'n versekeringsopsie)



Full tracking and tracing/Volledige volg en spoor

Name and address of sender:
 Naam en adres van afsender: AMBER JACKSON - C. E. S
67 AFRICAN STREET
GRAHAMSTOWN 6140

Enquiries/Navrae
 Toll-free number
 Tvoy nommer
0800 111 502

No	Name and address of addressee Naam en adres van geadresseerde	Insured amount Versekerde bedrag	Insurance fee Versekeringsgeld	Postage Posgeld	Service fee Diensgeld	Affix Track and Trace customer copy Plak Volg-en-Spoor- Klante Kopie
1	MS LIZNA FOURIE - DEPT OF WATER AFFAIRS PO BOX 7019 EAST LONDON 5200					REGISTERED LETTER RD 665 761 577 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 381828R
2	MS. M MATHEKGANA -DEPT. OF ENERGY P/BAG 157 PRETORIA 0024					REGISTERED LETTER RD 665 761 585 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 381828R
3	DYOBANI BYANEH 262 B GRAHAMSTOWN 6140					REGISTERED LETTER RD 665 761 550 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 381828R
4	FRED PISTANAY - VALLEVIEW 1 KAASVEL PO BOX 2225 GRAHAMSTOWN 6140					REGISTERED LETTER RD 665 761 563 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 381828R
5	ANDRE COETZEE PO BOX 267 GRAHAMSTOWN 6140					REGISTERED LETTER RD 665 761 546 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 381828R
6	JAMES WILLIAMS - GLENVOID 45 KINGSDOWN ESTATE MILES ROAD GHT 6140					REGISTERED LETTER RD 665 761 532 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 381828R
7	GOLBERT COETZEE - COMBESVALE PO BOX 2204 GHT 6140					REGISTERED LETTER RD 665 761 648 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 381828R
8	JEREMY ALLAN 17 MILNER STREET GHT 6140					REGISTERED LETTER RD 665 761 634 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 381828R
9	ORGIE CEZUS -HONEYKOP N°301 PO BOX 362, GRAHAMSTOWN 6140					REGISTERED LETTER RD 665 761 625 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 381828R
10	NYNE NOTIER -PRINES KRAAL FARM GRAHAMSTOWN 6140					REGISTERED LETTER RD 665 761 617 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 381828R
		Total Totaal	R	R	R	R

Number of letters posted
 Getal briewe gepos 10/TEN

Signature of client
 Handtekening van klient *[Signature]*

Signature of accepting officer
 Handtekening van aanneembeampte *[Signature]*

The value of the contents of these letters is as indicated and compensation is not payable for a letter received unconditionally. Compensation is limited to R100,00. No compensation is payable without documentary proof. Optional insurance of up to R2 000,00 is available and applies to domestic registered letters only.

Die waarde van die inhoud van hierdie briewe is soos aangedui en vergoeding sal nie betaal word vir 'n brief wat sonder voorbehoud ontvang word nie. Vergoeding is beperk tot R100,00. Geen vergoeding is sonder dokumentêre bewys betaalbaar nie. Opsionele versekering van tot R2 000,00 is beskikbaar en is slegs op binnelandse geregistreerde briewe van toepassing.



701248

LEBONE LITHO PRINTERS (PTY), LTD.

List of REGISTERED LETTERS
Lys van GEREGISTREERDE BRIEWE
(with an insurance option/met 'n versekeringsopsie)

(B2)



Full tracking and tracing/Volledige volg en spoor

Name and address of sender:
 Naam en adres van afsender: A JACKSON - C.E.S.
67 AFRICAN STREET
GRAHAMSTOWN

Enquiries/Nawrae
 Toll-free number
 Toevry nommer
0800 111 502

No	Name and address of addressee Naam en adres van geadresseerde	Insured amount Versekerde bedrag	Insurance fee Versekeringsgeld	Postage Posgeld	Service fee Diensgeld	Affix Track and Trace customer copy Plak Volg-en-Spoor-kliantafskrif	
1	MOYNE & MARIE FENEE - TOUR HALL FARM FRIENEN FARM KOOYESTRAAT GHT 6140					REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option) Direct 0800 111 502 www.post.co.za RD 665 761 603 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301028R	
2	GAYN DIXON - GILEAD FARM PO BOX 6242 G.H.T. 6140					REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option) Direct 0800 111 502 www.post.co.za RD 665 761 594 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301028R	
3	MRS ANJELIZA CALET - DEPT OF AGRI. FORESTRY & FISHERIES P/BAG X250 PRETORIA 001					REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option) Direct 0800 111 502 www.post.co.za RD 665 761 696 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301028R	
4	MR TOM SMITH - ESCROW HOLDINGS LTD P/BAG X1 BEACH BAY EAST WILSON 6245					REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option) Direct 0800 111 502 www.post.co.za RD 665 761 705 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301028R	
5	TO MEMORIAL WAY GARDEN - SA CAA P/BAG X73 HANNNY HOUSE 1685					REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option) Direct 0800 111 502 www.post.co.za RD 665 761 682 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301028R	
6	MRS JENNIFER GUN - NESSA PO BOX 73 GRAHAMSTOWN 6140					REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option) Direct 0800 111 502 www.post.co.za RD 665 761 679 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301028R	
7	THE PROVINCIAL MANAGER - SAHRA PO BOX 759, EAST LONDON 5200					REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option) Direct 0800 111 502 www.post.co.za RD 665 761 651 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301028R	
8	MRS NDIYERHAYA BAAET - MAKANA L.M CITY HALL HIGH STREET GHT 6140					REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option) Direct 0800 111 502 www.post.co.za RD 665 761 665 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301028R	
9	MR LEON ELS - DEDEA P/BAG 4504 GREENACRES PE 6057					REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option) Direct 0800 111 502 www.post.co.za RD 665 761 722 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301028R	
10	ADMIN OFFICER - DEPT OF ENV AFFAIRS P/BAG X447 PRETORIA 001					REGISTERED LETTER (with a domestic insurance option) Direct 0800 111 502 www.post.co.za RD 665 761 719 ZA CUSTOMER COPY 301028R	
		Total	Totaal	R	R	R	R

Number of letters posted
 Getal briewe gepos 10/ten

Signature of client
 Handtekening van klient *[Signature]*

Signature of accepting officer
 Handtekening van aanneembeampte *[Signature]*

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GROCOTT'S MAIL (Local) – 16 September 2011

Grocott's Mail Friday, 16 September 2011

NEWS

19

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS



PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND ENERGY PROJECT

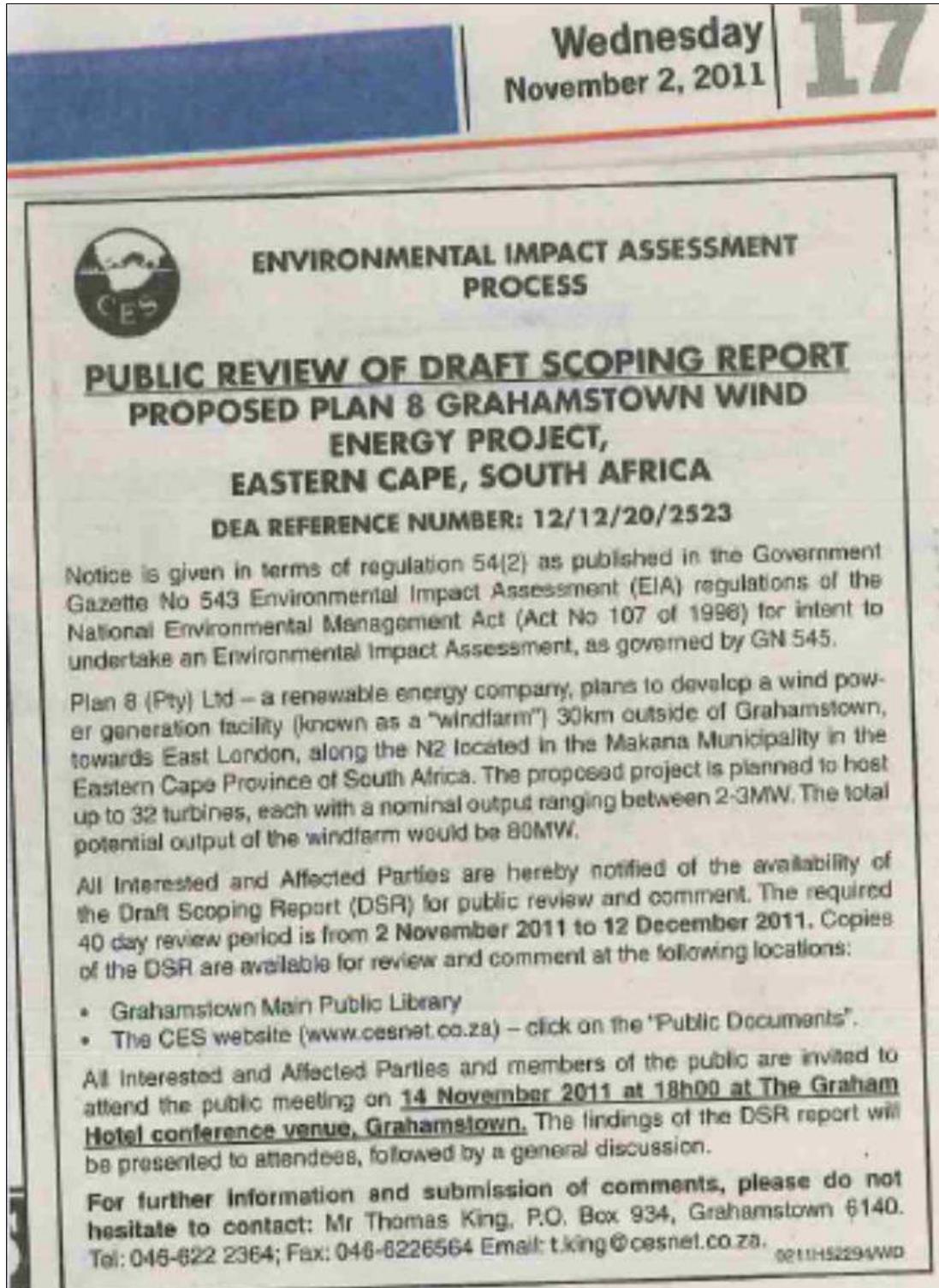
Notice is given in terms of regulation 54(2) as published in the Government Gazette No 543 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) for intent to undertake an EIA.

Plan 8 (Pty) Ltd is proposing to construct a Wind Energy Project to be developed outside of Grahamstown, along the N2 freeway, in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. The proposed project will entail the construction and operation of up to 33 turbines each generating 2-3 MW of power with a total capacity of 80MW. The proposed development will cover an area of approximately 2,550 hectares.

You are invited to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP). Please contact: Mr Hylton Newcombe, P.O. Box 934, Grahamstown. Tel: 046-622 2364; Fax: 046-622 6564 Email: h.newcombe@cesnet.co.za.

COPY OF NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT NOTIFYING I&APS OF THE PROPOSED DRAFT SCOPING REPORT WHEREABOUTS AND THE TIME, DATE AND VENUE FOR THE PUBLIC MEETING AND THE DURATION OF THE REVIEW PERIOD FOR THE PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND ENERGY PROJECT

THE EP HERALD(Provincial) – 2nd November 2011



Wednesday
November 2, 2011 | **17**

 **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
PROCESS**

**PUBLIC REVIEW OF DRAFT SCOPING REPORT
PROPOSED PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND
ENERGY PROJECT,
EASTERN CAPE, SOUTH AFRICA**

DEA REFERENCE NUMBER: 12/12/20/2523

Notice is given in terms of regulation 54(2) as published in the Government Gazette No 543 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) for intent to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment, as governed by GN 545.

Plan 8 (Pty) Ltd – a renewable energy company, plans to develop a wind power generation facility (known as a “windfarm”) 30km outside of Grahamstown, towards East London, along the N2 located in the Makana Municipality in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. The proposed project is planned to host up to 32 turbines, each with a nominal output ranging between 2-3MW. The total potential output of the windfarm would be 80MW.

All Interested and Affected Parties are hereby notified of the availability of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) for public review and comment. The required 40 day review period is from **2 November 2011 to 12 December 2011**. Copies of the DSR are available for review and comment at the following locations:

- Grahamstown Main Public Library
- The CES website (www.cesnet.co.za) – click on the “Public Documents”.

All Interested and Affected Parties and members of the public are invited to attend the public meeting on **14 November 2011 at 18h00 at The Graham Hotel conference venue, Grahamstown**. The findings of the DSR report will be presented to attendees, followed by a general discussion.

For further information and submission of comments, please do not hesitate to contact: Mr Thomas King, P.O. Box 934, Grahamstown 6140. Tel: 046-622 2364; Fax: 046-6226564 Email: t.king@cesnet.co.za. 0211H52294WD

GROCOTT'S MAIL (Local) – – 4th November 2011

Grocott's Mail Friday, 4 November 2011

INTERFAITH

Thought for the week

Great is your love towards us

KING David was overwhelmed by God's love and deliverance of his life; a love and deliverance every born-again child of God knows.

A love that has called, set free, forgiven, a love that perseveres, comforts and strengthens. A love and deliverance that stirs in our hearts a desire to walk in the ways of our God, to fear His name, to stand in awe of and to revere His name. To bring Him praise with all our hearts, not just a lip service, and to glorify His name forever. Such is the nature of God's love and deliverance.

It's these deep desires stirred by the love of God that brought David to his knees, crying out to God: "Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name," (Psalm 86:11).

Christian friends, consider the depth and riches of His love for you and as you do so may you too be brought to that

glorious place of complete and utter devotion to God. May your heart desire to exercise reverence and honour to God,

to be single in its purpose to enjoy and please God.

How wonderful it is to know that God's love for us is

personal and eternal in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Dirk Coetzee, Pastor of the Grahamstown



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

**PUBLIC REVIEW OF DRAFT SCOPING REPORT
PROPOSED PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND
ENERGY PROJECT,
EASTERN CAPE, SOUTH AFRICA**

DEA REFERENCE NUMBER: 12/12/20/2523

Notice is given in terms of regulation 54(2) as published in the Government Gazette No 543 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) for intent to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment, as governed by GN 545.

Plan 8 (Pty) Ltd a renewable energy company, plans to develop a wind power generation facility (known as a windfarm) 30km outside of Grahamstown, towards East London, along the N2 located in the Makana Municipality in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. The proposed project is planned to host up to 32 turbines, each with a nominal output ranging between 2-3MW. The total potential output of the windfarm would be 80MW.

All Interested and Affected Parties are hereby notified of the availability of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) for public review and comment. The required 40 day review period is from 3 November 2011 to 13 December 2011. Copies of the DSR are available for review and comment at the following locations:

- Grahamstown Main Public Library
- The CES website (www.cesnet.co.za) click on the Public Documents

All Interested and Affected Parties and members of the public are invited to attend the public meeting on **14 November 2011 at 18h00 at the Graham Hotel Conference Venue, Grahamstown**. The findings of the DSR report will be presented to attendees, followed by a general discussion.

For further information and submission of comments, please do not hesitate to contact: Mr Thomas King, P.O. Box 934, Grahamstown 6140. Tel: 046-822 2384; Fax: 046-8228564 Email: t.king@cesnet.co.za.

Visit
www.grocotts.co.za

THE EP HERALD(Provincial) – 26TH April 2012

18 Thursday
April 26, 2012

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS



**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE
PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND
ENERGY PROJECT**

Notice is given in terms of regulation 54(2) as published in the Government Gazette No 543 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) for intent to undertake an EIA.

Plan 8 (Pty) Ltd is proposing to construct a Wind Energy Project to be developed outside of Grahamstown, along the N2 freeway, in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. The proposed project will entail the construction and operation of up to 33 turbines each generating 2-3 MW of power with a total capacity of 80MW. The proposed development will cover an area of approximately 2,550 hectares.

All Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby notified of the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for public review and comment. The 40 day review period is from **26 April 2012 to 6 June 2012**.

Copies of the **Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)** are available for review and comment at the following locations:

- > Grahamstown Library
- > The CES website (www.cesnet.co.za) – click on the public documents.

A public meeting will be held at the Graham Hotel on 17 May 2012 at 6pm for release of the DEIR and for I&APs to raise any issues and/or concerns

For further information and submission of comments, please do not hesitate to contact: Mr. Anton Hough, P. O. Box 934, Grahamstown, 6140.
Tel: 046-622 2364; Fax: 046-622 6564 Email: a.hough@cesnet.co.za.

77 LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE

In the High Court of Africa (Eastern Port Elizabeth) matter

LIKE ALL THINGS HOT, OUR CLASSIFIED ADS WILL BURN THE PAGES

Phone 041 504 7174!

In the Estate of the late HESTER STEENKAMP No: 460522 Date of Birth 1945 Date of Death 2012, Court: Newburg, Richmond Elizabeth. Estate no: 19

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Shame fuels black market

...less they are drunk and then they talk about it badly.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS



PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND ENERGY PROJECT

Notice is given in terms of regulation 54(2) as published in the Government Gazette No 543 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998) for intent to undertake an EIA

Plan 8 (Pty) Ltd is proposing to construct a Wind Energy Project to be developed outside of Grahamstown, along the N2 freeway, in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. The proposed project will entail the construction and operation of up to 33 turbines each generating 2-3 MW of power with a total capacity of 80MW. The proposed development will cover an area of approximately 2,550 hectares.

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A public meeting will be held at the Graham Hotel on 17 May 2012 at 6pm for release of the DEIR and for I&APs to raise any issues and/or concerns

For further information and submission of comments, please do not hesitate to contact: Mr. Anton Hough, P. O. Box 934, Grahamstown, 6140.
Tel: 046-622 2364; Fax: 046-622 6564 Email: a.hough@cesnet.co.za.



MAKANA
MUNICIPALITY | EASTERN CAPE
...a great place to be



200 YEARS
reflect and imagine
...the making of a great place to be

CORRECTION OF NOTICE NUMBER 37/2012

REZONING APPLICATION: WAAINEK WIND ENERGY FACILITY, GRAHAMSTOWN

Notice is hereby given that Makana Municipality has received an application in terms of the Land Use Planning Ordinance, 15 of 1985 for the rezoning of wind turbine tower footprints to Special Zone: Wind Turbine; for building line relaxations; for temporary departure to permit project construction and matters incidental thereto and for the creation of lease and servitude areas to permit the construction and operation of the proposed Waainek Wind Energy Facility near Grahamstown, Eastern Cape Province.

The application was received from Fridlaender, Burger and Volkmann, Professional Land Surveyors on behalf of Innwind (Pty) in respect of **PORTION 1 (STROWAN) OF THE FARM ZYFER FONTEIN, NO. 249, PORTION 15 (STROWAN) OF FARM NO. 253, PORTION 8 (FANCUTTRS) OF FARM NO. 253, PORTION 17 (COLDSPRING ANNEXE) OF FARM NO. 253 AND PORTION 21 OF FARM NO. 253** situated near Grahamstown in the Makana Municipality, Administrative District Albany, Province of Eastern Cape.

Further particulars of this application may be obtained during office hours from the **DIRECTORATE: TECHNICAL AND INFRASTRUCTURAL SERVICES, MAKANA MUNICIPALITY, GRAHAMSTOWN**.

Any person wishing to submit comment or objection in respect of the application must do so in writing to the **MUNICIPAL MANAGER, P.O. BOX 176, GRAHAMSTOWN, 6140** on or before **04 May 2012**.

MS. N.L. BAART
MUNICIPAL MANAGER

REFERENCE NUMBER: C/PTNS1/8/15/17/21 Albany

APPENDIX D-5: COPY OF SITE NOTICE TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHS PLACED AT THE ENTRANCE TO EACH FARM (THE FARMS GILEAD, TOWER HILL AND PEYNES) NOTIFYING I&APS OF THE PROPOSED PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND ENERGY PROJECT

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN 8 GRAHAMSTOWN WIND ENERGY PROJECT IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 54 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations published in Government Notice R543 in Government Gazette No 33306 of 02 August 2010, under Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act 1998 (Act No 107 of 1998), as amended, that a wind energy project is proposed for construction at Farms Gilead, Tower Hill and Peynes Kraal, Grahamstown in the Makana Municipality in the Eastern Cape Province.

The proposed project will entail the construction and operation of up to 32 turbines each generating 2.5MW of power with a total generation capacity of ~ 80MW.

In terms of the EIA regulations, the proposed development will require a full scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Plan 8 (Pty) Limited has appointed Coastal and Environmental Services (CES) to undertake the EIA. The application has been submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA).

If you have any comments or queries, or if you require further information, please contact
Mr. Hylton Newcombe at:-
Tel: 046 622 2364; or Fax: 046 622 6564; or Email:
h.newcombe@cesnet.co.za





Plate D5 – 1: Site notice erected at the entrance to the Farm Gilead. GPS co-ordinates (33.282154 S; 26.83058 E)



Plate D5 – 2: Site notice erected at the entrance to the Farm Tower Hill. GPS co-ordinates (33.285775 S; 26.862073 E)



Plate D5 – 3: Site notice erected at the entrance to the Farm Peynes. GPS co-ordinates (33.283142 S; 26.847159 E)

APPENDIX D-6: ATTENDANCE REGISTER FOR THE SCOPING PHASE HELD AT THE GRAHAM HOTEL, GRAHAMSTOWN

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Wind Energy Project (Environmental Impact Assessment – Scoping Phase): Public Meeting, Grahamstown, Graham Hotel
 Conference Venue - 14 November 2011, 18h00.

LOCAL ADDRESS	CONTACT			
	TELEPHONE	FAX	CELL PHONE	EMAIL
160 6HT	0828095425	046-6223118		pauc@celestial-diagnostics.co.za
Box 3629	046-6228171	046-6228171		
Box 3629	0826609974	046 6228474		
Box 6272	046 6227176 0727641303		0727641303	claypits@geenet.co.za
Box 6292	046 6227158 0847675097	0866975204	0847675097	abd@geenet.co.za
Box 19	046-6361810 0823193207	040-608832	0823193207	wayne.nortier@gmail.com
Box 621	0823007730	046 62260011	0823007730	jmicahua@zazu.co.za
			0825921664	
6H STREET	046 622 7222	-	-	p.mini@grocotts.co.za

APPENDIX D-6: PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE SCOPING PHASE PUBLIC MEETING AT THE GRAHAM HOTEL, GRAHAMSTOWN



APPENDIX D-7: MINUTES OF THE SCOPING PHASE PUBLIC MEETING AT GRAHAM HOTEL, GRAHAMSTOWN

Infinite Plan 8 Grahamstown Windfarm Public meeting, Graham Hotel, Grahamstown, Monday 14th November 2017 Comments & responses

Mr P de Klerk	
Ms KM Crous	Neighbouring farmer
Mr O Crous	
Mr GL Dixon	Chair of the Coombes Agricultural Association
Mr GB Dixon	
Mr WL Nortje	
Mr MJ Erwee	
Mr MS Miller	
Ms P Mini	Grocotts Mail
Ms J Gon	
Mr R Cooper	
Mr Z Jessa	Infinite Plan 8 (IP8)
Mr J Cope	Infinite Plan 8 (IP8)
Mr A Oswald	Nordex
Mr H Newcombe	Coastal & Environmental Services, Ght (CES)
Mr W Rowston	Coastal & Environmental Services, Ght

Comment: Ms P Mini

I've heard there is a wind farm planned for the Grahamstown industrial area: is this the one you are referring to?

Response: CES

No: the one we're discussing here is planned for a site about 30km east of Grahamstown towards Peddie and East London

Comment: Mr O Crous

There is a group of three turbines at the north side of the project area, and these have a greater impact than the others. How certain is it that these turbines will be constructed?

Response: IP8

All the turbine locations are preliminary at the moment, but these three sites are more likely than the others. Although the modelling showed that the turbine positions make best use of the site, there are many factors that influence the siting of the turbines, including the distance between each turbine, as well as environmental and social considerations.

Comment: Mr O Crous

Is it correct that the distance of a turbine from a property boundary should be 100m from the hub?

Response: IP8

Guidelines have been developed only recently, and are region specific. Turbine setback from property boundary, and 200m seems to be a reasonable distance.

Comment: Mr O Crous

Only a few weeks' data have been collected thus far, but the average wind speed is 8m/sec. We have to collect one year's data in order to submit our bid.

Comment: Mr O Crous

At my house the prevailing wind direction is south west.

Response: IP8

The meteorological mast has been set up to obtain more detail on the wind regime used in the modelling is quite coarse. Thus far insufficient wind data has been collected to determine prevailing wind direction or to detect seasonal variations.

Comment: Mr O Crous

There is a possibility that the N2 may be realigned in this area.

Response: CES

Thank you: we will investigate this with SANRAL

Comment: Mr GL Dixon

If the wind farm goes ahead the surrounding community must get used to its presence. However, some farmers will benefit directly from the wind farm, while others who are not compensated, on properties where ecotourism or hunting lodges either operate or have operated. Can you give an example of an instance?

Response: IP8

One of the conditions attached to the bid for a wind farm is that 2% ownership of the wind farm be held by the local community, but how this is to be achieved is not specified in detail. Job opportunities will be created for local people. We will be talking to community representatives to determine the best way to achieve this condition, and also to find out where game and ecotourism lodges are situated in the surrounding areas, and other operations that might be affected by the wind farm. You, your association, and neighbouring property owners can provide us with information.

Comment: Mr GL Dixon

How will this 2% ownership work?

Response: IP8

As we mentioned previously, we will work out the details in discussion with all the interested parties. We must also get inputs from our bidding partners, including the construction contractor.

Comment: Mr O Crous

What does 2% mean? 2% of what, and when will this be clarified.

Response: IP8

We believe it's 2% of turnover, but this isn't very clear in the bid documentation. We will clarify this when we liaise with the local communities, and we have a better idea of what is meant.

Comment: Mr GL Dixon

Mr Krous owns a game lodge, and I don't understand why he hasn't said as much as he could.

Response: Mr O Crous

The occupant of the lodge was unable to be here, and I don't want to speak on his behalf.

Comment: Mr O Crous

Will the turbines be lit in any way? The warning light on the cellphone tower is lit at night, which is just west of the boundary of the site.

Response: IP8, Nordex, CES

Yes: each tower must display a red flashing warning light on the nacelle at night, and upwards, and not downwards to minimise light pollution at ground level.

accounts?

Response: IP8, CES

These are interesting proposal, and we will consider them, but it is doubtful if E proposal.

Comment: Ms P Mini

The planned output from the windfarm is 80MW. But what does this mean?

Response: IP8, Nordex

In very rough terms 80MW is sufficient to provide power to about 6 000 middle-cla

Comment: Mr P de Klerk

Do the turbines pose a fire hazard?

Response: Nordex

The turbines are fitted with many safety features, including automatic co extinguishers, to safeguard against fires and other malfunctions. The risk of fire has never experienced a fire in any of its turbines.

Comment: Mr O Crous

Could you explain the bid process in more detail? Is it competitive?

Response: IP8

The bid process is competitive. It is adjudicated by the Department of Energy (D depends, among other things, on the feed in tariff offered by the bidder – the u supplied into the national grid, but there are many other factors considered in tariff prescribed by DoE is currently R 1.15 per kilowatt hour. We will try to make f to all interested persons on the subject.

APPENDIX D-8: COMMENTS REPORT (ISSUES AND RESPONSE TRAIL) AS SUBMITTED IN THE FINAL EIR TO DEA ON THE 2nd AUGUST 2012

NAME	ISSUE	DATE	RESPONSE
1. GENERAL			
O. Crous: (Neighbouring Landowner, Mr Pumzo Mdeleleni: Vodacom)	The project must not negatively affect television, cell phone, and Telkom landline or internet reception.	12/12/2011 Email	CES: The turbines don't have any effect on cellular phone signal and reception; however there may be minimal interference with other electronic devices if turbines are placed too closely to the Vodacom Mast.
Fred Pittaway (Cattle and game farmer and project neighbour)	Wind power not only has the advantage of being a clean energy source but another added bonus is that the energy source is free and inexhaustible	22/05/2012 Written	CES: Noted.
O. Crous Neighbouring Landowner	Specialist report – Diagram 7.1 – Table 15 – Figure 2, locality. Are the tables not supposed to be turned around?	17/05/2012 Via Public Meeting	CES: This has been corrected.
Gavin Dixon	The layout of the boundaries is incorrect	17/05/2012 Via Public meeting	CES: These boundaries are demarcated by the surveyor general on a nationwide scale. This is the most accurate available to us. Please provide additional information if possible.
Dave Young	Concerned that he wasn't informed of the project Wants a specialist report done on the devaluation of the property as a result of the wind farm and raised concerns that the assessment is flawed as it didn't include a specialist report on the impact on the property price	06/06/2012 Via Public meeting	CES: We would sincerely like to apologise for this oversight, however the EAP is only required by law to inform, in writing, all immediate surrounding landowners and landowners within 100m of the project site (GNR 543 (54)). Furthermore, the project and details of the public meetings were advertised in a regional and local newspaper, inviting I&AP's to register. Site notices were also placed on the borders of the properties involved. In addition to this the proposed wind farm was on the agenda of the Coombs Agricultural Association meetings on January the 23 rd and April the 25 th . You

NAME	ISSUE	DATE	RESPONSE
			<p>were sent the agenda for these meetings, indicating that this would be discussed, prior to the public meeting being held. Therefore it can be said that every attempt was made to notify potential I&APs and no one person was excluded intentionally.</p> <p>CES: It is difficult to measure the impact of wind farm developments on property prices in an objective manner, since there is currently very few of these developments in South Africa and therefore no one actually knows what the impact will be. It was felt that without sufficient information available for such a study it would be frivolous.</p>
Peter Moll and Adri Timm	Concerned that they did not have copies of the EIR.	06/06/2012 Via Public meeting	<p>CES: These can be viewed on the CES website, or viewed in hard copy at the Grahamstown public library. The EAP will happily email you a link to the EIR should this be asked for. Should you be unable to obtain the EIR from these various locations please let us know which will be the easiest way for you to obtain the document.</p>
2. PROCEDURAL			
Murray Crous Settlers Safaris/Honeykop Lodge	<p>The developers did not approach the affected neighbours of the project in order to reduce the negative impacts of this project.</p> <p>From our lodge the proposed wind turbines will be in view, which will put off many hunters and thus we will suffer financially.</p>	14/12/2011 Email	<p>CES: It is difficult to measure the impact of wind farm developments on property prices in an objective manner, since there is currently very few of these developments in South Africa and therefore no one actually knows what the impact will be.</p>
Murray Crous Settlers Safaris/Honeykop Lodge	Letters were sent to farms closer than 1 km to the site, since then the amount of turbines and their numbering have changed. No follow up has taken place causing the affected parties not to be up to date as to the extent of the effects to their property. See graphs in Noise impact assessment.	04/06/2012 Email	<p>CES: CES guarantees that all reports we produce will display the most up-to-date turbine and infrastructure layout. The draft EIR displayed a turbine layout that was subject to specialist assessment. Some of the turbines in this layout infringed on sensitive areas. On the 11th of July 2012,</p>

NAME	ISSUE	DATE	RESPONSE
			<p>a new layout was developed that took account for these sensitive areas.</p> <p>CES: This layout will be shown in the Final EIR. This will be available for review on the CES website. I&APs can then submit their concerns on that layout directly to the DEA case officer.</p>
<p>Murray Crous Settlers Safaris/Honeykop Lodge</p>	<p>Adverts were placed in Grocotts mail. I think it is unfair to affected parties that don't read Grocotts mail or live outside the distribution area of this local newspaper. These notifications were vague mentioning a site along the N2, which could be anywhere and were most likely mistaken for the 'Waainek' site.</p>	<p>04/06/2012 Email</p>	<p>CES: This is regrettable. The name of the developer, Plan 8, would have been displayed on the advert. The Waainek Wind Farm is being developed by InnoWind. The output of the two projects is different, and the output of the proposed Plan 8 Wind Farm would have been displayed on the advert..</p>
<p>Dave De La Harpe Director of Amaraka Investments No. 6 (Pty) Limited</p>	<p>Notwithstanding the fact that I am a regular reader of all local newspapers this proposal had not come to my attention.</p>	<p>14/12/2011 via email</p>	<p>CES: The proposed wind farm was on the agenda of the Coombs Agricultural Association meetings on January the 23rd and April the 25th. You were sent the agenda for these meetings, indicating that this would be discussed, prior to these meeting being held. We regret that this was not the case. A copy of these adverts that appeared in these newspapers can be viewed in the final EIR.</p>
<p>Mr Pieter de Villiers Moll Landowner (Trumpetters Drift Farm 612)</p>	<p>Some of the farmers do not have access to newspapers such as the Grocotts and EP Herald, and are therefore not informed about the proposed project. According to Mr de Villiers Moll, no solitary farmer or game rancher in the Fish River Valley was aware of the proposed project</p>	<p>10/06/2012 Written</p>	<p>CES: We regret this, but the best reasonable effort was made. Site notices were erected, the project was advertised, and we also rely to a certain extent on word of mouth. To facilitate this, the proposed wind farm was on the agenda of the Coombs Agricultural Association meetings on January the 23rd and April the 25th 2012.</p> <p>CES: A public participation process, including newspaper advertisements, letters of notification and public meetings, were held in line with GNR 543 of the National Environmental Management Act.</p>

NAME	ISSUE	DATE	RESPONSE
Mr Pieter de Villiers Moll Landowner (Trumpetters Drift Farm 612)	No notification board was erected at the junction of the N2 and the Committees Drift Road or the Fort Beaufort and Committees Drift Road.	10/06/2012 Written	CES: That junction is very far from the site. Erecting a notice there will have been misleading as to the location of the project. The notices were erected along the borders of the property, in line with regulation 54 (2) of NEMA.
3. TOURISM AND BUSINESS OPERATIONS			
Murray Crous, Petra Schutrops (Neighbouring Landowner - Bushmans Gorge Lodge and Settlers Safaris hunting outfit)	The area will be spoiled for hunting purposes.	12/12/2011	<p>CES: It is likely that some of your clients will find these structures unpleasant, but we have no knowledge of how many may not be bothered by them. It is a matter of people's opinions and perceptions. Without a detailed, nationwide study, this concern cannot be adequately addressed. We regret that this is the case. There is currently no evidence to suggest this due to the fact that there are currently very few wind farms in South Africa.</p> <p>CES: A viewshed analysis conducted during the visual specialist study shows all the areas from which turbines will be visible. This is displayed as figure 6.1 in the report.</p>
O. Crous (Neighbouring Landowner)	<p>Has any research been done on the long-term breeding patterns of wild game within a distance of one kilometre of a forest of wind turbines? We are breeders of rare and expensive species of game.</p> <p>I feel strongly that it should not be just the landowners on whose property the turbines are going to be erected to gain financially from the project, but the surrounding landowners who have got to suffer the effects of the wind turbines. Spoiling landscape, noise, lights, loss of business from hunting lodge, decreased property value etc.</p>	12/12/2011 via email	CES: These comments have been noted and incorporated in to the EIR. CES has motivated to the national Department of Environmental Affairs that an Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) be undertaken to better guide and manage wind farm EIA's in the country.

NAME	ISSUE	DATE	RESPONSE
	Regarding above point, I want to see the Coombs Agricultural Association being involved. This association being for the benefit of the farmers in this area as well as the farm workers and their families		
<p>Dave De La Harpe A director of Amaraka Investments No. 6 (Pty) Limited (the owner of the farm properties Stoneyvale, Governor's Kop, Uniondale and the Orchards)</p>	<p>The construction of a substantial Windfarm on the high lying ridge above Coombes Valley will impact negatively on all eco-tourism and hunting concerns in the vicinity and in particular to Amaraka Investments No. 6 (Pty) Limited.</p>	<p>14/12/2011 via email</p>	<p>CES: CES has motivated to the national Department of Environmental Affairs that an SEA be undertaken to better guide and manage wind farm EIA's in the country.</p> <p>See above response in terms of hunting and tourism</p>
<p>Murray Crous , Petra Schutrops (Neighbouring Landowner of Bushmans Gorge Lodge and Settlers Safaris hunting outfit)</p>	<p>We breed expensive and rare animals such as Black Impala, Golden Wildebeest, Copper Blesbuck and we are worried that the disturbance of this project will affect their breeding behaviour and the game populations greatly.</p> <p>This plan as it is will only benefit the farmers that supply the land and the companies involved in erecting the turbines and all the other neighbours will have to suffer the negative environmental as well as financial consequences of this plan.</p> <p>Our outfit caters for foreign hunters and non-hunters who wish to spend their holidays in a natural untouched environment. From our lodge the proposed wind turbines will be in view, which will put off many hunters and thus we will suffer financially.</p>	<p>14/12/2011 via email</p>	<p>CES: These comments have been noted and incorporated in to the EIR. CES has motivated to the national Department of Environmental Affairs that an SEA be undertaken to better guide and manage wind farm EIA's in the country.</p>
<p>Dave De La Harpe Director of Amaraka Investments No. 6 (Pty) Limited (the owner of the farm properties Stoneyvale, Governor's Kop, Uniondale and the</p>	<p>A development of a Windfarm on this particular site, no matter how attractive it may be to the Developer and the Landowners will adversely impact upon other legitimate land-users and in particular Amaraka Investments No. 6 (Pty) Limited in that the</p>	<p>14/12/2011 via email</p>	<p>CES: It is likely that some of your clients will find these structures unpleasant, but we have no knowledge of how many may not be bothered by them. It is a matter of people's opinions and perceptions. Without a detailed, nationwide study,</p>

NAME	ISSUE	DATE	RESPONSE
Orchards)	visual pollution will be considerable and will in all probability make it more difficult if not impossible to sell eco-tourism and safari operations on its property and will most certainly reduce the value of its considerable investment in land.		<p>this concern cannot be adequately addressed. We regret that this is the case. There is currently no evidence to suggest this due to the fact that there are currently very few wind farms in South Africa.</p> <p>CES: A viewshed analysis conducted during the visual specialist study shows all the areas from which turbines will be visible. This is displayed as figure 6.1 in the report.</p>
A Timm Huntshoek Lodge cc Edcot Trust t/a Huntshoek Safaris	The impact on game farms and tourism most definitely would be a negative one, as we rely extensively on the pristine beauty and untouched landscapes to attract visitors to our area and should these wind turbines mar this picture, which it will, visitors to most of the game farms and lodges in this area will drastically decline as no one wants to sit and watch noisy wind turbines whilst they paid to come and experience nature.	04/06/2012 Written	<p>CES: These comments are noted.</p> <p>CES: A person cannot hear a wind turbine beyond a distance of 500 meters, unless the turbine is functioning incorrectly. Plans will be in place to ensure that these situations are dealt with timeously.</p> <p>CES: To try and better understand the impacts of wind turbine developments on tourism, CES has motivated to the national Department of Environmental Affairs that an SEA be undertaken to better guide and manage wind farm EIA's in the country.</p>
Murray Crous Settlers Safaris/Honeykop Lodge	I reside and conduct my business Settlers Safaris from the farm Honeykop directly adjacent to the proposed site with the closest proposed turbine at 532 meters.	10/06/2012 Email	CES: This concern is noted.
Murray Crous Settlers Safaris/Honeykop Lodge	My main concern is the loss of income I am expecting to incur. It makes me very concerned for my livelihood as well as the livelihood of my workers.	10/06/2012 Written	CES: This concern is noted. The impacts, positive or negative, of wind turbine developments on tourism in South Africa remains untested.
K. Rawson, N. Rudy, O. Crous Owners of The Hills Game Estate	It will not only affect our business negatively, but the future land value of the property negatively.	10/06/2012 Email	CES: This concern is noted.

NAME	ISSUE	DATE	RESPONSE
	This area is mostly game farming orientated, of great historical background around the Great Fish River and must not be intruded upon by landscape changing turbines.		
Gavin Dixon	Some farmers will benefit directly from the wind farm, while others won't. How will the others be compensated, on properties where ecotourism or hunting lodges either operate or might in the future, for instance?	14/11/2011 Public Meeting	CES: As part of the IPP procurement programme, under the authority of the Department of Energy, 2% of the project must belong to the community, but how this is to be achieved is not specified in detail. Job opportunities must also be available to local people. We will be talking to community representatives to determine how best to satisfy this condition, and also to find out where game and ecotourism lodges are situated in the site and the surrounding areas, and other operations that might be affected by the wind farm. We will be very happy if you, your association, and neighbouring property owners can provide us with information of this sort.
4. VISUAL			
Mr O. Crous Neighbouring Landowner	Any lights on structures must shine up into the sky and not sideways or downwards. Painting of structures to blend in with sky and surrounding countryside, not plain white colour. What is the distance from the nearest turbine to my homestead or boundary and how many would be erected?	12/12/2011 via email	CES: Noted. A visual specialist study has been undertaken during the EIR phase of the project.
Murray Crous, Petra Schutrops (Neighbouring Landowner of Bushmans Gorge Lodge and Settlers Safaris hunting outfit)	The N2 between Grahamstown and Peddie is already a very dangerous stretch of road, this can be seen in the amount of accidents and fatalities. Erecting turbines visible from the N2 will distract the drivers' attention and cause even more accidents along this road. I presume the turbines will have	14/12/2011	

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	<p>signal lights on top, this will be light pollution and an eyesore in the evenings as a big part of our advertising is to be away from man made things and to be out in the bush.</p>		
<p>G.B.Dixon</p>	<p>Secondly; the girl; was it Lee-Anne who did the study on vegetation; took pictures and I recognize a few of them on my farm and she speaks of over grazing and how that has affected the vegetation of the area. From my farm Gilead's perspective in the last 33 years or so I have been farming it post my father, overgrazing has not occurred.</p> <p>The recommended stocking rate to my knowledge is 1LSU to 7 ha and not 6 as was stated there.....never the less I have been running about 1 LSU to 10ha which does not make cattle farming too profitable here, hence the need to make these farms more profitable by wind farming and making them more viable economically.</p>	<p>7/5/2012 Email</p>	<p>CES: Noted.</p>
<p>O. Crous Neighbouring Landowner</p>	<p>Specialist visual impact report – 26km away has been scanned, but not the farm next door?</p> <p>Other farms have been included but not the farm right next door.</p>	<p>17/05/2012 Via Public Meeting</p>	<p>CES: We have submitted visual montages. We can arrange to get those to you. Whatever you need, we will do our best to get that to you.</p>
<p>Dave Young Director: George Building Supplies (Pty) Ltd</p>	<p>The significance of the adverse effects of these wind turbines from a visual impact and intrusion point of view are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The current and future value of the surrounding farms will be significantly reduced as a consequence of having to look at these huge turbines. If anyone has any doubt as to the size of these behemoths then drive to Port Elizabeth and have a look at how just one of these 	<p>21/05/2012 Email</p>	<p>CES:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The impact turbines will have on property values is subjective and no studies can confirm that this is the case. 2. This is noted. 3. This is noted.

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	<p>monsters dominates the surrounding area. Who wants to buy or own a property looking onto this proposed scheme vs. the current bush covered rolling hills.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Those operations dependant on hunting as a source of income will be negatively affected. Hunters, especially foreigners whom many of the farmers depend on for an income, will certainly not choose an African bush experience staring at a landscape dominated by large spinning turbines. These clients will go elsewhere. 3. Eco tourists would far prefer to look at scenic hills rather than spinning turbines and they will also take their business elsewhere. 		
Murray Crous Settlers Safaris/Honeykop Lodge	Visual pollution will be considerable and will in all probability make it more difficult if not impossible to sell eco -tourism and safari operations on its property and will most certainly reduce the value of its considerable investment in land	04/06/2012 Email	CES: This is noted.
Murray Crous (Settlers Safaris/Honeykop Lodge)	Which buildings will experience shadow flicker? What will the shadow flicker on Honeykop lodge be like	10/06/2012 Email	CES: This was assessed in the visual impact study, section 6.1.6. Only one farmstead, that occupied by Morne Erwee, is at risk of experiencing more than 30 hours per year or 30 minutes on the worst day. The turbine layout has been revised to prevent this.
Murray Crous (Settlers Safaris/Honeykop Lodge)	Chapter 8 Page 1 “The wind farm will be highly intrusive on the views of a number of highly sensitive viewers” What lights will be on the turbines? First meeting at Coombs hall we were told that there would be sensor lights that only come on when an aircraft is a certain distance away and at the last meeting when the question was asked, the developers	10/06/2012 Written	CES: The lighting requirements, as required in terms of the Aviation Act, is explained in detail in section 3.2.12 of the final Scoping Report.

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	couldn't answer which lights are going to used!		
XXL Game Reserve (Pty Ltd)	A concern was raised with regard to the visual impact and how this will affect the hunting industry of the area	18/06/2012	CES: This concern is noted.
Dave Young	Raised concerns about the size and colour of the turbines and the negative visual impact.	06/06/2012 Via Public meeting	CES: The colour and markings of turbines are determined by the Aviation Act. Please refer to section 3.2.12 of the final Scoping Report produced for this project.
5. LAND USE			
Fred Pittaway (Cattle and game farmer and project neighbour)	I personally feel the area on which your proposed Wind Energy Project is planned for is ideally suited for the purpose. My reason for this statement is that the natural veldt is very stony and grazing is generally of poor nature, so the economic viability of the area will be enhanced and it is perfectly situated from a wind perspective.	22/05/2012 Written	CES: Noted.
A Timm (Huntshoek Lodge cc Edcot Trust t/a Huntshoek Safaris)	Would a project of this nature guarantee NO decrease in the value of land, or can it guarantee the increase in value of land? We fear none of the above is possible. The negative impact on investment return is great, as future investors would not want to purchase land that overlooks an "industrial area" or a farm that would not be able to benefit from tourism and hunting. Tourist and hunters would be scared off by the visual impact these monsters will have on their "African safari" and most certainly start looking at alternatives.	04/06/2012 Written	CES: No guarantees can be made, as no similar wind farm developments exist to determine what the impact will be.

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6. NOISE			
O. Crous (Neighbouring Landowner)	I want to know what the noise level would be if the wind blows in the direction of my homestead	12/12/2011 via email	CES: Noted. A noise specialist study has been undertaken during the EIR phase of the project.
Murray Crous Petra Schutrops Neighbouring Landowner of Bushmans Gorge Lodge and Settlers Safaris hunting outfit	Our lodge is only 200 meters from the boundary fence with Gillead and so the noise pollution of this project is also really bothering us, especially as the lodge is also serves as our home	14/12/2011 via email	
Dave Young Director: George Building Supplies (Pty) Ltd	<p>I am not satisfied that any studies have been undertaken as regards the noise that these turbines emit and the specific effect that that this noise has on the naturally occurring game species on Chertsey as well as the other farms in the area.</p> <p>Furthermore I have no indication as to what effect this noise will have on my introduced herds of Kudu, Eland, Nyala and Wildebeest, and whether this will affect the areas that they inhabit as well as their breeding and feeding patterns.</p> <p>I also have no indication as to what noise levels we and our guests will be exposed to on the various areas of our farm as we have not been consulted or given any information whatsoever</p>	21/05/2012 via email	CES: The noise specialist study has identified noise sensitive areas, and has set buffers from these areas that need to be adhered to. Beyond these buffers, no noise impacts will be experienced. In terms of the impact noise levels will have on the breeding of game species, no study has assessed this.
7. AVIFAUNAL			
O. Crous (Neighbouring Landowner)	Has any studies been done on the affect or disruption of birds in particular protected birds of prey such as black eagles, crown eagles and martial eagles which breed around and on the properties effected by the project.	12/12/2011 via email	CES: Avifaunal issues have been dealt with extensively during the EIR phase by an avifaunal specialist.

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Murray Crous, Petra Schutrops (Neighbouring Landowner of Bushmans Gorge Lodge and Settlers Safaris hunting outfit)	Will these turbines affect the bird life and bats in our area? A lot of our clients are bird watching enthusiasts. Protected species such as Black Eagle and Crowned Eagle nest and rear young on Gillead, one of the proposed properties for this project.	14/12/2011 via email	
Dave Young Director: George Building Supplies (Pty) Ltd	For information purposes I would be interested to hear what effects, if any, that these turbines will have on the night owls, Bustards, fledgling raptors and slow flying Knysna Louries that are common in the forested areas which occur in the immediate vicinity of some of the proposed turbines.	21/05/2012 via email	CES: The avifaunal and bat studies have demarcated bird and bat sensitive areas that need to be excluded from development. In addition to this, a twelve month long monitoring program is under way that will make more recommendations that will reduce the impact on these species.
8. SOCIAL			
O. Crous Neighbouring Landowner	Regarding the 2% benefit to the community, I feel it should be benefiting the surrounding community who are affected by the project and not some distant urban community who are not affected by the project.	12/12/2011 via email	CES: These comments have been noted and incorporated in to the EIR. CES has motivated to the national Department of Environmental Affairs that an SEA be undertaken to better guide and manage wind farm EIA's in the country.