• The project proponent has taken the issues raised by interested and affected parties into consideration.
• This EIA process has enabled the provision of accurate and relevant information required for informed decision making.

The EAP further understands the proposed project will aid in:-

• The reduction of greenhouse gases by the use of alternatives to fossil fuel - derived electricity will assist South Africa to begin demonstrating its commitment to meeting international obligations/legislative instruments such as the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol (2002);
• Meeting the goals of the White Paper on the Energy Policy for South Africa (Energy White Paper) which aims to create energy security by diversifying energy supply and energy carriers and sets out the policy principles, goals and objectives to achieve, “An energy economy in which modern renewable energy increases its share of energy consumed and provides affordable access to energy throughout South Africa, thus contributing to sustainable development and environmental conservation”, and;
• The Department of Minerals and Energy (DME) (now the Department of Energy) Integrated Energy Plan (IEP) to develop the renewable energy resources, while taking safety, health and the environment into consideration setting a target of, “10 000 GWh (0.8Mtoe) renewable energy contribution to final energy consumption by 2013, to be produced mainly from biomass, wind, solar and small-scale hydro”.
• Assisting in addressing major power shortages largely as a result of demand outstripping supply. This, in many cases, has resulted in financial losses (many of the sectors contributing to the GDP are practically driven by electricity) and impacted on quality of life (hospitals and schools were among the affected, jobs were lost etc.). The national power utility, Eskom, has indicated that South Africa is not past this crisis and that the possibility of further power cuts remains. With local generation, the networks can be freed up to supply power to other areas and the local community will have a much better chance of more consistent supply.

Based on the above, it is believed that with appropriate mitigation, the benefits of the proposed InnoWind Peddie Wind Energy Project will far outweigh the negative impacts, on the limitation and assumption that visual impacts cannot be mitigated and will not significantly affect sensitive viewers in the area. There are highly beneficial social impacts which are required in the Peddie area should the development go ahead. It is therefore the opinion of the EAP, that environmental authorisation for this project be granted with the condition that final turbine layouts (after micro-siting) that will have to be submitted to the DEA prior to construction can demonstrate that specialist designated sensitivities have been taken into consideration.

Further, the results of the ongoing bird and bat monitoring must freely inform these final layouts and where necessary have the weight to exclude turbines or infrastructure components in a given area or portion of the project site should these results require this.

It is also strongly suggested that the recommendations made in Volume 4: Environmental Management Programme: Proposed InnoWind Peddie Wind Energy Project (CES, October 2012) also be followed. Of particular relevance is the recently developed avifaunal and bat long-term monitoring programmes that have recently been developed for wind energy projects in general, and for the study area in particular.

10.3 THE WAY FORWARD

This EIAR, together with the Specialist Volume (Volume 2) and the EMP (Volume 4), will be submitted to the DEA.

Upon thorough examination of the Final EIAR, the authority will issue a decision which either
authorises the project or rejects the EIAR – in which case the DEA will request additional information or clarification of certain issues. Should an Environmental Authorisation be granted, it usually carries Conditions of Approval. The project proponent is obliged to adhere to these conditions.

Within a period determined by the competent authority, all registered I&APs will be notified in writing of (i) the outcome of the application, and (ii) the reason for the decision. The public or applicant (depending on the outcome of the authorization) will then have time in which to appeal the decision should they wish to do so. The appeals procedure will also be communicated by the EAP. Any appeal must be submitted to the responsible Legal Officer at DEA.
11. REFERENCES


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<th>CONTENT</th>
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APPENDIX A: APPROVAL FROM COMPETENT AUTHORITY

APPENDIX B-1: Approval of final scoping report from DEA

Ms Chantel Bezuidenhout  
Coastal & Environmental Services  
P.O Box 934  
GRAHAMSTOWN  
6140

Fax No: 046 622 6564

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Ms Bezuidenhout,

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION: PROPOSED PEDI WIND ENERGY PROJECT, NGQUZIWNA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Final Scoping Report (FSR) and Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated April 2012 and received by the Department on 18 April 2012 forwards.

The Department has evaluated the submitted FSR and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated April 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.

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.

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 and Environmental Affairs, Department of Water Affairs, Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa, South African Heritage Resource Agency, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Eastern Cape Provincial Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Agrarian Reform, Eskom Holdings SOC Limited and the Airports Company of South Africa (ACSA). Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the 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.

05/07/2012 18:08
No.: R094
P.001/004
In addition, the following amendments and additional information are required for the EIR:

a) 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.

b) The total footprint of the proposed development should be indicated. Exact locations of the wind energy facility, and associated infrastructure should be mapped at an appropriate scale.

c) Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.

d) Possible impacts and effects of the development on the vegetation ecology with regard to lowland-highland interface in the locality should be indicated.

e) Possible impacts and effects of the development on the surrounding industrial area.

f) The EIR should include information on the following:
   - Environmental costs vs benefits of the wind energy facility; and
   - Economic viability of the facility to the surrounding area and how the local community will benefit.

g) 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.

h) A copy of the final site layout plan. 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:
   - Turbine positions 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;
   - The location of 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 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.

The Environmental Management Programme (EMP) to be submitted as part of the EIR must include the following:

- All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the EIR.
• The final site layout plan.
• Measures as dictated by the final site lay-out plan and micro-siting.
• An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the EIA process.
• A map combining the final layout plan superimposed (overlaid) on the environmental sensitivity map.
• 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 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.
• A re-vegetation and habitat rehabilitation plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility. Restoration must be undertaken as soon as possible 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 open space management plan to be implemented during the construction and operation of the facility.
• 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.
• A transportation plan for the transport of the project’s components, main assembly cranes and other large pieces of equipment.
• 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 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.
• 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.
• 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.

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 59(3a-3h).

Please ensure that the Final EIR includes at least one A3 regional map of the area and the locality maps included in the final EIR illustrate the different proposed alignments and above ground storage of fuel. 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.

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.

You are requested to submit five (5) copies of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to the Department as per regulation 34(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations, 2010. Please submit at least one electronic copy (CD/DVD) of the complete final report with the hard copy documents.

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

[Signature]

Mr Mark Gordon
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environmental Affairs
Letter signed by: Mr Danie Smit
Designation: Acting Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Date: 5/7/2012

CC: Louis Dewavrin
    InnoWind (Pty) Ltd
    DEDEA
    Fax: 041 484 3038
    Fax: 043 748 2059

05/07/2012 18:09

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Coastal & Environmental Services 119
APPENDIX B: INFORMATION REQUESTED BY DEA

Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with a Final Environmental Impact Report (EIAR). This includes but is not limited to the Eastern Cape Provincial Department of Economic Development and Environmental Affairs; Department of Water Affairs; Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa; South African Heritage Resource Agency; the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; the Eastern Cape Provincial Department of Agriculture; Rural Development and Agrarian Reform, Eskom Holdings SOC Limited; the Airports Company of South Africa (ACSA). Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final EIAR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.

Comments regarding the draft EIAR from all relevant stakeholders will be included in the final EIAR.

a) Details of future plans for the site

If the project is selected as a preferred bidder by the Department of Energy, the wind energy facility is expected to be operational for at least 20 years. In the event that the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Eskom isn’t renewed the wind energy facility (WEF) will be decommissioned and the site will be rehabilitated. If Eskom and InnoWind agree to renew the PPA and depending on the state of the equipment the developer will either completely repower the turbines or simply maintain the turbines and replace the parts that need the be changed. Once the second PPA is expired the WEF will be decommissioned and the site rehabilitated.

b) The total footprint of the proposed development.

The project will cover 12 individual land parcels or property portions, constituting a total area of approximately 3000 ha. The overall development footprint for the project will be a small fraction of the total study area (approximately 25-30 ha) which is at a maximum during construction, but limited to foundation footprints, electrical cabling and road access infrastructure once operational.

c) Should a water use licence be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.

On the completion of final project design if any Water Use (general Authorisation process that is relevant for stream crossings) license is required for the construction of the project a copy of the authorization will be sent to DEA together with the final plans of the project before construction commences.

d) Possible impacts and effects of the development on the vegetation ecology with regard to lowland-highland interface in the locality should be indicated.

Mucina and Rutherford (2006) have classified this area as “Great Fish Thicket”. However, the site visit revealed that the high lying areas, where it has been proposed to situate the turbines, is heavily degraded as a result of the current land use (heavy non-rotational livestock grazing). The predominant species include mostly grass species interspersed with herbaceous shrubs and a few geophytes. This area was given a low sensitivity due to the high level of degradation and low species diversity.

In contrast, degraded thicket was found to still occur along the drainage lines due to the inaccessibility of these sites. This is particularly evident along the eastern portion of the ridge and the low lying area east of the ridge. Despite being degraded, the thicket along the drainage lines had a higher species diversity than the vegetation type along the ridge. These areas were assigned a medium to high sensitivity.
Apart from a few drainage lines, the western side of the ridge is more heavily degraded than the eastern side as a result of the current land use. This area was therefore assigned a low sensitivity.

The development will have the greatest impact along the ridge (high lying area), where the turbines are to be situated. As described above, this area has a low sensitivity. In contrast, the development will have very little impact on the low lying areas (which are classified as highly sensitive) as the only infrastructure to potentially be constructed in this area is a power line connecting the substation to the Eskom grid.

e) Possible impacts and effects of the development on the surrounding industrial area.
There is no industrial area in a 10 km radius of the WEF. The Peddie site is located in a rural part of the Former Ciskei region of the Eastern Cape.

f) The EIAR should include information on the following:
Environmental costs vs benefits of the WEF; and economic viability of the facility to the surrounding area and how the local community will benefit.

With the exception of some visual impacts, all of the high negative environmental impacts can be mitigated to moderate or low negative and in some cases mitigated to a positive impact. The overall benefits of the WEF are deemed to outweigh the environmental costs.

The local community will be benefit from the project through:
1) A 26% stake in the project that will be owned by a community trust and financed by the IDC. The trust will spend the dividends it receive for the economic and social upliftment of the communities.
2) The rental payment by InnoWind of the land used for the wind farm. This rental amounts will be CPI indexed
3) The creation of approximately 60 – 66 jobs locally during the construction phase as well as several permanent jobs during the operation phase.

g) 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.

The project being in early stages of developments most of the above mentioned licenses and or contracts are not currently in place. The developer is committed to remove any refuse from the site generated by the construction phase. Water required for the construction phase (25 million litres) will be sourced from the local municipality and/or the DWA depending on availability. The electricity needs during the construction phase of the project will be sourced from generators who will be brought on site. If required by the Department the developer is committed to provide proof of the agreements as a condition of the record of decision. All specifications pertinent to waste, sewage, water and electricity provision are contained in the EMPr

h) a copy of the final site layout plan. All biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout plan. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. roads.
Figure 1: Combined noise, ecological and heritage sensitivity areas on proposed turbine and infrastructure layout.
Figure 2: Combined bat and bird sensitivity areas on proposed turbine and infrastructure layout.
APPENDIX C: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

APPENDIX C 1: BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT & INVITATION TO COMMENT
PEDDIE WIND ENERGY FACILITY, NGQUISHWA MUNICIPALITY

**Background to the project:** InnoWind (Pty) Ltd – a French renewable energy generator that develops, finances, builds, operates and maintains commercial wind powered generation facilities, proposes to develop a wind power generation facility in Peddie, Ngquishwa Local Municipality, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa (refer to Figure 1). The proposed site is located approximately 12km north of Peddie, directly east of the R94. Coastal & Environmental Services (CES) has been appointed by the InnoWind (Pty) Ltd to undertake the necessary environmental investigations for the proposed wind energy facility, 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 Peddie Wind Energy Project will be distributed over 2 adjacent property parcels in the Peddie area. The facility is planned to host 10 turbines, with a potential power output of 20-40 MW. The ultimate size of the wind turbines will depend on further technical assessments but will typically consist of rotor turbines (3 x 50m blades) with rotor diameters of approximately 80-100m atop a 100m steel or hybrid tower. As with all projects of this nature being developed by Independent Power Producers (IPPs’s), the electricity will be fed into the national ESKOM grid. Other infrastructure associated with the proposed wind farm will include (1) concrete foundations to support the wind towers, (2) approximately 3.5km wide internal access roads to each turbine, (3) underground cables connecting each turbine to the next and ultimately to the substation and (4) a small building to house the control instrumentation and interconnection elements, as well as a store room for maintenance equipment.

**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 адрес для комментариев:**
Ms Amber Jackson
P.O. Box 934
Grahamstown, 6140
Tel: (046) 622 2364
Fax: (046) 622 6564
Email: a.jackson@cosnet.co.za

Figure 1: Locality map of the proposed wind energy facility, Peddie, Ngquishwa Municipality, Eastern Cape
Relevant Legislation

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations, promulgated 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number and date of the relevant notice</th>
<th>Activity No(s)</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Listing Notice R544</td>
<td>(10)</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listing Notice R544</td>
<td>(30)</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listing Notice R545</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>The construction of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listing Notice R545</td>
<td>(15)</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Listing Notice R546</td>
<td>(13)</td>
<td>The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more of vegetation where 75% or more of the vegetative cover constitutes indigenous vegetation in critical biodiversity areas and ecological support areas as identified in systematic biodiversity plans adopted by the competent authority.</td>
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As a consequence, the proposed development will require a full Scoping and EIA. There are three key stages to the EIA process, namely the Scoping phase, the Environmental Impact Assessment phase, and the Environmental Authorisation phase. A detailed EIA process is shown in the "Approach to this EIA Process" section on page 3.

I hereby wish to register as an Interested and Affected Party (IAP) for the Peddie Wind Energy Facility EIA process

Name: __________________________________________________________
Postal address: ________________________________________________
Email: _________________________________________________________
Organization: _________________________________________________
Phone #: __________________________________ Fax #: ______________

Please return details to: Ms Amber Jackson: P.O. Box 934, Grahamstown, 6140
Telephone: (046) 622 2364; Fax: (046) 622 6564
Email: a.jackson@cesnet.co.za
### Approach to this Environmental Impact Assessment

The process required for the proposed Belmont Valley Golf Course 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 impacts. 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:

- **Scoping Phase**
  - Development Proposal
  - Identify and notify interested and affected parties (I&APs)
  - Gather issues and concerns
  - Prepare Draft Scoping Report
  - Review of Draft Scoping Report by I&APs
  - Submit Final Scoping Report to Authority

### 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 Draft Scoping Report will be made available for review by the authorities and all I&APs. This report will report on issues raised during the FPP and shall 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 a number of specialist studies, identified as being necessary to address issues and concerns raised during the Scoping phase, are undertaken. 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 Economic Development and Environmental Affairs (DEDEA) 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

Specific specialist studies still need to be identified, and once decided upon those will be conducted within the proposed golf course site, to ascertain any potential impacts, positive and negative, that may occur as a result of pre-construction, construction and operation phases.

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