

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Monday, 24 February 2025 09:58
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Response to the Kromhof Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd application

Good day Bradley,

Thank you for your comments.

Kind regards,

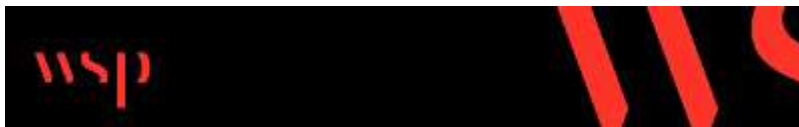
Public Participation Office

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WSP

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1685 South Africa

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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, Gauteng, 1685, South Africa
Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: ZA [REDACTED]
Cc: EV [REDACTED]
Garet [REDACTED]
Subject: Response to the Kromhof Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd application

Dear Sir/Madam

Attached, please find the response from the Endangered Wildlife Trust regarding the Kromhof Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd application

Regards
Bradley

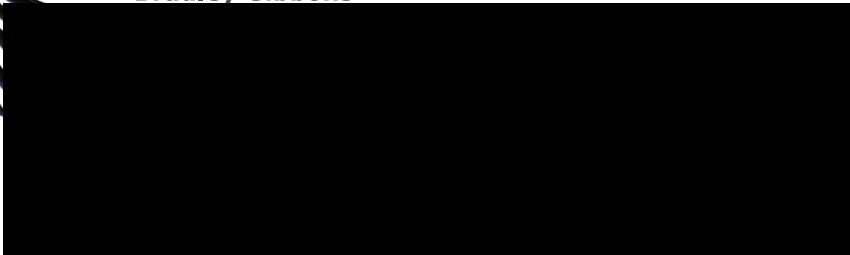
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Bradley Gibbons





0143
20 February 2025

Attention:
Public Participation Office
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Per email: pp@wsp.com

Dear Sir/Madam

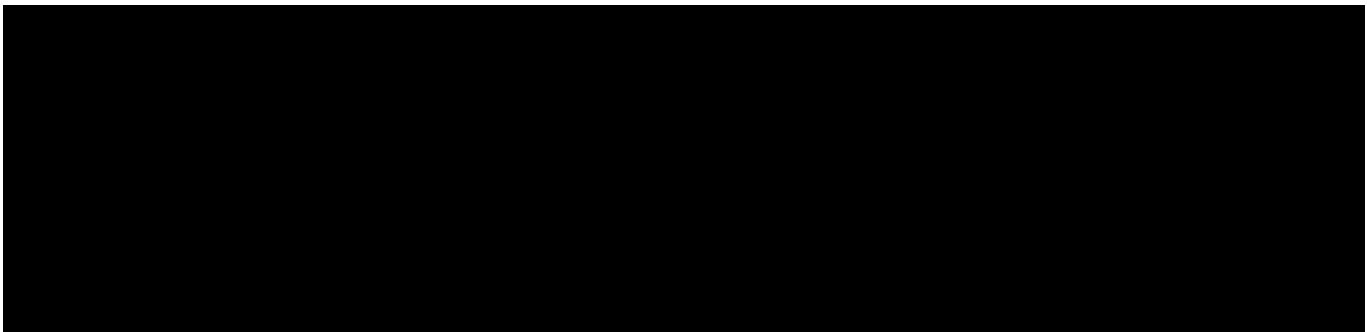
Response to the Kromhof Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd application, located near Verkykerskop, Free State Project Reference: 41106427

The Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) is a non-governmental, non-profit, conservation organisation, founded in 1973 and operating throughout southern Africa. The EWT conserves threatened species and ecosystems in southern Africa by initiating research and conservation action programmes, implementing projects that mitigate threats facing species diversity and supporting sustainable natural resource management. The EWT furthermore communicates the principles of sustainable living through awareness programmes to the broadest possible constituency for the benefit of the region.

While the EWT supports the just transition to renewable energy, these proposed developments are only considered feasible if they follow the mitigation hierarchy and the species environmental assessment guideline and avoid unnecessary and unsustainable environmental impacts. We further support wind energy, but only where all possible options for avoiding, reducing, minimising, and offsetting of impacts (in that order) have been considered and implemented.

The demand for energy is increasing globally and Wind Energy Facilities (WEFs) are considered a viable option for renewable energy production. There are, however, concerns over the impacts of wind farms on wildlife in three key aspects: the disturbance or displacement of species from their habitats due to the construction of the associated WEF infrastructure; bird and bat collisions with turbine blades; and collisions and electrocutions on energy infrastructure associated with WEFs. This concern is compounded by the potential cumulative impacts of ongoing wind energy developments posing a direct risk to collision-prone species across sensitive areas, and an amplified level of disturbance and loss of habitat for wildlife in areas that overlap with WEFs.

The EWT believes that some of the impacts of WEFs can be avoided and reduced using suitable remedial actions and mitigation measures. Accordingly, we recommend four priority measures that must be considered and implemented to ensure minimum impact of wind energy on wildlife.





Risk to Avifaunal Species:

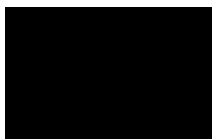
The avifaunal species that the EWT is concerned about are all mentioned on page 98 to 102 in the Draft Environmental Scoping Report (Table 6-4). The Avifaunal Scoping Assessment is also an accurate reflection of the birds located in the area. The EWT staff members are familiar with this area and can confirm the presence of red data and threatened bird species.

The fact that the area is found within a Critical Biodiversity Area, part of the National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy and Key Biodiversity Area (Eastern Free State Escarpment), we conclude that this area is sensitive and provides an important habitat for the priority species of concern.

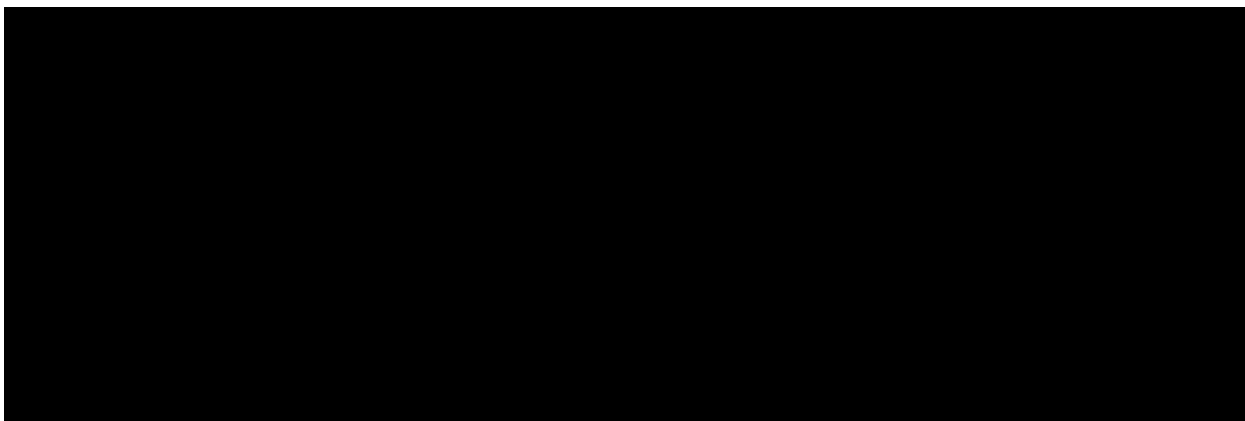
The EWT is greatly concerned about the potential loss of biodiversity in these areas and it is not clear what the impact of disturbance to the area will be during the construction phase and operational phase.

We understand the impacts of wind farms on priority avifaunal species on both local South African case studies as well as international examples. Therefore, the EWT concludes that the wind farm will pose a high risk to these priority species and we therefore oppose this application.

Regards,



Bradley Gibbons
Endangered Wildlife Trust



Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Monday, 24 February 2025 09:59
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Response to the Normandien Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd application

Good day Bradley,

Thank you for your comments.

Kind regards,

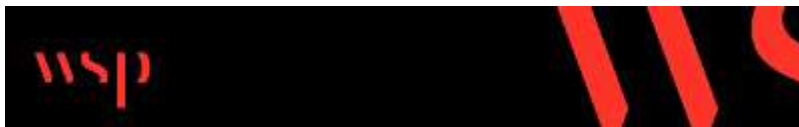
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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: ZA [REDACTED]
Cc: EW [REDACTED]
Gareth [REDACTED]
Subject: Response to the Normandien Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd application

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Regards
Bradley

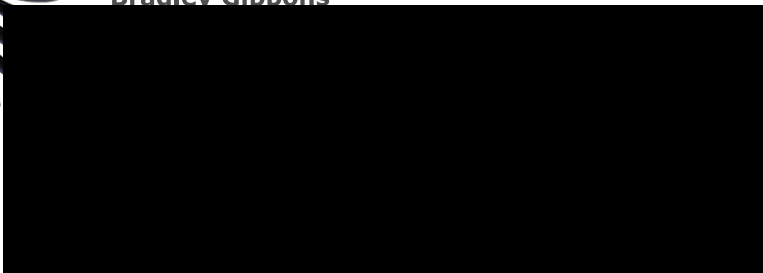
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Bradley Gibbons





20 February 2025

Attention:
Public Participation Office
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Per email: pp@wsp.com

Dear Sir/Madam

**Response to the Normandien Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd application, located near Verkykerskop,
Free State Project Reference: 41106427**

The Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) is a non-governmental, non-profit, conservation organisation, founded in 1973 and operating throughout southern Africa. The EWT conserves threatened species and ecosystems in southern Africa by initiating research and conservation action programmes, implementing projects that mitigate threats facing species diversity and supporting sustainable natural resource management. The EWT furthermore communicates the principles of sustainable living through awareness programmes to the broadest possible constituency for the benefit of the region.

While the EWT supports the just transition to renewable energy, these proposed developments are only considered feasible if they follow the mitigation hierarchy and the species environmental assessment guideline and avoid unnecessary and unsustainable environmental impacts. We further support wind energy, but only where all possible options for avoiding, reducing, minimising, and offsetting of impacts (in that order) have been considered and implemented.

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The EWT believes that some of the impacts of WEFs can be avoided and reduced using suitable remedial actions and mitigation measures. Accordingly, we recommend four priority measures that must be considered and implemented to ensure minimum impact of wind energy on wildlife.





Risk to Avifaunal Species:

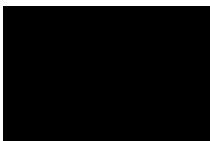
The avifaunal species that the EWT is concerned about are all mentioned on page 99 to 102 in the Draft Environmental Scoping Report (Table 6-5). The Avifaunal Scoping Assessment is also an accurate reflection of the birds located in the area. The EWT staff members are familiar with this area and can confirm the presence of red data and threatened bird species.

The fact that the area is found within a Critical Biodiversity Area, part of the National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy and Key Biodiversity Area (Eastern Free State Escarpment), we conclude that this area is sensitive and provides an important habitat for the priority species of concern.

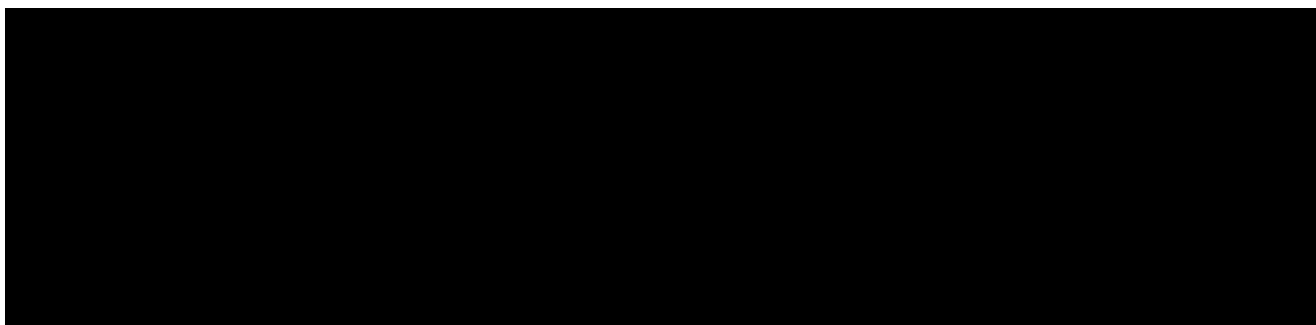
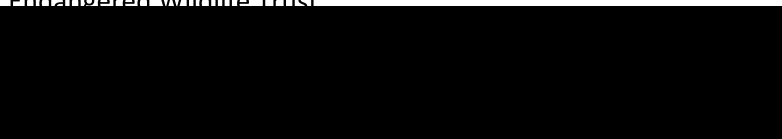
The EWT is greatly concerned about the potential loss of biodiversity in these areas and it is not clear what the impact of disturbance to the area will be during the construction phase and operational phase.

We understand the impacts of wind farms on priority avifaunal species on both local South African case studies as well as international examples. Therefore, the EWT concludes that the wind farm will pose a high risk to these priority species and we therefore oppose this application.

Regards,



Bradley Gibbons
Endangered Wildlife Trust



Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Monday, 24 February 2025 09:59
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Response to the Groothoek Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd application

Good day Bradley,

Thank you for your comments.

Kind regards,

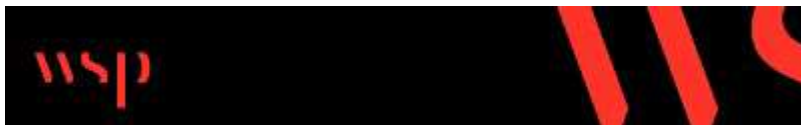
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Sent: [REDACTED]
To: ZA [REDACTED]
Cc: EW [REDACTED]
Gareth [REDACTED]
Subject: Response to the Groothoek Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd application

Dear Sir/Madam

Attached, please find the response from the Endangered Wildlife Trust regarding the Groothoek Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd application

Regards
Bradley

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with



Bradley Gibbons





ENDANGERED
WILDLIFE TRUST
Protecting forever, together.

20 February 2025

Attention:
Public Participation Office
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Per email: pp@wsp.com

Dear Sir/Madam

**Response to the Groothoek Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd application, located near Verkykerskop,
Free State Project Reference: 41106427**

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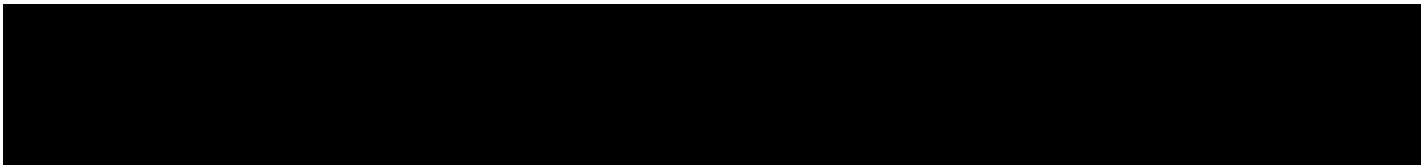
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Physical Address: Plot 27 and 28 Austin Road, Glen Austin AH, Midrand, 1685
Gauteng, South Africa

Postal Address: Postnet Suite # 027, Postnet Suite 002, Private Bag X08, Wierda Park 0149
Gauteng, South Africa





Risk to Avifaunal Species:

The avifaunal species that the EWT is concerned about are all mentioned on page 94 to 98 in the Draft Environmental Scoping Report (Table 6-3). The Avifaunal Scoping Assessment is also an accurate reflection of the birds located in the area. The EWT staff members are familiar with this area and can confirm the presence of red data and threatened bird species.

The fact that the area is found within a Critical Biodiversity Area, part of the National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy and the eastern part in a Key Biodiversity Area (Eastern Free State Escarpment), we conclude that this area is sensitive and provides an important habitat for the priority species of concern.

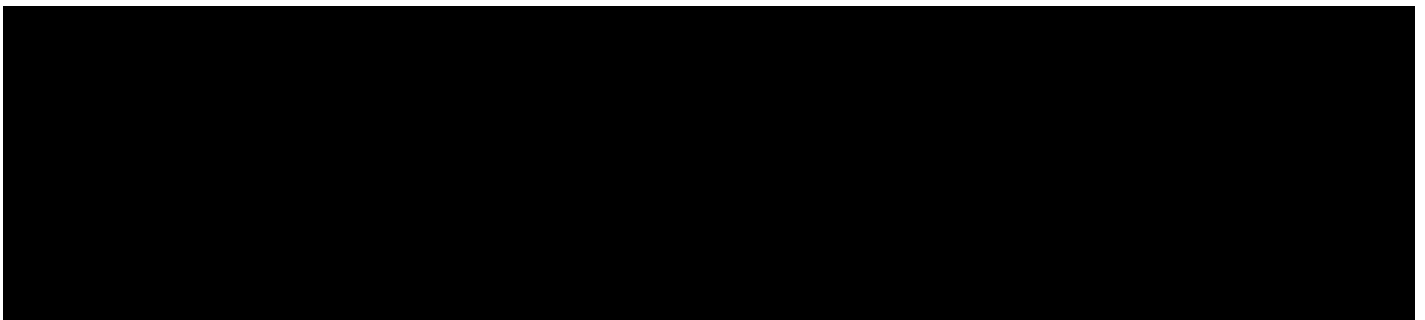
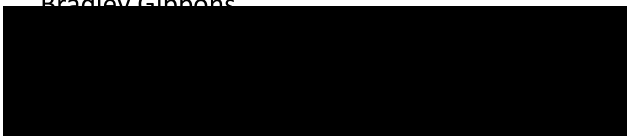
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Regards,



Bradley Gibbons



Maharaj, Jashmika

From:
Sent:
To:
Cc:



Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2666

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION FORM AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED GROOTHOEK WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, LOCATED NEAR VERKYKERSKOP, IN THE PHUMELELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AND THABO MOFUTSANYANE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE.

The Department confirms having received the Application Form and Draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 23 January 2025. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

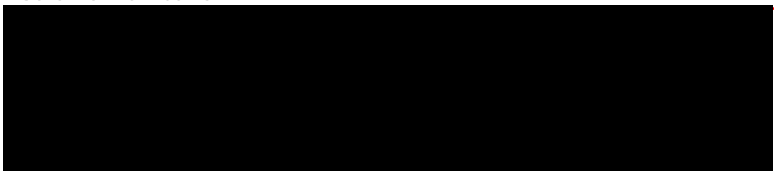
Kindly note that your application for Environmental Authorisation falls within the ambit of an application applied for in terms of Part 3 of Chapter 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. You are therefore referred to Regulation 21 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

Please take note of Regulation 40(3) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that potential Interested & Affected Parties, including the Competent Authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in Regulation 40(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, prior to the submission of an application but **must** be provided an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the Competent Authority.

Note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the time-frames prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted by the Department in terms of Regulation 3(7) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

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.

Kind Regards,
Salome Mambane



To God be the Glory!!!

Maharaj, Jashmika

From:
Sent:
To:
Cc:

Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2667

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION FORM AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED KROMHOF WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, LOCATED NEAR VERKYKERSKOP, IN THE PHUMELELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AND THABO MOFUTSANYANE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE.

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Kind Regards,
Salome Mambane

To God be the Glory!!!

From:
Sent:
To:
Cc:



Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2665

Dear Sir/Madam

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION FORM AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR PROPOSED NORMANDIEN WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, LOCATED NEAR VERKYKERSKOP, IN THE PHUMELELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AND THABO MOFUTSANYANE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, FREE STATE PROVINCE.

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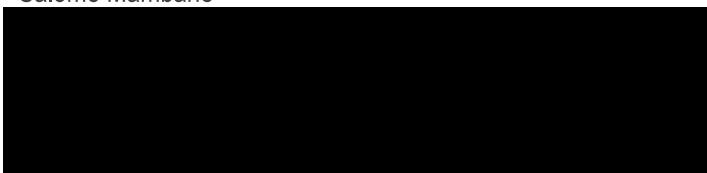
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Salome Mambane



To God be the Glory!!!



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, 0002 Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: +27 86 625 1042

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2665

Ms Ashlea Strong
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Building 1, Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
MIDRAND
1685

Telephone Number : +27 11 361 1392
Email Address : Ashlea.strong@wsp.com

PER E-MAIL

Dear Ms Strong

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 300MW NORMANDIEN WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, LOCATED NEAR VERKYKERSKOP, IN THE PHUMELELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AND THABO MOFUTSANYANE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, FREE STATE PROVINCE

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated January 2025 and received by the Department on 23 January 2025, refer.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the Final Scoping Report:

(a) Listed activities and specific comments

- (i) The draft Scoping report and application form mention the following towns, i.e. Harrismith, Verkykerskop, Ermelo, Breyten, as being near to the proposed Normandien Wind Energy Farm. Please indicate one nearest town, that will be referred to in the application.
- (ii) Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and that it can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description. The onus is on the applicant and the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) to ensure that all the applicable listed activities are included in the application form. Failure to do so may result in unnecessary delays in the processing of the application.



Batho pele- putting people first



The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

MEM 1

- (iii) Listed Activity 3, their applicability needs to be confirmed and finalised – these need to be updated and confirmed by the specialists. Furthermore, it must still be confirmed whether the 2015 Free State Biodiversity Plan has been adopted by the Competent Authority.
- (iv) If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final SR, an amended application form must be submitted with the final SR. Please note that the Department's application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following link <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>.
- (v) Please take note of GNR 4143, which was gazetted on the 04 December 2023, which requires a letter of consent from Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd if the proposed development is within a specific radius of a main electricity transmission or distribution substation. Should this gazette apply to the proposed development, please ensure the necessary documents are included.

(b) Layout & Sensitivity Maps

- (i) The final SR must provide coordinate points for the proposed development site (note that if the site has numerous bend points, at each bend point coordinates must be provided) as well as the coordinates of associated infrastructure.
- (ii) All preferred turbine positions must be clearly numbered. The turbine position numbers must be consistently used in all maps to be included in the reports (including specialist).
- (iii) Please provide a layout map which indicates the following:
 - a) The proposed position of the wind turbines, internal and external roads, substations, gate house and security, operational and maintenance buildings and the concrete batching plant;
 - b) All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown areas etc. (existing and proposed);
 - c) Battery Energy Storage System;
 - d) Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network;
 - e) All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads; and
 - f) Buildings, including accommodation.
- (iv) Please provide an environmental sensitivity map which indicates the following:
 - a) The location of sensitive environmental features identified on site, e.g. CBAs, protected areas (if any), heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines, nesting and roosting sites, etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure;
 - b) Buffer areas; and
 - c) All "no-go" areas.
- (v) The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments and existing grid infrastructure.
- (vi) Google maps will not be accepted.

(c) Specialist Assessments

- (i) All Specialist Declaration of Interest forms must be of the the proposed Normandien Wind Energy Farm and must be signed by the relevant specialists, then attached to the final SR. The forms are available on Department's website (please use the Department's template).
- (ii) The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference for all the identified specialist studies include the following:
 - a) A detailed description of the study's methodology; indication of the locations and descriptions of the development footprint, turbine positions and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisation.

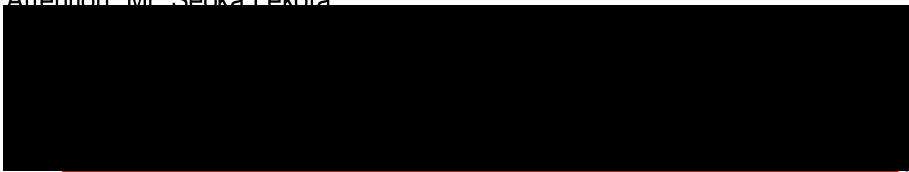
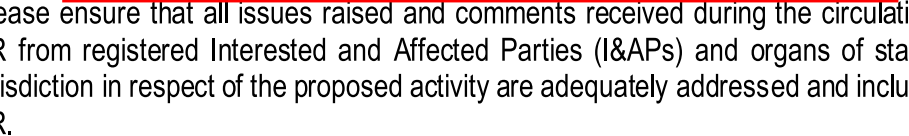
- b) Provide a detailed description of all limitations to the studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation will not be allowed.
- c) Please note that the Department considers a 'no-go' area, as an area where no development of any infrastructure is allowed; therefore, no development of associated infrastructure including access roads is allowed in the 'no-go' areas.
- d) Should the specialist definition of 'no-go' area differ from the Department's definition; this must be clearly indicated. The specialist must also indicate the 'no-go' area's buffer if applicable.
- e) **All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternative and recommendations, and must not recommend further studies to be completed post EA.**
- f) **Bird and Bat specialist studies must have support from Birdlife South Africa and SABAA.**
- g) Should a specialist recommend specific mitigation measures, these must be clearly indicated.
- (iii) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expert advice.
- (iv) Please ensure that all mitigation recommendations are in line with applicable and most recent guidelines.
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Chief Director, Integrated Environmental Authorisations



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forestry, fisheries & the environment

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Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2666

Ms Ashlea Strong
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Building 1, Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
MIDRAND
1685

Telephone Number : +27 11 361 1392
Email Address : Ashlea.strong@wsp.com

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Batho pele- putting people first



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- (ii) All preferred turbine positions must be clearly numbered. The turbine position numbers must be consistently used in all maps to be included in the reports (including specialist).
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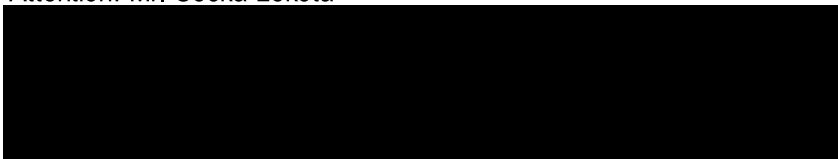
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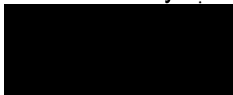
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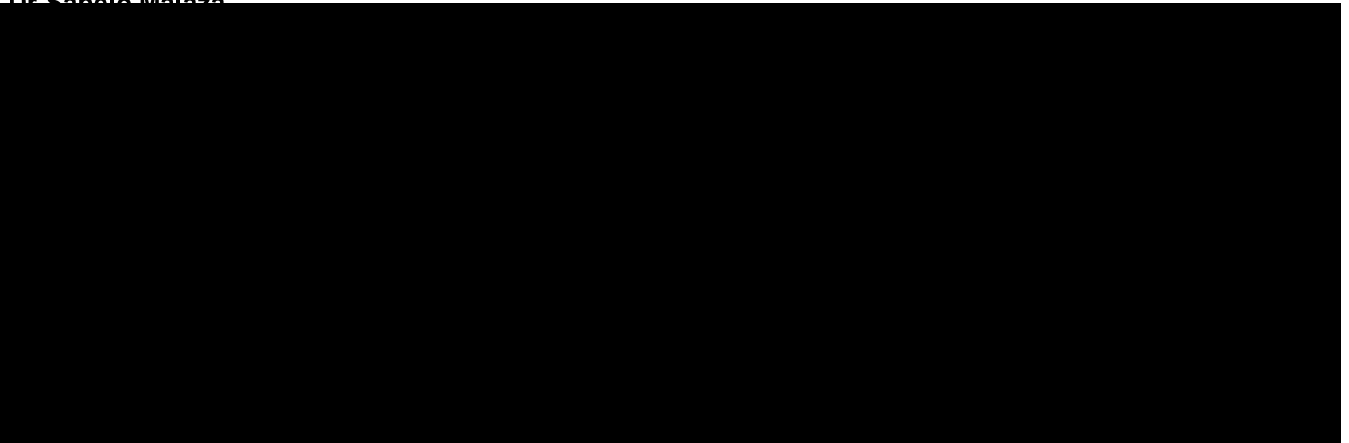
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Ms Ashlea Strong
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Telephone Number : +27 11 361 1392

Email Address : Ashlea.strong@wsp.com

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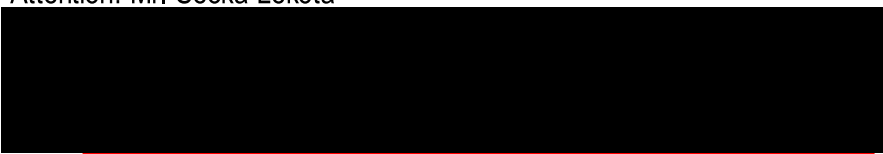
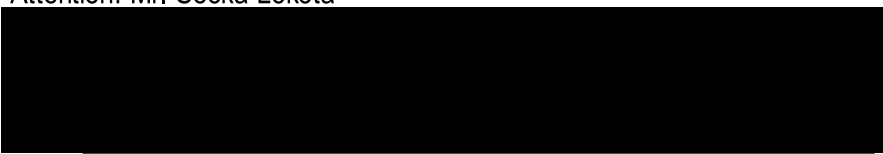
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1. Format for Comments and Response Report:

Date of comment, format of comment name of organisation/I&AP,	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
27/73/2024 Email Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment: National Infrastructure Projects (Joe Soap)	Please record C&R trail report in this format Please update the contact details of the provincial environmental authority	EAP: (Noted)The C&R trail report has been updated into the desired format, see Appendix K EAP: Details of provincial authority have been updated, see page 16 of the Application form



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Free State Provincial Operations
Private Bag X 528, Bloemfontein, 9301
Bloem Plaza Building, Second floor, Corner Charlotte Maxeke & East Burger Street
Bloemfontein CBD
Tel: 051 405 9000, Fax: 051 430 8146, Email:

Reference: Not Allocated

By e-mail: gld.PP@wsp.com

WSP in Africa
Building 1, Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City
Midrand
1685

Attention: Hermien/Carli

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING REPORT: PROPOSED GROOTHOEK WING ENERGY FACILITY LOCATED NEAR VERKYKERSKOP, FREE STATE PROVINCE

Your document dated January 2025 received by the Department on the 22 January 2025 with project no. 41106427 refers to the above mentioned project.

The Department of Water and Sanitation (Department) evaluated the report in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) and comments as follows:

WATER USE AUTHORISATION

The proposed project is located in the Thabo Mofutsanyane District Municipality (TMDM) and Phumelela Local Municipality (PLM) (Ward 5), north east of the town of Harrismith, in the Free State Province of South Africa.

The Groothoek WEF will be developed to allow for up to 300 MW for export from the facility. The proposed development footprint (buildable area) is approximately 150 hectares (ha) (subject to finalisation based on technical and environmental requirements), and the extent of the project area is approximately 6 170 ha.



- a) The report indicate that the proposed project will take place within 100m from the edge of the water resource and therefore triggers section 21(c)&(i) waters uses. In terms of the National Water Act (Act No 36 of 1998) any development within the 1:100year flood line and/or delineated riparian habitat or within 100m from the edge of a watercourse or within 500m radius from any boundary of a wetland must be authorized and registered before the proposed development may commence.
- b) There must be a motivation to accompany the application that will indicating other options that were considered as means to avoiding the regulated areas and the shortfalls that lead to the current site selection.
- c) Avoid direct contact with the water resource, if the direct contact cannot be avoided ensure that there is a plan to allow free movement of aquatic ecosystems. Also, ensure that the current state of the water resources is maintained as it is or improved.
- d) The propose roads must be accompanied by a motivation for proposing new roads while there are existing roads. The proposed off roads must avoid driving into or near any water resources .
- e) No batching of concrete may take place in or near a wetland/water course.
- f) The provision of water and sanitation services must be clearly indicated and the letter of agreement must form part of the documents that will be submitted for water use licence application in relation to the triggered water uses
- g) Any water use activity that is not a Schedule 1 or Existing Lawful use must be authorized with this Department in terms of Section 22 reading together with Section 21 of the National Water Act, (Act No. 36 of 1998). However, the two mentioned water uses must be confirmed and verified by the department based on the provided information

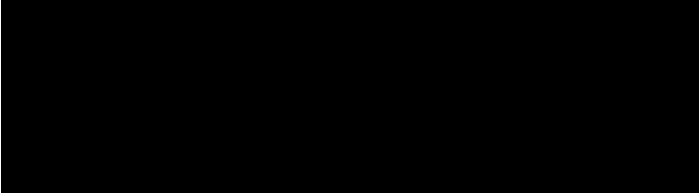
GENERAL COMMENTS

- A stormwater management plan must be in place. Contaminated stormwater must not be disposed of in the stormwater system as it will result in the contamination of water bodies and its disposal may also require analysis before disposal.
- All machinery must be in excellent condition and there must be no oil/fuel leaks from the equipment. Measure must be in place to prevent this, such as drip trays underneath parked machinery/equipment. A bounded area must be in place for the storage of diesel if the diesel generator is used as energy source.
- No pollution of surface water or ground water resources may occur due to any activity on the property.
- Solid waste must be managed in accordance with the requirements of the relevant legislation.
- All the requirements of the National Water Act (NWA), 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) must be always adhered to.

Please note that should any pollution of water resources or soil be detected during operational phase or at any stage, this Department must be informed immediately. Appropriate remediation process must take place in consultation with this Department.

Please do not hesitate to contact **Ms. N Gaju** should there be any queries.

Yours faithfully

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of the official.

DATE: 24/02/2025



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Free State Provincial Operations

Private Bag X 528, Bloemfontein, 9301
Bloem Plaza Building, Second floor, Corner Charlotte Maxeke & East Burger Street
Bloemfontein CBD
Tel: 051 405 9000, Fax: 051 430 8146, Email:

Reference: Not Allocated

By e-mail: gld.PP@wsp.com

WSP in Africa
Building 1, Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City
Midrand
1685

Attention: Hermien/Carli

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING REPORT: PROPOSED KROMHOF WING ENERGY FACILITY LOCATED NEAR VERKYKERSKOP, FREE STATE PROVINCE

Your document dated January 2025 received by the Department on the 22 January 2025 with project no. 41106427 refers to the above mentioned project.

The Department of Water and Sanitation (Department) evaluated the report in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) and comments as follows:

WATER USE AUTHORISATION

The proposed project is located in the Thabo Mofutsanyane District Municipality (TMDM) and Phumelela Local Municipality (PLM) (Ward 5), north east of the town of Harrismith, in the Free State Province of South Africa.

The Kromhof WEF will be developed to allow for up to 300 MW for export from the facility. The proposed development footprint (buildable area) is approximately 150 hectares (ha) (subject to finalisation based on technical and environmental requirements), and the extent of the project area of applicable farm portions is approximately 7 269 ha.



- a) The report indicate that the proposed project will take place within 100m from the edge of the water resource and therefore triggers section 21(c)&(i) waters uses. In terms of the National Water Act (Act No 36 of 1998) any development within the 1:100year flood line and/or delineated riparian habitat or within 100m from the edge of a watercourse or within 500m radius from any boundary of a wetland must be authorized and registered before the proposed development may commence.
- b) There must be a motivation to accompany the application that will indicating other options that were considered as means to avoiding the regulated areas and the shortfalls that lead to the current site selection.
- c) Avoid direct contact with the water resource, if the direct contact cannot be avoided ensure that there is a plan to allow free movement of aquatic ecosystems. Also, ensure that the current state of the water resources is maintained as it is or improved.
- d) The propose roads must be accompanied by a motivation for proposing new roads while there are existing roads. The proposed off roads must avoid driving into or near any water resources .
- e) No batching of concrete may take place in or near a wetland/water course.
- f) The provision of water and sanitation services must be clearly indicated and the letter of agreement must form part of the documents that will be submitted for water use licence application in relation to the triggered water uses
- g) Any water use activity that is not a Schedule 1 or Existing Lawful use must be authorized with this Department in terms of Section 22 reading together with Section 21 of the National Water Act, (Act No. 36 of 1998). However, the two mentioned water uses must be confirmed and verified by the department based on the provided information

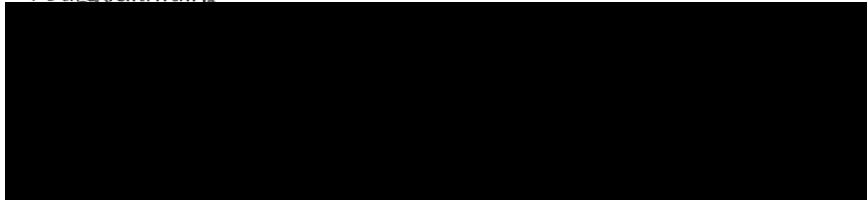
GENERAL COMMENTS

- A stormwater management plan must be in place. Contaminated stormwater must not be disposed of in the stormwater system as it will result in the contamination of water bodies and its disposal may also require analysis before disposal.
- All machinery must be in excellent condition and there must be no oil/fuel leaks from the equipment. Measure must be in place to prevent this, such as drip trays underneath parked machinery/equipment. A bounded area must be in place for the storage of diesel if the diesel generator is used as energy source.
- No pollution of surface water or ground water resources may occur due to any activity on the property.
- Solid waste must be managed in accordance with the requirements of the relevant legislation.
- All the requirements of the National Water Act (NWA), 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) must be always adhered to.

Please note that should any pollution of water resources or soil be detected during operational phase or at any stage, this Department must be informed immediately. Appropriate remediation process must take place in consultation with this Department.

Please do not hesitate to contact **Ms. N Gaju** should there be any queries.

Yours faithfully,



DATE: 24/02/2025





water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Free State Provincial Operations

Private Bag X 528, Bloemfontein, 9301
Bloem Plaza Building, Second floor, Corner Charlotte Maxeke & East Burger Street
Bloemfontein CBD
Tel: 051 405 9000, Fax: 051 430 8146, Email:

Reference: Not Allocated

By e-mail: gld.PP@wsp.com

WSP in Africa
Building 1, Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City
Midrand
1685

Attention: Hermien/Carli

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING REPORT: PROPOSED NORMANDIAN WING ENERGY FACILITY LOCATED NEAR VERKYKERSKOP, FREE STATE PROVINCE

Your document dated January 2025 received by the Department on the 22 January 2025 with project no. 41106427 refers to the above mentioned project.

The Department of Water and Sanitation (Department) evaluated the report in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) and comments as follows:

WATER USE AUTHORIZATION

The proposed project is located in the Thabo Mofutsanyane District Municipality (TMDM) and Phumelela Local Municipality (PLM) (Ward 5), north east of the town of Harrismith, in the Free State Province of South Africa.

The Normandien WEF will be developed to allow for up to 300 MW for export from the facility. The proposed development footprint (buildable area) is approximately 150 hectares (ha) (subject to finalisation based on technical and environmental requirements), and the extent of the project area is approximately 6 067 ha.

- a) The report indicate that the proposed project will take place within 100m from the edge of the water resource and therefore triggers section 21(c)&(i) waters uses. In terms of the National Water Act (Act No 36 of 1998) any development within the 1:100year flood line and/or delineated riparian habitat or within 100m from the edge of a watercourse or within 500m radius from any boundary of a wetland must be authorized and registered before the proposed development may commence.
- b) There must be a motivation to accompany the application that will indicating other options that were considered as means to avoiding the regulated areas and the shortfalls that lead to the current site selection.
- c) Avoid direct contact with the water resource, if the direct contact cannot be avoided ensure that there is a plan to allow free movement of aquatic ecosystems. Also, ensure that the current state of the water resources is maintained as it is or improved.
- d) The propose roads must be accompanied by a motivation for proposing new roads while there are existing roads. The proposed off roads must avoid driving into or near any water resources .
- e) No batching of concrete may take place in or near a wetland/water course.
- f) The provision of water and sanitation services must be clearly indicated and the letter of agreement must form part of the documents that will be submitted for water use licence application in relation to the triggered water uses
- g) Any water use activity that is not a Schedule 1 or Existing Lawful use must be authorized with this Department in terms of Section 22 reading together with Section 21 of the National Water Act, (Act No. 36 of 1998). However, the two mentioned water uses must be confirmed and verified by the department based on the provided information

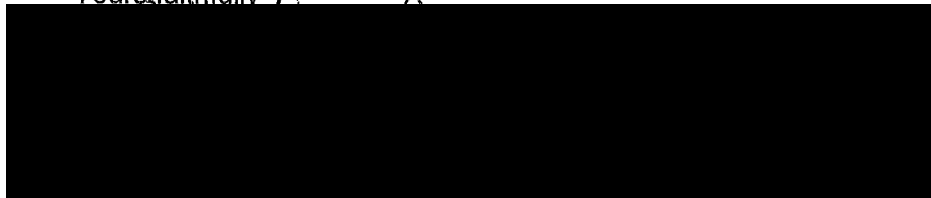
GENERAL COMMENTS

- A stormwater management plan must be in place. Contaminated stormwater must not be disposed of in the stormwater system as it will result in the contamination of water bodies and its disposal may also require analysis before disposal.
- All machinery must be in excellent condition and there must be no oil/fuel leaks from the equipment. Measure must be in place to prevent this, such as drip trays underneath parked machinery/equipment. A bounded area must be in place for the storage of diesel if the diesel generator is used as energy source.
- No pollution of surface water or ground water resources may occur due to any activity on the property.
- Solid waste must be managed in accordance with the requirements of the relevant legislation.
- All the requirements of the National Water Act (NWA), 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) must be always adhered to.

Please note that should any pollution of water resources or soil be detected during operational phase or at any stage, this Department must be informed immediately. Appropriate remediation process must take place in consultation with this Department.

Please do not hesitate to contact **Ms. N Gaju** should there be any queries.

Yours faithfully 



DATE: 24/02/2025

Maharaj, Jashmika

From: Maharaj, Jashmika
Sent: Tuesday, 25 February 2025 11:11
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: The Proposed Development Of The Verkykerskop Wind Energy Facility Cluster, Comprising Various Environmental Authorisation Processes, Free State

Dear Nompumelelo

The Departments is well received and will be responded to in the CRR for the project.

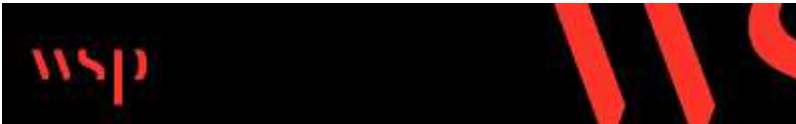
Kind regards,

Jashmika Maharaj

Senior Consultant

T +27 11 254 4874

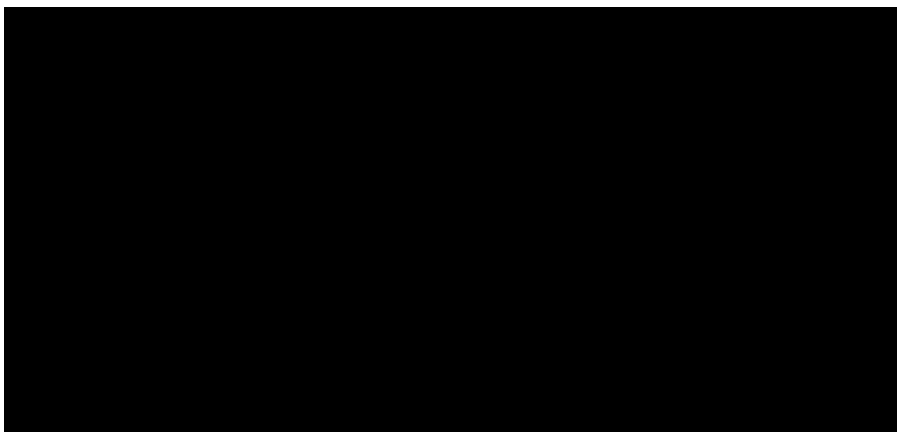
M +27 81 401-8337



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: T [REDACTED]
To: Ma [REDACTED]
Cc: Por [REDACTED]
Subject: The Proposed Development Of The Verkykerskop Wind Energy Facility Cluster, Comprising Various Environmental Authorisation Processes, Free State

Good morning,

Kindly see attached comments for your attention.





forestry, fisheries
and the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, 0002 Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: +27 86 625 1042

Att.: Ms Jashmika Maharaj

WSP

Email Address: gld.pp@wsp.com

PER E-MAIL

Dear Ms Maharaj,

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the reports and does not have any objection to the draft Scoping Report and Plan of Study. However, the EIA report must comply with the following:

- The procedures for the assessment and minimum criteria for reporting on identified environmental themes in terms of sections 24(5) (A) and (H) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998.
- The Environmental Impact Assessment report must comply with all the requirements as outlined in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) guideline for renewable energy projects and the Best Practice Guideline for Birds & Wind Energy for assessing and monitoring the impact of wind energy facilities on birds in Southern Africa.

In conclusion, the Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA for review and
mail;

Yours faithfully

Mr Seoka Lekota

Date: 21/02/2025



Batho pele- putting people first



The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Friday, 28 February 2025 16:19
To: Shahil Singh; ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Subject: RE:

Good day Shahil,

The municipality's comments are noted.

Thank you

Kind regards,

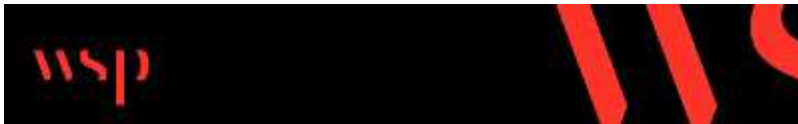
Public Participation Office

T +27 11 254-4800

WSP

Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
1685 South Africa

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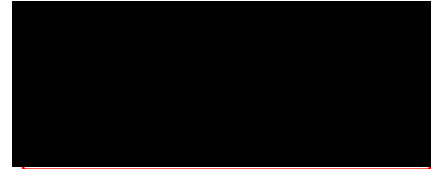
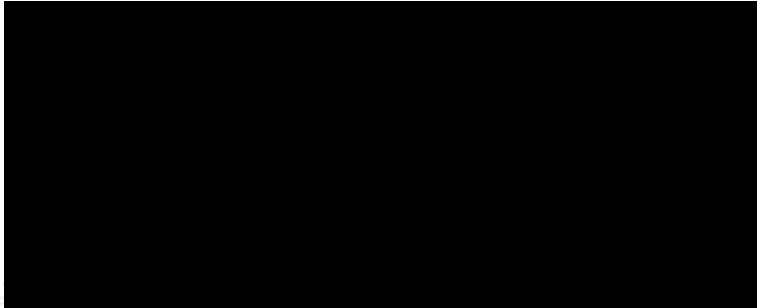
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, Gauteng, 1685, South Africa
Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 28 February 2025 10:10
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>
Subject:



Newcastle Municipality

Ref No:
Enquiries:
Tel:
Fax:



29 January 2025

Email address:

WSP
Building 1, Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City

Dear Sir/Madam

PROPOSED KROMHOR WIND ENERGY FACILITY LOCATED NEAR VERKYERSKOP IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

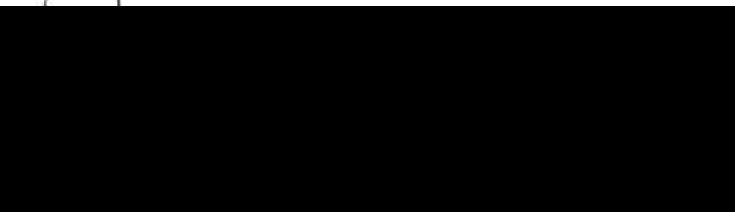
Reference is made to the abovementioned matter.

Please be advised that the Draft Environmental Scoping Report was scrutinized with the following findings:

- a. The project consists of a wind energy facility.
- b. The said project is located at the boarder of Kwa-Zulu Natal and the Free state.
- c. The project is not located within the Newcastle Municipalities area of jurisdiction.

Having cited the abovementioned, this directorate notes that the project is situated at the periphery of the municipal boundary and **does not register any objections to the proposal.**

Yours Faithfully,



From: Maharaj, Jashmika
Sent: Monday, 10 March 2025 14:45
To: erstatutory@nra.co.za
Subject: FW: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Dear Stakeholder,

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

NOTICE IS GIVEN IN TERMS OF:

- Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) (as amended) for submission of various applications for environmental authorisations (EAs) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

The proponents outlined in the table below propose to establish a Wind Energy Facility (WEF) cluster, comprising various applications for environmental authorisation, near Verkykerskop in Free State. The proposed authorisations include the following Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes.



Proponent	Project	Technology	Process
Groothoek Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2666)	Up to 300MW Wind Energy Facility (WEF) including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2667)	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR

Normandien Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref14/12/16/3/3/2/2665)	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Farm Names			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 0 of Farm Schoonzicht No.80 • Portion 0 of Farm Groothoek No. 89 • Portion 0 of Farm Kromdraai No. 273 • Portion 0 of Farm Kransbank No.288 • Portion 0 of Farm Kranspunt No.459 • Portion 0 of Farm Van Kope No.1319 • Portion 0 of Farm Leiden No. 2 • Portion 0 of Farm Myn-Burg No. 3 • Portion 0 of Farm Naauw Kloof No. 4 • Portion 0 of Farm Krom Hof No. 530 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 0 of Farm Puntje No. 1240 • Portion 0 and 1 of Farm Aanfield No. 253 • Portion 0, 1, 2 and 3 of Farm Ox Hoek No. 98 • Portion 0 of Farm Christina No. 90 • Portion 0 of Farm Mooiplaats No. 391 • Portion 0 of Farm Brak Krans No. 554 • Portion 0 of Farm Rooi Koppen No. 600 • Portion 0 of Farm Goedgedacht No. 724 • Portion 0 of Farm Kruger Wens No.1062 • Portion 0 of Farm Scotland No. 1238 • Portion 0 of Farm Lusthof No.1321 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remaining Extent of the Farm Welgelukt No. 1416Portion 0 of Farm Inzicht No. 1428 • Portion 0 of Farm Rooibeesberg No. 14898 • Portion 1 of Farm Johanna No. 1395 • Portion 1 and Remainder of Farm Bull Hoek No. 329 • Portion 1 of Farm Goede Hoop No. 982 • Portion 2, 3, 4, 5 and Remainder of Farm Driekoppen No. 485 • Remaining extent of Farm Johanna No. 1395 • Portion 0 of Farm Markgraaff's Rest No. 478 	

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Mulilo Energy Holdings (Pty) Ltd to manage the S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the proposed projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the processes.

FINAL SCOPING REPORT

The Final Scoping Report (FSR) will be made available from WSP on request and/or can be downloaded using the links below:

Name of Public Place	Address	Name of Public Place	Address	FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:	Or scan the QR code
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents	WSP Data Free Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd; PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; Tel: 011 254 4800; Fax: 086 582 1561 E-mail: pp@wsp.com	
OneDrive Link	 Verkykerskop - Final Scoping Reports				

Protection of Personal Information: WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an interested and affected party (I&AP) for purposes of enabling your registration as an I&AP and storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I & AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards,

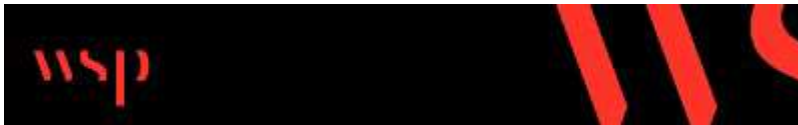
Public Participation Office

T +27 11 254-4800

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1685 South Africa

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 10 March 2025 14:40
To: Maharaj, Jashmika <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop - Final Scoping Reports" with you

Good day
Please forward your application to SANRAL Eastern Region as this falls under their jurisdiction.

Kind regards
Ria

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Tuesday, 11 March 2025 14:11
To: Shahil Singh
Cc: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Subject: RE:

Good day Shahil,

Please use the following link:  [Verkykerskop - Final Scoping Reports](#)

The documents can also be found at the following links:

<https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents> or <https://wsp-engage.com/>

Kind regards,

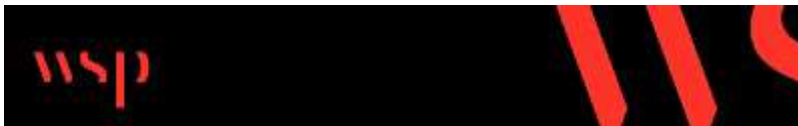
Public Participation Office

T +27 11 254-4800

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1685 South Africa

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 11 March 2025 12:44
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>
Subject:

Good day,

Reference is made to the final draft scoping for the verkykerskop wind energy project.

Please be advised that i cannot access the documents.

Kind regards
Shahil Singh

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Tuesday, 11 March 2025 14:20
To: Marielle Penwarden; ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Subject: RE: VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER: Please register as I&AP

Good day Marielle,

Kindly note that you have been registered on the project database.

Kind regards,

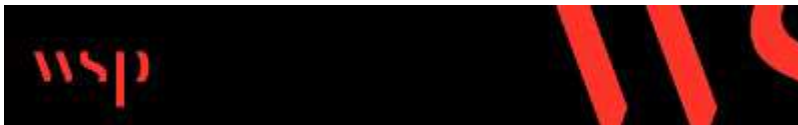
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 10 March 2025 21:42
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>
Subject: VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER: Please register as I&AP

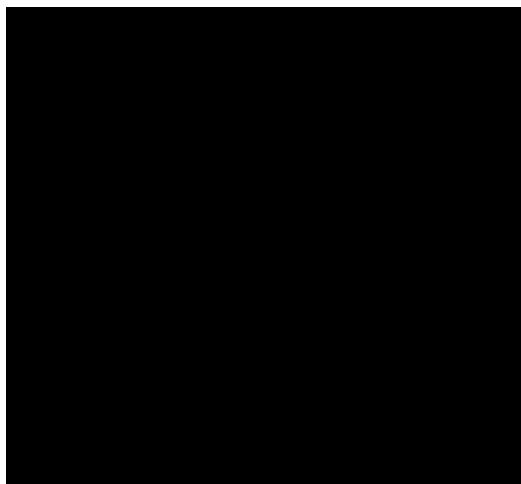
Hi there

Please register me as an I&AP for the following:

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process
Groothoek Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2666)	Up to 300MW Wind Energy Facility (WEF) including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2667)	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR

Normandien Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref14/12/16/3/3/2/2665)	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
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Warm regards



Renewables
are our DNA

ABO Wind is now ABO Energy. Find out more: www.aboenergy.com/newname

Company registration number 2018/062901/07 | Tax registration number 4370284061

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Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Good day,

A meeting has not been scheduled as yet.

The date of the meeting will be communicated in the EIA phase of the application.

Kind regards,

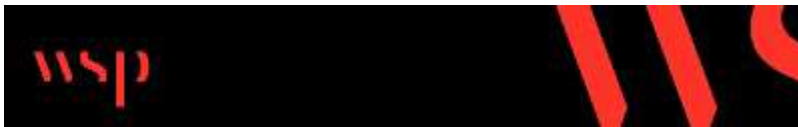
Public Participation Office

T +27 11 254-4800

WSP

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 12 March 2025 12:19
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>
Subject: Re: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Good day hope you are well so on the 12 you'll be planing for the meeting not that on the 12 is the date of the meeting cause you still to get the venue and put notices for people to be informed about the meeting

On Tue, 11 Mar 2025, 14:24 ZA - WSP - PPOffice, <PP@wsp.com> wrote:

Good day Nkosikhona

As per the email sent by my colleague Ashlea Strong on 12 February 2025, a meeting will be arranged for the EIA phase of the project.

Kind regards,

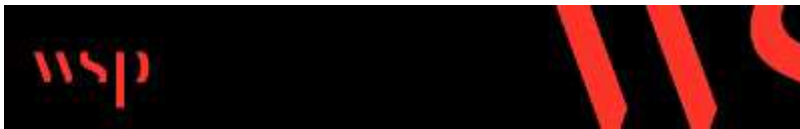
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From:

Sent: Monday, 10 March 2025 16:47

To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>

Subject: Re: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Thank you for your email but note that we requested a community meeting to discuss this project and that's the only thing we are waiting for

Regards

On Mon, 10 Mar 2025, 11:13 ZA - WSP - PPOffice, <PP@wsp.com> wrote:

Dear Stakeholder,

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

NOTICE IS GIVEN IN TERMS OF:

- Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) (as amended) for submission of various applications for environmental authorisations (EAs) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

The proponents outlined in the table below propose to establish a Wind Energy Facility (WEF) cluster, comprising various applications for environmental authorisation, near Verkykerskop in Free State. The proposed authorisations include the following Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes.

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process
Groothoek Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2666)	Up to 300MW Wind Energy Facility (WEF) including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2667)	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Normandien Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2665)	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Farm Names			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 0 of Farm Schoonzicht No.80• Portion 0 of Farm Groothoek No. 89• Portion 0 of Farm Kromdraai No. 273	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 0 of Farm Puntje No. 1240• Portion 0 and 1 of Farm Aanfield No. 253• Portion 0, 1, 2 and 3 of Farm Ox Hoek No. 98	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remaining Extent of the Farm Welgelukt No. 1416• Portion 0 of Farm Inzicht No. 1428• Portion 0 of Farm	



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 0 of Farm Kransbank No.288 • Portion 0 of Farm Kranspunt No.459 • Portion 0 of Farm Van Kope No.1319 • Portion 0 of Farm Leiden No. 2 • Portion 0 of Farm Myn-Burg No. 3 • Portion 0 of Farm Naauw Kloof No. 4 • Portion 0 of Farm Krom Hof No. 530 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 0 of Farm Christina No. 90 • Portion 0 of Farm Mooiplaats No. 391 • Portion 0 of Farm Brak Krans No. 554 • Portion 0 of Farm Rooi Koppen No. 600 • Portion 0 of Farm Goedgedacht No. 724 • Portion 0 of Farm Kruger Wens No.1062 • Portion 0 of Farm Scotland No. 1238 • Portion 0 of Farm Lusthof No.1321 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rooibeesberg No. 14898 • Portion 1 of Farm Johanna No. 1395 • Portion 1 and Remainder of Farm Bull Hoek No. 329 • Portion 1 of Farm Goede Hoop No. 982 • Portion 2, 3, 4, 5 and Remainder of Farm Driekoppen No. 485 • Remaining extent of Farm Johanna No. 1395 • Portion 0 of Farm Markgraaff's Rest No. 478
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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Mulilo Energy Holdings (Pty) Ltd to manage the to manage the S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the proposed projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the processes.

FINAL SCOPING REPORT

The Final Scoping Report (FSR) will be made available from WSP on request and/or can be downloaded using the links below:

Name of Public Place	Address	Name of Public Place	Address	FOR MORE INFORMATION,	Or scan the QR code
----------------------	---------	----------------------	---------	-----------------------	---------------------

WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents	WSP Data Free Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	<p>PLEASE CONTACT:</p> <p>Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd;</p> <p>PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685;</p> <p>Tel: 011 254 4800;</p> <p>Fax: 086 582 1561</p> <p>E-mail: pp@wsp.com</p>	
OneDrive Link	 Verkykerskop - Final Scoping Reports				

Protection of Personal Information: WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an interested and affected party (I&AP) for purposes of enabling your registration as an I&AP and storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I & AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards,

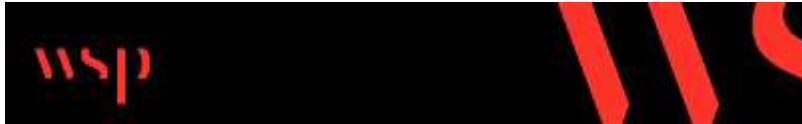
Public Participation Office

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Africa Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKl

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Wednesday, 12 March 2025 11:59
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: [C] CWIP_OMEL0058_25 - Normandien Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

Good day Yogan,

Thank you for sharing Openserve's response.

Kind regards,

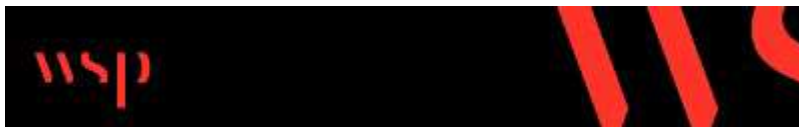
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 12 March 2025 10:30
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [C] CWIP_OMEL0058_25 - Normandien Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

Good Day

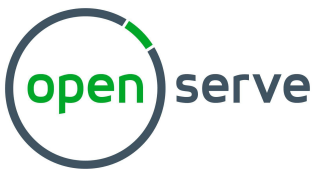
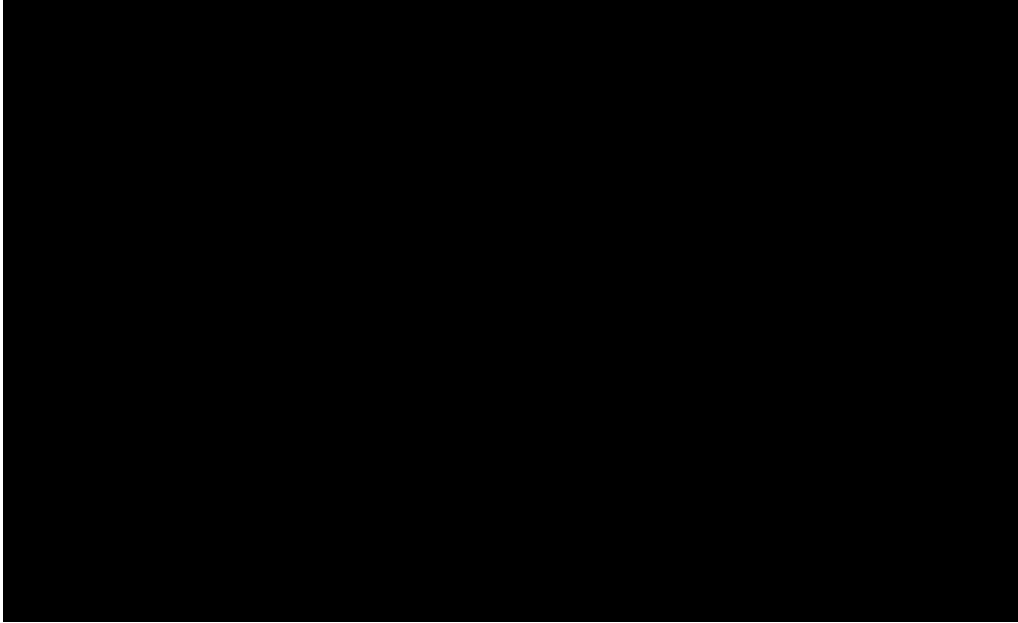
Please find attached Openserve Response .

Kindly take note of the conditions on the attached response

Please note: Our area representative as listed on the wayleave should be contacted at least 48 hours prior to commencement of construction in order to show services out on site, as our services on the attached plan(s) are APPROXIMATE ONLY.

Please ensure that the Openserve service plan(s) are printed in colour (if applicable) and on the correct page size as indicated in the bottom right corner, in order to ensure that services can be seen clearly.

Please note, wayleave applications will NOT be accepted by this mailbox. Please send all wayleave requests to

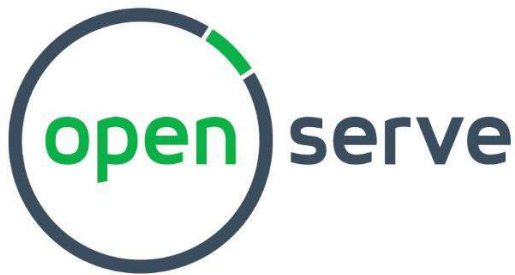


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====



61 Oak Avenue, Highveld
Techno Park, Centurion 0157,
Private Bag X881, Pretoria, Gauteng, 0001

04 February 2025

Normandien Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd
21st Floor, Portside
5 Buitengracht Street
Cape Town
8001

RESPONSE TO SECTION 29 OF THE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS ACT 36 OF 2005 NOTICE

Dear Sir / Madam

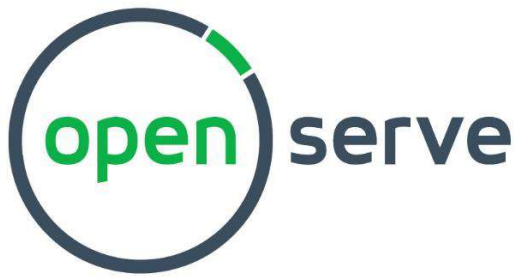
Your notice received on 27 January 2025 refers.

We thank you for notifying us of your planned activities as required under section 29 of the ECA.

ELECTRICAL / POWER SERVICES CONDITIONS

Openserve has analysed the information provided by Normandien Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd in accordance with the provisions of Section 29(1)(c) of the ECA, and specifically the location of the site. Openserve has the following terms and conditions or requirements for the construction of Normandien WEF energy project at the site:

- Take note that the findings made by Openserve are based on simulation and calculated on a theoretical model, using available data and assumptions where no data was provided. Therefore, such findings may change at any time should any further information be made available to or come to our attention.
- At any time after this notice, and during construction of the project, should any radio transmissions be affected by construction activities, Openserve will give you 30 (thirty) days' written notice to minimise or reduce and/or remove the cause of the interference. Under no circumstances will Openserve be liable to you or any other third party for any damages, of any nature whatsoever, suffered as a consequence of the aforementioned request.
- Construction activities underneath, along, across or within close proximity to Openserve infrastructure must comply with the applicable Openserve guidelines relating to clearances between equipment and the proposed construction activity. Furthermore, you must strictly adhere to and all installations must be fully compliant with the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act 85 of 1993).
- This notice is further subject to the boundaries or structures listed in annexure 1 below, the materials used as well as the size and positioning of structures declared in your notice. If any radio system is compromised by a deviation of this submission and the deviation cannot be reversed, you shall be liable for the cost to re-establish or relocate the service and under no circumstances will Openserve be liable to you or any other third party for any damages, of any nature whatsoever, suffered as a consequence.



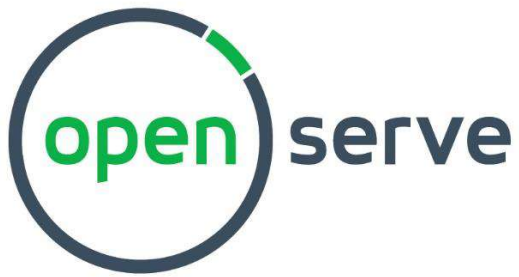
- This notice is valid and applicable to and between Openserve and Normandien Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd, It excludes any other electronic communication operators that have a co-sharing agreement for use on Openserve radio masts.
- This notice is valid for a period of 12 (twelve) months.
- Any additions, amendments, additional structures to be built or change to the energy farm boundaries will require a fresh notice to Openserve.
- This notice does not imply any right of access to Openserve property or use of Openserve's access roads for construction or maintenance of the design project. Permission must be obtained from Openserve in this regard. Furthermore, Openserve reserves the right to claim damages in terms of Section 108 of the Post Office Act No. 44 of 1958, for any loss sustained as a result of damage to our electronic communications infrastructure.
- Normandien Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd shall, in the carrying out of any work or project take all necessary precautions for the safety of Openserve's employees, contractors, representatives and its property including the radio links on or near the Site against damages as result of construction of Normandien WEF's energy project. Normandien Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd shall be liable for all and any direct and / or indirect, and / or consequential damages or injury that may be caused by Normandien WEF, its contractors, subcontractors, employees or representatives to any employee, contractor, representative or property of Openserve including radio links or land which may have been disturbed.
- Any work in connection with the construction of your energy project shall be carried out by you in such a way as to avoid any possible loss or inconvenience to the Openserve, its customers or the public, and on completion of such work, any of our property including radio links or land which may have been disturbed shall be restored to the same condition which it was in before commencement of the construction of energy project.
- In no event will Openserve, its employees, contractors, subcontractors or representatives be liable to you or anyone else for special, collateral, exemplary, direct, indirect, incidental, consequential or any other damages (including without limitation, loss of goodwill, loss of profits or revenues, loss of savings, loss of use, interruptions of business, and your claims or injury) whether or not such damages or injury occurred prior or subsequent to, or are alleged as a result of any Openserve radio links approved and/or not approved in terms of this letter or as result of delict, even if Openserve has been advised of the possibility of such damages or injury.

At least 14 days prior to the commencement of any work, Openserve must be contacted to have the position of our electronic communications facilities or works identified.

In instances where damage has been inflicted upon Openserve's electronic communications facilities or works, in the carrying out of your planned activities as contemplated in your notice referenced above, we request the responsible person to immediately upon becoming aware of such occurrence inform Openserve so that damages to our electronic communications facilities or works can be limited to a minimum.

Please note that should the requirements set out above not be adhered to and damage is inflicted upon Openserve's electronic communications facilities or works in the carrying out of your planned activities as contemplated in your notice referenced above, you may be held liable for any damages suffered by Openserve as a result.





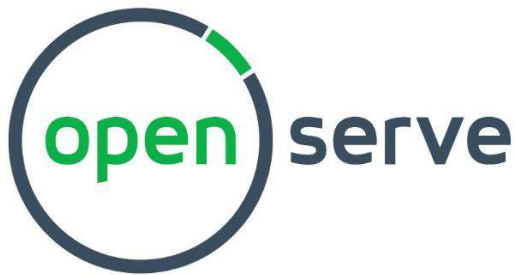
PLEASE CONTACT BELOW FOR KICK-OFF MEETINGS: OPENSERVE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES OR WORKS TO BE VERIFIED ON SITE AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF WORK.

All Openserve rights remain reserved.

Yours Sincerely,

.....
Princess Ngobeni

Radio Frequency Spectrum Management



Annexure 1

The points below outline an area used to see if any radio links crossed over or nearby the energy farm. No Openserve radio links will be affected by the energy farm if constructed in the boundary below.

The points listed below are recorded in decimal degree on the WGS84 datum. If any dispute arises with respect to the position of these points, then the Chief Directorate National Geo-Spatial Information trigonometrical system will be used to verify them. The points below form an enclosed area if read in sequence, with the first and last points in the list enclosing the approved area.

Point	Longitude X	Latitude Y
12	-27.91743	29.54556
13	-27.90644	29.54843
14	-27.90641	29.55547
15	-27.91528	29.56519
16	-27.90683	29.57860
17	-27.91470	29.58443
18	-27.92328	29.57393
19	-27.92996	29.58126
20	-27.92956	29.58318
21	-27.93945	29.57771
22	-27.94593	29.58556
23	-27.92815	29.59442
24	-27.91333	29.63311
25	-27.94545	29.64269
26	-27.95199	29.64067
27	-27.95810	29.64231
28	-27.95990	29.63358
29	-27.94851	29.61742
30	-27.96136	29.61108
31	-28.00051	29.63677
32	-28.00510	29.61991
33	-27.98595	29.58789
12	-27.91743	29.54556



Our Ref. No: CWIP_OMEL0058_25

Your Ref. No: Normandien Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd

P.O. Box 6001

Halfway House

1685

12 March 2025

41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE - Normandien Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

Dear Sir / Madam

Your notification dated **17 February 2025** refers.

In reference to the Electronic Communications Act no. 36 of 2005.

I hereby inform you that the proposed work indicated on your drawing is approved in terms of the Electronic Communications Act no. 36 of 2005.

Any changes/deviations from the original planning during or prior to construction must immediately be communicated to this office.

Approval is granted, subject to the following conditions:

As per supplied sketches it would appear as if **Openserve PTY(LTD)** infrastructure would not be affected. However, care should still be taken should it become evident that there is in fact Openserve network present at the actual sites. However, care should still be taken should it become evident that there is in fact Openserve network present at the actual sites. Such lines should be treated in accordance with, and clearances stipulated in the Occupational Health and Safety Act no. 85 of 1993, Electrical Machinery regulations 20 - Crossings, and Electrical Machinery Regulations 15 - Clearances of Power Lines. If the specifications could not be met, all deviation costs will be for the applicant's account. We also refer to section 25 of the Electronic Communications Act 36 of 2005.

Approval of the proposed route is valid for twelve(12) months. If construction has not yet commenced within this time period, then the file must be resubmitted for approval. Any changes and deviations from the original planning during construction must be immediately communicated to this office.



Please contact [REDACTED] Two (2) weeks prior to commencement of proposed work.

It's important that all services are shown on site before construction starts.

It would be appreciated if this office can be notified within 30 days on completion of construction work. Confirmation is required on completion of construction as per agreed requirements.

All Openserve PTY(LTD) rights remain reserved.

Yours Faithfully

[REDACTED]

Yogan Moodley On Behalf of Indra Reddy

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Wednesday, 12 March 2025 11:59
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: [C] CWIP_OMEL0057_25 - Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

Good day Yogan,

Thank you for sharing Openserve's response.

Kind regards,

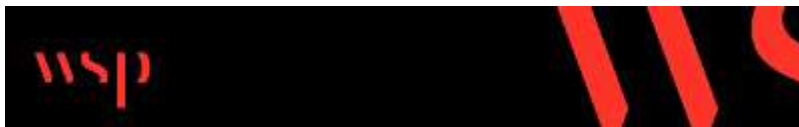
Public Participation Office

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 12 March 2025 10:29
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [C] CWIP_OMEL0057_25 - Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

Good Day

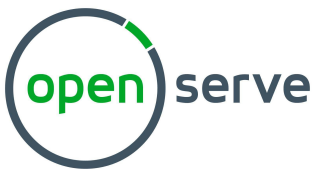
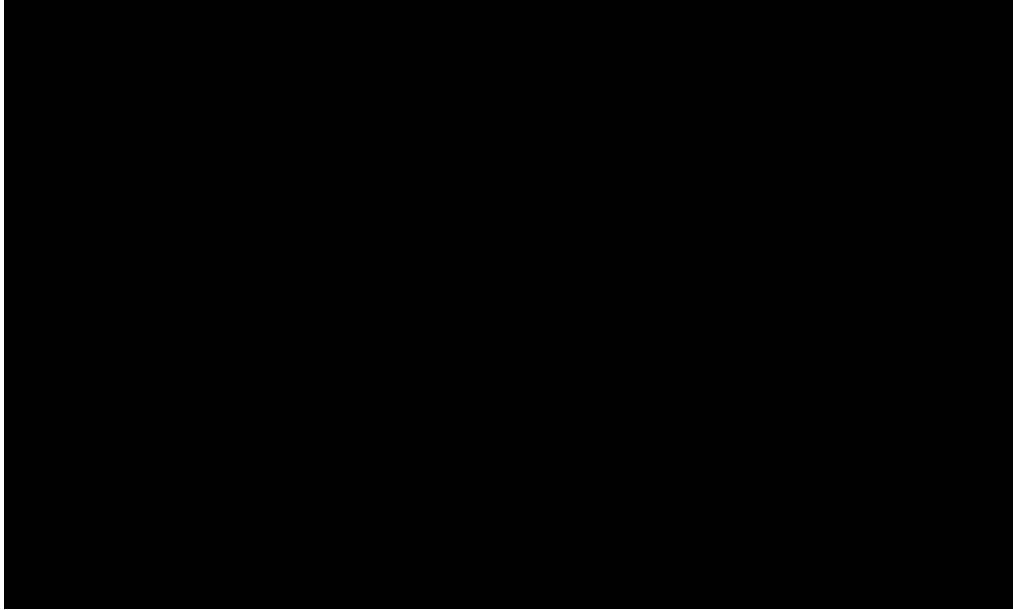
Please find attached Openserve Response .

Kindly take note of the conditions on the attached response

Please note: Our area representative as listed on the wayleave should be contacted at least 48 hours prior to commencement of construction in order to show services out on site, as our services on the attached plan(s) are APPROXIMATE ONLY.

Please ensure that the Openserve service plan(s) are printed in colour (if applicable) and on the correct page size as indicated in the bottom right corner, in order to ensure that services can be seen clearly.

Please note, wayleave applications will NOT be accepted by this mailbox. Please send all wayleave requests to

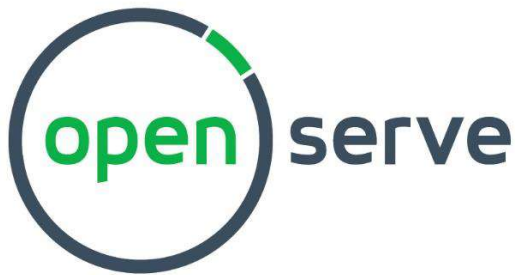


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61 Oak Avenue, Highveld
Techno Park, Centurion 0157,
Private Bag X881, Pretoria, Gauteng, 0001

04 February 2025

Kromhof Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd
21st Floor, Portside
5 Buitengracht Street
Cape Town
8001

RESPONSE TO SECTION 29 OF THE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS ACT 36 OF 2005 NOTICE

Dear Sir / Madam

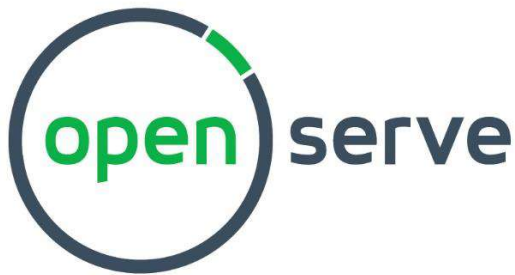
Your notice received on 27 January 2025 refers.

We thank you for notifying us of your planned activities as required under section 29 of the ECA.

ELECTRICAL / POWER SERVICES CONDITIONS

Openserve has analysed the information provided by Kromhof Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd in accordance with the provisions of Section 29(1)(c) of the ECA, and specifically the location of the site. Openserve has the following terms and conditions or requirements for the construction of Kromhof WEF energy project at the site:

- Take note that the findings made by Openserve are based on simulation and calculated on a theoretical model, using available data and assumptions where no data was provided. Therefore, such findings may change at any time should any further information be made available to or come to our attention.
- At any time after this notice, and during construction of the project, should any radio transmissions be affected by construction activities, Openserve will give you 30 (thirty) days' written notice to minimise or reduce and/or remove the cause of the interference. Under no circumstances will Openserve be liable to you or any other third party for any damages, of any nature whatsoever, suffered as a consequence of the aforementioned request.
- Construction activities underneath, along, across or within close proximity to Openserve infrastructure must comply with the applicable Openserve guidelines relating to clearances between equipment and the proposed construction activity. Furthermore, you must strictly adhere to and all installations must be fully compliant with the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act 85 of 1993).



- This notice is further subject to the boundaries or structures listed in annexure 1 below, the materials used as well as the size and positioning of structures declared in your notice. If any radio system is compromised by a deviation of this submission and the deviation cannot be reversed, you shall be liable for the cost to re-establish or relocate the service and under no circumstances will Openserve be liable to you or any other third party for any damages, of any nature whatsoever, suffered as a consequence.
- This notice is valid and applicable to and between Openserve and Kromhof Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd. It excludes any other electronic communication operators that have a co-sharing agreement for use on Openserve radio masts.
- This notice is valid for a period of 12 (twelve) months.
- Any additions, amendments, additional structures to be built or change to the energy farm boundaries will require a fresh notice to Openserve.
- This notice does not imply any right of access to Openserve property or use of Openserve's access roads for construction or maintenance of the design project. Permission must be obtained from Openserve in this regard. Furthermore, Openserve reserves the right to claim damages in terms of Section 108 of the Post Office Act No. 44 of 1958, for any loss sustained as a result of damage to our electronic communications infrastructure.
- Kromhof Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd shall, in the carrying out of any work or project take all necessary precautions for the safety of Openserve's employees, contractors, representatives and its property including the radio links on or near the Site against damages as result of construction of Kromhof WEF's energy project. Kromhof Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd shall be liable for all and any direct and / or indirect, and / or consequential damages or injury that may be caused by Kromhof WEF, its contractors, subcontractors, employees or representatives to any employee, contractor, representative or property of Openserve including radio links or land which may have been disturbed.
- Any work in connection with the construction of your energy project shall be carried out by you in such a way as to avoid any possible loss or inconvenience to the Openserve, its customers or the public, and on completion of such work, any of our property including radio links or land which may have been disturbed shall be restored to the same condition which it was in before commencement of the construction of energy project.
- In no event will Openserve, its employees, contractors, subcontractors or representatives be liable to you or anyone else for special, collateral, exemplary, direct, indirect, incidental, consequential or any other damages (including without limitation, loss of goodwill, loss of profits or revenues, loss of savings, loss of use, interruptions of business, and your claims or injury) whether or not such damages or injury occurred prior or subsequent to, or are alleged as a result of any Openserve radio links approved and/or not approved in terms of this letter or as result of delict, even if Openserve has been advised of the possibility of such damages or injury.

At least 14 days prior to the commencement of any work, Openserve must be contacted to have the position of our electronic communications facilities or works identified.

In instances where damage has been inflicted upon Openserve's electronic communications facilities or works, in the carrying out of your planned activities as contemplated in your notice referenced above, we request the responsible person to immediately upon becoming aware of such occurrence inform Openserve so that damages to our electronic communications facilities or works can be limited to a minimum.

Please note that should the requirements set out above not be adhered to and damage is inflicted upon Openserve's electronic communications facilities or works in the carrying out of your planned activities as contemplated in your notice referenced above, you may be held liable for any damages suffered by Openserve as a result.





PLEASE CONTACT BELOW FOR KICK-OFF MEETINGS: OPENSERVE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES OR WORKS TO BE VERIFIED ON SITE AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF WORK.

Name	Contact Numbers	Email Address
[Redacted]		
[Redacted]		
[Redacted]		

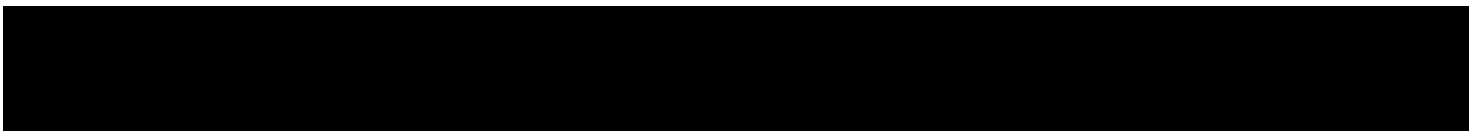
All Openserve rights remain reserved.

Yours Sincerely,



.....
Princess Ngobeni

Radio Frequency Spectrum Management





Annexure 1

The points below outline an area used to see if any radio links crossed over or nearby the energy farm. No Openserve radio links will be affected by the energy farm if constructed in the boundary below.

The points listed below are recorded in decimal degree on the WGS84 datum. If any dispute arises with respect to the position of these points, then the Chief Directorate National Geo-Spatial Information trigonometrical system will be used to verify them. The points below form an enclosed area if read in sequence, with the first and last points in the list enclosing the approved area.

Point	Longitude X	Latitude Y
4	29.48089	-27.97339
5	29.48306	-27.94149
6	29.49307	-27.94202
7	29.49329	-27.92817
8	29.50730	-27.92159
9	29.51938	-27.92571
10	29.52872	-27.92948
11	29.53190	-27.93096
72	29.53293	-27.93079
33	29.58789	-27.98595
34	29.57905	-28.02076
60	29.58856	-27.98329
61	29.58370	-27.97893
62	29.58053	-27.97110
63	29.57504	-27.96771
64	29.57057	-27.96985
65	29.56532	-27.96188
66	29.55413	-27.95514
67	29.54668	-27.95529
68	29.53820	-27.94736
69	29.53418	-27.93935
70	29.51724	-27.98608
4	29.48089	-27.97339



Our Ref. No: CWIP_OMEL0057_25
Your Ref. No: Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

Wayleave Management Eastern Region
Private Bag X54326, Durban, 4000

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 6001
Halfway House
1685

12 March 2025

41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE - Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

Dear Sir / Madam

Your notification dated **17 February 2025** refers.

In reference to the Electronic Communications Act no. 36 of 2005.

I hereby inform you that the proposed work indicated on your drawing is approved in terms of the Electronic Communications Act no. 36 of 2005.

Any changes/deviations from the original planning during or prior to construction must immediately be communicated to this office.

Approval is granted, subject to the following conditions:

As per supplied sketches it would appear as if **Openserve PTY(LTD)** infrastructure would not be affected. However, care should still be taken should it become evident that there is in fact Openserve network present at the actual sites. Such lines should be treated in accordance with, and clearances stipulated in the Occupational Health and Safety Act no. 85 of 1993, Electrical Machinery regulations 20 - Crossings, and Electrical Machinery Regulations 15 - Clearances of Power Lines. If the specifications could not be met, all deviation costs will be for the applicant's account. We also refer to section 25 of the Electronic Communications Act 36 of 2005.

Approval of the proposed route is valid for twelve(12) months. If construction has not yet commenced within this time period, then the file must be resubmitted for approval. Any changes and deviations from the original planning during construction must be immediately communicated to this office.

[Redacted signature block]

Internal Use



Please contact [REDACTED] (2) weeks prior to commencement of proposed work.

It's important that all services are shown on site before construction starts.

It would be appreciated if this office can be notified within 30 days on completion of construction work. Confirmation is required on completion of construction as per agreed requirements.

All Openserve PTY(LTD) rights remain reserved.

Yours Faithfully

[REDACTED]
Yogan Moodley On Behalf of Indra Reddy

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Wednesday, 12 March 2025 12:00
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: [C] CWIP_OMEL0056_25 - Groothoek Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

Good day Yogan,

Thank you for sharing Openserve's response.

Kind regards,

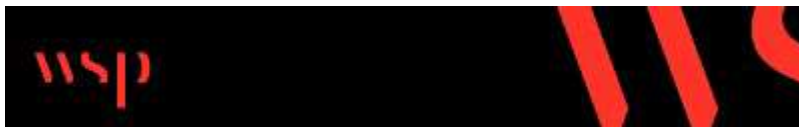
Public Participation Office

T +27 11 254-4800

WSP

Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
1685 South Africa

wsp.com



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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, Gauteng, 1685, South Africa
Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: ZA [REDACTED]
Cc: Yogan [REDACTED]
Subject: [C] CWIP_OMEL0056_25 - Groothoek Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

Good Day

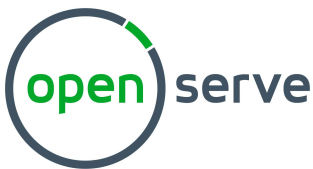
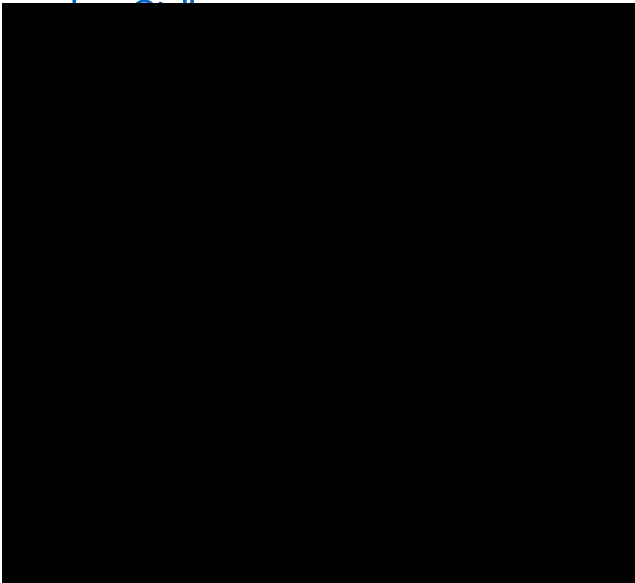
Please find attached Openserve Response .

Kindly take note of the conditions on the attached response

Please note: Our area representative as listed on the wayleave should be contacted at least 48 hours prior to commencement of construction in order to show services out on site, as our services on the attached plan(s) are APPROXIMATE ONLY.

Please ensure that the Openserve service plan(s) are printed in colour (if applicable) and on the correct page size as indicated in the bottom right corner, in order to ensure that services can be seen clearly.

Please note, wayleave applications will NOT be accepted by this mailbox. Please send all wayleave requests to

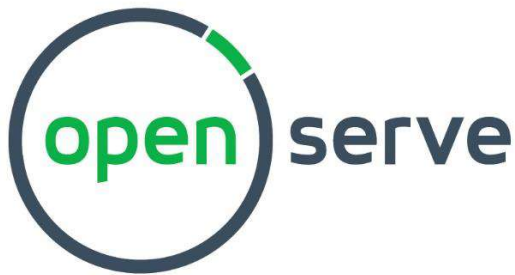


This e-mail is subject to the Openserve electronic communication legal notice, available at:
[OpenserveEMailLegalNotice.pdf](#)

This message has been classified as: **Confidential**. The information contained herein is meant for the sole use of authorised Telkom SA SOC Ltd personnel and its clients or partners as included in this message, and should not be disclosed to any unauthorised persons.

==== This e-mail and its contents are subject to the Openserve (Pty) Ltd E-mail legal notice
<https://connect.openserve.co.za/assets/documents/LegalEmail/OpenserveEMailLegalNotice.pdf>

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61 Oak Avenue, Highveld
Techno Park, Centurion 0157,
Private Bag X881, Pretoria, Gauteng, 0001

04 February 2025

Groothoek Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd
21st Floor, Portside
5 Buitengracht Street
Cape Town
8001

RESPONSE TO SECTION 29 OF THE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS ACT 36 OF 2005 NOTICE

Dear Sir / Madam

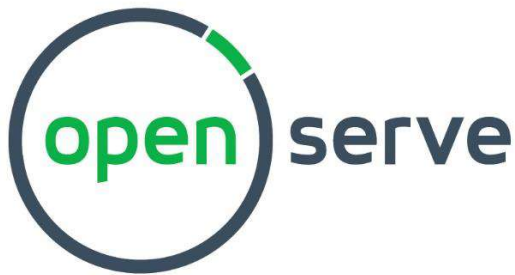
Your notice received on 27 January 2025 refers.

We thank you for notifying us of your planned activities as required under section 29 of the ECA.

ELECTRICAL / POWER SERVICES CONDITIONS

Openserve has analysed the information provided by Groothoek Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd in accordance with the provisions of Section 29(1)(c) of the ECA, and specifically the location of the site. Openserve has the following terms and conditions or requirements for the construction of Groothoek WEF energy project at the site:

- Take note that the findings made by Openserve are based on simulation and calculated on a theoretical model, using available data and assumptions where no data was provided. Therefore, such findings may change at any time should any further information be made available to or come to our attention.
- At any time after this notice, and during construction of the project, should any radio transmissions be affected by construction activities, Openserve will give you 30 (thirty) days' written notice to minimise or reduce and/or remove the cause of the interference. Under no circumstances will Openserve be liable to you or any other third party for any damages, of any nature whatsoever, suffered as a consequence of the aforementioned request.
- Construction activities underneath, along, across or within close proximity to Openserve infrastructure must comply with the applicable Openserve guidelines relating to clearances between equipment and the proposed construction activity. Furthermore, you must strictly adhere to and all installations must be fully compliant with the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act 85 of 1993).
- This notice is further subject to the boundaries or structures listed in annexure 1 below, the materials used as well as the size and positioning of structures declared in your notice. If any radio system is compromised by a deviation of this submission and the deviation cannot be reversed, you shall be liable for the cost to re-establish or relocate the service and under no circumstances will Openserve be liable to you or any other third party for any damages, of any nature whatsoever, suffered as a consequence.



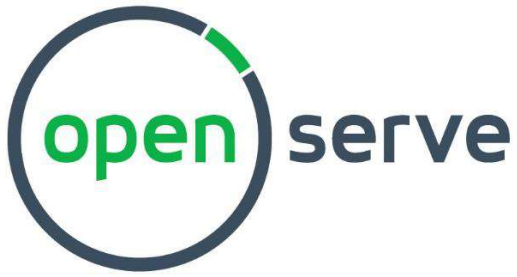
- This notice is valid and applicable to and between Openserve and Groothoek Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd. It excludes any other electronic communication operators that have a co-sharing agreement for use on Openserve radio masts.
- This notice is valid for a period of 12 (twelve) months.
- Any additions, amendments, additional structures to be built or change to the energy farm boundaries will require a fresh notice to Openserve.
- This notice does not imply any right of access to Openserve property or use of Openserve's access roads for construction or maintenance of the design project. Permission must be obtained from Openserve in this regard. Furthermore, Openserve reserves the right to claim damages in terms of Section 108 of the Post Office Act No. 44 of 1958, for any loss sustained as a result of damage to our electronic communications infrastructure.
- Groothoek Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd shall, in the carrying out of any work or project take all necessary precautions for the safety of Openserve's employees, contractors, representatives and its property including the radio links on or near the Site against damages as result of construction of Groothoek WEF's energy project. Groothoek Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd shall be liable for all and any direct and / or indirect, and / or consequential damages or injury that may be caused by Groothoek WEF, its contractors, subcontractors, employees or representatives to any employee, contractor, representative or property of Openserve including radio links or land which may have been disturbed.
- Any work in connection with the construction of your energy project shall be carried out by you in such a way as to avoid any possible loss or inconvenience to the Openserve, its customers or the public, and on completion of such work, any of our property including radio links or land which may have been disturbed shall be restored to the same condition which it was in before commencement of the construction of energy project.
- In no event will Openserve, its employees, contractors, subcontractors or representatives be liable to you or anyone else for special, collateral, exemplary, direct, indirect, incidental, consequential or any other damages (including without limitation, loss of goodwill, loss of profits or revenues, loss of savings, loss of use, interruptions of business, and your claims or injury) whether or not such damages or injury occurred prior or subsequent to, or are alleged as a result of any Openserve radio links approved and/or not approved in terms of this letter or as result of delict, even if Openserve has been advised of the possibility of such damages or injury.

At least 14 days prior to the commencement of any work, Openserve must be contacted to have the position of our electronic communications facilities or works identified.

In instances where damage has been inflicted upon Openserve's electronic communications facilities or works, in the carrying out of your planned activities as contemplated in your notice referenced above, we request the responsible person to immediately upon becoming aware of such occurrence inform Openserve so that damages to our electronic communications facilities or works can be limited to a minimum.

Please note that should the requirements set out above not be adhered to and damage is inflicted upon Openserve's electronic communications facilities or works in the carrying out of your planned activities as contemplated in your notice referenced above, you may be held liable for any damages suffered by Openserve as a result.

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

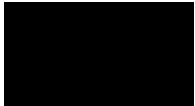


PLEASE CONTACT BELOW FOR KICK-OFF MEETINGS: OPENSERVE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES OR WORKS TO BE VERIFIED ON SITE AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF WORK.

Name	Contact Numbers	Email Address
[Redacted]		
In case of damaging Openserve's electronic communications facilities or works, please contact the above Openserve employees.		

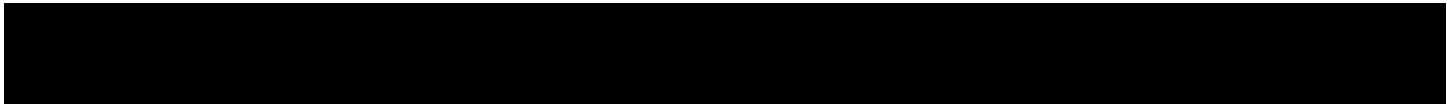
All Openserve rights remain reserved.

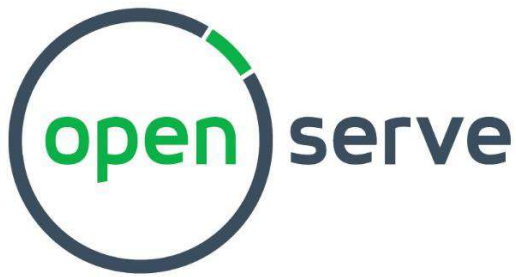
Yours Sincerely,



.....
Princess Ngobeni

Radio Frequency Spectrum Management





Annexure 1

The points below outline an area used to see if any radio links crossed over or nearby the energy farm. No Openserve radio links will be affected by the energy farm if constructed in the boundary below.

The points listed below are recorded in decimal degree on the WGS84 datum. If any dispute arises with respect to the position of these points, then the Chief Directorate National Geo-Spatial Information trigonometrical system will be used to verify them. The points below form an enclosed area if read in sequence, with the first and last points in the list enclosing the approved area.

Point	Longitude X	Latitude Y
1	29.43113	-27.93475
2	29.44624	-27.94074
3	29.44398	-27.96553
4	29.48089	-27.97339
70	29.51724	-27.98608
71	29.50592	-28.02670
40	29.49594	-28.03041
41	29.48250	-28.03067
42	29.46738	-28.02008
43	29.44469	-28.01743
44	29.42488	-28.01991
45	29.42692	-28.02421
46	29.42621	-28.02518
47	29.42116	-28.02568
48	29.41290	-28.02234
49	29.40006	-28.02288
50	29.39933	-28.02224
51	29.39920	-28.01947
52	29.39883	-28.01375
53	29.40195	-28.01281
54	29.40261	-28.01297
55	29.40421	-27.99623
56	29.42712	-27.97490
57	29.42108	-27.97468
58	29.42127	-27.95646
59	29.43281	-27.95438
1	29.43113	-27.93475



Our Ref. No: CWIP_OMEL0056_25
Your Ref. No: Groothoek Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

Wayleave Management Eastern Region
Private Bag X54326, Durban, 4000

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 6001
Halfway House
1685

12 March 2025

41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE - Groothoek Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

Dear Sir / Madam

Your notification dated **17 February 2025** refers.

In reference to the Electronic Communications Act no. 36 of 2005.

I hereby inform you that the proposed work indicated on your drawing is approved in terms of the Electronic Communications Act no. 36 of 2005.

Any changes/deviations from the original planning during or prior to construction must immediately be communicated to this office.

Approval is granted, subject to the following conditions:

As per supplied sketches it would appear as if **Openserve PTY(LTD)** infrastructure would not be affected. However, care should still be taken should it become evident that there is in fact Openserve network present at the actual sites. However, care should still be taken should it become evident that there is in fact Openserve network present at the actual sites. Such lines should be treated in accordance with, and clearances stipulated in the Occupational Health and Safety Act no. 85 of 1993, Electrical Machinery regulations 20 - Crossings, and Electrical Machinery Regulations 15 - Clearances of Power Lines. If the specifications could not be met, all deviation costs will be for the applicant's account. We also refer to section 25 of the Electronic Communications Act 36 of 2005.

Approval of the proposed route is valid for twelve(12) months. If construction has not yet commenced within this time period, then the file must be resubmitted for approval. Any changes and deviations from the original planning during construction must be immediately communicated to this office.



Please contact S [REDACTED] weeks prior to commencement of proposed work.

It's important that all services are shown on site before construction starts.

It would be appreciated if this office can be notified within 30 days on completion of construction work. Confirmation is required on completion of construction as per agreed requirements.

All Openserve PTY(LTD) rights remain reserved.

Yours Faithfully

[REDACTED]

Yogan Moodley On Behalf of Indra Reddy

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Tuesday, 11 March 2025 14:27
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE
Attachments: Verkykerskop Draft EIA Layout (New Turbine Footprint).kmz

Good day John,

Thank you for the requirement and setback guideline documents.

As requested, please see the project kmz as requested.

Kindly note that there has not been a change in layout since the kmz was shared on 30 January 2025.

Kind regards,

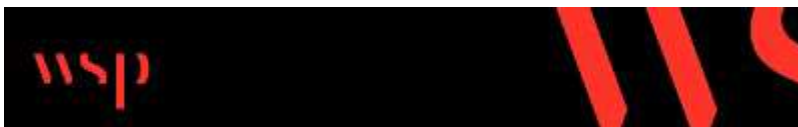
Public Participation Office

T +27 11 254-4800

WSP

Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
1685 South Africa

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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, Gauteng, 1685, South Africa
Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: John Geeringh <GeerinJH@ntcsa.co.za>
Sent: Monday, 10 March 2025 13:28
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Please send me KMZ files of the proposed development areas. Please find attached Eskom requirements as well as a setbacks guideline for RE Developments.

Kind regards

John Geeringh (Pr Sci Nat) Reg. EAP (EAPASA)

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>

Sent: Monday, 10 March 2025 11:13

Subject: [CAUTION:EXTERNAL EMAIL] 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Dear Stakeholder,

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

NOTICE IS GIVEN IN TERMS OF:

- Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) (as amended) for submission of various applications for environmental authorisations (EAs) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).

The proponents outlined in the table below propose to establish a Wind Energy Facility (WEF) cluster, comprising various applications for environmental authorisation, near Verkykerskop in Free State. The proposed authorisations include the following Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes.


Proponent	Project	Technology	Process
Groothoek Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2666)	Up to 300MW Wind Energy Facility (WEF) including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2667)	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Normandien Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2665)	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Farm Names			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 0 of Farm Schoonzicht No.80• Portion 0 of Farm Groothoek No. 89• Portion 0 of Farm Kromdraai No. 273• Portion 0 of Farm Kransbank No.288	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 0 of Farm Puntje No. 1240• Portion 0 and 1 of Farm Aanfield No. 253• Portion 0, 1, 2 and 3 of Farm Ox Hoek No. 98• Portion 0 of Farm Christina No. 90• Portion 0 of Farm Mooiplaats No. 391• Portion 0 of Farm Brak Krans No. 554	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remaining Extent of the Farm Welgelukt No. 1416• Portion 0 of Farm Inzicht No. 1428• Portion 0 of Farm Rooibeesberg No. 14898• Portion 1 of Farm Johanna No. 1395• Portion 1 and Remainder of Farm Bull Hoek No. 329	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 0 of Farm Kranspunt No.459 • Portion 0 of Farm Van Kope No.1319 • Portion 0 of Farm Leiden No. 2 • Portion 0 of Farm Myn-Burg No. 3 • Portion 0 of Farm Naauw Kloof No. 4 • Portion 0 of Farm Krom Hof No. 530 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 0 of Farm Rooi Koppen No. 600 • Portion 0 of Farm Goedgedacht No. 724 • Portion 0 of Farm Kruger Wens No.1062 • Portion 0 of Farm Scotland No. 1238 • Portion 0 of Farm Lusthof No.1321 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Farm Goede Hoop No. 982 • Portion 2, 3, 4, 5 and Remainder of Farm Driekoppen No. 485 • Remaining extent of Farm Johanna No. 1395 • Portion 0 of Farm Markgraaff's Rest No. 478
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FINAL SCOPING REPORT

The Final Scoping Report (FSR) will be made available from WSP on request and/or can be downloaded using the links below:

Name of Public Place	Address	Name of Public Place	Address	FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:	Or scan the QR code
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents	WSP Data Free Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd; PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; Tel: 011 254 4800; Fax: 086 582 1561 E-mail: pp@wsp.com	
OneDrive Link	<input type="checkbox"/> Verkykerskop - Final Scoping Reports				

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We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards,

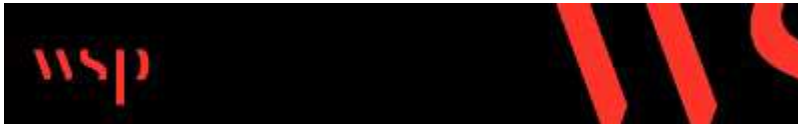
Public Participation Office

T +27 11 254-4800

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

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Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Wednesday, 12 March 2025 12:20
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Good day Zodwa,

Thank you for the update.

Kind regards,

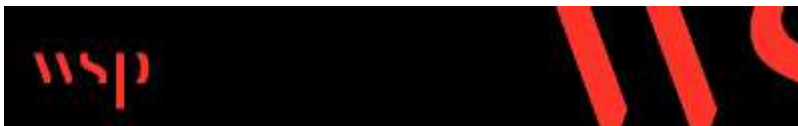
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

Subject: RE: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

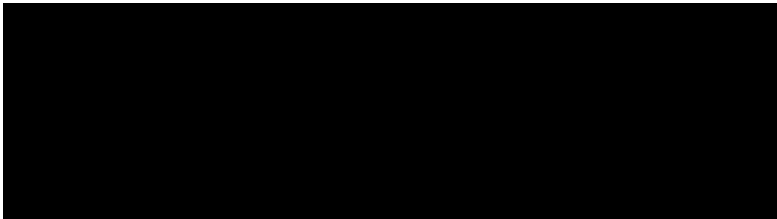
Good day

On behalf of Dr Ntili, I would like to acknowledge receipt of your email .

Mr Dywili

Please, receive email for information and attention.

Kind Regards,



www.dws.gov.za

Bloem Plaza Building, Corner of East Burger & Charlotte Maxeke Streets ,
Bloemfontein, 9301



From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>

Sent: Monday, 10 March 2025 11:16

Subject: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Some people who received this message don't often get email from pp@wsp.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Commenting Authorities,

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

NOTICE IS GIVEN IN TERMS OF:

- Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) (as amended) for submission of various applications for environmental authorisations (EAs) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).


The proponents outlined in the table below propose to establish a Wind Energy Facility (WEF) cluster, comprising various applications for environmental authorisation, near Verkykerskop in Free State. The proposed authorisations include the following Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes.

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process
Groothoek Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2666)	Up to 300MW Wind Energy Facility (WEF) including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2667)	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Normandien Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2665)	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Farm Names			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 0 of Farm Schoonzicht No.80 • Portion 0 of Farm Groothoek No. 89 • Portion 0 of Farm Kromdraai No. 273 • Portion 0 of Farm Kransbank No.288 • Portion 0 of Farm Kranspunt No.459 • Portion 0 of Farm Van Kope No.1319 • Portion 0 of Farm Leiden No. 2 • Portion 0 of Farm Myn-Burg No. 3 • Portion 0 of Farm Naauw Kloof No. 4 • Portion 0 of Farm Krom Hof No. 530 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 0 of Farm Puntje No. 1240 • Portion 0 and 1 of Farm Aanfield No. 253 • Portion 0, 1, 2 and 3 of Farm Ox Hoek No. 98 • Portion 0 of Farm Christina No. 90 • Portion 0 of Farm Mooiplaats No. 391 • Portion 0 of Farm Brak Krans No. 554 • Portion 0 of Farm Rooi Koppen No. 600 • Portion 0 of Farm Goedgedacht No. 724 • Portion 0 of Farm Kruger Wens No.1062 • Portion 0 of Farm Scotland No. 1238 • Portion 0 of Farm Lusthof No.1321 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remaining Extent of the Farm Welgelukt No. 1416 • Portion 0 of Farm Inzicht No. 1428 • Portion 0 of Farm Rooibeesberg No. 14898 • Portion 1 of Farm Johanna No. 1395 • Portion 1 and Remainder of Farm Bull Hoek No. 329 • Portion 1 of Farm Goede Hoop No. 982 • Portion 2, 3, 4, 5 and Remainder of Farm Driekoppen No. 485 • Remaining extent of Farm Johanna No. 1395 • Portion 0 of Farm Markgraaff's Rest No. 478 	

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Name of Public Place	Address	Name of Public Place	Address	FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:	Or scan the QR code
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents	WSP Data Free Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd; PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685;	

				Tel: 011 254 4800; Fax: 086 582 1561 E-mail: pp@wsp.com
OneDrive Link	<input type="checkbox"/> Verkykerskop - Final Scoping Reports			

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We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards,

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Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Wednesday, 12 March 2025 12:26
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Good day Canny,

Kindly note that the notification was shared [REDACTED]

Please advise if [REDACTED] should also be deregistered?

Kind regards,

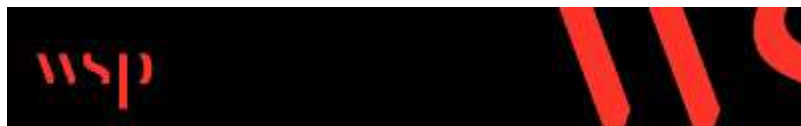
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 10 March 2025 12:43
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Good day,

Thank you for the EIA notification, may you kindly resend the attachments to [REDACTED] and delist all other SACAA email addresses on your database. Kindly [REDACTED]

save and send your environmental impact analysis reports/meeting requests and request for comments to [REDACTED] going forward please.

Regards [REDACTED]

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<https://www.caa.co.za/paia-and-privacy/>

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>

Sent: Monday, March 10, 2025 11:13 AM

Subject: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

"This message was sent from outside of SACAA. Please use caution when opening links and/ or attachments"

Dear Stakeholder,

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

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				PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; Tel: 011 254 4800; Fax: 086 582 1561 E-mail: pp@wsp.com
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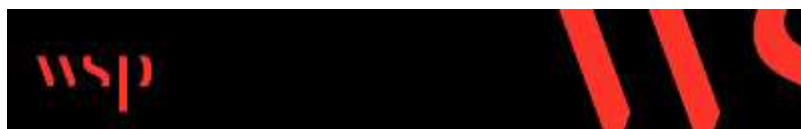
Public Participation Office

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Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Wednesday, 12 March 2025 12:41
To: Nomasomi Tshingo; ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Subject: RE: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Good day Nomasomi,

Kindly note that the email addresses for the permit office are included on the project database.

Kind regards,

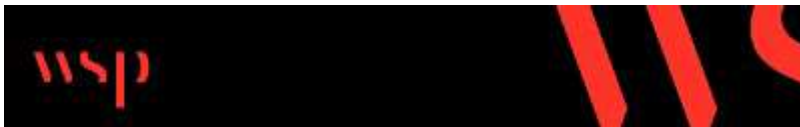
Public Participation Office

T +27 11 254-4800

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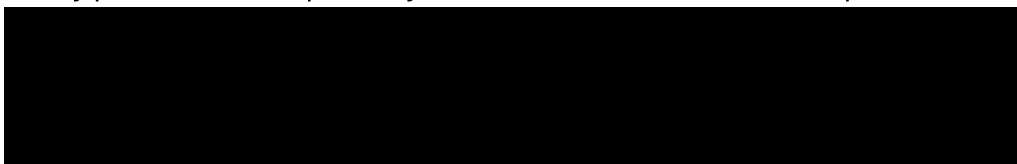
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 10 March 2025 11:15
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>
Subject: Re: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

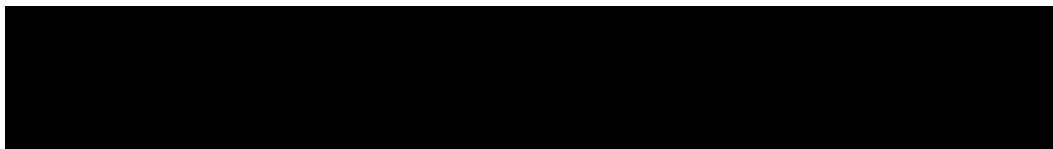
Good day

For any permit related queries, you can forward an email to the permit office;



For Professional Hunting quiries, you can forward an email to;

-
-



Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Tuesday, 18 March 2025 13:12
To: Sam Ralston; ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Subject: RE: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Good day Sam

Thank you for the attached.

Kindly note that the comments dated 21 February 2025 were received on the same date and have been incorporated into the project's comments register.

The final Scoping Report was submitted on 10 March 2025 and as part of the stakeholder database you will receive notification when the draft EIA is made available for comment.

Kind regards,

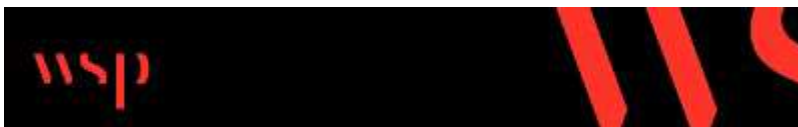
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 13 March 2025 12:44
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>
Subject: Re: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Good day

Please see BirdLife South Africa's comments attached.

Kind regards
Sam

From: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>

Date: Wednesday, 22 January 2025 at 08:22

To:

Subject: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Dear Stakeholder,

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

NOTICE IS GIVEN IN TERMS OF:

- Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) (as amended) for submission of various applications for environmental authorisations (EAs) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).


The proponents outlined in the table below propose to establish a Wind Energy Facility (WEF) cluster, comprising various applications for environmental authorisation, near Verkykerskop in Free State. The proposed authorisations include the following Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes.

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process
Groothoek Wind Power (Pty) Ltd	Up to 300MW Wind Energy Facility (WEF) including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
	Up to 132kV Powerline, substation, and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA
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	Up to 132kV Powerline, substation, and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA
Normandien Wind Power (Pty) Ltd	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
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Farm Names			
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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Mulilo Energy Holdings (Pty) Ltd to manage the to manage the respective BA and S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the proposed projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the processes.

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) will be made available from WSP on request and/or at the venues below for review and comment for a period of at least 30 days from **22 January 2025 to 21 February 2025**:

Name of Public Place	Address	Name of Public Place	Address	FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:	Or scan the QR code
Harrismith Library	27 Murray St, Harrismith	Zamani Library	Euufees St, Memel - 058 913 8300	Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd; PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; Tel: 011 254 4800; Fax: 086 582 1561 E-mail: gld.pp@wsp.com	
VKB Verkykerskop	Between Harrismith & Memel on R722 Road - 058 625 0130	Newcastle Library	66 Scott St, Newcastle CBD, Newcastle - 034 328 7620		
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents	WSP Data Free Website	https://wsp-engage.com/		

WSP contact details:

Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd

Post: PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; **Tel:** 011 254 4800;

Fax: 086 582 1561;

E-mail: gld.pp@wsp.com

Protection of Personal Information: WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an interested and affected party (I&AP) for purposes of enabling your registration as an I&AP and storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I & AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



WSP in Africa
Building 1, Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Tuesday, 18 March 2025 13:12
To: Sam Ralston; ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Subject: RE: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Good day Sam

Thank you for the attached.

Kindly note that the comments dated 21 February 2025 were received on the same date and have been incorporated into the project's comments register.

The final Scoping Report was submitted on 10 March 2025 and as part of the stakeholder database you will receive notification when the draft EIA is made available for comment.

Kind regards,

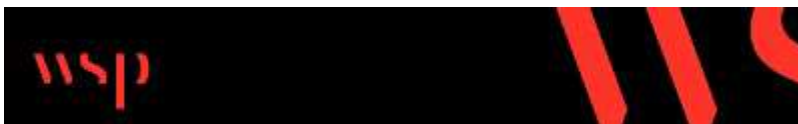
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We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards,



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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Tuesday, 18 March 2025 13:06
To: [REDACTED] - WSP - PPOffice
Cc:
Subject: RE: Request for I&AP Registration: Kromhof & Normandien WEFs
Attachments: Verkykerskop_WEF_Clusters.kmz

Good day Reuben

Kindly note that Tshililo Masakona has been registered on to the project stakeholder database.

Please see the project area kmz attached as requested.

Kind regards,

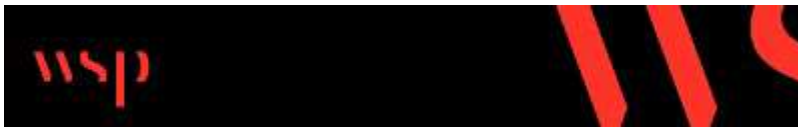
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: ZA [REDACTED]
Cc: tsh [REDACTED]
Subject: Request for I&AP Registration: Kromhof & Normandien WEFs

Greetings WSP Public Participation Team

I hope you are doing well.

Could you kindly add ENGIE as an Interested and Affected Party on the EIA process for the proposed Kromhof and Normandie Wind Energy Facilities in the Free State Province ?

Furthermore, please share the .kmz file of the layout / development area of these projects.

For the registration process, please capture the following information in your Stakeholder Database:

-
-
-
-

Your feedback and confirmation of our registration will be highly appreciated.

Best Regards



Check us out on www.engie-africa.com

Follow us on [LinkedIn](#)

3012A Winnie Mandela Drive
Bryanston, Sandton, 2191

ENGIE Mail Disclaimer: <https://www.engie.com/disclaimer>

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: Maharaj, Jashmika
Sent: Tuesday, 25 March 2025 16:09
To: BC Admin
Cc: Portia Makitla; Nompumelelo Lekalakala; Lindiwe Victoria Dlamini; ZA - WSP - PPOffice; Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop - Final Scoping Reports" with you
Attachments: Verkykerskop_WEF_Clusters.kmz

Good day,

WSP acknowledges the response from this Department.

Attached is the kmz for the project boundary. Please note that the confirmed layout will be released with the Draft EIA report.

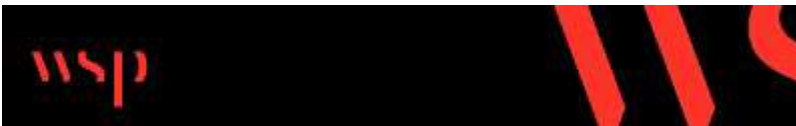
Kind regards,

Jashmika Maharaj

Senior Consultant

T +27 11 254 4874

M +27 81 401-8337



From:

Sent:

To: M

Cc: P

Dlam

Subject: RE: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop - Final Scoping Reports" with you

Dear Sir/Madam

DFFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation on the 10 March 2025 to review and comment on the project mentioned on the subject line. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Mrs P Makitla and Ms Nompumelelo Lekalakala (Copied on this email). In addition, kindly share the shapefiles of the development footprints/application site with the Case Officers.

Please note: All Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email:

BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota

Kind regards,

Lindiwe Victoria Dlamini

Directorate: Biodiversity Mainstreaming and FIA

Branch: Biodiversity and Conservation

473 Steve Biko Road | Private Bag 9477 | Pretoria | 001

From: Maharaj, Jashmika [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 10 March 2025 14:12
To: BC Admin [REDACTED]
Subject: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop - Final Scoping Reports" with you



Maharaj, Jashmika shared a folder with you

Here's the folder that Maharaj, Jashmika shared with you.



[Verkykerskop - Final Scoping Reports](#)



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an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

2025

Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Ashlea Strong
WSP Group Africa
Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
Midrand
1685

Normandien Wind Power (Pty) Ltd has submitted an application to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed the Normandien Wind Energy Facility (WEF) as part of the Verkykerskop Wind Energy Facility (WEF) Cluster, near Harrismith, in Thabo Mofutsanyana District Municipality and Phumelela Local Municipality, Free State Province.

A Draft Scoping Report (DSR) was submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA EIA Regulations (As amended). The proposed Normandien Wind Energy Facility (WEF) will have a capacity of up to 300 MW and encompass 6,067 ha, with a buildable area of 150 ha, accommodating up to 60 wind turbines. Each turbine will have a rotor diameter of up to 200 m and a hub height of up to 140 m. The hard standing area per turbine will be up to 0.8 ha, with a foundation area of 0.07 ha and a crane platform/pad of 0.5 ha. Turbine foundations will involve excavations up to 4 m deep, constructed of reinforced concrete and covered with soil after tower erection.

The project will include four 33kV/132kV on-site collector substations (IPP Portion), each up to 2 ha, connected to the turbines by underground 33kV cabling where practical. A construction camp with a concrete batching plant (1 ha), a site office (4 ha), and a laydown area (8 ha) will be established, along with internal roads up to 8 m wide. A 200 MW/800 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), using lithium-ion solid-state batteries and providing 6-8 hours of storage, will be housed in containers covering up to 7 ha. An operation and maintenance (O&M) office of up to 1 ha will also be constructed.

Grid connection will be via an on-site Main Transmission Substation (MTS), the preferred option, or alternatively, a 20 km 132kV power line to an off-site MTS. Substation footprint at both ends of the line will be up to 1 ha, consisting of a 33kV to 132kV collector substation. Double circuit towers will be used for the power line, with a 400 m wide assessment corridor (200 m either side of the centre line).



an agency of the
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South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

Date: Friday, 24 January, 2025

Beyond Heritage has been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EIA process as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

The proposed development is located in an area of predominantly Very High palaeontological sensitivity along with areas of Low and Moderate palaeontological sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. Since the development is located in an area of Very High palaeontological sensitivity a field-based PIA is required.

Kraljevi?, L. 2024. Heritage Scoping Report for the proposed Normandien Wind Energy Facility, Free State Province.

Heritage resources in the study area consist of structures and ruins older than 60 years, and burial sites. The larger region around Verkykerskop is characterised by Later Iron Age stone walled sites likely an indicator of Batlokwa and Basia occupation. The author recommends that a field-based Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) of the final impact areas.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) notes the submitted Heritage Scoping Report.

The SAHRA DAU requests that an assessment of the impact to heritage resources that complies with section 38(3) of the NHRA as required by section 38(8) of the NHRA must be conducted as part of the EA process. The HIA must include an archaeological component.

The field-based archaeological component of the HIA must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and must comply with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports (see www.asapa.co.za or www.aphp.org.za for a list of qualified archaeologists). The Minimum Standards refer to a Letter of Recommendation for Exemption for further studies should the specialist deem it appropriate. SAHRA reserves the right to insist on a field-based assessment should the Letter of Recommendation not provide ample information to make an informed comment.

Any other heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted, such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.

**Normandien Wind Energy Facility (up to 300MW) and associated infrastructure,
located near Verkykerskop in the Free State Province.**



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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www.sahra.org.za

Personal Details have been redacted as
required by the POPI Act

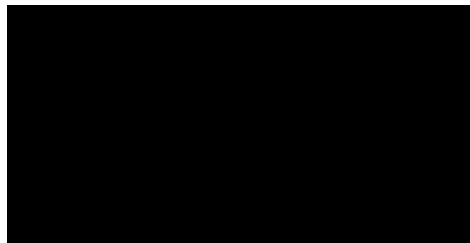
Date: Friday, 24 January, 2025

Since the development is located in an area of Very High palaeontological sensitivity a field-based PIA is required. The assessment must be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist and the report must comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments.

Further comments will be issued upon the submission of the draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR), a field-based Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA).

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

Yours faithfully



Stephen van der Heever
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency



Natasha Higgitt
Manager: Development Applications Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency



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P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
www.sahra.org.za

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.org.za/node/356208>

**Kromhof Wind Energy Facility (up to 300MW) and associated infrastructure,
located near Verkykerskop in the Free State Province.**



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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Date: Friday, 24 January, 2025

Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Ashlea Strong
WSP Group Africa
Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
Midrand
1685

Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd has submitted an application to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed the Kromhof Wind Energy Facility (WEF) as part of the Verkykerskop Wind Energy Facility (WEF) Cluster, near Harrismith, in Thabo Mofutsanyana District Municipality and Phumelela Local Municipality, Free State Province.

A Daft Scoping Report (DSR) was submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA EIA Regulations (As amended). The proposed Kromhof Wind Energy Facility (WEF) will have a capacity of up to 300 MW and encompass 7,269 ha, with a buildable area of 150 ha, accommodating up to 55 wind turbines. Each turbine will have a rotor diameter of up to 200 m and a hub height of up to 140 m. The hard standing area per turbine will be up to 0.8 ha, with a foundation area of 0.07 ha and a crane platform/pad of 0.5 ha. Turbine foundations will involve excavations up to 4 m deep, constructed of reinforced concrete and covered with soil after tower erection.

The project will include four 33kV/132kV on-site collector substations (IPP Portion), each up to 2 ha, connected to the turbines by underground 33kV cabling where practical. A construction camp with a concrete batching plant (1 ha), a site office (4 ha), and a laydown area (8 ha) will be established, along with internal roads up to 8 m wide. A 200 MW/800 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), using lithium-ion solid-state batteries and providing 6-8 hours of storage, will be housed in containers covering up to 7 ha. An operation and maintenance (O&M) office of up to 1 ha will also be constructed.

Grid connection will be via an on-site Main Transmission Substation (MTS), the preferred option, or alternatively, a 20 km 132kV power line to an off-site MTS. Substation footprints at both ends of the line will be up to 1 ha, consisting of a 33kV to 132kV collector substation. Double circuit towers will be used for the power line, with a 400 m wide assessment corridor (200 m either side of the centre line).



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Date: Friday, 24 January, 2025

Beyond Heritage has been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EIA process as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

The proposed development is located in an area of predominantly Very High palaeontological sensitivity along with areas of Low and Moderate palaeontological sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. Since the development is located in an area of Very High palaeontological sensitivity a field-based PIA is required.

Kraljevi?, L. 2024. Heritage Scoping Report for the proposed Kromhof Wind Energy Facility, Free State Province.

Heritage resources in the study area consist of structures and ruins older than 60 years, and burial sites. The larger region around Verkykerskop is characterised by Later Iron Age stone walled sites likely an indicator of Batlokwa and Basia occupation. The author recommends that a field-based Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) of the final impact areas.

Interim Comment

The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) notes the submitted Heritage Scoping Report.

The SAHRA DAU requests that an assessment of the impact to heritage resources that complies with section 38(3) of the NHRA as required by section 38(8) of the NHRA must be conducted as part of the EA process. The HIA must include an archaeological component.

The field-based archaeological component of the HIA must be conducted by a qualified archaeologist and must comply with the SAHRA 2007 Minimum Standards: Archaeological and Palaeontological Components of Impact Assessment Reports (see www.asapa.co.za or www.aphp.org.za for a list of qualified archaeologists). The Minimum Standards refer to a Letter of Recommendation for Exemption for further studies should the specialist deem it appropriate. SAHRA reserves the right to insist on a field-based assessment should the Letter of Recommendation not provide ample information to make an informed comment.

Any other heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted, such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.

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Date: Friday, 24 January, 2025

[REDACTED]

Since the development is located in an area of Very High palaeontological sensitivity a field-based PIA is required. The assessment must be undertaken by a qualified palaeontologist and the report must comply with the 2012 Minimum Standards: Palaeontological Components of Heritage Impact Assessments.

Further comments will be issued upon the submission of the draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR), a field-based Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA).

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

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

Stephen van der Heever
Heritage Officer
South African Heritage Resources Agency

[REDACTED]

Natasha Higgitt
Manager: Development Applications Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency



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P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
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ADMIN:

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an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

T: +27 21 462 4502 | F: +27 21 462 4509 | E: info@sahra.org.za
South African Heritage Resources Agency | 111 Harrington Street | Cape Town
P.O. Box 4637 | Cape Town | 8001
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Date: Friday, 24 January, 2025

Interim Comment

In terms of Section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Ashlea Strong
WSP Group Africa
Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
Midrand
1685

Groothoek Wind Power (Pty) Ltd has submitted an application to conduct an Environmental Authorisation (EA) Application for the proposed the Groothoek Wind Energy Facility (WEF) as part of the Verkykerskop Wind Energy Facility (WEF) Cluster, near Harrismith, in Thabo Mofutsanyana District Municipality and Phumelela Local Municipality, Free State Province.

A Draft Scoping Report (DSR) was submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the NEMA EIA Regulations (As amended). The proposed Groothoek Wind Energy Facility (WEF) will have a capacity of up to 300 MW and encompass 6,170 ha, with a buildable area of 150 ha, accommodating up to 55 wind turbines. Each turbine will have a rotor diameter of up to 200 m and a hub height of up to 140 m. The hard standing area per turbine will be up to 0.8 ha, with a foundation area of 0.07 ha and a crane platform/pad of 0.5 ha. Turbine foundations will involve excavations up to 4 m deep, constructed of reinforced concrete and covered with soil after tower erection.

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Grid connection will be via an on-site Main Transmission Substation (MTS), the preferred option, or alternatively, a 20 km 132kV power line to an off-site MTS. Substation footprints at both ends of the line will be up to 1 ha, consisting of a 33kV to 132kV collector substation. Double circuit towers will be used for the power line, with a 400 m wide assessment corridor (200 m either side of the centre line).



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Date: Friday, 24 January, 2025

Beyond Heritage has been appointed to provide heritage specialist input as part of the EIA process as required by section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(3) and 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA).

The proposed development is located in an area of predominantly Very High palaeontological sensitivity along with areas of Low and Moderate palaeontological sensitivity as per the SAHRIS PalaeoSensitivity map. Since the development is located in an area of Very High palaeontological sensitivity a field-based PIA is required.

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Heritage resources in the study area consist of structures and ruins older than 60 years, and burial sites. The larger region around Verkykerskop is characterised by Later Iron Age stone walled sites likely an indicator of Batlokwa and Basia occupation. The author recommends that a field-based Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) of the final impact areas.

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Any other heritage resources as defined in section 3 of the NHRA that may be impacted, such as built structures over 60 years old, sites of cultural significance associated with oral histories, burial grounds and graves, graves of victims of conflict, and cultural landscapes or viewsapes must also be assessed.

**Groothoek Wind Energy Facility (up to 300MW) and associated infrastructure,
located near Verkykerskop in the Free State Province.**



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Department of Arts and Culture

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Further comments will be issued upon the submission of the draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR), a field-based Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and Palaeontological Impact Assessment (PIA).

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

Yours faithfully

Stephen van der Heever
Heritage Officer
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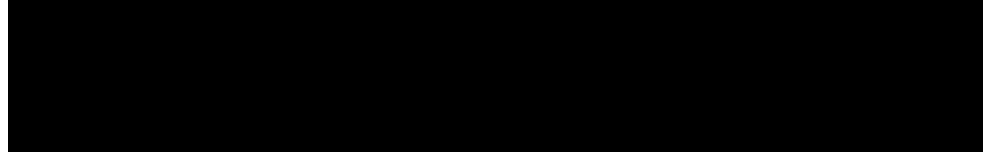
Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.org.za/node/356206>



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, 0002 Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: +27 86 625 1042



Ms Ashlea Strong
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Building 1 Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
MIDRAND
1685

Telephone Number: (011) 361 1392
Email Address: Ashlea.strong@wsp.com

PER E-MAIL

Dear Ms Strong

ACCEPTANCE OF THE FINAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED NORMANDIEN WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, LOCATED NEAR VERKYKERSKOP, IN THE PHUMELELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AND THABO MOFUTSANYANE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Final Scoping Report (FSR) received by the Department on 07 March 2025 and acknowledgment letter of receipt dated 11 March 2025, refer.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included in the final EIAR:

(a) Specific comments

- (i) Please ensure that you attach all documentation required in terms of EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. It came to the Department's attention that no Public Participation Report (as per Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended) was attached with the final Scoping Report dated March 2025.
- (ii) It is evident that a significant part of the Project Area falls within CBA (Irreplaceable and Optimal). These areas are required to meet biodiversity targets for biodiversity pattern (species and ecosystems) and ecological processes. These areas should remain in a natural state that is maintained in good ecological condition and therefore must be excluded from the development footprint.



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The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

MEM 1

- (iii) The generic EMPs for Substations and powerlines must be included in the Site-Specific EMP during the EIA phase.

(b) Listed Activities

- (i) The EIAR must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.
- (ii) The listed activities represented in the EIAR and the application form must be the same and correct.
- (iii) The EIAR must assess the correct sub-listed activity for each listed activity applied for.

(c) Public Participation

- (i) Please ensure the language used to inform potential I&APs in the newspaper advertisement is not only communicated in the language English but should also utilise other dominant languages spoken in the study area. The EAP must ensure that the newspaper medium adequately caters for all potential I&APs in the study area. This should also apply to any site notification boards as well.
- (ii) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIAR. This includes but is not limited to the Department of Water and Sanitation), Department of Mineral Resources and Energy, Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Free State Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, BirdLife South Africa; Endangered Wildlife Trust; South African National Parks; Endangered Wildlife Trust; South African Heritage Resources Agency; South African Civil Aviation Authority; Square Kilometre Array; VulPro; the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment: Directorate Biodiversity and Conservation.
- (iii) Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR and draft EIAR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final EIAR. 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.
- (iv) A Comments and Response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final EIAR. The C&R report must incorporate all comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Appendix 1 of this comments letter. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as "noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.
- (v) Comments from I&APs must not be split and arranged into categories. Comments from each submission must be responded to individually.
- (vi) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- (vii) Minutes and attendance registers (where applicable) of any physical/virtual meetings held by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) with Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and other role players must be included in the final EIAR.

(d) Layout & Sensitivity Maps

- (i) The EIAR must provide coordinate points for the proposed development site and all proposed infrastructure (note that if the site has numerous bend points, at each bend point coordinates must be provided) as well as the start, middle and end point of all linear activities.

- (ii) All preferred turbine positions must be clearly numbered. The turbine position numbers must be consistently used in all maps to be included in the reports and the specialist studies.
- (iii) The EIAR must provide a copy of the final preferred layout map. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g., roads. The layout map must indicate the following:
 - a) A clear indication of the envisioned area for the proposed wind energy facility;
 - b) Position of the wind turbines;
 - c) Powerlines;
 - d) Internal roads;
 - e) All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown area, guard house and control room etc.;
 - f) Substations, transformers, switching stations and inverters;
 - g) Battery Energy Storage System;
 - h) The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected by the facilities and its associated infrastructure;
 - i) Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network;
 - j) All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads; and
 - k) Buildings, including accommodation.
- (iv) Please provide an environmental sensitivity map which indicates the following:
 - a) The location of sensitive environmental features identified on site, e.g. CBAs, protected areas, IBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines, nest and roosting sites, etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure;
 - b) Buffer areas; and
 - c) All “no-go” areas.
- (v) The above layout map must be superimposed (overlain) with the sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring and existing infrastructure.
- (vi) Google maps will not be accepted.

(e) Specialist assessments

- (i) The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference for all the identified specialist studies must include the following:
 - a) A detailed description of the study’s methodology; indication of the locations and descriptions of the development footprint, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisation.
 - b) Provide a detailed description of all limitations to the studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation will not be allowed.
 - c) Please note that the Department considers a ‘no-go’ area, as an area where no development of any infrastructure is allowed; therefore, no development of associated infrastructure including access roads is allowed in the ‘no-go’ areas.
 - d) Should the specialist definition of ‘no-go’ area differ from the Department’s definition; this must be clearly indicated. The specialist must also indicate the ‘no-go’ area’s buffer if applicable.
 - e) **All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternative and recommendations, and must not recommend further studies to be completed post EA.**
 - f) **Bird and bat specialist studies must have comments from Birdlife South Africa and SABAA.**

- g) Should a specialist recommend specific mitigation measures, these must be clearly indicated.
- (ii) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expert advice.
- (iii) It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting in identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. "the Protocols") and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. **Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.**
- (iv) Please also ensure that the EIAR includes the Site Verification Report and Compliance Statements (where applicable) as required by the relevant themes.
- (v) Please note further that the protocols, if applicable, require certain specialists' to be SACNASP registered in the field of expertise of the specialist study being undertaken e.g. An aquatic assessment must be prepared by a specialist registered with SACNASP, with expertise in the field of aquatic sciences. Please ensure that the relevant specialist certificates are attached to the relevant reports.
- (vi) As such, the Specialist Declaration of Interest forms must also indicate the scientific organisation registration/member number and status of registration/membership for each specialist.
- (vii) Please ensure that each specialist study has the correct and same project description and layout to assess.
- (viii) Please include a table that shows the proposed studies and the relevant specialists carrying out the study. In addition, a summary should be included of the specialist's recommendations in terms of the alternatives that are preferred based on the findings of their study.

(f) Cumulative Assessment

- (i) A cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be conducted to indicate the following:
 - a) Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e., hectares of cumulatively transformed land.
 - b) Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist's recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.
 - c) The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
 - d) A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

General

The EIAR must provide the technical details for the proposed facility in a table format as well as their description and/or dimensions. A sample for the minimum information required is listed under Annexure 2 below.

The EAP must provide landowner consent for all farm portions affected by the proposed project i.e., all farm portions where the access road, wind turbines and associated infrastructure are to be located.

A construction and operational phase EMPr that includes mitigation and monitoring measures must be submitted with the final EIAR, including the Generic EMPr for substations.

The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of Regulation 45 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as amended, with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations.

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



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Signed by: Ms Masina Morudu

Designation: Control Environmental Officer: National Integrated Authorisation

Date: 22/04/2025.

Cc

Annexure 1: Format for the comments and response report

Date of comment, format of comment name of organisation/I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
27/01/2016 Email Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment: Prioritised Infrastructure Projects (John Doe)	Please record C&R trail report in this format Please update the contact details of the provincial environmental authority	EAP: (Noted) The C&R trail report has been updated into the desired format, see Appendix K EAP: Details of provincial authority have been updated, see page 16 of the Application form

Annexure 2: Sample of technical details for the proposed facility

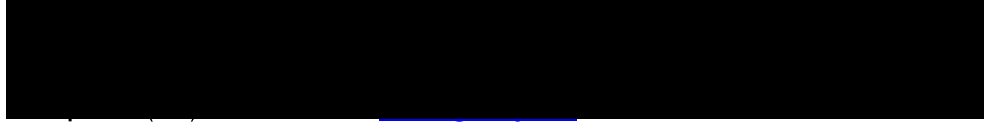
Component	Description / dimensions
Location of the site	
The total area of the site	
Total disturbance footprint	
Maximum generation capacity for facility	
Number of Turbines	
Hub Height from ground level	
Rotor top tip height	
Rotor bottom tip height	
Blade Length	
Rotor Diameter	
Turbine Foundations	
Turbine Hardstands and Laydown Areas	
Capacity of on-site substation and footprint	
Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and footprint	
Cables and Overhead Power line	
Area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas	
Length of internal roads	
Width of internal roads	



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Building 1 Maxwell Office Park
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Waterfall City
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PER E-MAIL

Dear Ms Strong

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Batho pele- putting people first



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MEM 1

- (iii) The generic EMPs for Substations and powerlines must be included in the Site-Specific EMP during the EIA phase.

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- (iii) Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR and draft EIAR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final EIAR. 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.
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- (vii) Minutes and attendance registers (where applicable) of any physical/virtual meetings held by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) with Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and other role players must be included in the final EIAR.

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 - c) Powerlines;
 - d) Internal roads;
 - e) All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown area, guard house and control room etc.;
 - f) Substations, transformers, switching stations and inverters;
 - g) Battery Energy Storage System;
 - h) The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected by the facilities and its associated infrastructure;
 - i) Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network;
 - j) All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads; and
 - k) Buildings, including accommodation.
- (iv) Please provide an environmental sensitivity map which indicates the following:
 - a) The location of sensitive environmental features identified on site, e.g. CBAs, protected areas, IBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines, nest and roosting sites, etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure;
 - b) Buffer areas; and
 - c) All "no-go" areas.
- (v) The above layout map must be superimposed (overlain) with the sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring and existing infrastructure.
- (vi) Google maps will not be accepted.

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- (i) The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference for all the identified specialist studies must include the following:
 - a) A detailed description of the study's methodology; indication of the locations and descriptions of the development footprint, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisation.
 - b) Provide a detailed description of all limitations to the studies. All specialist studies must be conducted in the right season and providing that as a limitation will not be allowed.
 - c) Please note that the Department considers a 'no-go' area, as an area where no development of any infrastructure is allowed; therefore, no development of associated infrastructure including access roads is allowed in the 'no-go' areas.
 - d) Should the specialist definition of 'no-go' area differ from the Department's definition; this must be clearly indicated. The specialist must also indicate the 'no-go' area's buffer if applicable.

- e) **All specialist studies must be final, and provide detailed/practical mitigation measures for the preferred alternative and recommendations, and must not recommend further studies to be completed post EA.**
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- (ii) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expert advice.
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- (iv) Please also ensure that the EIAR includes the Site Verification Report and Compliance Statements (where applicable) as required by the relevant themes.
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- (vi) As such, the Specialist Declaration of Interest forms must also indicate the scientific organisation registration/member number and status of registration/membership for each specialist.
- (vii) Please ensure that each specialist study has the correct and same project description and layout to assess.
- (viii) Please include a table that shows the proposed studies and the relevant specialists carrying out the study. In addition, a summary should be included of the specialist's recommendations in terms of the alternatives that are preferred based on the findings of their study.

(f) Cumulative Assessment

- (i) A cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be conducted to indicate the following:
 - a) Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e., hectares of cumulatively transformed land.
 - b) Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist's recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.
 - c) The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
 - d) A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

General

The EIAR must provide the technical details for the proposed facility in a table format as well as their description and/or dimensions. A sample for the minimum information required is listed under Annexure 2 below.

The EAP must provide landowner consent for all farm portions affected by the proposed project i.e., all farm portions where the access road, wind turbines and associated infrastructure are to be located.

A construction and operational phase EMP that includes mitigation and monitoring measures must be submitted with the final EIAR, including the Generic EMP for substations.

The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of Regulation 45 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as amended, with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations.

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



Dr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

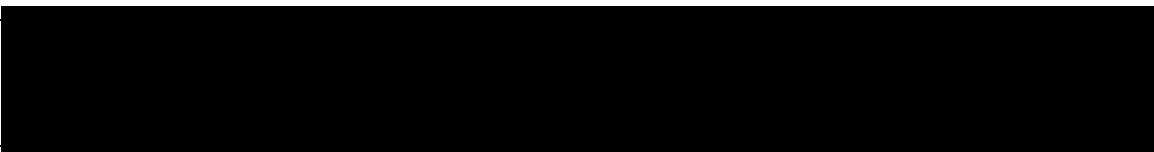
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Signed by: Ms Masina Morudu

Designation: Control Environmental Officer: National Integrated Authorisation

Date: 22/04/2025.

Cc



Annexure 1: Format for the comments and response report

Date of comment, format of comment name of organisation/I&AP	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
27/01/2016 Email Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment: Prioritised Infrastructure Projects (John Doe)	Please record C&R trail report in this format Please update the contact details of the provincial environmental authority	EAP: (Noted) The C&R trail report has been updated into the desired format, see Appendix K EAP: Details of provincial authority have been updated, see page 16 of the Application form

Annexure 2: Sample of technical details for the proposed facility

Component	Description / dimensions
Location of the site	
The total area of the site	
Total disturbance footprint	
Maximum generation capacity for facility	
Number of Turbines	
Hub Height from ground level	
Rotor top tip height	
Rotor bottom tip height	
Blade Length	
Rotor Diameter	
Turbine Foundations	
Turbine Hardstands and Laydown Areas	
Capacity of on-site substation and footprint	
Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and footprint	
Cables and Overhead Power line	
Area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas	
Length of internal roads	
Width of internal roads	



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, 0002 Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: +27 86 625 1042

Ms Ashlea Strong
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Building 1 Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
MIDRAND
1685

Telephone Number:

(011) 361 1392

Email Address:

Ashlea.strong@wsp.com

PER E-MAIL

Dear Ms Strong

ACCEPTANCE OF THE FINAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED KROMHOF WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, LOCATED NEAR VERKYKERSKOP, IN THE PHUMELELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY AND THABO MOFUTSANYANE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE.

The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Final Scoping Report (FSR) received by the Department on 07 March 2025 and acknowledgment letter of receipt dated 11 March 2025, refer.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included in the final EIAR:

(a) Specific comments

- (i) Please ensure that you attach all documentation required in terms of EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. It came to the Department's attention that no Public Participation Report (as per Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended) was attached with the final Scoping Report dated March 2025.
- (ii) It is evident that a significant part of the Project Area falls within CBA (Irreplaceable and Optimal). These areas are required to meet biodiversity targets for biodiversity pattern (species and ecosystems) and ecological processes. These areas should remain in a natural state that is maintained in good ecological condition and therefore must be excluded from the development footprint.



Batho pele- putting people first



The processing of personal information by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment is done lawfully and not excessive to the purpose of processing in compliance with the POPI Act, any codes of conduct issued by the Information Regulator in terms of the POPI Act and / or relevant legislation providing appropriate security safeguards for the processing of personal information of others.

MEM 1

- (iii) The generic EMPs for Substations and powerlines must be included in the Site-Specific EMP during the EIA phase.

(b) Listed Activities

- (i) The EIAR must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.
- (ii) The listed activities represented in the EIAR and the application form must be the same and correct.
- (iii) The EIAR must assess the correct sub-listed activity for each listed activity applied for.

(c) Public Participation

- (i) Please ensure the language used to inform potential I&APs in the newspaper advertisement is not only communicated in the language English but should also utilise other dominant languages spoken in the study area. The EAP must ensure that the newspaper medium adequately caters for all potential I&APs in the study area. This should also apply to any site notification boards as well.
- (ii) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIAR. This includes but is not limited to the Department of Water and Sanitation), Department of Mineral Resources and Energy, Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Free State Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, BirdLife South Africa; Endangered Wildlife Trust; South African National Parks; Endangered Wildlife Trust; South African Heritage Resources Agency; South African Civil Aviation Authority; Square Kilometre Array; VulPro; the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment: Directorate Biodiversity and Conservation.
- (iii) Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR and draft EIAR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final EIAR. 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.
- (iv) A Comments and Response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final EIAR. The C&R report must incorporate all comments for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Appendix 1 of this comments letter. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as "noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&AP's comments.
- (v) Comments from I&APs must not be split and arranged into categories. Comments from each submission must be responded to individually.
- (vi) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
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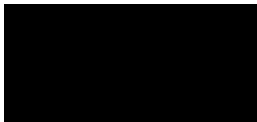
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Yours sincerely



Dr Sabelo Malaza

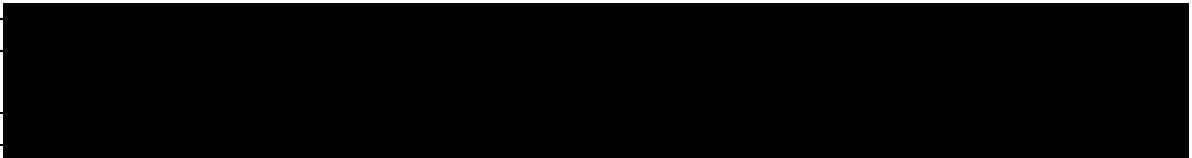
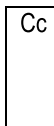
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Signed by: Ms Masina Morudu

Designation: Control Environmental Officer: National Integrated Authorisation

Date: 22/04/2025.



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Rotor bottom tip height	
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Rotor Diameter	
Turbine Foundations	
Turbine Hardstands and Laydown Areas	
Capacity of on-site substation and footprint	
Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and footprint	
Cables and Overhead Power line	
Area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas	
Length of internal roads	
Width of internal roads	

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Tuesday, 13 May 2025 14:37
To: Johan Botes; ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Subject: RE: Registration as I&AP for the three Wind Energy facilities south of Memel, Free State Province

Good day Johan.

Please note that you have been registered on the stakeholder database for the Verkykerskop cluster.

Kind regards,

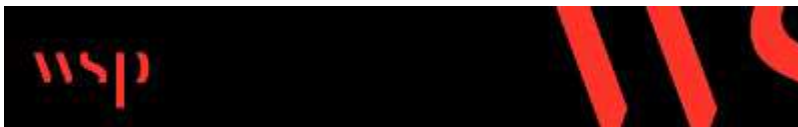
Public Participation Office

T +27 11 254-4800

WSP

Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
1685 South Africa

wsp.com



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WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, Gauteng, 1685, South Africa
Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: J [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 08 May 2025 15:20
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>
Subject: Registration as I&AP for the three Wind Energy facilities south of Memel, Free State Province

Good day

I hereby would like to register and kept posted on the process and decisions going forward in terms of the three Wend Energy Facilities South of Memel. These projects referred to are named:

- Groothoek WEF
- Kromhof Wind WEF
- Normandien WEF

Please let me know if scoping reports were submitted as well as when a decision is expected on the Scoping reports.

Kind regards

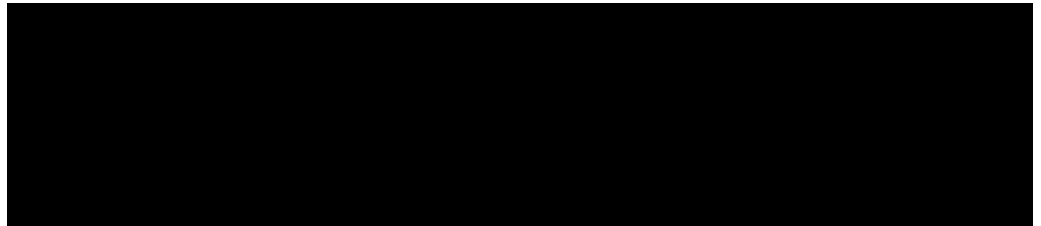


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From:
Sent:
To:
Cc:



Subject: RE: Vultures in the Eastern Free State

Dear Sam,

Thank you for your email. We understand and appreciate BirdLife South Africa's concerns and welcome the opportunity to clarify our position and activities regarding carcass management (CM) and related communications.

1. Clarification on BirdLife South Africa's Position

We acknowledge the concern raised regarding statements made by our landowner liaison team to a landowner in the Memel/ Sneeuwberg area, specifically the impression that BirdLife South Africa supports the removal of vultures or the development of wind farms in the region.

Our understanding is that the landowner liaison team said to a landowner that we are wanting to show BirdLife South Africa (and by default other stakeholders and decision makers), that we may be able to reduce the number of vultures in the proposed wind farm area (i.e. the proposed project area only and not the greater Sneeuwberg/Memel/Vrede/Verkykerskop areas) through the implementation of CM. The landowner liaison team was indirectly referring to BirdLife South Africa's published Cape Vulture Guidelines, particularly the sections which suggest that food removal may be a viable mitigation measure if the mitigation hierarchy has been followed and the mitigation has been tested. As requested, we will contact the landowner to correct any unintended miscommunication or misunderstandings and will share a record of that correspondence with you once complete.

2. Clarification on Carcass Management in the Eastern Free State

We would like to clarify that a two-year baseline avifaunal monitoring programme was completed prior to commencing with any CM activities. This monitoring was conducted by independent, qualified avifaunal specialists, and during this period—and to date—no carcasses have been reported or removed as part of our studies. In fact baseline data collection has exceeded guideline requirements and has been conducted over 14 site visits across a 27 month period.

Following the completion of baseline monitoring we began exploring CM as a potential mitigation to reduce collision risk during project operations. As outlined in your guidelines (Cape Vulture Guidelines, p.17), (own emphasis underlined), ***"If limiting the availability of food on site is proposed as mitigation and is required to reduce collision-risk to acceptable levels a) the mitigation hierarchy must have been exhausted and b) the effectiveness of this approach must be verified during the preliminary avifaunal assessment and impact assessment process"***, we understand that if food limitation is proposed as a mitigation measure, its effectiveness should be verified during the impact assessment process. This is precisely our intention.

Our current efforts are focused on assessing the feasibility and logistics of CM—such as vehicle availability, communication systems, landowner cooperation, and potential relocation or disposal sites. To date:

- One local landowner has been contracted to provide a vehicle for carcass relocation.
- No carcasses have been relocated to date via this vehicle.
- Communication systems (e.g. radios) are still under investigation and not yet operational.
- Carcass monitors have not been appointed.

- Relocation sites and/or supplementary feeding stations are still under review and will require further investigation and consultation.

We strongly refute the assertion that Mulilo is attempting to influence the outcome of the environmental authorisation process by artificially altering baseline conditions. The baseline has already been completed, and the purpose of current activities is to understand whether CM can be a viable operational mitigation measure and how it might be implemented effectively, if required. We also believe that understanding the practicalities of CM at this stage is consistent with the intent of your guidelines. Testing the effectiveness of mitigation strategies during the assessment process allows for more informed decision-making.

3. Ethical and Provincial Considerations

You raise a valid point about the ethical implications of applying CM in a pre-operational context. If BirdLife South Africa's position is that such activities should not occur prior to project approval, we respectfully suggest that this be more explicitly addressed in future guideline updates. Our interpretation of the current guidelines is that testing CM during the impact assessment phase is not only acceptable, but encouraged, provided that the mitigation hierarchy is followed and transparency maintained.

With respect to coordination at the provincial level, we welcome your guidance on the appropriate contacts and processes. Provincial authorities have been registered as I&APs, but we are happy to engage further to ensure alignment.

4. Summary and Next Steps

To summarise:

- We are testing CM as a potential mitigation measure—not to alter baseline data, but to assess operational feasibility and compliance with mitigation hierarchy requirements.
- >2 year avifaunal baseline monitoring has been completed (without any form of planned CM in place).
- We acknowledge the unintended miscommunication regarding BirdLife South Africa's stance and will correct this with the relevant landowner. A record of the correspondence will be shared with you once complete.

As previously indicated, we remain committed to transparency, proper consultation, and an evidence-based impact assessment, which includes ensuring sustainable levels of vulture conservation by means of finding rational, justifiable and reasonable mitigation measures. Mulilo, as a responsible company has and will continue to follow avenues to successfully implement necessary and sustainable mitigation measures to ensure practical ways in which wind energy and vultures can co-exist.

We will continue to consult and be guided by applicable legislative requirements and guidelines such as the Cape Vulture Guidelines. Furthermore, we appreciate your willingness to engage further and welcome the opportunity to discuss these matters in more detail at your convenience.

Kind regards,

Andrew Pearson Pr.Sci.Nat (400423/11)



From:
Sent:
To: Ar
Cc: Lin

[REDACTED]

Subject: vultures in the Eastern Free State

Dear Andrew

It has come to BirdLife South Africa's attention that:

1. A Mulilo representative (specifically Johans van Wyk) has communicated to at least one landowner in the Sneeu Berg area that BirdLife South Africa has agreed that vultures can "be removed" from the area and that wind farms can be constructed.

Please could Mulilo provide evidence to support this claim? At best, this may be a misunderstanding; at worst, it is an inaccurate and misleading reflection of BirdLife South Africa's opinion. We request that Mulilo refrains from making claims about BirdLife South Africa's position on proposed projects. You are, however, welcome to share our guidelines and written comments on projects. We also ask that Mulilo contacts relevant landowners to withdraw or correct this messaging. The landowners are welcome to contact us for further clarification.

2. Mulilo is encouraging landowners in the eastern Free State to remove animal carcasses in an attempt to dissuade vultures from using the area and thereby influence the outcome of applications for environmental authorisation.

Again, we are concerned and this concern was reflected on our comments on the Verkykerskop cluster Scoping Reports. Among other issues, this may artificially alter baseline conditions considered in the environmental impact assessment, resulting in an inaccurate reflection of collision risk. South Africa's Multi-Species Biodiversity Management Plan for Vultures also lists food availability as a secondary threat to Cape and Bearded vultures. While Livestock Carcass Management may be a useful mitigation measure at operational wind farms, the ethics of implementing this strategy in the surrounding landscape of *proposed* facilities are questionable. Any such attempts should be carefully considered and coordinated at a provincial level to avoid unintended cumulative negative impacts, and accurately reflected in the EIA, along with baseline data reflecting the more natural expected conditions. Please provide us with detailed information on Mulilo's strategy in this regard, including who is overseeing the initiative, consultations with relevant authorities, expected outcomes, and how it is intended to influence the avifaunal impact assessment and EIA processes.

We'd welcome the opportunity to discuss our concerns further.

Kind regards
Sam

Samantha Ralston-Paton

[REDACTED]



BirdLife South Africa's Birds and Renewable Energy Project is sponsored by the Lewis Foundation and Investec Corporate and Institutional Banking



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Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Monday, 26 May 2025 19:49
To: Shirley Hlabisa [MTN South Africa]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Subject: RE: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE
Attachments: Verkykerskop_WEF_Clusters.kmz

Good day Shirley

Please see the kmz attached

Kind regards,

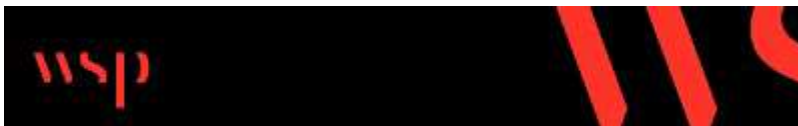
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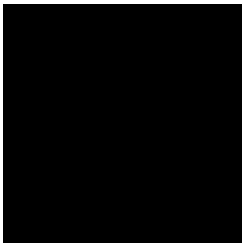
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd, Registered Office: Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, Gauteng, 1685, South Africa
Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 26 May 2025 13:52
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

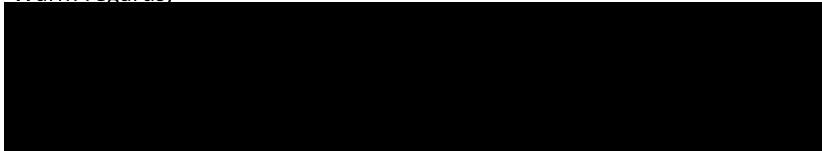
Hi,

Please send a KMZ file.

Thank you.



Warm regards,



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Sensitivity: MTN Internal

From:

Sent: M

To: #Re

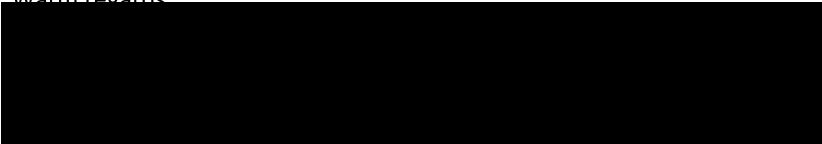
Subject: FW: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Good day

Please see below



Warm regards,



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Sensitivity: MTN Internal

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>

Sent: Monday, 10 March 2025 11:16

Subject: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

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Dear Commenting Authorities,

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

NOTICE IS GIVEN IN TERMS OF:

- Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 982 (as amended) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) (as amended) for submission of various applications for environmental authorisations (EAs) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended).



The proponents outlined in the table below propose to establish a Wind Energy Facility (WEF) cluster, comprising various applications for environmental authorisation, near Verkykerskop in Free State. The proposed authorisations include the following Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes.

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process
Groothoek Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2666)	Up to 300MW Wind Energy Facility (WEF) including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2667)	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Normandien Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2665)	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Farm Names			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 0 of Farm Schoonzicht No.80 • Portion 0 of Farm Groothoek No. 89 • Portion 0 of Farm Kromdraai No. 273 • Portion 0 of Farm Kransbank No.288 • Portion 0 of Farm Kranspunt No.459 • Portion 0 of Farm Van Kope No.1319 • Portion 0 of Farm Leiden No. 2 • Portion 0 of Farm Myn-Burg No. 3 • Portion 0 of Farm Naauw Kloof No. 4 • Portion 0 of Farm Krom Hof No. 530 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 0 of Farm Puntje No. 1240 • Portion 0 and 1 of Farm Aanfield No. 253 • Portion 0, 1, 2 and 3 of Farm Ox Hoek No. 98 • Portion 0 of Farm Christina No. 90 • Portion 0 of Farm Mooiplaats No. 391 • Portion 0 of Farm Brak Krans No. 554 • Portion 0 of Farm Rooi Koppen No. 600 • Portion 0 of Farm Goedgedacht No. 724 • Portion 0 of Farm Kruger Wens No.1062 • Portion 0 of Farm Scotland No. 1238 • Portion 0 of Farm Lusthof No.1321 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remaining Extent of the Farm Welgelukt No. 1416 • Portion 0 of Farm Inzicht No. 1428 • Portion 0 of Farm Rooibeesberg No. 14898 • Portion 1 of Farm Johanna No. 1395 • Portion 1 and Remainder of Farm Bull Hoek No. 329 • Portion 1 of Farm Goede Hoop No. 982 • Portion 2, 3, 4, 5 and Remainder of Farm Driekoppen No. 485 • Remaining extent of Farm Johanna No. 1395 • Portion 0 of Farm Markgraaff's Rest No. 478 	

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) by Mulilo Energy Holdings (Pty) Ltd to manage the S&EIR processes. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the proposed projects are requested to forward their full contact details to the EAP at the details provided below. Registered stakeholders will be forwarded all future correspondence and notified individually of additional opportunities to participate in the processes.

FINAL SCOPING REPORT

The Final Scoping Report (FSR) will be made available from WSP on request and/or can be downloaded using the links below:

Name of Public Place	Address	Name of Public Place	Address	FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:	Or scan the QR code
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents	WSP Data Free Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd; PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; Tel: 011 254 4800; Fax: 086 582 1561 E-mail: pp@wsp.com	
OneDrive Link	 Verkykerskop - Final Scoping Reports				

Protection of Personal Information: WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an interested and affected party (I&AP) for purposes of enabling your registration as an I&AP and storing of your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP will use these details to contact you about other relevant projects in the future. WSP will always process your personal information in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. You are entitled to exercise your rights as a data subject and let us know if you wish to be deregistered as an I & AP or if you no longer want your contact details to be included on our database

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards,

Public Participation Office

T +27 11 254-4800

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKl

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 20 June 2025 11:18
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Subject: RE: 41106427 - Verkykerskop

Thank you very much for the confirmation.

Will you please be so kind to share with me the Scoping approvals received from the competent authority.

Thank you in advance.

Kind regards



Johan Botes



From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>
Sent: Friday, 20 June 2025 11:04
To: Johan Botes [REDACTED]
Subject: 41106427 - Verkykerskop

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EXTERNAL MAIL

Good day Johan,

Our call this morning refers.

I can confirm that the Normandien, Kromhof and Groothoek (the Verkykerskop Cluster) scoping reports have been accepted.

Kind regards,

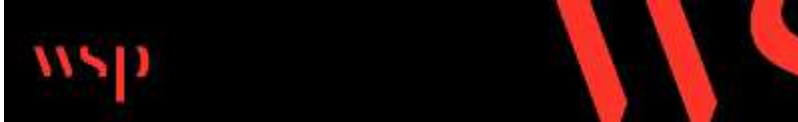
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Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, 0002 Tel: +27 12 399 9000 Fax: +27 86 625 1042

Attn: Ashlea Strong
WSP

Telephone Number: 011 254-4800
Email Address: PP@wsp.com

PER E-MAIL

COMMENTS ON THE FINAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, LOCATED NEAR VERKYKERSKOP IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the reports.

After reviewing the Final Scoping Report, Department has the following comments to be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Report:

- The Optimised layout must be adjusted to accommodate the specialist recommendations during the EIA phase.
- The Species Environmental Assessment Guideline (SANBI, 2021) must be applied to assess the Site Ecological Importance (SEI) of proposed site. Based on the outcomes of the SEI determination, areas within the PAOI that possess a 'Very High' SEI denotes that avoidance mitigation is the only appropriate option for these areas and no unplanned/authorised destructive development activities should be considered.
- Please note that according to the Free State Biodiversity Plan (2024), no development is supported in any CBA areas and that the proposed project should ensure that requirements of the National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act (Act 10 of 2004) are adhered to.
- It must be noted that survey timing and duration, have a strong influence on the quality of data collected and the level of detail and accuracy. It is also important to consider and ensure that surveys are conducted at the most appropriate time and scale as different resources have different requirements. Therefore, it is required that Vegetation surveys for biodiversity study be undertaken during the summer season, which is beginning of November to the end of April, reason being that most of the natural vegetation will still be in good condition. Furthermore, the Red and Orange List plant species (botanical) surveys must be undertaken during the flowering season. These will allow early identification and evaluation of potential biodiversity impacts that may constitute fatal flaws or significant biodiversity related issues.
- The Environmental Impact Assessment report must comply with all the requirements as outlined in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) guideline for renewable energy projects and the



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COMMENTS ON THE FINAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY, LOCATED NEAR VERKYKERSKOP IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE

Best Practice Guideline for Birds & Wind Energy for assessing and monitoring the impact of solar energy facilities on birds in Southern Africa.

In conclusion, the Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA for review and

P [REDACTED] submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email; [REDACTED] for the attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

Mr Seoka Lekota

Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation

Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment

Date: 10/04/2025



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