



Mulilo Renewable Project Developments (Pty)
Ltd

VERKYKERSKOP WEF CLUSTER

Consolidated Stakeholder Engagement Report

VOLUME 2 OF 2





Mulilo Renewable Project Developments (Pty) Ltd

VERKYKERSKOP WEF CLUSTER

Consolidated Stakeholder Engagement Report

TYPE OF DOCUMENT (VERSION) CONFIDENTIAL

PROJECT NO. 41106427

DATE: MARCH 2025

WSP

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

Phone: +27 11 254 4800

WSP.com

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Thursday, 30 January 2025 17:32
To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act RSKOP
Subject: WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Thank you. The notification has been shared with them.

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
Midrand, 1685
P.O. Box 6001
Halfway House
1685

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From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Sent: Monday, 27 January 2025 11:02
To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.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 forward your application to SANRAL Eastern Region jurisdiction.

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as this falls under their

Kind regards

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Thursday, 30 January 2025 17:34
To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Cc:
Subject: RE: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

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Thank you for your comment.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

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F+ 27 86 582 1561



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From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent:

To:

Cc:

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

Greetings Applicant

Kindly note that the received application is in Verkykerskop in Free State which outside our KwaZulu-Natal province.

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Sent:
To:
Subject: FW: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Sent:
To:
Subject: Fw: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

From: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.PP@wsp.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 8:24:58 AM
Subject: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

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 Basic Assessment (BA) and Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) processes.


Proponent	Project	Technology	Process
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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
Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
	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
	Up to 132kV Powerline, substation, and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA
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 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: Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd; PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685;	Or scan the QR code
Harrismith Library	27 Murray St, Harrismith	Zamani Library	Eeufes St, Memel - 058 913 8300		
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/		

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

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,



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F+ 27 86 582 1561



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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

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Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Thursday, 30 January 2025 17:41
To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Cc:
Subject: RE: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

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cluded in the project database.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



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Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
Midrand, 1685
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Subject: RE: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Dear Sir/Madam

DDFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation 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@ddfe.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota



Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act



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

Sent: Wednesday, 22 January 2025 08:22

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:

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	Up to 132kV Powerline, substation, and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA
	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR

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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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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	Eufoes St, Memel - 058 913 8300	Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd;	
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/	PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; Tel: 011 254 4800; Fax: 086 582 1561 E-mail: gld.pp@wsp.com
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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

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F+ 27 86 582 1561



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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From:

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent:

To:

Energy

Cc:

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

Importance:

High

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It seems like some communication was not send through, apologies for this

The developer must send the request to [#Renewable Energy Applications \[MTN SA\]](#) who will then forward it to the relevant parties for approval.

[@#Renewable Energy Applications \[MTN SA\]](#), please see if we ca expedite a response.



Warm regards,

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Sensitivity: MTN Internal

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

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Thanks

Warm regards,



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Sensitivity: MTN Internal

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

Sent: Tuesday, 04 February 2025 10:42

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

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

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Please see the project kmz attached as requested.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

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F+ 27 86 582 1561



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

[@gld.PP@wsp.com](mailto:gld.PP@wsp.com) Good day, Further to the below, please provide more information wrt the site build plans in order for our planners to identify potential network impacts.

Thanks



Warm regards,

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

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Sensitivity: MTN Internal

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

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

Importance: High

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It would be great if we can have the plans, you are also mentioning.

It would make it easier to identify the locations of the said developments.

Warm regards

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

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Warm regards,

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Sensitivity: MTN Internal

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

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I'm sending this as I'm not sure if any of our towers will be affected in the below.

Warm regards,



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Sensitivity: MTN Internal

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

Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 8:22 AM

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 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
Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
	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
	Up to 132kV Powerline, substation, and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA
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 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	Eeufes 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
Midrand, 1685
P.O. Box 6001
Halfway House
1685

wsp.com

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-LAEhHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: [Redacted]
Sent: [Redacted]
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Subject: RE: Wind farm near Groothoek (Verkykerskop/ Normandien)

Thank you so much!

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>
Sent: [Redacted]
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Wind farm near Groothoek (Verkykerskop/ Normandien)

Good day,

Kindly note that you have been included on the project 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
Midrand, 1685
P.O. Box 6001
Halfway House
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[Redacted]

Sent: Monday, 03 February 2025 14:31
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>
Subject: Wind farm near Groothoek (Verkykerskop/ Normandien)

Good day,

Can you please add us to the interested and affected parties register regarding the Wind farm planned for the Verkykerskop/ Normandien area.

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

We live on a farm halfway between Groothoek and Verkykerskop. Approximately 2km from the T junction with the Normandien road, opposite west of Groothoek where your notices were put up.. Please refer to the attachments – photographs of the notices.

Kind Regards

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Tuesday, 11 February 2025 07:53
To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Subject: WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE RSKOP

Good day Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Kindly note that the notification is to inform the public as well as commenting authorities on an environmental application taking place as per the information in the email.

Kind regards,

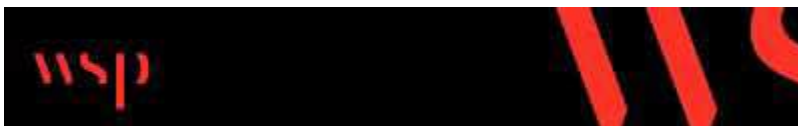
Public Participation Office

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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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Sent: Wednesday, 22 January 2025 10:18
To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.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

Greetings

Kindly find apologies from Phumelela Local Municipality due to the short notice.

Regards

On Wed, 22 Jan 2025 at 08:22, ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.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 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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Normandien Wind Power (Pty) Ltd	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
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Farm Names			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 0 of Farm Schoonzicht No.80 • Portion 0 of Farm Groothoek No. 89 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 0 of Farm Puntje No. 1240 • Portion 0 and 1 of Farm Aanfield No. 253 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remaining Extent of the Farm Welgelukt No. 1416 • Portion 0 of Farm Inzicht No. 1428 	


<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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, 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"> • 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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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;	
VKB Verkykerskop	Between Harrismith & Memel on R722 Road - 058 625 0130	Newcastle Library	66 Scott St, Newcastle CBD, Newcastle -		

			034 328 7620	PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; Tel: 011 254 4800; Fax: 086 582 1561 E-mail: gld.pp@wsp.com	
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

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We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



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Building 1, Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City

Midrand, 1685
P.O. Box 6001
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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKl

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<http://www.phumelela.gov.za>



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Maharaj, Jashmika

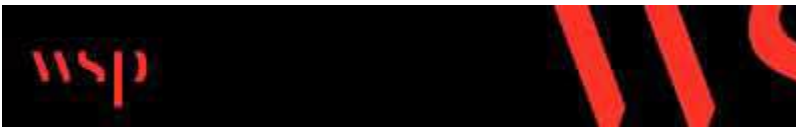
From: Maharaj, Jashmika
Sent: Monday, 24 February 2025 14:28
To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Cc:
Subject: RE: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports" with you
Attachments: Verkykerskop_CBA Maps.pdf

Dear [Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act]

Please refer to the Terrestrial biodiversity scoping report – Appendix G.6 for the CBA maps. I have attached the pdfs for ease of reference.

Kind regards,
Jashmika Maharaj
Senior Consultant

T +27 11 254 4874
M +27 81 401-8337



[Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act]

From: [Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act]
Sent: Monday, 24 February 2025 14:16
To: Maharaj, Jashmika <jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com>
Subject: Re: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports" with you

Don't you have a CBA map and other maps of the cluster?

[Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act]

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act



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

From: Maharaj, Jashmika <jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com>

Sent: Monday, 24 February 2025 12:51

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Subject: RE: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports" with you

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Thank you for your email. Please note that the commenting period for this proposed project ended on 21 February'25. However, we look forward to receiving the Department's comments.

Please find the link below to the OneDrive folder with the project information. I have given you access to the folder.

[Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports](#)

Alternatively, here is the link to the website with a link to download the reports in pdf: [Environmental Reports for Public Review | WSP](#)

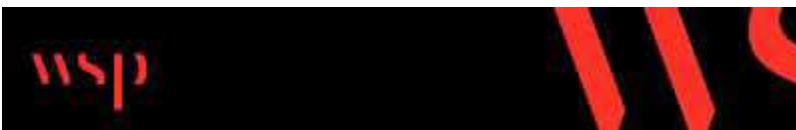
Kind regards,

Jashmika Maharaj

Senior Consultant

T +27 11 254 4874

M +27 81 401-8337



Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent: Monday, 24 February 2025 12:57

To: Maharaj, Jashmika <jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com>

Subject: Re: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports" with you

Good day,

Can you please share the reports in a PDF format or weshare

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act



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

From: Maharaj, Jashmika <jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com>

Sent: Wednesday, 29 January 2025 10:34

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Subject: RE: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports" with you

Good Day,

Thank you for your response. Please find the kml file for the development footprints/application site attached.

Kind regards,



Jashmika Maharaj
Senior Consultant

T +27 11 254 4874
M +27 81 401-8337

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Subject: RE: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports" with you

Dear Sir/Madam

DDFE Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation to review and comment on the project mentioned on the subject line. Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Mrs M Rabothata and Ms Lindiwe Dlamini (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@ddfe.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota



Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act



From: Maharaj, Jashmika <jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com>

Sent: Wednesday, 22 January 2025 10:36

To: BC Admin <bcadmin@ddfe.gov.za>

Subject: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports" with you



Maharaj, Jashmika shared a folder with you

Dear Commenting Authorities,

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE
Please see link to the projects documents.

Kind regards,
WSP: Public Participation Office



[Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports](#)



This link only works for the direct recipients of this message.

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Mathulwe, Tumelo

From:

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent:

Tuesday, 07 January 2023 13:28

To:

Strong, Ashlea

Subject:

Verkykerskop Wind Farms I&AP

Hi Ashlea,

It was good to meet you last year at the Green Hydrogen Womens event. I hope you're doing well?

Please may you add me as an I&AP for the Normandien, Groothoek and Kromhof Wind Farms and send a link to the Scoping reports? Thanks!

Kind regards,

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act



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Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: [Redacted]
Sent: [Redacted]
To: [Redacted]
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports" with you

<
Good morning Jashmika,

Thank you, links and files received. SANParks will provide comments on or before the 22nd of February 2025.

Kind regards,

Letsie

[Redacted]
Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

tural heritage

From: Maharaj, Jashmika <jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com>
Sent: 22 January 2025 09:26
To: [Redacted]
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports" with you
Importance: High

[Redacted]
Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Thank you, I appreciate your response.

[Redacted]
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of the 30-day public participation
Wind Energy Cluster.

I have also included the links to the project documentation below for your convenience.

WSP Website: <https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents>

WSP Data Free Website: <https://wsp-engage.com/>

OneDrive:  [Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports](#)

We look forward to receiving your comments.

Kind regards,



Jashmika Maharaj

Senior Consultant

T +27 11 254-4874

M +27 81 401-8337



WSP in Africa

Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
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<

Dear Jashmika

Thank you for sharing the information with SANParks. Could you kindly share the link with my colleague Letsie Coetzee, she deals with matters of this nature in the northern region. Her email address is as follows:

letsie.coetzee@sanparks.org

I have also copied her in this email.

Kind regards

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From: Maharaj, Jashmika <jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com>

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Subject: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports" with you



Maharaj, Jashmika shared a folder with you

Dear Commenting Authorities,

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE
Please see link to the projects documents.

Kind regards,
WSP: Public Participation Office



[Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports](#)



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Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: [Redacted]
Sent: [Redacted]
To: [Redacted]
Cc: Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports" with you

<

Thank you kindly for sharing the link with Letsie.

Kind regards

[Redacted]



From: Maharaj, Jashmika <jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com>

Sent: 23 January 2025 09:36

[Redacted]

Subject: RE: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports" with you

Importance: High

[Redacted]

[Redacted] of the 30-day public participation
commenting period (22/01/2025 to 22/02/2025) for the Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster.

I have also included the links to the project documentation below for your convenience.

WSP Website: <https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents>

WSP Data Free Website: <https://wsp-engage.com/>

OneDrive:  [Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports](#)

We look forward to receiving your comments.

Kind regards,



Jashmika Maharaj
Senior Consultant

T +27 11 254-4874
M +27 81 401-8337



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Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

I have also copied her in this email.

Kind regards

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act



From: Maharaj, Jashmika <jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com>

Sent: 22 January 2025 10:37

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports" with you



Maharaj, Jashmika shared a folder with you

Dear Commenting Authorities,

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE
Please see link to the projects documents.

Kind regards,
WSP: Public Participation Office



[Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports](#)



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Mathulwe, Tumelo

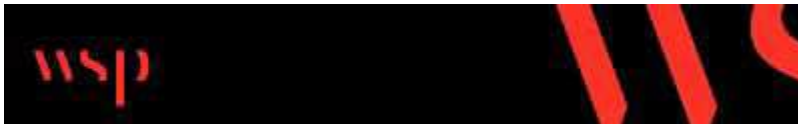
From: Strong, Ashlea
Sent: Wednesday, 12 February 2025 08:21
To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Cc:
Subject: RE: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

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Thank you for your email and your request for a meeting.
We have noted your request and will arrange such a meeting during the course of the EIA Phase.

Kind regards

Ashlea Strong
Principal Associate
T +27 11 361-1392



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From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Sent: Wednesday, 22 January 2025 12:55
To: ZA - GLD - PPOffice <gld.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

Morning all and compliments of the season thank you for your email may I please request that you arrange a date of a meeting with us normandien residents at horse shoe guest house hall or anywhere around normandien or normandien auction sale yard so we get a chance to participate meaningfully in your project and get a chance to hear from you how your project will address energy crisis in normandien I believe that would be EIA meeting

Thank you

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

On Wed, 22 Jan 2025, 08:22 ZA - GLD - PPOffice, <gld.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 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
Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
	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
	Up to 132kV Powerline, substation, and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA


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 	<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 	<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

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 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 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 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

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We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



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Waterfall City
Midrand, 1685
P.O. Box 6001
Halfway House
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Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Monday, 17 February 2025 11:33
To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Subject: VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE
Attachments: Verkykerskop Draft EIA Layout (New Turbine Footprint).kmz

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Please see the project kmz attached.

Kind regards,

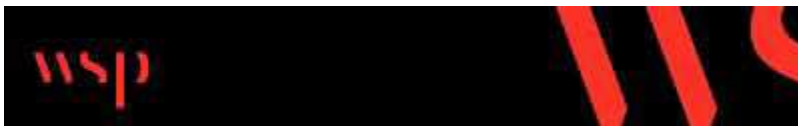
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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

Hi

Please can you provide a KMZ for the sites listed below

- Groothoek Wind Power (Pty) Ltd
- Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

- Normandien Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

Kind regards

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

Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 8:22 AM

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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VKB Verkykerskop	Between Harrismith & Memel on R722 Road - 058 625 0130	Newcastle Library	66 Scott St, Newcastle CBD, Newcastle - 034 328 7620	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
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents	WSP Data Free Website	https://wsp-engage.com/	



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Fax: 086 582 1561;

E-mail: gld.pp@wsp.com

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Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

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F+ 27 86 582 1561



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Waterfall City
Midrand, 1685
P.O. Box 6001
Halfway House
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Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Monday, 17 February 2025 11:42
To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Cc:
Subject: RE: REMINDER: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Thank you for the update. Ms Ramunenyiwa has been removed from the project database.

Kind regards,

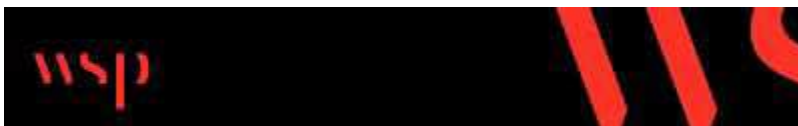
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

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

Good day

Kindly remove Ms. Petunia Ramunenyiwa from the mailing list as she is not responsible for the function, please note that your email has been forwarded to our Provincial office in the Free State for their attention.

Regards

Sibongile Makaringe
Chief directorate: IGR Sect Trans & PC
188 Francis Baard Street
Pretoria
0001

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required by the POPI Act

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

Sent: Monday, 17 February 2025 10:56

Subject: REMINDER: 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 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
Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
	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
	Up to 132kV Powerline, substation, and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA
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• Remaining Extent of the Farm Welgelukt No. 1416• Portion 0 of Farm Inzicht No. 1428• Portion 0 of Farm Rooibeesberg No. 14898	

<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"> • 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 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	Euufes St, Memel - 058 913 8300	Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd;	
VKB Verkyerskop	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/	PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; Tel: 011 254 4800; Fax: 086 582 1561 E-mail: gld.pp@wsp.com
OneDrive Link	<input type="checkbox"/> Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports			



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: 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
Midrand, 1685
P.O. Box 6001
Halfway House
1685

[wsp.com](https://www.wsp.com)

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Monday, 17 February 2025 11:46
To: Conny Dubula [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 Draft EIA Layout (New Turbine Footprint).kmz

Good day Conny

WSP has previously shared the project kmz. It has been attached for ease of reference.

Please advise if this will suffice.

Kind regards,

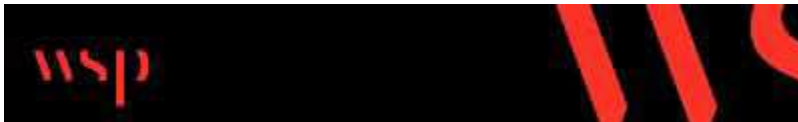
Public Participation Office

T +27 11 254-4800

WSP

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

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: Conny Dubula [MTN South Africa] Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent: Thursday, 13 February 2025 14:45

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

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

Hi

Please provide us a polygon indication the area affected.

Warm regards,

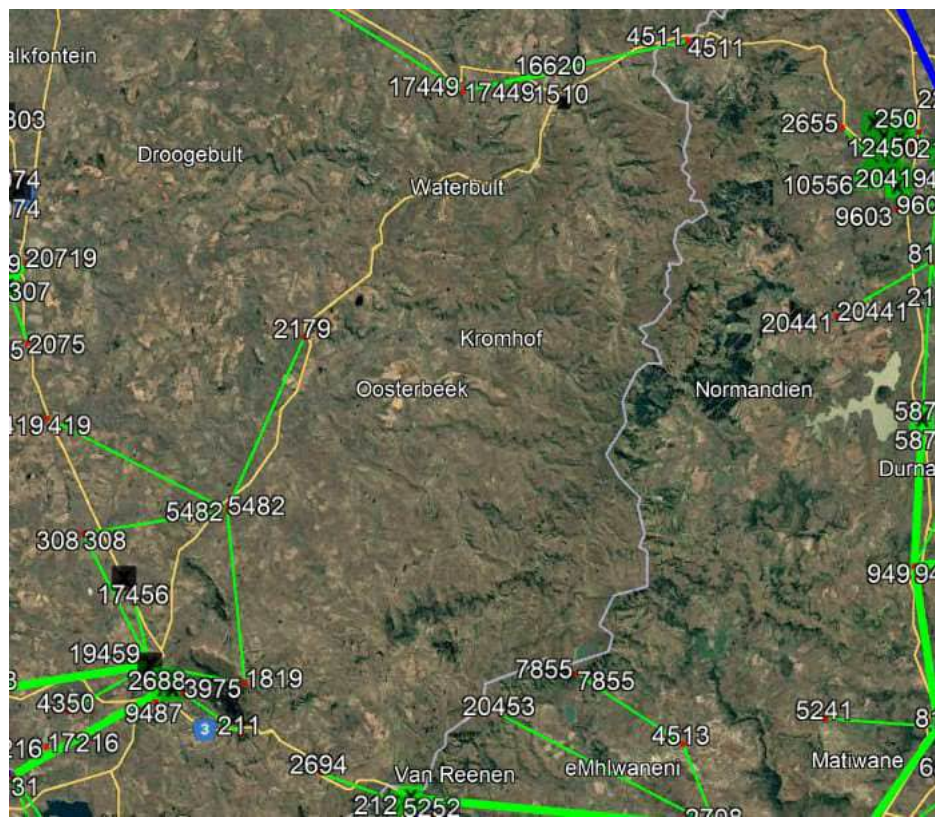
Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sensitivity: MTN Internal

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Hi Hendry,

Please provide us a polygon indication the area affected.



2



Engineer - Transmission Planning

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Sensitivity: MTN Internal

From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent:

To: Conny

<[Wouter](#)

Cc: De

South

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

Hi Conny

This windfarm is in KZN REGION

THANK YOU



Warm regards,

Hendry Karstel

Specialist - Transmission Planning

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Sensitivity: MTN Internal

From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent: V

To: Wouter

Cc: Hendry

<[Dennis](#)

Subject: FW: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY

CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Importance: High

Good day

Please see attached renewable energy application for processing, thank you.



Warm regards,

Conny Dubula

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Office

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

Importance: High

Hi Christopher

It seems like some communication was not send through, apologies for this

The developer must send the request to [#Renewable Energy Applications \[MTN SA\]](#) who will then forward it to the relevant parties for approval.

[@#Renewable Energy Applications \[MTN SA\]](#), please see if we ca expedite a response.



Warm regards,

Hendré Kruger

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From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent:

To: ZA

Cc: Er

<Tess

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

@Hendré Kruger [MTN South Africa] Hi, Please advise further.

Thanks



Warm regards,

Christopher Dobson

Supervisor - Property Supervisor

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

Sent: Tuesday, 21 February 2018 10:25:13
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To:

Cc:

<Er

<PP

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

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Good day Christopher

Please see the project kmz attached as requested.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



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Magwa Crescent West
Waterfall City
Midrand, 1685
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From: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Sent:

To:

<E

<g

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

@gld.PP@wsp.com Good day, Further to the below, please provide more information wrt the site build plans in order for our planners to identify potential network impacts.

Thanks



Warm regards,
Christopher Dobson

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From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent: W

To: Ch

Africa

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

Importance: High

Hi Christopher.

It would be great if we can have the plans, you are also mentioning.

It would make it easier to identify the locations of the said developments.



Warm regards,

Hendré Kruger

Manager - BTS Implementation

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Sensitivity: MTN Internal

From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent: W

To: Ern

<Tessa.

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

These entities usually send us their build plans and request input from our regional planning teams + @Tessa Smith [MTN South Africa] / @Hendré Kruger [MTN South Africa] Hi, Please see below fya.



Warm regards,

Christopher Dobson

Supervisor - Property Supervisor

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Sensitivity: MTN Internal

From: [Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act]

Sent: V

To: Chr

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

HI Christopher

I'm sending this as I'm not sure if any of our towers will be affected in the below.



Warm regards,

Erna Frade

Manager - CXO Administration and Communication

[Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act]

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Sensitivity: MTN Internal

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

Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 8:22 AM

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 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:

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<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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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	Euufes St, Memel - 058 913 8300	Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd;	
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/	PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; Tel: 011 254 4800; Fax: 086 582 1561 E-mail: gld.pp@wsp.com
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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

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We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



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Waterfall City
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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Sent: Friday, 21 February 2025 15:44
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Cc: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Subject: Re: REMINDER: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Good afternoon,

You are most welcome!

Kind Regards 

Pule Joseph Lenong (PJL)
Office of the Provincial Head
Department of Water and Sanitation
C/o Eastburger and Charlotte Maxeke Streets
Bloem Plaza Building, Second Floor
BLOEMFONTEIN
9301

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Report Water transgressions and leakages - Call 0800 200 200

“WATER IS LIFE – SANITATION IS DIGNITY”



“Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better” Maya Angelou



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

Sent: Friday, February 21, 2025 15:42

To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Cc: [REDACTED] .za>;
Letlo [REDACTED] >;
Mar [REDACTED]

Let's		>
Man		

Mar

Subject: RE: REMINDER: 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](#)

Good day Pule,

The notification will be forwarded.

Thank you

Kind regards,

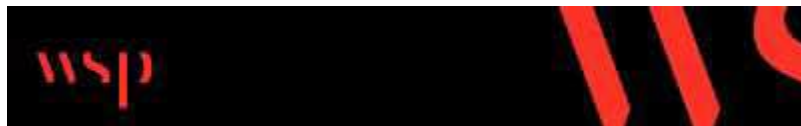
Public Participation Office

T +27 11 254-4800

WSP

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

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent: F

To: ZA

Cc: Rar

Letloer

Mama

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

Good afternoon, WSP,

The project is within the Gauteng Provincial Operations.

Kindly send all the information to: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Kind Regards 

Pule Joseph Lenong (PJL)
Office of the Provincial Head
Department of Water and Sanitation
C/o Eastburger and Charlotte Maxeke Streets
Bloem Plaza Building, Second Floor
BLOEMFONTEIN
9301

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Report Water transgressions and leakages - Call 0800 200 200

“WATER IS LIFE – SANITATION IS DIGNITY”



“Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better” Maya Angelou



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

Sent: Friday, February 21, 2025 15:07

To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Cc: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Letlo: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Subject: RE: REMINDER: 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](#)

Good day Pule,

The project is located in the Vaal water management area.

Kind regards,

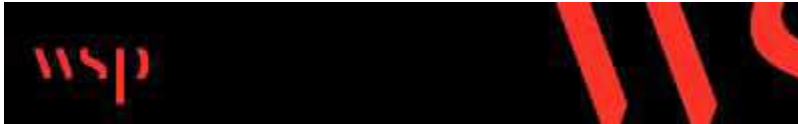
Public Participation Office

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1685 South Africa

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent: Monday, 17 February 2025 11:54

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

Cc: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Letl

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

Good morning, Colleagues,

PPO, on behalf of the Provincial Head of the Department of Water and Sanitation: Free State, I hereby would like to acknowledge receipt your mail with appreciation.

I have been trying to contact your office but to no avail. Can you kindly check with me as to what town in the Free State does Verkykerskop falls. Chances are that if it falls within the Eastern Free State (Harrismith/QwaQwa), it belongs to Gauteng Regional Office. Kindly confirm that for me so that I can send this to the correct officials!

Kind Regards A hand-drawn smiley face with two eyes and a wide, open-mouthed smile, drawn in blue ink.

Pule Joseph Lenong (PJL)
Office of the Provincial Head
Department of Water and Sanitation
C/o Eastburger and Charlotte Maxeke Streets
Bloem Plaza Building, Second Floor
BLOEMFONTEIN
9301

Personal Details have
been redacted as
required by the POPI
Act

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Report Water transgressions and leakages - Call 0800 200 200

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“Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better” Maya Angelou



From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent: Monday, February 17, 2025 11:20

To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Cc:

Zod

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

Dear Colleagues

Kindly find the email below for your attention and forwarding to the relevant office.

Regards

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent: Monday, February 17, 2025 11:03 AM

To: Makaringe Sibongile <MakaringeS@dws.gov.za>

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

Dear Sbo

Please forward to the relevant office

Thanks in advance

Petunia Ramunenyiwa

CD: IGR, Sector Transformation and Provincial Governance

178 Francis Baard Street

PRETORIA 0001

377 Ndinaye 3rd Floor

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Ramunenyiwap@dws.gov.za

“Water is Life - Sanitation is Dignity”

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

Sent: Monday, 17 February 2025 10:56

Subject: REMINDER: 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 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
Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
	Up to 132kV Powerline, substation, and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA
	Up to 300MW WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR

Normandien Wind Power (Pty) Ltd	Up to 132kV Powerline, substation, and associated infrastructure	Transmission Line and Substation	BA
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 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: 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	Or scan the QR code
Harrismith Library	27 Murray St, Harrismith	Zamani Library	Eeufees St, Memel - 058 913 8300		
VKB Verkyerskop	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/		
OneDrive Link	 Verkyerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports				

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: 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
Midrand, 1685
P.O. Box 6001
Halfway House
1685

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Tuesday, 18 February 2025 09:37
To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Cc: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Subject: RE: REMINDER: 41106427 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE

Good day,

Received, thank you.

Kind regards,

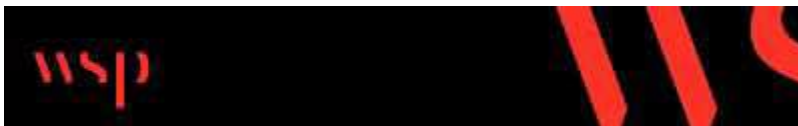
Public Participation Office

T +27 11 254-4800

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent: Tuesday, 18 February 2025 08:19

To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Cc: Wemmer@nw.gov.za, Danleezw@dws.gov.za

Subject: RE: REMINDER: 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 d Ntili, I would like to acknowledge receipt of your email.

Mr Dywili

Below, please receive email for your information and attention.

Kind Regards,
Zodwa Kumalo



FS Region : Office of the Provincial Head

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

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

Sent: Monday, 17 February 2025 10:56

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

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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/	PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; Tel: 011 254 4800; Fax: 086 582 1561 E-mail: gld.pp@wsp.com
OneDrive Link	<input type="checkbox"/> Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports			



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: pp@wsp.com

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We look forward to your participation in this process.

Kind regards,



Public Participation Office

T+ 27 11 361 1300

F+ 27 86 582 1561



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Waterfall City
Midrand, 1685
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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Sent: Tuesday, 18 February 2025 13:29
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Cc: EWT EIA Applications
Subject: RE: Register as an interested and affected party for wind energy facilities in the northeastern Free State

Thank you for your email

Regards
Bradley

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 11:02
To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act m>
Cc: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Subject: RE: Register as an interested and affected party for wind energy facilities in the northeastern Free State

Good day Bradley,

We note your email registering as a stakeholder on the project.

The initial announcement of the project was shared with multiple email addresses from the EWT, including the one you provided on 22 January 2025, namely:

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Kindly note that we are currently in the Scoping phase of the project, and you will receive all further communication related to the project.

The notification sent out can be seen below:

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:

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<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 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 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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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	Eeufes St, Memel - 058 913 8300	Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd;	
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/	PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; Tel: 011 254 4800; Fax: 086 582 1561 E-mail: gld.pp@wsp.com
OneDrive Link	<input type="checkbox"/> Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports			

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: 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 11 254-4800

WSP

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

wsp.com



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From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent: N

To: ZA

Cc: EW

Subject: RE: Register as an interested and affected party for wind energy facilities in the northeastern Free State

I heard today from someone working in the Free State that the comment period for this application will **end** on 21 February 2024.

Is there any particular reason why I have **not** received any emails notifying me about this comment period? I sent an email on 22 January 2024 requesting to be an interested and affected party.

I have also **not** received a single document and have therefore not been given the opportunity to comment on this application.

According to the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (2014), the procedures for notifying interested and affected parties during the environmental impact assessment process is a critical part of the process. These are discussed in Chapter 6 and this further provides details about the fact that the person conducting the public participation process **must** give interested and affected parties the opportunity to comment. Section 56 (1) of the EIA Regulations says the following:

“A registered interested and affected party is entitled to comment, in writing, on all written submissions, including draft reports made to the competent authority by the applicant or the EAP managing an application, and to bring to the attention of the competent authority any issues which that party believes may be of significance to the consideration of the application”

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

Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2025 15:02

To: Bradley Gibbons <bradleyg@ewt.org>; ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>

Cc: EWT EIA Applications <eia@ewt.org>

Subject: RE: Register as an interested and affected party for wind energy facilities in the northeastern Free State

Good day Bradley

Kindly note that you have been added to the project stakeholder database.

We look forward to your participation in the 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
Midrand, 1685
P.O. Box 6001
Halfway House
1685

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From: Personal Details have been redacted as

Sent: required by the POPI Act

To: ZA

Cc: EW

Subject: Register as an interested and affected party for wind energy facilities in the northeastern Free State

I would like to register as an interested and affected party for the following wind energy facilities in the northeastern Free State:

Groothoek Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

Kromhof Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

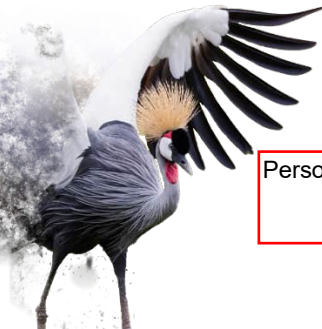
Normandien Wind Power (Pty) Ltd

My email address is: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI and the email address for the Endangered Wildlife Trust is eia@ewt.org

**DON'T
LET THEM
DISAPPEAR**



In
partnership
with



Bradley Gibbons
Senior Field Officer, African Crane
Conservation Programme
Sungazer Working Group Chairperson

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777 NPO number: 015-502 NPO IT number: IT 6247

Physical Address: 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

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Maharaj, Jashmika

From: Maharaj, Jashmika
Sent: Friday, 21 February 2025 14:43
To: Letsie Coetzee; Strong, Ashlea
Cc: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Subject: RE: SANParks comments: "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports"

Dear Letsie,

The comments are well received, thank you.

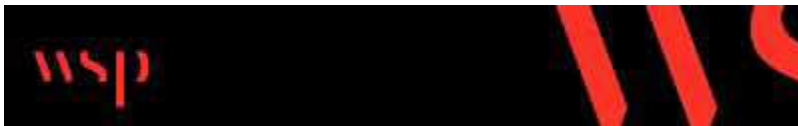
Kind regards,

Jashmika Maharaj

Senior Consultant

T +27 11 254 4874

M +27 81 401-8337



From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Sent: Friday, 21 February 2025 14:36
To: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Cc: Maharaj, Jashmika <jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com>; ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>
Subject: SANParks comments: "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports"

<

Dear Ms Strong,

Please find attached SANParks comments on the above-mentioned proposed development.

Kind regards,

Letsie

Ms. Letsie Coetzee

EIA C Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

South

Mapu

North

e-mail

From:
Sent:
To: Ma
Cc: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>

Subject: RE: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports" with you

Good morning Jashmika,

Thank you, links and files received. SANParks will provide comments on or before the 22nd of February 2025.

Kind regards,

Letsie

Ms. Letsie Coetzee

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

From: Maharaj, Jashmika <jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com>

Sent: 23 January 2025 09:36

To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Cc:

Subject: RE: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports" with you

Importance: High

Dear Esther,

Thank you, I appreciate your response.

@Letsie Coetzee please find the attached notification email in respect of the 30-day public participation commenting period (22/01/2025 to 22/02/2025) for the Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster.

I have also included the links to the project documentation below for your convenience.

WSP Website: <https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents>

WSP Data Free Website: <https://wsp-engage.com/>

OneDrive:  [Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports](#)

We look forward to receiving your comments.

Kind regards,



Jashmika Maharaj
Senior Consultant

T +27 11 254-4874
M +27 81 401-8337



WSP in Africa
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent: T

To: Ma

Subject: RE: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports" with you

<

Dear Jashmika

Thank you for sharing the information with SANParks. Could you kindly share the link with my colleague Letsie Coetzee, she deals with matters of this nature in the northern region. Her email address is as follows:

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

I have also copied her in this email.

Kind regards

Esther

Esther Howard

Environmental Officer (Acting SCM Practitioner)

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From: Maharaj, Jashmika <jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com>

Sent: 22 January 2025 10:37

To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Subject: Maharaj, Jashmika shared the folder "Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports" with you



Maharaj, Jashmika shared a folder with you

Dear Commenting Authorities,

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER, COMPRISING VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES, FREE STATE
Please see link to the projects documents.

Kind regards,
WSP: Public Participation Office



[Verkykerskop Wind Energy Cluster - Draft Scoping Reports](#)



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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbkI

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AGULHAS NATIONAL PARK

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Attachments sent from
25-02-21 14:36:46 are
you may not present this message
jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com please

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Golden Gate Highlands National Park

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

e-mail: ashlea.strong@wsp.com

cc: gld.pp@wsp.com

Ref: GGHNP/16/1/4-2025.01

21 February 2025

Dear Ms Strong,

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

South African National Parks (SANParks) was made aware of the draft Scoping Reports (dSR) for the Verkykerskop Wind Energy Facility (WEF) Cluster (comprising of the Groothoek, Kromhof and Normandien WEFs) on the 22nd of January 2025, by means of emails to various SANParks Officials.

SANParks is the appointed Management Authority of the Golden Gate Highlands National Park (GGHNP), as per the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act 57 of 2003 (NEM: PAA), as amended.

Among other functions conferred on the Organisation by the said Act, SANParks must manage all existing national parks and any kind of protected area listed in section 9, assigned to it by the Minister in terms of Chapter 4 and section 92, in accordance with the Act and any specific environmental management Act referred to in the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA), as amended.

The proposed site for the Verkykerskop WEF is situated in excess of 85 kilometres (km) from the eastern boundary of the GGHNP and therefore no direct impacts due to the proposed development are foreseen on the Park or its buffer zone.

After analysis of the applicable dSRs and associated reports, there are no pertinent matters of concern which SANParks wish to raise, pending the outcomes of the dSR stakeholder participation process and further review of the draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report, when available. However, below follows some points for consideration.

|ai-|ais/richtersveld transfrontier

addo elephant

agulhas

augrabies falls

bontebok

camdeboo

golden gate highlands

karoo

kgalagadi transfrontier

knysna

kruger

mapungubwe

marakele

meerkat

mokala

mountain zebra

namaqua

table mountain

tankwa karoo

tsitsikamma

west coast

wilderness

National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy (2018)

It is noted from the dSR that the proposed development area falls within National Protected Area Expansion Strategy (NPAES) areas. As per the dSR, it is agreed that the NPAES areas were identified through a systematic biodiversity planning process; present the best opportunities for meeting the ecosystem-specific protected area targets set in the NPAES; were designed with strong emphasis on climate change resilience and requirements for protecting freshwater ecosystems; and that these areas should not be seen as future boundaries of protected areas. However, the importance of these areas in South Africa's *30 by 30 target* (as per the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework) should not be overlooked.

SANParks do not currently have any NPAES focus areas for the Verkykerskop WEF study area. However, it is expected that the relevant conservation entities for the Free State and KwaZulu-Natal Provinces, due to the proximity of the proposed development areas (especially Normandien) to the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial border, will provide informed feedback on their respective views for the proposed development areas.

Clarification required

Various documents (e.g. 21 *Appendix H_DFFE Pre-App Meeting Minutes*; 18 *Appendix G.9_Traffic Assessment_Normandien*; 16 *Appendix G.7_Avifauna Assessment_Normandien*; 06 *Appendix C_Stakeholder Engagement Report_Public*) refers to the **Markgraaff WEF**. However, no dSR and associated specialist studies for this area was included in the documents as supplied on the 22nd of January 2025.

Please clarify whether Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) should still expect a further dSR for a fourth WEF area.

General

Please kindly review the dSRs and associated documents for reference to the *Mpumalanga Protected Area Expansion – 20 Year Plan*, which seems to be an incorrect reference for the applicable projects.

A review of all documents, to ensure correct reference is made to the applicable proposed project (whether the name or activities), is furthermore advised. As per the attached screenshots below, some incorrect referencing was noted.

Although it is to be expected that the same format will be used for the dSRs and/or specialist studies, incorrect names and/or activities in the applicable studies cause I&APs to doubt whether the relevant document does indeed reflect on the specific impacts at hand, for any one of the proposed developments.

9.5.3.2 Schedule and Deliverables

Scoping fieldwork and site set-up have been completed. Scoping fieldwork involved an eight-day reconnaissance survey from 18-25 July 2022 (two days per WEF). Building on the findings of the scoping survey, the first year of pre-construction monitoring has been completed. Due to the scale of the project, there are six surveys in a year as opposed to the conventional four. Each survey for the VWC is run over two 22-day periods (which translates to ca. 5-6 days for Groothoek WEF per survey). Based on the two-year monitoring requirement, fieldwork sessions are were thus planned to end in September / October late 2024, assuming no unforeseen catastrophic events or pandemic restrictions. The scoping reports are set to be submitted in January 2025. Then, allowing for data processing and reporting, the first draft submission deadline for all four WEF reports (one for each WEF) would be the end of November 2024 April 2025 (with progress reports after each sampling season). The following plan and scope of work is anticipated.

For the Groothoek WEF project, compliance with the EPs is not a requirement during the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process under South African regulations. However, alignment with the EPs will be required before financial close to meet the internal standards set by Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP), as the majority shareholder in Mulilo.

NORMANDIEN WIND ENERGY FARM, LOCATED NEAR VERKYKERSKOP IN THE FREE STATE

PROVINCE

Project No.: 41106427

Normandien Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd

PUBLIC | WSP

JANUARY 2025


Page 63 of 237

Aquatic Biodiversity				
Water Quality deterioration	Vegetation clearing and soil disturbances may result in bare land which increase surface runoff, soil erosion and subsequently, the amount contaminants from the construction site as well as adjacent agricultural activities entering the associated watercourses.	✓		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit vegetation removal to the infrastructure and mining footprint area only. Where removed or damaged, vegetation areas (riparian or aquatic related) should be revegetated as soon as possible.

Examples of incorrect WEF study area names or identified activities found in the dSRs.

SANParks reserves the right to revise initial comments, if additional information should become available.

Sincerely Yours,



Ms. Letsie Coetzee

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Sent: Monday, 24 February 2025 04:17
To: Strong, Ashlea
Cc: Maharaj, Jashmika; Mathulwe, Tumelo
Subject: Re: FW: VulPro Comment: Verkykerskop WEF Cluster DSRs
Attachments: VulProVerkykerskopWEFsComment_Feb2025.pdf

Dear Andrea

My sincere apologies, I did not see your email on Wednesday indicating as such.

Please find attached

Kind Regards,
Meagan Bromfield

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

On Sun, Feb 23, 2025 at 10:03 AM Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com> wrote:

Hi Meagan

Please could you send us your comments for the Verkykerskop WEF cluster.. the ones received (as attached are for the Dwaalboom Project – which is not one of ours.

If you could send us the correct comments ASAP that would be great..

Thanks so much

Kind regards

Ashlea Strong
Principal Associate
T +27 11 361-1392
M +27 82 786-7819



From: Strong, Ashlea

Sent: Wednesday, 19 February 2025 09:19

To: [Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act]

Cc: Maharaj, Jashmika <jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com>; Mathulwe, Tumelo <tumelo.mathulwe@wsp.com>

Subject: RE: VulPro Comment: Verkykerskop WEF Cluster DSRs

Hi Megan

On second look it seems that you sent us the Dwaalboom Comments – not your comments for Verkykerskop WEF cluster..

If you could send us the correct comments that would be great..

Thanks so much

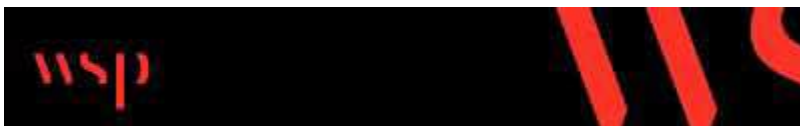
Kind regards

Ashlea Strong

Principal Associate

T +27 11 361-1392

M +27 82 786-7819



From: N [Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act]
Sent: Wednesday, 19 February 2025 09:00
To: Maharaj, Jashmika <jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com>; Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: VulPro Comment: Verkykerskop WEF Cluster DSRs

Dear Jashmika and Ashlea

WSP

Please find attached, VulPro's Comments on the Draft Scoping Reports for the Verkykerskop WEF Cluster that includes Groothoek WEF, Kromhof WEF and Normandien WEF north of Harrismith, Free State Province.

Please acknowledge that comments for the following projects have been received.

Kind regards,

Meagan Bromfield

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

WSP

Building 1, Maxwell Office Park

Magwa Crescent West,

Waterfall City

Midrand,

1685

By email: Jashmika.Maharaj@wsp.com and Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com

19 February 2025

Dear Jashmika Maharaj and Ashlea Strong

COMMENT: DRAFT SCOPING REPORTS (DSR) FOR THE VERKYKERSKOP WIND ENERGY FACILITIES CLUSTER (DFFE Reference Nos: unknown)

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Scoping Reports (DSR) for the Verkykerskop Wind Energy Facilities (WEFs) Cluster (Groothoek WEF, Kromhof WEF and Normandien WEF), located north of Harrismith in the Thabo Mofutsanyane District Municipality and Phumelela Local Municipality, Free State Province, South Africa. Our comments apply to all facilities.

VulPro's vulture tracking data, which was partially incorporated into the avifaunal assessment, supports the specialists' findings regarding the high presence of Cape Vultures (*Gyps coprotheres*). Our data confirms the presence of four (4) Cape Vulture cliff roosts and the Nelson's Kop colony, as documented by the avifaunal specialists. Additionally, VulPro's tracking data identifies another roost(s) (not included in the assessment) approximately 50 km southwest of the proposed development near Manyenyeza Peak and the Love Alive Lions Sanctuary (Rensburgskop). The data also corroborates the avifaunal specialists' observations that Cape Vultures frequently use Eskom transmission lines cutting through the project area as overnight roosting sites. Furthermore, VulPro's tracking data indicates that White-backed Vultures (*Gyps africanus*) are occasional visitors to the area. Although VulPro does not have tracking data for Bearded Vultures (*Gypaetus barbatus*), we are aware of their presence and breeding activity in the region. While VulPro has extensive Cape Vulture tracking information, it is important to note that our data reflects regional philopatry, which may result in certain areas—such as the Eastern Free State—being underrepresented.

VulPro met with Mulilo and avifaunal specialists from The Biodiversity Company on 24 October 2024 to briefly discuss these findings. During this meeting, VulPro expressed serious concerns about the impact these WEFs will have on vultures. Additionally, VulPro highlighted the ongoing vulture

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mortalities at operational WEFs within the Cookhouse REDZ, where vulture-specific mitigation measures—particularly vulture food management programmes—have failed to prevent fatalities.

VulPro acknowledges the stated efforts in developing and prioritising a 'Vulture and Raptor Action Management Plan', which is intended to be informed, in part, by the Multi-species Biodiversity Management Plan for Vultures in South Africa. This initiative's strategies for vultures should extend beyond managing food availability to encompass the broader ecological and behavioural factors influencing vulture movement. It must account for other critical attractants, including water sources, roosting sites, and key landscape features that vultures rely on for lift while soaring. Without addressing these factors comprehensively, the plan fails to reduce collision risks to the critical threshold—near zero—for vulture fatalities.

The Verkykerskop WEF Cluster will cumulatively comprise up to 170 turbines across approximately 19,506 ha—a vast area that will effectively be neutralised as a safe foraging habitat for vultures and other birds. As a mitigation measure, the DSR proposes a vulture food management programme, relocating available food to designated feeding sites further from the turbines. However, unlike in the Cookhouse REDZ—where such measures could theoretically be implemented due to the presence of only the Agieskloof Cliff Roost north of the developments, this site lies between multiple vulture roosts and, as noted by avifaunal specialists, falls within a movement corridor between the Northwest and KwaZulu-Natal provinces. Given these limitations and the ongoing failures observed in similar programmes, VulPro is doubtful that such a measure can be effectively implemented in high-risk areas such as this. Furthermore, the DSR references a contingency mitigation budget to address significant mortality events through '*habitat alteration*', yet it is unclear what this entails. We strongly oppose any form of habitat alteration that compromises vulture foraging behaviour under the guise of mitigation, as such actions prioritise development over conservation. Similarly, VulPro does not condone the practice of biodiversity offsetting in areas of high avifaunal sensitivity, as offsets cannot adequately compensate for the direct and cumulative risks posed by WEF developments.

Global bird conservation experts agree that the most effective way to reduce bird mortality from wind energy is to site turbines away from areas of high bird activity. In areas of high sensitivity, where risks are particularly pronounced, mitigation measures cannot fully address these threats. The Cape Vulture, a regionally endangered species, legally requires the highest level of protection. Based on our experience with Mulilo—both in this project and in others within the Stormberg REDZ—we have serious reservations about the developer's true commitment to vulture conservation. We remain concerned that the consultation process is being treated as a procedural formality rather than as a genuinely inclusive and transparent engagement with informed and experienced stakeholders.



Given the high sensitivity of this area for Cape Vultures and Bearded Vultures, we maintain that any proposed mitigation measures are unlikely to reduce the risk to medium or low levels. Therefore, VulPro strongly objects to the Verkykerskop WEF Cluster.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Meagan Bromfield

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Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Monday, 24 February 2025 09:55
To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Cc: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Subject: RE: 3224 IWS concerns re. the impact on avifauna from the proposed Verkykerskop cluster of WEFs

Good day Caroline

Thank you for the comments received.

Kind regards,

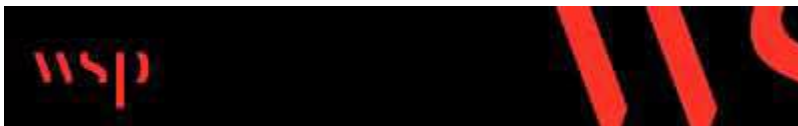
Public Participation Office

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1685 South Africa

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Sent: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Cc: Jarvis Swane <domin@wsp.com>
Subject: 3224 IWS concerns re. the impact on avifauna from the proposed Verkykerskop cluster of WEFs
Importance: High

Good day WSP

Attached please find a letter stating IWS' concerns regarding the impact on avifauna from the proposed Groothoek, Kromhof and Normandien wind farms comprising the Verkykerskop project cluster.

Please kindly confirm receipt hereof; thanks.

Kind regards
Caroline

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Inkululeko Wildlife Services (Pty) Ltd



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21 February 2025

To whom it may concern

IMPACT ON AVIFAUNA FROM THE PROPOSED GROOTHOEK, KROMHOF, AND NORMANDIEN WIND FARMS NEAR MEMEL IN THE FREE STATE

Having undertaken a number of field surveys as the appointed bat specialist company for the proposed Verkykerskop wind energy facility (WEF) cluster, having carefully reviewed the Avifaunal Scoping Reports for the proposed Groothoek, Kromhof, and Normandien WEFs, and having worked at 10 operational wind farms in South Africa since 2014, Inkululeko Wildlife Services (IWS) can only conclude that each of the three WEFs comprising the proposed Verkykerskop WEF cluster are fatally flawed from a bird impact perspective.

Specific points of concern, upon which this conclusion is based, include the following:

- **The clearly documented local high diversity and high activity (including breeding activity, and foraging/commuting activity within turbine rotor sweep height) of various highly threatened, endemic, and/or High-risk bird species** – as further supported by IWS' independent observations which include:
 - Most significantly, the observation of an estimated **200 Cape Vultures** at 28,04783 S, 29,52242 E within the Cluster. During IWS site visits, vultures were observed utilising a variety of habitats and flying in and out of rotor sweep whilst flying above ridges, between ridges, and down from ridges into the central valleys.
 - More than 25 Cape Vultures were observed near Biggs' Farm at 28,04455 S, 29,54404 E, soaring above the ridge, utilising updraughts/thermals, and moving continually within turbine rotor sweep height.
 - A Secretarybird at 27,97152 S, 29,57472 E.
 - Two Blue Cranes at 27,97845 S, 29,47735 E, among other locations. Blue Crane were observed utilising the various wetland ecosystems, and also sections of agricultural land in the study area.
 - Lanner Falcon at 27,951201 S, 29,603619 E, flying down from the ridges across the valleys and onto the adjacent ridges. This species is a known predator of doves/pigeons and game birds, which were observed in large numbers in local agricultural fields. With a potential reduction in Lanner Falcon, there may be a reduction in the ecosystem services provided by these, resulting in increased damage to crops.
 - Southern Bald Ibis were seen scattered throughout the study area at various locations.
 - Grey Crowned Crane were observed on a few occasions near wetlands or in agricultural fields.
 - A flock of four Denham's Bustard was observed utilising similar habitat to the cranes.
 - Martial Eagle was seen near Mount Pelan Auction, soaring in turbine rotor sweep height whilst using updraughts along the ridges.
 - Two Black Harrier were observed on the R35 outside Memel, suggesting that the area is suitable at least for foraging, but also likely breeding by this species.

- The probable destruction, degradation, and fragmentation of threatened grassland and seasonal and permanent wetlands representing **Critical Biodiversity Areas 1 and 2, and Ecological Support Areas 1 and 2.**
- The probable destruction, disturbance and/or displacement of avifauna that are representative of the various **Important Bird Areas, Key Biodiversity Areas, Protected Areas,** and other areas that are currently flagged under the **National Protected Area Expansion Strategy** within the region.
- **The lack of long-term studies from South Africa confirming that implemented bird fatality mitigation measures are adequate in terms of minimizing impacts on avifauna to Low or Insignificant levels.**

Given this, **the proposed wind farms are unlikely to meet IFC Performance 6 Standards,** since PS6 could be violated by destruction or degradation of Critical Habitat and destruction, disturbance, or displacement of certain avifaunal Species of Conservation Concern such as Botha's Lark.

Should development of one or more of these proposed WEFs be approved, **this will set a terrible precedent for development of WEFs within areas of South Africa of highest biodiversity conservation importance.** Indeed, on what grounds could potential development of wind farms in similarly conservation important areas such as the St Lucia Isimangaliso World Heritage site, the Kruger National Park, or Table Mountain be prohibited?

Approval of these projects will be a confirmation from authorities that short-term economic profits outweigh the value of preserving irreplaceable natural heritage in South Africa.

If one or more of these WEF projects is approved, what exactly would have been the purpose or value of:

- The guidance on birds and wind energy in South Africa such as by Jenkins *et al.* 2015, Simmons *et al.* 2020, and particularly Pfeiffer and Ralston-Paton 2018?
- The global and regional IUCN Red List Assessments for avifauna in South Africa?
- Pertinent conservation efforts of NGOs such as VulPro and EWT?
- The Free State Conservation Plan (C-Plan)?
- The National Environmental Screening Tool?
- Key Biodiversity and Important Bird Areas in the region?
- Formal and informal Protected Areas in the region?
- The National Protected Area Expansion Strategy?
- National legislation including NEMA, NEMBA, NEMPA, and more.
- International guidance such as IFC PS 6?

IWS can confirm, from the results of monitoring the efficacy of different bird fatality mitigation measures at several WEFs in South Africa, that:

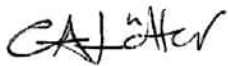
- **Observer-led shutdown is not sufficiently effective at preventing or minimizing priority bird fatalities** when compromised by factors such as inclement weather, landowner issues, disease outbreaks, and bird observer issues to name a few.
- **Acoustic bird deterrents are not sufficiently effective at preventing or minimizing priority bird fatalities** when these birds are engaged with or distracted by e.g. social or reproductive activities or behaviour.
- **Carrion removal can be onerous and ineffective** especially when large areas with difficult terrain need to be patrolled often during inclement weather, and when landowners are not in support of large animal carcass searching and swift removal on their properties.

- **Blade painting has not yet been proven to be effective for Cape Vultures and many of the other avian Species of Conservation Concern that occur in the Verkykerskop WEF Cluster.**

Should mitigation measures be implemented at the proposed WEFs, and should these happen to be highly effective (which is unlikely based on all available evidence to date), **has consideration been given to:**

- **Possible displacement of certain avian Species of Conservation Concern** from the study region, and the potential impact of this at a regional, national, or global scale?
- **The economic impact on each WEF of rigorous avifaunal impact mitigation?** What if turbines must be regularly shutdown during the day to mitigate priority bird fatalities, and what if turbine curtailment must also be applied to mitigate bat fatalities at night? What if numerous IdentifFlight, BioSeco, Biodiv SafeWind, or similar systems must be purchased, monitored, and maintained throughout the life of each WEF?
- **Appropriate offsets** for residual impacts of these projects on threatened avifauna and the habitats and other resources that these depend on – has this been adequately considered? Will sufficient financial provision be made to offset every fatality of every threatened bird species throughout the life of each WEF?

We trust that these comments will be given due consideration by the applicable EAP, developer, local landowners, and all authorities.



Dr Caroline Lötter, Pr. Nat. Sci.



Dr Jarryd Alexander

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Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Monday, 24 February 2025 09:58
To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Cc: E
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

T +27 11 254-4800

WSP

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

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Sent: F
To: ZA
Cc: EW
Gareth
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

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0175
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.

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act



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

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Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Monday, 24 February 2025 09:59
To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Cc:
Subject: RE: Response to the Normandien Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd application

Good day Bradley,

Thank you for your comments.

Kind regards,

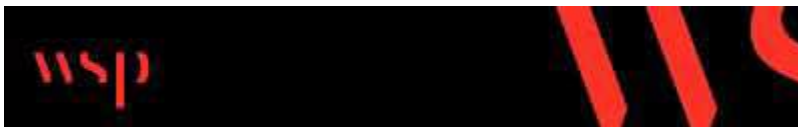
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Sent: F
To: ZA
Cc: EW
Gareth
Subject: Response to the Normandien Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd application

Dear Sir/Madam

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

Regards
Bradley

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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.

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.

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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

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Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Mathulwe, Tumelo

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice
Sent: Monday, 24 February 2025 09:59
To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Cc:
Subject: RE: Response to the Groothoek Wind Energy Farm (Pty) Ltd application

Good day Bradley,

Thank you for your comments.

Kind regards,

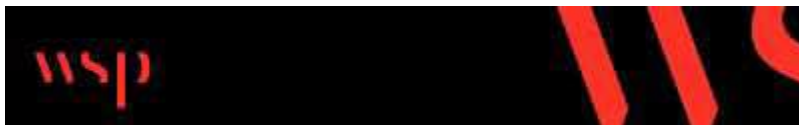
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Sent: F
To: ZA
Cc: EW
Gareth
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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Bradley Gibbons

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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

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.

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

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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.

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

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

From:

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent:

To:

Cc:

pm;

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

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

To God be the Glory!!!

From:
Sent:
To:
Cc:

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

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.

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

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

To God be the Glory!!!

From:

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent:

To:

Cc:

n;
com;

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.

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

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

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

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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



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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.
- (v) It is further brought to your attention that 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, 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.
- (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 also ensure that the final SR includes the Site Verification Report as required by the relevant environmental themes and assessments.
- (viii) Please note further that the protocols, if applicable, require certain specialists' to be SACNASP registered. Please ensure that the relevant specialist certificates are attached to the relevant reports.

(d) Cumulative Assessment

- (i) Should there be any other similar projects within a 30km radius of the proposed development site, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined 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.

(e) Public Participation Process

- (i) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- (ii) The proposed development site is within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) and within the seven statutorily protected areas. The most significant of which being the Upper Wilge Protected Environment championed by BirdLifeSA. Comments must be obtained from this Department's Biodiversity Conservation Section. The contact details are as follows:
 - a) Biodiversity Conservation Directorate
Attention: Mr. Seoka Lekota
Email: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
 - b) Protected Areas Directorate
Attention: Mr. Seoka Lekota
Email: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
- (iii) Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR from registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed and included in the final SR.
- (iv) Copies of original comments received from I&APs and organs of state, which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are submitted to the Department with the final SR.
- (v) Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final SR. This must indicate that this draft SR has been subjected to 30 days public participation process, stating the start and end date of the PPP. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- (vi) All issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR from I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final SR, including comments from this Department, and must be incorporated into the Comments and Response Report (CRR).
- (vii) The CRR report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in *Annexure 1* of this comments letter.
- (viii) Comments from I&APs must not be split and arranged into categories. Comments from each submission must be responded to individually.
- (ix) 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 an I&AP's comments.
- (x) The attendance register and minutes of any 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 SR.
- (xi) Provide photo evidence of on-site notices, including the names of landmarks and/or GPS coordinates (in degrees, minutes, and seconds) of their placements.
- (xii) Please submit a full page of the newspaper(s) containing the advertisement, ensuring that the information in the advert is legible and that the name of the newspaper and date are visible.

General

You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that:

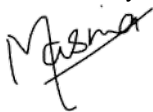
“If S&EIR must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 44 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority a scoping report which has been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority”

You are further reminded that the final SR to be submitted to this Department must comply with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of Scoping reports in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

Further 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 timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7).

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

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Annexure 1

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



forestry, fisheries & the environment

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

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Ms Ashlea Strong
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Waterfall City
MIDRAND
1685

Telephone Number : +27 11 361 1392

Email Address : Ashlea.strong@wsp.com

PER E-MAIL

Dear Ms Strong

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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 Groothoek 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



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- (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.
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General

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Yours sincerely



Dr Sabelo Malaza

(Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act)

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Annexure 1

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forestry, fisheries & the environment

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2667

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Email Address : Ashlea.strong@wsp.com

PER E-MAIL

Dear Ms Strong

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Batho pele- putting people first



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- (vi) Google maps will not be accepted.

(c) Specialist Assessments

- (i) All Specialist Declaration of Interest forms must be of the the proposed Kromhof 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.
- (v) It is further brought to your attention that 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, 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.
- (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 also ensure that the final SR includes the Site Verification Report as required by the relevant environmental themes and assessments.
- (viii) Please note further that the protocols, if applicable, require certain specialists' to be SACNASP registered. Please ensure that the relevant specialist certificates are attached to the relevant reports.

(d) Cumulative Assessment

- (i) Should there be any other similar projects within a 30km radius of the proposed development site, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined 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.

(e) Public Participation Process

- (i) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.
- (ii) The proposed development site is within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) and within the seven statutorily protected areas. The most significant of which being the Upper Wilge Protected Environment championed by BirdLifeSA. Comments must be obtained from this Department's Biodiversity Conservation Section. The contact details are as follows:
 - a) Biodiversity Conservation Directorate
Attention: Mr. Seoka Lekota
Email: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
 - b) Protected Areas Directorate
Attention: Mr. Seoka Lekota
Email: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
- (iii) Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR from registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed and included in the final SR.
- (iv) Copies of original comments received from I&APs and organs of state, which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are submitted to the Department with the final SR.
- (v) Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final SR. This must indicate that this draft SR has been subjected to 30 days public participation process, stating the start and end date of the PPP. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.
- (vi) All issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft SR from I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final SR, including comments from this Department, and must be incorporated into the Comments and Response Report (CRR).
- (vii) The CRR report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in *Annexure 1* of this comments letter.
- (viii) Comments from I&APs must not be split and arranged into categories. Comments from each submission must be responded to individually.
- (ix) 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 an I&AP's comments.
- (x) The attendance register and minutes of any 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 SR.
- (xi) Provide photo evidence of on-site notices, including the names of landmarks and/or GPS coordinates (in degrees, minutes, and seconds) of their placements.
- (xii) Please submit a full page of the newspaper(s) containing the advertisement, ensuring that the information in the advert is legible and that the name of the newspaper and date are visible.

General

You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that:

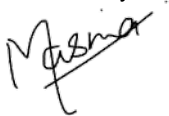
“If S&EIR must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 44 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority a scoping report which has been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority”

You are further reminded that the final SR to be submitted to this Department must comply with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of Scoping reports in accordance with Appendix 2 and Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

Further 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 timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted in terms of Regulation 3(7).

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

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Annexure 1

1. Format for Comments and Response Report:

Date of comment, format of comment name of organisation/I&AP,	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
27/7/2024 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:

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

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

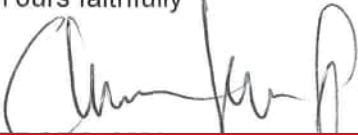
GENERAL COMMENTS

- 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



Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

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:

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

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.



NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
Our Future - Made in South Africa

- 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

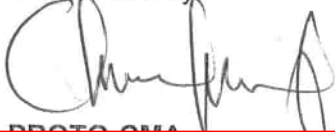
GENERAL COMMENTS

- 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,



Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Scientific Manager.

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:

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

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 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 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

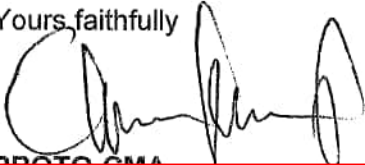
- A stormwater management plan must be in place. Contaminated stormwater must not be disposed of in the stormwater system as it will result in the contamination of water bodies and its disposal may also require analysis before disposal.
- All machinery must be in excellent condition and there must be 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



Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

DATE: 24/02/2025

Maharaj, Jashmika

From: Maharaj, Jashmika
Sent: Tuesday, 25 February 2025 11:11
To: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Cc:
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.

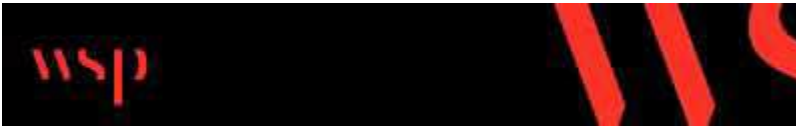
Kind regards,

Jashmika Maharaj

Senior Consultant

T +27 11 254 4874

M +27 81 401-8337



From: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act
Sent: T
To: Ma
Cc: Por
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.

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act



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

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Te

Att.: Ms Jashmika Maharaj

WSP

Email Address: gld.pp@wsp.com / jashmika.maharaj@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

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Email;

Yours faithfully

Mr Seoka Lekota

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

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,

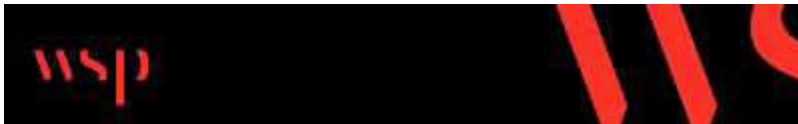
Public Participation Office

T +27 11 254-4800

WSP

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

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: Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Sent: Friday, 28 February 2025 10:10

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

Subject:



Newcastle Municipality

Ref No:
Enquiries:
Tel:
Fax:

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act

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,

Personal Details have been redacted as required by the POPI Act



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

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