Appendix A.2

EAP DECLARATION



APPENDIX 6C DECLARATION OF EAP AND UNDERTAKING UNDER OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, Ashlea Strong, declare that -

- a) I act as the independent, registered in terms of EAPASA, environmental assessment practitioner in this application;
- b) I have expertise in conducting environmental impact assessments, including knowledge of the Act, EIA Regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- c) I will comply with the Act, EIA Regulations and all other applicable legislation;
- d) I am aware that I must be registered with Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association of South Africa (EAPASA) in terms of Regulation 14 of Section 24H Registration Authority Regulations, 2016, as amended.
- e) I am aware that a candidate EAP may only assist the registered EAP and work under the supervision of a registered EAP (regulation 14(6) in the S24H Registration Authority Regulations, 2016, as amended) such as myself. I take full responsibility for the work conducted.
- f) I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant:
- g) I will take into account, to the extent possible, the matters listed in Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations and Regulation 14 of S24H of Section 24H Registration Authority Regulations, 2016, as amended, when preparing the application and any report relating to the application;
- h) I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the Competent Authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing - any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the Competent Authority; and - the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the Competent Authority, unless access to that information is protected by law, in which case it will be indicated that such information exists and will be provided to the Competent Authority;
- i) I will perform all obligations as expected from an environmental assessment practitioner in terms of the EIA Regulations and S24H of NEMA; and
- j) I am aware of what constitutes an offence in terms of Regulation 48 and that a person convicted of an offence in terms of Regulation 48(1) is liable to the penalties as contemplated in Section 49B of the Act and EIA Regulations and Regulation 18 and 20 of S24H Registration Authority Regulations, 2016, as amended.

Disclosure of Vested Interest (delete whichever is not applicable)

- k) I do not have and will not have any vested interest (either business, financial, personal or other) in the proposed activity proceeding other than remuneration for work performed in terms of the EIA Regulations;
- I have a vested interest in the proposed activity proceeding, such vested interest being: Click or tap here to enter text.

Signature of the registered environmental assessment practitioner

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd

Name of company:

09 January 2025

Date

UNDERTAKING UNDER OATH/ AFFIRMATION



Reference: 2024-01-0019

09 January 2025

AFFIRMATION BY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

As required in terms of Appendix 2, subsection (j) and (k) of Government Notice Regulation (GNR) 982 (as amended)

Project Name:	The Proposed Groothoek Wind Energy Facility (up to 300MW) and associated infrastructure, located near Verkykerskop in the in the Phumelela Local Municipality Free State Province.
Consultant:	WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
EAP Details	
Contact Person:	Ashlea Strong
Physical Address:	Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand 1685 South Africa
Telephone:	011 361 1392
Email:	Ashlea.strong@wsp.com

I, Ashlea Strong, the appointed Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), confirm through this affirmation (as required in terms of Appendix 2 subsection (j) and (k) of GNR 982) (as amended) that:

- i. To the best of my knowledge the information provided in this report is factually correct
- ii. To the best of my knowledge all relevant project information which has been provided to stakeholders and interested and affected parties (I&APs) is correct
- iii. All comments and inputs received from stakeholders / I&APs, prior to the submission of the Scoping Report, have been included as part of the Scoping Report and addressed where necessary
- i۷. All responses provided to comments received from stakeholders / I&APs are the unbiased opinion of the EAP and are based on factually correct information
- The level of agreement between the EAP and stakeholder / I&APs in the Plan of Study for the ٧. undertaking of the Environmental Impact Assessment has been agreed upon.

Signature of the EAP Signature - Commissioner of Oaths

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd 09 January 2025

Date Company

Stamp: Ex-Officio Professional GISc Practitioner (PGP 1356) 09 January 2025 Date

Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City

Midrand

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