

Appendix E

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT REPORT





ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty)
Ltd

ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, LOCATED NEAR HEIDELBERG AND BALFOUR IN THE GAUTENG AND MPUMALANGA PROVINCES

Stakeholder Engagement Report (Resubmission)





ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd

**ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1,
LOCATED NEAR HEIDELBERG AND
BALFOUR IN THE GAUTENG AND
MPUMALANGA PROVINCES**

Stakeholder Engagement Report (Resubmission)

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ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd

**ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1,
LOCATED NEAR HEIDELBERG AND
BALFOUR IN THE GAUTENG AND
MPUMALANGA PROVINCES**

Stakeholder Engagement Report (Resubmission)

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GLOSSARY

Abbreviation	Definition
CA	Competent Authority
CAA	South African Civil Aviation Authority
DLRRD	Department of Land Reform and Rural Development
DOA	Department of Agriculture
<u>DoD</u>	<u>Department of Defence</u>
DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs
<u>DEIR</u>	<u>Draft Environmental Impact Report</u>
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment
DMPR	Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources
DWS	Department of Water and Sanitation
DLM	Dipaleseng Local Municipality
EA	Environmental Authorisation
EAP	Environmental Assessment Practitioner
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
<u>EIAr / EIR</u>	<u>Environmental Impact Assessment Report</u>
EWT	Endangered Wildlife Trust
<u>FEIR</u>	<u>Final Environmental Impact Report</u>
GDARDE	Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
GSBDM	Gert Sibande District Municipality
I&APs	Interested and Affected Parties
LLM	Lesedi Local Municipality
MBSP	Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan
MDARDLEA	Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs
MLM	Midvaal Local Municipality
MTPA	Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency
MTS	Main Transmission Substation
MW	Megawatts
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998)



Abbreviation	Definition
PPP	Public Participation Process
SAHRA	South African Heritage Resources Agency
SANRAL	South African National Roads Agency Limited
SAWS	South African Weather Service
SDM	Sedibeng District Municipality
SER	Stakeholder Engagement Report
SPV	Special Purposed Vehicle
WEF	Wind Energy Facility
WSP	WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd

1 INTRODUCTION

All changes and additions to this report have been either underlined or made in blue font.

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed by ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd, on behalf of ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd, to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to meet the requirements under the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA), for the proposed development of the ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1, near Heidelberg and Balfour in the Gauteng and Mpumalanga Provinces respectively.

The proposed development is subject to a Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) Process in terms of NEMA (as amended) and Appendix 2 and 3 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 and GNR 983 (as amended), GNR 984 (as amended) and GNR 985 (as amended). The competent authority for this S&EIR Process is the national Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE).

An application for EA in terms of the NEMA (Act 107 of 1998) and associated Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, was submitted on 23 March 2026 to the DFFE and was allocated the reference number 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803.

The Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (FEIR) was submitted to the DFFE on 12 October 2026. Email correspondence received from the DFFE on 13 October 2026 informed the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) and Applicant that the according to the DFFE records the application had lapsed in terms of Regulation 23(1) of GNR 326, as amended, as the FEIR was in fact due on or before Friday, 09 October 2026.

A notification was sent ON 16 October 2026, to all registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs), stakeholders and commenting authorities to inform them that WSP will be re-submitting a new application for EA for the proposed project in terms of Regulation 21(2) of GNR 326, as amended. This regulation affords the Applicant the option to re-apply and re-submit the FEIR (subject to additional public participation in terms of Regulation 21(2)(d)) to the DFFE within two years of acceptance of the Scoping Report (dated 22 June 2026).

WSP received confirmation from the DFFE on 15 October 2026 that it may proceed with submitting an application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of Regulation 21(2). Accordingly, the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) that was submitted as part of the original application (DFFE Reference No. 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803) is being re-submitted as a DEIR in support of the re-submission of the EA application (new DFFE reference number to be confirmed).

The project will include the following main components:

- Wind Turbines;
- Onsite substation;
- Powerlines;
- Construction camp and temporary laydown area;
- Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Building;
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS); and
- Internal Roads.

This Stakeholder Engagement Report (SER) outlines the Public Participation Process undertaken for the project.

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd (the Applicant) proposes the development of ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (WEF 1), (hereafter referred to as “the Project”), a commercial wind energy generation facility comprising up to 20 turbines and with a total generation capacity of up to 170 MWac in capacity, as well as associated infrastructure.

A development area (i.e., the full extent of the affected properties as well as beyond, where appropriate) has been identified for the proposed development. Within this identified development area, a development footprint has been defined in a manner which has considered the environmental sensitivities present on the affected properties and intentionally remains outside of highly sensitive areas. All affected properties in their entirety have been considered in this S&EIR process (which includes the independent specialists’ assessments undertaken hereunder) and assessed in terms of the suitability from an environmental and social perspective. The location of the Project and the siting of the project infrastructure within the assessed study area have been informed by the recommendations of the specialists following their field assessments, where relevant.

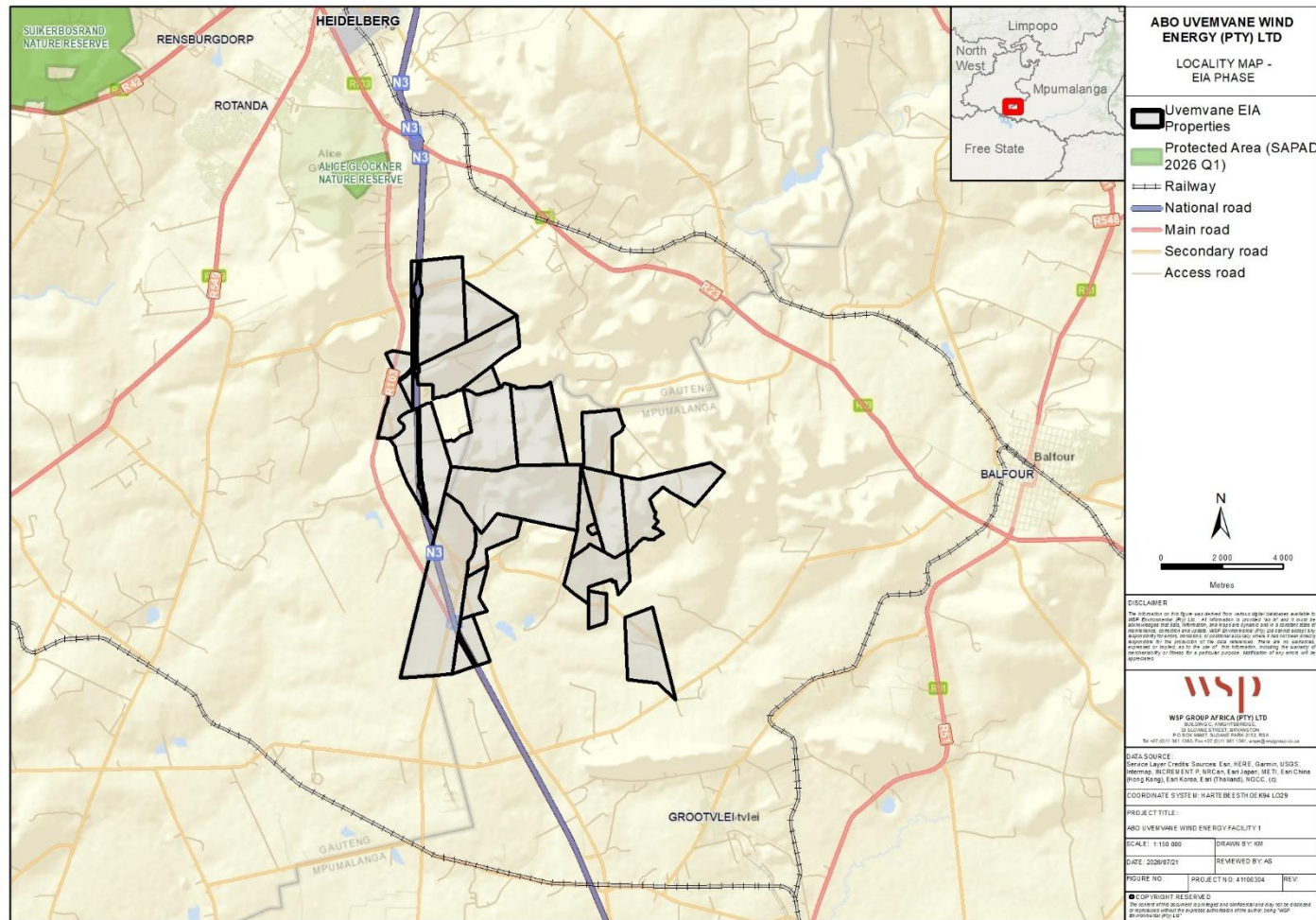
It is important to note at the outset that the exact specifications of the proposed project components will be determined during the detailed engineering design phase prior to construction (subsequent to the issuing of an EA, should such an authorisation be granted).

1.1.1 PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed Project is located approximately 9km west of the town of Balfour in the Mpumalanga Province in the Dipaleseng Local Municipality within the Gert Sibande District Municipality and approximately 14km south-east of the town Heidelberg in the Gauteng Province in the Lesedi & Midvaal Local Municipalities within the Sedibeng District Municipality (**Figure 1-1**). It is anticipated that the proposed WEF would have a total (permanent) development footprint of up to 67.2 ha, which is approximately 1.12% of the total site (i.e., affected properties) area¹.

¹ Note regarding proposed facility capacity, footprint, turbine number and maximum turbine capacity: Note that the proposed development entails a proposed maximum development footprint for a combination of factors, namely facility capacity in terms of overall MWac, development footprint in terms of extent, turbine numbers which caps the proposed number of turbines that could be developed within the facility as well as maximum turbine capacity for any given turbine, whereby any given aspect has maximum development parameters that has been assessed and the first lowest parameter achieved in this regard would determine the remaining specifications within the said maximum limits (i.e. all maximum parameters could not be achieved simultaneously).

Figure 1-1 - Regional locality map for the Project.



1.2 TERMS OF REFERENCE

There is one WEF application associated with the project as indicated in **Table 1-1**.

Table 1-1 – Uvemvane WEF Environmental Applications

Project	Applicant	Details	Reference Number	Environmental Process
Up to 170MWac WEF including associated infrastructure	ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 170MWac	Original Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803 DFFE	Scoping & EIA Process

1.3 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER

WSP was appointed in the role of Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the Environmental Authorisation (EA) Process for the proposed project. This PPR was compiled as part of the EA Process and must be read in conjunction with the Scoping Reports in support of the EA applications. **Table 1-2** details the relevant contact details of the EAP.

Table 1-2 – Details of the EAP

EAP:	WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Contact Person:	Ashlea Strong
Physical Address:	Building 1, Maxwell Office Park, Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City, Midrand, 1685
Postal Address:	PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685
Telephone:	011 361 1392
Fax:	011 361 1301
Email:	Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com
EAP Qualifications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masters in Environmental Management, University of the Free State • B Tech, Nature Conservation, Technikon SA • National Diploma in Nature Conservation, Technikon SA
EAPASA Registration Number:	EAPASA (2019/1005)

To adequately identify and assess potential environmental impacts, the EAP was supported by a number of specialists, the details of which are provided in the Scoping Reports.

STATEMENT OF INDEPENDENCE

Neither WSP nor any of the authors of this Report have any material present or contingent interest in the outcome of this Report, nor do they have any business, financial, personal or other interest that

could be reasonably regarded as being capable of affecting their independence. WSP has no beneficial interest in the outcome of the assessment.

1.4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation is understood to be a series of inclusive and culturally appropriate interactions aimed at providing stakeholders with opportunities to express their views, so that these can be considered and incorporated into the decision-making process. Effective public participation requires the prior disclosure of relevant and adequate project information to enable stakeholders to understand the risks, impacts, and opportunities of the proposed Project.

Basic reasons why the public are involved in the PPP:

- The environment is held in public trust; therefore, use of environmental resources is everyone's concern;
- To ensure that projects meet the citizens' needs and are suitable to the affected public;
- The project carries more legitimacy, and less hostility, if interested and affected parties (I&APs) are able to influence the decision-making process; and
- The final decision is deemed informed when local knowledge and values are included and when expert knowledge is publicly examined.

1.4.1 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the PPP can be summarised as follows:

- Identify relevant individuals, organisations and communities who may be interested in or affected by the proposed Project;
- Clearly outline the scope of the proposed Project, including the scale and nature of the existing and proposed activities;
- Identify viable proposed Project alternatives that will assist the relevant authorities in making an informed decision;
- Identify shortcomings and gaps in existing information;
- Identify key concerns, raised by I&APs that should be addressed in the subsequent specialist studies;
- Highlight the potential for environmental impacts, whether positive or negative; and
- To inform and provide the public with information and an understanding of the proposed Project, issues and solutions.

1.4.2 WHAT IS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY

An I&AP is defined as any person, group of persons or organisations interested in or affected by an activity, and any organ of state that may have jurisdiction over any aspect of the activity.

The difference between an I&AP and a registered I&AP:

- An I&AP can be directly or indirectly impacted on by a proposed activity.
- A registered I&AP is a person whose name has been placed on the register of registered I&APs. According to the PPP Guidance document, 2017, only registered I&APs will be notified:

Of the availability of reports and other written submissions made to the Competent Authority (CA) by the Applicant, and be entitled to comment on these reports and submissions; and

Of the outcome of the application, the reasons for the decision, and that an appeal may be lodged against a decision.

For the purpose of this report, registered I&APs will be referred to as Stakeholders.

Rights, Roles and Responsibilities of the Stakeholders

Stakeholders have the right to bring to the attention of the CA any issues that they believe may be of significance to the consideration of the application. The rights of stakeholder are qualified by certain obligations, namely:

- Stakeholders must ensure that their comments are submitted within the timeframes that have been approved by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE), or within any extension of a timeframe agreed by the Proponent, EAP or competent authorities;
- Serve a copy of the comments submitted directly to the competent authorities, the Proponent or the EAP; and
- Disclose to the EAP any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that they might have in the approval or refusal of the application.

The roles of stakeholders in a public participation process usually include one or more of the following:

- Assisting in the identification and prioritisation of issues that need to be investigated;
- Making suggestions on alternatives and means of preventing, minimising and managing negative impacts and enhancing proposed Project benefits;
- Assisting in or commenting on the development of mutually acceptable criteria for the evaluation of decision options;
- Contributing information on public needs, values and expectations;
- Contributing local and traditional knowledge; and
- Verifying that their issues have been considered.

In order to participate effectively, stakeholders should:

- Become involved in the process as early as possible;
- Advise the EAP of other stakeholders who should be consulted;
- Contribute towards the design of the public participation process (including timeframes) to ensure that it is acceptable to all stakeholders;
- Follow the process once it has been accepted;
- Read the material provided and actively seek to understand the issues involved;
- Give timely responses to correspondence;
- Be respectful and courteous towards other stakeholders;
- Refrain from making subjective, unfounded or ill-informed statements; and
- Recognise that the process is confined to issues that are directly relevant to the application.

1.5 APPROACH TO STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Our approach to stakeholder engagement is based on the following principles:

- Undertake meaningful and timely participation with stakeholders;
- Focus on important issues during the process;
- Undertake due consideration of alternatives;
- Take accountability for information used;

- Encourage co-regulation, shared responsibility and a sense of ownership over the proposed Project lifecycle;
- Apply “due process” particularly with regard to public participation as provided for in the EIA Regulations; and
- Consider the needs, interests and values of stakeholders.

The Public Participation guideline in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations, drafted by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) (now DFFE) in 2017, tabulates the level of Public Participation required for various levels of anticipated project impacts. This table has been used to identify additional Public Participation methods which are required for the Project. Highlighted cells (red) indicate the applicable response to the anticipated impacts. Results of the process are shown in **Table 1-3**.

Table 1-3 – Level of Public Participation as per Public Participation Guideline (DEA, 2017)

Scale of Anticipated Impacts	Recommended Response	
	If “Yes”	If “No”
Are the impacts of the project likely to extend beyond the boundaries of the local municipality?	Formal Consultation with other affected municipalities should be carried out during the PPP.	No need to have a formal consultation with other municipalities during PPP. Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA must be met.
Are the impacts of the project likely to extend beyond the boundaries of the province?	Formal Consultation with other affected provinces should be carried out during the PPP.	No need to have a formal consultation with other provinces during PPP. Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA must be met.
Is the project a greenfields development (a new development in a previously undisturbed area)?	Extensive consultation with Registered Interested and Affected Parties (RI&APs) might be required before a decision is taken on the project in order to gather more information, and to ensure that there is minimal impact on the environment.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Does the area already suffer from socio-economic problems (e.g. job losses) or environmental problems (e.g. pollution), and is the project likely to exacerbate these?	Extensive consultation with RI&APs within the area should be undertaken, to gather more information on both the socio-economic and environmental problems.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Is the project expected to have a wide variety of impacts (e.g. socio-economic and ecological)?	Thorough consultation needs to be conducted with RI&APs, in order to address variety of impacts.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.

Scale of Anticipated Impacts	Recommended Response	
	If “Yes”	If “No”
Public and environmental sensitivity of the project:		
Are there widespread public concerns about the potential negative impacts of the project?	Broader consultation with all RI&APs will need to be undertaken.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Is there a high degree of conflict among RI&APs?	There might need to be more consultation to ensure that there is consensus reached among RI&APs.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Will the project impact on private land other than that of the applicant?	Consultation with the private landowner must be done, and all their concerns need to be addressed.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Does the project have the potential to create unrealistic expectations (e.g. that a new factory would create a large number of jobs)?	Thorough consultation that addresses the perceptions of unrealistic expectations needs to be carried out.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Potentially affected parties:		
Has very little previous public participation taken place in the area?	More thorough public participation should take place within the area, to ensure that all potential and RI&APs participate.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Did previous public participation processes in the area result in conflict?	Additional consultation might be needed to ensure that issues of conflict are addressed effectively.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Are there existing organisational structures (e.g. local forums) that can represent I&APs?	Organizational structures might minimise conflict whilst maximising the participation.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Is the area characterised by high social diversity (i.t.o. socio-economic status, language or culture)?	Proper consultations that address language and cultural diversity should be promoted.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Were people in the area victims of unfair expropriations or relocation in the past?	PPP should be extensive and address any unfair practices that occurred in the past.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.
Is there a high level of unemployment in the area?	The PPP should ensure that there are no unrealistic expectations created due to the project. The consultation should ensure that any unrealistic expectations are	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met.

Scale of Anticipated Impacts	Recommended Response	
	If “Yes”	If “No”
	adequately addressed before the project starts.	
Do the RI&APs have special needs (e.g. a lack of skills to read or write, disability, etc)?	Consultation should include mechanisms that will ensure full participation by people with special needs.	Minimum requirements for public participation in accordance with EIA Regulations must be met. Minimum requirements for PP in accordance with the Act must be met as well as best practices relating to PP.

2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TO DATE

2.1 PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION

A pre-application meeting was held on **25 November 2024** with the DFFE in order to discuss the proposed Project. The minutes of this meeting and approval from the DFFE are included in **Appendix C.1**. According to the DFFE, the pre-application meeting remains valid, and the project will not require a new pre-application meeting. The correspondence confirming this is included in **Appendix C.2**.

2.2 IDENTIFICATION OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Section 41 of the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended) states that written notices must be given to identified stakeholders as outlined in **Table 2-1**.

Relevant authorities (Organs of State) have been automatically registered as stakeholders. In accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), all other persons must request in writing to be placed on the register, submit written comments, or attend meetings to be registered as stakeholders, and included in future communication regarding the Project.

Table 2-1 – Interested and Affected Parties

NEMA Requirement	Discussion
(i) the owner or person in control of that land if the applicant is not the owner or person in control of the land	<p>The project activity is located on various portions of privately owned land. The landowners have been included on the stakeholder database. The land portions associated with the Project include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406 • Portion 17 (a Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Lagerspoort Nr 406 • Remaining Extent of Portion 4 of the Farm De Hoek 411 • Portion 45 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406 • Portion 7 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406 • Portion 19 of the Farm De Hoek No 411 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Modderfontein 410 • The Farm Orion No 413 • Remaining Extent of Portion 5 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406 • Portion 7 of the Farm Driefontein 405 • Remaining Extent of Portion 9 of the Farm Malanskraal No 407 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Malanskraal 407 • Portion 12 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal 407 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Driefontein 405 • Remaining Extent of the Farm Driefontein 405 • Remainder of Portion 6 (Kingsmead) of the Farm Malanskraal 407 • Portion 17 (a Portion of Portion 8) of the Farm Malanskraal No 407 • Farm Bothas Spruit Nr. 404

NEMA Requirement	Discussion
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 16 (a Portion of Portion 4) of the Farm Malanskraal No 407 • Remaining Extent of Portion 13 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal 407 • Remainder of Portion 18 (a Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Malanskraal 407 • Portion 1 of the Farm Weltevreden Nr. 449
(ii) the occupiers of the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken	All landowners have been contacted to confirm whether there are any occupiers on the land portions. Where applicable, occupiers have been included on the database.
(iii) owners and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken or to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken	Adjacent landowner details were collected and have been included on the stakeholder database. Where applicable, occupiers have been included on the database.
(iv) the municipal councillor of the ward in which the site or alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area	Ward Councillors of Ward 5 (Dipaleseng Local Municipality), Ward 1 (Midvaal Local Municipality) and Ward 6 (Lesedi Local Municipality) have been included on the stakeholder database.
(v) the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area	The project is located in Dipaleseng Local Municipality located within the Gert Sibande District Municipality, whilst the Lesedi & Midvaal Local Municipalities are located in Sedibeng District Municipality. Both Local and District Municipalities have been included on the stakeholder database.
(vi) any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity	DFFE, Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARDE) and Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (MDARDLEA) have been, and will continue to be, consulted.
(vii) any other party as required by the competent authority.	<p>All tiers of government, namely, national, provincial, local government and parastatals have been included on the stakeholder database. Inclusive of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFFE • DFFE Biodiversity and Conservation; • Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA); • Gauteng Department of Environment (GDEnv) • GDARDE; • DFFE: National Vulture Task Force (in terms of section 43(2) and 43(3)(c) of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004), the Minister has assigned the responsibility for implementation of the Multi-species Biodiversity Management Plan for Vultures in South Africa to the National Vulture Task Force). • Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS);

NEMA Requirement	Discussion
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources (DMPR); • Petroleum Agency of South Africa (PASA); • Department of Land Reform and Rural Development (DLRRD); • Department of Agriculture; • Department of Public Works; • Department of Defence (DoD); • National Department of Transport; • South African National Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL); • South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA); • South African Civil Aviation Authority (CAA); • Square Kilometre Array (SKA); • South African Radio Astronomical Observatory (SARAO); • South African Weather Service (SAWS); • Relevant Local Government Authorities in respect of zoning, water services related activities; • BirdLife South Africa; • VulPro; • Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT); and • South African National Parks (SANParks). <p>For a full list of registered stakeholders please refer to Appendix A.</p>

Appendix A provides a list of stakeholders registered on the Project database. The stakeholder database will be updated throughout the EA process.

2.3 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

2.3.1 DIRECT NOTIFICATION

2.3.1.1 DSR

Notification of the proposed Project was issued to potential and existing Stakeholders, via direct correspondence (i.e., site notices, emails, SMSes, etc.) on **13 March 2026**. Copies of the notification letters have been included in **Appendix B.1**.

Proof of Email notifications and SMS notifications is included in **Appendix B.4** of this report.

2.3.1.2 FSR

Notification of the proposed Project was issued to potential and existing Stakeholders, via direct correspondence (i.e., site notices, emails, SMSes, etc.) on **12 May 2026**. Copies of the notification letters have been included in **Appendix B.1**.

Proof of Email notifications and SMS notifications is included in **Appendix B.4** of this report.

2.3.1.3 DEIR (Original)

Notification of the Project availability of the DEIR was issued to existing Stakeholders, via direct correspondence (i.e., site notices, emails, SMSs, etc.). Copies of the notification letters, proof of email and SMS notification is included in **Appendix B.1** and **Appendix B.4**.

2.3.1.1 DEIR (Resubmission)

A notification was sent on 16 October 2026, to all registered I&APs, stakeholders and commenting authorities to inform them that WSP will be resubmitting a new application for EA for the proposed project in terms of Regulation 21(2) of GNR 326, as amended. Proof of notification is included in **Appendix B.1 and Appendix B.4**.

Additionally, notification of the Project availability of the DEIR will be issued to existing Stakeholders, via direct correspondence (i.e., site notices, emails, SMSs, etc.). Copies of the notification letters, proof of email and SMS notification will be included in the final SER.

2.3.1.2 FEIR

Notification of the Project submission and availability of the FEIR will be issued to existing Stakeholders, via direct correspondence (i.e., emails, SMSs, etc.) following submission of the FEIR to DFFE for decision making.

2.3.1.3 EA DECISION

Notification of the EA decision will be issued to registered Stakeholders via direct correspondence (i.e., emails and SMSs) upon receipt of the decision from the competent authority. Stakeholders will be provided with details of the decision and, where applicable, information relating to the appeal process in accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).

2.3.2 NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS

In accordance with the requirements of GNR 982, as amended, the proposed project was advertised in one local newspaper and was published in three languages (English, Afrikaans and IsiZulu). The purpose of the advertisement is to notify the public about the proposed project and to invite them to register as stakeholders. A copy of the advertisement and proof of publication is included in **Appendix B.2**. The advertisement publication details are provided in **Table 2-2**.

During the Draft Scoping Phase, DFFE requested that the Project also be advertised in Sesotho. Accordingly, the Project has been re-advertised in a local newspaper in Sesotho on 19 August 2026 during the Draft EIA Phase. The related correspondence with DFFE is included in **Appendix D**, and proof of publication is included in **Appendix B.2**.

Additionally, the notification of the Applicant's intent to resubmit the Application for EA was advertised in a local newspaper in four languages (English, Afrikaans, IsiZulu and Sesotho) on 28 October 2026.

Table 2-2 – Dates on which adverts were published

Newspaper	Distribution Type	Language	Reach	Publication Date
Heidelberg Nigel Heraut	Newspaper	English, Afrikaans and IsiZulu	Heidelberg, Ratanda, Balfour	11 March 2026
Heidelberg Nigel Heraut	Newspaper	Sesotho	Heidelberg, Ratanda, Balfour	19 August 2026
Heidelberg Nigel Heraut	Newspaper	English, Afrikaans,	Heidelberg, Ratanda, Balfour	28 October 2026

Newspaper	Distribution Type	Language	Reach	Publication Date
		IsiZulu and Sesotho		

2.3.3 SITE NOTICES

In accordance with GNR 326 Section 41(2)(a-b) site notices have been developed in three languages (English, Afrikaans and IsiZulu) (see **Appendix B.3**) and have been placed at strategic points in close proximity to the proposed Project site. Proof of placement of the scoping phase site notices is included in **Table 2-3**.

A second round of site notices prepared in Sesotho and were placed at strategic locations near the proposed Project site during the original Draft EIA Phase PPP, which commenced on 25 August 2026. Proof of placement is included in **Table 2-4** and **Appendix B.3**.

Additionally, a third round of site notices was prepared (in four languages, i.e. English, Afrikaans, IsiZulu and Sesotho) and will be placed at strategic locations near the proposed Project site to notify I&APs and stakeholders of the resubmission of the DEIR on the 28 October 2026. Proof of placement will be included in the FEIR.

Table 2-3 – Proof of site notices placement in Original Draft EIR phase (DFFE REF NO. 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803).

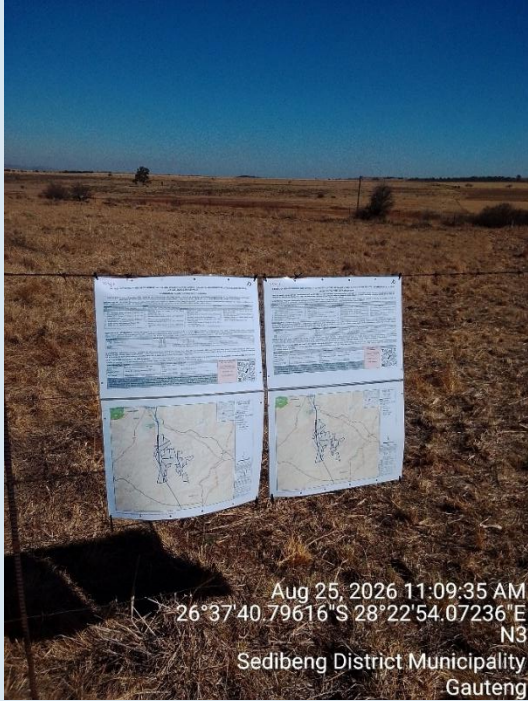
Venue/Location	Photograph
<p>Site Notice 1</p> <p>26°38'46.944"S</p> <p>28°32'40.068"E</p>	 <p>26°38'46.944"S 28°32'40.068"E</p>
<p>Site Notice 2</p> <p>26°35'38.676"S</p> <p>28°26'51.984"E</p>	 <p>26°35'38.676"S 28°26'51.984"E</p>

Venue/Location	Photograph
<p>Site Notice 3</p> <p>26°41'32.232"S</p> <p>28°23'42.426"E</p>	 <p>26°41'32,244"S 28°23'42,426"E N3 Gert Sibande District Municipality Mpumalanga</p>
<p>Site Notice 4</p> <p>26°37'41.388"S</p> <p>28°22'55.494"E</p>	 <p>26°37'41,388"S 28°22'55,494"E</p>

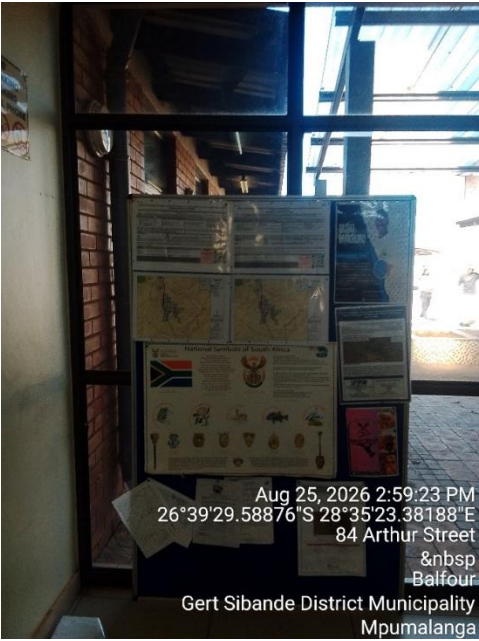
Venue/Location	Photograph
<p>Public Notice 1</p> <p>26°39'42.228"S</p> <p>28°35'16.539"E</p>	 <p>26°39'42.228"S 28°35'16.539"E 100 Voortrekker Street Balfour Gert Sibande District Municipality Mpumalanga</p>
<p>Public Notice 2</p> <p>26°45'57.864"S</p> <p>28°29'1.188"E</p>	 <p>26°45'57.864"S 28°29'1.188"E</p>

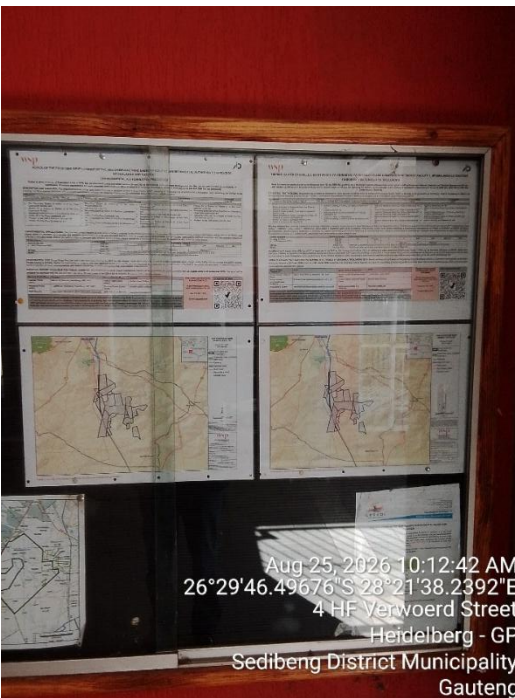
Venue/Location	Photograph
<p>Public Notice 3</p> <p>26°29'50.43"S</p> <p>28°21'39.75"E</p>	 <p>26°29'50.43"S 28°21'39.75"E 16 Jacobs Street Heidelberg - GP Sedibeng District Municipality Gauteng</p>
<p>Public Notice 4</p> <p>26°33'13.667"S</p> <p>28°19'35.048"E</p>	 <p>26°33'13.667"S 28°19'35.048"E 4165 Boschhoek Street Ratanda Heidelberg - GP Sedibeng District Municipality Gauteng</p>

Table 2-4 - Proof of Placement of Sesotho Site Notices in [Original Draft EIR phase \(DFFE REF NO. 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803\)](#)

<u>Venue/Location</u>	<u>Photograph</u>
<u>Site Notice 1</u> <u>26°37'40.79616"S</u> <u>28°22'54.07236"E</u>	
<u>Site Notice 2</u> <u>26°41'32.88948"S</u> <u>28°23'42.20832"E</u>	

<u>Venue/Location</u>	<u>Photograph</u>
<p><u>Site Notice 3</u></p> <p><u>26°40'21.52704"S</u></p> <p><u>28°35'7.6254"E</u></p>	 <p>Aug 25, 2026 3:31:54 PM 26°40'21.52704"S 28°35'7.6254"E 168 Voortrekker Street Balfour Gert Sibande District Municipality Mpumalanga</p>
<p><u>Site Notice 4</u></p> <p><u>26°37'3.10254"S</u></p> <p><u>28°30'28.04418"E</u></p>	 <p>Aug 25, 2026 3:44:10 PM 26°37'3.10254"S 28°30'28.04418"E 90 Joubert Street Balfour Gert Sibande District Municipality Mpumalanga</p>

Venue/Location	Photograph
<p>Site Notice 5</p> <p><u>26°35'38.3595"S</u></p> <p><u>28°26'52.19988"E</u></p>	 <p>Aug 25, 2026 3:55:57 PM 26°35'38.3595"S 28°26'52.19988"E Heidelberg-Balfour Road Sedibeng District Municipality Gauteng</p>
<p>Public Notice 1</p> <p><u>26°39'29.58876"S</u></p> <p><u>28°35'23.38188"E</u></p>	 <p>Aug 25, 2026 2:59:23 PM 26°39'29.58876"S 28°35'23.38188"E 84 Arthur Street &nbsp;Balfour Gert Sibande District Municipality Mpumalanga</p>

<u>Venue/Location</u>	<u>Photograph</u>
<p><u>Public Notice 2</u></p> <p><u>26°45'57.99918"S</u></p> <p><u>28°29'1.08378"E</u></p>	 <p>Aug 25, 2026 11:58:34 AM 26°45'57.99918"S 28°29'1.08378"E 228 Seventh Avenue Gert Sibande District Municipality Mpumalanga</p>
<p><u>Public Notice 3</u></p> <p><u>26°29'46.49676"S</u></p> <p><u>28°21'38.2392"E</u></p>	 <p>Aug 25, 2026 10:12:42 AM 26°29'46.49676"S 28°21'38.2392"E 4 HF Verwoerd Street Heidelberg - GP Sedibeng District Municipality Gauteng</p>

<u>Venue/Location</u>	<u>Photograph</u>
<p>Public Notice 4</p> <p><u>26°33'5.65776"S</u></p> <p><u>28°19'34.63284"E</u></p>	

2.3.4 AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORTS

The Draft Scoping Report was placed on public review for a period of at least 30 days from **13 March 2026 to 15 April 2026**, at the venues as follows:

- Hard Copy: Ratanda Proper Library - Nkomo St, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP, 1443;
- Hard Copy: Heidelberg Public Library - 7 Jacobs St, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP, 1441;
- Hard Copy: Balfour Public Library (Ward 3) - Joubert street, Balfour, 2410;
- Hard Copy: Grootvlei Power Station Stores - Seventh Street, Grootvlei;
- Electronic Copy: WSP Website (<https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>); and
- Electronic Copy: Datafree Website (<https://wsp-engage.com/>).

The Draft Reports was made available to Commenting Authorities via a One Drive link. In order to ensure maximum participation of all I&APs, reports were shared on the Datafree website. Proof of display is included in **Table 2-5** and **Appendix B.5** of this report.

Table 2-5 – Proof of Draft Scoping Report placement

<u>Venue/Location</u>	<u>Photograph</u>
<u>Balfour Library</u>	
<u>Heidelberg Library</u>	
<u>Ratanda Library</u>	

2.3.5 AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL SCOPING REPORT

The Final Scoping Report (FSR) was submitted to DFFE on **13 May 2026**. The FSR was made available as follows:

- Electronic Copy: WSP Website (<https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>); and
- Electronic Copy: Datafree Website (<https://wsp-engage.com/>).

2.3.6 AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT EIAR (ORIGINAL: DFFE REF NO. [14/12/16/3/3/2/2803](#))

The DEIR for the project was placed on public review for a period of 30 days from **25 August 2026 to 28 September 2026**, at the venues as follows:

- Hard Copy: Ratanda Proper Library - Nkomo St, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP, 1443;
- Hard Copy: Heidelberg Public Library - 7 Jacobs St, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP, 1441;
- Hard Copy: Balfour Public Library (Ward 3) - Joubert street, Balfour, 2410;
- Hard Copy: Grootvlei Power Station Stores - Seventh Street, Grootvlei;
- Electronic Copy: WSP Website (<https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>); and
- Electronic Copy: Datafree Website (<https://wsp-engage.com/>).

The Draft Reports was made available to Commenting Authorities via a One Drive link.

In order to ensure maximum participation of all I&APs, reports were shared on the Datafree website.

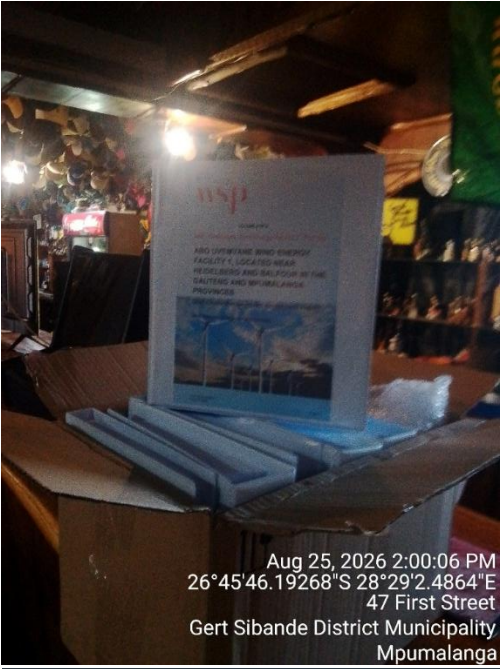
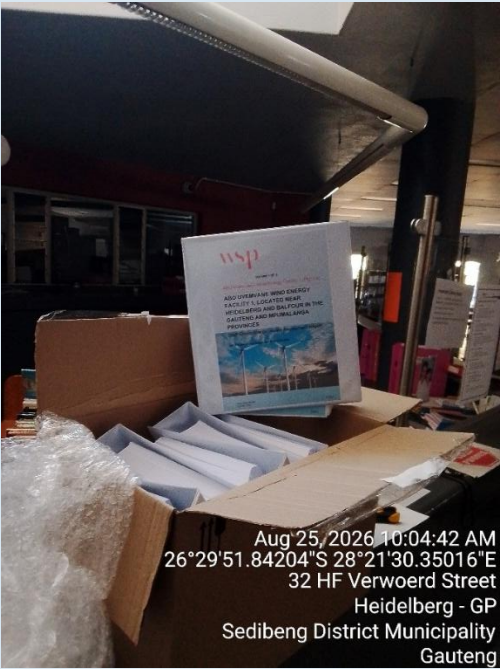
Proof of display is included in **Table 2-6** and **Appendix B.5**.

Note on the scope of the DEIR:

The extent of the proposed project area, which spans two provinces and three local municipalities, necessitates consideration of multiple environmental, social and administrative contexts. While every effort has been made to present information in a clear and accessible manner, the level of detail included in the draft EIAR is intended to ensure a comprehensive, transparent and balanced assessment of all relevant issues and jurisdictions.

Table 2-6 – Proof of [original](#) DEIR placement.

<u>Venue/Location</u>	<u>Photograph</u>
<u>Balfour Library</u>	

Venue/Location	Photograph
<p><u>Grootvlei Shops</u></p>	 <p>Aug 25, 2026 2:00:06 PM 26°45'46.19268"S 28°29'2.4864"E 47 First Street Gert Sibande District Municipality Mpumalanga</p>
<p><u>Heidelberg Library</u></p>	 <p>Aug 25, 2026 10:04:42 AM 26°29'51.84204"S 28°21'30.35016"E 32 HF Verwoerd Street Heidelberg - GP Sedibeng District Municipality Gauteng</p>

Venue/Location	Photograph
Ratanda Library	 <p>Aug 25, 2026 10:38:02 AM 26°33'6.50808"S 28°19'30.6876"E 2760 Tshungu Street Ratanda Heidelberg - GP Sedibeng District Municipality Gauteng</p>

2.3.7 AVAILABILITY OF THE DEIR (RESUBMISSION)

The DEIR will be placed on public review from **28 October 2026 to 30 November 2026**, at the venues as follows:

- Hard Copy: Ratanda Proper Library - Nkomo St, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP, 1443
- Hard Copy: Heidelberg Public Library - 7 Jacobs St, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP, 1441
- Hard Copy: Ward 3 Public Library - Joubert street, Balfour, 2410
- Electronic Copy: WSP Website (<https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>); and
- Electronic Copy: Datafree Website (<https://wsp-engage.com/>)

The DEIR will be made available to Commenting Authorities via a One Drive link. In order to ensure maximum participation of all I&APs, the reports were also shared on the Data free website. The comments received and their respective responses will be included in the SER.

2.3.8 AVAILABILITY OF THE FEIR

The FEIR will be made available to the public, following the submission of the FEIR to the competent authority for decision making, as follows:

- Electronic Copy: WSP Website (<https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>); and
- Electronic Copy: Datafree Website (<https://wsp-engage.com/>).

2.4 STAKEHOLDER REGISTRATION

All I&APs that either called in or sent written correspondence, such as emails, fax, or post, to the EAP have been added to the database and their comments and/or queries have been responded to.

3 COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT

All concerns, comments, viewpoints, and questions (collectively referred to as 'issues') received during the comment period have been documented and responded to adequately in this comment and Response Report (CRR) included in **Table 3-1** , **Table 3-2** and **Table 3-3**. The original comments and responses are included as **Appendix D** of this SER.

3.1 DRAFT SCOPING REPORT

Table 3-1 outlines the responses to the comments received during the DSR review period that ran from 13 March 2026 to 15 April 2026

Table 3-1 - Comments received during the Draft Scoping Report Review Period and associated responses

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS)			
SAHRA Notices 16 March 2026 Email	Dear SAHRIS user, your case on SAHRIS has been updated by the case officer. Please login to SAHRIS and review the updates	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment.	Appendix D-PPR
John Pakwe 20 April 2026 Email	Good day, Kindly note that Interim Comments have been issued for the proposed development. The following are required for further consideration: 1. HIA appendices (the referenced Archaeological and Palaeontological Impact Assessment reports). 2. A .KML file mapping the entire development footprint. 3. An Environmental Impact Assessment or a Basic Assessment Report. Kind regards, John Pakwe Heritage Officer: Development Applications Unit	EAP: Dear John, Your email below is acknowledged. Thank you for providing the interim comment. We will be uploading the requested documentation during the Draft EIA phase of the project.	Appendix D-SER
John Pakwe 20 April 2026	Interim Comment In terms of Section 38(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this interim comment.	Appendix D-SER

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
Letter (via SAHRA website)	<p>Mr Ashlea Strong</p> <p>WSP[webform_submission:user:field_address:0]</p> <p>WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd was appointed by ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd to undertake an Environmental Authorisation for the proposed Wind Energy Facility within the Dipaleseng Local Municipality, Mpumalanga Province and the Lesedi Local Municipality, Gauteng Province.</p> <p>A draft Environmental Scoping Report was submitted in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations (EIAR), 2014 as amended.</p> <p>The proposed development includes the installation of up to 27 ha of turbines, establishment of access roads, internal underground cabling, 33kV OHL/underground facility connection, a substation, BESS, transformer, auxiliary buildings, communication towers, fencing and laydown areas.</p> <p>CTS Heritage was appointed to undertake the specialist Heritage Impact Assessment study in terms of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act No. 25 of 1999 (NHRA) and section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA.</p> <p>Wiltshire, N., 2025. Heritage Impact Assessment for the Proposed Development of the ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 near Balfour in Mpumalanga/ Gauteng Provinces.</p>	<p>The HIA inclusive of the AIA and PIA reports will be uploaded.</p> <p>A kml file mapping the entire project footprint for the evaluation of PalaeoSensitivity will be uploaded on 08 May 2026 for consideration.</p> <p>The Draft Scoping Report was uploaded to the SAHRA website for comment between 13 March 2026 to 15 April 2026. The Final Scoping Report will be uploaded on 08 May 2026.</p> <p>The EAP confirms that the Draft EIA report will be made available to the SAHRA for consideration.</p>	

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>A total of 110 heritage sites including burial grounds of very high heritage significance, built structures ranging from low to very high heritage significance, archaeological sites including Iron Age sites ranging from low to high heritage significance were identified and recorded.</p> <p>Interim Comment:</p> <p>The SAHRA Development Applications Unit (DAU) is making the following comments in terms of section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act as contemplated by the EIA process in terms of section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The submitted HIA report has been evaluated and considered. However, the appendices (AIA and PIA reports) referenced/referred to have not been submitted. • The applicant is required to submit the referenced appendices and a kml file mapping the entire project footprint for the evaluation of PalaeoSensitivity. • An Environmental Impact Assessment report or a Basic Assessment report is required for further consideration. • Further comments will be issued upon receipt of the requested documentation. <p>Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.</p> <p>Yours faithfully</p>		

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	John Pakwe Heritage Officer: Development Applications Unit South African Heritage Resources Agency		
Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA)			
Cecilia de Waal 17 March 2026 Email	Good afternoon The MTPA acknowledges the receipt of your hard copy (3 Volumes) of a Draft Environmental Scoping Report for the proposed ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 near Heidelberg & Balfour. The Temporary DFFE ref: 2024-11-0018 Your ref: 41106304 MTPA's ref: LUA 26/4471(Kindly refer to this number in any further correspondence/enquiries to us regarding this project) Kind regards Celia de Waal Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Data Capturer Land Use Advisory (LUA) Biodiversity Conservation: Scientific Services	WSP PP OFFICE: Good day Celia, Thank you for the update. Kind regards, Public Participation Office	Appendix D - SER
Mervyn Lotter 09 April 2026 Email	Dear Jashmika Thank you for the kml file. However, I note that the line feature for the overhead and underground powerlines lines is only provided for the Gauteng area. There are no lines mapped for Mpumalanga. Why is that?	EAP: Dear Mervyn, I hope you are well. Thank you for your comment.	Appendix D - SER

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	Best wishes Mervyn	<p>Please note that the proposed linear features for the current EIA application are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A 33kV overhead/underground line which is included in the layout provided, is proposed to connect the northern and southern portions of the facility; and Underground internal reticulation within the roadways. <p>However, the 132kV overhead powerlines (grid connection) will form a separate application process and therefore is not indicated on the kmz file.</p> <p>The 132kV OHPL is proposed to connect to the nearby Grootvlei substation or nearby 88kv substations; and the alignment is still preliminary as feedback is still required from Eskom.</p> <p>I hope the above provides the clarity.</p> <p>Kind regards, Jashmika Maharaj</p>	
Mervyn Lotter 13 April 2026 Email	<p>Dear Jashmika</p> <p>Thank you for your response. However, my concern is that you have not indicated the location of the 33 kV line for Mpumalanga (you have done so for Gauteng). I first noticed this in the KMZ file you provided, but I also notice you do not show the 33kV line for Mpumalanga in any of your maps (I have not checked every map, just some of them in your maps folder).</p>	<p>EAP: Dear Mervyn,</p> <p>Please note that the inclusion of the overhead/underground 33 kV line is required to facilitate the connection of wind turbines located in Gauteng, as the project site in this area is not consolidated.</p>	Appendix D - SER

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	I am not referring to the 132 kV line. Regards Mervyn	The 33 kV line terminates at its connection point at Wind Turbine 12 in Gauteng, after which internal underground reticulation within the roadway is sufficient to connect the remaining turbines. As the turbines in Mpumalanga are located within consolidated project areas and are positioned close enough to one another, internal underground reticulation within the roadway provides adequate connection. Consequently, no separate 33 kV line is required in Mpumalanga. Kind regards, Jashmika Maharaj	
Mervyn Lotter 15 April 2026 Letter (Via email)	Dear Jashmika Please find the attached comments from the MTPA regarding the proposed ABO Uvemvane WEF 1. Regards, Mervyn	-	-
	Dear Ms. Strong SUBJECT: MTPA'S COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY NEAR BALFOUR, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE. The Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA) hereby submits its formal comments on the Draft	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment. Responses to specific comments are detailed below. In accordance with NEMA, the EIA Regulations and Protocols, environ-mental sensitivities identified &	Appendix D - SER

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Scoping Report for the ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility (WEF) proposed near Balfour. The MTPA acknowledges the significant reduction in the number of proposed turbines from 66 to 27, which has been implemented to avoid environmentally sensitive areas. The proposed hub height of up to 180 m, combined with a blade length of 100 m, presents specific considerations for biodiversity management. For the purposes of spatial assessment, the MTPA applied a precautionary 100 m buffer around each turbine footprint.</p>	<p>verified buffers created based on sensitivity of receiving environment and based on understood impact of types of infrastructure.</p> <p>As reflected in the Scoping Report and associated specialist studies, the approach followed is to identify & verify environmental sensitivities across all relevant themes (including biodiversity, wetlands, terrestrial habitats, avifauna, and other ecological receptors), and to define avoidance areas, buffers, and development constraints based on the ecological function, sensitivity, and impact pathways identified on site. These spatial measures are therefore tailored to the characteristics of the receiving environment and the nature of the potential impact, rather than a fixed precautionary distance applied to turbine footprints in isolation.</p>	
	<p>The sections below set out the MTPA's key areas of concern and the conditions under which the MTPA could consider supporting the progression of this project to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) phase.</p> <p>1. Avifaunal Risk and Site Sensitivity</p> <p>The proposed ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 is classified as an area of High Sensitivity for avifauna. This classification is substantiated by the confirmed presence of numerous Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) and by significant recorded flight activity within the potential rotor-swept zone.</p>	<p>Avifaunal specialist:</p> <p>The output of the DFFE Screening Tool for the Avian (Wind) Theme indicated that the site is classified as 'Low' Sensitivity.</p> <p>The Screening Tool Report identified the area within 5 km of the project site as high sensitivity for the avian species of conservation concern (SCC) African Marsh Harrier (<i>Circus ranivorus</i>), Secretarybird (<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>), Lanner Falcon (<i>Falco biarmicus</i>), White-bellied Bustard (<i>Eupodotis senegalensis</i>) and Yellow-billed Stork (<i>Mycteria ibis</i>) in terms of the animal species theme, that could be affected by the proposed</p>	<p>Appendix F - FSR</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
		<p>development. Therefore, according to the Screening Tool Report, an avifaunal specialist impact assessment and an avian species specialist impact assessment is required, unless the land use or sensitivity identified by the Screening Tool is disputed.</p> <p>The Site Inspection and one year of avifaunal pre-application/pre-construction monitoring confirmed that the site is of high sensitivity under the animal species theme for 12 SCC , in terms of the National Web-based Screening Tool classification, and that an Animal Species Specialist Assessment must be conducted by a specialist registered with SACNASP with a field of practice relevant to the taxonomic group (in this case Aves – Birds), for which the assessment is being undertaken. The assessment must be undertaken following the Species Environmental Assessment Guideline (SANBI, 2022).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Screening Tool sensitivity classification of low under the Avian (Wind) theme is disputed and determined as High Sensitivity: <p>'Includes habitat likely to be of importance to priority species sensitive to wind energy developments, Critically Endangered, Endangered bird species and/or Vulnerable bird species; and habitat likely to be of importance to endemic and/or range-restricted bird species that are susceptible to impacts from</p>	

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
		<p>wind energy facilities. These areas are potentially sensitive to development.'</p> <p>An Avifaunal Specialist Assessment is required for all sensitivities under the Avian Wind Theme)</p>	
	<p><i>The following avifaunal sensitivities and concerns have been identified through pre-application monitoring and specialist assessments:</i></p> <p>High Flight Activity and Collision Risk</p> <p>Pre-application monitoring recorded a total of 311 individual flight paths by 25 priority species across the study area. A matter of particular concern is that 89% of all recorded flights were estimated to occur at risk height (between 20 m and 300 m above ground level), the altitude band within which birds are most vulnerable to turbine blade collisions. The most frequently recorded species at risk height included the African Black Swift, the Black-winged Kite (Near Threatened), Verreaux's Eagle (Vulnerable), and the Greater Flamingo (Near Threatened). It must be emphasised that large-bodied, long-lived species with inherently low reproductive rates, such as eagles and storks, are disproportionately affected by even apparently low fatality rates, owing to their sensitivity to adult mortality within population dynamics.</p> <p>Twelve Bird Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) were recorded across both the site and the control area. These included the Verreaux's Eagle, Secretarybird, African Marsh Harrier, Cape Vulture (which has been</p>	<p>Avifaunal specialist:</p> <p>An additional avifaunal survey and nest search will be conducted in the EIA phase coinciding with the large raptor breeding season (winter) to confirm that conditions on site have not changed and to conduct another large raptor nest search, including verification of new provided nest information and to identify any new nests and roosts.</p>	<p>Appendix G.5 - FSR</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>observed utilising nearby powerlines as overnight roost sites), and both the Greater and Lesser Flamingos.</p> <p>The MTPA strongly supports the avifaunal report's recommendation to avoid ridge tops and steep slopes, which is informed by the well-documented increased collision risk for soaring raptors that utilise orographic lift generated by these landforms.</p> <p>Based on the MTPA's review of several other wind energy facility applications across Mpumalanga Province, it is considered unusual that no nesting sites were identified or recorded during the survey period. This warrants additional targeted surveys during the EIA phase.</p>		
	<p>Verreaux's Eagle (Vulnerable)</p> <p>A total of 28 individual flights were recorded for the Verreaux's Eagle across all survey periods, of which 24 were documented at risk height. The MTPA wishes to draw attention to the ecological significance of this mountainous area as potential foraging habitat for the Verreaux's Eagle, specifically in relation to the availability of Rock Hyrax as its primary prey species. Approximately 30 to 50 years ago, Rock Hyrax populations across Mpumalanga were severely depleted, with consequent significant negative impacts on Verreaux's Eagle population viability in the region. Against this background, the MTPA specifically requests that the occurrence and estimated abundance of Rock Hyrax be included in the terrestrial biodiversity assessment, with commentary on its role as a potential prey resource</p>	<p>Avifaunal specialist:</p> <p>As no Verreaux's Eagle nests were located within 10 km of the site, the Verreaux's Eagle Risk Assessment (VERA) model, which relies on nest locations to estimate collision risks and is recommended to be run by the Verreaux's Eagle Guidelines, could not be run for this project. In the absence of VERA the Verreaux's Eagle Guidelines recommend a 5.2 km no-turbine buffer surrounding all known nest locations. The closest known nest is located > 12 km from the proposed development site boundary. This will be verified again during the EIA phase.</p>	<p>Appendix G.5 - FSR</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>supporting the Verreaux's Eagle population in this landscape.</p> <p>Furthermore, the MTPA suggest that the Verreaux's Eagle Risk Assessment (VERA) model be applied to the confirmed Verreaux's Eagle nest site identified north east of the project area, in order to quantitatively assess the collision risk posed to this species by the proposed turbine layout. We are not sure whether it is actually possible to run the model as the nest is >10m from the nearest turbine, but given the limited occurrence of topographic features in this landscape, and the frequent recorded occurrence on site, we anticipate the Verreaux Eagle to utilise this area.</p>		
	<p>Secretarybirds (Globally Endangered)</p> <p>Citizen science data derived from a comparison of SABAP1 and SABAP2 reporting rates indicates a consistent and significant decline in Secretarybird occurrence across the majority of its South African range. As of early 2025, a total of ten confirmed Secretarybird fatalities have been reported at South African wind farms, including at facilities where observer-led Shutdown on Demand (SDoD) protocols are actively in place. Although the species has a low recorded passage rate at Uvemvane — as low as 0.002 flights per hour — it remains very susceptible to turbine blade collisions owing to its wide-ranging movements and tendency to fly at risk height. Fatalities at other facilities have frequently occurred in proximity to active nest sites (typically within 1.4 km to 2.2 km) and have been disproportionately associated with adverse weather</p>	<p>Avifaunal specialist:</p> <p>An additional large raptor nest survey will be conducted during the EIA phase which will include a focus on the identification of new or previously undetected Secretarybird nests. Mitigation measures specifically for the avoidance, minimisation and mitigation of impacts for Secretarybird will be considered and recommended in the Avifaunal Specialist Assessment Report.</p>	<p>Appendix G.5 - FSR</p>

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	<p>conditions such as mist and rain, which may cause birds to misjudge proximity to turbines or to fail to respond adequately to SDoD protocols. The species is additionally vulnerable to both collisions with and electrocution on overhead powerlines associated with wind and solar energy infrastructure.</p>		
	<p><i>Collision risk modelling (CRM) and Potential Biological Removal (PBR) rates</i></p> <p>The MTPA requires that, as part of the EIA phase, formal Collision Risk Modelling (CRM) and Potential Biological Removal (PBR) analyses be conducted and reported for all bird species of conservation concern recorded during the pre-application monitoring period. These analyses are essential for quantifying population-level impacts and for determining whether the proposed project can be considered ecologically sustainable within the broader regional context. The results of these analyses must inform layout optimisation decisions and the need for and design of mitigation measures.</p>	<p>Avifaunal specialist:</p> <p>Collision Risk Modelling and Potential Biological Removal will be included in the Avifaunal Specialist Assessment Report.</p>	<p>Appendix G.5 - FSR</p>
	<p><i>Extending avifaunal monitoring to two years</i></p> <p>In accordance with the applicable Best-Practice Guidelines for avifaunal monitoring, while pre-construction baseline monitoring typically spans a minimum of 12 consecutive months to capture a complete annual ecological cycle, there are several specific conditions under which this period must be extended to at least two years. The MTPA submits that several such conditions are likely applicable to the ABO Uvemvane WEF</p>	<p>Avifaunal specialist:</p> <p>One year of increased effort monitoring was conducted in line with all applicable best practice guidelines and an additional winter site survey and nest search will be conducted during the EIA Phase. As the proposed turbine layout already avoids all areas identified as of high and medium avifaunal sensitivity one year of monitoring is sufficient. As per the Verreux's Eagle Guidelines, a 2nd year of monitoring is required if turbines are proposed in</p>	<p>Appendix G.5 - FSR</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p><i>1. General High-Risk and Uncertainty</i></p> <p>Extended monitoring is warranted where there is a high risk of significant impacts on priority species, particularly where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a high degree of uncertainty regarding the nature or magnitude of potential impacts, or regarding the efficacy of proposed mitigation measures, and where further monitoring would meaningfully reduce this uncertainty; and The available information is insufficient for evidence-based decision-making, particularly in respect of the formulation of effective avoidance and mitigation strategies. <p>The MTPA further notes that the most recent avifaunal field survey was conducted from 16 to 29 October 2024, which is approximately 17 months prior to the date of these comments. Conditions on the ground may have changed materially in the intervening period, for example, through the establishment of new nesting sites by species not previously recorded in the area, which may not be adequately captured in the current baseline dataset.</p>	<p>areas within 5,2 km of Verreaux's Eagle nests or in areas identified as medium sensitivity by VERA, which is not the case for the proposed layout. As per the Black Harrier Guidelines data collection should be extended to 2 years if turbines will be located 5 km of likely breeding habitats or roosts, at foraging sites or in likely flight paths, which is not the case for the proposed layout. According to the Cape Vulture Guidelines monitoring should be extended in areas of high and very high sensitivity, which is not the case for the proposed development.</p> <p>While it is acknowledged that additional data is always beneficial, a second year of monitoring is unlikely to result in any valuable results in this instance, which would change the precautionary buffers recommended and adhered to in the proposed layout. A second year of monitoring could only be reasonably motivated for if turbines were proposed in medium or high-risk areas. All potential avifaunal impacts will be assessed and confidence in significance ratings and efficacy of mitigation measures confirmed and reported on in the EIA phase.</p>	
	<p><i>2. Species-Specific Requirements</i></p> <p>Verreaux's Eagle: The guidelines require that monitoring be conducted over a minimum of two years where a proposed wind farm is considered to pose a significant risk to this species. This</p>	<p>Avifaunal specialist:</p> <p>According to the Verreaux's Eagle Guidelines a 2nd year of monitoring is required if turbines are proposed in areas within 5,2 km of Verreaux's Eagle nests or in areas identified as medium sensitivity by</p>	<p>Appendix G.5 - FSR</p>

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	<p>requirement applies where turbines are proposed within medium or high-risk areas as identified by the VERA model (not yet conducted), or other landscape features associated with elevated collision risk. The topographic importance of this area and the frequent use of this site indicates this may be the case.</p> <p><i>3. Insufficient Data for Modelling</i></p> <p>Monitoring must also be extended where a single year of data does not provide sufficient statistical confidence for critical analytical outputs, including Collision Risk Modelling (CRM) and Potential Biological Removal (PBR) calculations. Given the number of priority species recorded and the complexity of flight activity identified at this site, the MTPA considers it prudent to require a two-year baseline to ensure the robustness of modelling inputs.</p>	<p>VERA, which is not the case for the proposed layout. All areas identified as of high and medium sensitivity including steep slopes (> 1:4) scarps, ridges and rocky outcrops are already avoided by the proposed development.</p> <p>Modelling will be conducted as per the Avian (Wind) protocol requirement in the EIA Phase.</p>	
	<p><i>Vantage point monitoring</i></p> <p>Based on the MTPA's spatial analysis, approximately 22% of the proposed turbines, specifically turbines WT-12, WT 14, WT-28, WT-29, WT-30, and WT-31, fall outside the 2 km effective monitoring radius of the established vantage points. This constitutes a gap in observational coverage and raises concerns regarding the ability of the current monitoring design to adequately characterise avifaunal use of, and associated risk at, these turbine locations.</p>	<p>Avifaunal specialist:</p> <p>The survey cover is above the minimum requirement of the Best Practice Guidelines (Jenkins et al 2015) 'a minimum of 75% of the potential developable area should be surveyed. 'In addition, all proposed turbine positions avoid areas identified as of high and medium flight risk, including topographical features such as wooded areas, wetlands, rivers, scarps, steep slopes and ridges, where buffers were not solely derived from vantage point survey observations.</p>	<p>Appendix G.5 - FSR</p>

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	<p>2. Terrestrial Biodiversity Sensitivities</p> <p>Turbine WT-14, together with its 100 m precautionary buffer, encroaches upon a designated Climate Change Refugia area and a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) classified as Irreplaceable. This turbine additionally falls outside the effective radius of any vantage point monitoring station and is located within approximately 280 m of a confirmed Heidelberg Copper butterfly locality to the north of the turbine footprint. The MTPA is of the view that this turbine should either be relocated southwards or removed from the layout.</p>	<p>Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist:</p> <p>Comment noted. The Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist Assessment Report will contain the requirement that WT-14 be removed or relocated to an area of Secondary Grassland that is outside a CBA and designated Climate Change Refugia area.</p>	<p>Appendix G.2 - FSR</p>
	<p>Invertebrate Sensitivities - Heidelberg Copper butterfly (<i>Chrysoritis aureus</i>)</p> <p>The MTPA requires strict adherence to the specialist-identified High and Very High sensitivity areas for the Heidelberg Copper butterfly, as the primary means of reducing potential negative impacts on this taxon. As a lycaenid butterfly, the Heidelberg Copper is predominantly a low-flying species, typically recorded within one to two metres above the ground surface, and direct collision with turbine blades is therefore not considered the primary risk.</p>	<p>Invertebrate Specialist:</p> <p>Noted and agreed. Layout changes subsequent to the submission of the draft scoping report has already considered layout changes to exclude most high sensitivity areas. Exclusion of Very High Sensitivity areas will greatly reduce anticipated and likely impacts on areas of suitable habitat for the species. Also, the specialist has indicated that some considerations can be provided in High Sensitivity Areas, as per the shapefiles, where certain areas might be suitable for limited development options. These will be investigated on a case-by-case basis during a pre-construction walkdown and subjected to micro-siting recommendations, where necessary.</p> <p>Agree with risks from turbine blades. Direct impacts to individuals are not a great concern at this stage, habitat loss from development footprints, and</p>	<p>Appendix G.14 - FSR</p>

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		construction/ access roads, and laydown areas represent a major consideration at this stage.	
	It is noted that an estimated 83 individual Heidelberg Copper butterflies have been recorded within the study area and project footprint. The MTPA strongly recommends the development of a Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) specifically addressing the conservation management requirements of this species, incorporating active management of fire regime, maintenance and restoration of suitable habitat, and targeted alien invasive plant control.	Invertebrate Specialist: The specialist will liaise with MTPA to obtain latest observation records for the study area and augment/ amend maps and sensitivities where necessary as part of the EIA report. The recommendation of a BMP will be included as part of EIA recommendations, with specific reference to suggested components.	Appendix G.14 - FSR
	In respect of turbine WT-14, the blade sweep area overlaps with a High sensitivity area for the Heidelberg Copper. An adjustment to the positioning of this turbine is required. As previously noted, the MTPA recommends that WT-14 be relocated southwards or removed from the layout.	Invertebrate Specialist: Noted. Avoidance as an initial strategy will be preferred. As mentioned earlier, the limited development of some High sensitivity areas might be possible, but only with confirmation of the absence of the species from a pre-construction walkdown exercise and subject to micro-siting recommendations where considered appropriate.	Appendix G.14 - FSR
	Bats The Scoping Report acknowledges that four proposed turbines have blade sweep areas that encroach upon designated bat No-Go areas, and concedes that these turbines will require relocation in. The MTPA concurs with this assessment and requires that a solution be implemented and documented for the EIA phase.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and c recognises the importance of addressing this concern to ensure compliance with biodiversity conservation requirements and to minimise ecological impacts. The project team will engage with key stakeholders, including the MTPA, to	Appendix D - SER

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		confirm that the proposed solutions meet statutory and best practice standards for bat conservation, and ensure that all actions are transparently communicated throughout the EIA phase.	
	<p>3. Mitigation Measures</p> <p><i>Adherence to the Mitigation Hierarchy</i></p> <p>The MTPA notes that the avifaunal guidelines advise against placing turbines on ridge tops, scarps, and steep slopes, owing to the elevated collision risk associated with birds utilising orographic lift generated by these terrain features. While the proposed project layout endeavours to avoid such areas, the Scoping Report indicates that where turbines are nonetheless placed in these sensitive locations, reliance will be placed on secondary mitigation measures such as blade patterning and Shutdown on Demand (SDoD) protocols. The MTPA does not consider this approach to be consistent with the mitigation hierarchy, which unequivocally prioritises the physical avoidance of sensitive terrain over operational or technological mitigation.</p> <p>The MTPA furthermore draws attention to the lethal secondary threats associated with grid connection infrastructure. Large-bodied birds, including vultures and eagles, are vulnerable to electrocution where they bridge energised components on electricity pylons. We strongly support the decision to bury medium voltage (33kV) lines where possible.</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>The proposed turbine layout already avoids all areas identified as ‘mitigation areas’ (areas of medium flight risk) as well as all no-turbine areas, in line with the mitigation hierarchy of prioritising avoidance.</p> <p>All available mitigation measures will be considered and assessed in the Avifaunal Specialist Assessment Report to minimise and mitigate residual impacts.</p>	Appendix G.5 - FSR

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	<p>Recommended Mitigation Strategy</p> <p>To address the concerns set out in this submission, the MTPA recommends a comprehensive mitigation strategy structured in accordance with the recognised mitigation hierarchy. The following measures are required:</p> <p><i>Avoidance – Layout Optimisation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technological and Operational Mitigation: • Blade Patterning: High-contrast blade patterning must be applied to all turbines to improve turbine visibility to birds and reduce collision probability. • Shutdown on Demand (SDoD): A species-specific and weather-sensitive SDoD protocol must be developed and implemented for all turbines in the vicinity of confirmed priority areas for avifauna. Two years of monitoring would support the identification of these areas. 	<p>Avifaunal specialist:</p> <p>All available mitigation measures will be considered and assessed in the Avifaunal Specialist Assessment Report during the EIA phase to minimise and mitigate residual impacts of the proposed layout which avoids all areas of high and medium flight risk.</p>	<p>Appendix G.5 - FSR</p>
	<p>Post-Construction Monitoring and Adaptive Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptive Management Triggers: A pre-agreed set of fatality thresholds (trigger levels) must be established for priority species, above which pre-defined adaptive management responses, including enhanced SDoD, layout modification, or temporary turbine shutdown, will be automatically implemented. These must be included in the EMPr. • Annual Reporting: Annual post-construction monitoring reports must be submitted to the MTPA and BirdLife, covering fatality rates by species, 	<p>Avifaunal specialist:</p> <p>The Avifaunal Specialist Assessment Report will include a post-construction monitoring plan in line with the relevant best practise guidelines and applicable protocols.</p>	<p>Appendix G.5 - FSR</p>

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	SDoD event records, bat curtailment data, and the implementation status of all mitigation measures.		
	<p>Butterfly Habitat Monitoring: Population monitoring for the Heidelberg Copper butterfly must be incorporated into the post-construction monitoring programme, with surveys conducted annually during appropriate flight seasons to assess population trends and the effectiveness of habitat management measures.</p> <p>Biodiversity Management Plan for the Heidelberg Copper and Associated Grassland Habitats</p> <p>A site-specific Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) must be developed for the Heidelberg Copper butterfly and its associated grassland habitats, to be implemented throughout the operational lifespan of the project.</p> <p>The BMP must incorporate a fire management plan designed to maintain suitable open grassland structure for butterfly populations, avoiding both excessive burning and the encroachment of woody vegetation.</p> <p>An alien invasive species management programme must be included within the BMP, targeting species that threaten Heidelberg Copper and <i>Metisella meninx</i> larval host plant communities.</p>	<p>Invertebrate Specialist:</p> <p>In addition to avoidance mitigation options at potential conflict sites, the inclusion of a population monitoring programme as part of the EIA mitigation recommendations will be prioritised. Notably, it will be recommended that population monitoring be done during typical emergence/ presence periods (e.g., September, December to January), specifically at habitats/ sites that are closest or within range of proposed turbines following the construction phase.</p> <p>Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist:</p> <p>Comment noted. The Terrestrial Biodiversity Scoping Report has identified the need for an alien invasive species control programme.</p> <p>The Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist Assessment Report will contain detailed alien invasive species control measures. Furthermore, the report will also include the requirement that the final control programme must be developed with additional input and guidance from the invertebrate specialist regarding the management of threatened butterfly species. There will also be a requirement that the</p>	<p>Appendix G.12 – FSR;</p> <p>Appendix G.2 - FSR</p>

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		alien invasive species control programme be integrated into the broader BMP.	
	<p>Conclusion</p> <p>In summary, the MTPA acknowledges the applicant's efforts to reduce the turbine layout in response to the biodiversity sensitivities identified during the scoping phase. The MTPA notes with appreciation the appointment of suitably qualified lepidopterists who have been able to comprehensively assess the likely impacts on the Heidelberg Copper butterfly and to provide a credible basis for managing the associated risks. The MTPA commends the applicant for this approach.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and appreciates the MTPA's recognition of the applicant's efforts in addressing biodiversity, especially through turbine layout adjustments and engaging suitably qualified lepidopterists. The EAP will implement best practice mitigation measures and integrate lepidopterist recommendations into the final Environmental Management Programme.</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>

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	<p>Our remaining reservations relate strictly to the avifauna. The proposed site remains highly sensitive. Given that not all proposed turbine locations were comprehensively covered by vantage points during the initial assessments, that the avifaunal survey is outdated (having been conducted a year and a half ago), and considering the recent recording of a Verreaux's Eagle nest located 12.6 km away, combined with the regular occurrence of this priority species on site, we maintain that there is still an underlying level of uncertainty regarding collision risks.</p> <p>Therefore, it is our position that this development would greatly benefit from an additional year of pre-construction avifaunal monitoring. We also request a slight adjustment to the vantage point locations to ensure they adequately cover the newly finalized turbine locations before environmental authorization is fully supported.</p> <p>Kind Regards, Dr. M.C. LOTTER CONTROL SCIENTIST: BIODIVERSITY PLANNING</p>	<p>Avifaunal specialist:</p> <p>The survey cover is above the minimum requirement of the Best Practice Guidelines (Jenkins et al 2015) 'a minimum of 75% of the potential developable area should be surveyed. 'In addition, all proposed turbine positions avoid areas identified as of high and medium flight risk, including topographical features such as wooded areas, wetlands, rivers, scarps, steep slopes and ridges, where buffers are precautionary and not solely derived from vantage point survey observations.</p> <p>The provided distance of 12,6 km to the closest known Verreaux's Eagle nest confirms that a second year of monitoring is not required as per the Verreaux's Eagle Guidelines. While it is acknowledged that additional data is always beneficial, a second year of monitoring is unlikely to result in any valuable results in this instance, which would change the precautionary buffers recommended and adhered to in the proposed layout. A second year of monitoring could only be reasonably motivated for if turbines were proposed in medium or high-risk areas.</p>	<p>Appendix G.5 - FSR</p>
Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)			
<p>Robyn Luyt 13 March 2026 Email</p>	<p>Dear WSP,</p> <p>I am unable to locate the documents on your website when clicking on the links in the email below. Please can</p>	<p>WSP PP OFFICE:</p> <p>Good day Robyn,</p>	<p>Appendix D-SER</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>you provide the documents to us via WeTransfer so that we don't have to download each appendix separately.</p> <p>Also, I have noted that your public comment period is from 13 March to 15 April. There are however 3 public holidays in that period that cannot be reckoned in the number of days. By my calculations, the last day for comments is 17 April (if the documents are available today - if they aren't then this date will change accordingly).</p> <p>Kind Regards</p> <p>Robyn</p> <p><i>Robyn Luyt B.A., B.Sc., B.Sc (Hons) M.Sc., Pr.Sci.Nat. (400327/11), EAPASA (2019/1293)</i> <i>Director: Environmental Impact Management</i> <i>Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land & Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)</i> <i>Mpumalanga Provincial Government</i> <i>Riverside Office Park, Aqua Street (Cycad Building - Block 4)</i> <i>Nelspruit, 1200</i></p>	<p>The documents are the second project on the WSP website. Please see the link below and a onedrive link for the reports:</p> <p>WSP: https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents</p> <p>Onedrive: ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1_Draft Scoping Report_Public Review</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Public Participation office</p>	
<p>Robyn Luyt</p> <p>08 April 2026</p> <p>Email</p>	<p>Dear Rob,</p> <p>I see the layout has changed since the pre-application meeting. Please provide us with the latest shapefiles - we will need them as part of our review of the SR.</p> <p>Kind Regards</p> <p>Robyn</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Dear Robyn and Mervyn,</p> <p>Apologies for the delayed response.</p>	<p>Appendix C - SER</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p><i>Robyn Luyt B.A., B.Sc., B.Sc (Hons) M.Sc., Pr.Sci.Nat. (400327/11), EAPASA (2019/1293)</i></p> <p><i>Director: Environmental Impact Management</i></p> <p><i>Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land & Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)</i></p> <p><i>Mpumalanga Provincial Government</i></p> <p><i>Riverside Office Park, Aqua Street (Cycad Building - Block 4)</i></p>	<p>As requested, please see attached is the kmz file showing the project layout for the Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1,</p> <p>Also, please note that the public review period takes into account three public holidays between March and April 2026 (21 March, 3 April and 6 April), resulting in an end date of 15 April 2026. However, if any stakeholder or I&AP requires more time to</p>	

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
<p>Robyn Luyt</p> <p>Director: Environmental Impact Management</p> <p>09 April 2026</p> <p>Email</p>	<p>Good day Jashmika,</p> <p>MTPA and DARDLEA have been requesting the latest shapefiles for Uvemvane WEF for some time now so that we can review the draft Scoping Report, but have still not received a response. Please can you make them available to us ASAP.</p> <p>I also did not receive confirmation about the review period - the draft report was made available on Friday 13 March. Due to the public holidays (x4) in the month of March and April, the closing date for comments is 16 April (and not 15 April as indicated in your email below).</p> <p>Kind Regards</p> <p>Robyn</p> <p><i>Robyn Luyt B.A., B.Sc., B.Sc (Hons) M.Sc., Pr.Sci.Nat. (400327/11), EAPASA (2019/1293)</i></p> <p><i>Director: Environmental Impact Management</i></p> <p><i>Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land & Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)</i></p> <p><i>Mpumalanga Provincial Government</i></p> <p><i>Riverside Office Park, Aqua Street (Cycad Building - Block 4)</i></p> <p><i>Nelspruit, 1200</i></p>	<p>review the project, reasonable extensions will be accommodated.</p> <p>Please feel free to contact me if you need any further information.</p> <p>Kind regards, Jashmika Maharaj</p>	
<p>Robyn Luyt</p>	<p>Dear Jashmika,</p> <p>Herewith our comments on the draft Scoping Report.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Dear Robyn,</p>	<p>Appendix D – SER</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
Director: Environmental Impact Management 14 April 2026 Email	Kind Regards Robyn <i>Robyn Luyt B.A., B.Sc., B.Sc (Hons) M.Sc., Pr.Sci.Nat. (400327/11), EAPASA (2019/1293)</i> <i>Director: Environmental Impact Management</i> <i>Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land & Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)</i> <i>Mpumalanga Provincial Government</i> <i>Riverside Office Park, Aqua Street (Cycad Building - Block 4)</i> <i>Nelspruit, 1200</i>	I acknowledge receipt of your comments. Kind regards, Jashmika Maharaj	
Robyn Luyt 14 April 2026 Letter (Email)	Dear Madam, DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY (WEF) 1 NEAR BALFOUR AND HEIDELBERG IN MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG The draft scoping report which was submitted by you in respect of the abovementioned application and received by the Department on 13 March 2026 has reference. The Department has considered the content of the report, and has the following comments:	EAP: The comment is acknowledged. Responses to specific comments are detailed below.	Appendix D - SER
	Site and Layout:	Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist:	Appendix G.2 - SER

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>1. The proposed Uvemvane WEF 1 is located on a site comprising CBA Irreplaceable and Optimal, Intact Grassland Patches, Ecological Support Areas (ESA), Priority Focus Areas, Climate Change Corridors, and CBA and ESA Wetlands.</p>	<p>The Terrestrial Biodiversity Scoping Report has highlighted and considered these biodiversity sensitivities in relation to the proposed Project site. These sensitivities have informed the current Project layout, which has been revised from previous versions with an emphasis on avoidance.</p> <p>The infrastructure layout and identified impacts and management measures, will be further considered, assessed and refined based on the received comments during the impact assessment phase, with the results presented in the Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist Assessment Report.</p>	
	<p>2. DARDLEA does not support the development of WEFs (or any non-compatible land use) within CBAs. Similarly, DARDLEA does not support development of WEFs (or associated infrastructure) in intact grassland patches. The Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan (MBSP) specifically incorporated climate change into spatial priorities through the prioritisation of the connectivity of remaining intact grassland patches in the province, as they provide habitat for species to thrive, and allow for their dispersal. Intact grasslands are crucial for supporting threatened avifauna. CBAs and intact grassland patches are, in terms of metapopulation dynamics, Mpumalanga's source areas. The loss of source areas will impact areas of low-quality habitat that cannot support a population of species on its own.</p>	<p>Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist:</p> <p>No proposed infrastructure is located within mapped Intact Grassland patches.</p> <p>Based on the revised infrastructure layout, the proposed wind turbines and most associated infrastructure have been deliberately positioned outside CBAs to avoid impacts on these features. However, portions of the proposed access road will still intersect CBAs. Where feasible, access roads have been aligned with existing farm roads or tracks to limit disturbance to undisturbed CBA areas, and the scoping report identifies additional measures to minimise disturbance footprints and implement active rehabilitation, including alien invasive species control. The potential loss of CBAs from the</p>	<p>Appendix G.2 - SER</p>

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		development of roads will be assessed during the EIA phase and the need for offsets confirmed.	
	3. It is acknowledged that all turbines, laydown areas and substations (in Mpumalanga) have avoided CBAs and intact grassland patches, however, roads have not. This must be assessed in line with the requirement to potentially consider biodiversity offsets, once it has been demonstrated that all measures of avoidance have been exhausted. Any potential biodiversity offset exercise must be undertaken in accordance with the National Biodiversity Offset Guideline (2023) and must specifically provide for “Additionality” and promote connectivity in the wider landscape.	<p>Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist:</p> <p>Comment noted. The project layout has been revised to avoid CBAs; however, it is noted that residual impacts on CBAs mainly from the access road layout remain. The Terrestrial Biodiversity Scoping Report concludes that offsetting will thus be required to manage residual impacts associated with CBAs.</p> <p>The layout and assessment of residual impacts will be further refined during the impact assessment phase and reported in the Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist Assessment Report, which will further inform the applicability of an offset strategy.</p> <p>EAP:</p> <p>The project layout will be carefully refined to reduce any remaining environmental impacts to the greatest extent possible. As a result of this approach, the implementation of Biodiversity Offsets is not being considered for this project.</p>	Appendix G.2 - SER
	4. Furthermore, the proximity of some turbines (e.g. WTGs 26, 27 and 28) to water resources is a concern, as is the location of others within Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus Areas (e.g. WTGs 14, 19 and 23). The reliable application of the mitigation hierarchy would require the initiation of the avoidance and	<p>Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist:</p> <p>The Terrestrial Biodiversity Scoping Report has highlighted and considered these biodiversity sensitivities in relation to the proposed Project site.</p>	Appendix G.2 - SER

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	<p>minimization steps at pre-application stages, with avoidance measures embedded in the layout plan and detailed designs (refer to the Endangered Wildlife Trust's draft Best Practice Guidelines for Implementing the Mitigation Hierarchy in South Africa, dated February 2023).</p>	<p>The scoping report has also identified and assessed the mentioned negative impacts.</p> <p>The current Project layout has been revised from previous versions with an emphasis on avoidance and has also been used to identify additional minimisation and rehabilitation measures, which are presented in the Terrestrial Biodiversity Scoping Report. Nonetheless, the proposed Project layout, including the positioning of the highlighted turbines, as well as the assessment of impacts and mitigation measures will be further considered and refined, based on the comments received, during the impact assessment phase, with the results presented in the relevant specialist assessment reports.</p>	
	<p>5. There is no indication in the layout of medium voltage cables (MVC) on the Mpumalanga site. Furthermore, in order to eliminate avifaunal collisions and electrocutions, confirmation must be provided that any internal MVC can be buried.</p>	<p>Applicant:</p> <p>The inclusion of the overhead/underground 33 kV line is required to facilitate the connection of wind turbines located in Gauteng, as the project site in this area is not consolidated. The 33 kV line terminates at its connection point at Wind Turbine 12 in Gauteng, after which internal underground reticulation within the roadway is sufficient to connect the remaining turbines. As the turbines in Mpumalanga are located within consolidated project areas and are positioned close enough to one another, internal underground reticulation within the roadway provides adequate connection.</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>

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		Consequently, no separate 33 kV line is required in Mpumalanga.	
	6. It is noted that the application includes MVC on the Gauteng site, with the shapefile (provided via email on 9 April 2026) denoting that the MVC will be mostly above ground. Collisions of SCC avifauna with overhead MVC, particularly those SCC that fly at night, is a concern. DARDLEAs Mpumalanga Bird Flyways Research Project includes GPS tracking data of a small sample of Greater and Lesser Flamingo, which record flights of Greater Flamingo at the northern intersection of the site (Gauteng side). DARDLEA therefore advocates for illuminated Bird Flight Diverters such as the OWL devices to be installed along the entire length of overhead lines in areas of night flight activity.	Avifaunal Specialist: The presence of Greater and Lesser Flamingo in the area and all available mitigation measures will be considered and addressed in the Avifaunal Specialist Assessment.	Appendix G.5 - FSR
	Specialist studies: 7. The Site Ecological Importance methodology, as per the requirements of the Species Environmental Assessment Guidelines, must be demonstrated to have been applied.	Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist: The rating of Site Ecological Importance (SEI) of the seven habitat units that were identified across the PAOI has been undertaken and will be presented in the three respective specialist impact assessment reports covered by the terrestrial biodiversity specialist (i.e., the Plant Species Specialist Assessment Report, Animal Species Specialist Assessment Report and the Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist Assessment Report).	Appendix G.2 - SER
	8. The various specialists have made recommendations for aquatic buffers, which differ according to the aspects	EAP:	Appendix D - SER

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	assessed. Appropriate context-specific wetland and aquatic buffers must be determined – and this must be demonstrated - that preserve the processes of wetland maintenance, <i>as well as the species that inhabit and use the system, which likely function at a broader scale</i> (e.g. waterbirds, bats and butterflies). Buffers must be reconciled accordingly, and the wetland specialist must consult the Bat, Terrestrial, and Ecological Invertebrate Specialists in this regard.	The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the recommendations regarding wetland and aquatic buffers will be addressed by the specialists during the EIA phase, with appropriate consultation between wetland, bat, terrestrial, and ecological invertebrate specialists to ensure all requirements are met.	
	9. Furthermore, the following resources developed by BirdLife South Africa must be consulted: 9.1. “Critical reminders for avifaunal impact assessments for large-scale infrastructure in High Altitude Grasslands, Mesic Highveld Grasslands and associated wetlands of South Africa” (2024). 9.2. Best Practice Guidelines for High-Elevation Wetland and Peatland Management in Southern Africa (2025).	Avifaunal Specialist: The Avifaunal Specialist Assessment Report will detail how all applicable guidelines were considered and complied with.	Appendix G.5 - FSR
	10. Avoidance of wetlands and wetland buffers is applicable to all associated infrastructure, including roads and powerlines. 11. The responsibilities for the requirement to manage buffer zones must be clarified.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the recommendations regarding wetland and aquatic buffers will be addressed by the specialist during the EIA phase. The responsibilities for the requirement to manage buffer zones will be confirmed in the EMPr.	
	Avifauna:	Avifaunal Specialist:	Appendix G.5 - FSR

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	12. The Avifaunal Assessment must confirm how protection of prime habitat aligns with BirdLife SA's Guidance note on " <i>Minimising the impacts of infrastructure development on Secretarybirds Sagittarius serpentarius</i> ".	<p>The Avifaunal Specialist Assessment Report will detail how all applicable guidelines were considered and complied with.</p> <p>An additional EIA Phase survey will specifically search for Secretarybird nests as per the guidance note requirement.</p>	
	13. The Avifaunal Assessment must confirm which waterbodies in the PAOI are frequented by Flamingo. A 2-3km turbine exclusion zone (including the rotor swept area) must be applied to natural pans, and to any waterbody frequented by Flamingo.	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>The Avifaunal Specialist Assessment Report will detail the water bodies frequented and potentially by flamingos following the EIA Phase Survey</p>	Appendix G.5 - FSR
	14. Turbine locations must be demonstrated to have been incorporated within vantage point visibility.	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>The survey cover is above the minimum requirement of the Best Practice Guidelines (Jenkins <i>et al.</i> 2015) 'a minimum of 75% of the potential developable area should be surveyed. 'In addition, all proposed turbine positions avoid areas identified as of high and medium flight risk, including topographical features such as wooded areas, wetlands, rivers, scarps, steep slopes and ridges, where buffers are precautionary and not solely derived from vantage point survey observations.</p>	Appendix G.5 - FSR
	15. The confirmation of Black Harrier at the control site requires the application of the BirdLife SA (BLSA) Black Harriers and Wind Energy: Guidelines for impact assessment, monitoring, and mitigation.	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>The survey effort conducted is in line with the Black Harrier Guidelines and this will be detailed in the Avifaunal Specialist Assessment Report.</p>	Appendix G.5 - FSR

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	<p>16. The Avifauna Assessment has classified rocky ridges and steep slopes as “Mitigation Areas” rather than areas of avoidance, which is concerning. On page 35 of the assessment, it states that: <i>“Due to the presence of Verreaux’s Eagle in the area, development on steep slopes (> 1:4) and on scarps, ridges and rocky outcrops is not recommended. These areas should be avoided by development as far as possible. Should turbine placement be proposed in these areas, then additional mitigation measures on these turbines will be required, such as blade pattering, and potentially shut-down-on-demand or other adaptive measures”</i>. Please note that:</p> <p>16.1. The mitigation hierarchy must be applied. Due to the confirmed presence of Verreaux Eagle on site, the BLSA Guideline (Verreaux’s Eagle and Wind Farms: Guidelines for impact assessment, monitoring, and mitigation) must be strictly applied. To reduce the risk of collisions and displacement, wind turbines must be placed outside of the core territory, and other areas associated with increased flight activity and/or risky behaviour must also be avoided within the species’ area of occupancy, including ridge tops, cliffs and steep slopes. These areas must be clearly depicted on a map (at an appropriate scale), and avoidance must be demonstrated.</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>The proposed turbine layout fully avoids all areas classified as ‘mitigation areas’ or medium flight risk areas which were recommended to be avoided (as per page 35). Therefore, the mitigation hierarchy of avoidance has been applied. A detailed avifaunal constraints map with the turbine layout overlain will be included in the Avifaunal Specialist Assessment Report.</p>	<p>Appendix G.5 - FSR</p>
	<p>16.2. It is DARDLEAs position that Blade Patterning must be applied to <i>all</i> approved turbines in Mpumalanga, in accordance with the recommendations in the BirdLife SAWEA Blade Patterning Guidelines, since the viable wind resource in the province coincides with high risk</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP confirms that this recommendation will be considered by the avifaunal specialist during the EIA phase.</p>	<p>Appendix G.5 - FSR</p>

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	areas for threatened species. Blade patterning is a precaution, and cannot at this stage be used in the impact analysis as a means to reduce the significance rating of an identified impact.		
	16.3. Shut-down-on-demand (SDoD) is likely to reduce, <i>but not eliminate</i> the risk of fatalities, and this must be considered in the impact analysis. Furthermore, the SDoD technology proposed must be assessed.	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>All available mitigation measures to minimise and mitigate residual impacts on avifauna will be discussed and assessed in the Avifaunal Specialist Assessment Report.</p> <p>Technology type can't be assessed at this time, prior to construction applicable technology to be used.</p> <p>Technology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AI-assisted visual detection for diurnal detection of target species (e.g., camera-based system capable of detecting and identifying the target species timeously to allow for the shutdown of the respective turbines to prevent collisions). • Radar-based bird tracking for nocturnal detection, increased range and redundancy of the camera systems being used during the day. 	Appendix G.5 - FSR
	17. For a low-density species, the flight time recorded for the Verreaux's Eagle is considered significant, with 28 flight paths over 6 seasons, and 7h35m at risk height. This also represents the second highest duration at risk height of all 25 priority species recorded during the surveys. The BLSA Verreaux's Eagle Guideline	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>The Verreaux's Eagle Guidelines state: 'If risk-averse planning is adopted (i.e. no turbines are proposed in high and medium risk areas as identified by VERA, or within 5.2km of nests and</p>	Appendix G.5 - FSR

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	recommends that recording significant flight activity is a criteria that should trigger two years of pre-construction monitoring. The specialist's decision to conclude monitoring after only one year, despite these high durations, is a primary point of concern regarding the assessment's adequacy.	other landscape features associated with an increased collision risk), then the duration of monitoring can be reduced to one year. However, if it is suspected that a proposed wind farm poses a significant risk to Verreux's Eagles (i.e. turbines are proposed in medium or high-risk areas as identified by VERA, or within 5.2 km of nests and other landscape features associated with an increased collision risk), pre-construction monitoring must be conducted over two years. As no turbines are proposed in any identified medium or high risks areas or within 5.2 km from a nest, a second year of monitoring is not reasonably required.	
	18. Further to the above, it should also be noted that the 72-hour requirement for vantage point surveys is the <i>minimum</i> requirement recommended in the guideline.	Avifaunal Specialist: The sampling effort is in line with all applicable guidelines.	Appendix G.5 - FSR
	19. Furthermore, it is understood that focal site surveys neglected manmade structures. The BLSA Verreux's Eagle Guideline emphasizes that it is critical to identify all potential nest sites, including those on man-made structures (e.g. pylons and masts), to accurately predict collision risk.	Avifaunal Specialist: All manmade structures encountered during the site set up, seasonal surveys and nest survey were inspected for nests and roosts, with incidental records kept of all made observations. Focal sites of nests and roosts on manmade structures are formally added when they are located, which none were. This will be detailed in the Avifaunal Specialist Assessment Report.	Appendix G.5 - FSR

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	20. The Avifaunal Specialist must consult with the conservation authorities in both Mpumalanga and Gauteng to confirm whether they have records of Verreux Eagle nest location/s in the vicinity of the site, which must inform amendments to the Avifaunal Assessment methodology.	Avifaunal Specialist: Records of nest locations from the Mpumalanga and Gauteng conservation authorities will be included and considered in the Avifaunal Specialist Assessment Report.	Appendix G.5 - FSR
	21. According to the Scoping Report, the wind turbine specifications applied for are as follows: Rotor diameter up to 200m, and hub height up to 180m. The Avifaunal Assessment must make recommendations for the specifications regarding turbines size and design, including the maximum height or minimum ground clearance of turbines, which must be informed by the collision-risk assessment.	Avifaunal Specialist: The detailed turbine specifications will be assessed in the Avifaunal Specialist Assessment Report.	Appendix G.5 - FSR
	22. It is noted that no dedicated nocturnal avifaunal surveys were conducted “due to health and safety concerns”. This is a concern, as nocturnal and crepuscular species are likely to be missed or underestimated by daytime surveys, which would affect the accuracy of predicted collision rates and result in underestimating the potential mortality of SCC (e.g. Greater Flamingo). Relying on daytime assumptions for a nocturnal flyer is likely to lead to inaccurate estimates of passage rates and risk-height durations.	Avifaunal Specialist: The site sensitivity verification takes a precautionary approach and assumes that potentially occurring nocturnal species are present and flying at risk height.	Appendix G.5 - FSR
	23. In order to achieve a robust and meaningful assessment of bird collision risk, input data must reflect actual conditions, and the risk must account for turbine characteristics (i.e. number and size), bird behaviour	Avifaunal Specialist:	Appendix G.5 - FSR

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	(passage rates, flight heights and patterns), and a range of possible fatality rates must be presented based on different assumptions, using the lower and upper bounds of turbine specifications.	The Avifaunal Impact Assessment will be conducted for the proposed specifications and in line with all applicable guidelines and legislation.	
	<p>Invertebrates:</p> <p>24. An Ecological Invertebrate Habitat Survey (which starts on Page 82 of Appendix G2), was undertaken due to sensitivities identified for a number of conservation important butterfly species highlighted in the Screening Tool. Of these, is the Endangered butterfly, Heidelberg Copper (<i>Chrysoritis aureus</i>). MTPA has records of the species occurring on the site (in Mpumalanga), however the specialist concluded that the site “appears to be less than suitable” for its presence, although did confirm that the host plant was recorded at several places on rocky ridges within the site. Nevertheless, the specialist assigned a rating of Very High Sensitivity (No-Go) to areas where <i>C. aureus</i> has historically been found. The Specialist must liaise with MTPA to ensure that their historical records are included in the “No-Go” areas.</p>	<p>Invertebrate Specialist:</p> <p>A meeting/ communication with MTPA, DARDLEA would be prioritised to ensure that all historical records are included, and to confirm accurate correlation with the Very High sensitivity/No-go Areas confirmed during scoping.</p> <p>As a sidenote, it is interesting that the Screening Report did not reflect these records. Typically, the confirmed records for Endangered taxa should yield a High or Very High Sensitivity in the Screening Report for the relevant parts of the study area. The information might be very recent and not yet captured as part of the sources for the Screening Tool.</p> <p>It is worth mentioning that the distribution patterns of <i>Chrysoritis aureus</i> is much more restricted than the host plant <i>Clutia pulchella</i>; the presence of <i>Clutia</i> represents only one of the critical habitat requirements. As mentioned, a Very High Sensitivity was precautionary assigned to all areas considered suitable and the verification of these areas will form part of the EIA phase of the project.</p>	Section 10.3.1 and Table 4 – Appendix G.12 - FSR
	25. The specialist concluded that “provided the wind energy infrastructure is micro-sited to areas of lower	Invertebrate Specialist:	Appendix G.12 - FSR

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	<p>anticipated sensitivities, habitats that sustain a high diversity of butterfly species could be safe guarded". Furthermore, it is noted that the layout has changed since the Ecological Invertebrate Habitat Survey was undertaken. The Ecological Invertebrate Specialist must verify that all recommendations have been implemented, including any updates provided as part of the EIA specialist assessment, and any updates to the categories for butterfly ecological sensitivity.</p>	<p>The development of a detailed mitigation approach that is cognisant of the Mitigation Hierarchy will be prioritised during the EIA phase of the project. Typically, avoidance is preferred, but micro-siting will be considered in selected and appropriate situations.</p> <p>This scoping phase of the project was mainly aimed at providing a tentative/ high level evaluation of habitat sensitivity. A more quantitative and species-specific approach in potential conflict areas will be followed in the EIA phase of the project.</p> <p>Final layout, tower positions, access/ construction/ maintenance roads represent the important activities and components of the project; the EIA report will be cognisant of the finalised version of the project components and highlight areas of potential conflict.</p> <p>All updates on the distribution, conservation status as well as the associated appropriate recommendations should be taken into account and applied as per findings and recommendations of the EIA.</p>	
	<p>26. The specialist must also confirm whether the persistence of important butterfly species in the no go areas will require management interventions e.g. burning regimes, monitoring etc. if the WEF and associated infrastructure is developed.</p>	<p>Invertebrate Specialist:</p> <p>Habitats of <i>Chrysoritis aureus</i> (the Heidelberg Copper) most likely require fire from time to time to maintain suitable habitat conditions. This means that if habitats are close by proposed locations of turbines a practical and suitable fire regime should</p>	<p>Appendix G.12 - FSR</p>

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		be implemented. This requirement will be confirmed during the EIA phase.	
	<p>Bats:</p> <p>27. The layout provided in the Scoping Report does not yet fully exclude all turbines and infrastructure from the buffers recommended in the bat assessment. This includes: At least four turbines located within the turbine exclusion buffers (e.g. WTG 26 which is located 40m from an ESA Wetland); newly planned roads that cross over bat buffers in the northern and central areas of the site; and a Temporary Laydown Area in the southern portion of the site that crosses into the 500 m buffer zone of a small active roost. These conflicts must be resolved in the EIA process.</p>	<p>Bats Specialist:</p> <p>It is assumed that a new layout will be provided during the EIA phase which will take all bat sensitivities into account.</p>	Appendix D - SER
	<p>28. The Bat Assessment must make recommendations for the specifications for turbines size and design, including rotor diameter.</p>	<p>Bats Specialist:</p> <p>This will be included in the EIA Phase.</p>	Appendix D - SER
	<p>29. While the automated curtailment system is reported in the Scoping Report as preferred mitigation for Bat impacts, the Bat Assessment refers to the requirement for blanket peak period curtailment during the high-risk spring and summer months if automated systems are not used. All required mitigation must be detailed in the impact analysis and EMP, which must demonstrate estimated effectiveness for the reduction of impact significance to acceptable levels.</p>	<p>Bats Specialist:</p> <p>These new analyses will be included in the EIA phase. While blanket curtailment can be effective it is new a guarantee as bat activity can change drastically between years. As such, automated curtailment will always be the preferred option.</p>	Appendix D - SER

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	<p>Agriculture:</p> <p>30. The report indicates that the project site is located within Protected Agricultural Areas (PAA) with a “High” sensitivity rating according to the screening tool. However, the justification provided in the report is limited to site-specific considerations. It is important to note that both the screening tool and the objectives of PDALA are intended to ensure the protection of such areas at a broader, strategic level, rather than focusing solely on individual sites. Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development should be consulted and provided with an opportunity to review and comment on the report.</p>	<p>Agriculture/ Soil Specialist:</p> <p>I agree with the comment and propose refinement of the current report during the EIA phase.</p> <p>EAP:</p> <p>The former Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) has been restructured into the Department of Agriculture (DoA) and the Department of Land Reform and Rural Development (DLRRD). The DLRRD has been included on the I&AP database and was consulted during the Scoping Phase Public Participation Process (PPP), where it was afforded an opportunity to review and comment on the Draft Scoping Report. A further opportunity to review and comment will be provided during the Draft EIA Report phase.</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>
	<p>Cumulative Impact Assessment</p> <p>31. Although other renewable energy facilities within 100 km have been identified in the Scoping Report in Table 8-3, reference is made in Section 8.2 – Cumulative Impact Assessment. Furthermore, the individual specialist assessments (Section 8.2.11 - 8.2.11) mostly refer to a 30 km radius (i.e. avifauna / bats) while others used a 50 km radius (i.e. Agriculture). The Plan of Study also does not specify the radius to be used in the various specialist assessments. We believe that a radius of 30km - 50 km is insufficient to adequately address the cumulative impacts of similar developments in a region</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. While a broader regional context (up to 100 km) was identified in the Scoping Report, individual specialist assessments would focus on smaller areas (i.e. 30–50 km) based on standard methods and data availability.</p> <p>The Department’s concern regarding the sensitivity of high elevation habitats and threatened avifauna is noted. The EIA phase will include a refined assessment of cumulative impacts by considering appropriate spatial extents per specialist discipline,</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>

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	<p>comprising sensitive and important high-elevation habitats that are known to be used by threatened avifauna for breeding. It would be more biologically appropriate for the cumulative impact assessment to incorporate a much wider area.</p>	<p>receptor sensitivity, ecological processes, and regional context. The EIA phase will therefore include a more detailed and coordinated assessment of cumulative impacts.</p> <p>Furthermore, for biodiversity-related studies, a wider project-area of assessment will be considered where necessary. The rationale for assessment radii will be clearly motivated, and cumulative impacts will be assessed in an integrated manner in the EIA Report.</p>	
	<p>32. Although numerous renewable energy developments were identified in Tables 8-1, 8-2 and Figures 8-1 and 8-2, according to our specific renewable energy database mapping, in addition to the proposed Uvemvane WEF, there are actually an additional 11 facilities in Mpumalanga (3 WEFs and 13 Solar Facilities - 7 Approved, 3 In Process, and 1 which did not require environmental authorisation) within a 100 km radius (See Table 1 below). Some of these are mentioned in the text and included in the Figures but are not included in the Tables (i.e. Tables 8-1 and 8-2). Not all other renewable energy facilities that need to be included in the cumulative assessment in the surrounding area have therefore been identified.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges the comment. In accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), only approved or constructed projects have been assessed, as projects that have been refused or are still under consideration do not constitute “reasonably foreseeable impacts”.</p>	<p>Section 8.2 - FSR</p>
	<p>33. A comparative assessment of the impacts of this proposed facility, in relation to and in conjunction with, all adjacent and surrounding renewable energy facilities within an appropriate radius must be provided in the draft EIA.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that a comparative and integrated cumulative impact assessment will be undertaken for the proposed</p>	<p>-</p>

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		facility in relation to adjacent and surrounding renewable energy facilities. An appropriate assessment radius will be defined and motivated, and the outcomes will be included in the Draft EIA Report.	
	Environmental Management Programme (EMPr): 34. The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) must include all recommendations outlined in: BirdLife South Africa 2025. Summary Bird Monitoring Reports from Operational Wind Energy Facilities in South Africa. BirdLife South Africa Occasional Report Series No. 3. BirdLife South Africa, Johannesburg, South Africa, including <i>inter alia</i> , the following:	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the inclusion of all recommendations from BirdLife South Africa (2025) will be ensured within the EMPr as required. These recommendations, along with any additional relevant measures, will be further addressed by the avifaunal specialist and detailed during the EIA phase.	Appendix D - SER
	34.1. Monitoring and reporting of bird impacts must take place throughout the lifespan of the activity. Reporting to BirdLife South Africa and the Competent Authority must be compulsory. Monitoring must be overseen by an independent bird specialist.	EAP: The EAP notes the requirement and confirms that the EMPr will include this recommendation. A comprehensive avifaunal monitoring and reporting programme will be implemented for the full operational lifespan of the activity. Monitoring outcomes will be reported to BirdLife SA and the Competent Authority (CA) as a mandatory requirement, and all monitoring will be conducted under the oversight of an independent, suitably qualified avifaunal specialist.	Appendix D - SER
	34.2. The EMPr must include a specific, measurable and timebound framework for decision making regarding the	EAP:	Appendix D - SER

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	duration of monitoring, and the specific circumstances for extension or curtailment.	The EAP notes the requirement and confirms that the EMPr will incorporate a clear, specific, measurable and timebound decision-making framework governing the duration of monitoring, including defined criteria and thresholds for the extension or curtailment of monitoring based on monitoring outcomes and identified impacts.	
	34.3. The EMPr must be clear on when additional research is required.	EAP: The EAP notes the requirement and confirms that the EMPr will confirm whether additional research or assessment is required.	Appendix D - SER
	34.4. Landowners must understand all access requirements and impacts associated with monitoring <i>throughout the lifespan</i> of a project.	EAP: The EAP and applicant note the requirement and confirms that the EMPr will address this concern.	Appendix D - SER
	34.5. Lease agreements must ensure that the effectiveness of monitoring is not compromised, and that restrictions do not compromise monitoring requirements in any way.	EAP: The EAP and applicant note the requirement and confirms that the EMPr will address this concern.	Appendix D - SER
	Please ensure that DARDLEA receives updated shapefiles on submission of the draft EIA, along with a summary of the changes made to the layout presented in the Scoping Report. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if there are any enquiries.	EAP: The EAP and applicant note this comment and confirms that updated spatial shapefiles, together with a summary of all layout changes from the Scoping Report, will be submitted to DARDLEA concurrently with the draft EIA submission.	Appendix D - SER

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	Sincerely, MS. R. LUYT DIRECTOR: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT		
Lesedi Local Municipality			
Mr George Ndhlovu 16 March 2026 Email	Greetings. The Office of the Municipal Manager hereby acknowledges receipt of the received correspondence with unreserved appreciation. Kind regards, Mr. George Ndhlovu Executive Secretary Department: Municipal Manager	WSP PP OFFICE: Good day, Thank you for the update. Kind regards, Public Participation Office	Appendix D-SER
Phiki Motshwaneng 16 March 2026 Email	Dear Public Participation Office I hope this email finds you well. The Lesedi Local Municipality (Agriculture & Mining Department) is kindly requesting for the Background Information Document (BID) /Draft Scoping report for the Proposed development of a Wind Energy Facility for review and comments. The Lesedi Local Municipality is requesting to be registered as Interested and Affected parties (I&AP) for the proposed development. Thank you Best regards	WSP PP OFFICE: Good day Phiki, The project reports for the ABO Uvemvane WEF can be found at the websites below: 1. WSP Website - https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents 2. WSP Datafree Website- https://wsp-engage.com/ Kind regards, Public Participation Office	Appendix D-SER

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	Phiki Motshwaneng Coordinator: Agriculture & Mining		
Phiki Motshwaneng 16 April 2026 Email	<p>Good day,</p> <p>I hope this email finds you well.</p> <p>It's noted that, today was supposed to be the due date for stakeholder submission of comments on the Windmill Energy Facility development project, however, due to the length of the project documents, Lesedi Local municipality request extension for the submission of comments on WEF project up until the 21st of April 2026.</p> <p>Your response in this regard is highly appreciated.</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>Regards, Phiki Motshweneng Coordinator: Agriculture and Mining</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Good day,</p> <p>I trust you are well.</p> <p>Thank you for your interest the project.</p> <p>I confirm that you may submit your comments by 21 April 2026.</p> <p>We look forward to receiving your comments.</p> <p>Kind regards, Jashmika Maharaj</p>	Appendix D-SER
Phiki Motshwaneng 21 April 2026 Email	<p>Sir/Madam</p> <p>Municipal comments on the draft Scoping and Specialist reports for the Proposed Development of the ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1, within Mpumalanga and Gauteng Provinces. Temporary DFFE Reference Number: 2024-11-0018</p> <p>The draft Scoping Report and Specialist reports submitted by WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd on behalf of</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment. Responses to specific comments is detailed below.</p>	Appendix D-SER

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd, has reference.		
	On the draft scoping report under Aquatic Assessment (Section 2.7), according to the National Water Act (NWA) (Act No. 36 of 1998), the buffer zone meters must be specified (i.e. 100m buffers for rivers and 500m buffers for wetlands):	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the recommendations regarding wetland and aquatic buffers will be addressed by the specialist during the EIA phase, with appropriate consultation between wetland, bat, terrestrial, and ecological invertebrate specialists to ensure all requirements are met.	Appendix D - SER
	It is recommended that the topsoil should be used for rehabilitation of the site (see Section 3.4, Table 3-4 under Excavation and earthworks activity on Page 52).	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that this recommendation will be considered and included in the EMPr during the EIA phase.	Appendix D - SER
	It is noted that the water could be sourced from local municipality. Since the site is within three local municipalities, which municipality will be used to source water?	Applicant: The relevant municipalities will be engaged through the appropriate channels with regards to the sourcing of water, separate to the EIA process.	Appendix D - SER
	Under Section 4.3, it is noted that the preliminary layout for ABO Uvemvane identified 58 wind turbines. However, Figure 4-1: Preliminary layout map demonstrates 66 wind turbines (see Page 60) correct layout map must be provided.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that this has been rectified, and the correct layout is provided as Figure 4-1 of the FSR.	Figure 4.1 - FSR

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	On Page 61, there is an incorrect map labelling and Figure 4-2 map was not indicated as a map. However, the map referred to on Figure 4-2 was labelled as Figure 4-3. Consequently, there is no map shown for the 27 wind turbines due to wrong labelling (Figures mismatched) such must be rectified.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the FSR has been updated to correct this labelling of these maps.	Figure 4.2 & Figure 4.3 - FSR
	It is noted that the project will utilise water from the municipality, however, on Page 84 (under NWA legislation section), it is stated that one of the water uses will include taking water from a water resource. Therefore, a source of water for the project must be specified.	Applicant: The source of water will be identified and applied for under the relevant legislation, outside of the EIA process.	
	On Page 85, it is noted that the proposed project is within the mining areas. In terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA) (Act No. 28 of 2002) Section 53, consent is required and such consent should be shared with the Lesedi Local Municipality.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that neighbouring mines were consulted during the scoping phase, with no responses received to date. These stakeholders will also be notified during the EIA phase to ensure their continued awareness of the project. The Applicant has commenced with the Section 53 consent process in terms of the MPRDA outside of this Scoping and EIA process.	Appendix D - SER

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	On Pages 132 and 133, there is a repetitive information between the Mountain Bushveld, and Rocky Shrubland and Grassland, therefore, such information must be revised.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that this information has been revised in Section 6.2.1.4 of the FSR.	Section 6.2.1.4 - FSR
	It is noted that the project will have an impact during operational phase as mentioned on Page 270 of the draft Scoping report. However, under 'Increase in traffic due to staff travelling' aspect, the mitigation measure is not included and specified for this traffic impact.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that detailed mitigation measures will be included in the EIA phase of the project.	-
	On Page 272 under disturbance of fauna and flora aspect, it is noted that the impact mentioned under the operational phase did not align with the mitigation measure provided, such information must be revised.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the mitigation measures will be refined by the specialist in the EIA phase of the project.	-
	It is recommended that during construction and operational phases, the employees should be provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in terms of the Occupational Health and Safety Act (Act No. 85 of 1993) Section 8 as this is not specifies on the project phases.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that this recommendation will be included in the EMPr during the EIA phase.	-
	Specialist Studies Comments In terms of the Heritage Impact Assessment: On page 4, it is indicated that one of the laydown areas is located 20m from the burial site, a no-go development	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that this will be considered during the revision of the	-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	buffer of 100m is recommended around the site. Therefore, a revised layout with a laydown area shifted outside recommended buffer must be provided.	layout during the EIA phase and the HIA will also reflect this revision.	
	During the construction phase, for the construction of internal roads within heritage high sensitive areas, the archaeologist must appointed to monitor all construction activities.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms the heritage specialist will confirm whether the proposed internal roads will impact high sensitive heritage resources and will provide suitable recommendations which will be indicated on the project layout.	-
	Figure 6: Image indicating appropriate layout approaches (Winter and Wilson, 2021) for wind turbine development must be followed during construction/final layout development.	EAP: The EAP and applicant acknowledge this comment and confirms that this will be considered during the development of the final layout.	-
	Provide appendix 1 Archaeological Assessment (2024) Provide appendix 2: Desktop Paleontological Assessment (2024)	EAP: The EAP confirms that Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 have been included in the HIA study.	Appendix G.4 - SER
	In terms of the Traffic Impact Assessment: A geometric sign and layout for internal roads from the site access must be provided as specified on Page 23.	Traffic Specialist: This will only form part of the Traffic Management Plan which the appointed Contractor will provide.	-
	Permits from both Mpumalanga and Gauteng Department of Transport and Public Works for the conveyance of the abnormal load during construction	Traffic Specialist: Noted and agreed.	-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	and decommissioning phase must be provided as specified on this report.	EAP: The requirement for permits will be included in the EMPr as recommended by the traffic specialist.	
	Mitigation measures on table 7.1 are not clearly listed, some information is omitted. Provide a revised table.	EAP: The EAP confirms that the report has been updated and Table 7.1 is depicted clearly.	Appendix G.9 - FSR
	In terms of the Geotechnical Impact Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– A slope assessment must be provided should permanent excavations or deep excavations be proposed on site as specified on page 15 of the report.– Provide lab results.	EAP: The EAP confirms that the geotechnical study conducted was desktop study. Therefore, the specialist will consider this recommendation during the EIA phase. Should there be a need for Laboratory assessment these results will be made available to this Department if this has been	-
	In terms of the Avifauna Assessment: It was noted that under the References section that there is an Appendix G: Vulpro Data, however, the information of the Appendix G: Vulpro Data is not included on the report and must be provided.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the specialist assessment will be revised to include this information for the EIA phase.	Appendix G.5 - FSR
	In terms of the Noise Impact Assessment: It was noted that the Noise from vehicular traffic will however not be considered in the Scoping, or the future Environmental Noise Impact Assessment (ENIA) reports.	Acoustic Specialist: Section 3.1 of the Noise Impact Assessment	Appendix G.8 - FSR

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	However, standard working during working hours (a maximum of 45 hours) and days (5 days a week) is recommended by the Basic Conditions of Employment Act (BCEA) (Act No. 75 of 1997) to reduce and mitigate impact of the noise in surrounding communities.	This should read “noise from existing road traffic”. The potential impact from project related activities, including access road construction as well as construction traffic noises will be considered during the EIA phase.	
	In terms of the social impact assessment and terrestrial biodiversity reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is noted that community awareness will be implemented therefore the Lesedi Local Municipality request to be notified of such community engagements. 	EAP: The EAP notes this request and confirms that the Lesedi Local Municipality will be included on the stakeholder database and duly notified of planned community engagement activities undertaken as part of the social impact assessment and associated awareness initiatives.	-
	It recommended that all mitigation measures and buffer zones specified in the reports be strictly implemented	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this request and confirms that this recommendation will be included in the EMPr during the EIA phase.	-
	Figure 2-1,6-5 and 7-1 of the social impact assessment omitted the information, therefore, a clear figure must be provided.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges and confirms that the study has since been updated to correct the error. The updated report is submitted with the FSR.	Appendix G.11 - FSR
	Documents Required Landowner Consent	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this request and confirms that landowner consent has been received and was	-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
		submitted as an appendix to the application form with the submission of the DSR.	
	Provide The Chance Fossil Find Protocol to be implemented throughout the construction phase.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the “Chance Fossil Find Protocol” will be included in the EMPr during the EIA phase.	-
	Stormwater management plan as specified on Page 15 of geotechnical report.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the concern will be addressed by the specialist in the EIA phase.	-
	Alien invasive species management plan	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the “Alien invasive species management plan” will be developed by the specialist and included in the EMPr during the EIA phase.	-
	It is noted on Page 100, Table 5-5 of the draft Scoping report that there are outstanding permits as such Provincial Biodiversity permit the Lesedi Local Municipality request to be part of the Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) when such permits are applied for.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that these permits is in progress by the applicant.	-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the specified Local Municipality must be provided, since it was stated that the water could be sourced from local municipality.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this response; however, it is noted that a Service Level Agreement (SLA) may not be available prior to completion of the EIA phase.	-
	All specialist studies conducted must provide the valid certificate of registration with professional bodies	EAP: The EAP confirms that all studies were undertaken by suitable qualified specialists. The registration certificates and qualifications of each specialist is included in Appendix B.1 of the FSR.	Appendix B.1 - FSR
	The Municipality acknowledges the potential socio-economic benefits associated with the proposed development of the Wind Energy Facility and supports the application, subject to full compliance with all applicable environmental and other relevant legislative requirements. It is recommended that all mitigation measures and buffer zones specified in the reports be strictly implemented.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this request and confirms that this recommendation will be include in the EMPr during the EIA phase.	-
Dipaleseng Local Municipality			
Mr Lwazi Cindi 16 March 2026 Email	Greetings This serves to acknowledge receipt of your email. Is it possible if more details could be furnished on this development to enable meaningful participation henceforth.	WSP PP OFFICE: Good day Lwazi, Please see the project reports at either of the websites below:	Appendix D-SER

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Yours sincerely</p> <p>Mr Lwazi Chidi</p> <p>DIPALESENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY</p> <p>Cnr Johnny Mokeona and Themba Shoji Street</p> <p>Pvt Bag X 1005</p> <p>Balfour 2410</p>	<p>1. https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents</p> <p>2. https://wsp-engage.com/ Kind regards, Public Participation Office</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Public Participation Office</p>	
<p>Mr Lwazi Cindi</p> <p>19 March 2026</p> <p>Email</p>	<p>Greetings</p> <p>This serves to acknowledge receipt of the above.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>Lwazi Cindi</p> <p>Municipal Manager: Dipaleseng Local Municipality</p>		
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) – Biodiversity Conservation Unit			
<p>Ms Khuliso Khomari</p> <p>07 April 2026</p> <p>Email</p>	<p>Dear Sir/Madam</p> <p>RE: Department of Forestry Fisheries and the Environment Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation on the 13th of March 2026 for review and comment on the project mentioned in the subject line.</p> <p>Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Ms M Rabothata and Ms Khuliso Khomari (Copied in this email).</p>	<p>WSP PP OFFICE:</p> <p>Good day Khuliso</p> <p>Thank you very much for the update.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Public Participation Office</p>	

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Note, all Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation by email: BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota.</p> <p>Regards, Ms Khuliso Khomari</p> <p>Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation Sub-Directorate: Policy Development Mainstreaming EIA</p> <p>Website: www.environment.gov.za</p> <p>National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment Environment House, 473 Steve Biko, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083</p>		
<p>Mmatlala Rabothata</p> <p>17 April 2026</p> <p>Letter (via Email)</p>	<p>Dear Ms. Strong,</p> <p>I trust that this email finds you well.</p> <p>Kindly find the attached comments from Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation for your attention and implementation.</p> <p>Regards Ms Mmatlala Rabothata Department of Forestry Fisheries and the Environment Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road Arcadia PRETORIA 0083</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Dear Ms Rabothata,</p> <p>I trust you are well.</p> <p>The attached comments were received by WSP on 17 April 2026. However, the comments do not refer to the ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1.</p> <p>Please kindly reshare the comments. Thank you.</p> <p>Kind regards, Jashmika Maharaj</p>	<p>-</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Dear Ms. Strong</p> <p>COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED ISILIMELA SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY CLUSTER WITH ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE CITY OF CAPE TOWNMETROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE</p> <p>The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the report and does not have any objections to the draft Scoping Report and the Plan of Study. However, it is recommended that the PV facilities be placed in such a way that they avoid any highly sensitive biodiversity areas.</p> <p>Furthermore, the layout Plan overlaid with biodiversity sensitivities must be included and submitted during the next phase of the EIA. Detailed specialist studies (terrestrial, aquatic, avifauna, and bats) must be conducted in the EIA phase to refine the understanding of baseline conditions and inform mitigation measures.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>All the Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA for review and queries should be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment. However, it refers to a different project, namely the 'Proposed Isilimela Solar Energy Facility Cluster with Associated Infrastructure, City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality, Western Cape Province'. The EAP subsequently submitted follow-up correspondence to the case officer on 21 April 2026 and 05 May 2026 to confirm whether the correct letter had been issued. In addition, multiple telephonic attempts were made to contact the case officer, which were unsuccessful. As such, the EAP has been unable to verify whether the comment received is applicable to the proposed project. Proof of correspondence is included in Appendix D of this PPR [SER].</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Email; BCAdmin@dfpe.gov.za for the attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota.</p> <p>Yours faithfully</p> <p>Mr/Seoka Lekota</p> <p>Control Biodiversity Officer Grade B: Biodiversity Conservation</p> <p>Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Envi</p>		
<p>Mashudu Mudau</p> <p>20 April 2026</p> <p>Email</p>	<p>Dear Sir/Madam</p> <p>Thank you for the follow-up.</p> <p>Kindly note that the Directorate: Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness did not provide comments, as upon review it was determined that the proposed development is neither located within a protected area nor within a designated buffer zone</p> <p>Regards,</p> <p>Mashudu Mudau</p> <p>Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment</p> <p>Environment House</p> <p>473 Steve Biko and Soutpansberg Streets</p> <p>PRETORIA</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment.</p>	<p>Appendix D</p> <p>- SER</p>
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFPE)			
<p>Lydia Kutu</p> <p>25 March 2026</p>	<p>Dear Sir/Madam</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Dear Ms Kutu,</p>	<p>Appendix D</p> <p>- SER</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
Email	<p>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION FORM AND DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY (WEF) 1 (UP TO 170MWAC)), LOCATED IN THE DIPALESENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY WITHIN THE GERT SIBANDE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY AND THE LESEDI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, IN THE MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG PROVINCE.</p> <p>The Department confirms having received the Application Form and Draft Scoping Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 23 March 2026. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p>	<p>Thank you for your correspondence dated 25 March 2026, confirming receipt of the Application form and Draft Scoping Report for the Abo Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1.</p> <p>Responses to specific comments is detailed below.</p>	
	<p>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.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges and takes note of this comment.</p>	-
	<p>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</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges and takes note of this comment.</p>	Appendix B.4 - SER

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	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.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges and takes note of this comment. The FSR has been submitted within the regulated timeframe.	-
	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, Lydia Kutu Integrated Environmental Authorisations: Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support	EAP: The acknowledges and take note of this comment.	-
Lydia Kutu 23 April 2026 Email	Good day. Please find herein the attached letter for the above mentioned. Please do not respond to this mailbox with any queries related to the decision been issued. All queries on the attached decision must be directed to official whose contact details is listed as enquiries. I hope you find all in order.	EAP: Acknowledges this comment. Responses to specific comments are detailed below.	Appendix D - SER

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	Thank you. Kind Regards, Salome Mambane CD: Integrated Environmental Authorisations Sub-Directorate: IEA Administrations & Reporting		
Dr Sabelo Malaza 23 April 2026 Letter (via Email)	<p>Dear Ms Strong</p> <p>COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY (WEF) 1 (UP TO 170MWAC)), LOCATED IN THE DIPALESENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY WITHIN THE GERT SIBANDE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY AND THE LESEDI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY WITHIN THE SEDIBENG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, IN THE MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG PROVINCE</p> <p>The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Scoping Report (SR) dated March 2026 and received by the Department on 23 March 2026, refer.</p> <p>This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the Final Scoping Report:</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment. Responses to specific comments is detailed below.</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>
	<p>(a) Listed Activities and Application Form</p> <p>(i) Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description. Only activities applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed. Furthermore, kindly</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that all the relevant listed activities are specific to the project and have been included in the application and Section 5 of the FSR.</p>	-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	ensure that the latest listed activities, as amended in 2021, are applied for.		
	(ii) It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the environmental assessment process as the development property possibly falls within geographically designated areas in terms of numerous GN R. 985 Activities. Written comments must be obtained from the relevant authorities and submitted to this Department. In addition, a graphical representation of the proposed development within the respective geographical areas must be provided. Furthermore, please also ensure that the potential impacts on the affected Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecological Support Areas are fully assessed in the final BAR.	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that ongoing engagement with relevant authorities will be undertaken throughout the environmental assessment process, and that all written inputs received will be incorporated into the reporting and submission to the Competent Authority.</p> <p>The EAP further confirms that applicable listed activities and geographic sensitivities will be clearly mapped and presented within the report. Impacts on identified Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecological Support Areas have been recognised and will be comprehensively assessed and refined, with supporting spatial representation, in the EIA Report.</p>	-
	(iii) Please expand the description of the listed activities applied for and relate their relevance to the proposed development. The description must include the scope of works, the footprints/sizes of what is proposed, and any other relevant detail relating to the project description.	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the exact footprint/ sizes will be confirmed during the draft EIA phase. An amended application form will be submitted to confirm this activity.</p>	-
	(iv) You have applied for Activity 14 of Listing Notice 1, which relates to storage of dangerous goods, however, the exact capacity of dangerous goods to be stored is not specified. You are required to provide the exact capacity of the storage of dangerous goods.	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the exact quantity of dangerous goods storage will be confirmed during the draft EIA phase. An</p>	-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
		amended application form will be submitted to confirm this activity.	
	(v) You have applied for Activity 19 of Listing Notice 1 <i>“the infilling or depositing of any material weighing more than 10 cubic meters into a watercourse, or the dredging, excavation, removal, or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles, or rock weighing more than 10 cubic meters from a watercourse.”</i> Please provide the exact cubic metres that will be infilled or deposited into a watercourse, as well as the dredging, excavation, removal, or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles, or rock from a watercourse.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the exact cubic metres will be confirmed during the draft EIA phase. An amended application form will be submitted to confirm this activity.	-
	(vi) You have applied for Activity 15 of Listing Notice 2 <i>“the clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation”</i> . You specified that based on the information provided regarding the total project area, the facility is expected to result in the clearing of at least 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation. Please indicate the actual footprint to be cleared.	Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist: Based on the current project layout, and depending on which electrical hub alternative is selected, up to 42.96 ha of undisturbed natural habitat is expected to be cleared during construction, with a further 31 ha of secondary grassland (old lands) also impacted. These figures will be finalised during the impact assessment phase.	Appendix G.2 - SER
	(vii) You have applied for Activity 10 of Listing Notice 3 <i>“the development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 30 but not exceeding 80</i>	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the exact quantity of dangerous goods storage will be confirmed during the draft EIA phase. An amended application form will be submitted to confirm this activity.	-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p><i>cubic metres.</i> You are required to provide the exact capacity of the storage of dangerous goods. You further stated that the storage contemplated may be located within, and will require vegetation clearance in sensitive areas. The storage areas may also be located within delineated watercourses on site, or within 100m of the outer extent of the delineated watercourses on site. The placement of storage areas within delineated watercourses is generally discouraged due to the potential risk of pollution and impacts on aquatic ecosystems. You must ensure that all watercourses are delineated by a suitably qualified specialist and that appropriate buffer zones and mitigation measures are implemented.</p>		
	<p>(viii) You have applied for Activity 12 of Listing Notice 3 “the clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan”. Please indicate the exact physical footprint that will be cleared for the construction of the internal access road(s).</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the exact quantity of indigenous vegetation to be cleared will be confirmed during the draft EIA phase. An amended application form will be submitted to confirm this activity.</p>	-
	<p>(ix) You have applied for Activity 14 of Listing Notice 3 “<i>the development of infrastructure or structures with a Physical footprint of 10 Square metres or more; where such development occurs.</i>” It has been noted that the internal or access road will</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the exact physical footprint will be confirmed</p>	-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	either traverse the delineated watercourses on site or be located within 32m of the outer extent of the delineated watercourses. You are required to provide an adequate explanation for the proposed alignment and demonstrate that alternatives were investigated to avoid watercourses and their associated areas. The potential impacts associated with the construction and operation of infrastructure within or in close proximity to watercourses must be comprehensively assessed by a suitably qualified aquatic specialist, and appropriate mitigation measures must be included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).	during the draft EIA phase. An amended application form will be submitted to confirm this activity.	
	(x) You have applied for Activity 18 of Listing Notice 3 “the widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre”. Please specify the actual width of the proposed road widening.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the exact dimensions of the roads will be confirmed during the draft EIA phase. An amended application form will be submitted to confirm this activity.	-
	(xi) The final SR must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the Section 8 of the FSR includes an assessment of the potential impacts and associated mitigation measures. A detailed impact assessment is proposed to be undertaken by all specialists during the EIA phase as detailed in the Plan of Study in Section 9 of the FSR.	Section 8 & 9 - FSR

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	(xii) If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final SR, an amended application form must be submitted. 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/form-s .	EAP: WSP confirms that the listed activities applied for and submitted in the FSR have not changed and therefore no amended application will be submitted during this phase of the project.	-
	(b) Locality, Site Layout and Sensitivity Maps The report must provide the following: (i) A clear description of all associated infrastructure. This description must include, but is not limited to the following: Substation; Internal roads infrastructure; and; All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown area and auxiliary buildings, dangerous goods facility etc. (ii) All necessary details regarding all possible locations and sizes of the proposed wind energy infrastructure. (iii) A copy of the final preferred layout map. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. roads. The layout map must indicate the following:	EAP: The EAP confirms that the layout and sensitivity maps provided in the FSR complies with all the requirements listed in b(i) – (v). The layout and sensitivity maps are included in Appendix D of the FSR and in Section 7.1 of the FSR. The EAP confirms that google maps have not been utilised.	Appendix D - FSR

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	<p>Permanent laydown area footprint;</p> <p>Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible);</p> <p>Wetlands, drainage lines, rivers, streams and water crossings of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used;</p> <p>The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure;</p> <p>Substation(s) and/or transformer(s) sites, including their entire footprint;</p> <p>Location of access and service roads;</p> <p>Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network;</p> <p>All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads;</p> <p>Buffer areas;</p> <p>Buildings, including accommodation;</p> <p>All “no-go” areas; and</p> <p>A north arrow and legend/key, to enable the Department to interpret the layout map.</p>		

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (iv) (An environmental sensitivity map indicating environmental sensitive areas and features identified during the assessment process. (v) A map combining the final layout map superimposed (overlain) on the environmental sensitivity map. 		
	<p>(c) Specific Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The Department received correspondence from the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA) and the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA) indicating that they have been requesting the latest shapefiles for the Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility (WEF) for some time in order to properly review the Draft Scoping Report. However, to date, no response or shapefiles have been provided. You are therefore required to make the latest shapefiles available to MTPA and DARDLEA to enable them to adequately review the content of the draft Scoping Report and the revised layout plan, and to provide informed comments and inputs thereon. 	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP confirms that the MDARLEA was provided with the required shapefiles on 13 April 2026. The MDARDLEA comment was received on 14 April 2026 and has been included and responded to in this PPR [SER].</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (ii) Furthermore, the authorities indicated that there seems to be a confusion regarding the review period of the draft SR, taking into account the four (4) public holidays during March and April. You are therefore, requested to ensure that 	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP confirms that clarity was provided to MDARDLEA regarding the public review period. This correspondence is provided in Appendix D of this PPR [SER] for the Department reference.</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>

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	<p>stakeholders, authorities and I&APs are afforded the legally allotted time to comment on the draft report. It is important that the calculation of timeframes is as per the regulation 3 (1) which states as follows: <i>“Subject to sub-regulations (2) and (3), when a period of days must in terms of these Regulations be reckoned from or after a particular day, that period must be reckoned as from the start of the day following that particular day to the end of the last day of the period, but if the last day of the period falls on a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday, that period must be extended to the end of the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday”.</i></p> <p><i>Any deviations from the requirements of regulation 3(1) shall constitute a procedural flaw.</i></p>	<p>The following response was provided to MDARDLEA and MTPA on 09 April 2026, to address this concern:</p> <p><i>“Dear Robyn and Mervyn,</i></p> <p><i>Apologies for the delayed response.</i></p> <p><i>As requested, please see attached is the kmz file showing the project layout for the Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1,</i></p> <p><i>Also, please note that the public review period takes into account three public holidays between March and April 2026 (21 March, 3 April and 6 April), resulting in an end date of 15 April 2026. However, if any stakeholder or I&AP requires more time to review the project, reasonable extensions will be accommodated.</i></p> <p><i>Please feel free to contact me if you need any further information.</i></p> <p><i>Kind regards,</i></p> <p><i>Jashmika Maharaj”</i></p>	
	<p>(iii) It has been noted that the description of the proposed project is insufficient in the application form. You are requested to provide a comprehensive and detailed description of the proposed development. This must include all components and associated infrastructure related to the main facility, such as access roads, storage of dangerous goods, water</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The project description will be further detailed during the EIA phase, following the impact assessment and finalisation of the layout. An amended application will be submitted to reflect the updated project description.</p>	-

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	pipelines, stormwater infrastructure, electrical connections, and any other supporting infrastructure required for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the facility. The description must clearly indicate the location, extent, and footprint of all infrastructure within the project area to enable a proper assessment of the potential environmental impacts.		
	(iv) The project area contains areas classified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) as identified in the Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan (MBSP) (2024) as well as the Gauteng Conservation Plan (C-Plan) (Version 4, 2024). Therefore, you are advised to provide confirmation from Mpumalanga and Gauteng confirming the area falling with the CBAs and ESAs.	Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist: Comments have been received from representatives from Mpumalanga Province (DARDLEA and MPTA). These are presented above, with responses. No queries were available from Gauteng Province for comment.	Appendix G.2 - SER
	(v) Large portions of the site fall within areas mapped as irreplaceable and important Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs). Although the revised layout plan has been redesigned to avoid some sensitive areas and the number of turbines has been reduced from 58 (as per the preliminary layout) to 27, the proposed development will still result in impacts on CBA 1 and CBA 2 areas, based on the biodiversity maps provided. The provisions and applicability of the National Biodiversity Offset Guideline must be explicitly considered and determined during the scoping phase of the project. <i>The appointed biodiversity</i>	Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist: As indicated in the comment, the number of wind turbines and proposed infrastructure layout have indeed been revised to avoid and minimise impacts on CBA 1 and 2 across both Mpumalanga and Gauteng Provinces. Proposed wind turbines and most other proposed infrastructure have been intentionally positioned outside CBAs to avoid impacts to these features. Although proposed access roads have been aligned, where possible, with existing farm roads/tracks to avoid impacts on patches of	Appendix G.2 - SER

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	<i>specialist is required to provide an informed, reasoned, and defensible opinion on the applicability of the National Biodiversity Offset Guideline to the proposed development.</i>	<p>undisturbed natural habitat, and additional measures to minimise (reduce) disturbance footprints and implement active rehabilitation measures (incl. alien invasive species control) have been identified in the scoping report, it is noted that residual impacts on CBAs mainly from the access road layout remain - the extent (ha) of impacts on CBAs and ESAs based on the current proposed infrastructure layout has been presented in the Terrestrial Biodiversity Scoping Report, along with various recommended minimisation and rehabilitation measures.</p> <p>Based on the above process, the Terrestrial Biodiversity Scoping Report concludes that offsetting will be required to manage residual impacts associated with CBAs. The layout and assessment of residual impacts will be further refined during the impact assessment phase and reported in the Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist Assessment Report, which will inform the applicability of an offset strategy.</p>	
	(vi) The SR must include a table summarising the specialist studies required by the Screening Tool and the sensitivity rating of the Screening Tool (very high, high, medium, low), another column indicating the sensitivity of the site after the EAP/Specialist conducted the Site Verification Assessment and a column indicating whether these studies will be conducted or that	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The confirms that this table is included in Section of the FSR.</p>	-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	compliance statement will be submitted during the EIAr phase.		
	(vii) For the themes that have been identified as medium and which have been confirmed to require compliance statements as per the outcome of the SSVR, please ensure that such information is included in your plan of study under specialist studies to be conducted which will then form part of the EIAr phase.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that themes identified as medium sensitivity, which require compliance statements in terms of the SSVR, have been duly considered in the Plan of Study in Section 9 of the FSR. The outcomes of these studies will inform the preparation and inclusion of the required compliance statements in the EIA phase.	Section 9 - FSR
	(viii) You are requested to demonstrate that reasonable and feasible alternatives, including alternative locations outside of Critical Biodiversity Areas, have been adequately considered and that the preferred site represents the least environmentally sensitive option.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the specialist has addressed this concern at a scoping level and will expand on this during the EIA phase.	-
	(ix) Please note that Appendix 1(3)(1)(h)(x) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, requires that “if no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not considering such” must be included in the report. You are therefore required to provide a motivation should other alternative sites, routes, layouts, and technologies not be considered.	EAP: The EAP confirms that the project alternatives were considered and is included in Section 4.2 of the FSR.	Section 4.2 - FSR
	(d) Specialists' Declaration Forms	EAP:	-

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	(i) Please ensure that details of the specialists that prepared the specialist reports, including their curriculum vitae and specialist declarations of independence, are included in the Report. You are referred to Appendix 6 (1) (1) (a)-(b) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended).	The EAP confirms that all Specialist Declaration forms have been completed and included in Appendix B.2 of the FSR.	
	(e) Public Participation Process (i) On page 220 of the draft SR, it is stated that Sesotho is spoken by 23% of the population and English by 3.1%. You are therefore requested to also include Sesotho language in the public participation process.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that this concern will be considered and addressed for the public participation process during the EIA phase.	-
	(ii) You are advised to show an attempt made for the consultation i.e., having meetings with the local communities or their leaders or an investigation of their existence in the area.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that this concern will be considered and addressed for the public participation process during the EIA phase.	-
	(iii) Please also ensure to reach out to illiterate, disabled, and other disadvantaged I&APs.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that this concern will be considered and addressed for the public participation process during the EIA phase.	-
	(iv) Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received during the circulation of the draft BAR from registered I&APs and organs of	EAP:	Appendix C – FSR

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	state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Directorates: Biodiversity Mainstreaming & EIA (BCAdmin@dfre.gov.za) and Protected Areas Planning & Management Effectiveness (TNethononda@dfre.gov.za or MaMudau@dfre.gov.za) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final SR.	The EAP confirms that all comments received have been included in this PPR [SER] and has been addressed with input from the Applicant and the relevant specialists. The PPR [SER] is included as Appendix C of the FSR. All original comments have been included in Appendix D of this PPR [SER].	Appendix D - SER
	(v) Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final SR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.	EAP: The EAP confirms that all original comments and correspondence with the various stakeholders have been included in Appendix D of this PPR [SER].	Appendix D - SER
	(vi) A comment and response report which contains all comments received and responses provided to all comments and issues raised during the public participation process must be submitted. Please note that comments received from this Department must also form part of the comment and response report. Please structure the comment and response report in a table format, with separate columns, so that the response can be viewed alongside the comments, the date they were received, and the parties from whom they were received.	EAP: The EAP confirms that all comments received have been included in a Comments and Responses Report (CRR) table (Table 3.1) in this PPR [SER]. All comments have been addressed with input from the Applicant and the relevant specialists. The PPR [SER] is included as Appendix C of the FSR. All original comments have been included in Appendix D of this PPR [SER].	Table 3.1 – SER Appendix C – FSR Appendix D - SER

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	(f) Specialist Assessments to be conducted in the EIA phase	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that no-go areas have been considered and included in Section 4.4 of the FSR.	Section 4.4 - FSR
	(i) 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.		
	(ii) Should the specialist definition of a '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.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the specialist definition of a 'no-go' area does not differ from the Department's definition. No-go areas were also indicated in the sensitivity map – Appendix D of the FSR and in Section 7.1 of the FSR.	Appendix D - FSR and in Section 7.1 - FSR.
	(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 expertise advice.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and will ensure to comply with the Department's requirement during the EIA phase.	-
	(iv) Please note that if any of the specialist studies and requirements/protocols recommended in the Department's Screening Tool are not commissioned, motivation (including site sensitivity verification reports and specialist	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that this concern is addressed in Section 2.2 of the FSR.	Section 2.2 - FSR.

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	compliance statements in certain instances) must be provided in the report per the requirements of the Protocols.		
	(v) Please note that the protocols require certain specialists to be SACNASP registered. As such, the Specialist Declaration of Interest forms must also indicate the scientific organization registration/member number and status of registration/membership for each specialist.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the specialist required to have a SACNASP qualification have indicated their registration number in the Specialist Declaration of Interest forms.	Appendix B.2 - FSR
	(vi) It is 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), are now in effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols. Please note further that the protocols require the specialists to be registered with SACNASP.	EAP: The EAP confirms that Section 7 of the FSR complies with this requirement and this information will be updated during the EIA phase where applicable. The EAP confirms that the specialist assessments have been and will continue to be conducted in accordance with the relevant protocols.	Section 7 - FSR
	A cumulative impact environmental statement must be provided on whether the proposed development must proceed.	EAP: The EAP confirms that a preliminary cumulative assessment is included in Section 8.2 of the FSR and considers similar projects within 50km to 100km	-

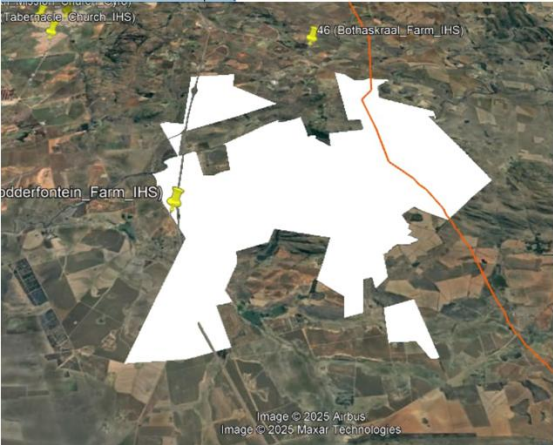
Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
		of the project site. A detailed and comprehensive cumulative assessment including the specialist findings will be provided in the EIA report.	
	<p>General</p> <p>You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 21(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, which states that:</p> <p><i>“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”</i></p> <p>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.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the FSR will be submitted to the DFFE by the 08 May 2026, which is within the required timeframe of the regulations.</p>	-
	<p>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).</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges that the application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations.</p>	-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>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.</p> <p>Yours sincerely Dr Sabelo Malaza Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment Letter signed by: Ms Sindiswa Dlomo Designation: Deputy Director: National Integrated Authorisation Projects</p>	<p>EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment.</p>	-
Midvaal Local Municipality			
<p>Kameshree Reddy 27 March 2026 Email</p>	<p>Good day, Please see attached letter for your attention.</p>	-	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>
<p>Kagiso Raspae 27 March 2026 Letter (via Email)</p>	<p>Dear Sir /Madam,</p> <p>ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS, MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG.</p> <p>Your email dated 13th March 2026 refers.</p> <p>1.Project Location</p>	<p>EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment. Responses to specific comments is detail below.</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	1.1 Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Modderfontein 410-ir.		
	<p>2.Zoning of the property as per Midvaal Land Use Scheme, 2023.</p> <p>2.1 The property is zoned “Agriculture” and the following uses are permitted as a primary right:</p> <p><i>“Agricultural Building ,Agricultural Uses,Commercial Farm,Conservation Areas,Cultivation Shed,Dwelling,Farm Stall,Greenhouse,Government Purposes,Municipali Use, Nature Reserve ,Prayer room,Street and Subsistence farming.”</i></p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment.</p> <p>Applicant:</p> <p>The municipality will be engaged through the appropriate channels with regards to land use and property zoning separate to the EIA process.</p>	-
	<p>3.Midvaal Spatial Development Framework 2025-2026.</p> <p>3.1 In terms of the above-mentioned policy, the subject property is located outside the demarcated Urban Development Boundary and are earmarked for “farming” purposes.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment.</p>	-
	<p>4.Provincial Roads</p> <p>4.1The property is affected by existing Gautrans and National routes.Comments from GAUTRAINS and SANRAL as the custodian of such routes will be required.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment.</p>	-
	<p>5.Floodlines</p> <p>5.1 The properties are affected by the floodlines and therefore comments from Randwater and Department of</p>	<p>EAP:</p>	-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	Water and Sanitation as the custodian of rivers will be required.	The EAP acknowledges this comment. The DWS and Randwater have been included on the project database.	
	<p>6.Land Use Section</p> <p>6.1 The subject property is zoned “Agriculture” as stated in point 2 above and they do not have land use rights to allow for the proposed Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd. A rezoning application from “Agriculture” to “Industrial1” with an annexure for Generation of energy in terms of Section 38 of the Midvaal Spatial Planning and Land Use Management By-law must be submitted to council for evaluation.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment. The municipality will be engaged through the appropriate channels with regards to land use and property zoning separate to the EIA process</p>	-
	6.2 In terms of Clause 27 of the Midvaal Land Use Scheme, 2023 a Site Development Plan must be submitted and approved prior to the approval of any building plan.	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment. This requirement will be include in the EMPPr.</p>	
	<p>Considering the above-mentioned policy framework Midvaal Local Municipality would like to be registered as an interested and affected party for reasons.</p> <p>Kind regards Kagiso Raspae Acting Executive Director: Development and Planning</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the I&AP has been registered and is added to the project database.</p>	Appendix A - SER
Ernst & Young Advisory Services (Pty) Ltd			

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
Malcolm Roods 10 March 2026 Email	Hi there, Can you please register me as an IA&P, and provide me with the Draft Scoping Report for comment It would be much appreciated Kind Regards Malcolm Roods Senior Manager Climate Change and Sustainability Services Ernst & Young Advisory Services (Pty) Ltd Sandton, Johannesburg, Gauteng, 2191, South Africa	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the I&AP has been registered and is added to the project database.	Appendix A - SER
MTN South Africa			
Connie Dubula 16 March 2026 Email	Good day Objection, as per our Radio planning team the proposed project will affect the MTN site. Please see location of MTN site on the plans,	EAP: We acknowledge your objection to the project and value the concerns as raised, and confirm that these have been duly noted and will be addressed further within the EIA Phase. Where required, the relevant specialists, applicant and/or EAP have been provided with these concerns for further investigation. You will be kept informed of project updates and further opportunities to participate in the environmental assessment process, in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended). Applicant: MTN will be engaged outside of the EIA process with regards to this wayleave request.	-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	 <p>Warm regards, Conny Dubula Coordinator - Way-Leave Co-ordinator</p>		
Transnet			
<p>Mr Thami Hadebe 16 March 2026 Email</p>	<p>Dear Sir/Madam Please furnish BID together with locality and layout plans. Yours Sincerely Mr MT (Thami) Hadebe</p>	<p>WSP PP OFFICE: Good day Thami Please see the requested maps attached and the reports are available at the below websites: 1. https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents 2. https://wsp-engage.com/ Kind regards,</p>	<p>Appendix D-SER</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
		Public Participation Office	
	<p>Dear Sir/Madam</p> <p>Your wayleave application/BID with project reference number 41106304 dated 16 March 2026 has reference.</p> <p>Transnet Pipelines, a division of Transnet SOC Limited, is not affected by the proposal.</p> <p>Your awareness of the existence of Transnet's pipeline servitudes and concern for their integrity is highly appreciated.</p> <p>This authorisation shall be valid for 48 months from the date – 20 March 2026.</p> <p>Yours Sincerely Mr MT (Thami) Hadebe</p>	<p>WSP PP OFFICE:</p> <p>Good day Thami,</p> <p>Thank you very much. The authorisation is well received.</p> <p>Kind regards, Public Participation Office</p>	Appendix D-SER
NETSTAR (Pty) Ltd			
<p>Joe Vermaak</p> <p>13 March 2026</p> <p>Email</p>	<p>Good day,</p> <p>Please see attached a letter of no objection.</p> <p>Regards, Joe Vermaak Supervisor: RF Network</p>	<p>WSP PP OFFICE:</p> <p>Good day Johan,</p> <p>The letter is well received.</p> <p>Kind regards, Public Participation Office</p>	Appendix D-PPR
<p>Joe Vermaak</p> <p>13 March 2026</p> <p>Letter (Via email)</p>	<p>Attention: The Director/s.</p> <p>As requested, Netstar (Pty) Ltd, is a vehicle tracking and asset management company that utilizes a land-based</p>		

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>radio network, has evaluated the proposed installation and documents.</p> <p>After considering the information and location of the project, Netstar does not foresee any Electromagnetic interference, or any interference on their RF equipment in that specific area concerning your proposed project.</p> <p>Therefore, Netstar (Pty) Ltd has no objection regarding the development and building of the installation. This letter of no objection will be valid for one year from the date.</p> <p>Kind regards, CJ Vermaak</p>		
Sirius Power South Africa			
<p>David Nunez</p> <p>13 March 2026</p> <p>Email</p>	<p>Dear Ashlea,</p> <p>Can you kindly register me as an I&AP for the above-mentioned project?</p> <p>Thanks and regards,</p> <p>David Nunez Executive Director</p>	<p>WSP PP OFFICE:</p> <p>Good day David,</p> <p>Kindly note that you have been registered as an I&AP.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Public Participation Office</p>	<p>Appendix D-SER</p>
LEADS 2 BUSINESS			
<p>Mecayla Vermaak</p> <p>Regional Content Researcher Projects</p>	<p>Hello WSP Team,</p>	<p>WSP PP Office:</p> <p>Good day Mecayla,</p>	<p>Appendix D-SER</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
<p>13 March 2026</p> <p>Email</p>	<p>I hope you are well. I came across a town planning notice for "Proposed Development of ABO Uvemvane Wind Engery"</p> <p>I do not have any objections but would like to please be registered as an interested party.</p> <p>I follow building and construction related projects from conceptual / feasibility up until completion. Please can you email me a copy of the background information document or motivating memorandum or any other documents or reports for this project.</p> <p>Please can you also provide me with the below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Client Company Name:? • EIA Company Name:? • Town Planning Company Name:? • Developer Company Name:? <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Mecayla Vermaak Regional Content Researcher Projects</p>	<p>Kindly note that you have been registered as an I&AP.</p> <p>Please see the project reports at the links below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents 2. https://wsp-engage.com/ <p>Additionally, please see the responses requested below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Client Company Name: ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd • EIA Company Name: WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd • Developer Company Name: ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Public Participation Office</p>	
Vulpro			
<p>Meagan Bromfield</p> <p>08 April 2026</p> <p>Email</p>	<p>Dear Jashmika, Palisa and Ashlea,</p> <p>WSP</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Dear Meagan,</p> <p>Thank you for your participation in the project.</p> <p>Your comment is well received, thank you.</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Thank you for allowing Vulpro to comment on the ABO UVEMVANE WEF DSR. Please find our comments attached to this email.</p> <p>Please can you also register me under Vulpro for the following project: energy@vulpro.com</p> <p>Please acknowledge receipt of our comments.</p> <p>Thanks Kind regards, Meagan Bromfield Renewable Energy Consultation Associate</p>	<p>I confirm that Vulpro has been added to the project database.</p> <p>Kind regards, Jashmika Maharaj</p>	
<p>Meagan Bromfield 08 April 2026 Letter (Via email)</p>	<p>Dear Jashmika Maharaj, Palisa Bhengu and Ashlea Strong,</p> <p>COMMENT: DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT (DFFE REF NOS: unknown)</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Scoping Report for the ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Development, and associated infrastructure located near Heidelberg and Balfour in the Gauteng and Mpumalanga provinces.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment. Responses to specific comments are detailed below.</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Vulpro's tracking data, incorporated into the Avifaunal Assessment, confirms the presence of Cape and White-backed Vultures within 50 km of the proposed development. These datapoints were provided in 2024. Vulpro has not tagged birds for tracking in the Hartebeespoort region since 2024, so our tracking coverage in this area has dropped. However, a February 2026 record of a Cape Vulture within 5 km of the site confirms continued use of the area, albeit likely not in large numbers. Given their gregarious and wide-ranging behaviour, they are therefore probably found within the area more frequently than tracking data alone would suggest. Vulpro also maintains that short-term surveys, including SABAP data or brief field assessments, are insufficient to reliably characterise vulture activity in an area.</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>Specialist avifaunal assessment was commissioned as part of the Scoping Phase, incorporating site-specific baseline monitoring, literature review, and available regional datasets to better characterise avifaunal use of the area and associated risks. The outcomes of the specialist assessment have informed the identification of sensitivities, impact significance, and mitigation measures, and will be further refined during the EIA phase where required.</p> <p>While vultures were not recorded during one year of avifaunal pre-application monitoring, data from VulPro were obtained and incorporated into the site sensitivity verification process. Cape Vulture and White-backed Vulture have been identified as likely present in the area throughout the lifetime of the facility. The likely presence of vultures, as well as the additional con-firmed 2026 record of a Cape Vulture within 5 km of the site, will be considered in the impact assessment phase and the recommendation of mitigation measures in the Avifaunal Specialist Assessment Report.</p>	<p>Appendix G5 - FSR</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Considering the confirmed presence, the long-term duration of Environmental Authorisations (EAs) for Wind Energy Facilities (WEFs) (20–30 years), and the potential for sensitivity levels to change over time.</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>There is no provision in NEMA or the EIA Regulations that grants a 20 to 30-year EA validity period for wind energy facilities. The construction commencement period is typically 5 years, sometimes 10 years where explicitly motivated or where amendments/extensions are granted. These timeframes are clearly stipulated in the EA conditions, not assumed.</p> <p>A pre-cautionary approach will be taken in the Avifaunal Specialist Assessment that considers the lifetime of the facility as well as potential changes in avian populations and movements over time.</p>	
	<p>Vulpro disagrees with the classification of this site as ‘low sensitivity’ for Cape Vultures. A precautionary approach must be adopted in line with the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA).</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>As detailed in the Consolidated Site Sensitivity Verification Report (Appendix F of the Scoping Report), the output of the DFFE Screening Tool for the Vulture Species Theme classifies the site as Medium sensitivity, based on the potential to affect approximately 5–10% of the relevant vulture population.</p> <p>The BirdLife South Africa Cape Vulture and Wind Farms: Guidelines for Impact Assessment, Monitoring and Mitigation (Pfeiffer & Ralston-Paton, 2018) were initially considered not directly applicable, as the Screening Tool Animal Species Theme did not identify the site as potentially suitable habitat for Cape Vulture. However, the Screening</p>	

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		<p>Tool's ungazetted Vulture Species Theme did identify the broader study area as being of medium sensitivity, and this outcome informed the scope and intensity of the specialist avifaunal assessment. Pre-application avifaunal monitoring was conducted in accordance with the Cape Vulture Guidelines, and the survey effort was therefore considered appropriate. The Pre-application Avifaunal Monitoring Plan did not require revision, as the sampling effort was in line with the Cape Vulture Guidelines. In addition, supplementary tracking data provided by Vulpro were incorporated to inform vulture activity within a 50 km radius of the proposed development.</p> <p>Data obtained from VulPro and surveys conducted during one year of pre-application monitoring in line with the Cape Vulture Guidelines confirmed that no breeding colonies or permanent roost sites for either Cape Vulture or White-backed Vulture are known within 50 km of the WEF site. The nearest known breeding colonies (Scheerpoort and Nooitgedacht) are located along the Magaliesberg Mountain Range, approximately 115 km from the site. While occasional overnight roosting has been recorded at rocky ridges or trees approximately 45 km northwest and 11 km northeast of the site, and at several transmission line pylons near the outer edge of the 50 km buffer, the tracking data indicate intermittent use only, with no evidence of permanent roosting.</p> <p>No vultures were recorded during six seasonal surveys conducted as part of the pre-application</p>	

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		<p>monitoring programme, and available data indicate that vultures do not utilise the site on a regular basis. Despite this, the Screening Tool's Vulture Species Theme identified the study area as of medium sensitivity for vulture species due to the area affecting between 5% - 10% of the population. The assessment and classification are therefore regarded as precautionary, evidence-based, and aligned with NEMA principles.</p>	
	<p>We are very concerned that, given the presence of vultures and other endangered/vulnerable bird species, no mitigation measures are proposed to address wind turbine collision risk beyond the micro-siting of turbines to avoid sensitive areas. This approach is not consistent with the risk-averse principle embedded in the NEMA. We therefore request that the Avifaunal Assessment fully assess cumulative risks and incorporate vulture-specific mitigation measures, including but not limited to the following:</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>As presented in the Draft Scoping Report and the Final Pre-application Avifaunal Monitoring Report, the one-year pre-application monitoring programme provides an appropriate baseline for the specialist avifaunal assessment in accordance with applicable protocols and the Cape Vulture Guidelines. The report identifies avifaunal sensitivities, constraint buffers, and a suite of recommended mitigation measures to be taken forward into the EIA phase.</p> <p>Consistent with the mitigation hierarchy and the risk-averse principle embedded in NEMA, the primary mitigation measure for collision risk is avoidance, achieved through the placement of turbines outside areas likely to be frequented by collision-prone bird species. Accordingly, the specialist report recommends the avoidance, as far as possible, of steep slopes (>1:4), scarps, ridges, and rocky outcrops, particularly due to the presence of Verreaux's Eagle. Where turbine placement in such areas may be unavoidable, the assessment</p>	

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		<p>explicitly notes that additional mitigation measures, including blade patterning, shutdown-on-demand, and other adaptive management measures, may be required.</p> <p>Project specific mitigation measures will be assessed during the EIA phase, informed by confirmed sensitivities and impact significance. The Scoping Phase appropriately focuses on identifying potential impacts, defining spatial constraints, and establishing the scope for further assessment. The approach followed is therefore consistent with the assessment process prescribed under NEMA and reflects a precautionary, avoidance-led mitigation strategy.</p>	
	1. Implement automated shutdown-on-demand systems and/or trained live observers to reduce both human and technological error. Observers must be suitably trained and medically fit to perform their duties effectively. This must align with the BirdLife South Africa Shutdown-on-Demand Guidelines (2025).	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>All mitigation measures available to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts on vultures will be considered and recommended in the EIA phase assessment.</p>	
	2. Implement blade marking to reduce bird collisions and establish a monitoring programme to regularly review its effectiveness. This should consider the BirdLife South Africa and SAWEA Blade Patterning Guidelines (2024). It is noted, however, that this mitigation has not been tested on vultures, and its effectiveness remains largely uncertain.	<p>Avifaunal Specialist: All mitigation measures available to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts on vultures will be considered and recommended in the EIA phase assessment.</p>	

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	<p>3. Establish agreements with landowners to ensure that livestock do not give birth beneath or in close proximity to turbines, and that, in the event of vulture fatalities, a carcass removal programme (Vulture Food Management Programme) can be implemented to remove carrion from beneath turbines.</p> <p>The Carcass Removal Programme must be incorporated into an adaptive management framework, with clear thresholds and trigger points that prompt the review and strengthening of mitigation measures. The roles, responsibilities, and procedures for implementation must be clearly defined and enforced.</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>All mitigation measures available to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts on vultures will be considered and recommended in the EIA phase assessment.</p>	
	<p>4. Cover all anthropogenic water reservoirs and ensure that no water sources are located within the rotor-swept areas or near above-ground electrical infrastructure to minimise vulture visitation.</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>All mitigation measures available to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts on vultures will be considered and recommended in the EIA phase assessment.</p>	
	<p>5. Ensure that all power line infrastructure, if not placed underground, is designed to deter perching, equipped with bird flight diverters, and made fully visible to reduce collision risks. All power lines must comply with Eskom's Bird Collision Prevention and Bird Perch Guidelines. Special attention should be given to new power lines in existing corridors, as Vulpro's data from Cookhouse, Eastern Cape, indicates that vultures often collide with smaller, less visible kV lines when avoiding larger lines in the same corridor. Proper marking and positioning of these lines are crucial to addressing this issue.</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>All mitigation measures available to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts on vultures will be considered and recommended in the EIA phase assessment.</p>	

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	6. Ensure all power line mitigation installations include a comprehensive maintenance schedule that must also be implemented to ensure the ongoing effectiveness of these mitigation measures, as they are prone to damage from weathering, corrosion, and technical failures, even if the lines are to be later transferred to Eskom.	Avifaunal Specialist: All mitigation measures available to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts on vultures will be considered and recommended in the EIA phase assessment.	
	7. Develop a post-construction avifaunal monitoring plan that ensures that post construction monitoring reports are submitted to the relevant competent authority and Birdlife South Africa, and if vultures are impacted, Vulpro.	Avifaunal Specialist: All mitigation measures available to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts on vultures will be considered and recommended in the EIA phase assessment. The Avifaunal Specialist Assessment Report will include a post-construction avifaunal monitoring plan.	
	8. Ensure that Vulpro is notified immediately of any vulture collision or electrocution incidents, particularly where rehabilitation intervention may be required.	Avifaunal Specialist: All mitigation measures available to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts on vultures will be considered and recommended in the EIA phase assessment.	
	Vulpro wishes to highlight key legislation underscoring the importance of vultures and the risks they face. The Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) for Vultures in South Africa, published on 18 March 2024 (Notice No. 4517, Gazette No. 50306) in terms of Section 43 of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004), sets out specific objectives for vulture conservation. Notably, Objective 6 aims “to substantially reduce vulture mortalities caused by existing energy infrastructure and mitigate any loss to	Avifaunal Specialist: The Avifaunal Specialist Assessment Report will consider the Biodiversity Management Plan for Vultures in South Africa (GN517) as well as all other applicable legislation and guidelines.	

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	<p>vultures from new energy infrastructure.” Developers and Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAPs) therefore have a clear responsibility to ensure this objective is achieved.</p> <p>Thank you for considering these comments</p> <p>Yours sincerely Meagan Bromfield Vulpro Renewable Energy Consultation Associate</p>		
Tshwane University of Technology (TUT)			
<p>Catherine Dzerefos</p> <p>11 April 2026</p> <p>Email</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Kindly register as an IAP. I would like to know what mitigation measures have been put in place to prevent bird and bat mortalities.</p> <p>Best regards</p> <p>Cathy Dzerefos</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP confirms that the I&AP has been added to the project database.</p>	<p>Appendix A - SER</p>
Adjacent Landowner			
<p>Werner van Der Merwe</p> <p>17 April 2026</p> <p>Email</p>	<p>To whom this may concern</p> <p>Please receive our Draft Objection Report for the Public Participation Process of Uvemvane WEF1.</p> <p>Kind regards</p> <p>Werner van der Merwe</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>We acknowledge your objection to the project and value the concerns as raised and confirm that these have been duly noted and will be addressed further within the EIA Phase. Where required, the relevant specialists, applicant and/or EAP have been provided with these concerns for further investigation. You will be kept informed of project</p>	<p>Appendix D-SER</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
		updates and further opportunities to participate in the environmental assessment process, in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended).	
<p>Werner van Der Merwe</p> <p>17 April 2026</p> <p>Letter (via Email)</p>	<p>1. Executive Summary</p> <p>This report sets out a detailed objection to the proposed ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (WEF 1) during the Scoping Phase of the S&EIR process. The objection is not directed against renewable energy in principle. It is directed at the siting, scale, residual impacts, and procedural adequacy of this particular proposal.</p> <p>According to the Draft Scoping Report, the project contemplates up to 27 turbines of up to 180 m hub height with blades of up to 100 m and a rotor diameter of up to 200 m, together with a study area of about 8,200 ha, an affected area of about 7,700 ha, a likely footprint of about 110 ha, up to 28–35 km of roads, six laydown areas, overhead and underground electrical infrastructure, and a BESS/electrical hub footprint of up to 25 ha in the maximum development scenario.</p> <p>The report itself identifies or references critical biodiversity areas, ecological support areas, freshwater ecosystem priority areas, wetlands, tributaries of the Suikerbosrand River, species of conservation concern, priority bird activity, vulture records, bat-sensitive features, protected-area proximity, visual sensitivity, numerous residential and homestead receptors, and</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>We acknowledge your objection to the project and value the concerns as raised and confirm that these have been duly noted and will be addressed further within the EIA Phase. Where required, the relevant specialists, applicant and/or EAP have been provided with these concerns for further investigation. You will be kept informed of project updates and further opportunities to participate in the environmental assessment process, in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended).</p>	<p>Appendix D - FSR</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference																		
	<p>cumulative renewable-energy development pressures in the broader region.</p> <p>In these circumstances, the competent authority should not treat this as a routine wind-farm application. At minimum, the scoping submission should be rigorously interrogated for compliance with Appendix 2 of the EIA Regulations, for whether need and desirability have been demonstrated in relation to this location, and for whether the EIA phase can realistically cure the current information gaps. If not, the scoping report should not be accepted in its current form.</p> <p>2. Project Summary from the Draft Scoping Report</p> <table><tr><th>Item</th><th>Scoping report description</th></tr><tr><td>Generation facility</td><td>Commercial wind facility of up to 170 <u>MWac</u> with up to 27 turbines.</td></tr><tr><td>Turbine envelope</td><td>Hub height up to 180 m; blade length up to 100 m; rotor diameter up to 200 m; turbine capacity up to 10 MW.</td></tr><tr><td>Project area</td><td>Preferred study area of approximately 8,200 ha, with approximately 7,700 ha assessed.</td></tr><tr><td>Likely footprint</td><td>Approximately 110 ha, including turbines, roads, laydown areas, and electrical infrastructure.</td></tr><tr><td>Roads</td><td>Up to 28 km of access/internal roads, and elsewhere the report references up to 35 km in the maximum development scenario.</td></tr><tr><td>Electrical/BESS hub</td><td>One on-site collector substation / electrical hub with alternatives; elsewhere the report references up to 7 ha and <u>also</u> up to 25 ha in the maximum development scenario, which should be clarified.</td></tr><tr><td>Ancillary works</td><td>Laydown areas, batching areas, overhead/underground line, O&M and auxiliary buildings, communication tower, lighting mast, fencing, and BESS.</td></tr><tr><td>Location</td><td>Near Balfour and Heidelberg across Gauteng and Mpumalanga, with numerous farm portions listed in the report.</td></tr></table> <p>3. Legal and Regulatory Framework</p>	Item	Scoping report description	Generation facility	Commercial wind facility of up to 170 <u>MWac</u> with up to 27 turbines.	Turbine envelope	Hub height up to 180 m; blade length up to 100 m; rotor diameter up to 200 m; turbine capacity up to 10 MW.	Project area	Preferred study area of approximately 8,200 ha, with approximately 7,700 ha assessed.	Likely footprint	Approximately 110 ha, including turbines, roads, laydown areas, and electrical infrastructure.	Roads	Up to 28 km of access/internal roads, and elsewhere the report references up to 35 km in the maximum development scenario.	Electrical/BESS hub	One on-site collector substation / electrical hub with alternatives; elsewhere the report references up to 7 ha and <u>also</u> up to 25 ha in the maximum development scenario, which should be clarified.	Ancillary works	Laydown areas, batching areas, overhead/underground line, O&M and auxiliary buildings, communication tower, lighting mast, fencing, and BESS.	Location	Near Balfour and Heidelberg across Gauteng and Mpumalanga, with numerous farm portions listed in the report.		
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	<p>3.1 Constitution, section 24</p> <p>The Constitution protects the right to an environment that is not harmful to health or well-being, and requires reasonable legislative and other measures to prevent pollution and ecological degradation, promote conservation, and secure ecologically sustainable development while promoting justifiable social and economic development.</p> <p>3.2 NEMA section 2</p> <p>NEMA requires sustainable development through consideration of all relevant factors, including avoidance or minimisation of ecosystem disturbance and biodiversity loss, avoidance or minimisation of pollution and landscape disturbance, a risk-averse and cautious approach, meaningful participation by interested and affected parties, and decisions that take into account the social, economic and environmental impacts of activities.</p> <p>3.3 NEMA section 24</p> <p>Potential consequences or impacts of listed activities must be considered, investigated, assessed and reported on to the competent authority, and the authority must make a lawful, rational and informed decision based on adequate information.</p> <p>3.4 EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended)</p> <p>If S&EIR applies, the scoping report must substantially comply with Appendix 2. The competent authority may refuse environmental authorisation at the scoping stage where the scoping report does not substantially comply</p>		

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	<p>and the applicant is unwilling or unable to ensure compliance within the prescribed timeframe.</p> <p>3.5 Fuel Retailers case</p> <p>The Constitutional Court held that environmental authorities must integrate environmental, social and economic considerations and may not assume that another authority has already dealt with need and desirability or the broader sustainable-development enquiry.</p>		
	<p>4. Core Objection Themes</p> <p>The objections below are framed on two levels. First, the report itself identifies a range of sensitivities and risks that make this site inherently contentious. Second, the scoping phase appears to leave too many material issues to be resolved later, despite the obligation to demonstrate at scoping stage that the proposed site, layout and activity can proceed to EIA on a properly informed basis.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that these concerns will be addressed during the EIA phase through suitable mitigation measures that will be included in the EMP.</p>	-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>4.1 Inadequate demonstration of need and desirability in relation to this site</p> <p>The report correctly notes that scoping must motivate need and desirability of the proposed activity, including the preferred location. That requirement is not satisfied merely by pointing to national electricity demand or the general policy support for renewable energy. The relevant question is why this specific development should be authorised in this specific receiving environment.</p> <p>A project may be desirable in principle yet undesirable in a location characterised by high ecological sensitivity, rural scenic character, agricultural value, residential receptors, wildlife use and cumulative development pressure. The objection is therefore that the report appears to conflate national energy need with site-specific desirability.</p> <p>The Constitutional Court in Fuel Retailers makes clear that competent authorities must themselves undertake the integrated sustainable-development enquiry and cannot simply defer key location and desirability questions to other decision-makers.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the Need and Desirability of the project has been appropriately addressed in Section 3.5 of the FSR for the Scoping phase will be expanded upon during the EIA phase.</p>	<p>Section 5.3 - FSR</p>
	<p>4.2 Apparent underweighting of the no-go alternative</p> <p>The report states that the no-go alternative would avoid the project's negative environmental impacts and allow continued agricultural use of the land, yet the discussion is brief and framed mainly in terms of lost renewable-</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the no-go alternative for the project has been appropriately addressed in Section 4.4 of the FSR</p>	<p>Section 4.4 - FSR</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	energy opportunity and foregone socio-economic benefits. That is not a neutral comparative assessment.	for the Scoping phase will be expanded upon during the EIA phase.	
	For a site where the report itself flags very high biodiversity sensitivity, very high noise sensitivity, very high visual sensitivity from screening, species of conservation concern, wetlands, watercourses, bat-sensitive features and avifaunal constraints, the no-go alternative should be robustly analysed as a legitimate preferred outcome rather than a formality.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that these concerns will be considered in all impact assessments during the EIA phase and will be addressed through suitable mitigation measures that will be included in the EMPr.	-
	<p>4.3 Site sensitivity is too high to be treated as an ordinary mitigation exercise</p> <p>The report's site sensitivity verification confirms very high sensitivity for terrestrial biodiversity and noise, and reflects high to very high sensitivity for landscape/visual aspects and certain specialist triggers. Large areas of natural habitat are recognised as maintaining important ecosystem processes and supporting indigenous flora and fauna.</p> <p>Once a site is already acknowledged to contain multiple overlapping sensitivities, the burden on the proponent becomes higher. The applicant must show not simply that impacts exist, but that the chosen site remains the best practicable environmental option. On the current scoping material, that is not yet demonstrated.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that these concerns will be considered in all impact assessments during the EIA phase and will be addressed through suitable mitigation measures that will be included in the EMPr.</p>	-
	<p>4.4 Biodiversity and habitat integrity concerns</p> <p>The report references critical biodiversity areas under the Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan and the Gauteng</p>	<p>Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist:</p> <p>The Terrestrial Biodiversity Scoping Report has highlighted and considered these biodiversity</p>	Appendix G.2 - SER

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>C-Plan, freshwater ecosystem priority areas, wetlands, the Suikerbosrand River and tributaries, protected-area proximity, threatened ecosystem context, and species of conservation concern. It also notes that large areas of natural habitat remain on site.</p> <p>The objection is not only to direct footprint loss. It is also to fragmentation, edge effects, disturbance from roads and laydown areas, ongoing maintenance traffic, noise, lights, fencing, invasive species pathways, and the degradation of ecological functioning over time.</p> <p>Where a development footprint is dispersed across a broad rural landscape, the practical ecological footprint is often substantially larger than the nominal engineering footprint.</p>	<p>sensitivities in relation to the proposed Project site. The scoping report has also identified and assessed the mentioned negative impacts.</p> <p>This information has informed the current Project layout, which has been revised from previous versions with an emphasis on avoidance, and has also been used to identify additional minimisation and rehabilitation measures, which are presented in the Terrestrial Biodiversity Scoping Report.</p> <p>The assessment of impacts and mitigation measures will be further refined during the impact assessment phase, with the results presented in the relevant specialist assessment reports.</p>	
	<p>4.5 Avifauna risk is a central issue, not a peripheral one</p> <p>The report contains extensive avifaunal material, including pre-application monitoring, priority species flight records, vulture records within 50 km and an avifaunal constraints map. It expressly lists turbine collision risk, collision/electrocution risk associated with power infrastructure, sensory disturbance, and effects on migratory and congregatory species as key EIA issues.</p> <p>That alone indicates that avifaunal risk is potentially significant and not merely theoretical. For an onshore wind project, this is one of the most important potential fatal-flaw issues. The competent authority should require a transparent explanation of whether the revised 27-turbine layout materially reduces risk, or simply redistributes it.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that these concerns will be considered in the avifaunal impact assessment during the EIA phase and will be addressed through suitable mitigation measures that will be included in the EMP.</p>	-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>4.6 Bat impacts remain potentially serious</p> <p>The report references bats captured or collected near the project area, sensitive water sources with a 200 m buffer, ridges with required buffers, wooded areas with required buffers, and bat-sensitive areas generally. Bats are especially susceptible to both collision and barotrauma at wind facilities, and localised ecological damage can be difficult to detect and easy to underestimate.</p> <p>A project that overlays turbines and associated infrastructure onto a mosaic of ridges, water-associated features and habitat edges requires exceptional caution. The objector should insist on a defensible avoidance-first approach, not a mitigation-first approach.</p>	<p>Bat Specialist:</p> <p>This will be included in the EIA Phase.</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>
	<p>4.7 Watercourse and wetland concerns</p> <p>The report identifies watercourses, wetlands, FEPA context, riparian systems, sedimentation risk, contamination risk, wetland habitat loss and changes in wetland functioning as matters for the EIA phase. Once roads, laydown areas, batching activities, hardstands and cable/line crossings are introduced into a working agricultural landscape, hydrological disturbance can become cumulative and persistent.</p> <p>The issue is not limited to direct wetland encroachment. It includes altered drainage, compaction, erosion, sediment transport, contamination from construction activities and reduced ecological resilience.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that these concerns will be considered in aquatic impact assessment during the EIA phase and will be addressed through suitable mitigation measures that will be included in the EMP.</p>	<p>-</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>4.8 Visual and landscape impacts are likely to be severe and long-term</p> <p>The report describes the area as having a rural character interspersed with commercial agricultural activities and identifies visual sensitivity. The screening sensitivity table further records very high visual sensitivity at screening level and high sensitivity on specialist verification, including because the development lies on a topographical feature, close to numerous inhabited homesteads, hydrological features, mountains and tall hills.</p> <p>Turbines of up to 180 m hub height and 200 m rotor diameter will become dominant visual structures over a very wide area. This is not merely a change in view. It is the industrialisation of a rural landscape and a permanent alteration of sense of place, visual amenity and rural character.</p> <p>The VIA workplan itself recognises the need to assess scenic quality, visual absorption capacity, shadow flicker, cumulative visibility and photo simulations. That is a sign of the seriousness of the issue, not a sign that the issue is minor.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that these concerns will be considered in visual impact assessment during the EIA phase and will be addressed through suitable mitigation measures that will be included in the EMP.</p>	-
	<p>4.9 Noise and shadow flicker impacts on nearby receptors</p> <p>The report identifies numerous permanent or temporary residential activities within the project area and confirms a very high noise sensitivity. It also notes identified social receptors and nearest noise-sensitive developments.</p>	<p>Acoustic Specialist:</p> <p>Section 3.2 of the Noise Impact Assessment:</p> <p>Potential expected and worst-case noise levels will be calculated per receptor during the EIA phase.</p>	Appendix G.8 - FSR

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>This undermines any attempt to present the site as remote or receptor-poor.</p> <p>Wind-farm noise assessment is inherently model-dependent and affected by turbine selection, topography and meteorology. At scoping stage, this uncertainty should weigh against acceptance where receptors are numerous and the development envelope is still broad. Shadow flicker is similarly acknowledged as requiring specialist assessment because inhabited residences and homesteads are close enough for the issue to arise.</p>		
	<p>4.10 Agricultural and rural-land-use impacts are understated if measured only by direct footprint</p> <p>The report notes cultivated lands, pasture, grazing veld and ongoing agricultural use. It also relies heavily on the relatively small percentage of direct footprint as a reason why agricultural impacts may be acceptable.</p> <p>That framing is too narrow. In practice, agricultural disruption can arise from abnormal-load access, widened roads, construction traffic, turning radii, drainage changes, security restrictions, fencing, interference with movement patterns, fire risk management, dust, and operational constraints near infrastructure. Fragmentation matters even when the literal hard footprint is modest.</p>	<p>Agricultural/ Soil Specialist:</p> <p>I take note of this comment and propose to better describe and evaluate these aspects during the EIA phase.</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>
	<p>4.11 Cumulative impacts appear especially important here</p> <p>The report identifies other renewable-energy projects within 50 km and 100 km and expressly acknowledges</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment.</p>	<p>-</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>concerns about cumulative habitat loss, fragmentation, disturbance, and impacts on flora and fauna species of conservation concern. It also notes broader regional construction and maintenance pressures.</p> <p>Where the proponent's own cumulative section already recognises ecological concern, the competent authority should not accept generic assurances. Cumulative impact assessment must be spatially explicit, receptor-specific and honest about threshold effects, especially for birds, bats, visual character and broad-scale habitat integrity.</p>	<p>The EIA phase will include a refined assessment of cumulative impacts by considering appropriate spatial extents per specialist discipline, receptor sensitivity, ecological processes, and regional context. The EIA phase will therefore include a more detailed and coordinated assessment of cumulative impacts.</p> <p>Furthermore, for biodiversity-related studies, a wider project-area of assessment will be considered where necessary. The rationale for assessment radii will be clearly motivated, and cumulative impacts will be assessed in an integrated manner in the EIA Report.</p>	
	<p>4.12 Internal inconsistencies and moving project parameters require clarification</p> <p>The report presents differing figures in places, including references to an electrical infrastructure hub of up to 7 ha in some project-summary material and up to 25 ha in the maximum development scenario, and references to both 4 and 5 access points / up to 28 km versus up to 35 km of roads. Those differences may be explainable, but they matter.</p> <p>Where a scoping report relies on a maximum development envelope, that envelope must be stated clearly and consistently so that interested and affected parties can understand the true worst-case scenario on which they are being asked to comment.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that all project parameters, including the maximum development envelope, will be clearly defined and consistently presented in the EIA documentation. Any discrepancies identified in the scoping phase will be clarified in the EIA phase, and a consolidated worst-case development scenario will be communicated to ensure that I&APs are able to meaningfully assess and comment on the full extent of potential impacts.</p>	-

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	<p>4.13 Public participation must remain meaningful and not premature</p> <p>Meaningful participation depends on sufficiently stable project information and enough detail to allow affected parties to understand what is proposed, where, with what residual risks, and why this site remains justified after sensitivity screening. If too many decisive matters are deferred to EIA, participation at scoping stage becomes less meaningful than the regulations require.</p> <p>The objector should therefore request access to turbine coordinates, distances to the nearest occupied homesteads, clear maps from the affected farm perspective, and the specialist appendices in a fully accessible form if not already provided.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that all scoping phase documentation was made accessible to all key stakeholders and I&APs. Hard copies of the documentation were placed at various public places within the surrounding project area. Additionally, the documentation was made available on various digital platforms, including the WSP website, DataFree, and through OneDrive links.</p>	-
	<p>4.14 The best practicable environmental option has not yet been shown</p> <p>NEMA's integrated-decision framework requires pursuit of the best practicable environmental option. On the present record, it is not clear that the applicant has demonstrated that this site and this configuration are preferable to less sensitive locations, stronger setbacks, fewer turbines, greater exclusion zones, or the no-go alternative.</p> <p>The objection is therefore not only that impacts exist, but that the scoping report does not yet persuade a reasonable decision-maker that the selected option is the least harmful viable option.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP notes this concern; however, it is incorrect to conclude that the Scoping Report has not demonstrated consideration of the best practicable environmental option. The Scoping Phase has identified and assessed a range of reasonable and feasible alternatives, including the no-go option, with detailed, specialist-informed evaluation to be undertaken during the EIA phase. The process explicitly requires further refinement of the layout based on specialist findings, sensitivity mapping and mitigation hierarchies, which will ensure that the preferred alternative represents the most environmentally acceptable and practicable option</p>	-

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		prior to decision-making by the Competent Authority.	
	<p>5. Procedural Requests to the Competent Authority</p> <p>The Competent Authority is requested not to accept the Draft Scoping Report in its current form unless it is satisfied that the report substantially complies with Appendix 2 and that all material location, layout, receptor and cumulative-impact questions have been properly framed and disclosed.</p> <p>Before acceptance of scoping, the applicant should be required to provide a clear and internally consistent maximum development envelope, finalised receptor mapping, property-specific distance schedules, and an explicit explanation of how the revised 27-turbine layout avoids or materially reduces the most sensitive areas and receptors.</p> <p>The EIA phase should be required to include a genuinely comparative assessment of the no-go alternative, stronger avoidance-led alternatives, wider setbacks to occupied dwellings and homesteads, and a transparent cumulative assessment for avifauna, bats, biodiversity, visual impacts and rural amenity.</p> <p>If those matters cannot be resolved adequately, the application should ultimately be refused.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP notes the procedural requests; however, the DSR substantially complies with the requirements of Appendix 2 and provides a sufficient level of information to define the scope of the assessment and inform further detailed studies. The purpose of the scoping phase is to identify key issues, alternatives and receptors for detailed investigation, which will be comprehensively assessed and refined during the EIA phase, including layout optimisation, specialist-led mitigation, and comparative assessment of reasonable alternatives.</p> <p>The EAP confirms that the EIA phase will address the matters raised through detailed specialist studies, spatial refinement, and a comprehensive impact and alternatives assessment, in line with the legislated process, thereby enabling the Competent Authority to make an informed decision based on a fully developed record.</p>	-

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	<p>6. Draft Prayer / Requested Outcome</p> <p>For the reasons set out above, the objector respectfully requests that the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:</p> <p>(a) decline to accept the Draft Scoping Report in its present form unless the deficiencies identified by interested and affected parties are cured to the Department's satisfaction;</p> <p>(b) require the applicant to address, with specificity, all biodiversity, avifauna, bat, wetland, visual, noise, shadow flicker, agricultural, social-receptor and cumulative-impact concerns identified in this objection;</p> <p>(c) require a genuine and evidence-based comparison between the proposed development and the no-go alternative, as well as stronger avoidance-led alternatives; and</p> <p>(d) if the EIA ultimately confirms that significant adverse impacts cannot be avoided or reduced to acceptable levels, refuse environmental authorisation for the proposed development.</p>		
	<p>7. Source Notes for This Draft</p> <p>Draft Environmental Scoping Report: ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1, March 2026, including project description, site sensitivity verification, cumulative-impact discussion, no-go discussion, and plan of study for EIA.</p> <p>Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, section 24.</p>	-	-

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	<p>National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998, especially section 2 and section 24.</p> <p>EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), including the provisions governing submission and consideration of scoping reports and Appendix 2 requirements.</p> <p>Fuel Retailers Association of Southern Africa v Director-General: Environmental Management, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment, Mpumalanga Province and Others [2007] ZACC 13.</p> <p>8. Draft Signature Block Submitted by: Werner van der Merwe Capacity / relation to affected property: Steynskraal 339 IR, Driefontein 405IR Farm / property: Wildebeestfontein 559IR</p>		
<p>Christie Minnaar 13 April 2026 Email</p>	<p>We, the Trustees of Ruspoort 1906 Trust, herewith wish to be registered as stakeholders in order to receive all correspondence and information regarding this process to our e-mail address as below: Category: Adjacent Landowner Title: Mr First Name: Phillip Last Name: Minnaar Organisation: Rustpoort 1906 Trust Position: Trustee Physical Address: Resterende gedeelte van gedeelte 8 ('n gedeelte van gedeelte 5) van die Plaas Lagerspoort 406 IR Provinsie Gauteng</p>	<p>EAP: The EAP confirms that the I&AP has been registered and is added to the project database.</p>	<p>Appendix D-SER</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	Postal Address: PO Box 7 Heidelberg GP 1438 With Regards The Trustees		
Christie Minnaar 15 April 2026 Email	For attention Ms Maharaj / Strong Good day Please find our comments on the above project attached hereto. Also please be so kind as to confirm receipt hereof. Thank you & Regards The Trustees Rustpoort 1906 Trust	EAP: The EAP acknowledges the comment.	-
Christie Minnaar 15 April 2026 Letter (Via Email)	Dear Ms Maharaj / Strong, COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED ABO USTEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, LOCATED NEAR HEIDELBERG AND BALFOUR IN THE GAUTENG AND MPUMALANGA PROVINCES Temporary DFFE Reference nr: 2024-11-0018 We, the Trustees of Rustpoort 1906 Trust, an interested and affected party (I&AP) duly registered on this project, wishes to contribute the following comments:	EAP: The EAP acknowledges the comment. Responses to specific comments is detail below.	Appendix D - SER
	1. Availability of Scoping Report	EAP:	Table 2.3 - SER

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	<p>It was stated in the local Newspaper, The Heidelberg Herald as published on 11 March, that the Draft Scoping Report would be made available at the Heidelberg Public Library. Upon visiting the library on 7 April no documentation regarding the project was available for review, denying the public without access to the internet to participate in the process.</p>	<p>The EAP takes note of this concern. However, as indicated in Table 2.3 of this PPR [SER], the DSR was made available at the Heidelberg Public Library. The EAP will ensure that an investigation is carried out to understand why the I&AP was not given access to the DSR.</p>	
	<p>2. Relevance of proposed wind energy project in Gauteng and Mpumalanga.</p> <p>The proposed wind energy project does not fall within a renewable energy development zone or strategic transmission zone. There are also multiple solar energy facilities and proposed projects in the region that will already provide renewable energy.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment; however, the absence of the project within a Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ) or Strategic Transmission Corridor does not preclude its viability or desirability. The site selection was informed by a feasibility assessment considering factors such as wind resource, proximity to grid infrastructure, and land availability, which are critical determinants for project implementation</p> <p>Furthermore, the need for renewable energy is assessed at a national and regional level, and the existence of other renewable energy facilities does not negate the contribution of the proposed project toward diversifying energy supply and supporting decommissioning of existing coal-based generation.</p> <p>The appropriateness of the site and its contribution to energy objectives will be further assessed in detail during the EIA phase, including consideration of cumulative impacts and alternatives, to support informed decision-making by the Competent Authority.</p>	

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>3. Environmental concerns</p> <p>The report is supportive of the proposed project, even though all impacts and especially cumulative impacts have not properly been assessed.</p> <p>Overall, impacts are rated as high concerning environmental aspects, but all ratings are brought down to “acceptable” levels if the mitigation measures are implemented. However, compliance to mitigation measures and the Environmental Management Programmes (EMPr), especially during the Operational Phase is not guaranteed, therefore placing the environment at significant risk, with dire implications for birds, bats and potentially other fauna.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges the concern; however it is not correct to conclude that impacts have been prematurely downplayed or that the assessment is inherently supportive of the project. The Scoping Report provides a preliminary identification and rating of impacts, including cumulative impacts, in accordance with its purpose of defining the scope of further detailed assessment.</p> <p>Impact significance ratings, including those reduced through mitigation, are informed by specialist input and recognised assessment methodologies, which assume the implementation of mitigation in line with the mitigation hierarchy. The enforceability of such measures is secured through inclusion in the EMPr and associated EA conditions, which are legally binding and subject to monitoring and compliance auditing.</p> <p>The effectiveness and feasibility of mitigation measures, including for avifauna and bats, will be further tested, refined and verified during the EIA phase to ensure that residual impacts are appropriately assessed and managed, thereby supporting an objective and evidence-based recommendation to the CA.</p>	-
	<p>In addition, further significant impacts stemming from the further development of infrastructure, not evaluated in this Draft Scoping Report, will also follow, such as the grid connection and overhead power lines, which causes</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges the concern; however, associated grid infrastructure is recognised as part</p>	-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	severe fire risks in the agricultural hub annually, with huge financial implications.	<p>of the project and will be assessed through separate application process.</p> <p>Potential risks, including fire, are standard considerations and will be addressed through dedicated mitigation, management plans and EMP requirements.</p> <p>These aspects will be refined during the EIA phase to ensure all foreseeable impacts are appropriately assessed and managed.</p>	
	Nothing is said in the report as to how the proposed wind energy facility may influence the microclimate of the region, as this is a highly productive agricultural area, which might jeopardize sustainable food production.	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP notes this comment and confirms that the relevance of this impact will be considered in the EIA phase.</p>	Appendix D - SER
	<p>4. Visual impact concerns</p> <p>It is noted that the impact will be high regarding visual impacts, due to the height, size and movement of the wind turbines. It is noted in the report that these impacts cannot be mitigated, due to the sheer size of the turbines. This will have a permanent impact of the sense of place of the area and diminish the tourism value of the region and furthermore impact the potential expansion of protected areas.</p>	<p>Visual/ Landscape Specialist:</p> <p>Agreed: "The operation of the ABO Uvemvane WEF 1 is expected to have a very high visual impact on sensitive receptors within a 5km radius of the wind turbine structures."</p> <p>The visual impact on the sense of place will be addressed during the EIA Phase.</p> <p>The visual specialist cannot authoritatively speculate on the potential economic impact on tourism or impact on PA expansion (these fall within other specialist fields), but existing tourist accommodation, venues and attractions are included as potential sensitive visual receptors within the VIA.</p>	Appendix G.7

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>5. Safety concerns</p> <p>It is noted that job opportunities will be created by especially the construction phase, which may lure job-seekers to the areas. The job opportunities will be temporary and therefore the proposed project may lead to a direct increase in crime. This will be exacerbated by the proposed road infrastructure, which will aid criminals due to increased access and mobility.</p>	<p>Social Specialist:</p> <p>The possibility that construction-related employment may attract job seekers from outside the area, and the concern that this could place pressure on local safety and security, is recognised. Construction jobs will be short-term and limited, which can result in work seekers arriving with expectations that cannot be met.</p> <p>This issue has been identified as part of the construction-phase social risks and will be addressed in the Social Impact during the EIA phase.</p>	Appendix D - SER
	<p>We reserve the opportunity to raise more concerns, if necessary, as the process commence.</p> <p>Please confirm receipt of comments and concerns.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p> <p>The Trustees</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment.</p>	-
<p>Helena Spies</p> <p>15 April 2026</p> <p>Email</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>To whom it</p> <p>We say NO to the developers on a wind farm on our property and farm</p> <p>We treasure our Eco system and we would not allow this to happen We will be in touch with Fona And Flora to protect our wild life</p>	<p>EAP</p> <p>We acknowledge your objection to the project and value the concerns as raised, and confirm that these have been duly noted and will be addressed further within the EIA Phase. Where required, the relevant specialists, applicant and/or EAP have been provided with these concerns for further investigation. You will be kept informed of project updates and further opportunities to participate in</p>	Appendix D - SER

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>So it is a DEFINITE NO TO YOUR PROJECT !!!!!</p> <p>our land 399 Steynskraal Heidelberg SAY NO !!!!!</p> <p>AS owner of the farm we been living there for 58 years !!!!</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>Helena Spies</p>	<p>the environmental assessment process, in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended).</p>	
<p>Jaun Venter</p> <p>15 April 2026</p> <p>Email</p>	<p>Dear Sir/Madam</p> <p>I hereby submit my formal objection to the proposed ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 planned near Heidelberg and Balfour.</p> <p>While I acknowledge the importance of renewable energy development, I have serious concerns regarding the suitability of this project in the proposed location and its potential long-term impacts on the environment, local communities, and safety.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment.</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>
	<p>My concerns are as follows:</p> <p>1. Impact on Birdlife and Biodiversity</p> <p>The area has been identified as home to over 200 bird species, including protected and vulnerable species such as vultures, raptors, and Secretarybirds. The placement of large wind turbines within known flight paths presents a significant risk of mortality and long-term disruption to these species. Additionally, the presence of sensitive species such as the Heidelberg copper butterfly raises further ecological concerns.</p>	<p>Invertebrate Specialist:</p> <p>The Heidelberg Copper (<i>Chrysoritis aureus</i>) is associated with very localized areas and also with extremely defined (narrow) habitat requirements. This means that with careful consideration of the location of the wind turbines (and other components) the proposed development and the conservation of the localized butterfly species could be compatible, particularly with the implementation of a dedicated monitoring programme that aims to facilitate awareness and conservation of the</p>	<p>Appendix G.12 - FSR</p>

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		<p>species. The potential impact of the proposed project on the species will be assessed in detail during the EIA phase and mitigation priorities developed. Particular attention will be provided to potential conflict areas.</p> <p>EAP:</p> <p>Potential impacts on avifauna will be assessed in detail by the avifaunal specialist during the EIA phase.</p>	
	<p>2. Environmental Degradation The construction and operation of the wind facility will result in habitat destruction, soil disturbance, and fragmentation of natural ecosystems. The cumulative environmental impact of roads, substations, and powerlines has not been adequately justified for this area.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that detailed impact assessment will be provide by all specialists to address these concerns during the EIA phase.</p>	-
	<p>3. Impact on Quality of Life International evidence highlights concerns around noise pollution, including infrasound, as well as shadow flicker caused by turbine blades. These factors may negatively affect the wellbeing, sleep patterns, and general quality of life of nearby residents.</p>	<p>Visual Specialist:</p> <p>A shadow flicker risk assessment was undertaken for the wind turbine layout as provided by the client at the start of the Scoping Phase. Identified residences are mentioned in the VIA report. A similar shadow flicker risk assessment will be undertaken for the revised turbine layout during the EIA Phase.</p>	Appendix G.7

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>4. Visual and Rural Landscape Impact</p> <p>The scale of the proposed turbines will significantly alter the natural and rural character of the Heidelberg and Balfour area, which is valued for its open landscapes and environmental appeal.</p>	<p>Visual Specialist:</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>The significance of the visual impact on the sense of place (and landscape character) will be addressed / determined during the EIA Phase. Also refer to the first comment / response.</p>	Appendix G.7
	<p>5. Aviation Safety Risks</p> <p>The proximity of the proposed development to the Heidelberg airfield raises serious safety concerns. The height and placement of turbines could interfere with flight paths, low-flying aircraft, and aviation training activities.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that the applicant is currently applying for the necessary permits to address this concern.</p>	-
	<p>6. Long-Term Sustainability and Decommissioning</p> <p>There is insufficient clarity regarding the long-term maintenance, decommissioning process, and environmental rehabilitation once the turbines reach the end of their lifespan. The issue of blade disposal is also a growing global concern.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and confirms that this concern will be addressed in the EMPr during the EIA phase.</p>	-
	<p>Given the above, I believe that the risks and negative impacts of this development outweigh its potential benefits in this specific location.</p> <p>I respectfully request that these concerns be fully considered and that the proposed development not proceed in its current form.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>We acknowledge your objection to the project and value the concerns as raised and confirm that these have been duly noted and will be addressed further within the EIA Phase. Where required, the relevant specialists, applicant and/or EAP have been provided with these concerns for further</p>	-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>Please confirm receipt of this objection and include me in all further correspondence regarding this project.</p> <p>Thank You Jaun Venter</p>	<p>investigation. You will be kept informed of project updates and further opportunities to participate in the environmental assessment process, in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended).</p>	
Gauteng Department of Environment (GDEnv)			
<p>Wesi Moagi 16 April 2026 Email</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Please forward your submission to ENVIRONMENTCOMMENTS@gauteng.gov.za so the Department (GDEnv) can respond.</p> <p>Regards, WM</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Good day,</p> <p>The email trail refers.</p> <p>Please note that the commenting period concluded on 15 April 2026.</p> <p>However, should the Department still wish to comment, then please forward through comments by 24 April 2026.</p> <p>☐ ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1_Draft Scoping Report_Public Review</p> <p>Thank you. Kind regards, Jashmika Maharaj</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>
Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)			
<p>Mr. Kishaylin Chetty 15 April 2026</p>	<p>Good day WSP Team,</p> <p>Attached, please find the Endangered Wildlife Trust's comments to the proposed ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The acknowledges this comment.</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
Email	<p>Facility (WEF) 1 (up to 170MWac), located in the Mpumalanga and Gauteng Province.</p> <p>We are open to discuss the comments should you require. Kind regards,</p> <p>Samista Rooplal Biodiversity and Business Officer</p>		
<p>Mr. Kishaylin Chetty</p> <p>15 April 2026</p> <p>Letter (Via Email)</p>	<p>Attention: WSP Team</p> <p>Dear WSP Public Participation Office pp@wsp.com,</p> <p>Re: Response to the proposed ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility (WEF) 1 (up to 170MWac), located in the Mpumalanga and Gauteng Province (Project No: 41106304, Temporary DFFE Reference Number: 2024-11-0018)</p> <p>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 implementing research and conservation action towards mitigating 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. The EWT is driven by a team of passionate and dedicated conservationists working through 13 specialised programmes across southern and East Africa, each</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The acknowledges this comment. Responses to specific responses are detailed below.</p> <p>It must be noted that the project team was not able to access the link shared on the comment. The EAP attempted to reach this Department telephonically on 05 and 06 May 2026, to confirm whether the link provided on the document can be shared via email to allow for ease of access. However, the EAP was not able to reach the Department prior to the submission of this FSR. Therefore, this information will be considered during the EIA phase once the EAP is able to access the link.</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>falling under one of our three key strategic pillars: Saving species, conserving habitats, and benefitting people.</p> <p>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 solar energy but only where all possible options for avoiding, reducing, minimising, and offsetting of impacts (in that order) have been considered and implemented. Please refer to the links embedded in this paragraph for further insight into the EWT's perspectives, concerns, and considerations linked to renewable energy in general, and wind energy in particular.</p> <p>The demand for energy is increasing globally, and 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.</p>		

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	The EWT believes that some of the impacts of WEFs can be avoided and reduced using suitable remedial actions and mitigation measures. Accordingly, we recommend four priority measures that must be considered and implemented to ensure minimum impact of wind energy on wildlife, for details of these four priority measures click here.		
	<p>In evaluating the above WEF and associated infrastructure application, we wish to highlight the following impacts and resultant recommendations:</p> <p>Avifaunal and biodiversity impacts and concerns: The proposed ABO Uvemvane WEF and associated powerline infrastructure overlap areas of high biodiversity sensitivity, including the Endangered Tsakane Clay Grassland, as well as multiple Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA Category 1 and 2) and Ecological Support Areas (ESA Category 1 and 2). These designations indicate that the affected landscape plays a critical role in maintaining ecological integrity, supporting threatened species, and sustaining ecosystem functioning. Development within these areas is therefore of significant concern and should be approached with strong avoidance measures in line with biodiversity planning frameworks.</p>	<p>Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist:</p> <p>The PAOI was investigated through desktop study and a field programme encompassing both dry and wet season surveys, providing a detailed understanding of the site's flora and fauna communities and the presence of key ecological attributes and processes.</p> <p>The various biodiversity features contributing to the sensitivity of the PAOI have been presented in the Terrestrial Biodiversity Scoping Report, and these have informed the application of the mitigation hierarchy, including avoidance through infrastructure placement, and the identification of several additional minimisation and rehabilitation measures. These will be refined during the impact assessment phase, with the results presented in the relevant specialist assessment reports.</p>	Appendix G.2 - FSR
	Furthermore, the development footprint intersects with Critically Endangered river systems, as identified in the South African National Biodiversity Institute National Wetland Map. These freshwater ecosystems are highly	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EAP acknowledges this comment and will ensure the specialist addresses it during the EIA</p>	Appendix G.2 - FSR

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	sensitive to disturbance and play an essential role in supporting both terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity, as well as broader ecological processes. Impacts on these systems may result in irreversible degradation if not adequately avoided and managed.	<p>phase, confirming suitable wetland and aquatic buffer zones.</p> <p>Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist:</p> <p>The ecological importance of watercourses associated with the POAI were noted in the Terrestrial Biodiversity Scoping Report. Although some smaller watercourses in the POAI will be affected by certain proposed access roads, no proposed infrastructure is located within the large Suikerbosrand River corridor. Project impacts that may affect watercourses, amongst other habitats, have been identified and assessed in the Terrestrial Biodiversity Scoping Report, and mitigation measures outlined. These will be refined during the impact assessment phase, with the results presented in the relevant specialist assessment reports.</p>	
	From an avifaunal perspective, the presence of Secretarybird (<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i> , Vulnerable) within the project area raises concern, given the species' sensitivity to habitat transformation and disturbance, particularly within open grassland systems. Of critical importance is the confirmed presence of a Verreaux's Eagle (<i>Aquila verreauxii</i> , Vulnerable) nesting site located on a prominent ridge 1 km north of Heidelberg. Multiple independent observations have confirmed regular eagle activity within the broader landscape, including flight paths directed toward the proposed WEF footprint. The	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>The proposed development's PAOI is considered to be an area of 7 km surrounding the proposed AOI, in line with the SANBI Species Assessment Guideline (South African National Biodiversity Institute, 2022) and Verreaux's Eagle Guidelines (Ralston Paton & Murgatroyd, 2021). Vulture tracking data from a 50 km radius was also included.</p>	-

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	omission of this known nesting site from the avifaunal assessment represents a significant gap, particularly given that man-made structures such as communication towers—where the nest is located—were not adequately surveyed, despite this being a requirement of established assessment guidelines. This omission raises concerns regarding the completeness and reliability of the specialist assessment and its conclusions.		
	<p>In addition, several methodological shortcomings were identified in the avifaunal assessment, which collectively undermine the robustness of the findings:</p> <p>The use of outdated biodiversity planning tools (e.g., older provincial CPlans and biodiversity sector plans), resulting in potentially inaccurate sensitivity mapping and turbine placement recommendations.</p>	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>The Avifaunal Specialist Assessment will be based on the latest biodiversity planning mapping.</p>	Appendix G.5 - FSR
	An insufficient Project Area of Influence (PAOI), which may have excluded key habitats and species interactions within the broader landscape.	<p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>The proposed development's Project Area of Influence (PAOI) is considered to be an area of 7 km surrounding the proposed AOI, in line with the SANBI Species Assessment Guideline (South African National Biodiversity Institute, 2022) and Verreux's Eagle Guidelines (Ralston Paton & Murgatroyd, 2021). Vulture tracking data from a 50 km radius was also included.</p> <p>Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist:</p>	Appendix G.2 – FSR; Appendix G.5 - FSR

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		A large PAOI encompassing several separate farms was identified and was subject to both desktop and field investigation for the terrestrial biodiversity study. The conservation planning and ecological attributes of this PAOI and any relevant attributes across the broader landscape (e.g., nearby protected areas and key biodiversity areas) were identified and discussed with respects to the proposed Project. Impacts on the terrestrial biodiversity receptors that fall under the scope of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Scoping Report are expected to remain confined to the defined PAOI.	
	Failure to adequately apply species-specific guidelines, including those for Verreaux's Eagle and Black Harrier, despite confirmed or recorded presence.	Avifaunal Specialist: Pre-construction monitoring was conducted in line with all available species-specific guidelines, including Black Harrier, Verreaux's Eagle and Cape Vulture.	Appendix G.5 - FSR
	Inadequate focal site surveys, limited to farm dams and excluding key structures such as pylons and communication towers.	Avifaunal Specialist: Pylons and communication towers were surveyed as part of daily monitoring survey efforts and any sightings were recorded as incidental records. An additional site survey during the EIA Phase coinciding with the large raptor breeding season will again survey all man-made structures within the PAOI.	Appendix G.5 - FSR

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	The absence of VERA modelling, despite clear triggers for its application based on confirmed nesting activity and recorded flight behaviour.	Avifaunal Specialist: Due to the location of the closest Verreaux's Eagle nest being more than 12 km from the proposed development site, the VERA model is not applicable.	Appendix G.5 - FSR
	Insufficient monitoring duration, where one year of data collection is unlikely to adequately capture variability in raptor activity, particularly in a landscape supporting a confirmed breeding pair.	Avifaunal Specialist: According to the Verreaux's Eagle Guidelines a 2nd year of monitoring is required if turbines are proposed in areas within 5,2 km of Verreaux's Eagle nests or in areas identified as medium sensitivity by VERA, which is not the case for the proposed layout. All areas identified as of high and medium sensitivity including steep slopes (> 1:4) scarps, ridges and rocky outcrops are already avoided by the proposed development.	Appendix G.5 - FSR
	Underestimation of avifaunal activity and risk, particularly in relation to Verreaux's Eagle flight patterns and topographic risk features.	Avifaunal Specialist: An estimation of fatality risk will be conducted in the EIA phase.	Appendix G.5 - FSR
	Limited consideration of cumulative impacts, despite the presence of multiple wind energy facilities within the broader landscape. For more information on the avifaunal concerns, please contact Hennie de Beer	EAP: In line with accepted methodology for environmental impact assessment and as per the radius applied by the DFFE Screening tool, the POS for the EIA phase has been updated to recommend application of a 30km radius for the cumulative impact assessment for all specialist themes apart from Agriculture, which will consider projects within 50km	Section 9 - FSR Appendix G.5 - FSR

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		<p>of the proposed WEF, in line with the relevant Agricultural Protocol for renewable energy development. All similar developments within the applicable radii will be identified during the EIA phase using available data/resources. Only approved or constructed projects will be included in the cumulative impact assessment as refused or in process applications cannot lawfully initiate their scope and thus incur resultant potential impacts that can be considered as reasonably foreseeable impacts. Notwithstanding the above, should any specialist determine, based on specific impact pathways, receptor sensitivities, or species specific risks, that a larger assessment radius is warranted to adequately assess potential impacts, the applicable cumulative assessment footprint may be expanded accordingly, with appropriate motivation provided in the specialist study.</p> <p>Avifaunal Specialist:</p> <p>Cumulative impacts included as section 5.10.11 of Appendix G5. Map provided by the EAP included, showing renewable energy projects within 50km. Assessment of cumulative im-pacts would only be done in EIA phase, as noted in section 6 Conclusion and Plan for Environmental Assessment.</p>	
	<p>Bat collision risk: Bats are particularly susceptible to anthropogenic changes because of their low reproductive rate, longevity, and high metabolic rates, limiting their ability to recover from declines and to maintain sustainable</p>	<p>Bat Specialist:</p> <p>All the necessary bat guidelines have been taken into account to ensure that the correct methodological procedures have been followed.</p>	<p>Appendix G.6 - FSR</p>

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	<p>populations. Bat fatalities due to wind turbines raise serious concerns about population-level impacts. The main documented direct impacts of wind energy on bats include fatality via mainly direct collision with turbine blades or less likely by barotrauma. Indirect impacts include roost disturbances and/or destruction (if construction, operational or decommissioning activities occur close to bat roosts), destruction of foraging habitat (due to WEF construction and habitat change), displacement of bats from their foraging habitat (bats avoid the WEF area) and obstruction of movement paths to drinking, foraging, roosting and migration sites.</p> <p>Impacts of wind turbines on bats vary depending on site selection, specifications of the wind turbines, species occurring in the area, season, and time of night. Bat fatalities may outnumber bird fatalities by 10:1 and fatality rates may be affected by turbine size and wind speed (low-wind nights are generally associated with increased fatality). Until we have a better understanding of South African bat population levels and fluxes, bat ecology and migration, it is recommended that a precautionary approach is adopted, and all known bat data are carefully considered. For detailed pre-construction monitoring, operational phase monitoring and mitigation guidelines please click here.</p> <p>Based on the above, the EWT considers the current level of assessment to be insufficient to adequately characterise the biodiversity and avifaunal risks associated with the proposed development. The omission of a confirmed active Verreaux's Eagle nesting</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>It must be noted that the project team was not able to access the link shared on the comment. The EAP attempted to reach this Department telephonically on 05 and 06 May 2026, to confirm whether the link provided on the document can be shared via email to allow for ease of access. However, the EAP was not able to reach the Department prior to the submission of this FSR. Therefore, this information will be considered during the EIA phase once the EAP is able to access the link.</p>	

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	site, together with the identified methodological limitations, raises significant concern regarding the findings presented in the Draft Environmental Scoping Report. It is therefore essential that these gaps be addressed during the EIA phase with up-to date biodiversity planning tools, expanded survey efforts, appropriate application of species-specific guidelines, and robust assessment methodologies.		
	The EWT appreciates the opportunity provided by the developer to comment and we look forward to the opportunity to participate in the process of informing the responsible placement of turbines. We would value the opportunity to provide our detailed landscape planning data and to assist through negotiation to inform decision making, but we cannot support high-risk options. We further request that the relevant competent authority and Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE) take these concerns into consideration, including the associated powerlines and other infrastructure that will be required because of the proposed wind energy development.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges the comments from the EWT and welcomes their continued participation and contribution to informing the responsible placement of turbines. The project will consider the detailed datasets and engagement offered, and all comments regarding high-risk options and associated infrastructure will be considered, together with specialist findings, in the finalisation of the layout and decision-making process. The DFFE will be duly informed of these concerns for consideration in the authorisation process.	-
	The EWT reserves the right to revise initial comments presented here if additional information becomes available. Regards, Mr. Kishaylin Chetty Executive: Head of Sustainability Endangered Wildlife Trust	EAP: The EAP takes note of this comment.	-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
SA Truck Bodies (Pty) Ltd			
Marlize Burger 15 April 2026 Email	<p>Morning</p> <p>Heidelberg is a historic town and nature being part of it for centuries. A wind farm will have a negative impact on our wildlife (endangered species) and surrounding nature landscapes, as well as on the community.</p> <p>Noise pollution, low-frequency sound and infrasound generated by turbines,</p> <p>fatalities of Aquila verreauxii, vultures, Secretarybirds, flamingos and large raptors and Chrysoritis aureus,</p> <p>habitat destruction, soil degradation, and fragmentation of natural landscapes.</p> <p>Disruption of ecosystems.</p> <p>I object to this development Marlize Burger</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>We acknowledge your objection to the project and value the concerns as raised, and confirm that these have been duly noted and will be addressed further within the EIA Phase. Where required, the relevant specialists, applicant and/or EAP have been provided with these concerns for further investigation. You will be kept informed of project updates and further opportunities to participate in the environmental assessment process, in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended).</p>	Appendix D - SER
Vodacom			
Harry Mphahlele 13 April 2026 Email	<p>Hi There,</p> <p>Kindly share the KMZ file with proposed turbine locations</p>	<p>WSP PP OFFICE:</p> <p>Good day Harry</p> <p>Please see the kmz attached</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Public Participation Office</p>	Appendix D-SER

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Bird Life South Africa			
Samantha Ralston-Paton 23 April 2026 Email	Dear Jashmika Thank you for your email. BirdLife South Africa do not have the capacity to review and comment on the large number of EIAs for renewable energy and associated infrastructure. Please ensure that you have consulted our various guidelines on renewable energy on birds, available at on our website. https://www.birdlife.org.za/ These guidelines should be considered BirdLife South Africa's input into EIAs processes.	EAP: Dear Sam, Thank you for your response and for clarifying BirdLife South Africa's position. We acknowledge your guidance and will ensure that the relevant BirdLife South Africa guidelines on renewable energy and birds are duly considered as part of the EIA process.	Appendix D-SER
	Note that a lack of more project-specific comment should not be interpreted as BirdLife South Africa's endorsement, or otherwise of an application.	We also note that the absence of project-specific comments at this stage should not be interpreted as endorsement of the application.	
	We may comment on the EIA reports when they are available for review, but in the interim, please let us know if there are any specific bird-related questions or concerns related to the project(s) and/or guidelines, and we will gladly advise. Kind regards Sam	We will keep you informed of key project updates as the process progresses. Should any project-specific, bird-related questions arise, we will be in contact. Kind regards, Jashmika Maharaj	
AMDA Developments (Pty) Ltd			

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
Ryan David-Andersen 23 March 2026 Email	<p>Dear WSP Team</p> <p>Please may you add my details in signature below as an I&AP for the ABO WEFs for which you are conducting EIAs?</p> <p>Ryan David-Andersen Senior Development Manager AMDA Developments (Pty) Ltd</p>	<p>WSP PP OFFICE:</p> <p>Good day Rian,</p> <p>Kindly note that you have been registered as an I&AP.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Public Participation Office</p>	Appendix D - SER
Interested and Affected Parties			
Verlyn Troskie 14 April 2026 Email	<p>Good day,</p> <p>Find herewith a formal OBJECTION to any and all development of the abovementioned project. Why are we given so little time to object? Are you hiding this on purpose to push through this nonsense at any and all cost?</p> <p>These wind turbines are an ecological nuisance disrupting birdlife, and the ecological surroundings. Apart from the impact on the surrounding wildlife which is what makes the rural areas such as Heidelberg attractive for living in and developing property, these turbines are also noisy, an absolute eyesore and as far as I am aware not easy to recycle the blades, making this not a green alternative.</p> <p>Take this nonsense elsewhere where you are not going to spoil property values and the beauty of the surrounding natural habitat for all and sundry in Heidelberg and Balfour.</p>	<p>WSP PP OFFICE:</p> <p>Good day Verlyn</p> <p>Kindly note that your comments have been received and will be captured as part of this application.</p> <p>Notification of the Draft Scoping Report was shared with registered stakeholders on 13 March 2026, and stakeholders were given a 30-day (excluding public holidays) period to review the report and submit their comments. Alongside the email notification, SMSs were sent on 13 March 2026, put up Site Notices on the same day and placed newspaper adverts in the Heidelberg Heraut on 11 March 2026. These adverts appeared in English, Afrikaans, and isiZulu to reach as many people as possible.</p> <p>Additionally, you have been registered on the project stakeholder database and your comments will be included as part of the project comments and responses register.</p>	Appendix D - SER

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	<p>Please acknowledge receipt of this objection, and be assured of my full commitment to oppose this at every level given my employ with an Asset Manager who opposes these types of infrastructure developments as responsible custodians of funds for both Municipal entities and the PIC.</p> <p>@Municipal Manager Why are the residents of Heidelberg not notified of this in a timely manner to file objections???</p> <p>Regards, VERLYN TROSKIE, CFP ® HEAD: RETAIL DESTRIUTION</p>	<p>Kind regards, Public Participation Office</p> <p>EAP:</p> <p>We acknowledge your objection to the project and value the concerns as raised and confirm that these have been duly noted and will be addressed further within the EIA Phase. Where required, the relevant specialists, applicant and/or EAP have been provided with these concerns for further investigation. You will be kept informed of project updates and further opportunities to participate in the environmental assessment process, in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended).</p>	

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
<p>Dina Devine 14 April 2026 Email</p>	<p>Residents of Heidelberg and Balfour object to the proposed ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility due to its significant and potentially irreversible environmental, safety, and quality-of-life impacts.</p> <p>The development threatens over 200 bird species, including vulnerable raptors and vultures, as well as the endangered Heidelberg Copper butterfly. It risks habitat destruction, biodiversity loss, and disruption of critical flight paths.</p> <p>Concerns also include noise pollution, visual intrusion, shadow flicker, and the degradation of the area's rural character. The proximity to Heidelberg's airfield raises serious aviation safety risks. Additionally, the long-term environmental cost, infrastructure impact, and uncertainty around decommissioning further compound concerns.</p> <p>Given these risks, residents call for urgent reconsideration of the project.</p> <p>Oak View Manor Team</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>We acknowledge your objection to the project and value the concerns as raised and confirm that these have been duly noted and will be addressed further within the EIA Phase. Where required, the relevant specialists, applicant and/or EAP have been provided with these concerns for further investigation. You will be kept informed of project updates and further opportunities to participate in the environmental assessment process, in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended).</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>
<p>Cornerlia Schwaner 14 April 2026</p>	<p>To whom it may concern.</p> <p>Please note that I object in the strongest possible terms to the erection and implementation of any and all wind turbines in the Heidelberg/ Balfour district. These turbines are destructive and an absolute eyesore in this beautiful farming area. The wildlife, especially the birds</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>We acknowledge your objection to the project and value the concerns as raised and confirm that these have been duly noted and will be addressed further within the EIA Phase. Where required, the relevant specialists, applicant and/or EAP have been</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>

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	<p>of prey here, that are already on the endangered species list e.g. the Russian Steppbuzzard, that we have seen and photographed, is just one example. This should be stopped immediately.</p> <p>Regards Cornelia Schwaner Resident of Heidelberg</p>	<p>provided with these concerns for further investigation. You will be kept informed of project updates and further opportunities to participate in the environmental assessment process, in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended).</p>	
<p>Garth Denton 14 April 2026</p>	<p>Where can we object to this proposed site and why do we only know about it 1 day before the objection submission closes.</p> <p>Yours Truly Garth Denton</p>	<p>WSP PP OFFICE:</p> <p>Good day Garth,</p> <p>We are currently in the Scoping Phase of the project and you can submit comments.</p> <p>Kindly note that there will be further opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Report when it is made available.</p> <p>Please note that from your email you have been registered as a stakeholder on the project and you will receive all communication going forward.</p> <p>Kind regards, Public Participation Office</p> <p>EAP:</p> <p>We acknowledge your objection to the project and value the concerns as raised, and confirm that these have been duly noted and will be addressed further</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
		within the EIA Phase. Where required, the relevant specialists, applicant and/or EAP have been provided with these concerns for further investigation. You will be kept informed of project updates and further opportunities to participate in the environmental assessment process, in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended).	

3.2 FINAL SCOPING REPORT

Table 3-2 outlines the responses to comments received following the submission of the FSR to the DFFE on 08 May 2026.

Table 3-2 -Comments received for the Final Scoping Report and associated responses

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
Department of Water and Sanitation			
Mpho Mbuva 05 August 2026 Letter (Via email)	<p>Good evening Mr/Ms. A. Strong</p> <p>Kindly receive the above-mentioned comments for your information.</p> <p>COMMENTS ON FINAL SCOPPING REPORT OF ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1 (PTY) LTD FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1 AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURES ON DIFFERENT PORTIONS OF FARMS, LOCATED NEAR HEIDELBERG AND BALFOUR IN GAUTENG AND MPUMALANGA WITHIN DIPALESENG, LESEDI AND THE MIDVAAL LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, C21B AND C21C QUATERNARY CATCHMENT LIMPOPO OLIFANTS WATER MANAGEMENT AREA, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE.</p> <p>Reference is made to the above-mentioned report, DFFE REF 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803 dated May 2026, prepared by WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. Responses to specific comments are detailed below.</p>	Appendix D - SER

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	The Department of Water and Sanitation has evaluated the above-mentioned report and wish to comment as follows:		
	1.The applicant shall conduct a preliminary legal assessment to identify all water use activities associated with the proposed project that will require Authorisation by the DWS and the applicant is hereby referred to section 22(1) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No.36 of 1998).	EAP: The aquatic assessment undertaken for the project includes a preliminary water-use legal and risk assessment for the proposed WEF and associated infrastructure. The assessment identifies potential Section 21(a), (c), (g) and (i) water uses. The Section 21(c) and (i) risk assessment found a low risk where the recommended measures are implemented and indicates that these activities could potentially be authorised under the applicable General Authorisation. Potential raw-water abstraction and use of conservancy tanks will be confirmed against the final design and applicable General Authorisation thresholds. Any water use not permissible under section 22(1) will be authorised before it commences.	Draft EIAr: Section 6.1, Section 6.7, Sections 7.2.2, 9.7 and 10.5; Appendix G.3- Aquatic Assessment
	2. Other water use-related activities associated with the proposed development that are not permissible under Section 22(1) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) must be authorised by the Department prior to such water use activities taking place, and the applicant is encouraged to consult with	EAP: The comment is acknowledged by the EAP and Applicant. The Applicant will consult DWS and obtain the applicable General Authorisation registration or Water Use Licence before	Draft EIAr: Section 6.1, Section 6.7, Sections 7.2.2 and 9.7; Appendix G.3-

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	the Department for guidance on the requirements for such an authorisation.	undertaking any water use that is not permissible under section 22(1) of the National Water Act. The final authorisation pathway will be confirmed against the detailed design, final water requirements and final locations of infrastructure relative to aquatic features and buffers.	Aquatic Assessment
	3. Portable Water: In accordance with section 21 of the National Water Act, 1998, the applicant must note that taking water from water resource constitutes a water use. If this activity is carried out, Section 21(a) forms must be submitted to the Department. Additionally, if water is sourced from a contractor or service provider, a service level agreement must be provided to the Department before commencement of activity.	EAP: This comment is noted. Water is intended to be sourced from the local municipality under a Service Level Agreement or, if this is not possible, from a private service provider. If groundwater or another water resource is abstracted, the Section 21(a) authorisation requirements will be confirmed, and the applicable forms or General Authorisation registration will be submitted to DWS. Where water is supplied by a contractor or service provider, the relevant service-level agreement will be provided before the activity commences.	Draft EIAr: Sections 4.3 and 4.4; Section 6.7, Appendix J-EMPr; Appendix G.3 - Aquatic Assessment
	4. Flood-lines: The proposed operation's location map, showing the 1:100-year flood line in accordance with Section 144 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), must be submitted to the DWS.	EAP: This comment is noted. The Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment maps the delineated watercourses, wetlands, aquatic sensitivity and recommended development setbacks, comprising 50 m buffers from watercourses and 100 m buffers from wetlands. A location map showing the applicable 1:100-year flood line in accordance with section	Draft EIAr: Sections 7.2.2, 8.2 and 9.7; Appendix G.3- Aquatic Assessment

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		144 of the National Water Act will be included in the DWS submission. The current aquatic mapping should not be represented as a substitute for the required 1:100-year flood-line map.	
	5. Stormwater Management: The applicant must make sure that appropriate stormwater control and management practices are implemented during the project's development and operation phases to prevent contaminants from entering water resources. Therefore, a plan for site rehabilitation needs to be developed.	EAP: The comment is noted. Stormwater, erosion, sediment and pollution-control requirements are assessed for construction, operation and decommissioning and are incorporated into the EMP. Construction stormwater must trap sediment and reduce flow velocities. Operational runoff from hardened surfaces must be dissipated over vegetated areas or conveyed through appropriate channels and swales. Disturbed areas must be revegetated and erosion and alien vegetation monitored and remediated. These measures will inform the detailed stormwater and rehabilitation arrangements prior to construction.	Draft EIAr: Section 9.7; Sections 12.2 and 12.4; Appendix J- EMPr; Appendix G.3 - Aquatic Assessment
	6. Water Uses: The applicant must apply for a water use authorization for activities defined as such under Section 21 of the National Water Act, 1998. It is important to note that stockpiling, use of septic/conservancy tanks, and dust suppression are constitute a water use under section 21(g) of the Act. Compliance with the Regulations Regarding the Procedural Requirements for Water Use License	EAP: This comment is noted. Potential Section 21 water uses associated with the project have been identified for confirmation during detailed design. The aquatic assessment specifically identifies potential authorisation requirements for raw-water abstraction and conservancy-tank storage, and records that Section 21(c) and (i) activities may	Draft EIAr: Sections 4.3 and 4.4; Section 6.1, Section 6.7, Appendix J: EMPR;

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	Applications and Appeals, Regulation No. R267, enacted on March 24, 2017, is essential. Additionally, the applicant is required to indicate the quality, quantity, and source of water intended for dust suppression.	potentially be authorised under the applicable General Authorisation where mitigation is implemented. Before commencement, the Applicant will confirm the authorisation requirements for stockpiling, conservancy tanks and dust suppression and will provide DWS with the required water-quality, quantity and source information for dust suppression in accordance with the applicable procedural requirements.	Appendix G.3 - Aquatic Assessment
	7. Storage of oil, diesel, hydraulic fluids, and grease: To prevent groundwater contamination, applicant must ensure that fluids are stored in impermeable concrete surfaces with berm walls for spill containment. A leak detection system is essential for early failure detection, and the design must ensure that leaks or spill is contained within the bunded area.	EAP: The comment is noted. Measures relating to the storage and handling of fuels, oils, lubricants and hazardous substances, including bunding, secondary containment and spill response measures, have been incorporated into the Section 9 of the DEIR and Section 7 of the EMPr.	Section 9 – DEIR Appendix J: EMPr - DEIR
	8. Sanitation: According to the final scoping report dated May 2026, sewage will be connected to the existing municipal sewage system. It is necessary for applicant to submit a Water Services Intermediary Letter from the local municipality to confirm that there is sufficient sewage capacity available. If the municipality lacks the capacity for sewage management and the applicant chooses to utilize septic tanks, a signed service level agreement with a certified sanitation company or approved dump points	EAP: This comment is noted. Sanitation for the auxiliary buildings is intended to connect to the municipal sewage system. A municipal confirmation of available capacity will be obtained and submitted where this option is pursued. If municipal connection is not approved or capacity is unavailable, sewage will be stored in a conservancy tank and removed by a service provider to a licensed disposal site, or serviced	Section 9 – DEIR Appendix J: EMPr - DEIR

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	for effluent disposal must also be submitted to the department.	portable toilets will be used. No soakaways or on-site treatment are proposed. The applicable service-level agreement and proof of authorised disposal arrangements will be submitted before implementation of the alternative sanitation option. Wastewater and sanitation management requirements for both the construction and operational phases have been incorporated into Section 9 of the DEIR and Section 7 of the EMPr.	
	9. Clearing of vegetation: The applicant is advised to put measures in place before the commencement of activity to mitigate possible impacts arising from clearing vegetation.	EAP: This comment is noted. Vegetation-clearing controls are included in the aquatic impact assessment. Clearing of indigenous vegetation must be avoided within aquatic features and recommended buffers; disturbance must be confined to approved footprints; existing roads and disturbed areas must be used where possible; and disturbed areas must be revegetated to limit erosion, sedimentation and alien-plant establishment. Mitigation measures relating to minimising disturbed areas, rehabilitation and management of construction footprints have been incorporated into Section 9 of the DEIR and Section 7 of the EMPr.	Section 9 – DEIR Appendix J: EMPr - DEIR
	10. All on-site waste, both hazardous and general, must be disposed of in a skip bin placed on a	EAP:	Section 9 – DEIR

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	concrete slab to prevent groundwater contamination. Additionally, the applicant must have a service level agreement with a service provider for disposal at a registered waste disposal site to be submitted to the Department before starting the proposed activity.	This comment is noted. General and hazardous waste will be segregated and stored in suitable covered containers, with the DWS requirement for skip bins on an impermeable concrete slab applied to prevent groundwater contamination. Waste will be removed by an authorised service provider to an appropriately licensed waste-disposal facility. The applicable service-level agreement and disposal arrangements will be provided to DWS before commencement. Waste management measures for both general and hazardous waste streams have been included in Section 9 of the DEIR and Section 7 of the EMPr. Waste generated during construction and operation will be managed through appropriately licensed service providers and disposal facilities.	Appendix J: EMPr - DEIR
	<p>11. The applicant is referred to Section 19(1) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), and to report any pollution incidents originating from the proposed project to the Provincial Office of DWS within 24 hours.</p> <p>For any further queries/ correspondence in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. M Tshikalange on, email address</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>This comment is noted. The section 19 duty of care and the requirement to report pollution incidents originating from the project to the Provincial Office of DWS within 24 hours are acknowledged. The incident-response and notification procedure Incident management and pollution reporting procedures have been incorporated in Section 8 of the EMPr. Any pollution incidents will be managed in accordance</p>	Appendix J: EMPr - DEIR

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		with the National Water Act and other applicable legislation.	
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)			
Thulisile Nyalunga 22 June 2026 Letter (Via email)	<p>Dear Ms Strong</p> <p>ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY (WEF) 1 (UP TO 170MWAC)), LOCATED IN THE DIPALESENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY WITHIN THE GERT SIBANDE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY AND THE LESEDI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY WITHIN THE SEDIBENG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, IN THE MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG PROVINCE</p> <p>The final Scoping Report (SR) and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated May 2026 and received by the Department on 08 May 2026, refer.</p> <p>The Department has evaluated the submitted final SR and the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment dated May 2026 and is satisfied that the documents comply with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended. The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of Regulation 22(1) (a) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The Department's acceptance of the Final Scoping Report and Plan of Study for EIA is acknowledged. The EIA phase has been undertaken in accordance with the accepted Plan of Study, including detailed specialist assessment, stakeholder engagement, impact assessment, cumulative assessment, identification of mitigation measures and preparation of the EMPr.</p>	<p>DEIR: Section 1.5; Section 1.6; Section 3; Appendix C.</p>

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	You may proceed with the environmental impact assessment process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the Plan of Study for Environmental Impact Assessment as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.		
	<p>In addition, the following is required for the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR):</p> <p>(a) Specific Comments</p> <p>(i)The proposed Uvemvane WEF 1 is located on a site comprising CBA Irreplaceable and Optimal, Intact Grassland Patches, Ecological Support Areas (ESA), Priority Focus Areas, and CBA and ESA Wetlands. You are required to:</p> <p>Demonstrate how the proposed development layout has applied the mitigation hierarchy, with specific emphasis on avoidance of sensitive biodiversity features as the preferred approach.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The mitigation hierarchy adopted for the assessment prioritises avoidance, followed by minimisation, rehabilitation/restoration, offsetting and, where impacts cannot be acceptably addressed, the no-go alternative. The layout was progressively refined using specialist sensitivity information. The avifaunal specialist assessment identified no-go and high-sensitivity areas including NFEPA rivers, wetlands, Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs), nesting and roosting sites, woodland habitat and areas of high flight activity. These constraints informed the preferred layout and the specialist confirmed that the optimised EIA layout avoids all avifaunal no-go areas and complies with all identified avifaunal constraints.</p>	<p>Section 8 – DEIR</p> <p>Appendix G.5: Avifaunal Impact Assessment - DEIR</p>
	Provide a detailed assessment of potential impacts on the identified biodiversity features, ecological connectivity, wetland systems, and associated	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Construction and operational impacts on terrestrial habitat and connectivity, plant and animal species,</p>	<p>Sections 9.4 to 9.7 and 9.11 – DEIR</p>

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	ecosystem functioning during both construction and operational phases.	aquatic ecosystems and avifauna are assessed separately in the EIAR. The assessment applies the project impact-rating method and records mitigation and residual significance for the relevant development phases.	Appendices G.2, G.3, G.5, G.12 and G.13 - DEIR
	Investigate and motivate feasible layout alternatives and micro-siting options aimed at avoiding or minimising impacts on CBAs, ESAs, intact grasslands, and wetlands.	EAP: Layout alternatives were assessed and refined as specialist information became available. The progression from the preliminary cluster layout to the optimised and revised layouts, and ultimately the recommended layout, demonstrates the micro-siting and avoidance process.	Section 5.3; Section 8.2; Section 11; and Section 12.3 - DEIR
	Include a cumulative impact assessment that considers existing and approved developments within the broader landscape and their combined effect on biodiversity and ecological processes.	EAP: A cumulative assessment was undertaken using projects within 50 km of the proposed development. Cumulative impacts on terrestrial biodiversity, plant species, animal species, aquatic ecosystems and avifauna are assessed by aspect.	Section 10 – DEIR Appendices G.2, G.3, G.5, G.12 and G.13 - DEIR
	Ensure that all specialist recommendations and mitigation measures are incorporated into the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr), including rehabilitation, monitoring, and long-term biodiversity management measures.	EAP: Specialist mitigation is incorporated into the aspect-specific impact tables and recommendations and is carried into the project EMPr. This includes rehabilitation, monitoring and biodiversity-management commitments.	Sections 9.3 to 9.18 – DEIR Sections 12.2 and 12.4 - DEIR Appendix J: EMPr -

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	<p>(ii) In your comments and responses report on pages 90 and 91, you indicated that the terrestrial biodiversity scoping report concludes that offsetting will be required to manage residual impacts associated with CBAs. The layout and assessment of the residual impacts will be further refined during the impact assessment phase and reported in the terrestrial biodiversity specialist assessment report which will form the applicability of an offset strategy. Offsets must be confirmed as necessary, if it is confirmed, you are required to submit a Biodiversity Offset Report and/or Offset Strategy prepared by a suitably qualified specialist, addressing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> offset objectives and principles; offset equivalence and conservation outcomes; proposed offset receiving areas; long-term management and monitoring measures; implementation responsibilities and financial provisions; and mechanisms to secure the offset area in perpetuity. 	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment refined the assessment of residual impacts on CBAs during the Draft EIA phase, identifying limited disturbance to CBA Irreplaceable (1.73 ha) and CBA Optimal (0.85 ha) areas. Applying the mitigation hierarchy, the specialist concluded that residual direct, fragmentation, and cumulative impacts reduce to Low significance following mitigation. The assessment does not identify a need for a biodiversity offset and concludes that there are no terrestrial biodiversity constraints to authorisation, provided the recommended mitigation and management measures are implemented.</p> <p>Furthermore, during the EIA Phase, a specialist Biodiversity Offset Technical Memorandum was prepared to evaluate the applicability of a biodiversity offset following refinement of the project layout and assessment of residual impacts. The memorandum concludes that, after application of the mitigation hierarchy and implementation of avoidance and mitigation</p>	<p>DEIR Appendices G.1 to G.14 - DEIR</p> <p>Sections 9.4 and 10.2 – DEIR</p> <p>Sections 12.2.2, 12.3 and 12.4 - DEIR Appendix G.2 – DIER</p> <p>Appendix G.15 (Offset Technical Memo) - DEIR</p>

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		measures, residual biodiversity impacts are of low to very low significance and a biodiversity offset is not currently required; accordingly, a Biodiversity Offset Report or Offset Strategy has not been prepared.	
	(iii) Please ensure that the terrestrial biodiversity specialist assessment adequately assesses cumulative impacts and demonstrates whether the residual impacts, after mitigation and offset measures, can be reduced to acceptable levels.	EAP: The Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist Assessment assessed construction, operational, decommissioning and cumulative impacts before and after mitigation. The cumulative assessment considers renewable-energy projects in the broader region and identifies cumulative habitat loss, disturbance and fragmentation as High significance before mitigation. With strict implementation of the recommended avoidance, minimisation, rehabilitation and management measures, the Project contribution and cumulative impact are reduced to Low significance. Because the assessed residual impacts are Low, the specialist does not prescribe offset mitigation. The specialist concludes that the Project is not expected to present significant negative ecological impacts that would prevent authorisation, subject to implementation of the recommended measures.	Sections 9.4; 10.2; 12.1, 12.2.2; 12.3; 13.2; 13.3.1 to 13.3.4 - DEIR - DEIR; Appendix G.2 - DEIR
	(iv) The findings and recommendations of the terrestrial biodiversity assessment and any proposed	EAP:	Sections 7.2.1, 8.2, 9.4, 10.2,

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	offset strategy must be fully incorporated into the draft EIAR and EMPr.	The terrestrial biodiversity findings are incorporated into the EIAR baseline, sensitivity analysis, impact assessment, cumulative assessment, comparative assessment and mitigation commitments, and the recommended measures are carried into the EMPr. The specialist assessments recommend that terrestrial biodiversity, plant-species and animal-species mitigation and monitoring measures be consolidated into a single integrated Biodiversity Management/Action Plan before construction. The final specialist assessment does not propose an offset strategy because the assessed residual impacts reduce to Low significance.	11, 12.2.2 and 12.4 – DEIR Appendix G.2 - DEIR; Appendix J- DEIR
	(v) It is acknowledged that all turbines, laydown areas and substations (in Mpumalanga) have avoided CBAs and intact grassland patches, however, roads have not. This must be assessed in line with the requirement to potentially consider biodiversity offsets, once it has been demonstrated that all measures of avoidance have been exhausted. Any potential biodiversity offset exercise must be undertaken in accordance with the National Biodiversity Offset Guideline (2023) and must specifically provide for “Additionality” and promote connectivity in the wider landscape.	EAP: The access-road footprint is included in the final terrestrial-biodiversity assessment. Layout refinement prioritised placement of infrastructure in modified habitat and alignment of roads with existing district roads and farm tracks to avoid new disturbance and fragmentation. The specialists recommendations is included in the DEIR and EMPr. Furthermore, with the full mitigation hierarchy applied, direct habitat loss/disturbance and fragmentation reduce to Low residual significance.	Sections 4.3, 5.3, 9.4, 10.2, 11, 12.2.2 and 12.4 – DEIR Appendices G.2 and J - DEIR

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		The specialist therefore does not prescribe an offset for the assessed layout. If DFFE determines that an offset remains necessary, the offset process will follow the National Biodiversity Offset Guideline (2023), including additionality and landscape-connectivity requirements.	
	(vi) The project area contains areas classified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) as identified in the Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan (MBSP) (2024) and the delineations indicate that large areas in the east and centre of the PAOI are classified as CBA Irreplaceable, with smaller areas designated as CBA Optimal and ESAs. These areas should remain in a natural state that is maintained in good ecological condition and therefore must be excluded from the development footprint.	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment describes and maps the MBSP (2024) and Gauteng C-Plan (2024) CBAs and ESAs and confirms that their continued ecological functioning and integrity are required to meet provincial conservation targets.</p> <p>Furthermore, the assessment recognises that development causing transformation in CBAs should be avoided. Layout refinement therefore prioritised avoidance of CBAs and placement of infrastructure in modified habitat or natural habitat not classified as CBA or threatened ecosystem. Where limited road-related intersections remain, these have been quantified and assessed, and specific controls have been prescribed, including no upgrading of the eastern maintenance road intersecting CBA Irreplaceable. Subject to the recommended avoidance, minimisation and rehabilitation measures, residual terrestrial-biodiversity impacts are Low significance.</p>	Section 6.1, Section 7.2.1, Section 8.2, Section 9.4, Section 11, Appendices G.2 and J - DEIR

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		These findings and recommendations have been included in the DEIR and EMPr.	
	(vii) A number of objections have been raised regarding the proposed wind energy development. The EAP is therefore requested to ensure that all issues and concerns raised by interested and affected parties are comprehensively and adequately addressed in the draft EIAR.	EAP: Issues raised during Scoping phase are recorded verbatim and responded to in this standalone SER. Relevant environmental issues have informed the specialist studies, impact assessment and EMPr. The SER will be updated after the Draft EIAR review period to include all additional comments and responses.	Sections 2.2, 2.3 and 3.4 – DEIR Sections 9 and 12.4 - DEIR
	(viii) It has been noted that the proposed development is located within a highly sensitive biodiversity area comprising Critical Biodiversity Areas, intact grassland patches, Important Bird Areas, and habitat supporting numerous threatened bird species. In this regard, you are required to critically evaluate the suitability and environmental acceptability of the proposed development within the receiving environment.	EAP: The suitability and environmental acceptability of the Project were evaluated through the Terrestrial Biodiversity, Plant Species, Animal Species and Avifaunal and Bats specialist assessments, the consolidated sensitivity analysis, layout refinement and cumulative assessment. The terrestrial assessment confirms Very High sensitivity for natural habitat patches and identifies extensive CBAs, ESAs, threatened ecosystems, ecological corridors and species of conservation concern. The layout was revised to avoid and minimise these sensitivities and remaining terrestrial-biodiversity impacts reduce to Low significance after mitigation. The terrestrial specialist concludes	Sections 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 - DEIR; Appendices G.2; G.5; G.12; G.13 and J - DEIR

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		that there are no identified terrestrial-biodiversity constraints that would prevent authorisation, subject to implementation of the recommended measures. This conclusion is complementary to the avifaunal conclusion that the preferred layout complies with identified avifaunal constraints and avoids avifaunal no-go areas.	
	(ix) The potential impacts on biodiversity, particularly avifauna, are considered to be significant and may be of such a magnitude that they could compromise the viability of the affected ecological systems and species populations. You are therefore requested to undertake a comprehensive ecological assessment that adequately assesses the significance of impacts, including cumulative impacts, on sensitive biodiversity features and threatened species.	EAP: The comment is noted. A comprehensive Avifaunal Impact Assessment was undertaken in accordance with the Avifauna (Wind) Protocol (GN 320 of 2020) and the Animal Species Protocol (GN 1150 of 2020). The assessment incorporated specialist site inspections, six (6) seasonal pre-construction monitoring surveys, two nest surveys, an additional 2026 winter nest survey, site sensitivity verification, collision risk modelling, cumulative impact assessment and a detailed assessment of impacts on priority and threatened species. The specialist concluded that the proposed layout avoids all avifaunal no-go areas and that impacts can be mitigated to acceptable levels through implementation of avoidance, minimisation and mitigation measures together with long-term post-construction monitoring.	Chapter 9.11 – DEIR Appendix G.5 - DEIR

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	(x) You are required to investigate and provide a comprehensive assessment of feasible alternatives, including alternative site locations and layout configurations, to avoid and minimise potential impacts on sensitive ecological features. The outcomes of these investigations must be clearly incorporated into the draft EIAR and must demonstrate whether the proposed development can be considered environmentally acceptable within the identified sensitive landscape.	EAP: Technology, location, layout and no-go alternatives are described and assessed. The progression of layout alternatives, consolidated sensitivity overlays, recommended layout and preferred-site comparison provide the basis for the preferred alternative and the environmental-acceptability conclusion.	Sections 5.1 to 5.4; Section 8.2, Section 11, Section 12.3 and Section 13- DEIR
	(b) Listed activities (i) The draft EIAR must provide an assessment of the impacts and mitigation measures for each of the listed activities applied for.	EAP: The project infrastructure and triggered listed activities are linked through the Project Description and Governance Framework. The impacts arising from construction, operation and decommissioning activities are assessed by environmental aspect, with mitigation and residual significance recorded in the impact tables and EMPr.	Sections 4.2 to 4.4, Section 6.1; Sections 9.1; Section 9.2, Sections 9.3 to 9.18 - DEIR Appendix J: EMPr - DEIR
	(ii) The draft EIAR must assess the correct sub listed activity for each listed activity applied for.	EAP: The applicability of the listed and sub-listed activities has been reviewed against the project components, locations and thresholds described in the Project Description. The Final EIAR and	Sections 4.2; Section 4.3; Section 6.1; and Section 6.7 - DEIR

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		application schedule must remain aligned if the final design changes.	
	(iii) Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure (including thresholds) as described in the project description.	EAP: Each applied-for activity is linked to the relevant infrastructure and maximum development scenario described in the EIAr, including turbines, roads, the electrical infrastructure hub, BESS, laydown areas and the 33 kV connection.	Section 1.2, Sections 4.2; Section 4.3, and Section 6.1 - DEIR
	(iv) It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the environmental impact assessment process, as the development property falls within geographically designated areas in terms of Listing Notice 3 Activities. Written comments must be obtained from the relevant authorities (or proof of consultation if no comments are received) and submitted to this Department. In addition, a graphical representation of the proposed development within the respective geographical areas must be provided.	EAP: Relevant national, provincial and local authorities have been identified and consulted, and their comments or proof of consultation are included in the SER. Geographically designated biodiversity features are mapped against the project area and layout. Consultation will continue through the Draft EIAr review period and the SER will be updated for the Final EIAr.	Section 1.4.3; Section 2.2; Section 2.3 and Section 3.4 – DEIR Appendix E - DEIR
	(c)Coordinates (i) Please provide coordinate points for the proposed development site (note that if the site has numerous turning points, at each turning point coordinates must be provided) as well as the start, middle and end point of all linear activities (Indicate the position of the	EAP: Property-boundary coordinates are provided for the affected farm portions, and coordinates are provided for each turbine and the Electrical Infrastructure Hub (EIH) alternatives. The final mapping/coordinate schedule must also include	Section 4.1; Section 5.3 – DEIR Appendix D - DEIR

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>proposed activity with the latitude and longitude at the centre point for each alternative site. The co-ordinates should be in degrees and decimal minutes. The minutes should be to at least three decimal places. The projection that must be used in all cases is the WGS-84 spheroid in a national or local projection).</p>	<p>bend points and the start, middle and end points of the linear infrastructure in the Department's prescribed coordinate format before Final EIAR submission.</p>	
	<p>(d) Alternatives</p> <p>(i) You are further required to provide details of all the alternatives considered for this development and indicate the preferred alternatives as per Appendix 2 (2) (1) (g) (i) (v) (vi) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended in the final report. Alternatively, you should submit written proof of an investigation and motivation if no reasonable or feasible alternatives exist in terms of Appendix 2 taking into consideration the mitigation hierarchy to manage impacts identified.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EIAR considers technology, location, layout and no-go alternatives and explains the layout progression. The environmental impact statement identifies the preferred alternatives based on specialist findings and the mitigation hierarchy.</p>	<p>Section 3.3; Sections 5.1 to 5.4; Section 12.3 - DEIR</p>
	<p>(e) Layout & Sensitivity Maps</p> <p>(i) The draft EIAR must provide coordinate points for the proposed development site and all proposed infrastructure (note that if the site has numerous bend points, at each bend point coordinates must be provided) as well as the start, middle and end point of all linear activities.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The EIAR provides property-boundary, turbine and EIH-alternative coordinates. A consolidated coordinate schedule for all infrastructure, including bend points and start, middle and end points of linear activities, must be checked and included with the Final EIAR mapping package.</p>	<p>Section 4.1; Section 5.3 - DEIR</p> <p>Appendix D - EMPr</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	(ii) All preferred turbine positions must be clearly numbered. The turbine position numbers must be consistently used in all maps to be included in the reports and the specialist studies.	EAP: The preferred turbine positions are listed by turbine number and mapped through the layout-progression and recommended-layout figures.	Section 5.3; Section 11 - DEIR Appendix D – DEIR Appendices G.1 to G.14 - DEIR
	(iii) The draft EIAr must provide a copy of the final preferred layout map. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g., roads. The layout map must indicate the following: A clear indication of the envisioned area for the proposed wind energy facility; Position of the wind turbines; Powerlines; Internal roads; All supporting onsite infrastructure such as laydown area, guard house and control room etc.; Substations, transformers, switching stations and inverters; Battery Energy Storage System; The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage	EAP: A copy of the final preferred layout is included in Appendix D of the DEIR. The DEIR provides the recommended layout and overlays it with consolidated and avifaunal sensitivities. The project description identifies the assessed infrastructure, and existing roads/disturbed areas are to be used as far as possible.	Sections 4.2; 4.3; Section 5.3; Section 8.2; and Section 11 – DEIR Appendix D - DEIR

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>lines etc. that will be affected by the facilities and its associated infrastructure; Connection routes (including pylon positions) to the distribution/transmission network; All existing infrastructure on the site, especially railway lines and roads; and Buildings, including accommodation.</p>		
	<p>(iv) Please provide an environmental sensitivity map which indicates the following: The location of sensitive environmental features identified on site, e.g. CBAs, protected areas, IBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines, nest and roosting sites, etc. that will be affected by the facility and its associated infrastructure; Buffer areas; and All “no-go” areas.</p> <p>(v) The above layout map must be superimposed (overlain) with the sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring and existing infrastructure.</p> <p>(vi) Please note that Google maps will not be accepted.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Consolidated site-sensitivity maps and layout overlays are included, together with the recommended layout overlay on consolidated and avifaunal sensitivities. The cumulative chapter maps neighbouring renewable-energy projects within 50 km. Final submission maps will use the project GIS/cartographic base and will clearly show buffers and no-go areas identified by specialists.</p>	<p>Sections 8.2, Section 10 – DEIR</p> <p>Appendix D – DEIR</p> <p>Appendices G.2 to G.6 - DEIR</p>
	<p>(f) Public Participation</p>	<p>EAP:</p>	<p>Sections 2.3, 3.4 - DEIR</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	(i) Please ensure the language used to inform potential I&APs in the newspaper advertisement is not only communicated in English but should also utilise other dominant languages spoken in the study area. The EAP must ensure that the newspaper medium adequately caters for all potential I&APs in the study area. This should also apply to any site notification boards as well.	<p>For the scoping phase of the project, the newspaper advertisement was published in English, Afrikaans and IsiZulu in the Heidelberg Nigel Heraut, which reaches Heidelberg, Ratanda and Balfour. Advertising during this phase was conducted in IsiZulu as the as it is the predominant local language spoken in both the Lesedi and Dipaleseng Municipalities. It should be noted that 50% of the population in the Lesedi Municipality and 59% of the population in the Dipaleseng Municipality speak IsiZulu, while 23% and 26% of the respective municipal populations speak Sesotho.</p> <p>To ensure that all potential I&APs who are Sesotho-speaking are also included, the project was also advertised in Sesotho during the EIA Phase of the project (19 August 2026). Proof of publication is included in Appendix B.2.</p> <p>Furthermore, site notices will also be placed in Sesotho to announce the public review period for the draft EIA Phase.</p>	Appendix B.2 - SER
	(ii) Please ensure that comments from all relevant stakeholders are submitted to the Department with the EIAR. This includes but is not limited to the Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The identified authorities and organisations have been included in the authority/stakeholder consultation process. Comments received, together with proof of consultation where no</p>	Appendix D - SER

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	(DARDLEA), the Mpumalanga Tourism & Parks Agency, the Msukaligwa Local Municipality, the Gert Sibande District Municipality, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA), the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), BirdLife SA, the Department of Mineral Resources, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment: Directorate Biodiversity and Conservation, and the Directorate Protected Areas.	response is received is included in Appendix D of this SER.	
	(iii) Please ensure that all issues raised, and comments received on the draft SR and draft EIAr from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section: BCAdmin@environment.gov.za) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the Final SR. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final EIAr. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof must be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments.	EAP: Comments received during Scoping are carried into the SER, and Draft EIAr comments will be added after the review period. Each comment will be reproduced and responded to, with proof of correspondence and consultation attempts retained in the SER appendices.	Sections 2.2, 2.3 and 3.4 – DEIR Appendix D - SER
	(iv) A comments and response trail report (C&R) must be submitted with the final EIAr. The C&R report must incorporate all comments (pre and post-submission of the draft EIAr) received for this development. The C&R report must be a separate document from the	EAP: A standalone SER is being maintained in table format and records the commentator, date and format, verbatim comment, substantive response	Appendix E - DEIR

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	main report and the format must be in the table format which reflects the details of the I&APs and date of comments received, actual comments received, and response provided. Please ensure that comments made by I&APs are comprehensively captured (copy verbatim if required) and responded to clearly and fully. Please note that a response such as "Noted" is not regarded as an adequate response to I&APs comments.	and report reference. It will be updated to include all comments received before and during the Draft EIAR review period and submitted with the Final EIAR.	
	(v) Please ensure that the EIAR indicates when and where the draft SR and EIAR were made available for a 30-day review and comment period.	EAP: The DEIR records the DSR review dates and venues. The DEIR venues and access methods are identified; the review dates and completed proof of availability will be inserted after completion of the public review period.	Sections 2.3; 3.4 and Section 2.3 – DEIR Appendix E - DEIR
	(vi) The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms Regulations 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.	EAP: The stakeholder engagement process is being undertaken under Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The DEIR describes stakeholder identification, notification, report availability and comments-and-responses management, with supporting evidence in the SER.	Sections 2.3; 3.4 and Section 2.3 – DEIR Appendix E - DEIR

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	(g)Specialist Assessments (i) The EAP must ensure that the terms of reference for all the identified specialist studies must include the following:	EAP: The specialist reports are included in Appendix G of the DEIR. The DEIR identifies the specialist team and the relevant sections informed by each assessment. The final specialist reports describe the assessed layout and associated infrastructure, methodology and recommendations.	Sections 1.4.5; 1.5, and 3.5 - DEIR Appendix B – DEIR Appendices G.1 to G.14 - DEIR
	A detailed description of the study's methodology; indication of the locations and descriptions of the development footprint, and all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for authorisation.	EAP: Discipline-specific assumptions and limitations, including survey timing and seasonality, are reported in the DEIR and specialist reports, including all records during wet/dry-season or seasonally appropriate fieldwork.	Section 3.5; Sections 3.5.2 to 3.5.14 - DEIR; Appendices G.1 to G.14 - DEIR
	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.	EAP: The Department's definition is accepted. Specialist no-go areas and buffers inform the consolidated sensitivity mapping and recommended layout. No project infrastructure, including roads, may be placed in a confirmed no-go area unless the Department accepts a clearly motivated revision supported by the relevant specialist.	Sections 3.3 8.2 and Section 11 - DEIR Appendix J – EMPr – DEIR Appendix G.1 – G.14 - DEIR

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	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.	EAP: The Department's definition is accepted. Specialist no-go areas and buffers inform the consolidated sensitivity mapping and recommended layout. No project infrastructure, including roads are placed in a confirmed no-go area.	Sections 3.3; 8.2 and 11- DEIR Appendix J - DEIR Appendix G.1 – G.14 – DEIR
	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.	EAP: Final specialist reports and maps have been checked to ensure that any discipline-specific use of "no-go" is clearly defined, any difference from the Department's definition is identified, and applicable buffers are stated and mapped.	Section 8.2 and 11 - DEIR, Appendix D - DEIR Appendices G.1 to G.14 - DEIR Appendix J - DEIR
	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.	EAP: Final specialist reports have been incorporated into the DEIR and provide practical mitigation, monitoring requirements and recommendations for the preferred layout. The Avifaunal Impact Assessment has been completed in accordance with the applicable protocols and includes collision risk modelling, cumulative impact assessment, mitigation measures and a detailed post-construction monitoring programme. No	Sections 9.3 to 9.18; Sections 12.2 and 12.4 - DEIR; Appendix G.5 – DEIR ; Appendix J - EMPr

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
		recommend further studies are to be completed post EA.	
	Bird and bat specialist studies must have comments from Birdlife South Africa and SABAA.	EAP: BirdLife South Africa and relevant biodiversity organisations are included among the project stakeholders. The avifaunal and bat reports will be provided for comment as part of the consultation process, and comments from BirdLife South Africa and SABAA, or proof of consultation attempts, will be included in the updated SER and addressed in the final specialist reports where received.	Sections 1.4.3, 2.2 and 3.4 – DEIR Appendix E - DEIR Appendices G.5 and G.6 - DEIR
	Should a specialist recommend specific mitigation measures, these must be clearly indicated.	EAP: Specialist mitigation measures are recorded in the relevant impact-assessment tables and the project EMPr.	Sections 9.3 to 9.18; Sections 12.2 and 12.4 - DEIR; Appendices G.1 to G.14 - DEIR; Appendix J - DEIR
	(ii) Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and where necessary, include further expert advice.	EAP: The consolidated sensitivity analysis and recommended layout process integrate the specialist findings. Where recommendations conflict, the EAP will record the conflict, select the	Sections 8;11;12.2 and 12.4 – DEIR Appendix J - DEIR

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
		precautionary or otherwise most reasonable recommendation, and provide the technical motivation in the Final EIAr and EMPr.	
	(iii) It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting in identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. “the Protocols”) and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. Please note that specialist assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols.	EAP: The DFFE Screening Tool themes and applicable assessment protocols are addressed through site sensitivity verification and the relevant specialist assessments. The final specialist reports have been checked and is in compliance with the applicable protocol content requirements.	Section 8.1 - DEIR Appendix F - DEIR; Appendices G.1 to G.14 - DEIR
	(iv) Please also ensure that the EIAr includes the Site Verification Report and Compliance Statements (where applicable) as required by the relevant themes.	EAP: The Site Sensitivity Verification Report is included with the EIAr. Applicable compliance statements and specialist assessments are included under the relevant specialist appendices and must be complete in the Final EIAr package.	Section 8.1 - DEIR Appendices B.1; B.2; and G.1 to G.14 - DEIR
	(v) Please note further that the protocols, if applicable, require certain specialists’ to be SACNASP registered in the field of expertise of the	EAP:	Section 1.4.5 - DEIR

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	specialist study being undertaken e.g. An aquatic assessment must be prepared by a specialist registered with SACNASP, with expertise in the field of aquatics sciences. Please ensure that the relevant specialist certificates are attached to the relevant reports.	Specialist qualifications, CVs, declarations and applicable professional registrations are included in the specialist supporting appendices.	Appendices B.1; B.2; and G.1 to G.14 - DEIR
	(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.	EAP: Specialist declarations are included in Appendix B of the DEIR. The declarations and specialist reports have been checked to ensure that the applicable scientific registration or membership number and status are recorded.	Section 1.4.5 - DEIR Appendices B.2; and G.1 to G.14 - DEIR
	(vii)The following Specialist Assessments will form part of the EIAR: Agriculture Impact Assessment; Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment ; Avifauna Impact Assessment ; Bats Impact Assessment; Heritage Impact Assessment; Noise Impact Assessment; Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment; Visual Impact Assessment; Socio-Economic Impact Assessment; Traffic Impact Assessment; and Geotechnical Assessment.	EAP: The listed specialist disciplines are included within the specialist assessment suite. The Avifaunal Impact Assessment was undertaken by SACNASP-registered avifaunal specialists in accordance with the Avifauna (Wind) Protocol and Animal Species Protocol and included site sensitivity verification, six seasonal monitoring surveys, nest searches, collision risk modelling, cumulative impact assessment, mitigation measures and a detailed post-construction monitoring plan. All specialist studies assess the	Section 1.4.5 - DEIR Appendices G.1 to G.14 - DEIR

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	(viii) Please ensure that each specialist study has the correct and same project description and layout to assess.	same preferred development layout and have informed the impact assessment and EMPr.	
	(ix) Please include a table that shows the proposed studies and the relevant specialists carrying out the study. In addition, a summary must be included of the specialist's recommendations in terms of the alternatives that are preferred based on the findings of their study.	EAP: The DEIR provides a table identifying the specialist discipline, specialist, company, relevant EIAr sections and appendix. Specialist conclusions and preferred alternatives are consolidated in the environmental impact statement.	Sections 1.4.5; 12.2 and 12.3 - DEIR, Appendices G.1 to G.14 - DEIR
	(h) Environmental Management Programme (i) It is drawn to your attention that for substation and overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure, when such facilities trigger activity 11 or 47 of the EIA Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended, and any other listed and specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, the generic Environmental Management Programmes (EMPr), contemplated in Regulations 19(4) must be used over and above the EMPr for the wind facility. Accordingly, there needs to be a generic EMPr for the on-site substation, a generic EMPr for the overhead powerline, and a third, separate EMPr for the wind facility.	EAP: The requirement is acknowledged. A Generic EMPr for the on-site substation has been compiled for the Project in accordance with Regulation 19(4) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). However, the proposed 33 kV overhead powerline does not trigger any listed activity, including Activities 11 or 47 of Listing Notice 1, and therefore does not constitute infrastructure for which a Generic EMPr is required. Consequently, a separate Generic EMPr for the 33 kV overhead powerline is not required. The project documentation therefore includes: (i) the Wind Energy Facility EMPr; and (ii) the	Appendix J EMPr – DEIR Appendix D – EMPr (Generic Substation EMPr)

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
		applicable Generic EMPr for the on-site substation.	
	(ii) Please ensure that any specific mitigation measures identified in the EIAR and specialist reports for the on-site substation and powerline are incorporated into the site-specific section of the generic EMPrs.	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The project-specific mitigation measures identified through the EIA process and specialist studies have been incorporated into the applicable EMPr. In accordance with Regulation 19(4) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), a Generic EMPr has been included for the on-site substation, and the relevant site-specific mitigation measures have been incorporated into the project-specific section of that Generic EMPr.</p> <p>The proposed 33 kV overhead powerline does not trigger any listed activity under the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), including Activities 11 or 47 of Listing Notice 1, which apply to certain electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure above specified thresholds. As the proposed powerline falls below the applicable thresholds for listed activities, it does not require environmental authorisation as a standalone activity. Consequently, the requirement for a separate Generic EMPr in terms of Regulation 19(4) is not applicable. Relevant management and mitigation measures associated with the 33 kV powerline have nevertheless been incorporated into the Wind Energy Facility EMPr.</p>	<p>Sections 4.3, 9.3 to 9.18 and 12.4 – DEIR Appendices G.1 to G.14- DEIR Appendix J EMPr – DEIR</p> <p>Appendix D – EMPr (Generic Substation EMPr)</p>

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	(iii) Please ensure that the mitigation measures specified in the EIAR and specialist reports for the PV facility are also incorporated into the EMPr for the PV facility. In addition, please ensure that the EMPr complies with the content of the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.	EAP: The proposed Project is a WEF and does not include a PV facility; accordingly, the reference to a PV facility is not applicable to this application. However, the EMPr and specialist mitigation measures does comply with Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.	Sections 1.2; 4.2 and 12.4 and 13 – DEIR Appendix J: EMPR - DEIR
	(iv) Please also include in the EMPrs, a recommended frequency for the auditing of compliance with the conditions of the EA and EMPr, and the submission of such compliance reports to the competent authority.	EAP: The EMPr for the WEF and the Generic EMPr for the on-site substation does include a recommended frequency for environmental compliance auditing and the submission of compliance audit reports to the competent authority. The recommended audit frequency and reporting requirements are aligned with the applicable provisions of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), and will apply throughout the relevant phases of the project.	Section 12.4 – DEIR Appendix J: EMPR - DEIR
	(i) General (i) The EIAR must provide the technical details for the proposed facility in a table format, as well as their description and/or dimensions, per the sample below.	EAP: Technical details, maximum dimensions and the assessed maximum development scenario are provided in tabular format, including turbine specifications, footprint, roads, EIH, laydown areas, electrical connection and associated infrastructure.	Section 1.2 and 4.3 - DEIR

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference																										
	<p>Sample of minimum technical details required for the proposed facility.</p> <table><tr><th>Component</th><th>Description/dimensions</th></tr><tr><td>Height of PV structures</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Capacity of the PV facility</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Surface area to be covered by the facility (i.e., the area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas, including PV array area and associated infrastructure such as roads)</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Proximity to grid connection</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Number of overhead power lines required and voltage of overhead power lines</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Height of the Power Line</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Number of substations required and voltage of substations</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Area occupied by inverter/transformer stations/substations</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Area occupied by buildings</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Number of access roads, including length and width</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Length and width of internal roads</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Additional Infrastructure</td><td></td></tr></table>	Component	Description/dimensions	Height of PV structures		Capacity of the PV facility		Surface area to be covered by the facility (i.e., the area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas, including PV array area and associated infrastructure such as roads)		Proximity to grid connection		Number of overhead power lines required and voltage of overhead power lines		Height of the Power Line		Number of substations required and voltage of substations		Area occupied by inverter/transformer stations/substations		Area occupied by buildings		Number of access roads, including length and width		Length and width of internal roads		Additional Infrastructure			
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Additional Infrastructure																													
	<p>(ii) Please ensure that the final EIAr includes the period for which the Environmental Authorisation (EA) is required, the date on which the activity will be concluded, and the post-construction monitoring requirements finalised, as per Appendix 3(3)(1)(r) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The authorisation period is addressed in the environmental impact statement. As the project includes operational aspects, Appendix 3(3)(1)(r) is recorded as not applicable in the legislated-requirements table, but project monitoring requirements remain applicable through the EMPr and specialist recommendations.</p>	<p>Sections 12.4; and 12.5 – DEIR</p> <p>Appendix J: EMPr - DEIR</p>																										
	<p>(iii) Confirmation of the availability of services (e.g., sewage, water, etc. if required) must be included in the EIAr.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The project description identifies the assessed infrastructure and service needs. Confirmation of availability of services is addressed in DEIR.</p>	<p>Sections 4.4 and 6.7 - DEIR</p>																										

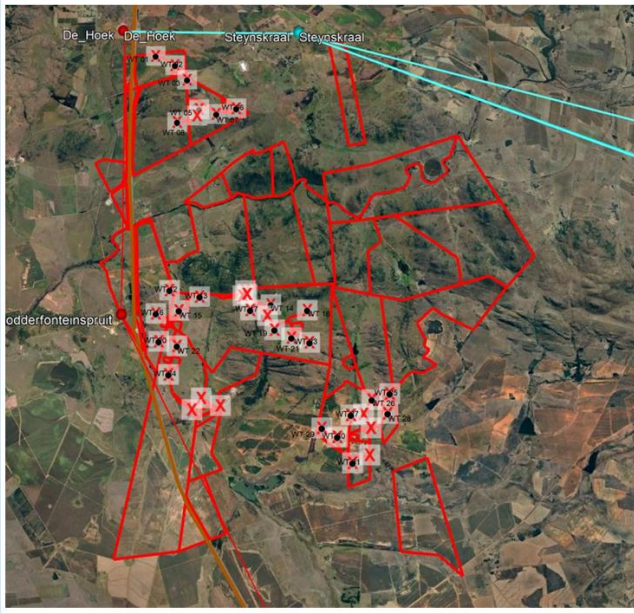
Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	(iv) Should a Water Use License be required, proof of application for a license needs to be submitted.	EAP: Potential water uses will be confirmed against Section 21 of the National Water Act and the final layout. Where a Water Use Licence or other water-use authorisation is required, proof of application will be submitted to the Department.	Sections 6.1; 6.7; 7.2.2; 9.7 and 10.5 - DEIR; Appendix G.3 - DEIR
	The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of Regulation 45 of GN R982 of 04 December 2014, as an amendment, with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges that the application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the timeframes prescribed in terms of these Regulations.	Section 1.5; 3.1; 6.1; and 13 - DEIR
	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.	EAP: The EAP acknowledges this comment.	-
Pure New Energy Group (PNE)			
Zakiya Abrahams 22 June 2026 Email	Hello, Please may I register as an I&AP for the ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility ? Thank you.	WSP PP OFFICE: Good day Zakiya Kindly note that you have been registered as an I&AP.	Appendix D - SER

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	Best regards Zakiya Abrahams Project Developer Project Development Onshore South Africa	Kind regards, Public Participation Office	
Department of Defence (DoD)			
<u>L.C. Marelele</u> <u>26 August 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<u>Good Morning</u> <u>Kindly Find the attached documents.</u> <u>Kind Regards</u> <u>Lt Col L.C. Marelele</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The EAP acknowledges the Department of Defence assessment and notes that no objection was raised in relation to landward activities, defence communication installations, or military aviation routes and flight safety. The Department's conclusion has been recorded and will be included in the final Stakeholder Engagement Report for consideration by the competent authority.</u>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>
<u>H.K Zondi</u> <u>19 August 2026</u> <u>Letter (Sent by email)</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE COMMENTS IN RESPECT OF THE PROPOSED ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY(WEF) 1 NEAR HEIDELBURG AND BALFOUR, IN THE GAUTENG AND MPUMALANGA PROVINCE</u> <u>Reference A: Protocol for the Specialist Assessment and Minimum Report Content Requirements for Environmental Impact on Defence Installations (Government Notice 320 in Government Gazette 43110 dd 20 March 2020).</u> <u>1. The mail from ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd for request of Department of</u>		

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p><u>Defence comments on the Draft Scoping Report for the proposed ABO Uvemvane WEF 1 located approximately 16km southeast of Heidelberg Gauteng Province, and 10km west of Balfour town within the Dipaleseng Local Municipality and the Gert Sibande District Municipality in Mpumalanga Province.</u></p> <p><u>2. The following procedures are applied by the DOD to evaluate the potential impact of the intended development on the DOD:</u></p> <p><u>a. Potential Impact on Landwards Activities. The potential impact of the intended development on landwards force preparation, employment and support is evaluated at the hand of the proximity of the intended development to military training areas and base areas; and possible limitations on the landwards movement and deployment offerees.</u></p> <p><u>b. Potential Impact on DOD Communication Installations. The potential impact of the intended development on DOD communication installation is evaluated by ascertaining whether the intended development intrudes into the DOD specified buffers around communication installations, as specified by the DOD Command Management and Information Services (CMIS) Division.</u></p>		

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p><u>c. Potential Impact on Aviation Routes and Flight Safety. The potential impact of the intended development on military aviation is discussed and evaluated amongst applicable specialists from the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) and the South African Air Force (SAAF) as part of the proceedings of the Obstacle Evaluation Committee (OEC).</u></p> <p><u>3. The following was concluded after conducting the various evaluations:</u></p> <p><u>a. Potential Impact on Landwards Activities. The location of the proposed developments of ABO Uvemvane WEF 1 is not in the proximity of military infrastructure, and it is therefore not expected to have impacts on the landward activities. Thus, there is no objection on the part of DOD landward activities.</u></p> <p><u>b. Potential Impact on DOD Communication Installations. The proposed developments of ABO Uvemvane WEF 1 will not intrude into the DOD specified buffers around communication installations and communication links. Therefore, there is no objection on the part of DOD communication installations.</u></p> <p><u>c. Potential Impact on DOD Aviation Routes and Flight Safety. The proposed developments of ABO Uvemvane WEF 1 is not located within the bounds of</u></p>		

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p><u>aviation related buffers and it will not hold implication for the SAAF. Thus, there is no objection on the part of DOD aviation routes and light safety.</u></p> <p><u>4. Hope you will find this in order.</u></p> <p><u>Yours faithfully</u></p> <p><u>(H.K. ZONDI)</u> <u>Senior staff officer military integrated env management: Colonel</u></p>		
<u>Vodacom</u>			
<p><u>Harry Mphahlele</u></p> <p><u>16 September 2026</u></p> <p><u>Email</u></p>	<p><u>Hi</u></p> <p><u>See attached</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The EAP acknowledges Vodacom's assessment and notes the confirmation that the proposed project, as submitted, will not affect Vodacom services. Vodacom's no-impact finding has been recorded for consideration in the final EIA documentation.</u></p>	<p><u>Appendix D-SER</u></p>
<p><u>Harry Mphahlele</u></p> <p><u>16 September 2026</u></p> <p><u>Letter (sent via Email)</u></p>	<p><u>Telecoms Impact Assessment – ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd</u></p> <p><u>Dear Sir/Madam,</u> <u>I refer to your request for Vodacom to assess the impact of the proposed project: ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 and its infrastructure on the Vodacom network.</u></p>		

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p><u>After our assessment, I can confirm that Vodacom services will not be affected by the proposed project as submitted.</u></p> <p><u>Yours sincerely</u> <u>Harry Mphahlele Senior Specialist: Network Planning & Design Vodacom Mpumalanga</u></p> 		

3.3 ORIGINAL DRAFT EIA REPORT (DFFE REF NO.: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803)

Table 3-2 outlines the responses to comments received during the DEIR review period that ran from 25 August 2026 to 28 September 2026.

Table 3-3 -Comments received for the original DEIR and associated responses

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
<u>Netstar (Pty) Ltd</u>			
<u>Joe Vermaak</u> <u>24 August 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<u>Good day,</u> <u>Please see attached our letter of no objection.</u> <u>Regards,</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The EAP acknowledges Netstar's assessment and notes that no electromagnetic or radio-frequency interference with Netstar's equipment is foreseen in the project area, and that Netstar has no objection to the proposed development. The stated one-year validity period of the no-objection letter is noted.</u>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>
<u>Joe Vermaak</u> <u>24 August 2026</u> <u>Letter (Sent via email)</u>	<u>WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd</u> <u>DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803</u> <u>Ref: 41106304</u> <u>Letter of no Objection</u> <u>Attention: The Directors.</u> <u>As requested, Netstar (Pty) Ltd, is a vehicle tracking and asset management company that utilizes a land-based radio frequency network and has evaluated the proposed installation and documents.</u> <u>After considering the information and location of the "PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE ABO</u>		

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p><u>UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS, MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG (DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803).</u></p> <p><u>Netstar does not foresee any Electromagnetic interference, or any interference on their RF equipment in that specific area concerning your proposed project.</u></p> <p><u>Therefore, Netstar (Pty) Ltd has no objection regarding the development and building of the installation.</u></p> <p><u>This letter of no objection will be valid for one year from the date.</u></p> <p><u>Kind regards,</u> <u>CJ Vermaak</u> <u>Supervisor: RF Network</u></p>		
<p><u>Joe Vermaak</u> <u>25 September 2026</u> <u>Letter (Sent via email)</u></p>	<p><u>WSP</u> <u>ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd</u> <u>DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803</u> <u>Letter of no Objection</u> <u>Attention: The Directors.</u></p> <p><u>As requested, Netstar (Pty) Ltd, is a vehicle tracking and asset management company that utilizes a land-based radio frequency network and has evaluated the proposed installation and documents shared.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u> <u>Thank you for your correspondence. The Applicant and EAP acknowledge receipt of Netstar's letter of no objection. The confirmation that the proposed development is not anticipated to adversely affect Netstar's radio frequency network infrastructure is noted and welcomed.</u></p>	<p><u>Appendix D-SER</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p><u>After considering the information and location of the wind energy facility situated at “•</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406</u> • <u>Portion 17 (a Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Lagerspoort Nr 406</u> • <u>Remaining Extent of Portion 4 of the Farm De Hoek 411</u> • <u>Portion 45 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406</u> • <u>Portion 7 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406</u> • <u>Portion 19 of the Farm De Hoek No 411</u> • <u>Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Modderfontein 410</u> • <u>The Farm Orion No 413</u> • <u>Remaining Extent of Portion 5 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406</u> • <u>Portion 7 of the Farm Driefontein 405</u> • <u>Remaining Extent of Portion 9 of the Farm Malanskraal No 407</u> • <u>Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Malanskraal 407</u> • <u>Portion 12 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal 407</u> • <u>Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Driefontein 405</u> • <u>Remaining Extent of the Farm Driefontein 405</u> 		

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Remainder of Portion 6 (Kingsmead) of the Farm Malanskraal 407</u> • <u>Portion 17 (a Portion of Portion 8) of the Farm Malanskraal No 407</u> • <u>Farm Bothas Spruit Nr. 404</u> • <u>Portion 16 (a Portion of Portion 4) of the Farm Malanskraal No 407</u> • <u>Remaining Extent of Portion 13 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal 407</u> • <u>Remainder of Portion 18 (a Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Malanskraal 407 Portion 1 of the Farm Weltevreden Nr. 449."</u> <p><u>Netstar (Pty) Ltd has no objection regarding the development and building of the installation. This letter of no objection will be valid for one year from the date.</u></p> <p><u>Kind regards,</u></p> <p><u>CJ Vermaak</u></p> <p><u>Supervisor: RF Network</u></p>		
<u>Midvaal Local Municipality</u>			
<u>George Ndhlovu</u> <u>24 August 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<u>Good day</u> <u>The Office of the Municipal Manager formally acknowledges receipt of the received correspondence with sincere appreciation.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>Receipt of the correspondence is acknowledged.</u> <u>The submission has been recorded in the Stakeholder Engagement Report and the</u>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	Kind regards, Mr George Ndhlovu Executive Secretary Department: Municipal Manager	requirements raised are addressed in the relevant responses below.	
Katlego Mokwena 26 August 2026 Letter (sent by Email)	Dear Sir/Madam, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS: NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS, MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG. Your email dated 24th August 2026 refers. Please be advised that the comments provided by Midvaal Local Municipality on the letter dated 27 March 2026 is still applicable. The municipality has no further comments on the draft environmental impact assessment report and specialist management plans. Kind Regards Katlego Mokwena Executive Director: Development and Planning	EAP: The EAP notes that Midvaal Local Municipality's comments dated 27 March 2026 remain applicable and that no additional comments were raised on the Draft EIA Report or specialist management plans. The earlier comments and responses remain recorded in the Stakeholder Engagement Report. Municipal land-use and zoning requirements will be addressed through the applicable municipal approval processes prior to construction. Furthermore, the EAP confirms that the previous responses provided are still valid.	Section 4.5 ,6.3 -DEIR ; Section 3.1-SER
<u>Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA)</u>			
Cecilia de Waal 25 August 2026	Dear Jashmika	EAP:	Appendix D-SER

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
<u>Email</u>	<p>I was able to open the folder and register is with our registration LUA 26/4471(2) – Draft EIAr for the proposed ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1.</p> <p>I just want to make sure if the scientists, who are included in this e-mail can open it.</p> <p>Kind regards</p> <p>Celia</p>	<p>The confirmation of receipt, registration and access to the Draft EIR was noted.</p>	
<p>Mervyn Lotter</p> <p>07 September 2026</p> <p><u>Email</u></p>	<p>Dear Ashlea</p> <p>Can you please help. I was unable to download the EIA documentation as I did not have "permission" to do so. I requested permission about 2 weeks ago but have not heard back from WSP.</p> <p>Please can I be provided with (1) access to the ABO Uvemvane WEF and (2) a kml file of teh proposed turbine and infrastructure layouts?</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Best wishes</p> <p>Mervyn</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>Dear Mervyn,</p> <p>The link to the project information was shared with Celia to pass on.</p> <p>Apologies for the inconvenience caused.</p> <p>Please see the attached KMZ file.</p> <p>The EIA documentation is available at the following link: 14.12.16.3.3.2.2803 ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 Draft EIR</p> <p>Please let me know if you can access the information.</p> <p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>Dear Mervyn</p>	<p><u>Appendix D-SER , Section 4.3-DEIR</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		<p><u>Please can you use this kmz file instead.</u></p> <p><u>We refined the layers for the roads, and this is more accurate to all of our maps.</u></p> <p><u>Thank you.</u></p>	
<p><u>Mervyn Lotter</u></p> <p><u>08 September 2026</u></p> <p><u>Email</u></p>	<p><u>Dear Jashmika</u></p> <p><u>Received, thank you.</u></p> <p><u>Best wishes</u></p> <p><u>Mervyn</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>Receipt of the revised KMZ file is acknowledged and noted.</u></p>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>
<p><u>Cecilia de Waal</u></p> <p><u>28 September 2026</u></p> <p><u>Email</u></p>	<p><u>Good morning</u></p> <p><u>Thank you for the reminder of the deadline for comments for the ABO Uvemvane WEF 1. (Our ref: LUA 26/4471(2). Our scientists (copied in this e-mail) are currently busy with the comments. Once it is done, it will be reviewed, signed off and forward to you.</u></p> <p><u>Your kind patience will be appreciated.</u></p> <p><u>Kind regards</u></p> <p><u>Celia de Waal</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>Receipt of this feedback is acknowledged and appreciated.</u></p>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>
<p><u>Cecilia de Waal</u></p> <p><u>28 September 2026</u></p>	<p><u>Dear Ms. Strong</u></p> <p><u>Kindly receive the attached comments from the MTPA regarding a Draft EIA for the proposed ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 near Heidelberg.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>Receipt of the MTPA comments are acknowledged and responses provided below.</u></p>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
<u>Email</u>	<p>DFFE ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/ 2803</p> <p>Project: 41106304</p> <p>Kind regards Celia de Waal</p>		
<p>Mervyn Lotter</p> <p>28 September 2026</p> <p>Letter (sent via email)</p>	<p>Dear Ms. Strong</p> <p>MTPA'S COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, NEAR HEIDELBERG AND BALFOUR, MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG PROVINCES (DFFE REF NO.: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803; WSP PROJECT NO.: 41106304).</p> <p>The Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA) hereby submits its formal comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (DEIR) for the proposed ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (WEF 1) located near Balfour.</p> <p>The MTPA acknowledges and commends the Applicant and the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) for the significant layout optimizations undertaken since the pre-application phase. Specifically, we note the reduction of the facility layout from 66 to 20 turbines and the avoidance of critical avifaunal, aquatic, Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA), and bat no-go constraint zones.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Receipt of the MTPA comments are acknowledged and responses provided below.</p> <p>The MTPA's acknowledgement and commendation of the significant layout optimisations implemented since the pre-application phase are appreciated. In particular, we note the reduction of the facility layout from 66 to 20 turbines, as well as the successful avoidance of critical avifaunal and aquatic habitats, Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs), and identified bat no-go constraint zones. These measures demonstrate a meaningful effort to minimise environmental impacts and enhance the project's environmental sustainability.</p>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p>The following sections outline the MTPA's technical evaluation, key areas of concern, and the specific conditions required to be incorporated into the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR).</p> <p><u>AVIFAUNAL RISK AND SITE SENSITIVITY</u></p> <p>The proposed ABO Uvemvane WEF 1 footprint occurs in an avifaunally sensitive landscape that supports 18 endemic or near-endemic bird species and 26 priority species for wind energy developments. Pre-application monitoring confirmed high flight activity within the rotor-swept zone for species such as the Verreaux's Eagle (<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>, Regional Vulnerable) and Black-winged Kite (<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>).</p> <p>The MTPA fully supports the avifaunal specialist's recommendation to exclude all turbines from steep slopes (> 1:4), scarps, ridges, and rocky outcrops to prevent collision risk for soaring raptors utilizing orographic lift.</p> <p>Post-construction monitoring across operational South African wind farms demonstrates that Verreaux's Eagle fatalities often cluster near active Rock Hyrax (<i>Procavia capensis</i>) colonies. Eagles hunt by flying low and fast over rocky terrain to surprise sun-basking hyraxes, bringing them into dangerous proximity to the turbine blades. A major risk identified in wind farm assessments is that construction activities, such as</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted and supported. The avifaunal specialist assessment identified the project area as being of high avifaunal sensitivity, with 18 species of conservation concern and 30 priority species for wind energy developments recorded during pre-application monitoring. The assessment specifically recommends avoiding development on steep slopes (>1:4), scarps, ridges and rocky outcrops owing to their importance for soaring raptors, including Verreaux's Eagle and Lanner Falcon, and the role these landscape features play in supporting high flight activity and orographic lift. The assessed layout was refined through an iterative avoidance process to minimise potential impacts on sensitive avifaunal habitats, and no turbines are proposed within identified no-go areas associated with these features. The recommendation to exclude turbines from ridges, scarps and rocky outcrops is therefore supported and has been incorporated into the final project layout and mitigation strategy.</p>	<p><u>Appendix G.5, - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Appendix J – EMPr: Section 7</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p><u>blasting, platform levelling, and foundation excavation, create rock piles. These rock dumps inadvertently form new, artificial hyrax habitats, drawing hyraxes and, subsequently, hunting eagles directly into high-risk turbine zones. To prevent luring eagles into the rotor-swept area, wind energy guidelines and the EMPr must explicitly require developers to promptly remove, smooth out, or rehabilitate all excavated rock piles during construction rather than leaving them near turbine bases.</u></p>	<p><u>The concern regarding the creation of artificial Rock Hyrax habitat through excavated rock stockpiles is acknowledged. Although this specific impact pathway was not identified as a significant risk during the specialist assessment, it is acknowledged that unmanaged rock dumps may provide shelter opportunities for hyraxes, which could in turn attract predatory raptor species such as Verreaux's Eagle into areas occupied by turbines. As a precautionary mitigation measure consistent with the mitigation hierarchy and adaptive management principles, the EMPr has been updated to require that excavated rock material generated during construction be appropriately managed, redistributed, rehabilitated, or removed from turbine areas where practicable, and that permanent rock stockpiles not associated with approved engineering requirements be avoided. This measure will assist in preventing the inadvertent creation of artificial foraging habitat and further reduce the potential for attracting raptors into turbine risk zones during the operational phase of the project.</u></p>	
	<p><u>To ensure alignment with the mitigation hierarchy and national best-practice standards (BirdLife South Africa, 2025), the MTPA requires that operational mitigation measures be strengthened:</u></p>	<p>EAP: <u>The Avifaunal Impact Assessment recognises the potential collision risk to Species of Conservation Concern (SCC), including Verreaux's Eagle and</u></p>	<p><u>Appendix G.5, - DEIR; Appendix J –</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory Automated / Observer-Led Shutdown-on-Demand (SDoD): SDoD technology or dedicated vantage point observers must be integrated into the operational phase to trigger automated or manual turbine curtailment when Species of Conservation Concern (SCC), specifically Verreaux's Eagle and Endangered Secretarybird (<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>), are detected approaching the rotor-swept areas. This would ensure compliance with the zero-fatality threshold recommended by the avifaunal specialist. 	<p>Secretarybird, and assesses a range of mitigation measures to minimise operational impacts. The project has adopted an adaptive management approach whereby mitigation measures may be refined and enhanced based on pre-construction surveys, operational monitoring outcomes, and specialist recommendations. In line with this approach, the implementation of Shutdown-on-Demand (SDoD) technology and/or observer-based curtailment protocols will be considered during the detailed design and operational phases should monitoring indicate that these measures are necessary and technically feasible to achieve the required conservation outcomes. This commitment is further supported through the Avifaunal Management Plan and operational monitoring requirements included in the EMPr.</p> <p>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</p> <p>Observer-led SDOD has been added as a condition of authorisation for all species listed as critically endangered, endangered and vulnerable. Carcass searching, which must continue for the lifetime of the facility, as per the Post-Construction Monitoring Plan, will inform the need for, and scope of SDOD.</p>	EMPr: Section 7

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proactive Blade Patterning: Proactive contrast painting of turbine blades (in accordance with SACAA approvals and national blade patterning guidelines) must be applied to all turbines. 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>With respect to blade patterning, the comment is acknowledged and aligns with current national best-practice guidance for reducing bird collision risk at wind energy facilities. The DEIR and associated avifaunal assessment have considered blade patterning as a potential mitigation measure, and provision has been made for the implementation of appropriate turbine visibility enhancement measures, subject to the final recommendations of the avifaunal specialist and any applicable regulatory approvals, including those required by the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA). The final suite of operational mitigation measures, including blade patterning and any SDoD requirements, will be informed by specialist input, licensing requirements, and the outcomes of ongoing monitoring to ensure that impacts to SCC are reduced to the lowest practicable level in accordance with the mitigation hierarchy.</p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>Blade Patterning of all turbine blades is included in the Avifaunal Post-construction Monitoring and Management Plan and should be included as a condition of authorisation.</p>	<p><u>Appendix G.5, - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Appendix J – EMPr: Section 7</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p><u>Heidelberg Copper Butterfly – <i>Chrysoritis Aureus</i></u></p> <p>The DEIR and terrestrial biodiversity specialist report state that “<i>MTPA observation records, which were not available at the time of this report, further indicate the known presence of the species at specific localities across the project area.</i>” The MTPA clarifies that official observation data was formally transmitted to the specialist, Mr Reinier Terblanche, via email on 10 June 2026. This distribution data must be fully integrated into the sensitivity mapping and impact discussion in the Final EIR.</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. Distribution records provided by MTPA were incorporated into the final butterfly assessment and informed updates to the habitat sensitivity mapping, impact assessment and mitigation recommendations. Habitat associated with confirmed <i>Chrysoritis aureus</i> records was classified as Very High Sensitivity, and the assessment records that the pre-mitigation significance of direct and indirect impacts was increased to reflect the sensitivity of these areas. The assessment further notes that the closest turbine footprints to confirmed localities are WT14 (approximately 210 m), WT17 (approximately 380 m) and WT18 (approximately 380 m), and evaluates these locations in relation to the identified sensitivities and recommended mitigation measures. The specialist findings, revised sensitivity mapping and recommended mitigation measures have been incorporated into the EIAR and EMPr. The adequacy of the assessment and associated mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p> <p><u>BUTTERFLY SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>Distributional data was received from MTPA and incorporated into the final report. An additional map was generated to indicate the distributional records.</p>	<p><u>Appendix G.14 - DEIR; Appendix J – EMPr: Section 7</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		<p>Please note that, on request of MTPA and because the data is sensitive, data was only presented to illustrate a general area and not the exact observation points. The data was also incorporated into the sensitivity assessment; the sensitivity of the area where the observations were made was elevated to Very High. In addition, the pre-mitigation Impact Significance of direct and indirect impacts was increased to reflect the significance, with specific reference to the 3 turbine towers that are situated in proximity to the area. The application of the recommended mitigation approach is expected to reduce anticipated impact significance to an acceptable low significance.</p>	
	<p>The Heidelberg Copper (<i>Chrysoritis aureus</i>) is an Endangered, narrow-endemic species whose survival depends on open, rocky Highveld grassland ridges containing its specific larval host plant (<i>Clusia pulchella</i>) and host ant (<i>Crematogaster liengmei</i>). The Near Threatened Marsh Sylph (<i>Metisella meninx</i>) also occurs in adjacent wetland habitats.</p> <p>Because habitat degradation, bush encroachment, and inappropriate fire regimes pose severe threats to this restricted butterfly population, the MTPA requires the compilation and implementation of a dedicated Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) for the Heidelberg Copper butterfly and its associated</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>A Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) will be developed for the Heidelberg Copper Butterfly and associated grassland habitat. This requirement has been added to the EMPr.</p> <p>BUTTERFLY SPECIALIST:</p> <p>The development and implementation of biodiversity monitoring plan, habitat management plan, alien and invasive (plant) management plan, and fire regime management plan are included as a specific mitigation actions.</p>	<p>Appendix G.14 - DEIR</p> <p>Appendix J – EMPr: Section 8</p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	grassland habitats as a strict condition of environmental authorisation:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire Management Plan: The BMP must establish <u>a controlled, mosaic burning regime designed to maintain open Highveld grassland structure, preventing both excessive fire frequency and woody shrub/bush encroachment.</u> 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>A Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) will be developed for the Heidelberg Copper Butterfly and associated grassland habitat. The BMP will include a controlled mosaic burning regime to maintain suitable open grassland habitat, prevent woody encroachment, and support the long-term persistence of the species and its larval host plant in accordance with specialist recommendations. This requirement has been added to the EMPr.</u></p> <p><u>BUTTERFLY SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p><u>As above, the development of a fire regime management plan is included as a specific mitigation action.</u></p>	<u>Appendix J – EMPr: Section 8</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alien Invasive Plant (AIP) Control: <u>An active AIP eradication program must target invasive flora that threaten <i>Clutia pulchella</i> host plant stands and larval habitats.</u> 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The BMP will incorporate an Alien Invasive Plant Management Programme aimed at identifying, controlling, and monitoring invasive plant species that may threaten Heidelberg Copper Butterfly habitat, including areas supporting the larval host plant (<i>Clutia pulchella</i>). Alien invasive species</u></p>	<u>Appendix J – EMPr: Section 8</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		<p>management will be implemented as part of the operational environmental management measures for the facility. This requirement has been added to the EMPr.</p> <p><u>BUTTERFLY SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>As above, the development of an alien and invasive (plant) management plan is included as a specific mitigation action.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Annual Operational Monitoring:</u> Annual or biennial population and habitat surveys must be conducted during the peak flight season (January–February) throughout the operational lifespan of the WEF to track population trends and evaluate BMP effectiveness. 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>Annual or biennial monitoring of Heidelberg Copper Butterfly populations and habitat condition will be undertaken during the peak flight period (January to February) throughout the operational phase of the project. Monitoring results will be used to assess population trends and inform adaptive management measures contained within the Biodiversity Management Plan. This requirement has been added to the EMPr.</p> <p><u>BUTTERFLY SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>As above, the development of a butterfly monitoring plan (as part of the over-arching biodiversity</p>	<u>Appendix J – EMPr: Section 8</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		monitoring plan) is included as a specific mitigation action.	
	<p><u>SUMMARY OF MANDATORY MITIGATION CONDITIONS</u></p> <p>The MTPA supports the progression of the 20-turbine layout to the Final EIR stage, subject to the inclusion of the following conditions in the final EMPr:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Layout Integrity:</u> Strict adherence to all 200 m aquatic/wetland buffers, 200 m bat roost buffers, and avifaunal steep slope/ridge exclusion constraint zones. All buffer zone boundaries must be calculated from the outermost reach of the turbine blades (rotor-swept area overhang) rather than solely the turbine base or tower centre, ensuring no blade tip sweep encroaches into any no-go area. 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The Bat Impact Assessment addresses habitat sensitivity, roosts, aquatic features, collision and barotrauma risk, applicable buffers and operational monitoring. The final layout has been assessed against the specialist constraints, and the recommended curtailment and adaptive-management measures are incorporated into the EMPr.</p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 7.2, 9.10, 10.5, 11 and 12; DEIR Sections 7.2, 9.12, 10.7, 11 and 12; Appendix G.5, G.6 - DEIR; Appendix J – EMPr: Section 7</u></p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. <u>Rock Dump & Prey Habitat Management:</u> Mandatory removal, smoothing, or prompt rehabilitation of all excavated rock piles generated during blasting and foundation excavation to prevent creating artificial Rock Hyrax habitats close to the turbine footprint. 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The Avifaunal Impact Assessment and EMPr include measures to manage vulture and raptor attractants, excavated rock, carrion and operational incidents. The requirements include defined responsibilities, monitoring, reporting and corrective action.</p>	<p><u>Appendix G.5 - DEIR; Appendix J – EMPr: Section 7</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	3. <u>Avifaunal Operational Safeguards:</u> <u>Integration of Shutdown-on-Demand (SDoD) technology, proactive blade patterning, and lifetime post-construction mortality monitoring enforcing zero-fatality thresholds for threatened bird species.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is acknowledged. The Avifaunal Impact Assessment addresses collision risk, species-specific monitoring, fatality thresholds and adaptive operational mitigation. The specialist recommendations, including the circumstances in which curtailment or SDoD must be implemented, are incorporated into the EMPr as auditable management actions.</u>	<u>Appendix G.5, - DEIR; Appendix J – EMPr: Section 7</u>
	4. <u>Invertebrate BMP:</u> <u>Formulation of a site-specific Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) for the <i>Endangered</i> Heidelberg Copper butterfly (<i>Chrysoritis aureus</i>) prior to the commencement of construction.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is acknowledged. The butterfly assessment informed the sensitivity mapping and layout-refinement process. The preferred layout prioritises avoidance of sensitive features, and the remaining impacts, rehabilitation, monitoring and biodiversity-management measures are assessed in the EIAr and incorporated into the EMPr.</u> <u>BUTTERFLY SPECIALIST:</u> <u>Noted.</u>	<u>Appendix J – EMPr: Section 8</u>
	<u>CONCLUSION</u> <u>In summary, the MTPA supports the proposed 20-turbine layout and infrastructure footprint, provided that</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is acknowledged. The Avifaunal Impact Assessment addresses collision risk,</u>	<u>Appendix G.5, - DEIR; Appendix J –</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<u>avifaunal operational mitigations are strengthened to include SDoD, rock pile clearing is mandated, and a comprehensive BMP is developed and implemented for the Heidelberg Copper butterfly.</u>	<u>species-specific monitoring, fatality thresholds and adaptive operational mitigation. The specialist recommendations, including the circumstances in which curtailment or SDoD must be implemented, are incorporated into the EMPr as auditable management actions. A Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) will be developed for the Heidelberg Copper Butterfly and associated grassland habitat.</u>	<u>EMPr: Section 7</u>
<u>Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)</u>			
<u>Robyn Luyt</u> <u>23 September 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<u>Dear WSP,</u> <u>Please see attached for our comments.</u> <u>Kind Regards</u> <u>Robyn</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>Dear Robyn,</u> <u>Thank you for your comments. We acknowledge the department feedback and appreciate the time taken to review the submission.</u>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>
<u>Robyn Luyt</u> <u>23 September 2026</u> <u>Letter (sent via Email)</u>	<u>Dear Madam,</u> <u>DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT: ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY (WEF) 1 NEAR BALFOUR AND HEIDELBERG IN MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG</u> <u>The draft environmental impact assessment report (DEIAR) which was submitted by you in respect of the abovementioned application and received by the</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is acknowledged. The residual avifaunal collision impact rating is based on a precautionary assessment approach and does not indicate an unacceptable impact. The avifaunal specialist confirmed that the optimised layout avoids all identified no-go and high-risk avifaunal areas, with turbine numbers reduced from 66 to 20 and all turbines positioned outside sensitive flight-path areas. Site-specific collision risk modelling</u>	<u>Appendix G.5, - DEIR; Appendix J – EMPr: Section 7</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p>Department on 28 August 2026 has reference. The Department has considered the content of the report, and has the following comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>We acknowledge that the layout has been refined, and that significant effort has been applied to avoid areas of highest ecological sensitivity, with the removal of seven turbines (WTG 25-31) and the relocation of WTG 5 and 14. This proactive approach is commended. However, our primary concern remains that the residual impact for avifaunal collisions has been assessed as medium. Based on the evidence, this conclusion is not supported.</u> 	<p><u>predicts fatality rates well below acceptable Potential Biological Removal (PBR) thresholds, while comprehensive mitigation measures, including blade patterning, bird-friendly infrastructure, adaptive management and lifetime post-construction monitoring, further reduce risk. The specialist therefore concludes that the residual impact is acceptable and that the proposed layout is supported.</u></p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p><u>Due to stakeholder concerns, SDOD has been added as an additional proactive precautionary mitigation measure to be included as a condition of authorisation. The specialist confirms the medium negative significant result based on the results of pre-construction monitoring at increased effort.</u></p>	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. <u>While the DEIR assesses the residual impact of "Mortality from collisions with turbines" as Moderate post-mitigation, a detailed examination of the underlying Collision Risk Model (CRM) indicates that the predicted effectiveness of the proposed mitigation suite has been overstated.the predicted effectiveness of the proposed mitigation suite has been overstated.</u> 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is acknowledged. The 72% reduction applied in the CRM was based on published blade-patterning effectiveness data and was used in conjunction with the optimised layout, which avoids identified high-risk flight areas and avifaunal no-go zones. The specialist report acknowledges that the actual effectiveness of these measures can only be verified through post-construction monitoring and therefore recommends lifetime monitoring and</u></p>	<p><u>Appendix G.5, - DEIR; Appendix J – EMPr: Section 7</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p>2.1. The Band (2024) CRM applies a flat 72% risk reduction discount across all 20 turbines and all priority species based on the inclusion of blade patterning, spatial layout optimisation, and habitat management.</p>	<p><u>adaptive management measures, where necessary, to validate and respond to observed collision rates.</u></p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p><u>The application of a 72% expected mitigation efficacy is a pre-cautionary approach for the following reasons:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Blade Patterning has reduced all bird mortality by 72% at a wind farm in Norway (May et al 2020).</u> • <u>By 74% for all birds in Spain (May et al 2026)</u> • <u>A median reduction in fatalities of 83% was recorded at Hopefield WEF in SA on 4 blades painted in line with the Birdlife SA Guidelines. Patterning particularly effective for raptors with an estimated median reduction of 86.8% (Simmons et al 2026).</u> • <u>Observer-based Shut-Down-On-Demand is achieving an estimated 75-85% reduction in mortality at WEFs in South Africa.</u> • <u>Identiflight (Automated SDOD) achieves reductions of 82% - 85% in bird mortalities (McClure 2021, 2022).</u> 	
	<p>2.2. Blade patterning is supported, and, as per our comments on the draft Scoping Report, DARDLEA</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p>	<p><u>Appendix G.5, - DEIR;</u></p>

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	<p>requires it as a mandatory precautionary measure in Mpumalanga. However, its effectiveness relies on visual perception during daylight hours. Applying this 72% fatality reduction factor across the board to crepuscular and nocturnal waterbirds, e.g. Flamingo, which are known to commute at night - is ecologically unsupported.</p>	<p>The comment is acknowledged. Blade patterning is included as a mandatory mitigation measure in accordance with DARDLEA requirements. The specialist report acknowledges that the effectiveness of blade patterning may vary between species and that collision-risk predictions are subject to uncertainty. Accordingly, the assessment does not rely solely on blade patterning, but also incorporates avoidance-based layout optimisation, long-term post-construction monitoring, and adaptive management measures to verify actual collision rates and implement additional mitigation where required.</p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>Greater Flamingo is occasionally present in the area, with 16 flights recorded during one of the 6 monitoring seasons in areas where no turbines are proposed. And the specialist is aware that blade patterning and SDOD will be ineffective for night flights. The proposed turbine and powerline layout avoids all areas in which flamingos were recorded as well as all suitable wetlands. In order to address the stakeholder's concerns and as an additional pre-cautionary measure, bird flight diverters with LEDs are to be used on all overhead powerlines. The specialist did not rely on the numerical outputs</p>	<p>Appendix J – EMPr: Section 7</p>

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		<p>of CRM for the assessment, which was conducted as a requirement of the Avifauna (Wind) Protocol. The results were interpreted as an additional risk indicator, rather than the actual expected number of fatalities. Data to validate the model are unavailable for South Africa to date, and fatality rates can only be confirmed through post-construction monitoring. Fatality thresholds which will trigger additional adaptive mitigation measures are set in the Avifaunal Post-construction Monitoring and Management Plan which will trigger adaptive mitigations should these be required.</p>	
	<p>2.3. The additional 5-day winter survey conducted in June 2026 recorded no flamingos across on-site wetlands. This should have been expected, as flamingos are highly nomadic and migratory waterbirds that typically vacate regional Highveld waterbodies during dry winter periods.</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The absence of flamingos during the June 2026 winter survey is treated as a seasonal observation and not evidence of absence from the site. Greater Flamingo was recorded during the six-season monitoring programme, including flights at risk height, and was therefore retained in the collision-risk assessment and mitigation framework.</p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>All areas where flamingos were recorded and all suitable wetlands are avoided by the turbine layout.</p>	<p><u>Appendix G.5, - DEIR; Appendix J – EMPr: Section 7</u></p>

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		<u>The assessment considers the occasional presence of flamingos in the area.</u>	
	<u>2.4. The CRM extrapolates passage rates based on a standard 12-hour daylight window. The avifaunal specialist assessment explicitly acknowledges that this assumption "may underestimate or overestimate exposure for species capable of nocturnal or crepuscular movement (such as Greater Flamingo)". Relying on winter dry-season, or daylight VP observations, leads to an underestimation of potential collision risk for species moving across the site at night.</u>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is acknowledged. The daylight-based CRM is predictive and cannot fully quantify nocturnal or crepuscular movements. Accordingly, the Avifaunal Post-construction Monitoring and Management Plan requires fatality monitoring from turbine commissioning for the operational lifetime of the facility, with threshold-triggered adaptive mitigation, including curtailment or Shut-Down-on-Demand, where required.</u></p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p><u>The specialist has confirmed that the potential underestimation of nocturnal or crepuscular movements was considered in the assessment as stated in the assumptions and limitations. The layout avoids all suitable wetlands, and areas where flamingos were recorded. BFDs with LEDs are to be used on all overhead powerlines. Post-construction monitoring will be conducted as per CRM.</u></p>	<u>Appendix G.5, - DEIR; Appendix J – EMPr: Section 7</u>

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	<p>2.5. The avifaunal report explicitly concedes, in relation to the CRM, that "confidence in these numbers is relatively low due to the high number of assumptions and estimates required and the lack of local, peer-reviewed, species-specific data to validate the applied model". This acknowledged uncertainty directly aligns with the comments provided by Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA) on the draft scoping Report, wherein it was emphasized that extending pre-construction avifaunal monitoring to a minimum of two years would have been appropriate "Given the number of priority species recorded and the complexity of flight activity identified at this site....to ensure the robustness of modelling inputs".</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The specialist report acknowledges the uncertainty associated with CRM outputs. The assessment was informed by six seasonal surveys over a 13-month period, additional nest surveys, and a precautionary assessment approach. To address residual uncertainty, the report requires fatality monitoring for the operational life of the facility, including searcher-efficiency and scavenger-removal trials, with curtailment or SDoD measures to be implemented where specified fatality thresholds are exceeded.</p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>The length of monitoring conducted at increased effort is in line with all applicable Best Practice Guidelines. Due to the lack of data that can verify CRM results in South Africa, an additional year of monitoring would not increase the specialist's confidence in the results. As a precautionary measure, the implementation of SDOD has been added as a condition of authorisation as per the Post-construction Monitoring Plan.</p>	<p><u>Appendix G.5, - DEIR; Appendix J – EMPr: Section 7</u></p>

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	<p>2.6. Without an expanded multi-year dataset to resolve these baseline uncertainties, relying on the current CRM outputs to defer key mitigations, specifically Shut-Down-On-Demand (SDoD) introduces unquantified ecological risk.</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The specialist report acknowledges the uncertainty associated with CRM outputs. Accordingly, the Avifaunal Post-Construction Monitoring and Management Plan requires monitoring to commence prior to turbine commissioning and continue for the operational life of the facility, with fatality thresholds informing the implementation of adaptive mitigation measures, including curtailment or SDoD where required</p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>The specialist did not rely on the numerical outputs of CRM for the assessment. The results were interpreted as an additional risk indicator, rather than the actual expected number of fatalities. Data to validate the model are unavailable for South Africa to date, and fatality rates can only be confirmed through post-construction monitoring. As a precautionary measure, the implementation of SDOD has been added as a condition of authorisation in addition to blade patterning as per the Post-construction Monitoring Plan. Fatality thresholds which will trigger additional adaptive mitigation measures are set in the Post-construction</p>	<p><u>Appendix G.5, - DEIR; Appendix J – EMPr: Section 7</u></p>

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		Monitoring Plan, which will trigger adaptive mitigations should these be required.	
	<p>3. Furthermore, the recorded flight activity of Verreaux's Eagle demonstrates sustained and significant use of the site, with extended durations at risk height. For a low-density species, such levels of activity indicate that collision risk is persistent and cannot be reliably characterised from a single year of pre-construction monitoring. Patterns of movement, seasonal variation, and site fidelity are unlikely to be captured in a limited dataset. This reinforces our position that mitigation cannot be deferred. Shut-down-on-Demand (SDoD) must be incorporated into the operational framework from the onset of turbine turning, calibrated to respond to all priority species recorded. To postpone SDoD as an adaptive measure overstates the effectiveness of mitigation and does not address the collision risk demonstrated for Verreaux's Eagle and other high-risk species.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The specialist report acknowledges CRM uncertainty and therefore requires post-construction monitoring to commence prior to commissioning and continue for the operational life of the facility. The report further requires curtailment or SDoD if the specified fatality thresholds, including zero thresholds for Critically Endangered, Endangered and Vulnerable species, are exceeded.</p> <p>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</p> <p>As a precautionary measure, the implementation of SDOD has been added as a condition of authorisation in addition to blade patterning as per the Post-construction Monitoring Plan.</p>	<p>Appendix G.5, - DEIR; Appendix J – EMPr: Section 7</p>
	<p>4. The DEIR currently categorizes SDoD as an adaptive, reactive measure to be evaluated only if post-construction carcass monitoring demonstrates that mortality thresholds have been exceeded. Because the baseline CRM</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The specialist report acknowledges uncertainty associated with CRM outputs and requires post-construction monitoring for the operational life of the</p>	<p>Appendix G.5, - DEIR; Appendix J – EMPr: Section 7</p>

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	<p><u>depresses predicted fatalities through layered, optimistic discounts, the true operational risk is likely higher than modeled. Consequently, relying on post-construction threshold breaches before deploying SDoD is insufficient to conclude that residual impacts will be “Moderate”, and is not supported.</u></p> <p><u>4.1. SDoD must therefore be integrated into a revised impact analysis and the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) as an operational mitigation measure from the onset of turbines turning.</u></p>	<p><u>facility. The report further requires implementation of curtailment or SDoD where specified fatality thresholds are exceeded.</u></p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p><u>To address stakeholder concerns the implementation of SDOD has been added as a condition of authorisation in addition to blade patterning and included in the Avifaunal Post-construction Monitoring and Management Plan for all critically endangered, endangered and vulnerable species.</u></p>	
	<p><u>4.2 A robust SDoD framework must account for the distinct flight behaviours of the priority species recorded on site, which must form part of the impact analysis, and must consider that:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Observer-led SDoD is ineffective for night-flying species or during low-visibility conditions (fog or heavy mist). Automated detection technology—such as 3D radar or camera-based tracking systems - is better suited for detecting nocturnal passage and triggering automated turbine shutdowns.</u> 	<p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p><u>To address stakeholder concerns the implementation of SDOD has been added as a condition of authorisation in addition to blade patterning and included in the Post-construction Monitoring and Management Plan for all critically endangered, endangered and vulnerable species. Due to the low recorded occurrence of night-flying species during monitoring and at wetlands in the surrounding areas, and the avoidance of areas where they were recorded and potentially occur,</u></p>	<p><u>Appendix G.5, - DEIR; Appendix J – EMPr: Section 7</u></p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trained human spotters remain valuable during daylight hours to monitor ground-dwelling and low-flying priority species, such as the Endangered Secretarybird, which may utilize surrounding grassland foraging habitat. To address the full spectrum of avifaunal risks present on site, the impact assessment should evaluate a combined, hybrid SDoD approach that integrates automated detection technology with trained visual observers. Implementing SDoD at this site as soon as turbines start turning, provides an immediate, risk-averse baseline. Continuous post-construction monitoring throughout the operational life of the facility will provide empirical carcass and flight-path data. These data can subsequently be used to inform whether SDoD protocols can be safely refined or relaxed during specific low-risk seasons or time windows, or confirm whether secondary operational mitigations - such as targeted turbine curtailment during specific weather conditions or peak migratory periods - are necessary to prevent unacceptable cumulative mortality. 	<p>observer-based SDOD is deemed appropriate for this site as a precautionary measure, in addition to blade patterning. Should fatality thresholds be exceeded, then automated SDOD with radar technology must be implemented. Financial provisions for adaptive management must be made by the operator, should these be necessary.</p> <p>SDOD will be implemented before the commissioning of turbines. The suitability of the SDOD protocol will be verified through continuous post-construction carcass searching for the lifetime of the facility.</p>	
	<p>5. Avoidance of steep slopes, scarps, and ridges must be explicit. Statements in the Avifaunal Report and the DEIR suggesting turbine</p>	<p>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</p> <p>Avoidance of steep slopes, scarps, and ridges is explicit and has been prioritised, with a small</p>	<p>Appendix G.5, - DEIR; Appendix J –</p>

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	<u>placement in these areas with mitigation, are not supported.</u>	<u>section of the rotor swept area of T14 (2750 m²) protruding into 100 m steep slope buffer. In order to mitigate any potential impacts, SDOD has been added as a condition of authorisation.</u>	<u>EMPr: Section 7</u>
	6. <u>It is noted that a high sensitivity is reported in relation to visual aspects in the Landscape (Wind) Theme and Flicker Theme. How will this be addressed if steep slopes, scarps, and ridges are not avoided.</u>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. Avoidance of steep slopes, scarps, and ridges is explicit and has been prioritised. The Visual Impact Assessment assesses landscape sensitivity, visual exposure and shadow flicker using discipline-specific criteria, and the findings and mitigation measures are reflected in the EIAr and EMPr. The adequacy of the assessment remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p> <p><u>VISUAL SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p><u>The turbine layout was adjusted/reduced based on inputs from all specialists, incl. Visual.</u></p> <p><u>The potential to mitigate the visual impact of wind turbines is very limited, due to their dimensions.</u></p> <p><u>Flicker is addressed in the VIA report.</u></p>	<u>Appendix G.7 - DEIR</u>
	7. <u>The assessment should not be limited to aquatic features within the project boundary; potential downstream impacts must also be adequately assessed, particularly where</u>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. The Aquatic Assessment considers downstream impact pathways associated with crossings, runoff, erosion, sedimentation,</u></p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 9, 10 and 12</u></p> <p><u>Aquatic Assessment</u></p>

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	<p>roads, watercourse crossings, drainage infrastructure and construction activities may increase sediment loads, surface runoff, erosion or pollution, alter natural flow patterns, or obstruct aquatic connectivity. This is of particular concern given that the specialist identifies the watercourses as important corridors for the movement of water and aquatic biota. The EIAR must demonstrate that appropriate measures are in place to prevent or minimise downstream impacts and maintain the ecological functioning and connectivity of the broader aquatic system.</p>	<p>pollution and altered flow, and identifies aquatic connectivity as an assessment consideration. The EMPr includes stormwater, erosion, pollution-prevention, crossing and monitoring measures.</p>	<p>Sections 6-9: Appendix G.3</p> <p>EMPr Sections 7.8, 8.5 and 8.9: Appendix J - DEIR</p>
	<p>8. The EIAR must clearly distinguish between temporary and permanent infrastructure and quantify the disturbance footprint associated with each component.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. The DEIR identifies and assesses the temporary and permanent footprint associated with the proposed turbines, roads, laydown areas, construction compounds, electrical infrastructure hub and associated infrastructure. Temporary disturbance areas and permanent infrastructure footprints are separately described, and the EMPr includes requirements for the rehabilitation and monitoring of temporary disturbance areas following construction. The adequacy of the assessed development footprint and associated rehabilitation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p>DEIR Sections 3.2, 3.3, 9, 10 and 12</p> <p>EMPr Sections 5.4, 7.7, 8.7 and 8.9: Appendix J - DEIR</p>

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	<p>9. <u>Cumulative Impact Assessment:</u></p> <p>9.1. Although Section 10 (Cumulative Impact Assessment) notes that “While a broader regional context (up to 100 km) was identified in the DSR, individual specialist assessments for the EIA phase focused on smaller areas (i.e. 30–50 km) based on standard methods and data availability. Therefore, the spatial extent of the CIA has been defined per specialist discipline,” and further records that “In line with accepted methodology for environmental impact assessment and as per the radius applied by the DFFE Screening tool, the application of a 30 km radius for the cumulative impact assessment for all specialist themes apart from Agriculture,” we remain concerned that this approach is biologically inadequate. In a region characterised by sensitive, high-elevation habitats that are demonstrably used by threatened avifauna, a fixed 30 km radius does not capture the ecological reality. We strongly contend that a wider spatial frame is required for cumulative impact assessment, particularly in relation to avifauna, to ensure that the full extent of species’ ranges and ecological processes is meaningfully considered.</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The concern regarding the spatial extent applied to the cumulative impact assessment is acknowledged. The cumulative impact assessment approach adopted for the EIA follows recognised environmental assessment methodologies and the screening distances applied by the DFFE Screening Tool, with the spatial extent defined on a discipline-specific basis according to accepted practice, data availability, and the ecological characteristics relevant to each specialist field. The cumulative impact assessment methodology and discipline-specific approach were described in the Plan of Study for EIA, which was accepted by the competent authority as part of the acceptance of the Scoping Report. For avifauna specifically, the assessment considered the distribution of sensitive species within the broader region and evaluated the potential cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments in accordance with specialist best practice and available datasets.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above, the avifaunal specialist assessment was not limited to an arbitrary ecological boundary and incorporated consideration of the wider regional context, including species occurrence, movement ecology, and the existing</p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 5.2, 5.3.1, 8.2, 10 and 12</u></p> <p><u>Appendix C - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u></p>

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		<p>and planned renewable energy development landscape. The specialist concluded that the cumulative impacts on avifauna can be managed through the proposed mitigation measures and monitoring commitments. As such, it is considered that the assessment provides an adequate basis for evaluating cumulative avifaunal impacts and informing the decision-making process.</p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>The cumulative impact assessment (CIA) undertaken for the Project was completed in accordance with the requirements of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), relevant specialist guidance, and accepted environmental assessment methodology. The EIA Regulations define cumulative impacts as:</p> <p>“In relation to an activity, means the past, current and reasonably foreseeable future impact of an activity, considered together with the impact of activities associated with that activity, that in itself may not be significant, but may become significant when added to the existing and reasonably foreseeable impacts eventuating from similar or diverse activities.”</p> <p>In applying this definition, the assessment considered existing and reasonably foreseeable developments within the surrounding landscape</p>	

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		<p><u>and evaluated whether the Project's impacts, together with those of other developments, could result in significant cumulative effects.</u></p> <p><u>While it is acknowledged that certain avifaunal species areas are far-ranging at a regional, national, sub-continental and global (migratory) scale that extends far beyond a 30 km radius, cumulative impact assessment requires a reasonable and proportionate study area informed by the nature of the impact pathways being assessed, available data, accepted specialist methodologies, and the characteristics of the receiving environment. The 35 km radius adopted for the avifaunal cumulative impact assessment is consistent with standard EIA practice and aligns with the assessment extent applied by the DFFE Screening Tool.</u></p> <p><u>Importantly, cumulative impacts must be assessed based on the nature of the activities present within the landscape and the specific mechanisms through which impacts may occur. Although there are a number of renewable energy developments within the broader region, these are predominantly solar photovoltaic facilities. Solar PV developments and wind energy facilities have distinctly different avifaunal impact pathways, with wind farms primarily associated with collision and displacement risks, whereas solar facilities are generally</u></p>	

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		<p><u>associated with habitat transformation and disturbance effects. Consequently, cumulative avifaunal impacts cannot be inferred solely from the presence of renewable energy developments in the region but must consider the type, location, scale, and impact mechanisms of those developments.</u></p> <p><u>The proposed Wind Energy Facility has been designed and refined through an iterative planning process to avoid and minimise environmental impacts to the greatest extent practicable, while contributing towards national and provincial renewable energy objectives. The specialist avifaunal assessment incorporated available regional information and considered the context of existing and planned developments relevant to potential cumulative impacts.</u></p> <p><u>Furthermore, the nearest approved wind energy facility is located approximately 85 km from the Project site. This separation distance substantially reduces the potential for overlapping collision-risk zones, displacement effects, or barriers to movement that could give rise to significant cumulative avifaunal impacts. In the context of the broader landscape and taking into account the predominance of solar developments in the region, the specialist assessment concluded that the</u></p>	

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		<p><u>Project is unlikely to contribute to significant cumulative avifaunal impacts.</u></p> <p><u>The assessment therefore provides an appropriate and scientifically defensible evaluation of cumulative effects, commensurate with the scale and nature of the proposed development and consistent with legislative requirements and accepted EIA practice.</u></p>	
	<p><u>9.2. Not all the facilities that we alerted you to in our comments in the draft Scoping process have been addressed in the cumulative impact assessment. The definition of cumulative impacts as per the EIA Regulations (GN R.982 of 04 December 2014) is “the past, current and reasonably foreseeable future impact of an activity, considered together with the impact of activities associated with that activity, that in itself may not be significant, but may be significant when added to the existing and reasonably foreseeable impacts eventuating from similar or diverse activities”. Such a comparative assessment of the impacts of this proposed facility, in relation to and in conjunction with, all adjacent and surrounding renewable energy facilities, has not been undertaken as part of this EIA, as per the requirements of the EIA Regulations.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. The cumulative impact assessment (CIA) was undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), applicable specialist guidelines, and accepted assessment methodologies. While a broader regional context of up to 100 km was identified during the Scoping Phase, individual specialist assessments undertaken as part of the EIA focused on smaller study areas, generally ranging between 30 km and 50 km, based on discipline-specific assessment methods, data availability, and the scale at which environmental processes and impacts can be meaningfully assessed. Accordingly, specialist-defined study areas were applied to ensure that the assessment remained scientifically robust and appropriate to each environmental theme.</u></p>	<p><u>DEIR - Section 10</u></p>

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		<p>The EAP acknowledges the concern regarding the inclusion of surrounding developments within the CIA. In accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), only projects that are operational, under construction, authorised, or for which sufficient information is publicly available have been included in the assessment. Projects that have been refused authorisation or remain under consideration without a defined outcome do not constitute "reasonably foreseeable impacts" and were therefore not included in the cumulative impact assessment. While not all facilities identified during the Scoping Phase were assessed in equal detail within each specialist study, the CIA considered the available information relating to existing, approved, and reasonably foreseeable developments relevant to each discipline. The findings of the specialist assessments indicate that, with the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures, the cumulative impacts associated with the proposed development are acceptable and do not represent a fatal flaw to the project. The EAP is therefore satisfied that the cumulative impact assessment provides an adequate basis for informed decision-making and complies with the requirements of the EIA Regulations.</p> <p><u>APPLICANT RESPONSE:</u></p>	

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		<p>A summary table of the facilities referenced in the DARDLEA Scoping Phase Comment, including their approximate distance from ABO Uvemvane WEF1 and a comment on their relevance to the CIA based on status is provided below.</p> <table><tr><th><u>Facility</u></th><th><u>Approx. Distance (km) from PAOI</u></th><th><u>Comment</u></th></tr><tr><td><u>Mukondeleli WEF</u></td><td><u>N/A</u></td><td><u>Not continuing with EIA process at this time; not included in REEA 2026 Q2.</u></td></tr><tr><td><u>Impumulelo WEF</u></td><td><u>N/A</u></td><td><u>Not continuing with EIA process at this time; not included in REEA 2026 Q2.</u></td></tr><tr><td><u>Proposed WEF</u></td><td><u>Unknown</u></td><td><u>No name or location provided.</u></td></tr></table>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Approx. Distance (km) from PAOI</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>Mukondeleli WEF</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>Not continuing with EIA process at this time; not included in REEA 2026 Q2.</u>	<u>Impumulelo WEF</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>Not continuing with EIA process at this time; not included in REEA 2026 Q2.</u>	<u>Proposed WEF</u>	<u>Unknown</u>	<u>No name or location provided.</u>	
<u>Facility</u>	<u>Approx. Distance (km) from PAOI</u>	<u>Comment</u>													
<u>Mukondeleli WEF</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>Not continuing with EIA process at this time; not included in REEA 2026 Q2.</u>													
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	<p><u>In summary, while the overall layout optimisation and reduction in turbine numbers are acknowledged, the current impact analysis overstates mitigation effectiveness, and must be revised to ensure that residual collision impacts are accurately reflected and managed.</u></p> <p><u>Please do not hesitate to contact this office if there are any enquiries.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The EAP acknowledges that layout optimisation and the reduction in turbine numbers represent a positive avoidance and impact minimisation outcome. However, mitigation measures do not eliminate the potential for residual collision impacts on sensitive avifauna. The avifaunal assessment recognises that some residual collision risk remains</u></p>	<u>Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u>												

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		following mitigation and has assessed this risk accordingly. The proposed mitigation measures, together with operational monitoring and adaptive management, are intended to reduce impacts to the lowest practicable level rather than eliminate them entirely. The significance ratings presented in the assessment therefore reflect the specialist's professional opinion on the residual impacts after mitigation and provide a reasonable basis for environmental decision-making.	
<u>Lesedi Local Municipality</u>			
Lloyd M. Machimana 25 August 2026 <u>Email</u>	<p><u>Greetings Jashmika,</u></p> <p><u>I trust you are well</u></p> <p><u>Please note the Lesedi Environment Unit will engage with you regarding the report. Also note that a Land Use Amendment application in terms of the Lesedi SPLUMA Bylaw of 2015 as read in conjunction with the Lesedi Land Use Scheme of 2025 will be applicable prior to any work commencement on site.</u></p> <p><u>Kindly advice your client accordingly. A pre consultation meeting may be scheduled with Planning unit to discuss the item</u></p> <p><u>Kind Regards,</u> <u>Mr. Lloyd M. Machimana (Pr.PlN)</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>Good day,</u></p> <p><u>Thank you for your correspondence and for your participation in this process. Your email has been received and duly noted. We look forward to further engagement from the Department.</u></p>	<u>Section 6.3</u> <u>.6.7- DEIR</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<u>Acting Manager; Town and Regional Planning Local Economic Development & Planning</u>		
<u>Phiki Motshweneng</u> <u>28 September 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<p><u>Good morning</u></p> <p><u>I hope this email finds you well.</u></p> <p><u>Kindly find attached the acknowledgement of receipt for the draft EIA reports for the proposed ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1. The Lesedi Local Municipality (Environmental department) does not have any comments on the draft EIA reports as the comments raised by the municipality on the draft scoping report and specialist's studies were well acknowledged and addressed.</u></p> <p><u>The Lesedi Local Municipality values the project team's engagement and cooperation during the EIA process, and we look forward to continued stakeholder's engagements.</u></p> <p><u>Thank You</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>Good day,</u></p> <p><u>Thank you for your correspondence. The acknowledgement of receipt and comments from Lesedi Local Municipality are noted and welcomed. The Applicant and EAP appreciate the Municipality's participation throughout the environmental assessment process and thank the Municipality for confirming that it has no further comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</u></p> <p><u>Engagement with relevant authorities and stakeholders will continue throughout the environmental authorisation process.</u></p>	<u>Appendix D - SER</u>
<u>Phiki Motshweneng</u> <u>28 September 2026</u> <u>Letter (sent via Email)</u>	<p><u>Subject: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT - DRAFT EIA REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1 Temporary DFFE Reference Number: 2024-11- 0018</u></p> <p><u>Dear Sir/Madam, Lesedi Local Municipality hereby acknowledges receipt of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report for the proposed</u></p>		

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p><u>ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1, under Temporary DFFE Reference Number 2024-11-0018.</u></p> <p><u>The Municipality appreciates the submission of the Draft EIA Report and the appropriate responses of the comments on the Draft Scoping report and the opportunity to participate in the environmental assessment and public participation process.</u></p> <p><u>Lesedi Local Municipality values the project team's engagement and cooperation and looks forward to continued stakeholder engagement throughout the environmental assessment process.</u></p> <p><u>Please accept this letter as formal acknowledgement of receipt of the Draft EIA Report and the Lesedi Local Municipality has no further comments.</u></p> <p><u>Yours faithfully,</u> <u>Phiki Motshweneng</u> <u>Coordinator: Agriculture and Mining</u></p>		
<u>Sasol Mining (Pty) Ltd</u>			
<u>Solomon</u> <u>Mayinga</u> <u>31 August 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<p><u>Good morning.</u></p> <p><u>I trust that you are well.</u></p> <p><u>Please register Sasol Mining (Pty) Ltd (Sasol Mining) as an interested and affected (A&AP) regarding the above-mentioned project.</u></p>	<p><u>WSP PP OFFICE:</u></p> <p><u>Good day Solomon</u></p> <p><u>Kindly see the kmz attached.</u></p> <p><u>EAP:</u></p>	<p><u>Appendix D-SER, Appendix A-Stakeholder Database</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p><u>Sasol Mining (Pty) Ltd (Sasol Mining) is the holder of mining right, MP30/5/1/2/2/138 MR granted by the Department of Mineral, Petroleum Resources (DMPR) in respect of various farms situated within Govan Mbeki Local Municipality area of jurisdiction.</u></p> <p><u>Kindly provide the kmz file so that we can determine whether the project will have positive or negative impacts on our operations and would like to participate in the planning and decision-making processes.</u></p> <p><u>We would appreciate receiving all relevant information and notifications related to the project, including public hearings, reports and updates.</u></p> <p><u>Thank you for your time and attention to this matter</u></p> <p><u>Sincerely</u> <u>Solomon Mayinga</u> <u>Adviser: Mining Rights ,Properties and SLP</u></p>	<p><u>Sasol Mining (Pty) Ltd has been registered as an interested and affected party and added to the project stakeholder database. The requested KMZ file was subsequently provided on 8 September 2026. Sasol Mining will receive further notifications issued to registered stakeholders during the environmental authorisation process.</u></p>	
<p><u>Solomon Mayinga</u> <u>08 September 2026</u> <u>Email</u></p>	<p><u>Good morning,</u></p> <p><u>I am following up on request below regarding the above-mentioned project.</u></p> <p><u>Kindly provide the kmz file so that we can determine whether the project will have positive or negative impacts on our operations and would like to participate in the planning and decision-making processes.</u></p>		

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<u>Kind regards</u> <u>Solomon</u>		
<u>Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment-Biodiversity Conservation Unit</u>			
<u>Khuliso Khomari</u> <u>17 September 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<u>Dear Sir/Madam</u> <u>RE: Department of Forestry Fisheries and the Environment Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation on the 24th of August 2026 for review and comment on the project mentioned in the subject line.</u> <u>Kindly note that the project has been allocated to Ms M Rabothata and Ms Khuliso Khomari (Copied in this email)</u> <u>Note, all Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation by email: BCAdmin@dfre.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota</u> <u>Regards,</u> <u>Ms Khuliso Khomari</u> <u>Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation</u> <u>Sub-Directorate: Policy Development Mainstreaming EIA</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The acknowledgement of receipt and allocation of the biodiversity review is noted. Future biodiversity submissions and correspondence will be directed to the contact specified by the Department.</u>	<u>Appendix D - SER</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
<u>Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment: Integrated Environmental Authorisations-Intergrated Environmental Authorisations Unit</u>			
<u>Salome Mambane</u> <u>01 September 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<u>Dear Sir/Madam</u> <u>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE DRAFT L ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND AMENDED APPLICATION FORM FOR THE PROPOSED ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY (WEF) 1 (UP TO 170MWAC)), LOCATED IN THE DIPALESENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY WITHIN THE GERT SIBANDE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY AND THE LESEDI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, IN THE MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG PROVINCE.</u> <u>The Department confirms having received the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Amended Application Form for the abovementioned project on 24 August 2026. You have submitted these documents to comply with the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.</u> <u>You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environment Management Act 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The EAP acknowledges the Department's confirmation of receipt of the Draft EIR and amended application form. The Applicant is aware of section 24F of NEMA, and no listed activity forming part of the proposed project may commence unless and until Environmental Authorisation has been granted and all other applicable approvals are in place.</u>	<u>Section 6.1- DEIR</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	Kind Regards, Salome Mambane Integrated Environmental Authorisations: Priority Infrastructure Developments		
Dr Sabelo Malaza 22 September 2026 Letter (sent via Email)	<p>Dear Ms Strong</p> <p><u>COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY (WEF) 1 (UP TO 170MWAC)), LOCATED IN THE DIPALESENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY WITHIN THE GERT SIBANDE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY AND THE LESEDI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY WITHIN THE SEDIBENG DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, IN THE MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG PROVINCES.</u></p> <p><u>The Application for Environmental Authorisation and Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) received by the Department on 28 August 2026 refer.</u></p> <p><u>This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included in the final EIAR:</u></p> <p>a) <u>Biodiversity Offset Strategy</u></p> <p>(i) <u>It is noted that the proposed development is not expected to trigger a biodiversity offset in terms of the National Biodiversity Offset Guideline, based on the current</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The Department's comments are acknowledged. The DEIR has been updated to address the requirements raised, with the relevant specialist findings and mitigation measures incorporated into the DEIR and EMPr.</u></p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 9, 10 and 12</u></p> <p><u>Aquatic Assessment Sections 6-9: Appendix G.3 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Sections 7.8, 8.5 and 8.9: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p><u>project layout and the findings of the specialist assessments.</u></p> <p>(ii) <u>The Department requires that the final layout, development footprint, associated infrastructure and proposed construction methods remain consistent with those assessed by the relevant specialists and do not introduce additional or significant residual impacts on terrestrial biodiversity, botanical features, fauna, aquatic ecosystems or species of conservation concern.</u></p>		
	<p>(iii) <u>Please ensure that no additional infrastructure, construction areas, access roads, laydown areas, services or other associated activities that may materially increase the assessed biodiversity impacts may be introduced without appropriate assessment and consideration by the Department.</u></p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p><u>The comment is acknowledged. The assessed development footprint, including associated infrastructure, access roads, laydown areas, construction compounds and services, is described in the FIER and forms the basis of the specialist assessments. Any material change to the assessed layout or infrastructure would be subject to the applicable environmental assessment and regulatory requirements.</u></p>	<p>DEIR Sections 3.2, 3.3 and 5.3.4; Figures 11-1 and 11-2; Table 11-1</p>
	<p>(iv) <u>The Department requires that all applicable mitigation measures, recommendations and management requirements contained in the specialist</u></p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p><u>The requirement is noted. Applicable specialist mitigation, monitoring and management measures</u></p>	<p>Section 7 and 8 – EMPr: Appendix J - DEIR</p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	assessments be incorporated into the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) and implemented throughout the construction and operational phases of the proposed development.	have been incorporated into the EMPr for implementation during the relevant project phases.	
	<p>b) <u>Specific Comments</u></p> <p>(i) You are required to adequately assess all impacts identified by the avifaunal specialists, including displacement through disturbance and habitat loss, mortality resulting from collisions with turbines and powerlines, mortality resulting from electrocution on electrical infrastructure, and cumulative impacts. The assessment must clearly describe the nature, extent, duration, intensity, likelihood and significance of each impact, both before and after the implementation of mitigation measures. The assessment must be informed by the findings of the relevant specialist studies and must consider the sensitivity and conservation importance of the affected species and habitats.</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. The Avifaunal Impact Assessment assesses displacement, habitat loss, turbine and powerline collision, electrocution and cumulative impacts before and after mitigation, using the prescribed significance criteria. The findings and management measures are reflected in the DEIR and EMPr.</p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 9, 10 and 12</u></p> <p><u>Avifaunal Impact Assessment Sections 4-6 and Annexure F: Appendix G.5 – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Section 7.13: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>
	<p>(ii) You are required to provide adequate and site-specific mitigation and management measures to avoid and minimise identified</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. Site-specific mitigation and management measures identified</p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 10, 11 and 12; Table 11-1 and</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	impacts and, where avoidance is not possible, to manage residual impacts. The effectiveness and feasibility of the proposed mitigation measures must be demonstrated, and any residual impacts remaining after mitigation must be clearly identified and assessed.	through the specialist assessments have been incorporated into the impact assessment and EMP. The application of the mitigation hierarchy, including avoidance, minimisation, rehabilitation, monitoring and management measures, is reflected in the specialist impact assessments, with residual impacts assessed following the implementation of mitigation. Residual impact ratings and associated mitigation measures are presented in the DEIR and supporting specialist studies.	<u>Tables 12-1 to 12-16</u> <u>EMPr Sections 7 and 8:</u> <u>Appendix J - DEIR</u>
	(iii) The final Biodiversity Management/Action Plan (BMP/BAP) must be consistent with the findings and recommendations of all relevant specialist assessments and must incorporate the applicable mitigation, monitoring and management measures identified during the EIA process. The BMP/BAP must be incorporated into the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) to ensure that the identified biodiversity management measures are implemented and monitored throughout the relevant phases of the proposed development.	<u>EAP:</u> The comment is acknowledged. Biodiversity mitigation, monitoring and management measures identified in the specialist assessments have been incorporated into the EMP and apply throughout the relevant project phases. This includes biodiversity management, rehabilitation, monitoring and adaptive management measures recommended by the specialist studies and reflected in the impact assessment findings.	<u>DEIR Sections 10, 11 and 12;</u> <u>Tables 11-1 and 12-1</u> <u>EMPr Sections 7.10–7.13, 8.7 and 8.9:</u> <u>Appendix J - DEIR</u>
	c) <u>Public Participation Process</u>	<u>EAP:</u>	<u>Appendices A to D - SER</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	(i) <u>The final EIAr must comply with all conditions of the acceptance of the scoping report dated 22 June 2026. Please ensure that the Department's comments are addressed in the report as well as in the comments and response table.</u>	<u>The requirement is noted. The DEIR and SER address the conditions in the scoping acceptance and record the Department's comments and corresponding responses.</u>	
	(ii) <u>Please ensure that the final EIAr includes proof that the key stakeholders received written notification of the proposed activity, and the draft EIAr. Comments made by interested and affected parties (I&APs) must be comprehensively captured and responded to clearly and fully in the comments and response report.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The requirement is noted. Proof of notification, the stakeholder database, comments received and responses are included in the Stakeholder Engagement Report and its appendices.</u>	<u>Appendices A to D - SER</u>
	d) <u>Cumulative Assessment</u> (i) <u>You are required to assess each identified potentially significant impact and risk, including—</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>cumulative impacts;</u> <u>the nature, significance and consequences of the impact and risk;</u> <u>the extent and duration of the impact and risk;</u> 	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is noted. The cumulative assessment applies discipline-specific study areas and considers existing, approved and reasonably foreseeable developments for which sufficient information was available. The methodologies, assumptions, impact ratings and mitigation measures are presented in the DEIR and relevant specialist studies. The adequacy of the assessment remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u>	<u>DEIR Section 10 and Tables 10-2 to 10-11</u>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the probability of the impact and risk occurring; the degree to which the impact and risk can be reversed; the degree to which the impact and risk may cause irreplaceable loss of resources; and the degree to which the impact and risk can be mitigated; the degree to which the impact and risk can be mitigated; 		
	<p>(ii) If there are 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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. The cumulative assessment applies discipline-specific study areas and considers existing, approved and reasonably foreseeable developments for which sufficient information was available. The methodologies, assumptions, impact ratings and mitigation measures are presented in the DEIR and relevant specialist studies. The adequacy of the assessment remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p>DEIR Section 10 and Tables 10-2 to 10-11</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist's recommendations, mitigation measures 	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. The cumulative impact assessment was undertaken using discipline-</p>	<p>DEIR Sections 5.2, 5.3.1, 8.2</p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p><u>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.</u></p>	<p><u>specific methodologies and study areas as described in the DEIR. The cumulative impact assessment approach, including the application of specialist-defined study areas, was set out in the Plan of Study for EIA and accepted by the competent authority as part of the acceptance of the Scoping Report. Existing, approved and reasonably foreseeable developments identified within the relevant specialist study areas were considered in the cumulative assessments, and the resulting specialist recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions informed the cumulative impact findings presented in the DEIR. The adequacy of the cumulative impact assessment remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p>	<p><u>and 10; Tables 10-2 to 10-11</u></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.</u> 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. The cumulative assessment applies discipline-specific study areas and considers existing, approved and reasonably foreseeable developments for which sufficient information was available. The methodologies, assumptions, impact ratings and mitigation measures are presented in the FIER and relevant specialist studies. The adequacy of the assessment remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p>	<p><u>DEIR Section 10 and Tables 10-2 to 10-11</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed. 	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. The cumulative assessment applies discipline-specific study areas and considers existing, approved and reasonably foreseeable developments for which sufficient information was available. The methodologies, assumptions, impact ratings and mitigation measures are presented in the DEIR and relevant specialist studies. The adequacy of the assessment remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p>DEIR Section 10 and Tables 10-2 to 10-11</p>
	<p>e) <u>Specialist Assessments</u></p> <p>(i) It is 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</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The DEIR identifies the environmental themes triggered by the DFFE Screening Tool, the specialist assessments undertaken, the applicability of the relevant protocols, and the outcomes of the site sensitivity verification process. Where applicable, the specialist assessments were undertaken in accordance with the relevant protocol requirements, and protocol applicability and compliance are reflected in the DEIR and supporting specialist reports.</p>	<p>DEIR Section 1.4.5, Table 1-5, Table 1-6</p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p><u>assessments must be conducted in accordance with these protocols, except where the applicant provides proof to the competent authority that the specialist assessment affected by these protocols had been commissioned before the date on which the protocols came into effect, in which case Appendix 6 of the Environmental impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, will apply. Please indicate in the EIAr whether or not the protocols were applied or provide the necessary proof where the exception applies. Please note further that the protocols, if applicable, require certain specialists to be SACNASP registered.</u></p>		
	<p>(ii) <u>For ease of reference, please provide a table in the EIAr, indicating the studies required by the Department's screening tool, a column indicating whether these studies were undertaken or not, a column with the requisite motivation if a study was not undertaken (confirmed by a site sensitivity verification, where the protocols are applicable and require such); a column(s) indicating whether the protocols are applicable and if they were complied with for the relevant study.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is acknowledged. A summary table identifying the environmental themes triggered by the DFFE Screening Tool, the specialist studies undertaken, the applicability of the Environmental Theme Protocols, and confirmation of protocol compliance has been included in Section 1.4.5, Table 1-5, Table 1-6 of the DEIR. Where a specialist assessment was not required following site sensitivity verification, the supporting motivation is provided in the relevant section of the DEIR. The</u></p>	<p><u>Section 1.4.5, Table 1-5, Table 1-6 – DEIR</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		<u>applicable specialist reports also include declarations of independence, professional registrations and confirmation of compliance with the relevant legislative and protocol requirements.</u>	
	<p>f) <u>Environmental Management Programme</u></p> <p>(i) <u>It is drawn to your attention that for substation and overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure, when such facilities trigger activity 11 or 47 of the EIA Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended, and any other listed and specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, the generic Environmental Management Programmes (EMPr), contemplated in Regulations 19(4) must be used over and above the EMPr for the WEF. Accordingly, there needs to be a generic EMPr for the on-site substation, a generic EMPr for the overhead powerline, and a third, separate EMPr for the WEF.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is acknowledged. The proposed on-site substation and internal electrical infrastructure, including the 33 kV connection between the northern and southern portions of the facility, form part of the infrastructure assessed in this application. The associated impacts, mitigation measures and management requirements have been assessed in the DEIR and incorporated into the EMPr. The 33 kV connection assessed as part of this application is internal project infrastructure and does not form part of the separate external grid connection process. Specialist recommendations relevant to the on-site substation and internal electrical infrastructure have been incorporated into the EMPr. The final acceptance of the environmental management approach and any additional requirements relating to environmental management documentation remain matters for determination by the competent authority.</u></p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 3.2, 3.3, 10, 11 and 12</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Sections 5, 7 and 8: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>
	<p>(ii) <u>Please ensure that any specific mitigation measures identified in the EIAR and specialist</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 3.2, 3.3, 10, 11</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<u>reports for the on-site substation and powerline are incorporated into the site-specific section of the generic EMPs.</u>	<u>The comment is acknowledged. Specific mitigation and management measures identified for the on-site substation and internal electrical infrastructure, including the 33 kV connection assessed as part of this application, have been incorporated into the EMP. These measures are informed by the relevant specialist assessments and are reflected in the infrastructure-specific management requirements contained in the EMP.</u>	<u>and 12; Table 11-1</u> <u>EMPr Sections 5, 7 and 8; Appendix J - DEIR</u>
	(iii) <u>Please ensure that the mitigation measures specified in the EIA and specialist reports for the WEF are also incorporated into the EMP for the WEF. In addition, please ensure that the EMP complies with the content of the EMP in terms of Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is acknowledged. Mitigation and management measures identified in the specialist assessments and reflected in the impact assessment have been incorporated into the EMP. The EMP has been updated to include the specialist recommendations applicable to the wind energy facility and associated infrastructure and has been prepared with reference to the requirements of Appendix 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).</u>	<u>DEIR Sections 10, 11 and 12; Table 11-1 and Tables 12-1 to 12-16</u> <u>EMPr Sections 5, 7 and 8; Appendix J - DEIR</u>
	• <u>Please also include in the EMPs, a recommended frequency for the auditing of compliance with the conditions of the EA and EMP, and the submission of such compliance reports to the competent authority.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is acknowledged. The Final EMP provides for monthly independent ECO audits against the conditions of the Environmental Authorisation and EMP during construction,</u>	<u>DEIR Sections 10, 11 and 12; Table 11-1 and Tables 12-1 to 12-16</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		together with ongoing monitoring and compliance reporting. Operational-phase auditing and reporting will be undertaken at the frequency specified by the competent authority, and the relevant compliance reports will be submitted to DFFE in accordance with the Environmental Authorisation and applicable requirements	EMPr Sections 5, 7 and 8: Appendix J - DEIR
	g) <u>Undertaking of an Oath</u> (i) <u>Please ensure that the final EIAR includes an undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP (administered by a Commissioner of Oaths) as per Appendix 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</u>	EAP: The comment is acknowledged. The DEIR includes an undertaking under oath by the EAP, administered by a Commissioner of Oaths, in accordance with Appendix 3 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). The signed declaration forms is included in the DEIR.	Appendix A - DEIR
	<u>General:</u> <u>Where the proposed activity does not include operational aspects, please also ensure that the final EIAR includes the period for which the environmental authorisation is required and the date on which the activity will be concluded and the post construction monitoring requirements finalised, as per Appendix 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.</u>	EAP: The comment is acknowledged. The DEIR describes the operational life, decommissioning phase and associated monitoring requirements for the proposed development. Post-construction monitoring requirements identified in the specialist assessments have been incorporated into the EMPr. Any final monitoring, auditing and reporting requirements remain subject to the conditions of Environmental Authorisation and the determination of the competent authority.	DEIR Sections 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 10, 11 and 12 EMPr Sections 7 and 8: Appendix J - DEIR

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<u>You are reminded that the final EIAr to be submitted to this Department must comply with Regulation 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The EIAr must contain all information set out into the Regulations or comply with a protocol or minimum information requirements relevant to the application as identified and gazetted by the Minister in a government notice.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is acknowledged. The FEIR will be prepared with reference to the requirements of Regulation 23 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), including the applicable environmental theme protocols and minimum information requirements relevant to the application. Compliance with the legislative requirements and applicable protocols is recorded in the DEIR.</u>	<u>DEIR Section 1.4.5, Table 1-5, Table 1-6</u>
	<u>Regulation 23(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, states that: "The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority -(a) an environmental impact assessment report inclusive of any specialist reports, and an EMPr, which must have 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."</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is acknowledged. The specialist assessments and EMPr for the DEIR have been updated following the public participation process. Comments received from authorities and interested and affected parties, including comments from the competent authority, have been recorded and responded to in the Stakeholder Engagement Report and have informed the finalisation of the EIR and EMPr. Compliance with the requirements of Regulation 23 remains subject to the consideration of the competent authority.</u>	<u>DEIR Section 2.3 and Section 12</u> <u>SER - Sections 2.3, 2.4 and 3.3;</u> <u>Appendix J - DEIR</u>
	<u>Should there be significant changes or new information that has been added to the EIAr's or EMPr which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is acknowledged. The DEIR and EMPr have been updated following the public participation process and consideration of</u>	<u>DEIR Section 2.3 and Section 12</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p>participation process, you are required to comply with Regulation 23(1)(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: “The applicant must within 106 days of the acceptance of the scoping report submit to the competent authority – (b) a notification in writing that the reports, and an EMPr, will be submitted within 156 days of acceptance of the scoping report by the competent authority, or where regulation 21(2) applies, within 156 days of receipt of application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the environmental impact assessment report or EMPr, which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process contemplated in subregulation (1)(a) and that the revised environmental impact assessment report or EMPr will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days.</p>	<p>comments received. The revisions incorporated into the DEIR and EMPr do not constitute significant changes or significant new information that would require a further public participation process in terms of Regulation 23(1)(b).</p>	<p><u>SER - Sections 2.3, 2.4 and 3.3</u></p> <p><u>Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>
	<p>Should you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 23 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your application will lapse.</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The requirements of Regulation 23, including the applicable timeframes, are noted. The DEIR and EMPr have been prepared and submitted having regard to the requirements of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). The consequences of any non-compliance with the prescribed regulatory</p>	<p>=</p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		timeframes remain as provided for in the EIA Regulations.	
	You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.	<u>EAP:</u> The comment is acknowledged. The requirements of Section 24F of NEMA are noted.	=
<u>Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment -Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness Unit</u>			
<u>Mashudu Mudau</u> <u>25 September 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<u>Dear PPP practitioner</u> <u>The DFFE Directorate: Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness would like to thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the proposed development of the ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility (WEF) 1, near Heidelberg and Balfour in the Gauteng and Mpumalanga Provinces, respectively.</u> <u>After conducting the review of the submitted documents, we have noted that the proposed developments will not take place within any kind of protected areas in terms of Section 9 of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (NEMPAA), Act No. 57 of 2003, however, the proposed site falls within 5km (buffer) of Protected Areas identified in terms of NEMPAA. The Alice</u>	<u>EAP</u> <u>The comment is acknowledged. The distances to surrounding protected areas reported in the specialist studies were derived from different datasets and reference points, resulting in minor variations between reports. To address this, the protected areas surrounding the final development footprint have been reviewed against the latest available South African Protected Areas Database (SAPAD 2026 Q2), and a consolidated list of protected areas, their legal status and the distance from the nearest listed activity has been provided. The proposed development is not located within a protected area in terms of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act No. 57 of 2003), and the verified protected areas surrounding the development</u>	<u>DEIR Sections 4.1, 9, 10 and 12</u>

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	<p>Glöckner Nature Reserve is located 2.9 km away from the proposed development as per the South Africa Protected Area Database (SAPAD).</p> <p>The Directorate notes that the EIA Report indicates that the Project Area of Influence (PAOI) is not located within a formally declared protected area. The Report identifies the Alice Glöckner Provincial Nature Reserve approximately 3.2 km north-west of the PAOI and the Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve approximately 13 km north-west of the PAOI. The Report further states that there are no protected areas within the study area and references section 50(5) of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act No. 57 of 2003) (NEMPAA).</p> <p>There appears to be an inconsistency in the distances reported for the Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve. The terrestrial biodiversity assessment states that the reserve is approximately 13 km north-west of the PAOI, whereas the avifaunal assessment identifies the Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve as approximately 4 km north west of the PAOI. The avifaunal assessment also identifies several additional protected areas surrounding the PAOI, including Daisy Private Nature Reserve at approximately 5 km and Devon Protected Area at approximately 10 km. The EAP is requested to reconcile these discrepancies and provide a single, verified list of surrounding protected areas, their conservation status, and distance from the final</p>	<p>footprint are reflected in the table above. The revised information has been incorporated into the DEIR for consistency.</p> <table><tr><th><u>Protected Area (SAPAD 2026 Q2)</u></th><th><u>Conservation Status/Legal Status</u></th><th><u>Distance from nearest Listed Activity (NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Appendix 2 of GNR 982 Section (d))</u></th></tr><tr><td><u>Alice Glöckner Nature Reserve</u></td><td><u>Protected Area/Declared</u></td><td><u>3,3km</u></td></tr><tr><td><u>Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve</u></td><td><u>Protected Area/Declared</u></td><td><u>11,6km</u></td></tr><tr><td><u>Daisy Private Nature Reserve</u></td><td><u>Protected Area/Declared</u></td><td><u>12,9km</u></td></tr></table>	<u>Protected Area (SAPAD 2026 Q2)</u>	<u>Conservation Status/Legal Status</u>	<u>Distance from nearest Listed Activity (NEMA EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, Appendix 2 of GNR 982 Section (d))</u>	<u>Alice Glöckner Nature Reserve</u>	<u>Protected Area/Declared</u>	<u>3,3km</u>	<u>Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve</u>	<u>Protected Area/Declared</u>	<u>11,6km</u>	<u>Daisy Private Nature Reserve</u>	<u>Protected Area/Declared</u>	<u>12,9km</u>	
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	<u>development footprint, based on the most recent available protected-area spatial data.</u>	<table><tr><td><u>Devon Protected Environment</u></td><td><u>Protected Area/Declared</u></td><td><u>26,8km</u></td></tr><tr><td><u>Valdaam Nature Reserve</u></td><td><u>Protected Area/Declared</u></td><td><u>19,3km</u></td></tr><tr><td><u>Marievale Nature Reserve</u></td><td><u>Protected Area/Declared</u></td><td><u>24,6km</u></td></tr><tr><td><u>Voortrekker Private Nature Reserve</u></td><td><u>Protected Area/Declared</u></td><td><u>24,3km</u></td></tr><tr><td><u>Nicolaas Private Nature Reserve</u></td><td><u>Protected Area/Declared</u></td><td><u>30,5km</u></td></tr><tr><td><u>Keyterskloof Private Nature Reserve</u></td><td><u>Protected Area/Declared</u></td><td><u>18,9km</u></td></tr><tr><td><u>Klipkraal Hollenbach Protected Environment</u></td><td><u>Protected Area/Declared</u></td><td><u>20,3km</u></td></tr></table>	<u>Devon Protected Environment</u>	<u>Protected Area/Declared</u>	<u>26,8km</u>	<u>Valdaam Nature Reserve</u>	<u>Protected Area/Declared</u>	<u>19,3km</u>	<u>Marievale Nature Reserve</u>	<u>Protected Area/Declared</u>	<u>24,6km</u>	<u>Voortrekker Private Nature Reserve</u>	<u>Protected Area/Declared</u>	<u>24,3km</u>	<u>Nicolaas Private Nature Reserve</u>	<u>Protected Area/Declared</u>	<u>30,5km</u>	<u>Keyterskloof Private Nature Reserve</u>	<u>Protected Area/Declared</u>	<u>18,9km</u>	<u>Klipkraal Hollenbach Protected Environment</u>	<u>Protected Area/Declared</u>	<u>20,3km</u>	
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<u>Klipkraal Nature Reserve</u>	<u>Protected Area/Declared</u>	<u>21,6km</u>							
	<p><u>Although the PAOI is not situated within a formally declared protected area, the project is located in proximity to several protected areas. The Directorate requests that the EIA specifically assess whether the proposed wind energy facility and associated infrastructure could result in indirect impacts on the ecological functioning, connectivity, movement of fauna, avifaunal movement patterns or other conservation objectives associated with the surrounding protected areas. Where potential linkages between the project area and surrounding protected areas have been identified, these should be clearly mapped and incorporated into the impact assessment and mitigation measures</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is acknowledged. Potential indirect impacts on ecological connectivity, fauna movement and broader ecological functioning were assessed in the Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment. The assessment specifically identifies rocky ridges, the Suikerbosrand River, climate change corridors, CBA/ESA networks and nearby protected areas as important landscape-scale ecological features, and assesses potential impacts associated with habitat loss, disturbance and fragmentation. Mitigation measures to minimise fragmentation and maintain ecological connectivity have been incorporated into the impact assessment and EMPr. The adequacy of the assessment and associated mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p>	<p><u>Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment Sections 6.6–6.11, 11.1, 13.3.1.2 and 13.3.4; Figures 9–15 and 35: Appendix G.2 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Sections 7.10–7.13: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>						
	<p><u>The Directorate notes that large portions of the PAOI are mapped as Priority Focus Areas in terms of the</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p>	<p><u>Terrestrial Biodiversity</u></p>						

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>				
	<p><u>National Protected Area Expansion Strategy (NPAES), 2018, and that certain components of the proposed project infrastructure fall within these mapped areas. The EIA states that some infrastructure has been located within secondary grassland/old lands rather than intact natural habitat in an effort to reduce potential impacts. The EAP should demonstrate how the final layout has avoided and minimised fragmentation of Priority Focus Areas and explain whether any further layout optimisation was considered to reduce the loss or fragmentation of areas identified for future protected-area expansion.</u></p>	<p>The comment is acknowledged. The project layout underwent iterative refinement during the Site Sensitivity Verification, Scoping and EIA phases, resulting in a reduction from 66 turbines to 20 turbines, with the number of turbines located within mapped NPAES Priority Focus Areas reduced from 17 to 6. The Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment notes that, although some infrastructure remains within mapped Priority Focus Areas, many components were preferentially located within areas of Secondary Grassland (old lands) and other modified habitats rather than intact natural habitat. The assessment further states that this approach “reduces potential negative impacts on the ecological functioning of the affected and adjacent portions of the Priority Focus Area network”. The assessment of habitat loss, fragmentation and ecological connectivity informed the final layout and associated mitigation measures. The adequacy of the final layout and mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority</p> <table><tr><th><u>Layout – Project Phase</u></th><th><u>No. Of WTGs located in NPAES (2018)</u></th></tr><tr><td><u>Preliminary Layout – SSVR Phase: up to 66 Turbines</u></td><td><u>17 WTGs</u></td></tr></table>	<u>Layout – Project Phase</u>	<u>No. Of WTGs located in NPAES (2018)</u>	<u>Preliminary Layout – SSVR Phase: up to 66 Turbines</u>	<u>17 WTGs</u>	<p><u>Assessment Sections 6.7, 12, 13.3.1.1 and 13.3.1.2; Figures 10, 11, 32 and 34; Tables 8, 9 and 11: Appendix G.2 - DEIR</u></p>
<u>Layout – Project Phase</u>	<u>No. Of WTGs located in NPAES (2018)</u>						
<u>Preliminary Layout – SSVR Phase: up to 66 Turbines</u>	<u>17 WTGs</u>						

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		<u>Optimised Layout - Pre-Scoping Phase: up to 31 Turbines</u>	<u>11 WTGs</u>
		<u>Revised Optimised Layout –Scoping Phase: up to 27 Turbines</u>	<u>7 WTGs</u>
		<u>DEIR assessed Layout – EIA Phase: up to 20 Turbines</u>	<u>6 WTGs</u>
	<u>The EAP should confirm whether the relevant protected-area management authorities were consulted and whether any recommendations received have been incorporated into the final layout, impact assessment and EMPr. The relevant management authorities and their comments should be clearly recorded in the Stakeholder Engagement Report and EIA.</u> <u>Regards,</u> <u>Mashudu Mudau</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is acknowledged. Relevant protected-area management authorities and conservation authorities were consulted as part of the public participation process, and comments received have been recorded and responded to in the SER Specialist recommendations and mitigation measures arising from the assessment process have been incorporated into the DEIR and EMPr, where applicable. The consultation record and comment-response process form part of the documentation submitted to the competent authority for consideration.</u>	<u>DEIR Section 2.3 and Section 12;</u> <u>SER Sections 2.3, 2.4 and 3.3;</u> <u>EMPr Sections 7 and 8;</u> <u>Appendix J - DEIR</u>
<u>Openserve</u>			

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
<u>RFSM</u> <u>02 September 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<u>Greetings,</u> <u>Can we kindly, please request that all submissions should include KMZ file(s) for the proposed facilities, together with a document detailing the relevant coordinates or a link to access such material.</u> <u>As part of the formal workflow, submissions are first sent to the Wayleave Departments.</u> <u>Please note, the provided link does not include the KMZ/KML files.</u> <u>Kindly, could you please ensure that the required supporting documents such as the KMZ/KML files and coordinates information, are included with the submissions before it is forwarded for our assessments.</u> <u>This will help ensure that the submission can be processed through without unnecessary delays.</u> <u>Kind regards</u> <u>RFSM</u>	<u>WSP PP OFFICE:</u> <u>Good day,</u> <u>Please see the kmz attached.</u> <u>Kind regards,</u>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>
<u>Gopolang Moeketsane</u> <u>21 September 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<u>Good morning</u> <u>Application has been rejected due to Company /Contract cover letter. For both renewal and new application, you are required to submit documents as stated below not the link Cover letter with letter head,</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is acknowledged.</u>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p>company registration number and Locality map in PDF Format ,KMZ file, Google Maps showing Road/street/Farm names, ERF number, clearly indicating your area /scope of work.</p> <p>Kind regards</p>		
<p>RFSM</p> <p>23 September 2026</p> <p>Email</p>	<p>Greetings ,</p> <p>Please find the attached.</p> <p>Kind Regards</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is acknowledged.</p>	<p>Appendix D-SER</p>
<p>George Sello Sithole</p> <p>23 September 2026</p> <p>Letter (sent via Email)</p>	<p>RESPONSE TO SECTION 29 OF THE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS ACT 36 OF 2005 NOTICE</p> <p>Dear Sir/ Madam</p> <p>Your notice received on 24 August 2026 refers.</p> <p>We thank you for notifying us of your planned activities as required under section 29 of the ECA.</p> <p>ELECTRICAL / POWER SERVICES CONDITIONS</p> <p>Openserve has analysed the information provided by WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) in accordance with the provisions of Section 29(1)(c) of the ECA, and specifically the location of the site. Openserve has the following terms and conditions or requirements for the construction of ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 project at the site:</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The requirements and conditions contained in the response from Openserve are noted and have been recorded as part of the stakeholder engagement process. Any engagement relating to telecommunications infrastructure and associated requirements will be undertaken in accordance with the applicable legislative requirements and the conditions communicated by Openserve.</p>	<p>Appendix D-SER</p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take note that the findings made by Openserve are based on simulation and calculated on a theoretical model, using available data and assumptions where no data was provided. Therefore, such findings may change at any time should any further information be made available to or come to our attention. At any time after this notice, and during construction of the project, should any radio transmissions be affected by construction activities, Openserve will give you 30 (thirty) days' written notice to minimise or reduce and/or remove the cause of the interference. Under no circumstances will Openserve be liable to you or any other third party for any damages, of any nature whatsoever, suffered as a consequence of the mentioned request. Construction activities underneath, along, across or within close proximity to Openserve infrastructure must comply with the applicable Openserve guidelines relating to clearances between equipment and the proposed construction activity. Furthermore, you must strictly adhere to and all installations must be fully compliant with the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act 85 of 1993). This notice is further subject to the boundaries or structures listed in annexure 1 below, the materials 		

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p><u>used as well as the size and positioning of structures declared in your notice. If any radio system is compromised by a deviation of this submission and the deviation cannot be reversed, you shall be liable for the cost to re-establish or relocate the service and under no circumstances will Openserve be liable to you or any other third party for any damages, of any nature whatsoever, suffered as a consequence.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>This notice is valid and applicable to and between Openserve and WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP). It excludes any other electronic communication operators that have a co-sharing agreement for use on Openserve radio masts.</u> <u>This notice is valid for a period of 12 (twelve) months.</u> <u>Any additions, amendments, additional structures to be built or change to the energy farm boundaries will require a fresh notice to Openserve.</u> <u>This notice does not imply any right of access to Openserve property or use of Openserve's access roads for construction or maintenance of the design project. Permission must be obtained from Openserve in this regard. Furthermore, Openserve reserves the right to claim damages in terms of Section 108 of the Post Office Act No. 44 of 1958, for any loss sustained as a result of damage to our electronic communications infrastructure.</u> 		

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) shall, in the carrying out of any work or project take all necessary precautions for the safety of Openserve's employees, contractors, representatives and its property including the radio links on or near the Site against damages as result of construction of ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 project. WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) shall be liable for all and any direct and / or indirect, and / or consequential damages or injury that may be caused by ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1, its contractors, subcontractors, employees or representatives to any employee, contractor, representative or property of Openserve including radio links or land which may have been disturbed. Any work in connection with the construction of your energy project shall be carried out by you in such a way as to avoid any possible loss or inconvenience to the Openserve, its customers or the public, and on completion of such work, any of our property including radio links or land which may have been disturbed shall be restored to the same condition which it was in before commencement of the construction of energy project. In no event will Openserve, its employees, contractors, subcontractors or representatives be liable to you or anyone else for special, collateral, 		

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<u>exemplary, direct, indirect, incidental, consequential or any other damages (including without limitation, loss of goodwill, loss of profits or revenues, loss of savings, loss of use, interruptions of business, and your claims or injury) whether or not such damages or injury occurred prior or subsequent to, or are alleged as a result of any Openserve radio links approved and/or not approved in terms of this letter or as result of delict, even if Openserve has been advised of the possibility of such damages or injury.</u>		
	<u>At least 14 days prior to the commencement of any work, Openserve must be contacted to have the position of our electronic communications facilities or works identified.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The requirement is noted. The requirement to notify Openserve at least 14 days prior to the commencement of relevant works is acknowledged and recorded.</u>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>
	<u>In instances where damage has been inflicted upon Openserve's electronic communications facilities or works, in the carrying out of your planned activities as contemplated in your notice referenced above, we request the responsible person to immediately upon becoming aware of such occurrence inform Openserve so that damages to our electronic communications facilities or works can be limited to a minimum.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is acknowledged. The requirement to notify Openserve immediately in the event of damage to its infrastructure, and the associated liability provisions, are noted and recorded.</u>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<u>Please note that should the requirements set out above not be adhered to and damage is inflicted upon Openserve's electronic communications facilities or works in the carrying out of your planned activities as contemplated in your notice referenced above, you may be held liable for any damages suffered by Openserve as a result.</u>		
	<u>Please contact below for kick-off meetings: Openserve electronic communications facilities or works to be verified on site at least 14 days prior to commencement of work.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>Noted.</u>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>
	<u>Annexure 1</u> <u>The points below outline an area used to see if any radio links crossed over or nearby the energy farm. No Openserve radio links will be affected by the energy farm if constructed in the boundary below.</u> <u>The points listed below are recorded in decimal degree on the WGS84 datum. If any dispute arises with respect to the position of these points, then the Chief Directorate National Geo-Spatial Information trigonometrical system will be used to verify them. The points below form an enclosed area if read in sequence, with the first and last points in the list enclosing the approved area.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is acknowledged. The coordinates and approved assessment area referenced by Openserve are noted and recorded for the purposes of the stakeholder engagement process.</u>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>



<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>																																																									
	<table><tr><th>Point</th><th>Latitude X</th><th>Longitude Y</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>26° 37' 44.224" S</td><td>28° 22' 57.294" E</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>26° 37' 17.033" S</td><td>28° 22' 42.838" E</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>26° 37' 13.725" S</td><td>28° 22' 51.187" E</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>26° 37' 17.588" S</td><td>28° 23' 14.534" E</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>26° 35' 38.555" S</td><td>28° 23' 13.563" E</td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>26° 35' 37.929" S</td><td>28° 23' 21.923" E</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>26° 37' 30.108" S</td><td>28° 23' 20.577" E</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td>26° 35' 34.005" S</td><td>28° 24' 14.316" E</td></tr><tr><td>9</td><td>26° 35' 59.110" S</td><td>28° 24' 15.569" E</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>26° 36' 36.603" S</td><td>28° 25' 18.574" E</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>26° 37' 10.063" S</td><td>28° 25' 22.311" E</td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td>26° 37' 30.485" S</td><td>28° 24' 48.989" E</td></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>26° 37' 53.750" S</td><td>28° 24' 58.591" E</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>26° 37' 51.069" S</td><td>28° 25' 10.558" E</td></tr><tr><td>15</td><td>26° 37' 48.267" S</td><td>28° 25' 58.226" E</td></tr><tr><td>16</td><td>26° 39' 16.195" S</td><td>28° 26' 17.780" E</td></tr><tr><td>17</td><td>26° 39' 15.949" S</td><td>28° 26' 37.715" E</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td>26° 38' 21.012" S</td><td>28° 26' 35.160" E</td></tr></table>	Point	Latitude X	Longitude Y	1	26° 37' 44.224" S	28° 22' 57.294" E	2	26° 37' 17.033" S	28° 22' 42.838" E	3	26° 37' 13.725" S	28° 22' 51.187" E	4	26° 37' 17.588" S	28° 23' 14.534" E	5	26° 35' 38.555" S	28° 23' 13.563" E	6	26° 35' 37.929" S	28° 23' 21.923" E	7	26° 37' 30.108" S	28° 23' 20.577" E	8	26° 35' 34.005" S	28° 24' 14.316" E	9	26° 35' 59.110" S	28° 24' 15.569" E	10	26° 36' 36.603" S	28° 25' 18.574" E	11	26° 37' 10.063" S	28° 25' 22.311" E	12	26° 37' 30.485" S	28° 24' 48.989" E	13	26° 37' 53.750" S	28° 24' 58.591" E	14	26° 37' 51.069" S	28° 25' 10.558" E	15	26° 37' 48.267" S	28° 25' 58.226" E	16	26° 39' 16.195" S	28° 26' 17.780" E	17	26° 39' 15.949" S	28° 26' 37.715" E	18	26° 38' 21.012" S	28° 26' 35.160" E		
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<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<div> <div>19</div> <div>26° 38' 17.447" S 28° 27' 18.823" E</div> </div> <div> <div>20</div> <div>26° 38' 34.612" S 28° 27' 25.476" E</div> </div> <div> <div>21</div> <div>26° 38' 47.167" S 28° 27' 11.329" E</div> </div> <div> <div>22</div> <div>26° 39' 26.343" S 28° 27' 11.875" E</div> </div> <div> <div>23</div> <div>26° 39' 32.674" S 28° 27' 42.287" E</div> </div> <div> <div>24</div> <div>26° 39' 14.498" S 28° 29' 8.089" E</div> </div> <div> <div>25</div> <div>26° 39' 24.844" S 28° 29' 24.578" E</div> </div> <div> <div>26</div> <div>26° 40' 0.813" S 28° 28' 49.637" E</div> </div> <div> <div>27</div> <div>26° 39' 40.473" S 28° 28' 11.716" E</div> </div> <div> <div>28</div> <div>26° 39' 53.203" S 28° 27' 55.377" E</div> </div> <div> <div>29</div> <div>26° 40' 30.277" S 28° 28' 11.942" E</div> </div> <div> <div>30</div> <div>26° 40' 49.838" S 28° 27' 29.039" E</div> </div> <div> <div>31</div> <div>26° 41' 20.844" S 28° 27' 31.865" E</div> </div> <div> <div>32</div> <div>26° 41' 48.863" S 28° 27' 58.340" E</div> </div> <div> <div>33</div> <div>26° 43' 27.835" S 28° 28' 25.629" E</div> </div> <div> <div>34</div> <div>26° 43' 10.000" S 28° 28' 3.991" E</div> </div> <div> <div>35</div> <div>26° 43' 5.928" S 28° 27' 28.785" E</div> </div> <div> <div>36</div> <div>26° 41' 59.395" S 28° 27' 25.085" E</div> </div> <div> <div>End of list.</div> </div>		

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
<p><u>Thato Letseka</u></p> <p><u>25 September 2026</u></p> <p><u>Letter (sent via Email)</u></p>	<p><u>Dear Sir/Madam</u></p> <p><u>WAYLEAVE APPROVAL FOR DEVELOPMENT OF CIVIL SERVICES/ ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION SERVICES / ELECTRICAL SERVICE - Unamed street Heidelberg and Balfour -OPENSERVE SERVICES ARE AFFECTED CIVIL SERVICES/ ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION SERVICES CONDITIONS</u></p> <p><u>With reference to the proposed work indicated in your drawing, I hereby inform you that the proposed services are approved in terms of section 22 of the Electronic Communications Act 36 of 2005. This approval is valid for 6 months only, after which reapplication must be made if the work has not been completed.</u></p> <p><u>As the exact positions of the cables can only be assumed, due to various reasons, the positioning of the cables as indicated on the attached plan must be regarded as only a guideline. Openserve does not guarantee that the information provided is complete in every respect, and the fact that the information was requested and provided does not limit the responsibility of anyone who is working in the vicinity of Openserve Limited's services, to ensure that no damage is caused to Openserve Limited's network.</u></p> <p><u>ELECTRICAL / POWER SERVICES CONDITIONS</u></p> <p><u>Aerial Plant</u> - At points of crossing, the overhead</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is acknowledged. The wayleave approval and associated conditions issued by Openserve, including infrastructure verification, minimum clearances, crossing requirements, notification requirements, and the protection of existing telecommunications infrastructure, are noted and recorded as part of the stakeholder engagement process</u></p>	<p><u>Appendix D - SER</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p>power lines should cross above the overhead communication lines in accordance with, and clearances stipulated in the Occupational Health and safety Act no 85 of 1993, Electrical Machinery regulations 20 - Crossings, and Electrical Machinery Regulations 15 - Clearances of Power Lines. If the specifications could not be met, all deviation costs will be for the applicant's account. We also refer to section 25 of the Electronic Communications Act 36 of 2005.</p> <p>Underground Parallelism - In cases where an underground power cable will run parallel with an existing underground communication cable, a separation as great as possible should be maintained with a minimum separation of 600mm. Should the separation be less than 600mm and the power cable are not enclosed in a suitable pipe, a concrete slab must be provided immediately above the power cable for the length of parallelism. If the separation is less than 300mm, additional protection is required by placing concrete slabs between the OPENSERVE cables/pipes and the power cables.</p> <p>Underground Crossings - At the points where this Company's existing underground communication cable will be crossed by an underground cable, the latter should be laid a depth of at least 300mm below the communication cable – normally laid at a depth of 600mm. If the power cable is not enclosed in a suitable pipe, protection in the form of a concrete slab should</p>		

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p><u>be provided immediately above the power cable for a minimum of 2 (Two) meters on either side of crossing. It would be appreciated if this office can be notified within 30 days on completion of construction work. Confirmation is required on completion of construction as per agreed requirements.</u></p> <p><u>The person or organization responsible for any cables or telecommunication equipment damages during their excavations or construction work will be held responsible for the repair costs. Prior to the commencement of any work, Openserve must be contacted to have the position of the cables identified. Kindly advise this office after the completion of the work.</u></p> <p><u>Please contact below for kick-off meetings: Openserve proprietary limited infrastructure to be verified on site prior to commencement of work.</u></p> <p><u>All Openserve LTD rights remain reserved.</u></p>		
<u>Kartal Mining Pty Ltd</u>			
<u>Huseyin Kartal</u> <u>11 September 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<u>Good day.my name is Huseyin Kartal. I am owner of KARTAL mining Pty LMT. this time I can't answer your request. reason still I am busy to finishing my project. It will takes another two months. After two months I will give you answer.</u>	<u>WSP PP OFFICE:</u> <u>Good day Huseyin,</u> <u>Thank you. We will await your comments</u>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
<u>Huseyin Kartal</u> <u>16 September 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<u>Thanks I will.</u>		
<u>Huseyin Kartal</u> <u>23 September 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<u>Hi . Still not yet finished my project , takes another two more months. When I finish all work I will tell you my comments and answer.</u> <u>Regards</u> <u>Huseyin Kartal KARTAL mining Pty Ltd</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>This comment is acknowledged. No comments have been received to date.</u>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>
<u>Vulpro</u>			
<u>Meagan Bromfield</u> <u>28 September 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<u>Dear Jashmika, Palisa and Ashlea,</u> <u>WSP</u> <u>Thank you for allowing Vulpro to comment on the ABO UVEMVANE WEF EIAR. Please find our comments attached to this email.</u> <u>Please acknowledge receipt of our comments.</u> <u>Thanks</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>Receipt of the comments was acknowledged.</u> <u>Responses are provided below.</u>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>
<u>Meagan Bromfield</u>	<u>Dear Jashmika Maharaj, Palisa Bhengu and Ashlea Strong, COMMENT: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE ABO</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is acknowledged. Annexure E of the Final Avifaunal IA requires a livestock/wildlife</u>	<u>Avifaunal Assessment Sections 4.3.5</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
<p>28 September 2026</p> <p>Letter (sent via Email)</p>	<p><u>UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT (DFFE REF NO: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803)</u></p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for the ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Development and associated infrastructure near Heidelberg and Balfour in Gauteng and Mpumalanga. Vulpro submitted comments on the Scoping Report in April 2026, and these comments build on those submissions.</p> <p><u>In response to Vulpro's Scoping comments, it was noted that all available measures to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts on vultures would be considered and recommended during the EIA phase. Having reviewed the EIA Phase documentation, Vulpro notes that, of the specific measures recommended during Scoping, only blade patterning has been substantively incorporated in relation to turbine collision risk. The remaining measures have either been omitted or incorporated as materially weaker commitments. Vulpro therefore requests that the following matters be addressed in the EIAR, Avifaunal Assessment and Environmental Management Programme Reports (EMPRs).</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Vulture Attractant Management – Water Reservoirs and Food Management Vulpro's Scoping comments requested that anthropogenic water reservoirs be covered or</u> 	<p><u>carcass-management programme to be implemented before turbine commissioning, including carcass patrols, prompt removal of carcasses and offal, and management of livestock birthing areas. It further requires all concrete water reservoirs within the WEF site, excluding troughs, to be covered and prohibits new uncovered reservoirs. These requirements have been incorporated into the Final EMPr as part of the avifaunal management measures. The adequacy of the proposed measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p><u>Observer-led SDOD has been added as a condition of authorisation for all species listed as critically endangered, endangered and vulnerable. Carcass searching, which must continue for the lifetime of the facility, as per the Post-Construction Monitoring Plan, will inform the need for, and scope of SDOD.</u></p>	<p><u>and 5.1.6, Table 22, and Annexure E: Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Section 8 – EMPR: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>

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	<p><u>relocated outside the rotor-swept area, or beneath proposed electrical grid infrastructure, and that a Vulture Food Management Programme be implemented. Neither measure has been incorporated into the EIAR or EMPs.</u></p> <p><u>These measures address potential attractants that may increase vulture activity within the turbine footprint and therefore contribute to collision risk. Managing such attractants provides an opportunity to reduce exposure to turbines proactively, rather than relying solely on measures that respond once elevated vulture activity or fatalities have been demonstrated</u></p>		
	<p><u>The Avifaunal Assessment itself acknowledges that “the artificial waterpoints in the PAOI are not considered to be irreplaceable, and any man-made open water structures could be removed or covered, which would lower the sensitivity”. This recognises that covering or relocating these water sources is a relatively straightforward intervention with the potential to reduce vulture and raptor attraction to the rotor-swept area. Vulpro therefore reiterates its request that covering or relocating all anthropogenic water sources be incorporated into Table 8-7 as a standing mitigation measure, to be implemented before commissioning, on the same basis as blade patterning and BFD installation.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is acknowledged. The final Avifaunal Assessment identifies artificial waterpoints as a potential avifaunal sensitivity feature and notes that “the artificial waterpoints in the PAOI are, however, not considered to be irreplaceable, and any man-made open water structures could be removed or covered, which would lower the sensitivity”. The final avifaunal mitigation measures further require that all concrete water reservoirs within the WEF site, excluding troughs, be covered and that no new uncovered reservoirs be created. In addition, a livestock/wildlife carcass management programme is required prior to turbine commissioning to</u></p>	<p><u>Avifauna Assessment Sections 4.3.5, 5.1.6, 6, and Table 22, Annexure E: Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Section 7.13 , 8.12: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		<p><u>minimise the attraction of vultures and other scavenging birds to the facility. These measures have been incorporated into the Final EMPr as part of the avifaunal management and mitigation framework. The adequacy of the proposed mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p><u>Observer-led Shut-Down-on-Demand (SDOD) is required for all Critically Endangered, Endangered and Vulnerable species recorded or potentially occurring on site. Post-construction monitoring and carcass searches are required for the operational life of the facility and will inform the implementation of any additional adaptive mitigation measures where warranted.</u></p>	
	<p><u>Given the current level of vulture activity in the area, Vulpro accepts that implementation of the carcass removal component may be linked to the adaptive mitigation framework, rather than requiring immediate implementation. Vulpro recommends that this framework include agreements with landowners regarding livestock birthing, to prevent livestock from giving birth beneath or in close proximity to turbines. The carcass removal programme should therefore be</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is acknowledged. The Avifauna Assessment records that artificial waterpoints are not considered irreplaceable and that “any man-made open water structures could be removed or covered, which would lower the sensitivity”. The assessment further notes that no vultures were recorded during the pre-construction monitoring programme and that vultures do not appear to</u></p>	<p><u>Avifauna Assessment Sections 4.3.5, 4.7, 5.1.6, 5.1.11, 6 and Annexure F: Appendix G.5 – DEIR</u></p>

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	<p>incorporated into Table 8-7 as an adaptive mitigation measure and into Annexure F, with clear thresholds for implementation, defined roles and responsibilities, and procedures for the prompt removal of carrion following vulture fatalities. This would ensure that the programme forms part of the auditable adaptive mitigation framework and can be implemented promptly once the relevant trigger is reached.</p>	<p>utilise the site on a regular basis. Management of avifaunal attractants, including carrion and anthropogenic water sources, has been incorporated into the adaptive management and post-construction monitoring framework to inform additional mitigation, where required. The adequacy of the proposed adaptive management measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p><u>EMPr Section 7.13: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>
	<p>2. <u>Adaptive Mitigation Measures - Inadequate Provision in the EMPr Vulpro recommends that Shutdown-on-Demand (SDOD) be included as a mitigation measure from the outset as a proactive measure to reduce collision risk, particularly given the inadequate implementation of such an adaptive mitigation measure at other WEFs after prescribed fatality thresholds have been exceeded (likely due to financial reasons). The EIAR instead provides for SDOD only as a reactive measure following post-construction fatality monitoring. Together with curtailment, it is identified as an adaptive measure for managing residual collision risk to vultures (and other birds); however, neither measure is adequately or sufficiently specifically reflected in the EMPr. There are three key concerns:</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The specialist report identifies curtailment and SDoD as adaptive mitigation measures informed by post-construction monitoring. The report requires monitoring for the operational life of the facility, with implementation of these measures where specified fatality thresholds are exceeded.</p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>The implementation of SDOD has been added as a condition of authorisation, in addition to blade patterning, and included in the Post-Construction Monitoring Plan for all critically endangered, endangered, and vulnerable species, including all vultures.</p>	<p><u>Appendix J – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Appendix G.5</u></p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First, while EMPr Part 1, Section 7.13 (Table 7-14) states that curtailment and SDOD “must be implemented” if fatality thresholds are exceeded, neither measure appears as an itemised action in Table 8-7, an EMPr table against which compliance will be assessed and audited. Table 8-7 provides specific, auditable actions for other measures, including blade patterning, BFD installation and anti-perching devices, each with a responsible person, timeframe and evidence of compliance. Curtailment and SDOD receive no equivalent treatment; instead, they are addressed only through a reference to “The Post-Construction Monitoring Plan as per Annexure E of the EIA Phase Avifaunal Impact Assessment.” 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The Avifauna Assessment identifies post-construction monitoring and adaptive management, including curtailment and Shut-Down-on-Demand (SDOD), as potential measures where monitoring indicates additional mitigation is required. The Final EMPr has been updated to cross-reference these measures to the post-construction monitoring and adaptive management framework, including the implementation triggers, responsibilities and response measures identified in the Post-Construction Monitoring Plan. The adequacy of the proposed adaptive management framework remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p><u>Avifauna Assessment Sections 5.1.6, 6: Appendix G.5 – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Section 7.13 and Table 7-14: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second, this cross-reference is incorrect. In the EIA Phase Avifaunal Impact Assessment Report, Annexure E contains the list of cumulative renewable energy projects within a 35 km radius. The Post-Construction Monitoring Plan, including the fatality thresholds and adaptive mitigation triggers, is provided in Annexure F. 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>It can be confirmed that the Post-Construction Monitoring Plan, including fatality thresholds and adaptive mitigation triggers, is contained in Annexure F and the report has been updated accordingly.</p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p>	<p><u>Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		Annexure F has been updated to a Post-construction Monitoring and Management Plan which include a carcass management plan, a SDOD Plan, and a powerline monitoring and management plan.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third, even when the correct Annexure F is considered, the adaptive mitigation framework leaves an important element of implementation undefined. While the fatality threshold for vultures, including both Critically Endangered and Vulnerable species, is correctly set at zero, no criteria are provided to determine when curtailment should be implemented versus SDOD. Nor is any approval or decision making process specified to ensure that the appropriate measure is implemented promptly once the relevant trigger is reached. 	<p>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</p> <p>Annexure F has been updated to a Post-construction Monitoring and Management Plan which include a carcass management plan, a SDOD Plan, and a powerline monitoring and management plan.</p>	<u>Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u>
	Vulpro requests that the adaptive mitigation measures for avifauna, including the fatality thresholds, the criteria distinguishing curtailment from SDOD, and defined interim measures pending full implementation, be incorporated as itemised, auditable actions in Table 8-7 itself, correctly cross-referenced, rather than left to incorporation by reference to a misidentified annexure.	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The final Avifaunal identifies curtailment and observer-led SDOD as adaptive mitigation measures that may be required where post-construction monitoring indicates additional intervention is warranted. The final Avifaunal Assessment includes species-specific fatality thresholds, adaptive mitigation triggers and</p>	<u>Avifauna Assessment Sections 5.1.6, 6 and Annexure F: Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u>

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		<p><u>associated response measures within the Avifaunal Post-Construction Monitoring and Management Plan. The Final EMPr has been updated to cross-reference the adaptive management framework and associated avifaunal mitigation measures. The adequacy of the proposed adaptive management framework remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p> <p>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</p> <p><u>Observer-led SDOD is required for all Critically Endangered, Endangered and Vulnerable species recorded or potentially occurring on site. Post-construction monitoring and carcass searches will inform the need for, and scope of, any additional adaptive mitigation measures.</u></p>	<p><u>EMPr Section 7.13, Table 7-14 and Table 8-7: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>
	<p>3. <u>Electrical Infrastructure Mitigation Maintenance Schedule Outstanding Vulpro welcomes that the power-line and electrical-infrastructure mitigation measures requested in its Scoping comments (items 5 and 6) have, in substance, been incorporated into the EIAR and EMPr. However, Vulpro's request that power-line mitigation installations include a comprehensive maintenance schedule, given their susceptibility to weathering, corrosion and technical failure, has not been carried through with the same level of specificity.</u></p>	<p>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</p> <p><u>Annexure F has been updated to a Post-construction Monitoring and Management Plan which include a carcass management plan, a SDOD Plan, and a powerline monitoring and management plan.</u></p>	<p><u>Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p>Table 8-7 states only that BFDs “are to be installed and maintained”, without specifying an inspection frequency, responsible person, maintenance requirements, or evidence of compliance. This does not establish an auditable maintenance requirement or demonstrate how continued functionality will be ensured over the operational life of the infrastructure. Vulpro requests that Table 8-7 include a defined inspection and maintenance schedule for all power-line mitigation infrastructure, specifying the inspection frequency, responsible person, required maintenance actions and evidence of compliance, consistent with other auditable EMPr commitments.</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The final Avifaunal recommends that bird flight diverters (BFDs) be installed and maintained on all overhead powerlines as a mitigation measure and identifies post-construction monitoring as the mechanism for assessing avifaunal impacts and the effectiveness of mitigation measures. The Final EMPr has been updated to include provisions relating to the inspection, maintenance and monitoring of avifaunal mitigation infrastructure, including BFDs. The adequacy of the proposed monitoring and maintenance measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>Bird flight diverters must be installed on all overhead powerlines and maintained for the operational life of the facility. Post-construction monitoring will assess collision risk and the effectiveness of mitigation measures and will inform any additional adaptive management measures that may be required.</p>	<p><u>Avifauna Assessment Sections 5.1.8, 6, Table 22 and Annexure F: Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Section 7.13, Table 7-14 and Table 8-7: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>
	<p>4. <u>Electrical Infrastructure EMPr Completion</u> Vulpro understands that the EA for the grid</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p>	<p><u>Avifauna Assessment</u></p>

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	<p>infrastructure will be applied for under a separate process. However, an EMPr for the substation has been prepared using Eskom's generic template. In the submitted EMPr, Part B, Section 1 appears incomplete and does not adequately demonstrate how the generic management actions will be implemented, monitored and verified for the proposed infrastructure. Vulpro requests that Part B, Section 1 be completed to clearly set out the project-specific implementation and monitoring requirements for the applicable management actions.</p>	<p>The comment is acknowledged. The proposed on-site substation and associated electrical infrastructure form part of the infrastructure assessed as part of this application. The final Avifaunal includes project-specific avifaunal mitigation, monitoring and adaptive management measures applicable to the assessed electrical infrastructure, including bird flight diverters, infrastructure design measures and post-construction monitoring requirements. These specialist recommendations have been incorporated into the Final EMPr. The adequacy of the EMPr, including the level of detail provided for implementation, monitoring and verification, remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p> <p>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</p> <p>Avifaunal mitigation measures for the assessed electrical infrastructure include the installation and maintenance of bird flight diverters on overhead powerlines, implementation of bird-friendly infrastructure design measures, and post-construction monitoring to assess the effectiveness of mitigation measures and inform adaptive management where required.</p>	<p><u>Section 6 and Table 22: Appendix G.5 – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Section 1 and Section 7.13: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p>5. <u>Vulture Incident Notification Vulpro must be notified immediately of any vulture collision or electrocution incidents where rehabilitation or veterinary intervention may be required. This requirement must be incorporated into the relevant incident-reporting procedures. The EIAR and EMPr currently commit only to annual reporting to Vulpro if a vulture is impacted, which is insufficient to facilitate timely intervention where an injured bird requires assistance.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is acknowledged. The final Avifaunal includes post-construction monitoring, incident reporting and adaptive management requirements for avifaunal fatalities, including Species of Conservation Concern. The Avifaunal Post-Construction Monitoring and Management Plan further provides for notification procedures where vulture collisions or electrocutions are recorded, and rehabilitation or veterinary intervention may be required. These requirements have been incorporated into the Final EMPr as part of the avifaunal monitoring and management framework. The adequacy of the proposed incident-reporting and adaptive management measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p><u>Notification procedures for vulture collision or electrocution incidents have been included in the Avifaunal Post-Construction Monitoring and Management Plan. Post-construction carcass monitoring, fatality reporting and adaptive management will be implemented for the operational life of the facility, with the outcomes informing any additional mitigation measures that may be required.</u></p>	<p><u>Avifauna Assessment Section 6, Table 22 and Annexure E: Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Section 7.13, 8 - DEIR</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p>The Scoping-phase commitment to substantively consider identified concerns during the EIA phase should result in those concerns being meaningfully considered and addressed in the EIA documentation. An undertaking to engage at a later stage is not, in itself, meaningful engagement. Vulpro submits that the EIAR should not be regarded as adequate for decision making purposes until the omitted or diluted comments identified above have been substantively addressed. This includes the need for proactive, rather than solely reactive mitigation measures. Where these measures are not adopted as requested, the EIAR should provide a reasoned response explaining why they are not considered necessary or appropriate.</p> <p>Thank you for considering these comments</p> <p>Yours sincerely Meagan Bromfield</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. Comments received during the Scoping and EIA phases have been recorded and responded to through the stakeholder engagement process. The Avifauna Assessment documents the specialist's assessment findings, assumptions, mitigation measures and adaptive management recommendations, including proactive measures such as layout optimisation, avoidance of identified constraints, blade patterning, bird flight diverters and post-construction monitoring. Where specialist recommendations have been adopted, these have been incorporated into the DEIR and EMP. The adequacy of the information submitted, including the proposed mitigation and adaptive management measures, remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p>Avifauna Assessment Sections 4.8, 5.1.6, 5.1.8, 5.1.10, 5.1.11, 6, Table 22 and Annexure F: Appendix G.5 – DEIR</p> <p>DEIR Sections 10 and 12</p> <p>EMPr Section 7.13, Table 7-14 and Table 8-7: Appendix J - DEIR</p>
<u>Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)</u>			
<p><u>Samista Rooplal</u></p> <p><u>28 September 2026</u></p> <p><u>Email</u></p>	<p><u>Good day WSP Team,</u></p> <p><u>Attached, please find the Endangered Wildlife Trust's comments to the Draft EIA report for the ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility (WEF) 1.</u></p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Receipt of the Endangered Wildlife Trust submission is acknowledged. The comments are recorded and addressed below.</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
<p><u>Kishaylin Chetty</u> <u>28 September 2026</u> <u>Letter (sent via Email)</u></p>	<p><u>Re: Response to the proposed ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility (WEF) 1 (up to 170MWac), located in the Mpumalanga and Gauteng Province (Project No: 41106304)</u></p> <p><u>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 implementing research and conservation action towards mitigating 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. The EWT is driven by a team of passionate and dedicated conservationists working through 13 specialised programmes across southern and East Africa, each falling under one of our three key strategic pillars: Saving species, conserving habitats, and benefitting people.</u></p> <p><u>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 solar</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The EWT's stated position is acknowledged. Potential disturbance, habitat loss, turbine and powerline collision, electrocution and cumulative impacts are assessed in the relevant specialist studies, with corresponding measures included in the EMPr. The adequacy of the assessments remains for determination by the competent authority.</u></p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 9, 10 and 12</u></p> <p><u>Avifaunal Assessment Sections 5 and 6: Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment Sections 13 and 18: Appendix G.2 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Sections 7.10-7.13 and 8.11-8.12: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>

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	<p>energy but only where all possible options for avoiding, reducing, minimising, and offsetting of impacts (in that order) have been considered and implemented. Please refer to the links embedded in this paragraph for further insight into the EWT's perspectives, concerns, and considerations linked to renewable energy in general, and wind energy in particular.</p> <p>The demand for energy is increasing globally, and 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.</p>		
	<p>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</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The recommendation is noted. The assessments apply the mitigation hierarchy through layout refinement, avoidance of mapped constraints, footprint minimisation, rehabilitation, monitoring and adaptive management. The adequacy of these</p>	<p>DEIR Sections 5 and 10-12 Figures 5-1 to 5-4 and 11-1</p> <p>Avifaunal Assessment</p>

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	impact of wind energy on wildlife, for details of these four priority measures click here.	measures remains for determination by the competent authority.	<p><u>Sections 3.6, 4.7, 5 and 6 Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment Sections 13.2 and 15: Appendix G.2 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Sections 5.8, 7.10-7.13 and 8.7-8.12: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>

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	<p>In evaluating the Draft EIA reports, specifically the <u>Avifaunal Impact Assessment (Appendix G.5, Holland & Associates, August 2026)</u>, we wish to highlight the following:</p> <p>A. <u>Scoping issues still not resolved</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Outdated planning data.</u> The desktop study still uses <u>Gauteng Conservation Plan (GCP) V3.3 (2012)</u> and <u>Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan (MBSP) (2014) (p. 20)</u>. <u>GCP4 (2024)</u> and the <u>gazetted MBSP (2023)</u> must replace them, and <u>Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) constraints</u> must be re-mapped. 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. The final avifaunal report records that the constraints assessment used the <u>Gauteng C-Plan 2024</u> and <u>gazetted Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan 2023</u>, and the current CBA context is mapped in the terrestrial assessment and DEIR.</p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>This was an editorial oversight in Section 3.2 (Desktop Study) and has been corrected. The avifaunal assessment and constraints mapping were undertaken using <u>GCP4 (2024)</u> and the <u>gazetted MBSP (2023)</u>. Figure 2 (Avifaunal Constraints Map) reflects the current Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) mapping from these datasets, and no assessment findings are affected by the correction.</p>	<p><u>Avifaunal Assessment Section 3.2 and Figure 2: Appendix G.5 – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment Section 6.2 and Figures 5-6: Appendix G.2 - DEIR</u></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Developer interference.</u> ABO asked for <u>VP1</u> and <u>VP2</u> to be removed after Survey 2. They were only reinstated from Survey 4, so the autumn (April 2024) data for both points is missing. The report discloses this but does not assess what it does to the flight data or the Collision Risk Model (CRM). 	<p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p><u>VP1</u> and <u>VP2</u> were added back into the survey area from the fourth survey onward, and these were surveyed longer in subsequent surveys to achieve a minimum of 72 hours per VP per annum in line with <u>Verreaux's Eagle (Ralston-Paton & Murgatroyd, 2021)</u> and <u>Black Harrier Guidelines (Simmons et</u></p>	<p><u>Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u></p>

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		al., 2020). All flights and the survey effort were included in the CRM model and analysis. No turbines are proposed in the area of VP2. Five surveys of VP1 were conducted covering all 4 seasons.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring is still one year. VE Guidelines (pp. 13, 20) require two years where turbines sit in topographic risk areas. The report says one turbine's rotor-swept area protrudes into a scarp/ridge buffer and calls this "acceptable" (pp. 36, 43). That is a direct trigger for two years. 	<p>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</p> <p><u>"If risk-averse planning is adopted (i.e. no turbines are proposed in high and medium risk areas as identified by VERA, or within 5.2km of nests and other landscape features associated with an increased collision risk), then the duration of monitoring can be reduced to one year. However, if it is suspected that a proposed wind farm poses a significant risk to Verreaux's Eagles (i.e. turbines are proposed in medium or high-risk areas as identified by VERA, or within 5.2 km of nests and other landscape features associated with an increased collision risk), pre-construction monitoring must be conducted over two years (section 6.2)."</u></p> <p><u>One year of increased effort monitoring was conducted in line with all applicable best practice guidelines and an additional winter site survey and nest search has been conducted during the EIA Phase. As per the Verreaux's Eagle Guidelines, a 2nd year of monitoring is only required if turbines are proposed in areas within 5,2 km of Verreaux's Eagle nests or in areas identified as medium</u></p>	<u>Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u>

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		<p>sensitivity by VERA, which is not the case for the proposed layout. As per the Black Harrier Guidelines data collection should be extended to 2 years if turbines will be located 5 km of likely breeding habitats or roosts, at foraging sites or in likely flight paths, which is not the case for the proposed layout. According to the Cape Vulture Guidelines monitoring should be extended in areas of high and very high sensitivity, which is not the case for the proposed development.</p> <p>While it is acknowledged that additional data is always beneficial, a second year of monitoring is unlikely to result in any valuable results in this instance, which would change the precautionary buffers or mitigation measures recommended.</p> <p>SDOD has been added as a proactive mitigation measure in the updated Avifaunal Post-construction Monitoring and Management Plan.</p>	
	<p>B. . Verreaux's Eagle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>The nest has now been found, which confirms the Scoping comment.</u> The June 2026 survey found an active nest on a telecommunication tower about 12.5 km NW of the site (NE1, p. 32). Please confirm this is the Heidelberg tower nest you monitor. The distance is given inconsistently: "12 km" (p. 17), "~13 km" (p. 21) and "12.5 km" (p. 32). 	<p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>The located nest is the Heidelberg tower nest located at -26.488741°; 28.346876°, 12.68 km from the nearest proposed turbine location (WT01).</p>	<u>Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u>

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	The spelling "Helderberg Kloof Estate" also needs checking.		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>A second nest's status is undetermined.</u> NE2 (Alpha Base) was "undetermined", and no distance is given. VE Guidelines (p. 20) say nests of unknown or inactive status must be mapped and mitigated as active. 	<p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>Hawkwatch International provided the location of the second nest approximately 17 km west of the site". The location was inaccessible during the nest survey and therefore assumed to be an active nest.</p> <p>"Drawing on the work of Murgatroyd et al. (2021) a precautionary buffer of 5.2 km is recommended. This buffer likely to include approximately 79% of the space used by breeding eagles. Although it is noted that a 5.2km buffer only captured 50% of the adult collisions, the origin of the killed eagles is not known, and it is possible that they were not all resident eagles. Nevertheless, in the absence of further evidence (i.e. two years of surveys and 72 hours per vantage point monitoring per year or VERA analysis), no turbines should be placed within 5.2 km of a nest or potential breeding habitat that has not been adequately surveyed to verify the absence of nests."</p>	<u>Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>VERA was not run.</u> VE Guidelines (p. 19) record medium-risk predictions up to 11.3 km from nests. NE1 at 12.5 km is at the margin, and NE2 is unresolved. 	<p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>Hawkwatch International was contacted to determine if VERA can be run for the proposed development, and it was confirmed that VERA will</p>	<u>Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u>

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		<p>not predict collision risk for the proposed turbine areas due to the distance from the closest nest being more than 12 km (M Murgratroyd, pers. comm).</p> <p>“The mean distance for furthest medium risk was 6.7km (range between individuals 5.1 - 9.8 km) (Murgatroyd, unpublished data). In addition to this, the VERA outputs run for 10 proposed wind farms have been used to check the maximum risk distances from the nest locations. For this random sample, the maximum distance from a nest where high risk predictions were made was 9.8 km (mean 8.4 km, range: 6.9 – 9.8 km), and the maximum distance from a nest which medium risk predictions were made was 11.3 km (mean 10 km, range: 7.1 – 11.3 km). Thus, it can therefore be assumed that most breeding pairs directly at risk from the proposed development (impact receptors) will be located within this area.”</p> <p>As no Verreaux’s Eagle nests were located within 12 km of the site, the Verreaux’s Eagle Risk Assessment (VERA) model, which relies on nest locations to estimate collision risks and is recommended to be run by the Verreaux’s Eagle Guidelines, could not be run for this project. In the absence of VERA the Verreaux’s Eagle Guidelines recommend a 5.2 km no-turbine buffer surrounding all known nest locations. The closest known nest is</p>	

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		located > 12 km from the proposed development site boundary.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The source pair is unidentified. There were 28 VE flights, 24 at risk height, mostly at VP7. The pair regularly using the site has not been linked to a nest. VE Guidelines (p. 20) require surveys to cover the likely territory of pairs regularly seen on site. 	<p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p><u>“Access to some areas may be restricted due to difficult terrain or landowner permission. If it is not possible to thoroughly survey all suitable breeding habitat (e.g. as indicated in the National Environmental Web Based Screening Tool or habitat suitability models and supported by the professional opinion of the avifaunal specialist) within 7 km of the nearest proposed turbine, BirdLife South Africa recommends that all potential nesting areas must be assumed to be occupied, indicated on a map and buffered accordingly. Nests are more likely to be overlooked if the duration of surveys is limited to one year. In these cases, avoiding suitable breeding habitat as a precautionary measure may help avoid any unexpected challenges (i.e. newly discovered nest sites) later in the process. Although landowners can be a valuable source of local knowledge, their opinion alone is not sufficient to confirm the absence of breeding pairs.”</u></p> <p><u>The Project Area of Influence (PAOI) for avian species was determined as an area of 7 km surrounding the proposed AOI, in line with the SANBI Species Assessment Guideline (SANBI,</u></p>	<u>Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u>

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		<p>2020) and Verreaux's Eagle Guidelines (Ralston-Paton & Murgatroyd, 2021). An additional survey was conducted from 08 – 12 June 2026 that included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A search for Secretarybird and Priority Species nests and roosts within the site, including cliffs, ridges, trees, pylons, and other man-made structures. • Search for Secretarybird and Priority Species nests within a 7 km Project Area of Influence (PAOI), as far as accessible. • Visit to Aasvoelberg ~ 5 km from the site (historic vulture roost). • Visit to the known Verreaux's Eagle nests north of the city of Heidelberg (~12.68 km from the site). • Attempt to visit a known Verreaux's Eagle nest location approximately 17 km west of the site (inaccessible). • Check all major wetlands within 20 km of the site for flamingos and other Priority Species. • Check all minor wetlands within the site and a 7 km PAOI for flamingos and SCC. • Visit any other known nest locations. 	
	C. <u>Collision risk modelling and impact ratings</u>	<u>EAP:</u>	<u>Avifaunal Assessment Sections 5.1.5–</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Mitigation is applied before it is proven.</u> A 72% blade-patterning reduction is built into the predicted fatalities (p. 38). The report itself says <u>site efficacy is only verifiable after construction.</u> 	<p>The comment is acknowledged. The UVM Final Avifaunal IA presents collision-risk estimates using the mitigation assumptions adopted by the specialist, including the anticipated effectiveness of blade patterning. The assessment also recognises that the site-specific effectiveness of mitigation measures can only be verified through post-construction monitoring. Accordingly, the Final Avifaunal Assessment includes post-construction monitoring, fatality searches and adaptive management measures to evaluate actual impacts and the effectiveness of mitigation measures once the facility is operational. The adequacy of the assessment methodology, assumptions and proposed mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p> <p>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</p> <p>The predicted collision rates presented in the assessment incorporate the mitigation assumptions applied by the specialist. Post-construction monitoring and adaptive management are required to verify actual fatality rates and the effectiveness of mitigation measures, including blade patterning, under operational conditions.</p>	<p><u>5.1.6, Section 6, Table 22, and Annexure E: Appendix G.5 – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Section 7.13 and Table 7-14: Appendix J -DEIR</u></p>

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		<p>Predictive impact assessment requires the modelling of anticipated impacts both with and without mitigation measures in order to determine residual impact significance. The blade-patterning reduction factor applied in the Collision Risk Model represents a projected mitigation outcome based on the best available evidence and specialist judgement and does not imply that effectiveness has already been demonstrated at the site. The report explicitly acknowledges that site-specific efficacy can only be confirmed through operational monitoring. Accordingly, post-construction monitoring and adaptive management measures have been included to validate predictions and inform any additional mitigation requirements.</p> <p>SDOD has been added as a proactive mitigation measure.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The acceptability test contradicts the monitoring plan. The CRM concludes impacts are acceptable because 0.64 VE fatalities over 20 years is below $0.1 \times \text{PBR}$ (p. 38). But Annexure F sets a zero fatality threshold for VU/EN/CR species because it assumes their PBR is already exceeded. By the report's own logic, the predicted VE fatalities are not acceptable. 	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The Final Avifaunal Assessment collision risk using the specialist's collision risk modelling methodology and associated acceptability criteria. The assessment also recognises that uncertainty remains regarding actual operational fatality rates and therefore includes a post-construction monitoring and adaptive management framework with defined</p>	<p>Avifaunal Assessment Sections 5.1.5, 5.1.6, 6, Table 22, and Annexure E: Appendix G.5 - DEIR</p>

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		<p>fatality thresholds and response measures. The purpose of the monitoring framework is to verify actual impacts during operation and to inform the implementation of additional mitigation measures, where required. The adequacy of the assessment methodology, impact ratings and proposed adaptive management measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>The Avifaunal Post-Construction Monitoring and Management Plan includes species-specific fatality thresholds and requires that, where a fatality threshold is exceeded, adaptive mitigation measures such as curtailment or technology-based or observer-led SDOD be implemented and fully operational within three months of the recorded fatality. Post-construction monitoring is intended to verify actual impacts and inform adaptive management throughout the operational life of the facility.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Site Ecological Importance may be underrated.</u> Ridges and grassland are rated Medium conservation importance (p. 32). The report's own Table 4 gives High where CR/EN/VU species are confirmed, and VE (VU) and Secretarybird (EN) 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The concern is noted. The final Avifaunal Assessment applies the prescribed Site Ecological Importance methodology to habitat receptors and separately addresses confirmed Species of</p>	<u>Avifaunal Assessment Sections 3.5-3.7, 4.4-4.7 and Table 11:</u>

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	are confirmed. Tsakane Clay Grassland is also an <u>Endangered ecosystem</u> .	<u>Conservation Concern through the sensitivity verification, constraints mapping and impact assessment. The Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment separately assesses Tsakane Clay Grassland and habitat condition. The adequacy of the ratings remains for determination by the competent authority.</u>	<u>Appendix G.5 – DEIR</u> <u>Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment Sections 5.3.2, 6.1 and 12; Figure 32 – Appendix G.2 - DEIR</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Pylons are treated inconsistently.</u> Pylons are said to support Martial Eagle (EN) and VE (VU) (p. 31), yet "man-made structures" are rated Low. 	<u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u> Section 4.3.6 identifies alien trees and pylons as important nesting and roosting features for several raptor species, including Martial Eagle and Verreaux's Eagle. These features were considered in the avifaunal sensitivity assessment and species-specific impact assessment undertaken for the project.	<u>Avifaunal Assessment Sections 3.5–3.7, 4.3.6, 4.4–4.7 and Table 11: Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u>
	<u>D. Power lines: what they did and the gaps</u> <u>The 33 kV north–south line is not assessed.</u> This ~8 km line is described as "overhead/underground" with two route alternatives (p. 8), but neither route is assessed or ranked. The DEIAr must state whether it will be buried, as VE Guidelines (p. 4) require "as far	<u>EAP:</u> The comment is acknowledged. The final Avifaunal includes an assessment of mortality from collisions with overhead powerlines and identifies mitigation measures for the proposed internal electrical infrastructure. Where overhead infrastructure is required, routing should minimise impacts on	<u>Avifaunal Assessment Section 5.1.8, Table 19, Section 6 and Table 22: Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u>

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	<p><u>as possible". If not, it must say which route is preferred.</u></p>	<p><u>identified avifaunal sensitivities and make use of existing disturbed corridors where practicable. The adequacy of the assessment and proposed mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p> <p>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</p> <p><u>Potential mortality from collisions with overhead powerlines was assessed in the avifaunal impact assessment. Where an overhead line is required, the preferred approach is to utilise existing disturbed corridors and implement the recommended avifaunal mitigation measures, including bird flight diverters and bird-friendly infrastructure design measures.</u></p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The grid connection is excluded. The up to 132 kV connection is covered by a separate application (p. 8). Collision and electrocution risk from the largest overhead component is therefore not assessed. The ≤10% cumulative power line claim (p. 47) is given without supporting figures. 	<p>EAP:</p> <p><u>The comment is acknowledged. The up to 132 kV grid connection does not form part of the current application and will be assessed through a separate environmental assessment process. The UVM Final Avifaunal IA nevertheless considered the potential contribution of the future grid connection infrastructure as part of the cumulative impact assessment and notes that the contribution of the proposed overhead powerlines to cumulative powerline impacts would be relatively low within the defined cumulative assessment area. The</u></p>	<p>Section 10 - DEIR</p> <p>Avifaunal Assessment Sections 1.2, 5.1.8, 5.1.11, Table 19, Table 21, and Section 6: Appendix G.5 - DEIR</p>

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		<p><u>adequacy of the cumulative assessment and the assessment of the separate grid connection remain matters for determination by the competent authority.</u></p> <p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p><u>The external 132 kV grid connection is subject to a separate environmental assessment process and was therefore not assessed as part of the project-specific avifaunal impact assessment for the current application. However, it was considered as part of the cumulative avifaunal assessment, consistent with best-practice cumulative impact assessment principles. The internal electrical infrastructure assessed as part of this application includes avifaunal mitigation measures and monitoring requirements.</u></p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>The electrocution rating is inconsistent.</u> It falls from High to Very Low, with "Reversible" and "Improbable" post-mitigation (Table 20, p. 46). Mortality is irreversible, and the collision table reflects that. VE Guidelines (p. 8) record 10 VE electrocutions at two WEFs on poorly designed lines. 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. The Final Avifaunal Assessment assesses electrocution risk before and after bird-friendly design, insulation and conductor-clearance measures. The EWT's concern regarding the post-mitigation descriptors is recorded for consideration by the competent authority.</u></p>	<p><u>Avifaunal Assessment Sections 5.1.9-5.1.10 and Table 20: Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Section 7.13, Table 7-</u></p>

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			<u>14, and Section 8.12, Table 8-7: Appendix J - DEIR</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Perching measures conflict.</u> The EMPr requires both anti-perching devices and installed bird perches on monopoles (pp. 45–46, Table 22) but does not specify where each applies. 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. The EMPr includes anti-perching measures and purpose-designed bird perches as electrical-infrastructure measures. Their site-specific application is to be informed by the appointed avifaunal specialist and final electrical design. The adequacy of these provisions remains for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p><u>Avifaunal Assessment Sections 5.1.8-5.1.10 and Table 22: Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Section 7.13, Table 7-14, and Section 8.12, Table 8-7: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>The Eskom standard is not named.</u> Clearances and bird flight diverter spacing refer to "Eskom Technical Standards" without a document number or revision, so compliance cannot be audited. 	<p><u>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>Overhead powerlines should be placed parallel to existing infrastructure as far as practically possible, with wires as low and thick as the current Eskom Technical Standard allows (Silva, et al., 2022).</p>	<u>Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u>
	<u>E. Operational monitoring and cumulative impacts</u>	<u>EAP:</u>	<u>Avifaunal Assessment Sections 3.4,</u>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VE nest monitoring is missing. Nest monitoring is committed for Secretarybird only. There is no annual occupancy monitoring of NE1/NE2 as VE Guidelines (p. 4) require. 	<p>The comment is acknowledged. The Final Avifaunal Assessment records the known Verreaux's Eagle nests (NE1 and NE2) and assesses potential impacts on Verreaux's Eagle as part of the species-specific sensitivity and impact assessment. The Avifaunal Post-Construction Monitoring and Management Plan includes post-construction monitoring and adaptive management measures for Species of Conservation Concern. The adequacy of the proposed monitoring framework and associated mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p> <p>AVIFAUNA SPECIALIST:</p> <p>Verreaux's Eagle was assessed as a focal Species of Conservation Concern, including consideration of known nest locations within the broader study area. Post-construction monitoring and adaptive management measures are included to evaluate actual operational impacts and inform any additional mitigation measures that may be required.</p>	4.5–4.7, 5.1.6, Section 6, Table 22: Appendix G.5 - DEIR
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fatality reporting is incomplete. VE fatalities go to the specialist within 24 hours, but the guidelines do not require immediate reporting to BirdLife SA 	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. The avifaunal monitoring framework provides for fatality recording, specialist</p>	Final Avifaunal Assessment Section 6, Annexure E:

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	<u>and the conservation authority (VE Guidelines, p. 4).</u>	<u>notification and adaptive management. The request for immediate notification to BirdLife South Africa and the relevant conservation authority is recorded for consideration in determining final reporting requirements.</u>	<u>Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u> <u>EMPr Sections 5.4-5.5, 7.13 and 8.12:</u> <u>Appendix J - DEIR</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Other Uvemvane phases are left out.</u> <u>The cumulative assessment covers only approved solar. Future Uvemvane phases are omitted, even though Annexure B says each will need its own EA.</u> 	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is noted. The current application relates to ABO Uvemvane WEF 1. The cumulative impact assessment considered existing, approved and reasonably foreseeable developments within the applicable assessment area based on the information available at the time of assessment. The external grid connection is subject to a separate environmental assessment process. The adequacy of the cumulative impact assessment remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u>	<u>DEIR Sections 3, 5 and 10.</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Report errors to correct.</u> <u>"May et al. 2020" is cited but missing from the reference list. Annexure B lists 27 turbines, while the main report lists 20.</u> 	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is noted. The identified discrepancies have been recorded. Where typographical, referencing or administrative inconsistencies were identified during the review process, these have been corrected, where applicable, in the final</u>	=

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		submission documentation. The adequacy and completeness of the information submitted remain matters for determination by the competent authority.	
	<p>The EWT appreciates the opportunity provided by the developer to comment and we look forward to the opportunity to participate in the process of informing the responsible placement of turbines. We would value the opportunity to provide our detailed landscape planning data and to assist through negotiation to inform decision making, but we cannot support high-risk options. We further request that the relevant competent authority and Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE) take these concerns into consideration, including the associated powerlines and other infrastructure that will be required because of the proposed wind energy development.</p> <p>The EWT reserves the right to revise initial comments presented here if additional information becomes available.</p> <p>Regards, Kishayling Chetty</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The EWT's comments, recommendations and stated position regarding the proposed development are noted and form part of the public participation record for consideration by the competent authority. Any additional information submitted during the regulatory process will be considered in accordance with the applicable EIA process and legislative requirements. The adequacy of the information submitted, and the acceptability of the proposed development remain matters for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p>DEIR Section 2.3</p> <p>Appendix D - SER</p>
Department of Land Reform and Rural Development (DLRRD)			
<u>Fundiswa Zanele Ndaba</u>	<u>Good day</u>	APPLICANT RESPONSE: <u>The comment is noted. The correspondence</u>	Appendix D - SER

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
25 August 2026 Email	<p>Please note that the properties in question are not captured according to deeds information, there are no registration divisions on the properties and the municipalities they are based at. I will not be able to assist you with such limited information. Kindly provide the registration divisions (example: IR, IQ, JR) and the municipalities for each one of them.</p> <p>Good day</p> <p>Kindly note that we are still waiting for deeds office searches or registration divisions and municipality of the properties you were enquiring about so that we could be able to assist you.</p>	appears to reflect a request for additional property information to enable the Land Claims Commission to conduct a land claim search and does not raise any concerns regarding the proposed development or the findings of the DEIR. Accordingly, no changes to the impact assessment, specialist studies or proposed mitigation measures are required.	<p>Appendix D-SER</p> <p>Appendix D-SER</p>
Fundiswa Zanele Ndaba 27 August 2026 Email	<p>Good morning,</p> <p>Kindly note that this is a last reminder from our office regarding the deeds searches that we require from you so that we can proceed with your request. We are unable to assist you if you don't provide us with the required information, because it is difficult to search for it from our database without it. Kindly note that the turnaround time of 14 working days will start counting from the day we receive the required information from you.</p>		Appendix D-SER
South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL)			

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<p><u>Lerato Mothapo</u></p> <p><u>25 September 2026</u></p> <p><u>Email</u></p>	<p><u>Dear Applicant,</u></p> <p><u>Please note that emails sent to nrstatutory@nra.co.za and nrstat@nra.co.za address will no longer be attended to after 31 August 2026. Your email has been forwarded accordingly.</u></p> <p><u>All applications and queries must be directed to the following email addresses:</u></p> <p><u>Gauteng Province Applications:</u> GPStatutory@sanral.co.za</p> <p><u>Mpumalanga Province Applications:</u> MPStatutory@sanral.co.za</p> <p><u>Limpopo Province Applications:</u> LPStatutory@sanral.co.za</p> <p><u>North West Province Applications:</u> NWPStatutory@sanral.co.za</p> <p><u>These are the new official email addresses to send queries and applications requiring SANRAL comments and/or approval.</u></p> <p><u>Any applications sent directly to a SANRAL official may not be attended as all requests for comments, queries and/or approvals need to be registered to be processed timeously.</u></p> <p><u>It is therefore advisable to comply with the above to avoid undue delays.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>Thank you for the notification. The updated SANRAL contact details and submission requirements are noted.</u></p> <p><u>Any future correspondence or applications requiring SANRAL review will be directed to the appropriate provincial email address as advised.</u></p>	<p><u>Appendix D-SER</u></p>

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	<p><u>We appreciate your cooperation as we endeavor to serve the public more efficiently.</u></p> <p><u>Best regards,</u></p> <p><u>Lerato Mothapo</u></p>		
<u>South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS)</u>			
<p><u>John Pakwe</u></p> <p><u>28 September 2026</u></p> <p><u>Email</u></p>	<p><u>Good day,</u></p> <p><u>Please note that all development applications are processed via our online portal, the South African Heritage Resources Information System (SAHRIS) found at the following link:</u> https://www.sahra.org.za/sahris/ .We do not accept emailed, posted, hardcopy, faxed, website links or DropBox links as official submissions.</p> <p><u>Please create an application on SAHRIS for each EA application and upload all documents pertaining to the Environmental Authorisation Application Process. As per section 24(4)b(iii) of NEMA and section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999 (NHRA), an assessment of heritage resources must form part of the process and the assessment must comply with section 38(3) of the NHRA. If a case already exists on SAHRIS regarding the development, please upload the documents to that case using the "Make an additional submission to an existing case" in</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>An interim comment was received from SAHRA on 20 April 2026 requesting the submission of the supporting archaeological and palaeontological appendices, project footprint data and the Environmental Impact Assessment documentation prior to further consideration. The requested information was subsequently provided and uploaded to the SAHRIS platform during the commenting period for the DEIR. At the date of compilation of the DEIR, no further comment had been received from SAHRA. Evidence of submission and relevant SAHRIS correspondence are included in Appendix B.5 of the final SER. Once received, the final comment from SAHRA will be submitted to the competent authority for consideration as part of the decision-making process.</u></p>	<p><u>Appendix B.5 of the final SER</u></p> <p><u>Appendix D - SER</u></p>

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	<p><u>the application selector wizard</u> https://sahris.org.za/form/application-selector. Please ensure that all documents produced as part of the EA process are submitted as part of the application.</p> <p><u>**PLEASE NOTE**</u> An application fee is now required for all section 38 applications. Please ensure that the SAHRIS application contains a proof of payment as per the notice at the following link: https://www.sahris.org.za/node/383817. Please make separate payments with the specific reference numbers. Applications that do not include a proof of payment will be considered incomplete and will not be processed until proof of payment is provided. Please make use of the auto generated payment reference that can be found within the application form. Please upload the PoP using the "Make an additional submission to an existing case" in the application selector wizard https://sahris.org.za/form/application-selector. The case officer assigned to your case will approve the submission and begin to process the case.</p> <p><u>Kind regards,</u> <u>John Pakwe</u></p>		
<u>Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs)</u>			

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
<u>Helena Spies</u> <u>25 August 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<u>There will be NO such windfarm build on our land This is Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve and wild life and it will be kept that way</u> <u>As land owners we say NO !!!!!</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The objection is acknowledged and has been recorded for consideration by the competent authority. The Draft EIR indicates that the project area is not located within a formally protected area. Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve is identified approximately 13 km north-west of the project area. The layout has been informed by specialist studies and refined to avoid and minimise impacts on sensitive biodiversity features. This EIA process does not itself confer land-use or land-access rights, and any development on affected private property remains subject to the applicable landowner arrangements and statutory approvals.</u>	<u>Section 6.1, 7.2.1 , 8.2 and 9.4-DEIR</u>
<u>Inga Mlonyeni</u> <u>31 August 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<u>My interest in the project is whether the development is compliant to the zoning laws of the municipality, alignment to Dipaleseng Spatial Development Framework</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The Draft EIR assesses the proposed project against the applicable municipal planning framework, including the Dipaleseng Integrated Development Plan and Spatial Development Framework. No material conflict with the applicable municipal IDP and SDF was identified; however, the project remains subject to the relevant municipal land-use and zoning approval processes before construction may commence.</u>	<u>Section 4.5, Table 4-5 , Table 4-6 and Section 6.3-DEIR</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
<u>Garth Denton</u> <u>07 September 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<p><u>Notice of Public Review of Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 in Mpumalanga & Gauteng. Due to an unforeseen delay the report is available from 25/08 - 28/09/26. Contact WSP at pp@wsp.com</u></p> <p><u>Yours Truly</u> <u>Garth Denton</u></p>	<p><u>WSP PP OFFICE:</u> <u>Good day Garth,</u></p> <p><u>Please see the project information at the links below:</u></p> <p>1. WSP Website: https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents</p> <p>2. WSP Datafree Website: https://wsp-engage.com/</p> <p><u>Kind regards</u></p>	<p><u>Appendix D-SER</u></p>
<u>Romana Bulger</u> <u>19 September 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<p><u>Hi Jashmika,</u></p> <p><u>I am emailing you in relation to the ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility (WEF) 1, located in the Mpumalanga and Gauteng Province and I am responding to the correspondence received, entitled 41106304 20260824 ABO Uvemvane Stakeholder Notification Letter signed, which was sent to my father (Harry Katrakilis).</u></p> <p><u>In relation to the above project, please keep me cc'd in all future correspondence as an Interested and Affected Party. I would like to formally register myself and my father as stakeholders in order to comment on the Proposed Project. Please see our full contact details below.</u></p> <p><u>Romana Bulger</u> <u>Additionally, I see we have until 28 September to</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u> <u>Dear Romana,</u></p> <p><u>Thank you for your email and your interest in the project.</u></p> <p><u>I confirm that you have been registered as an Interested and Affected Party and will be included in all future public correspondence.</u></p> <p><u>Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require access to any project information or have any concerns.</u></p>	<p><u>Appendix D-SER</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	submit comments regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (DEIAR) to be included in the Final Stakeholder Engagement Report. Please note that you will have my comments before such time.		
<u>Romana Bulger</u> <u>28 September 2026</u> <u>Email</u>	<p><u>Dear Jashmika,</u></p> <p><u>Thank you for registering me as an I&AP.</u></p> <p><u>Please find attached my concerns/comments to be incorporated into the comment and response report.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The submission is acknowledged. The matters raised are recorded and addressed individually below.</u></p>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>
<u>Romana Bulger</u> <u>28 September 2026</u> <u>Letter (sent via Email)</u>	<p><u>Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS, MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803</u></p> <p><u>Dear Jashmika,</u></p> <p><u>Please find below my concerns regarding the effect this development could have on the area's heritage, rural character, farming activities, wildlife, and the safety of people living and working nearby. Please include these comments in the comments and responses report.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The submission is acknowledged. The matters raised are recorded and addressed individually below.</u></p>	<u>Appendix D-SER</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p><u>Heritage</u> <u>The area has a strong heritage, including Anglo-Boer War structures and Iron Age sites. The draft EIA itself identifies heritage resources in and around the study area. I ask that the final construction footprint be checked against all identified heritage sites, including their settings and views, before it is approved. Please explain how heritage sites will be protected from construction traffic, vibration, excavation and unauthorised access, and what will happen if previously unidentified remains/sites are found.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u> <u>The heritage specialist confirmed that the DEIR layout avoids all heritage sensitivities that were identified in the field for this project. Furthermore, all the proposed new infrastructure is located within areas of low and zero palaeontological sensitivity. As such, it is not anticipated that any significant fossil heritage is likely to be impacted by the proposed development based on the layout considered in the DEIR.</u></p> <p><u>The protection of sites/artefacts of heritage value were included in the Draft EMPr made available for comment with the DEIR. These protection measures include compliance with heritage buffer requirements, avoid very high sensitivity archaeological areas, undertake archaeological monitoring in sensitive areas, implement the Chance Fossil Finds Protocol, report any heritage or human remains discoveries to SAHRA, and use existing roads to minimise disturbance. Section 8.14 Heritage Management Plan provided a response guideline to be followed should archaeological sites, palaeontological sites or graves become exposed during ground altering activities within the proposed project area.</u></p>	<p><u>Section 11 and Table 11-1 DEIR, Table 7-15 and Section 8.14 EMPr</u></p>

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	<p><u>Visibility of turbines</u></p> <p>The turbines, new roads, electrical infrastructure and lighting could significantly change the appearance of this farming area, and I'm concerned about what that would mean for people living here. Please provide visualisations showing what the development would look like from nearby properties.</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>Photo simulations were undertaken (in addition to the spatial analyses) in order to illustrate the potential visual impact of the proposed ABO Uvemvane WEF 1 within the receiving environment. A total of seven (7) photo simulations were prepared for the proposed ABO Uvemvane WEF 1, from six (6) different points. The views were chosen to as far as possible accurately represent the likely visual impact from a variety of viewpoints/receptors and directions around the proposed WEF site.</p>	<p><u>Section 8 and Figures 12 - 25 Appendix G.7 DEIR</u></p>
	<p><u>Roads, farming, and security</u></p> <p>The report proposes up to 31 km of internal roads, including the widening of approximately 18 km of existing roads. I am concerned that this network, together with construction compounds and other infrastructure, will change the character of an agricultural and game-farming area and make it feel more industrial/commercialised. Please show which roads will be new, which will be widened, who will be able to use them during operation, and how unnecessary roads and temporary work areas will be rehabilitated.</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. New and upgraded roads and temporary work areas are described in the DEIR. The EMPr provides for controlled access and rehabilitation of temporary disturbance areas. Any final design must remain within the assessed and authorised parameters.</p>	<p><u>Appendix D – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>DEIR Sections 3, 5.3.4: Figure 5-4, 9.3, 9.15 and 12</u></p> <p><u>Traffic Assessment Sections 6-8: Appendix G.9 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Tables 7-2 and 7-3 and</u></p>

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			<u>Sections 8.7, 8.10 and 8.19: Appendix J - DEIR</u>
	<p><u>Please also assess how construction traffic, road closures or damage, dust, noise, fencing and altered access will affect farming, livestock and game-farming operations. Please provide a clear commitment on road maintenance, repairs and access arrangements with affected landowners.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. Potential effects of construction traffic, dust, noise, access and disruption to farming are considered in the relevant specialist assessments. The EMPr includes access, road-maintenance, dust-control, fencing and rehabilitation measures.</u></p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 9.3, 9.14-9.16 and 12</u></p> <p><u>Agricultural Assessment Sections 4.2 and 4.8: Appendix G.1 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Traffic Assessment Sections 6-8: Appendix G.9- DEIR</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Tables 7-2, 7-3, 7-7, 7-8 and 7-17: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>
	<p><u>Additional access routes and a larger workforce could create security concerns for neighbouring farms.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p>	<p><u>EMPr Sections 5.4, 5.7, 7.1,</u></p>

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	including trespassing and poaching. I would like this risk to be assessed and managed. Please provide further details regarding site access controls, rules prohibiting poaching, trapping, poisoning or harming animals, and a process for reporting and investigating incidents. The plan should address access to neighbouring properties as well as the project site.	The comment is noted. The EMPr includes access control, fencing and gate management, security, incident reporting, grievance procedures and prohibitions on poaching, trapping, poisoning or harming fauna.	<u>7.12, 8.11, 8.17 and 8.19: Appendix J - DEIR</u>
	<p><u>Birds and Bats</u> I am concerned about bird collisions with turbines and associated electrical infrastructure, and about bat mortality rates. How will this be monitored during operation, and will the results of any studies/monitoring programmes of the mortality results be made public? What mitigation measures are in place? Are these species-specific?</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u> The comment is noted. The avifaunal and bat assessments identify relevant risks and include post-construction monitoring and adaptive management measures. Any reporting or disclosure obligations will be governed by the EMPr, Environmental Authorisation and applicable requirements.</p>	<p><u>Avifaunal Assessment Sections 5-6, Annexure E: Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Bat Assessment Section 9-12: Appendix G.6 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Sections 5.3, 5.8, 7.13, 7.18 and 8.12: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>
	<p><u>Habitat disruption</u> Roads, fencing, vegetation clearance and increased</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p>	<p><u>Terrestrial Biodiversity</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p><u>human activity may fragment habitat and disrupt the movement of wild animals between farms, specifically feline species and small mammals. Please assess the routes used by game and other mammals, including small species and wild cats, and explain how movement will be maintained. How will the prevention of poisoning of wildlife by workers or contractors be enforced?</u></p>	<p><u>The comment is noted. Habitat fragmentation, ecological connectivity and fauna movement were considered in the Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment, including the assessment of habitat corridors and fauna movement patterns. The assessment informed the project layout and associated mitigation measures. The EMPr includes measures to minimise habitat disturbance through restricting activities to approved development footprints, limiting unnecessary vegetation clearance, utilising existing disturbance where practicable, rehabilitating disturbed areas, controlling access to the site, and prohibiting the trapping, poisoning, hunting, injury or killing of fauna by project personnel. Compliance with these requirements will be monitored through the EMPr implementation, environmental induction, site inspections and environmental auditing. The adequacy of the assessment and proposed mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p>	<p><u>Assessment Sections 11, 12 and 13: Appendix G.2 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Sections 7.12 and 8: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>
	<p><u>Site Clearance</u> <u>Please identify the full extent of site clearance, including trees and natural vegetation to be removed for roads, turbine foundations, cabling and temporary areas. Clearance should be kept to the minimum needed, sensitive habitat avoided, and disturbed areas</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is noted. Vegetation clearance is limited to the assessed development footprint associated with turbine foundations, access roads, cabling, laydown areas and associated infrastructure. The final extent of any vegetation</u></p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 3, 9 and 12</u></p> <p><u>Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment Sections 8, 13</u></p>

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	<p>rehabilitated and monitored. Which well established and indigenous trees will be removed? Is there a tree removals plan which can be provided? How will affected areas be revegetated? Specifically, will revegetation be with indigenous species? I am concerned that areas with site clearance will be prone to erosion due to lack of ground cover.</p>	<p>clearing will be confirmed during detailed design and site walkdowns and will be subject to the recommendations of the specialist assessments, identified no-go areas and any applicable permit requirements. The EMPr requires that disturbance be minimised, sensitive habitats avoided where practicable, disturbed areas rehabilitated, and erosion control measures implemented. Rehabilitation and revegetation must make use of locally appropriate indigenous species in accordance with the EMPr and specialist recommendations. The adequacy of the proposed mitigation and rehabilitation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p>and 15 and Figure 34: Appendix G.2 – DEIR</p> <p>EMPr Sections 7.10–7.12 and 8.5–8.9: Appendix J - DEIR</p>
	<p>How will any valuable topsoil in the area be maintained for use again during operational stage, rather than importing new soil? Will stockpiles be seeded or covered with geotextiles?</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. The EMPr provides for the stripping, separate stockpiling and protection of topsoil for subsequent use during rehabilitation. Topsoil stockpiles must be protected from erosion, contamination and compaction and reused, where practicable, during rehabilitation of disturbed areas. The EMPr further requires the implementation of erosion-control and stabilisation measures, which may include vegetation establishment or other suitable stabilisation methods, depending on site conditions and rehabilitation requirements. The adequacy of the proposed soil management and</p>	<p>DEIR Sections 9 and 12</p> <p>EMPr Sections 7.10, 8.5, 8.8 and 8.9: Appendix J - DEIR</p>

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		rehabilitation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	
	<u>Stockpiles</u> <u>In areas where stockpiling of materials will be present, will there be silt fencing mandatory for use to prevent any streams/waterways/spruits from excessive pollutants?</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is noted. The EMPr requires stockpiles to be located outside of watercourses and managed to prevent erosion, sediment-laden runoff and impacts on surrounding drainage features. Appropriate erosion and sediment-control measures, including silt fencing or other suitable sediment barriers where required, must be implemented to prevent the migration of sediment from stockpile areas into nearby watercourses, drainage lines or wetlands. The adequacy of the proposed erosion and sediment-control measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u>	<u>DEIR Sections 9.4 and 12</u> <u>EMPr Sections 7.8, 8.5, 8.8 and 8.9: Appendix J -DEIR</u>
	<u>Materials Handling</u> <u>Will there be a materials storage and handling plan to avoid unnecessary spillage in the area which could contaminate the soil? Will all fuels and liquid chemicals be stored safely with limited access in a bunded area (capable of holding 110% of the liquid)? Will it be mandatory to use bunds or plant nappies when using chemicals or when refuelling?</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is noted. The EMPr includes requirements for the storage, handling and use of fuels, oils and other hazardous substances, including secondary containment, spill prevention and spill response measures. Fuel and chemical storage areas must be appropriately secured and bunded in accordance with applicable standards, and refuelling and maintenance activities must be undertaken in designated areas with suitable spill-</u>	<u>DEIR Sections 9.4 and 12</u> <u>EMPr Sections 7.8, 8.5, 8.8 and 8.9: Appendix J -DEIR</u>

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		control measures in place. The EMPr further requires incident reporting and remediation of any contaminated areas. The adequacy of the proposed materials handling and pollution prevention measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	
	<p><u>Embodied Carbon</u> For the materials used during construction, will there be an opportunity to make use of materials with lower embodied carbon? For example, will it be enforceable to make use of concrete that has a percentage of its cement content replaced with supplementary cementation materials (SCMs), such as Fly Ash or Ground-Granulated Blast-furnace slag (GGBS)? Thus, significantly lowering the embodied carbon emissions and overall global warming potential of the site. However, I urge this to be built into the construction schedule as SCMs have slower setting times than standard concrete. Additionally, steel or aluminium with higher percentages of recycled content are beneficial. Will a Whole Lifecycle Assessment be carried out for the project?</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u> The comment is noted. The assessment of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change considerations is presented in the DEIR. Decisions relating to specific construction materials, recycled content, supplementary cementitious materials or other procurement specifications would be addressed during the detailed design and procurement phases. The application documentation does not include commitments to prescribed material specifications or a whole-life-cycle assessment. The adequacy of the assessment and proposed mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 4.5, 9.18 and 12</u> <u>EMPr Section 7: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>
	<p>Noise and Lighting I am concerned about construction noise, traffic noise and the continuous sound of operating turbines, particularly at night and at nearby homes. Please provide the predicted levels at affected</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u> The comment is noted. Construction and operational noise impacts were assessed in the Noise Impact Assessment, including predicted</p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 9.11, 9.14 and 12</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p>residences and commit to post-construction measurements and mitigation measures if they are higher than expected. Noise issues can have adverse effects on not only animals but human health as well.</p> <p>Please assess the combined effects of security lights, building lights, vehicle headlights and any lighting mast. Lighting should be limited to what is necessary for safety, directed downwards and shielded to prevent backlight, uplight and glare toward homes and habitat, thereby limiting light pollution. Excessive or poorly directed lighting could cause glare at nearby homes and roads, increase the visual impact of the facility in a rural landscape, and disturb nocturnal wildlife, including bats, insects, and small mammals and amphibians.</p>	<p>noise levels at identified noise-sensitive receptors. Visual and lighting considerations were assessed through the Visual Impact Assessment. The EMPr includes measures relating to noise management, complaints management and corrective actions where required, as well as controls to minimise unnecessary lighting and to direct and shield lighting where practicable. The findings and recommendations of the specialist assessments have been incorporated into the DEIR and EMPr. The adequacy of the assessment and proposed mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p><u>EMPr Sections 7.9, 7.15 and 8: Appendix J – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Appendix G.7 & G.8 - DEIR</u></p>
	<p><u>Wildfires</u></p> <p>I am also concerned about wildfire risk. Please assess and mitigate to whatever extent possible any ignition risks from construction activities, workers, electrical faults and the battery energy storage system, and provide an emergency response plan coordinated with landowners and local fire services. I am concerned as to whether the winds from the turbines or altered local airflow could affect the behaviour of a veld fire.</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. Potential wildfire risks associated with construction activities, electrical infrastructure and the BESS are addressed through the mitigation and management measures included in the DEIR and EMPr. These include fire prevention measures, emergency preparedness and response procedures, and coordination with relevant authorities where required. Site-specific fire management procedures will be informed by the final design and applicable legal and authorisation</p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 9, 12 and 13</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Sections 7, 8: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>

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		requirements. The specialist studies did not identify turbine-induced changes to local airflow as a significant impact requiring additional mitigation. The adequacy of the assessment and proposed fire management measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	
	<p><u>Stormwater Drainage Systems</u> Please provide detailed stormwater and erosion-control plans for new and widened roads, hardstands, excavations and drainage crossings. I am concerned that concentrated runoff or sediment could affect neighbouring farmland, wetlands and watercourses. The plans should show discharge points, maintenance responsibilities and how damage to neighbouring land will be remedied. How will stormwater drains within the vicinity of the site be protected from litter and excessive sediment build up? Will inlet gullies be protected (either using sediment-trapping meshes or sandbags surrounding the inlets to prevent sediment ingress)?</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u> The comment is noted. Stormwater, erosion and sediment management measures for roads, hardstands, excavations and watercourse crossings are addressed in the Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment and EMPr. The EMPr requires the implementation of appropriate stormwater controls, erosion protection, sediment-trapping measures and routine inspection and maintenance of disturbed areas and drainage infrastructure. Stormwater management infrastructure must be designed to minimise erosion, sedimentation and impacts on downstream land uses and watercourses, and disturbed areas must be rehabilitated and stabilised. The adequacy of the proposed stormwater management and erosion-control measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p><u>Sections 9.4 and 12</u> <u>Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment Sections 8 and 9: Appendix G.3 - DEIR</u> <u>EMPr Sections 7.8, 8.5, 8.8 and 8.9: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>
	<p><u>Pollution and waste</u> Construction waste, litter, fuel, concrete washout and</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 9.4 and 12</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p>other hazardous materials must be contained and removed appropriately. Please specify the inspection, incident-reporting and clean-up measures that will apply throughout construction and operation. Will waste arising from the site be landfilled or recycled? Which recycling facility will be used and how will it be ensured that the materials are recycled and that the sites are kept clean and free from litter?</p>	<p>The comment is noted. The EMPr includes measures for waste minimisation, waste segregation, housekeeping, hazardous-material management, spill prevention, incident reporting and remediation. Waste generated during construction and operation must be stored appropriately and removed by suitably authorised service providers for lawful recycling, treatment or disposal, as applicable. The EMPr further provides for routine site inspections and corrective actions to minimise littering and pollution risks. The appointment of specific waste and recycling service providers will be undertaken during project implementation in accordance with applicable waste management requirements. The adequacy of the proposed waste management measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p>EMPr Sections 7.8, 8.5, 8.8 and 8.9: Appendix J - DEIR</p>
	<p><u>Construction programme</u> The draft EIA records an assumed maximum construction period of 24 months. I have not found a detailed programme showing when work will occur or how long each affected area will experience disturbance. Please provide a Gantt chart or equivalent programme showing site clearance, road works, foundation excavations, concrete works, electrical works, turbine deliveries and erection, commissioning and rehabilitation. It should identify the expected</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u> The comment is noted. The DEIR assesses the proposed construction activities based on an assumed maximum construction period of up to 24 months and identifies the anticipated construction workforce, traffic generation and associated impacts. Detailed construction scheduling, including the sequencing and timing of individual activities, contractor programmes and the potential need for any work outside normal working hours, will be</p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 3, 9.11, 9.15 and 12</u> <u>Appendix G.9 - DEIR</u> <u>EMPr Section 7: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>

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	workforce and peak traffic periods, as well as any proposed night or weekend work.	determined during detailed planning and implementation. Any construction activities must remain within the assessed project parameters and be undertaken in accordance with the EMPr and any conditions of Environmental Authorisation. The adequacy of the information provided remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	
	<p><u>Future Development</u></p> <p>Finally, please explain whether the roads, electrical infrastructure or site layout are intended to accommodate future expansion. Any reasonably foreseeable expansion or connected development should be clearly disclosed and considered in the cumulative impact assessment. I ask that authorisation for this project be limited to the infrastructure and footprint actually assessed.</p> <p>I look forward to the responses to the above.</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. The current application is limited to the infrastructure and development footprint assessed in the DEIR, including the associated roads, electrical infrastructure and ancillary facilities. The cumulative impact assessment considered existing, approved and reasonably foreseeable developments identified during the assessment process. Any future expansion or development beyond the infrastructure and footprint assessed in the DEIR would be subject to the applicable environmental assessment and regulatory requirements at the time. The adequacy of the cumulative impact assessment remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<u>DEIR Sections 3, 10 and 11</u>
<u>Werner Van Der Merwe</u>	<p><u>Dear WSP Public Participation Office,</u></p> <p><u>Please find attached our written objection to the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the</u></p>	<u>EAP:</u>	<u>Appendix D - SER</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
26 September 2026 Email	<p>proposed ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (DFFE Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803; WSP Ref: 41106304), submitted on behalf of the owner of Portion 15 of the Farm Wildebeestfontein 559 IR, Heidelberg, Gauteng, together with Annexures A and B.</p> <p>We are registered Interested and Affected Parties and request written confirmation of receipt, and confirmation that this submission will be recorded in full and responded to in the Final Stakeholder Engagement Report submitted to the DFFE.</p> <p>Kind regards, Werner van der Merwe</p>	<p>Receipt of the submission is acknowledged. It is recorded in the SER and the matters raised are addressed below.</p>	
Werner Van Der Merwe 26 September 2026 Letter (sent via Email)	<p>We request written acknowledgement of receipt of this submission, and confirmation that it will be recorded in full and responded to individually in the Final Stakeholder Engagement Report submitted to the DFFE.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Receipt of the submission is acknowledged. It is recorded in the Stakeholder Engagement Report and the matters raised are addressed below.</p>	Appendix D - SER
	<p>1. Introduction and statement of non-support</p> <p>We object to the proposed ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 and ask the DFFE to refuse environmental authorisation. Our farm, Portion 15 of the Farm Wildebeestfontein 559 IR, Heidelberg, lies adjacent to the project area. Our home, our workers' homes, our farming operations, and the people who</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The concerns raised during both the Scoping and EIA phases have been recorded and considered through the EIA process and are addressed in the relevant specialist assessments, the DEIR and the detailed responses that follow. The findings, mitigation</p>	<p>Appendix D - SER</p> <p>DEIR Sections 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12</p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p><u>live and work on this land, will live with this facility for decades.</u></p> <p><u>On 15 April 2026 we submitted a detailed objection on the Draft Scoping Report (Annexure A). We maintain every point in that objection and incorporate it into this submission by reference. None of the concerns it raised has been resolved by the DEIR. Several have become more serious now that the specialist findings are available.</u></p> <p><u>Our objection is not against renewable energy. It is against this particular development, of this scale, in this particular landscape. "Green" energy is not automatically environmentally harmless, and not every landscape is suitable for industrial development. Some landscapes should simply be left alone. The DEIR's own specialist studies confirm that the site is highly sensitive for heritage, birds, bats, biodiversity, visual character and noise. In our view, a site with this many overlapping sensitivities cannot be made acceptable through mitigation, and the no-go alternative is the correct outcome.</u></p>	<p><u>measures and conclusions of the specialist studies, including consideration of the No-Go Alternative, form part of the information submitted to the competent authority for decision-making. The acceptability of the proposed development remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p> <p><u>APPLICANT RESPONSE:</u></p> <p><u>The project layout was refined between the Scoping and EIA phases, resulting in a significant reduction of the development footprint. As part of this refinement, Remaining Extent of Portion 1 and Remaining Extent of Portion 11 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Steynskraal 399 were removed from the affected properties as indicated in Table 4-1 of the DEIR. Portion 15 of Farm Wildebeestfontein 559 IR, Heidelberg, is located approximately 3.3 km northeast of the project site. Accordingly, the property is not directly affected by the proposed development and is no longer adjacent to the project area.</u></p>	
	<p><u>2. Summary of grounds</u></p> <p><u>1. Our own property is directly affected.</u> <u>Our farm lies adjacent to the project area. We grow export garlic and flowers, rotation crops and vegetables, produce premium beef and lamb, run flower-farm open days</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. Potential effects on neighbouring agricultural, water-dependent, tourism and residential receptors were considered in the relevant specialist assessments and the overall</u></p>	<u>DEIR - Sections 8–12</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<u>with a growing agritourism business, and irrigate from the Suikerbosrand River; as far as we can determine, the DEIR does not assess the impacts on these operations.</u>	<u>impact assessment. The specific concerns raised regarding agricultural activities, water use, tourism, visual impacts, noise and other potential effects are addressed in the relevant sections of the DEIR and in the detailed responses below. The adequacy of the assessment and the acceptability of the proposed development remain matters for determination by the competent authority.</u>	
	<u>2. The public participation process is defective.</u> <u>The comment period is stated inconsistently, Sesotho notices were only issued in the EIA phase, and our scoping objection has not been visibly answered.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is noted. Notification dates, language measures and responses to comments received during the Scoping and EIA phases are documented in the SER. Comments submitted during the Scoping Phase were recorded, responded to and, where relevant, informed the EIA process and specialist assessments. The adequacy of the public participation process remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u>	<u>DEIR Section 2.3</u> <u>SER Sections 2.3, 2.4 and 3.3, including Table 3-1: Appendix E - DEIR</u>
	<u>3. The project is a moving target.</u> <u>The layout has gone from 66 to 33, 31, 27 and now 20 turbines, while the maximum turbine size stays the same and key decisions are deferred to after authorisation.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is noted. The layout refinements undertaken during the assessment process were informed by specialist findings and environmental constraints and resulted in a reduced development footprint. The DEIR assesses the revised 20-turbine layout within the defined maximum project parameters, and any infrastructure ultimately</u>	<u>DEIR Sections 1.2, 5.3.4 and 11; Figures 11-1 and 11-2</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		developed must remain within the assessed and authorised project envelope. The adequacy of the assessment approach and project parameters remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	
	4. Need and desirability are not shown for this location. The site is outside any Renewable Energy Development Zone, and the grid connection is excluded from this assessment.	EAP: The comment is noted. Need and desirability, policy context, site selection, alternatives and the no-go alternative are addressed in the DEIR. The external grid connection is subject to a separate assessment process. The adequacy of the assessment remains for determination by the competent authority.	DEIR Sections 4.5, 5 and 11
	5. The biodiversity value is high, including Critical Biodiversity Areas, a Key Biodiversity Area, protected-area expansion priorities, rocky ridges and threatened species. The applicant has already appended a Biodiversity Offset Strategy.	EAP: The comment is noted. CBAs, ESAs, protected-area expansion priorities, rocky ridges, threatened ecosystems and Species of Conservation Concern were assessed in the biodiversity studies. Appendix K comprises a biodiversity offset technical memorandum that evaluated potential offset requirements following application of the mitigation hierarchy. The biodiversity specialists concluded that no biodiversity offset is recommended for the proposed development. The adequacy of the biodiversity assessment and proposed mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	Sections 9.4, 12.4.1.13 and 13 Appendix G.2 - DEIR Appendix K - Biodiversity Offset Technical Memorandum

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p><u>6. Bird risk is high and the mitigation is unproven.</u> <u>Twelve bird species of conservation concern are affected, and the collision model assumes a 72% mitigation effect that can only be tested after construction.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is noted. The Final Avifaunal Assessment identifies Species of Conservation Concern, applies a collision-risk assessment methodology and includes post-construction monitoring and adaptive management to verify actual impacts and mitigation effectiveness. The adequacy of the assessment and proposed mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p>	<p><u>Avifaunal Assessment Sections 5.1.5, 5.1.6 and 6; Table 22; Annexure E; Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u></p>
	<p><u>7. Bat risk is high, with turbines proposed in a landscape of rivers, wetlands, ridges and woodland.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is noted. The Bat Assessment evaluates habitat sensitivity, collision and barotrauma risk, buffers, operational monitoring and adaptive mitigation. The findings are reflected in the DEIR and EMPr. The assessment concludes that, while operational bat mortality may be of Very High negative significance prior to mitigation, the implementation of the prescribed mitigation measures, including automated smart curtailment, monitoring and adaptive management, reduces the residual impact to Moderate significance and the project is not considered to present a fatal flaw from a bat perspective.</u></p>	<p><u>Sections 9.13 and 12</u> <u>Appendix G.6 - DEIR</u> <u>EMPr Sections 7.18 and 8; Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	8. Water resources , including the Suikerbosrand River and its wetlands, are protected by narrow buffers without a long-term baseline.	EAP: The comment is noted. The Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment identifies and maps the Suikerbosrand River, associated tributaries and wetlands and recommends avoidance and setback measures around these features. Stormwater, erosion, sediment-control, watercourse crossing and pollution-prevention measures have been incorporated into the EMPr. The adequacy of the aquatic assessment and proposed mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	DEIR Sections 9.4 and 12 Appendix G.3 - DEIR EMPr Sections 7.8, 8.5, 8.8 and 8.9: Appendix J - DEIR
	9. The heritage sensitivity is very high , with dozens of Iron Age sites, cemeteries and historical werfs, and cultural-landscape impacts that cannot be mitigated.	EAP: The comment is noted. The Heritage Impact Assessment identifies archaeological sites, graves, historical structures and cultural landscape resources and includes avoidance, buffering, monitoring and chance-find measures. The findings and recommendations of the assessment have been incorporated into the DEIR and EMPr. The adequacy of the heritage assessment and proposed mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	DEIR Sections 9.10 and 12 Appendix G.4 – DEIR EMPr Sections 7 and 8: Appendix J - DEIR
	10. The visual impact is severe. Turbines with a tip height of up to 280 m will dominate a rural tourism and wedding-venue landscape.	EAP: The comment is noted. The Visual Impact Assessment evaluates turbine visibility, landscape	DEIR Sections 9.14 and 12

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		character, visual receptors, lighting and sense of place, supported by representative viewpoints and visual simulations. The findings and residual visual impacts are documented in the specialist assessment and reflected in the DEIR. The adequacy of the assessment and proposed mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	<u>Appendix G.7 – DEIR</u>
	<u>11. The noise baseline is flawed.</u> A rural farming area has been reclassified as "suburban", relaxing the night-time noise limit by 5 dBA, with 11 noise-sensitive receptors within 1 km of turbines.	<u>EAP:</u> The comment is noted. The Noise Impact Assessment presents baseline measurements, receptor classifications, modelling assumptions and receptor-specific noise predictions. The findings and recommendations of the assessment have been incorporated into the DEIR and EMPr. The adequacy of the assessment methodology and predicted noise impacts remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	<u>DEIR Sections 9.11 and 12</u> <u>Appendix G.8 – DEIR</u> <u>EMPr Sections 7.9 and 8: Appendix J - DEIR</u>
	<u>12. Further unresolved risks include</u> battery fire and toxic-gas hazards, undermined ground, impacts on neighbouring farming and firefighting, cumulative impacts, no decommissioning guarantee, and numerous errors in the DEIR itself.	<u>EAP:</u> The comment is noted. Potential battery storage, fire, geotechnical, agricultural, cumulative impact, decommissioning and related risks are addressed in the relevant specialist assessments, the DEIR and the EMPr. These matters are considered in the assessment process and are addressed in the detailed responses below. The adequacy of the assessments and proposed mitigation measures	<u>DEIR Sections 9–13</u> <u>EMPr Sections 7 and 8: Appendix J - DEIR</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>																										
		<u>remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u>																											
	<p>3. <u>The project as now described in the DEIR</u></p> <p><u>The DEIR describes a smaller turbine count but the same generation capacity and the same maximum turbine size. Each turbine would stand up to 280 m to the blade tip, taller than Johannesburg's Hillbrow Tower. The visual specialist modelled visibility at 300 m.</u></p> <table><tr><td>Parameter</td><td>DEIR maximum (Table 1-1)</td></tr><tr><td>Export capacity</td><td>Up to 170 MWac</td></tr><tr><td>Number of turbines</td><td>Up to 20 (up to 10 MW each)</td></tr><tr><td>Hub height</td><td>Up to 180 m</td></tr><tr><td>Rotor diameter / blade length</td><td>Up to 200 m / 100 m</td></tr><tr><td>Tip height (hub + blade)</td><td>Up to 280 m</td></tr><tr><td>Foundations and hardstands</td><td>Up to 1 ha per turbine</td></tr><tr><td>Roads</td><td>Up to 31 km (about 18 km of existing roads to be widened); 12 m construction corridor</td></tr><tr><td>Electrical hub incl. substation and BESS</td><td>Up to 7 ha; three locations applied for, one to be chosen at pre-construction stage</td></tr><tr><td>Laydown and batching areas</td><td>4 areas, up to 15 ha in total</td></tr><tr><td>Other</td><td>33 kV line linking north and south, O&M and security buildings, 32 m communications tower, 25 m lighting mast</td></tr><tr><td>Study area / assessed area</td><td>About 8,200 ha / about 6,000 ha</td></tr><tr><td>Grid connection</td><td>Excluded; to be assessed separately</td></tr></table>	Parameter	DEIR maximum (Table 1-1)	Export capacity	Up to 170 MWac	Number of turbines	Up to 20 (up to 10 MW each)	Hub height	Up to 180 m	Rotor diameter / blade length	Up to 200 m / 100 m	Tip height (hub + blade)	Up to 280 m	Foundations and hardstands	Up to 1 ha per turbine	Roads	Up to 31 km (about 18 km of existing roads to be widened); 12 m construction corridor	Electrical hub incl. substation and BESS	Up to 7 ha; three locations applied for, one to be chosen at pre-construction stage	Laydown and batching areas	4 areas, up to 15 ha in total	Other	33 kV line linking north and south, O&M and security buildings, 32 m communications tower, 25 m lighting mast	Study area / assessed area	About 8,200 ha / about 6,000 ha	Grid connection	Excluded; to be assessed separately	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. The DEIR assesses the proposed development based on the defined maximum project parameters, including turbines with a maximum tip height of 280 m. The assessment considers both the permanent development footprint and the broader areas of influence associated with specialist disciplines, including visual, noise, biodiversity and social impacts. The findings of these specialist assessments are reflected in the DEIR and associated mitigation measures. The adequacy of the assessment remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p>	<p><u>Sections 3, 8–12 and 13</u></p> <p><u>Appendix G - DEIR</u></p>
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	<p>The DEIR presents the permanent footprint as 67.2 ha, or about 1.12% of the affected properties. That figure measures concrete and gravel, not impact. The zone of influence of 20 structures of this height covers tens of thousands of hectares, including our farm.</p>																
	<p>4. <u>Detailed grounds of objection</u> 4.1 <u>Our property is directly affected</u></p> <p>Portion 15 of the Farm Wildebeestfontein 559 IR lies adjacent to the project area. Portion 15 is a working farm:</p> <table><tr><th>Operation</th><th>Scale and use</th></tr><tr><td>Garlic</td><td>3 to 5 ha planted each year; exported to international markets</td></tr><tr><td>Dahlias and peonies</td><td>2 ha, with planned expansion; export and local markets, including neighbouring wedding venues and their guests</td></tr><tr><td>Agritourism</td><td>Flower-farm open days already running; busiest in the flowering season from November to April, on weekdays and weekends; a destination garden and farm experience.</td></tr><tr><td>Pumpkins and other vegetables</td><td>Grown in rotation; pumpkins supplied to the local market</td></tr><tr><td>Maize, soya and green pastures</td><td>Rotation crops on garlic lands; pastures feed our animals</td></tr><tr><td>Sheep and cattle</td><td>Pasture-raised; sold as premium, deli-quality beef and lamb</td></tr></table> <p><u>Garlic cannot be planted on the same land every year, so all our arable lands form part of one rotation system. We irrigate from the Suikerbosrand River</u></p>	Operation	Scale and use	Garlic	3 to 5 ha planted each year; exported to international markets	Dahlias and peonies	2 ha, with planned expansion; export and local markets, including neighbouring wedding venues and their guests	Agritourism	Flower-farm open days already running; busiest in the flowering season from November to April, on weekdays and weekends; a destination garden and farm experience.	Pumpkins and other vegetables	Grown in rotation; pumpkins supplied to the local market	Maize, soya and green pastures	Rotation crops on garlic lands; pastures feed our animals	Sheep and cattle	Pasture-raised; sold as premium, deli-quality beef and lamb	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. The farming, tourism, water-use and residential concerns raised are recorded and considered through the relevant specialist assessments, as applicable.</u></p> <p><u>APPLICANT RESPONSE:</u></p> <p><u>The project layout was refined between the Scoping and EIA phases, resulting in a significant reduction of the development footprint. As part of this refinement, Remaining Extent of Portion 1 and Remaining Extent of Portion 11 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Steynskraal 399 were removed from the affected properties as indicated in Table 4-1 of the DEIR. Portion 15 of Farm Wildebeestfontein 559 IR, Heidelberg, is located approximately 3.3 km northeast of the project site. Accordingly, the property is not directly affected by the proposed development and is no longer adjacent to the project area. Given this separation distance, terrain</u></p>	<p><u>Table 4-1 and Figure 4-2 DEIR</u></p>
Operation	Scale and use																
Garlic	3 to 5 ha planted each year; exported to international markets																
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	<u>under our irrigation rights. Our homesteads, our workers' homes and our animals all depend on borehole water. Section 4.13 sets out how the project would affect these operations.</u>	<u>and the nature of the proposed activities, no significant impacts on the agricultural operations described are anticipated.</u>	
	<p>4.2 The public participation process is defective</p> <p>1. Inconsistent comment period. Section 2.3.1.6 of the DEIR states the review period as 24 August to 25 September 2026. WSP's notice and its reminder of 23 September state 25 August to 28 September 2026. Interested and affected parties cannot be certain which period applies.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. Following an unforeseen delay in the release of the DEIR, registered I&APs were notified on 24 August 2026 that the public review period would run from 25 August 2026 to 28 September 2026. The revised review period and associated extension were communicated to registered stakeholders and reflected the period during which comments on the DEIR were invited and accepted. The adequacy of the public participation process remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	Appendix E - DEIR
	<p>2. Unverifiable notification. The DEIR says DEIR notification "will be issued" and that proof will only appear in the final EIA report. We therefore cannot verify who was notified, or when.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. The DEIR indicated that the public participation record and supporting proof of notification would be included in the Final DEIR and Stakeholder Engagement Report. The FEIR will include the public participation documentation, including records of stakeholder notifications, stakeholder engagement and comments received</p>	DEIR Section 2.3

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		during the review process. These records have been made available to the competent authority as part of the final submission. The adequacy of the public participation process remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	
	<p>3. Sesotho-speaking communities excluded from scoping. The DFFE asked for Sesotho advertising during the scoping phase. The Sesotho advertisement only appeared on 19 August 2026 and Sesotho site notices only from 24 August 2026. By the DEIR's own figures, Sesotho is the first language of about 35% of Midvaal, 26% of Dipaleseng and 24% of Lesedi residents. The scoping report was accepted on 22 June 2026 on the basis of participation that did not reach them.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. The timing and scope of Sesotho-language notifications are recorded in the SER. Sesotho advertisements and site notices were issued during the EIA phase. The adequacy of the public participation process remains for determination by the competent authority.</p> <p>APPLICANT RESPONSE:</p> <p>The approach to language accessibility during the public participation process was discussed with and accepted by the competent authority. While the Sesotho advertisements and site notices were introduced following feedback from the DFFE, the Scoping Phase was intended to identify issues and determine the scope of specialist investigations rather than present final impact findings. All identified issues and specialist assessments were subsequently addressed and assessed in detail during the EIA Phase, during which affected</p>	<p>DEIR Section 2.3</p> <p>SER Sections 2.3, 2.4 and 3.3</p> <p>Appendix B.2 - SER</p>

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		stakeholders, including Sesotho-speaking communities, were afforded the opportunity to review and comment on the DEIR. Consequently, no material information or assessment outcomes were excluded from public review as a result of the timing of the Sesotho-language notifications.	
	4. Unrealistic review burden. The DEIR runs to 540 pages, with a 15-part site sensitivity report and 15 specialist appendices. A 30-odd-day window for lay landowners to review this is not meaningful participation.	EAP: The comment is noted. The volume of documentation reflects the scale and complexity of the proposed development and the requirements of the EIA process. The DEIR included summaries of specialist findings, supported by detailed technical appendices. The DEIR and supporting documentation were made available for public review from 25 August to 28 September 2026, and comments received during the review period have been considered and responded to in the DEIR. The adequacy of the public participation process remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	DEIR Section 2.3 SER - Sections 2.3, 2.4 and 3.3
	5. Our scoping objection has not been visibly answered. Regulation 44 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 requires that I&AP comments be recorded and responded to. We ask WSP to identify exactly where	EAP: The comment is noted. The comments submitted by Werner van Der Merwe on 17 April 2026 were recorded and responded to in Table 3-1 of the	Appendix E DEIR and Appendix D SER

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	each point of our 15 April 2026 objection is responded to in Appendix E.	Stakeholder Engagement Report. Where comments raised matters requiring further investigation, these were carried forward into the EIA Phase and assessed by the relevant specialists. The findings of these assessments are reflected in the DEIR, the specialist studies and the responses provided in this Comments and Responses Report. The adequacy of the consideration and response to comments remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	
	6. Pre-judged specialist scope. Section 3.5.1 records an assumption that the competent authority "would not require additional specialist input". That assumption cannot be made before I&APs have commented.	EAP: The comment is noted. Section 3.5.1 records an assumption based on the information available at the time of the assessment and the outcome of the pre-application engagement process. This assumption did not preclude the consideration of issues raised by stakeholders or authorities during the Scoping or EIA phases. Matters identified through the public participation process were considered by the relevant specialists and, where applicable, informed the specialist assessments, impact assessment and EMP. The adequacy of the specialist investigations undertaken remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	Section 3.5.1, Section 1.4.5 and Table 1-5 DEIR
	4.3 The project is a moving target	EAP:	Section 1.2 - DEIR

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	<p><u>The project has shrunk on paper at every stage while its worst-case turbine has stayed the same:</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Stage</th><th>Turbines</th><th>Capacity</th><th>Assessed area</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Preliminary cluster (WEF 1 and WEF 2)</td><td>66</td><td>—</td><td>—</td></tr> <tr> <td>Site sensitivity verification</td><td>33</td><td>240 MWac</td><td>—</td></tr> <tr> <td>Pre-scoping optimised layout</td><td>31</td><td>—</td><td>—</td></tr> <tr> <td>Scoping</td><td>27</td><td>170 MWac</td><td>about 7,700 ha</td></tr> <tr> <td>DEIR</td><td>20</td><td>170 MWac</td><td>about 6,000 ha</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Fewer turbines at the same capacity means bigger individual turbines, not smaller impacts. Meanwhile, decisions that determine real-world impacts are deferred beyond public scrutiny:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>The turbine model has not been selected; all studies rely on maximum dimensions.</u> 	Stage	Turbines	Capacity	Assessed area	Preliminary cluster (WEF 1 and WEF 2)	66	—	—	Site sensitivity verification	33	240 MWac	—	Pre-scoping optimised layout	31	—	—	Scoping	27	170 MWac	about 7,700 ha	DEIR	20	170 MWac	about 6,000 ha	<p><u>The comment is noted. The assessment was undertaken using a defined maximum development scenario, including the maximum turbine dimensions and project parameters assessed in the DEIR. While the final turbine model has not yet been selected, any turbine ultimately installed would be required to remain within the assessed development envelope and authorised project specifications. Refinements made during the assessment process primarily related to the layout and reduction of infrastructure footprints and were incorporated into the specialist assessments and impact assessment. The adequacy of the assessment approach and project parameters remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p>	
Stage	Turbines	Capacity	Assessed area																								
Preliminary cluster (WEF 1 and WEF 2)	66	—	—																								
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DEIR	20	170 MWac	about 6,000 ha																								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Three hub and battery locations are applied for, with the choice left to the "pre-construction stage".</u> 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. The DEIR assesses three hub alternatives and associated BESS technology alternatives as part of the alternatives assessment. The potential impacts associated with each alternative were considered in the specialist assessments and impact assessment. Should environmental authorisation be granted, only one of the assessed hub alternatives may be selected</u></p>	<u>DEIR Sections 3, 5, 8 and 11</u>																								

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		during detailed design, and any final design must remain within the assessed and authorised project parameters. The adequacy of the alternatives assessment remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The traffic specialist records that the client's preferred number of access points is "currently unknown", and road upgrades are left to detailed design. 	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. The Traffic Impact Assessment assessed the proposed access arrangements and road network based on the project information available at the time of assessment. Any final access configurations, road upgrades or detailed engineering specifications will be confirmed during detailed design and must remain within the assessed project footprint and authorised project parameters. The findings and recommendations of the Traffic Impact Assessment have been incorporated into the DEIR and EMPr. The adequacy of the assessment approach and associated mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p>DEIR Sections 3, 9.15 and 11</p> <p>Traffic Impact Assessment Sections 6–8: Appendix G.9 – DEIR</p> <p>EMPr Section 8.10: Appendix J - DEIR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The agricultural specialist was appointed in October 2025 to assess 27 turbine hardstands. It is not clear that every specialist has assessed the 20-turbine layout now before the public. 	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. The EIA-phase specialist assessments considered the revised 20-turbine layout presented in Section 5.3.4 and Figure 11-1. The applicable specialist conclusions, sensitivities and buffers are reflected in Section 11, Figure 11-2</p>	<p>Section 5.3.4, Section 11, Figures 11-1 & 11-2 and Table 11-1 and</p>

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		and Table 11-1. The adequacy of the specialist assessments remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	Appendix G - DEIR
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix 3 item (u) of the DEIR states there is no deviation from the approved scoping report, despite the changed layout and assessed area. 	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. Appendix 3 requires the EAP to identify any deviations from the approved Scoping Report, specifically the Plan of Study for EIA and the assessment methodology applied during the EIA phase. The layout revisions undertaken during the EIA phase formed part of the iterative design and assessment process and were informed by specialist findings and environmental constraints. These refinements did not alter the approved Plan of Study for EIA or the methodology used to assess impacts and therefore do not constitute a deviation from the approved Scoping Report. The revised layout and associated impact footprint were assessed in the specialist studies and DEIR.</p>	Table 1-6 - DEIR, Appendix D - SER
	I&APs and the DFFE are being asked to accept an envelope, not a project.	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. The EIA was undertaken based on a defined project description, assessed layout and clearly specified maximum development parameters. While the final technology selection may occur during detailed design, any infrastructure ultimately developed must remain within the</p>	DEIR Sections 1.2, 3, 5, 8 and 11

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		<u>assessed and authorised project envelope. The use of maximum project parameters is intended to ensure that potential impacts are assessed conservatively and that the competent authority can evaluate the maximum extent of the proposed development. The adequacy of the project description and assessment approach remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u>	
	<p><u>4.4 Need and desirability have not been shown for this location</u></p> <p><u>The bat specialist confirms that the site is not in a Renewable Energy Development Zone. REDZs are the areas where government has strategically assessed wind energy as suitable. Outside a REDZ, the applicant carries a heavier burden to show why this particular site is desirable.</u></p> <p><u>The DEIR's need case rests on national electricity demand and historical load-shedding data. That data no longer reflects the current position:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>South Africa has had no load shedding since 16 May 2025, a run of more than 490 consecutive days (Businessfront).</u> <u>Eskom met demand through the entire 2026 winter without load shedding, as its Winter Outlook predicted (SAnews).</u> 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. The proposed development is located outside a Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ) and has therefore been assessed through the standard EIA process. The need and desirability assessment presented in the DEIR considers the proposed development in the context of national, provincial and local planning frameworks, energy policy objectives, site-specific characteristics and environmental constraints. The assessment does not rely solely on historical load-shedding conditions, but also considers broader policy and planning objectives relating to energy security, electricity generation and the transition to a lower-carbon energy sector. The need and desirability of the proposed development at this location, together with the findings of the specialist assessments and consideration of alternatives,</u></p>	<u>DEIR Sections 4.5, 5, 8 and 11</u>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eskom reports holding 6,220 MW in cold reserve because of excess capacity (The Citizen). The emergency that framed the need case has passed, and the demand picture has changed with it. The applicant must show, on current data, that this particular facility is still needed and justified, rather than relying on a crisis that no longer exists. Even if future generation capacity is needed, that shows a need for generation somewhere; it does not show that it must be here. The Constitutional Court in Fuel Retailers Association v Director-General, Mpumalanga [2007] ZACC 13 held that environmental authorities must themselves assess need, desirability and sustainability in relation to the specific site. 	<p>remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	
	<p>Section 24(4)(b)(i) of NEMA requires investigation of alternatives. We ask the DFFE to test whether genuine alternative sites, including sites within REDZs, were ever considered, or whether only this site was assessed.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. Section 5.2 of the DEIR explains that the project site was identified through a feasibility assessment that considered wind resource suitability, grid interconnection opportunities, land availability and technical constraints. The EIA process then assessed the environmental acceptability of the site and considered site, layout, technology, infrastructure and no-go alternatives. Specialist studies informed iterative layout refinement, including the application</p>	<p>DEIR Sections 4.5, 5, 8 and 11</p>

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		of no-go areas and buffers and the reduction of the development footprint. The alternatives assessment and rationale for the preferred site are presented in Section 5.2 of the DEIR.	
	The benefits also fall unevenly. The scoping screening rated "improvement in financial security of the farm" as a high positive, but only for host landowners. Neighbours such as us carry the visual, noise, heritage and property-value costs with no benefit.	EAP: The comment is noted. The Social Impact Assessment considers both the potential benefits and adverse impacts associated with the proposed development, including effects on host landowners, neighbouring landowners and surrounding communities. The assessment recognises that different stakeholder groups may experience project-related benefits and impacts differently. These findings have been considered as part of the overall impact assessment and the need and desirability assessment. The weighting of benefits and impacts, and the overall acceptability of the proposed development, remain matters for determination by the competent authority.	DEIR Sections 4.5, 9.17 and 11 Appendix G.11 - DEIR
	Finally, the grid connection is excluded and "will be subject to separate environmental impact assessments". The DFFE cannot assess the full impact of a project whose power lines have not yet been assessed. Splitting the project in this way understates its impact.	EAP: The comment is noted. The external grid connection is subject to a separate environmental assessment process and is not part of the current application. Available information on reasonably foreseeable energy infrastructure is considered in the relevant cumulative assessments.	Avifaunal Assessment Sections 1.2 and 5.1.11: Appendix G.5 - DEIR

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			<p><u>Aquatic Assessment Section 8.4 and Figure 15: Appendix G.3 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment Section 13.3.4 and Figure 35: Appendix G.2</u></p> <p><u>DEIR - Section 10</u></p>
	<p><u>4.5 Biodiversity: an ecologically important landscape</u></p> <p>The DEIR maps the project area of influence against a remarkable number of conservation layers: Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecological Support Areas under the Gauteng C-Plan (2024) and the Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan, Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas, a Key Biodiversity Area, Mpumalanga's climate change corridor network, priority focus areas under both the National and Mpumalanga Protected Area Expansion Strategies, intact grasslands, and Gauteng rocky ridges. Habitats include Mountain</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. The specialist assessments considered the project's location relative to mapped biodiversity and conservation planning features, including CBAs and ESAs identified in the Gauteng C-Plan (2024) and Mpumalanga Biodiversity Sector Plan (2024), threatened ecosystems, freshwater ecosystems, climate change corridors, protected area expansion priorities and rocky ridges. These sensitivities informed the application of no-go areas, buffers, micro-siting and layout refinements to avoid and minimise impacts where feasible. While some</p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 9.10-9.13; 12.</u></p> <p><u>Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment: Sections 6, 11-13, 18.1-18.3: Appendix G.2 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Aquatic Assessment</u></p>

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	<p><u>Bushveld, rocky shrubland with Protea caffra, closed-canopy mountain woodland, natural dry grassland and the Suikerbosrand River corridor.</u></p> <p><u>In the valley below the ridges, the Suikerbosrand River meanders through some of the most beautiful and relatively untouched countryside in the area. African Fish Eagles and other wildlife live along it, and people have enjoyed this open Highveld landscape for generations. A wind farm is not simply a few turbines on a hill. It brings roads, substations, construction platforms, enormous concrete foundations and kilometres of power lines, which together fragment the grasslands, wetlands and river corridor into an industrial landscape. Anyone who has seen what wind development has done to the Highveld horizon near Bethal knows that such a landscape cannot be returned to what it was.</u></p> <p><u>The specialist recorded Mountain Reedbuck (Endangered), Serval (Near Threatened) and Vlei Rat (Near Threatened) in the study area, alongside Sable Antelope (Vulnerable). Plants photographed on site include <i>Boophone disticha</i>, <i>Aloe verecunda</i> and <i>Crinum graminicola</i>.</u></p> <p><u>Wind turbines are, by design, placed on high ground. In Gauteng, rocky ridges are recognised as sensitive features that should not be developed. Placing</u></p>	<p><u>infrastructure remains within areas of mapped sensitivity, the specialist studies concluded that, with the prescribed mitigation and monitoring measures, residual biodiversity impacts would be of low significance, and no fatal biodiversity constraints were identified</u></p>	<p><u>Sections 4.2, 5, 6, 8, 9: Appendix G.3 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Butterfly Assessment Sections 10.5, 11-13: Appendix G.8 - DEIR</u></p>

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	<u>turbines, crane pads and access roads on these ridges is in direct conflict with that policy.</u>		
	<p><u>The survey effort does not match the sensitivity. Fieldwork comprised two five-day surveys, and the plant survey a single five-day visit in January 2025. The specialists themselves acknowledge that rare, cryptic, migratory or low-detection species may have been missed, and that baseline descriptions are qualitative. The butterfly assessment is a "snapshot investigation", and its own mapping identifies potential conflict areas between butterfly habitat and the layout.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. The Butterfly Habitat Sensitivity Report discloses the survey limitations and applies a habitat-based and precautionary approach, supported by field observations, desktop information and MTPA distribution records. The assessment identifies High and Very High Sensitivity habitats and potential layout conflicts, and requires micro-siting, pre-construction inspections and monitoring in these areas. The current layout largely avoids identified sensitive habitat, subject to implementation of the specialist's mitigation measures. The adequacy of the survey effort and specialist findings remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p> <p><u>BUTTERFLY SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p><u>The objective of the study was to identify sensitive butterfly focus areas, with specific reference to the 3 species that were highlighted by the National Environmental Screening Tool, and not the execution of exhaustive butterfly surveys, which will take several years to complete and is beyond the</u></p>	<u>Appendix G.14 – DEIR</u>

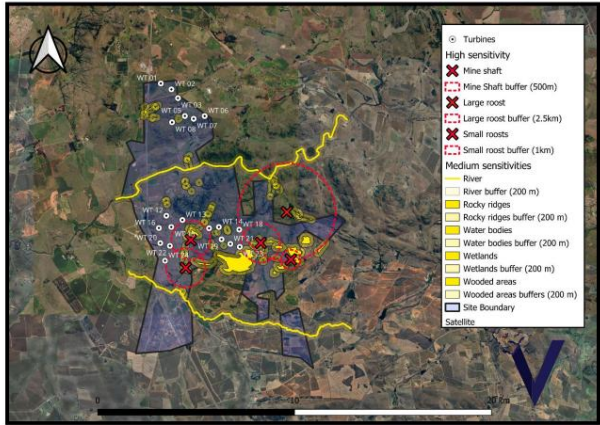
<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		<p>scope of an assessment such as this, and even then, the detection of rare/cryptic species are not guaranteed. Results of this butterfly assessment, as well as inclusion of additional distributional observations supplied by MTPA, yielded results that were subsequently implemented to guide development towards areas of lower sensitivity. 'Potential conflict areas' do not represent areas where severe or unacceptable impacts are expected, the application of site-specific mitigation measures is advised in all events.</p>	
	<p>The Biodiversity Offset Strategy (Appendix K) is itself a concession. Section 3.3.2 of the DEIR explains that offsets are considered only if avoidance, minimisation and rehabilitation all fail to remedy high residual impacts. By appending an offset strategy, the applicant accepts that significant residual biodiversity loss will remain. The DEIR does not, as far as we can determine, identify which impacts are to be offset, a secured receiving site, who will manage it, or the DFFE's view on offsetting loss within Critical Biodiversity Areas.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>Appendix K does not include a Biodiversity Offset Strategy. Appendix K comprises a Biodiversity Offset Technical Memorandum prepared to evaluate, in accordance with the South African National Biodiversity Offset Guideline (2021), whether any residual biodiversity impacts remain after application of the mitigation hierarchy and whether a biodiversity offset would be required.</p> <p>The Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment (Appendix G.2) concludes that, through layout refinement, avoidance of sensitive biodiversity features and implementation of recommended mitigation measures, biodiversity impacts can be reduced to Low significance. The specialist specifically states that no biodiversity offset is recommended for the</p>	<p>Table 6-1, Section 9.4, Section 12.4.1.13, Section 13 and Appendix K - DEIR</p>

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		<p><u>Proposed Development. The purpose of Appendix K was therefore to evaluate potential offset requirements as part of a precautionary assessment process, not to propose or implement a biodiversity offset.</u></p> <p><u>The specialist assessments further conclude that the final project layout avoids material impacts on identified Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and other priority biodiversity features. Accordingly, no residual impacts of High or Very High significance were identified that would trigger a formal biodiversity offset requirement.</u></p>	
	<p><u>4.6 Birds: high risk, unproven mitigation</u></p> <p><u>The DFFE Screening Tool rated avifaunal sensitivity as Low. After 12 months of monitoring, the specialist found the site to be of High sensitivity for 12 species of conservation concern. At scoping, turbine collision mortality was rated Very High before mitigation. Vulture records (VulPro) exist within 50 km, and the National Vulture Task Force is a commenting authority under the Multi-species Biodiversity Management Plan for Vultures.</u></p> <p><u>African Fish Eagles live along the Suikerbosrand River. Large soaring birds such as eagles are particularly vulnerable to turbine collisions. BirdLife South Africa's review of South Africa's first operational wind farms</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. The avifauna impact assessment documents the 13-month monitoring programme, recorded Species of Conservation Concern (SCC), site sensitivity, collision risk modelling methodology, assumptions, limitations and cumulative impact assessment. The specialist assessment confirms that the site is of high sensitivity for SCC based on the results of site-specific monitoring and associated surveys. The bird species recorded on site and within the 7 km Project Area of Influence (PAOI), including the SCC identified during the monitoring programme, are presented in Appendix H and Appendix I of the Uvemvane WEF 1 Scoping Phase Final Avifaunal</u></p>	<u>Appendix G.5 - DEIR</u>

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	<p>found that birds of prey made up about 36% of recorded fatalities, at an average of about 4 birds killed per turbine per year across all species, with threatened raptors such as Verreaux's Eagle, Martial Eagle and Black Harrier among those killed (Daily Maverick). At that national average, 20 turbines would kill around 80 birds a year, or roughly 2,000 over the life of the project.</p> <p>The Highveld's grasslands and wetlands are also habitat for cranes, and a member of our family has personally seen Wattled Cranes in this area. The Wattled Crane is regionally Endangered, and BirdLife South Africa identifies collisions with wind turbines and new power lines, and habitat loss to renewable energy infrastructure, as an emerging threat, particularly in Mpumalanga (BirdLife South Africa). We ask the avifaunal specialist to state whether Wattled Cranes were recorded during monitoring, to assess their use of the Suikerbosrand wetlands and surrounding grasslands, and if they were not recorded, to explain how a regionally Endangered species seen locally could have been missed; and to name all 12 species of conservation concern identified. Because the separate grid connection will add further power lines, the collision risk assessed in this DEIR is incomplete.</p>	<p>Pre-Application Monitoring and Site Sensitivity Verification Report. Wattled Crane was not recorded during the pre-application monitoring programme, was not identified as a sensitive species by the National Web-based Screening Tool and was not identified by the specialist assessment as a species requiring further assessment for the site. The report acknowledges uncertainty associated with avoidance rates, collision modelling inputs and inter-annual variation, and includes post-construction monitoring and adaptive management measures to verify predicted impacts and mitigation effectiveness. The separate grid connection infrastructure is subject to a separate environmental assessment process and does not form part of the current application. The adequacy of the specialist methodology, findings and proposed mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	

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	<p>The collision risk modelling rests on assumptions the specialist openly acknowledges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It assumes turbine placement plus blade patterning achieves a 72% reduction in collisions, a figure recorded for blade patterning alone. The specialist states that actual efficacy "will only be verifiable through post-construction carcass monitoring". Avoidance rates of 95% to 98% are taken from international guidance, because avoidance estimates for South African birds do not yet exist. Inter-annual variation is not accounted for, as only one year of data was collected. The model assumes birds are evenly distributed and fly at constant speeds, which the specialist accepts is not true for soaring raptors. A mitigation measure whose effect can only be discovered after 20 turbines are built and birds are killed is not a basis for authorisation. Section 2(4)(a)(vii) of NEMA requires a risk-averse and cautious approach where knowledge is limited. That principle points to refusal. 	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. The Avifaunal Impact Assessment documents the assumptions, limitations and uncertainty associated with the collision risk modelling, including the application of avoidance rates, mitigation assumptions and the available monitoring data. The assessment recognises that the effectiveness of certain mitigation measures can only be verified through post-construction monitoring and includes operational monitoring, adaptive management and mitigation commitments to address residual uncertainty. The specialist findings, assumptions, predicted impacts and recommended management measures are presented in the specialist assessment and reflected in the DEIR and EMPr. The adequacy of the assessment methodology, assumptions and proposed mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p>DEIR Sections 10 and 12</p> <p>EMPr Sections 7.13 & 8: Appendix J - DEIR</p> <p>Appendix G.5 - DEIR</p>
	<p>4.7 Bats</p> <p>The Screening Tool rated the site as High sensitivity for bats, and the specialist could not refute this, citing the rivers, open water and numerous wetlands. At</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The bat specialist specifically considered the relationship between turbine locations, rotor-swept areas and the recommended bat buffers associated</p>	<p>Table 11-1, Figure 40 and Appendix G.6 DEIR</p>

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	<p>scoping, bat mortality was rated Very High before mitigation. The specialist prescribes 200 m buffers around water sources, and buffers around ridges and wooded areas. Bats are killed at turbines by both collision and barotrauma.</p> <p>A buffer is only meaningful if it applies to the blade tip, not the tower base. With a 100 m blade, a turbine sited 150 m from a buffer edge sweeps into it. We ask for confirmation that no part of any rotor swept area enters any bat buffer, and for the full 12-month monitoring dataset.</p>	<p>with watercourses, wetlands, open water features, roosts, ridges and wooded areas. As confirmed in the Bat Impact Assessment (Appendix G.6), all confirmed roosts and their associated buffers are treated as no-go areas for turbines, and all water sources, including open water and streams, are subject to a 200 m buffer that is considered a no-go area for turbine placement.</p> <p>The specialist further confirmed that turbine positions were assessed based on an assumed blade length of 100 m and that no turbines are located such that any part of the rotor-swept area would infringe upon the prescribed buffers.</p> <p>Table 11-1 of the DEIR confirms compliance of the assessed layout with the specialist's recommended buffers, while Figure 40 of Appendix G.6 illustrates the proposed turbine locations relative to the applicable bat buffers. The Bat Impact Assessment concludes that no turbines are positioned in a manner that would result in the blade sweep extending into the buffered no-go areas.</p>	

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	<p>4.8 Water resources</p> <p>The site contains the Suikerbosrand River and its tributaries, valley-bottom wetlands, and features mapped as Freshwater Ecosystem Priority Areas. The DEIR also maps the site against Strategic Water Source Areas. The aquatic specialist records that no long-term baseline monitoring was undertaken, that little existing information is available, and that areas not ground-truthed were extrapolated from aerial imagery.</p>	 <p>Figure 40. Proposed locations of the wind turbines in comparison to the required bat buffers</p> <p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. The aquatic assessment identifies and assesses the Suikerbosrant River, associated tributaries and wetlands, and confirms these features as being of high aquatic sensitivity. The assessment acknowledges the limitations relating to baseline monitoring and field verification and includes recommended setbacks of 50 m from watercourses and 100 m from wetlands, together with mitigation measures for watercourse crossings, stormwater management, erosion control, pollution prevention and monitoring. The aquatic specialist</p>	<p>DEIR Sections 9, 10 and 12</p> <p>EMPr Sections 7.8, 8.5 and 8.9: Appendix J - DEIR</p> <p>Aquatic Assessment: Sections 2.5, 5, 6, 8 and 9; Figures 13–16:</p>

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	<p>The proposed buffers are only 50 m from watercourses and 100 m from wetlands. Against that sit up to 31 km of roads with a 12 m construction corridor, about 18 km of widened farm roads, concrete batching, hardstands and cable crossings. The specialist's view that road and powerline impacts "can be effectively mitigated" is an assertion, not an assessment. We irrigate export crops from the Suikerbosrand River under our irrigation rights, and neighbouring farms depend on the same water. We ask for a schedule of every watercourse and wetland crossing.</p>	<p>assessment identifies ten watercourse crossings associated with the final layout and provides recommendations for the preferred crossing locations and management of these crossings. The adequacy of the assessment and proposed mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p><u>Appendix G.3 - DEIR</u></p>
	<p><u>4.9 Heritage and the cultural landscape</u></p> <p>Heritage sensitivity was rated Very High by the Screening Tool and confirmed as Very High by the specialist, who found significant Iron Age archaeology and intact cultural landscape resources. More than 100 heritage points are recorded, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> dozens of Iron Age stone-walled enclosures, some with cairn-marked graves; a stone-walled fort from the South African War on a koppie; numerous cemeteries, including the Jacobs (1908), Goosen (1890s), Gouws and Bekker, Modipa and Ntaopane family graves, and several farmworkers' burial grounds with up to 60 graves each; 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. The Heritage Impact Assessment confirms that the study area contains archaeological, burial, built heritage and cultural landscape resources of varying sensitivity, including areas of very high heritage sensitivity. These resources informed the heritage sensitivity mapping, recommended no-go areas, buffers and layout refinement undertaken during the EIA process. The assessment acknowledges the potential for renewable energy development to contribute to cumulative changes in cultural landscape character; however, it concludes that the final layout avoids identified very high sensitivity areas, follows existing road alignments where feasible, and avoids direct impacts on key heritage</p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 9.14 and 12</u></p> <p><u>Heritage Impact Assessment Sections 5.1.1, 5.5, 5.4, 8 and 9: Appendix G.4 – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Sections 7.6, 7.15 & 8.6: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> historical werfs at Laagerspoort, Steynskraal and Malanskraal (with Cape Revival gables); Klipplaat koppie, a prominent landmark the specialist says must be avoided entirely; and an historical gold-mining shaft. The heritage specialist's site sensitivity report warns of a very high visual impact on a relatively intact and representative cultural landscape, with an extremely limited ability to screen turbines. It states that these impacts cannot be mitigated and cannot be rehabilitated once the project ends. Point buffers of 50 m to 500 m protect individual features from construction, but not the landscape they belong to. We ask that no decision be taken before SAHRA has issued its final comment under section 38(8) of the NHRA. 	resources and prominent landscape features. The Heritage Impact Assessment therefore concludes that the anticipated cumulative impact of the proposed development on the cultural landscape is acceptable, subject to the implementation of the recommended mitigation and management measures. Any comment received from SAHRA forms part of the decision-making information available to the competent authority.	
	<p>4.10 Visual impact and sense of place</p> <p>The visual specialist finds that visual exposure within 20 km will be "very high", and that within 5 km the facility would dominate the view, with a potentially high to very high visual impact. Receptors include numerous homesteads, tourist accommodation, the N3, R23 and R103, the Alice Glockner Nature Reserve (5.1 km) and, further out, the Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve (12.3 km). The DEIR notes that the area is "a known wedding venue and tourist destination", with</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. The Visual Impact Assessment identifies and assesses tourist accommodation, wedding venues, homesteads and other sensitive visual receptors within the study area. The assessment specifically identifies Stone Cellar, Mondoro Lodge Wedding Venue, Charmick Wedding and Functions Venue, Hayani Country Stay, Mooi Begin Guest Farm & Venue and The Wild Lodge & Wedding Venue as sensitive visual receptors considered in the assessment. These</p>	<p>Visual Impact Assessment Sections 6.7, 7, 8, 10 and 11; Maps 10–12; Tables 20, 22, 24 and 28; Appendix G.7 – DEIR</p>

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	<p><u>guesthouses and lodges within 1 km, and the Tuin van Eden campsite inside the project area.</u></p> <p><u>As far as we can determine, the DEIR does not name the two tourism businesses closest to us. Our direct neighbours are Stone Cellar, a wedding and events venue, and Mondoro Game Lodge. Stone Cellar is also one of our biggest clients for flowers. Both depend entirely on an unspoilt rural setting: couples choose Stone Cellar for its countryside backdrop, and guests come to Mondoro for the bushveld, wildlife and quiet. Neither business appears as a named receptor in the visual, noise or social assessments, and the impact on them does not appear to have been assessed. We ask that both be included as specific receptors, with photomontages, noise predictions and shadow-flicker assessments from each venue, and an assessment of the effect on their businesses.</u></p>	<p><u>establishments are included on the stakeholder database, were notified of the proposed development and afforded an opportunity to comment during the Scoping and EIA phases. No comments have been received from Stone Cellar or Mondoro Lodge Wedding Venue to date. The assessment further notes that “the views were chosen to as far as possible accurately represent the likely visual impact from a variety of viewpoints/receptors and directions around the proposed WEF site”, and that the purpose of the photo simulation exercise was “to support/verify the findings of the VIA”. Visual impacts on tourism accommodation, wedding venues, homesteads and shadow flicker receptors are assessed in the specialist study and reflected in the impact assessment findings.</u></p> <p><u>VISUAL SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p><u>This list contains visually exposed receptors. Receptors, even in relatively close proximity (e.g. The Oppi Koppie by die Dam Gastelaas), that are not exposed is omitted. The aforementioned guest facilities are set down very low in the landscape (i.e. on the edge of the dam), and is not exposed to the wind turbine structures and therefore not likely to be visually impacted by exposure to the wind turbine structures. Receptors located higher up in the landscape (east of the dam e.g. the Fortuna Resort)</u></p>	

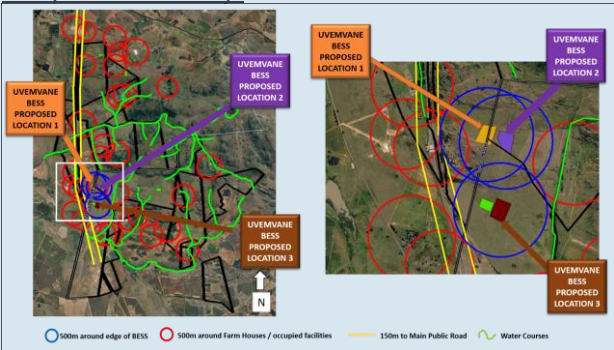
<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		are exposed and have been mapped and listed. The Stone Cellar facilities (Stone Cellar proper) is located within a view shadow caused by the hill to the west, but a section of the property further down the hill (further east) may be exposed. This receptor is included in the list as a sensitive visual receptor as a precaution in the event that the exposed part the property is utilized for guest functions.	
	<p>The assessment understates this impact in three ways:</p> <p>1. Landscape quality is downgraded by label. The study area is rated only "moderate" by calling it "urban edge". This contradicts the DEIR's own description of "wide open, predominately rural agricultural and undeveloped landscapes" of "moderate to high visual quality", and the heritage specialist's "relatively intact" cultural landscape.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. The Visual Impact Assessment differentiates between landscape quality and landscape character sensitivity as separate assessment criteria. The report describes the study area as having "moderate to high visual quality", while the landscape character sensitivity rating is based on the specialist's assessment of the broader landscape context, existing infrastructure, land-use patterns and capacity for change. The findings of the visual and heritage assessments are presented in the respective specialist reports using discipline-specific methodologies.</p>	<p>DEIR Sections 10 and 12</p> <p>EMPr Section 7.15: Appendix J – EMPr</p> <p>Visual Impact Assessment Sections 4, 6.3, 10 and 11: Appendix G.7 – DEIR</p> <p>Heritage Impact Assessment: Appendix G.4 - DEIR</p>

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	<p>2. Receptors are removed. Farmsteads not currently occupied are excluded as receptors. This ignores future occupation, workers' housing and our right to develop our own land.</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. The Visual Impact Assessment identifies visual receptors based on conditions verified at the time of the specialist assessment through desktop and on-site verification. The specialist notes that: <i>"The inhabited status of all homesteads within the proposed development site has been verified via a combination of desktop and on-site verification methods"</i> and further states that "farmsteads do retain the potential to be affected visually should they ever become inhabited again in the future." The assessment also notes that "Where any of the above-mentioned homesteads are derelict or deserted, the visual impact will be non-existent, until such time as it is inhabited again." Visual impacts were assessed using the verified visual receptors and representative viewpoints identified by the specialist.</p>	<p><u>Visual Impact Assessment Sections 4, 6.2, 6.7 and 10: Appendix G.7 - DEIR</u></p>
	<p>3. Night-time impact is not addressed. Aviation obstruction lighting on 20 structures of this height will introduce flashing red lights to a dark rural night sky.</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. The Visual Impact Assessment includes a specific assessment of operational, safety and aircraft warning lighting at night, including consideration of Aircraft Detection Lighting Systems (ADLS) and other lighting mitigation measures. The assessment identifies</p>	<p><u>Visual Impact Assessment Sections 10.2.2.5, 12 and 13: Figure 29, Figure 30 and Figure 31; Tables 29 and</u></p>

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		<u>potential lighting impacts on nearby visual receptors and recommends mitigation measures for inclusion in the EMPr.</u>	30: Appendix G.7 – DEIR
	<p><u>We ask for photomontages taken from our homestead, and shadow-flicker hours per year for each dwelling on our property.</u></p> <p><u>For us, the view is part of the business. Our flower-farm open days, and the destination garden, and farm experience, depend on an unspoilt rural setting. Visitors come for flowers, open landscape and quiet, not for 280 m turbines on the skyline and the sound of rotors.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. The Visual Impact Assessment assesses turbine visibility and shadow flicker at identified sensitive receptors and includes photo simulations from viewpoints selected to represent a range of receptors, viewing directions and landscape conditions within the study area. The assessment states that the photo simulations were undertaken to “support/verify the findings of the VIA” and that “the views were chosen to as far as possible accurately represent the likely visual impact from a variety of viewpoints/receptors and directions around the proposed WEF site”. No photomontages were prepared from the commenter’s homestead.</u></p>	<u>Visual Impact Assessment Sections 7, 8 and 10; Map 11; Map 12; Photo Simulations 1–6: Appendix G.7 – DEIR</u>
	<p>4.11 Noise</p> <p><u>The Screening Tool rates noise sensitivity as Very High. The DEIR records 11 noise-sensitive receptors within 1,000 m of turbines, and notes that turbine noise is likely audible up to 2,500 m at night. It also acknowledges that several turbines at 1 to 2 km can</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. The Noise Impact Assessment verifies the identified noise-sensitive receptors and presents baseline measurements, operational noise contours and receptor-specific modelled levels based on the assessed layout and a representative turbine sound power level. Low-frequency noise and amplitude modulation are</u></p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 9, 10 & 12</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Sections 7.16, 8.17: Appendix J – DEIR</u></p>

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	<p>produce more noise at a dwelling than a single turbine at 500 m.</p> <p>The baseline is flawed. Ambient sound was measured over about six nights in November 2024 only. The specialist records that the levels were driven by cattle, barking dogs, birds, insects (a peak at 4 to 6.3 kHz) and passing traffic. On that basis, this rural farming area was classified as a suburban noise district, setting the night-time rating level at 40 dBA instead of the 35 dBA used for rural districts under SANS 10103:2008. A 5 dBA relaxation is a clearly noticeable difference. Mooing cattle and summer insects are exactly what rural quiet sounds like; they do not make a farm suburban.</p> <p>The DEIR also does not show that amplitude modulation (the rhythmic "swish") and low-frequency noise were assessed, which are the main causes of complaints near wind farms. We ask for noise contours for the selected turbine model at every dwelling on our property, assessed against the rural limit.</p>	<p>considered, together with the limitations of predicting these characteristics. The assessment recommends recalculation where the selected turbine exceeds the assessed sound power level, as well as monitoring and noise-abatement measures at relevant receptors. The adequacy of the assessment methodology and adopted criteria remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p><u>Appendix G.8 - DEIR</u></p>
	<p>4.12 <u>Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)</u></p> <p>The electrical hub of up to 7 ha includes a BESS whose technology and location are both undecided. The safety assessment assumes lithium-ion batteries and describes the hazards: thermal runaway,</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. The BESS technology and electrical infrastructure hub alternatives, including associated safety risks and proximity to identified receptors, are assessed in the DEIR and relevant specialist studies. The specialist confirmed that all</p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 3, 9–12</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Sections 5.10, 5.15, 7.17 & 8.5:</u></p>

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	<p><u>explosion, fire spreading between cells, and toxic gases including hydrogen fluoride and hydrogen cyanide. It also warns that firefighting can generate large volumes of contaminated runoff. Its own mapping shows occupied facilities and watercourses within 500 m of the hub options.</u></p> <p><u>Rural emergency response capacity in this area is limited. The safety assessment also refers to "the Groothoek facilities", which suggests it was adapted from another project rather than written for this site. We ask for the selected hub location, battery chemistry, separation distances to dwellings and watercourses, and an emergency response plan agreed with the local fire services, before any decision.</u></p>	<p><u>three proposed electrical infrastructure hub locations are located more than 500 m from occupied dwellings and developments (including the Balfour Toll Plaza on the N3) and are therefore considered suitable. Figure 2.1.3 of the SHE Risk Assessment illustrates 500 m setback buffers around both the proposed BESS locations and occupied facilities. While some of these buffers overlap, the occupied dwellings and developments themselves do not fall within 500 m of any proposed BESS location. The figure is therefore intended to demonstrate compliance with the recommended separation distance rather than indicate that receptors occur within the BESS impact zone. The EMPr includes measures for hazardous material management, pollution and contaminated-runoff control, fire management, emergency preparedness and incident response. The identified project reference error has been corrected in the DEIR and specialist study. The requested confirmation of the final design and site-specific emergency arrangements remains subject to detailed design, applicable requirements and consideration by the</u></p>	<p><u>Appendix J – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>SHE Risk Assessment, Appendix G.15 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Aquatic Assessment Sections 6–9: Appendix G.3 - DEIR</u></p>

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	<p>4.13 <u>Agriculture, our farming operations and fire</u></p> <p>The Screening Tool rated agricultural sensitivity as Very High, citing pivot irrigation and land capability. The specialist disputed this because there is no pivot irrigation "directly in" the WEF 1 area, while acknowledging that it occurs in adjacent areas. Those adjacent areas are neighbouring farms. The specialist also confirmed high sensitivity for Category 1 soils.</p> <p>Impacts on neighbouring farming are not captured by a 1.12% footprint figure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>restrictions on crop-spraying aircraft near 280 m turbines;</u> 	<p>competent authority.</p>  <p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. Impacts relating to agricultural activities, construction traffic, dust, access control, security, fire management, and potential interactions with surrounding land uses are considered in the DEIR, relevant specialist studies and the EMPr. The EMPr includes measures relating to traffic and access management, protection of fences and gates, security controls, dust suppression, emergency preparedness and fire management. The concerns raised regarding neighbouring farming operations, aerial agricultural activities, fire management and property values form part of the public participation record submitted to the competent authority. The</p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 9, 10 & 12</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Sections 7.7, 7.17, 8.3 & 8.19: Appendix J – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Agricultural Agro-Ecosystem Assessment Sections 4.2 and 4.8; Tables 21, 25 and 26:</u></p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> abnormal loads and heavy construction traffic on gravel farm roads such as the D1220, D1422 and P243/1; dust, gates left open, and security and stock-theft risk from construction influx; turbines as an ignition source (nacelle fires) during the Highveld winter fire season; and restrictions on aerial firefighting near turbines, precisely when fire spreads fastest. We ask for a fire management plan agreed with the local Fire Protection Association, and an assessment of the effect on neighbouring property values. 	adequacy of the assessment and proposed mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority	<u>Appendix G.1 – DEIR</u> <u>Social Impact Assessment Sections 7, 9.1.4, 9.1.6 and 9.1.8: Appendix G.11 - DEIR</u> <u>Traffic Impact Assessment Sections 6–8: Appendix G.9 - DEIR</u>
	<p><u>Our own operations.</u> The agricultural specialist assessed land capability inside the project area. As far as we can determine, the DEIR does not assess the effect on specialised farming operations next to it, such as ours:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Garlic, export markets and crop biosecurity. Garlic is vulnerable to soil-borne diseases such as white rot, which can persist in soil for many years and spreads on soil carried by vehicles, machinery and footwear. Heavy construction traffic moving between farms, and soil moved during road building, create a real risk of bringing disease onto our lands. Our garlic is exported, and export 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. The Agricultural Agro-Ecosystem Assessment considers agricultural activities on adjacent land and potential disruption to farming operations. The EMPr includes controls relating to site access, vehicle and equipment movement, soil handling, off-road driving and protection of adjacent agricultural areas. In response to the concern raised, the EMPr has been updated to require a pre-construction biosecurity protocol addressing the transfer of soil-borne agricultural pathogens by project personnel, vehicles and equipment. The adequacy of these</p>	<u>DEIR Sections 9, 10 & 12</u> <u>Agricultural Agro-Ecosystem Assessment Sections 2.2.1, 4.2 and 4.8 & Tables 21, 24–26: Appendix G.1 – DEIR</u>

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	<u>markets demand clean, disease-free produce. An infected field is lost to garlic for years, which breaks our rotation across the whole farm and puts our export business at risk.</u>	<u>measures remains subject to consideration by the competent authority.</u>	<u>Appendix J - DEIR</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Dust on high-value flowers. Our dahlias and peonies are sold into export and local markets on the quality of their blooms, and dust and marking directly reduce their value. Construction dust from 31 km of new and widened gravel roads, four batching and laydown areas and heavy vehicles threatens this crop, and our planned expansion, for the whole construction period.</u> 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. Potential dust impacts associated with construction activities and construction traffic were assessed in the DEIR and relevant specialist studies. The Traffic Impact Assessment identifies dust generation from construction vehicle movements on access and internal roads and recommends dust suppression and road maintenance measures. The EMPr includes measures for dust suppression, speed control, use of designated access routes, road maintenance, and monitoring and corrective action where required. The concern regarding potential effects on adjacent high-value flower production forms part of the public participation record submitted to the competent authority.</u></p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 9, 10 & 12</u></p> <p><u>EMPr, Sections 7.7 & 8.3: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Agricultural Agro-Ecosystem Assessment Sections 4.2 & 4.8; Table 25: Appendix G,1 – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Social Impact Assessment Section 9.1.8.2: Appendix G.11</u></p> <p><u>Traffic Impact Assessment Sections 6.1.1,</u></p>

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			<u>7.1 & 8; Tables 7-1 and 8-2; Appendix G.9 - DEIR</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Irrigation water from the Suikerbosrand River. We irrigate export crops from the Suikerbosrand River under our irrigation rights. The project places roads, watercourse crossings, batching plants and hardstands on and around the river and its tributaries. Sediment, cement washwater or fuel spills would affect the water we irrigate with, and any contamination can compromise export produce. The DEIR offers only 50 m buffers and no long-term baseline (see 4.8).</u> 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. Potential impacts on surface-water quality, including sedimentation and contamination from construction activities, are assessed in the DEIR and Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment. The EMPr includes requirements for aquatic buffers, controlled watercourse crossings, stormwater and erosion management, pollution and spill prevention, and the management of concrete batching and washwater. While the Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment applied watercourse buffers of up to 50 m, the avifauna and bat specialist assessments applied more conservative avoidance buffers of up to 200 m around watercourses, which informed layout refinement and infrastructure siting. The concern regarding irrigation water quality forms part of the public participation record submitted for the competent authority's consideration.</p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 9, 10 & 12</u></p> <p><u>EMPr Sections 7.8, 8.5 & 8.9: Appendix J - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment Sections 6, 7, 8.1 & 9: Appendix G.3 - DEIR</u></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Borehole water for people and animals. Our homesteads, workers' homes and livestock rely entirely on boreholes. Concrete foundations for 20</u> 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. Construction water supply is addressed in Section 3 of the DEIR and Section 3</p>	<u>Section 3 – DEIR</u>

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	<p>turbines, plus roads and batching, need large volumes of water. The DEIR does not say where this water will come from, or whether groundwater abstraction, blasting or foundation works could affect the boreholes we depend on.</p>	<p>of the EMPr, which provide for municipal supply or an authorised service provider, with alternative sources subject to applicable legal requirements. Measures for protecting groundwater and managing pollution are included in EMPr Sections 7.8 and 8.5. The adequacy of the proposed water-supply arrangements and measures relating to neighbouring boreholes remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p><u>EMPR Sections 3, 7.8 & 8.5: Appendix J – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Aquatic Assessment Section 7 to 9: Appendix G.3 – DEIR</u></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pollinators and beneficial insects. Our farm benefits from healthy pollinator and beneficial insect populations supported by the surrounding grassland, bushveld and wetlands. Clearing, fragmentation and ongoing disturbance of that habitat erode it, and the butterfly specialist has already identified conflict areas between insect habitat and the layout. 	<p><u>BUTTERFLY SPECIALIST:</u></p> <p>Comment is well noted. Management of grassland and savanna habitat is extremely difficult and should be based on strong scientific principles (with conservation objectives). The level of habitat loss and fragmentation within the wider region caused by agriculture as well as AIP infestation across the landscape, is well-documented (also in the report). It is however unclear whether management plans for biodiversity purposes have previously been developed or implemented in the region. The opportunity might therefore exist that these plans could contribute towards management of remaining natural habitat on a wider scale. As mentioned above, 'Potential conflict areas' do not represent areas where severe or unacceptable impacts are</p>	<p><u>Appendix G.14 – DEIR</u></p>

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		<u>expected, the application of site-specific mitigation measures is advised in all events.</u>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Sheep and cattle. Blasting, piling, heavy machinery and night works can stress livestock, especially during lambing and calving. Our beef and lamb are sold as premium, deli-quality meat, which depends on calm, low-stress animals and clean pastures; stress and disrupted grazing directly affect that quality. Construction also brings damaged fences, gates left open, animals straying onto roads, and a higher risk of stock theft with more traffic and strangers in the area.</u> 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. Potential impacts on livestock welfare, farming operations and community security, including stock-theft risks, are addressed in the Agricultural Agro-Ecosystem, Noise and Social Impact Assessments. The Noise Impact Assessment specifically considered potential noise impacts on domesticated animals and notes that livestock may experience a temporary startle or stress response to unfamiliar construction noise, but generally adapt and habituate to ongoing activities. The assessment further notes that noise levels associated with the proposed development are not expected to result in long-term adverse effects on the health, reproduction or productivity of cattle, sheep or goats. The EMPr includes measures for landowner engagement, controlled access and vehicle movement, maintenance of fences and gates, security controls, complaint management, and the management of construction-related noise and disturbance. The concerns raised form part of the public participation record submitted to the competent authority</u></p>	<p><u>Agricultural Agro-Ecosystem Assessment Sections 4.2 and 4.8 and Tables 21 and 26: Appendix G.1 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Noise Report - Appendix G.8 – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animal-disease biosecurity. Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) is already a live threat in this specific area. In 2025, FMD was confirmed at the Karan Beef feedlot in Heidelberg, among the largest feedlots in the world, with further cases at its Nigel facility, as part of outbreaks across several provinces (Daily Maverick; EWN). FMD spreads on vehicles, equipment, footwear and clothing. Years of construction traffic, contractors and workers moving between farms in an FMD-affected district would multiply the risk to our cattle and sheep. An outbreak on our farm would mean movement restrictions and the loss of our premium meat market. As far as we can determine, neither the DEIR nor the EMPr sets out enforceable animal-disease biosecurity measures. These impacts fall on us, not on the host landowners. We ask that they be specifically assessed, and weighed by the DFFE, before any decision. 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. Potential impacts on farming operations were assessed in the Agricultural Agro-Ecosystem Assessment and relevant management measures are included in the EMPr. The assessment identified a low indirect risk of disruption to farming activities during construction and operation, with mitigation measures including controlled site access, restrictions on unnecessary off-road driving, protection of agricultural infrastructure, and engagement with affected landowners. In response to concerns raised during the public participation process, the EMPr has been updated to include the development and implementation of a pre-construction animal disease biosecurity protocol for construction personnel, vehicles and equipment, in consultation with affected landowners where appropriate. The adequacy of the proposed mitigation measures remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p><u>Agricultural Agro-Ecosystem Assessment Sections 4.2 and 4.8 and Tables 21 and 26 – Appendix G.1 - DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Section 7 – EMPr: Appendix J- DEIR</u></p>
	<p><u>4.14 Undermined ground and geotechnical risk</u></p> <p>At scoping, the geotechnical screening rated <u>subsidence as High</u> in the construction, operational and decommissioning phases, and cumulatively. The</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. The Geotechnical Assessment identifies potential mining-related constraints and recommends infrastructure-specific investigations during detailed design to confirm</p>	<p><u>Geotechnical Assessment Sections 6.5, 9 and 10: Appendix G.10 - DEIR</u></p>

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	<p><u>heritage survey recorded an historical gold-mining shaft on site, and the DEIR's geology includes the gold-bearing Central Rand and West Rand Groups. Foundations for 280 m turbines on potentially undermined ground are a real safety risk. Turbine-specific geotechnical investigations should be completed before a decision, not after.</u></p>	<p><u>local ground and foundation conditions. The adequacy and timing of further investigations remain matters for determination by the competent authority.</u></p>	<p><u>Heritage Impact Assessment Section 4.2: Appendix G.4-DEIR</u></p>
	<p>4.15 Social impacts and tourism</p> <p><u>The local economy around the site includes wedding venues, guesthouses, lodges and campsites that depend on a rural, scenic setting. Construction jobs are temporary, and the scoping screening rated the energy-generation benefit itself as only Low. The DEIR's own baseline reports high rates of burglary and assault at the nearest police stations, and no local gender-based-violence services, which a construction workforce influx will pressure further. The loss of tourism income and amenity for neighbours is not weighed against the modest local benefits.</u></p> <p><u>Our own business is part of this tourism economy. We already host flower-farm open days, which run on weekdays and weekends throughout the flowering season from November to April. That is also peak wedding season, and construction dust, traffic and</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. The Social Impact Assessment considers nearby farming and hospitality receptors and assesses potential impacts associated with workforce influx, community health and safety, traffic, dust, noise and visual change. Applicable mitigation and stakeholder grievance measures are included in the specialist studies and EMPr. The concerns regarding the commenter's tourism and flower-farming activities form part of the public participation record submitted to the competent authority. The adequacy of the assessment and proposed mitigation remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p>	<p><u>Social Impact Assessment Sections 7, 9.1.2, 9.1.6–9.1.8 and 9.2.2–9.2.7: Appendix G.11 – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Appendix G.7, G.8 & G.9–DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>

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	<p>noise during these months would fall directly on our busiest trading period. Our flower farm is already a tourist destination in its own right, attracting visitors from across Gauteng to open days on weekdays and weekends throughout the flowering season from November to April. Neighbouring wedding venues, their brides and their guests are among our main clients, both for flowers and for activities. The facility threatens our clients' businesses and ours at the same time: brides do not choose venues under industrial turbines, and visitors do not travel for that view. The DEIR does not assess the loss of this existing and planned tourism income, or the investment it puts at risk.</p>		
	<p>4.16 Cumulative impacts</p> <p>WEF 1 is one part of a cluster that also includes WEF 2, and its grid connection will be assessed separately. The DEIR identifies other renewable energy projects within 50 km, alongside existing 400 kV lines and the Grootvlei Power Station. The existing infrastructure is used to argue that the landscape can absorb change. In reality, it shows how far industrialisation of this area has already gone. Cumulative impacts on birds, bats, grassland habitat and landscape character must be assessed quantitatively and together with WEF 2 and the grid connection, before any decision on WEF 1.</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. As described in Sections 5.2, 5.3.1 and 8.2 of the DEIR, the development concept considered during the Site Sensitivity Verification process included ABO Uvemvane WEF 1 and ABO Uvemvane WEF 2, which were subsequently refined through specialist assessment and layout optimisation. Cumulative impacts were assessed as part of the EIA process (Section 10), including consideration of existing, approved and reasonably foreseeable developments and energy-related infrastructure, where relevant to the respective specialist</p>	<p>Section 5.2, Section 5.3, Figures 5-1 to 5-4, Section 8.2, Figures 8-1 to 8-7, Section 10 and Tables 10-2 to 10-11 - DEIR</p>

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		disciplines. The findings of these assessments, including the underlying assumptions, methodology, significance ratings and mitigation measures, are presented in the relevant specialist studies and reflected in the cumulative impact assessment contained in the DEIR. The comment forms part of the public participation record submitted to the competent authority. The adequacy of the cumulative impact assessment, including the consideration of associated developments and infrastructure, remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	
	<p>4.17 Decommissioning and financial provision</p> <p>Appendix 3 item (t) of the DEIR marks financial provision for rehabilitation, closure and post decommissioning management as "N/A". Twenty turbines with foundations of up to 1 ha each, 31 km of roads and a battery facility will need to be removed at the end of the project's life. Without a binding, ring-fenced decommissioning guarantee, that burden could fall on landowners, neighbours or the state. And even full removal after an operating life of roughly 25 years would not return the landscape: road networks, cleared</p>	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is acknowledged. The decommissioning phase, including the removal of infrastructure, rehabilitation of disturbed areas and post-decommissioning monitoring requirements, is assessed in the DEIR and addressed through the EMPr. The EMPr includes measures relating to infrastructure removal, rehabilitation, revegetation, erosion management, monitoring of rehabilitated areas and decommissioning planning. Matters relating to financial provision, closure obligations and any associated regulatory requirements remain subject to the applicable legislative framework and the requirements of the competent authority. The</p>	<p>Section 2.3.2, Sections 10, 11 & 12 - DEIR;</p> <p>EMPr Sections 7.7, 7.10, 7.11, 7.12, 7.13, 7.15, 8.7, 8.9 – Appendix J - DEIR</p>

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	<u>corridors, buried foundations and fragmented habitat would remain for generations.</u>	<u>adequacy of the proposed decommissioning and rehabilitation measures will be considered by the competent authority during its review of the application.</u>	
	<p>4.18 <u>The DEIR is not reliable enough to support a decision</u></p> <p><u>The DEIR contains errors that go beyond typographical slips:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>the noise section says it is extracted from a report "compiled by LOGIS", although the noise specialist is Enviro-Acoustic Research;</u> <u>the safety section refers to "the Groothoek facilities";</u> <u>Mpumalanga is described as bordering "Swaziland";</u> <u>the comment period is stated differently in the DEIR and in WSP's notices; and</u> <u>numerous cross-references read "Error! Reference source not found", including in the table that tells readers where each specialist's findings appear.</u> <u>The EAP has a duty under Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations to ensure that the information provided is objective and accurate. A decision-maker cannot safely rely on a report with errors of this kind on a project of this scale.</u> 	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is acknowledged. The identified attribution, naming, geographic, public participation date and cross-reference errors have been corrected in the DEIR and, where applicable, in the relevant specialist studies. The corrected specialist studies remain the primary sources of the assessment findings, and the confirmed public comment period is recorded in the Stakeholder Engagement Report and supporting notification records. The sufficiency and reliability of the information for decision-making remain matters for determination by the competent authority.</u></p>	<p><u>Sections 2, 3, 6, 9 & 12 – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Sections 2.3, 2.4 and 3.3 – SER</u></p> <p><u>Appendices B and D - SER</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p>5. <u>Information we request before any decision</u></p> <p><u>We ask WSP to provide the following to us, and to include it in the Final EIA Report, with a further opportunity to comment:</u></p> <p><u>1. Coordinates of all 20 turbines, the three hub/BESS options, laydown areas and access roads, in a format we can open.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. The coordinates of the assessed project infrastructure have been included in Appendix D of the Final EIR and form part of the final application documentation available to interested and affected parties. The Final EIR reflects the infrastructure layout assessed as part of the EIA process and submitted to the competent authority for consideration.</u></p>	<u>Appendix D-DEIR</u>
	<p><u>2. The distance from each turbine, road and hub option to every dwelling, workers' house, grave and heritage site on Portion 15 of the Farm Wildebeestfontein 559 IR.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. The relevant specialist studies and supporting sensitivity maps included in the Final EIR identify the heritage resources and other sensitive receptors considered in relation to the assessed project infrastructure. The information presented reflects the scope and methodology of the respective specialist assessments. The adequacy of this information for decision-making remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p>	<u>Appendix D - DEIR</u>
	<p><u>3. Photomontages from our homestead, by day and at night with aviation lighting.</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. The Visual Impact Assessment includes photo simulations from selected viewpoints considered representative of sensitive visual receptors in the study area.</u></p>	<u>Visual Impact Assessment Sections 8, 10.2.2.6 & 12:</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		together with an assessment of the potential visual impacts associated with turbine visibility, operational lighting and aircraft warning lighting. The relevant findings are presented in the Visual Impact Assessment included in the Final EIR. No additional photomontages were prepared as part of the assessment. The Final EIR contains the visual information relied upon in the specialist assessment and submitted to the competent authority for consideration. The determination of whether the information before the competent authority is sufficient for decision-making remains a matter for the competent authority.	<u>Appendix G.7 - DEIR</u>
	4. Predicted noise levels and shadow-flicker hours per year at each dwelling on our property, for the selected turbine model, assessed against the rural noise district limit.	<u>EAP:</u> The comment is noted. Predicted operational noise levels at the assessed noise-sensitive receptors are provided in the Noise Impact Assessment and were modelled using the assessed layout and a representative turbine sound power level. Shadow-flicker risk is addressed separately in the Visual Impact Assessment. The adequacy of the information for decision-making remains a matter for the competent authority.	<u>Appendix G.8 - DEIR</u>
	5. Confirmation that every specialist assessed the 20-turbine DEIR layout, not an earlier layout.	<u>EAP:</u> Confirmed above.	<u>Appendix D - DEIR</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	6. The full collision risk model outputs and potential biological removal figures per bird species, and the full 12-month bat monitoring dataset.	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. The avifaunal and bat assessments included in the DEIR present the collision risk modelling, species-specific impact assessments, input assumptions, results and specialist findings relied upon in the assessment. The supporting survey data and analysis considered by the specialists are contained in the relevant specialist reports and appendices included in the Final EIR. The Final EIR contains the information submitted to the competent authority for consideration. The determination of whether additional information is required remains a matter for the competent authority.</p>	<p><u>Sections 10 & 12 – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Appendix G.5 & G.6 - DEIR</u></p>
	7. Confirmation that no rotor-swept area enters any bat, wetland, watercourse or heritage buffer.	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>Confirmed above.</p>	=
	8. A schedule of every watercourse and wetland crossing	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. The aquatic assessment identifies and maps the watercourses, wetlands, associated buffer areas and proposed watercourse crossings considered as part of the assessment. The locations of the assessed project infrastructure relative to these aquatic features are presented in the Final EIR and the specialist study. The Final EIR contains the information relied upon in the</p>	<u>Appendix D - DEIR</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		<u>assessment and submitted to the competent authority for consideration. The coordinates of the assessed project infrastructure (including watercourse crossings) have been included in Appendix D of the DEIR and form part of the final application documentation available to interested and affected parties.</u>	
	<u>9. Full details of the Biodiversity Offset Strategy: which residual impacts are to be offset, the receiving site, whether it is secured, and the DFFE's view.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>Addressed above, there is no Biodiversity Offset Strategy for this project. The Biodiversity Offset Technical Memorandum, confirming that biodiversity offsets are not applicable for the proposed project, is included as Appendix K of the DEIR.</u>	<u>Appendix K - DEIR</u>
	<u>10. Details of any consultation with descendants of those buried in the graves recorded on and around our farm, and SAHRA's final comment.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is noted. The Heritage Impact Assessment identified and assessed graves, burial grounds and other heritage resources located within the project area and areas relevant to the assessment, and appropriate development buffers were recommended where applicable. Consultation requirements in respect of graves are informed by the location of the heritage resource, the nature of the potential impact and the applicable heritage legislation. Any comments and requirements issued by SAHRA form part of the heritage review process</u>	<u>Appendix G.4: Sections 4.2, 5.1.2, 6, 8 and 9; Table 4 and Figures 6.1 to 6.5. – Heritage Impact Assessment</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		and are considered by the competent authority in its consideration of the application. The Final EIR and specialist studies contain the information relied upon in the assessment.	
	<u>11. The selected BESS location and chemistry, and an emergency response and fire management plan.</u>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. The Final EIR assesses three alternative electrical infrastructure hub locations and BESS technology alternatives as part of the project assessment. Measures relating to fire prevention and management, emergency preparedness and response, hazardous substances management, incident reporting, and occupational health and safety are included in the EMPr. Site-specific emergency response and fire management procedures would be developed and implemented as part of the detailed design and operational planning of the authorised facility. The adequacy of the information submitted remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p><u>DEIR: Sections 3 & 11;</u></p> <p><u>Appendix J – DEIR: EMPr Sections 5.10, 5.15 & 7.17</u></p>
	<u>12. Turbine-specific geotechnical and undermining investigations.</u>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is noted. A geotechnical assessment was undertaken as part of the EIA process and identifies the need for detailed, infrastructure-specific geotechnical investigations during the detailed design phase to confirm foundation and construction requirements. The geotechnical</p>	<p><u>Geotechnical study: Sections 6.5, 9 and 10: Appendix G.10 – DEIR</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		assessment also identifies potential mining-related constraints within the broader project area and recommends further investigation where infrastructure is proposed within identified risk areas. The EMPr requires that geotechnical recommendations and any site-specific investigations be implemented prior to construction. The adequacy of the information submitted remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.	
	13. An assessment of the effect on neighbouring property values, tourism businesses and farming operations, including our garlic, cut-flower, premium livestock and agritourism enterprises; the water source and volumes for construction, and the effect on neighbouring boreholes; how water quality in the Suikerbosrand River will be protected and monitored; and proposed biosecurity and dust controls.	<p>EAP:</p> <p>The comment is noted. Potential impacts on agricultural activities, tourism-related receptors, dust, traffic, community health and safety, groundwater and surface water resources were assessed as part of the EIA process, and mitigation measures are included in the specialist studies and EMPr. Water resource considerations, including construction water supply requirements, protection of watercourses, groundwater resources and water quality, are addressed through measures relating to buffer areas, stormwater management, erosion control, pollution prevention and monitoring. Measures relating to farming activities, site access controls, dust suppression, rehabilitation and construction management are also included in the EMPr. The Final EIR contains the information relied</p>	<p>Social Impact Assessment: Sections 7, 9.1.4 to 9.1.8: Appendix G.11 – DEIR</p> <p>Aquatic Assessment: Sections 6, 7, 8 & 9: Appendix G.3 – DEIR</p> <p>Appendix J - DEIR</p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		<u>upon in the assessment and submitted to the competent authority for consideration. The adequacy of the information submitted remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u>	
	<u>14. The alternative sites considered, including sites within REDZs, and why each was rejected.</u>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. The DEIR documents the alternatives considered within the scope of the application, including site and layout refinement, infrastructure alternatives, BESS technology alternatives and the no-go alternative. The rationale for the assessed project site and the environmental considerations informing the alternatives assessment are presented in the Final EIR and relevant specialist studies. The EMPr applies to the assessed development alternative. The adequacy of the alternatives considered, including whether further site alternatives were required, remains a matter for determination by the competent authority.</u></p>	<p><u>DEIR Sections 5, 8, 10 & 11</u></p> <p><u>Appendix F – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Appendix J - DEIR</u></p>
	<u>15. A decommissioning plan and the proposed financial guarantee.</u>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The comment is noted. Decommissioning-related impacts and management measures, including infrastructure removal, rehabilitation and post-decommissioning monitoring, are addressed in the Final EIR, specialist studies and EMPr. No specific financial guarantee is proposed in the application documentation. Any requirement for financial</u></p>	<p><u>DEIR: Sections 10 to 12</u></p> <p><u>Appendix J - EMPr</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
		<u>provision, closure planning or associated guarantees remains subject to the applicable legislative framework and the determination of the competent authority.</u>	
	<u>16. Where in Appendix E each point of our 15 April 2026 objection is responded to.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>Addressed above, Table 3.1 pages 113-128 of the SER included as Appendix E of DEIR.</u>	<u>Table 3.1 SER</u>
	<u>17. A security and stock-theft prevention plan for the construction and operational phases, including: access control and vetting of contractors and workers; how access to neighbouring farms will be restricted; fencing and gate management along all routes and work areas; security patrols and incident reporting; liaison with the local police and farm watch structures; and how affected landowners will be compensated for livestock losses, fence damage or theft linked to the project.</u>	<u>EAP:</u> <u>The comment is noted. The EMPr includes measures relating to site security, access control, fencing and gate management, protection of farming activities, management of complaints and claims, and community health, safety and security. These matters are addressed in Sections 7.7, 7.17, 8.17 and 8.19 of the EMPr. The detailed content of any site-specific security and stock-theft prevention measures, including operational security protocols and stakeholder liaison procedures, would be developed by the Applicant during project implementation, where required, and in accordance with applicable legal requirements, landowner agreements and authorisation conditions. The competent authority will consider the adequacy of the proposed management measures during its review of the application.</u>	<u>Appendix J – DEIR: Sections 7.7, 7.17, 8.17 and 8.19 – EMPr</u>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p>6. <u>Requested outcome and reservation of rights</u></p> <p>For the reasons above, we respectfully ask the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment to:</p> <p>1.refuse environmental authorisation for the ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1, on the basis that its significant adverse impacts on heritage, birds, bats, biodiversity, water resources, visual character, noise and neighbouring landowners cannot be avoided or reduced to acceptable levels, and that the no-go alternative is the best practicable environmental option;</p> <p>2. in the alternative, and before any decision, require the applicant to provide the information listed in Section 5, correct the errors identified in Section 4.18, and re-issue a revised DEIR for a further public comment period of at least 30 days;</p> <p>3. not take any decision before the grid connection for WEF 1 and the WEF 2 application can be assessed together with WEF 1 for cumulative impacts</p> <p>4.obtain and consider the final comments of SAHRA, the National Vulture Task Force, BirdLife South Africa, the Endangered Wildlife Trust, GDARD and the Mpumalanga DARDLEA before any decision; and</p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p>The comment is acknowledged and recorded. The matters raised have been captured in the public participation record and have informed consideration of the relevant specialist assessments, impact assessment, alternatives assessment, including the no-go alternative, and cumulative impact assessment presented in the EIR. This submission, together with previous submissions received and recorded during the environmental assessment process, forms part of the documentation submitted to the competent authority for consideration. The determination of the application, the consideration of the information before the competent authority, and whether any additional information, assessment or consultation is required, remain matters for determination by the competent authority.</p>	<p><u>SER Sections: 2.3, 2.4 and 3.3;</u></p> <p><u>Appendix A, B and D - SER</u></p> <p><u>DEIR Sections: 7.2, 9.10, 10.5, 11 and 12;</u></p> <p><u>Appendix G.5 – DEIR</u></p> <p><u>Appendix J- DEIR</u></p>

<u>Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/ &AP</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Report Reference</u>
	<p><u>5. ensure that this submission and our scoping submission of 15 April 2026 are placed before the decision-maker in full, with individual responses.</u></p>		
	<p><u>We request written notification of the decision. We reserve all our rights, including the right to appeal any decision under section 43 of NEMA and the National Appeal Regulations, 2014, and to raise further grounds as more information becomes available. This submission is made without prejudice to those rights.</u></p> <p>7. <u>Signature</u></p> <p><u>Submitted by: Werner van der Merwe on behalf of the owner of: Portion 15 of the Farm Wildebeestfontein 559 IR, Heidelberg, Gauteng</u></p>	<p><u>EAP:</u></p> <p><u>The request is acknowledged. The stakeholder will remain on the project database and be notified of the competent authority's decision in accordance with NEMA requirements. The reservation of rights under Section 43 of NEMA and the National Appeal Regulations, 2014 is noted and recorded in the Stakeholder Engagement Report. DFFE remains the competent authority responsible for the decision on the application.</u></p>	<p><u>Appendix D - SER</u></p>

3.4 NOTICE OF RESUBMISSION OF THE PROPOSED ABO UVEMVANE WEF 1

A notification was sent on 16 October 2026, to all registered I&APs, stakeholders and commenting authorities to inform them that WSP will be resubmitting a new application for EA for the proposed project in terms of Regulation 21(2) of GNR 326, as amended. Proof of notification is included in **Appendix B.1 and Appendix B.4**

Table 3-4 outlines the responses to comments received following the notice of all registered I&APs, stakeholders and commenting authorities about the resubmission for the proposed project.

Table 3-4 - Comments received for the notice of the re-application for the proposed project.

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
SAHRIS			
John Pakwe 19 October 2026 Email	Hi there, Please note that we requested for a .KML file and not a KMZ file. Kind regards, John Pakwe Heritage Officer: Development Applications Unit	EAP: Good morning, Thank for the feedback. I can confirm that the .KML file has now been uploaded today as requested (Submission #15229). Kind regards, Jashmika Maharaj	Appendix D-SER
MTPA			
Celia de Waal 19 October 2026 Email	Dear Ms. Strong Thank you for the notification for the re-submission of the application for EA for the proposed Establishment of	Good Day, RE: RE: 41106304 - Notice of the Re-submission of the Application for Environmental Authorisation for the Proposed Establishment of ABO Uvemvane	Appendix D-SER

Date of Comment, Format of Comment, Name of Organisation/I&AP	Comments	Response	Report Reference
	<p>ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (DFFE: 14/12/16/3/3/2/ 2803).</p> <p>We are looking forward to receiving the Draft EIAR as in your attached letter.</p> <p>Kind regards</p> <p>Celia de Waal</p>	<p>Wind Energy Facility 1, Mpumalanga and Gauteng Provinces (DFFE REF: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803)</p> <p>Thank you for acknowledging receipt of the Notice of the Re-submission of the Application for Environmental Authorisation for the above-mentioned project.</p> <p>We appreciate your confirmation and look forward to continued engagement as the project progresses.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>Jashmika Maharaj</p>	

Appendix A

STAKEHOLDER DATABASE



Category	Title	First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Position	Email1	Email 2	Cell 1	Cell 2	Tel 1	Tel 2
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations						
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations						
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation						
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation						
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation						
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation						
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation						
National Departments				Department of Forestry Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Environmental Officer						
National Departments				Department of Forestry Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Director: Environment						
National Departments				Department of Forestry Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Director: Air Quality Management						
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Protected Areas						
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Protected Areas						
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations						
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations						
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Control Environmental Officer						
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Compliance Monitoring Ass: Air Quality Directorate						
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Climate Change & Air Quality Management						
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Biodiversity Conservation						
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation						
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation						
National Departments				Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations						
National Departments				Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport (DPWR) (National)	Chief Director in the Office of the Director General						
National Departments				Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) Gauteng	Regional Manager						
National Departments				Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE)	Regional Manager' Secretary						
National Departments				Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE)	Project Coordinator Renewable Projects						
National Departments				Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE)	Director Renewable Projects						
National Departments				Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE)	Ass Director: Director General's Office						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department of Minerals and Resources (DMRE)	Regional Manager – Mpumalanga Region						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department of Minerals and Resources (DMRE)	MEM Section						
National Departments				Mpumalanga Department of Minerals and Resources (DMRE)	Sub-Directorate: Mine Environmental Management						
National Departments				Mpumalanga Department of Minerals and Resources (DMRE)	Mine Environmental Management Officer						
National Departments				Mpumalanga Department of Minerals and Resources (DMRE)	Regional Manager (Acting)						
National Departments				Mpumalanga Department of Minerals and Resources (DMRE)	Secretary						
National Departments				Mpumalanga Department of Minerals and Resources (DMRE)	Deputy Director: Mineral Laws Administration						
National Departments				Mpumalanga Department of Minerals and Resources (DMRE)	Senior Admin Officer						
National Departments				Gauteng Department of Minerals and Resources (DMRE)							
National Departments				Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS) Head Office: Resource Protection & Waste	Control Environmental Officer Licencing						
National Departments				Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)	Director: Water Allocation						
National Departments				Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)	Deputy Director: Compulsory Licensing						
National Departments				Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS) Head Office: Resource Protection & Waste	Deputy Director: Resource Protection & Waste						
National Departments				Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)	Instream Water Use Section						
National Departments				Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)	Control Environmental Officer						
National Departments				Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)	Environmental Officer						
National Departments				Department of Water & Sanitation (DWS)	Catchment Manager: Gauteng Project Office						
National Departments				Department of Defence	Lieutenant						
National Departments				Department of Defence							
National Departments				South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA)	Heritage Officer: Archaeology						
National Departments				South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA)	Heritage Officer						
National Departments				South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA)	Provincial Manager						
National Departments				South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA)	Heritage Officer: Development applications unit						
National Departments				South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA)	Heritage Officer: Archaeology						
National Departments				Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development	Directorate: Land Use and Soil Management						
National Departments				Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development	Land User Officer						
National Departments				National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)	Customer Education Officer						
National Departments				National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)	Head of Communications						
National Departments				National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)	Media Relations						
National Departments				Petroleum Agency SA (PASA)							
National Departments				Petroleum Agency SA (PASA)							
National Departments				Petroleum Agency SA (PASA)							
National Departments				Petroleum Agency SA (PASA)							
National Departments				South African National Roads Agency SOC Limited (SANRAL)	Secretary						
National Departments				South African National Parks							
National Departments				South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)							
National Departments				South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)							
National Departments				South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)							
National Departments				South African Police Service (SAPS)							
Provincial Departments				Gauteng Department of Environment (GDEnv)							
Provincial Departments				Gauteng Department of Environment (GDEnv)							
Provincial Departments				Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)	Director: Air Quality						
Provincial Departments				Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)	Director: Environment Policy Planning and Coordination						
Provincial Departments				Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)	Director: Environmental Section						
Provincial Departments				Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)	Control Environmental Officer Grade B: Pollution and Waste Management						
Provincial Departments				Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)	Acting Head of Department: Agriculture Section						
Provincial Departments				Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)	Personal Assistant of the Acting Head of the Department(Agriculture section)						
Provincial Departments				Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)							
Provincial Departments				Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)							
Provincial Departments				Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)							
Provincial Departments				Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)							
Provincial Departments				Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)							
Provincial Departments				Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)							
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs	Responsible Officer: Environmental Impact Management						
Provincial Departments				Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD)	Senior Data Capture						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs	Deputy Director: Environmental Impact Management						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department of Water and Sanitation: Oliphant's Proto-CMA	Directorate: IE Water Quality Management						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Departments of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Deputy Director: Water Quality						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Departments of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Acting Chief Director						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Departments of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Control Officer						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Departments of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Regional Director: Mpumalanga						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Environmental officer- EIA						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Head of Department: Agriculture Section						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Office Manager: Agriculture Section						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Admin Officer: Agriculture Section						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Chief Director (Environmental Services)						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Director: Quality Assurance						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Information Management Support						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Environmental Impact Management						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Research Unit: Soil Sub Division						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Director: Economic Development						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Deputy Director: Environmental Impact Management						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Information Management Support						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Director: SPLUM (Land Reform Division)						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Pollution and Waste -Gert Sibande Region						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)	Director: Quality Assurance						
Provincial Departments				Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)							
Provincial Departments				Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	Regional Land Claims Commissioner Mpumalanga						

Provincial Departments	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Project Developer
Provincial Departments	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Chief Directorate: Climate Change Monitoring, Evaluation and Mitigation
Provincial Departments	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Mpumalanga Regional Office: Biodiversity Officer
Provincial Departments	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Mpumalanga Regional Office: Wetland Rehabilitation Specialist
Provincial Departments	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)	Mpumalanga Regional Office: Biodiversity and Conservation Management
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Department of Social Development	Head of Department
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport (DPWR)	Roads Construction Public Works
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport (DPWR)	Head of Department
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Department of Social Development	Head of Department
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport (DPWR)	Head of Department
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Department Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environment Affairs (DARDLEA)	Director: Environmental Impact Management
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Department of Public Works Road and Transport	Public Works
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Department of Co-Operative Governance and Traditional Affairs	Head of Department
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Department of Co-Operative Governance and Traditional Affairs	Acting Head of Communications
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Heritage Resources Authority	Provincial Heritage Resources Officer
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Heritage Resources Agency	Heritage Officer
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency	Development Assessment Officer
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency	Control Scientist for Biodiversity Planning
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency	Geographic Information Systems Technician
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency	Land Use Advisor Scientist
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency	Terrestrial Technician
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency	Head of Scientific Services and Conservation
Provincial Departments	Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency	EIA Coordinator
Provincial Departments	Department of Defence Mpumalanga	Director Facilities: Logistics Division
Provincial Departments	Gauteng Department: Roads and Transport	Officer Commanding
Provincial Departments	Land Claims Commission (Gauteng)	Deputy Director Administration
Provincial Departments	Land Claims Commission (Gauteng)	Deputy Director Information Management
Provincial Departments	Land Claims Commission (Gauteng)	
Provincial Departments	Land Claims Commission (Mpumalanga)	
Provincial Departments	Land Claims Commission (Mpumalanga)	
Provincial Departments	Land Claims Commission (Mpumalanga)	
Provincial Departments	Land Claims Commission (Mpumalanga)	
State Owned Entity	The National Transmission Company South Africa (NTCSA)	Administration Office
State Owned Entity	Transnet Freight Rail	Senior Manager: Risk Management / Coal BU / Transnet Freight Rail
State Owned Entity	Transnet Freight Rail	Co-ordinator
State Owned Entity	Transnet Pipelines	
State Owned Entity	Eskom Transmission Land and Rights	Mpumalanga Co-ordinator
State Owned Entity	Eskom	Environmental Officer
State Owned Entity	Telkom/Blue Tech part of Telkom	Area Manager
State Owned Entity	Gautrain Management Agency	Executive Manager: Safety, Health, Environment and Quality
State Owned Entity	Gautrain Management Agency	Town Planner
State Owned Entity	Gautrain Management Agency	Senior Manager: Quality, Health and Safety
District Municipality	Gert Sibande District Municipality	Executive Mayor
District Municipality	Gert Sibande District Municipality	Municipal Manager
District Municipality	Gert Sibande District Municipality	General Manager: Infrastructure & Technical Services
District Municipality	Gert Sibande District Municipality	Senior Manager: Local Economic Development
District Municipality	Gert Sibande District Municipality	Senior Manager: IDP
District Municipality	Gert Sibande District Municipality	Senior Manager Development (Energy)
District Municipality	Gert Sibande District Municipality	Senior Manager Council Support Manager
District Municipality	Gert Sibande District Municipality	Manager: Environmental and Health Services
District Municipality	Gert Sibande District Municipality	Air Quality Section Officer
District Municipality	Gert Sibande District Municipality	Air Quality Section Officer
District Municipality	Gert Sibande District Municipality	District Air Quality Manager
District Municipality	Gert Sibande District Municipality	Gert Sibande: Speaker
District Municipality	Gert Sibande Local House of Traditional Leaders	Secretary
District Municipality	Mpumalanga Provincial House of Traditional Leaders	Acting Chief Director
Local Municipality	Dipaleseng Local Municipality	Mayor
Local Municipality	Dipaleseng Local Municipality	Municipal Manager
Local Municipality	Dipaleseng Local Municipality	Senior Environmental Officer/Manager
Local Municipality	Dipaleseng Local Municipality	Director: Waste Management /Air Quality
Local Municipality	Dipaleseng Local Municipality	Director: Infrastructure Services
Local Municipality	Dipaleseng Local Municipality	Director: Planning and Economic Development
Local Municipality	Dipaleseng Local Municipality	Speaker
Local Municipality	Dipaleseng Local Municipality	Ward 5 Councillor
Local Municipality	Midvaal Local Municipality	Acting Municipal Manager/Executive Director: Engineering Services
Local Municipality	Midvaal Local Municipality	Mayor
Local Municipality	Midvaal Local Municipality	Senior Environmental Health Officer
Local Municipality	Midvaal Local Municipality	Director Waste
Local Municipality	Midvaal Local Municipality	Chief Environmental Health Officer/Air Quality
Local Municipality	Midvaal Local Municipality	Executive Director: Development and Planning
Local Municipality	Midvaal Local Municipality	Waste Directorate
Local Municipality	Midvaal Local Municipality	Speaker
Local Municipality	Midvaal Local Municipality	Town Planner:Development & Planning Department
Local Municipality	Midvaal Local Municipality	Acting Executive Director:Development & Planning Department
Local Municipality	Lesedi Local Municipality	Mayor
Local Municipality	Lesedi Local Municipality	Municipal Manager
Local Municipality	Lesedi Local Municipality	Executive Manager: LED
Local Municipality	Lesedi Local Municipality	Executive Manager: Infrastructure Services
Local Municipality	Lesedi Local Municipality	Environment Officer
Local Municipality	Lesedi Local Municipality	Energy Manager
Local Municipality	Lesedi Local Municipality	Waste and Air Quality Manager
Local Municipality	Lesedi Local Municipality	IDP Manager
Local Municipality	Lesedi Local Municipality	Coordinator : Agriculture & Mining
Local Municipality	Lesedi Local Municipality	Speaker
Local Municipality	Lesedi Local Municipality	Ward 6 Councillor
Local Municipality	Lesedi Local Municipality	
Local Municipality	Lesedi Local Municipality	
District Municipality	Sedibeng District Municipality	Executive Mayor
District Municipality	Sedibeng District Municipality	Municipal Manager
District Municipality	Sedibeng District Municipality	Speaker
District Municipality	Sedibeng District Municipality	Office Manager: Transport, Infrastructure & Environment
District Municipality	Sedibeng District Municipality	Environment Officer
District Municipality	Sedibeng District Municipality	District Air Quality Officer
District Municipality	Sedibeng District Municipality	Vereeniging City Hall
District Municipality	Sedibeng District Municipality	Assistant Manager
District Municipality	Sedibeng District Municipality	Acting Director: Office of the Speaker and Manager: Public Participation
District Municipality	Sedibeng District Municipality	MMC: Environment and Clean Energy
Business	ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Project Manager
Business	ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Head of Project Development
Business	ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Team Leader Northern Region
Business	Vodacom	Manager
Business	Vodacom	Regional Manager
Business	MTN	Head of Department
Business	MTN	
Business	MTN	
Business	MTN	
Business	MTN	
Business	Cell C	Area Manager
Business	Neotel	
Business	Neotel	
Business	Sentiv	
Business	Liquid Tech	

Business	Openserve (Telkom)	
Business	Openserve (Telkom)	
Business	Sentech	
Business	Netstar	
Business	Leeds 2 Business	Regional Content Researcher Projects
Business	Herotel National	
Business	Sasol	Head: Mining Rights and Properties
Business	Sasol Mining (Pty) Ltd	Manager Strategic Stakeholder Engagement
Business	Sasol Mining (Pty) Ltd	Head of Low Carbon Technical Incubation
Business	Sasol Mining (Pty) Ltd	Mining Rights Advisor
Business	Bastion Oil and Gas South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Company Representative
Business	Sirius Power South Africa	Executive Director
Business	AMDA Developments (Pty) Ltd	Senior Development Manager
Business	Infrastructure South Africa	Office of the Head
Business	Ernst & Young Advisory Services	Senior Manager Climate Change and Sustainability Services
Environmental NGO's	Federation of Sustainable Environment (FSE) & Mpumalanga Lakes District Protection Group	Representative
Environmental NGO's	Federation of Sustainable Environment (FSE)	Chief Executive Officer
Environmental NGO's	BirdLife South Africa	Head of Department
Environmental NGO's	BirdLife South Africa	Birds and Renewable Energy Project Manager
Environmental NGO's	BirdLife South Africa	Conservation Officer
Environmental NGO's	BirdLife South Africa	Wetland Conservation Project Manager
Environmental NGO's	Endangered Wildlife Trust	Chief Executive Officer
	Endangered Wildlife Trust	
Environmental NGO's	Endangered Wildlife Trust	Conservation Project Manager
Environmental NGO's	Endangered Wildlife Trust	Administrator
Environmental NGO's	Endangered Wildlife Trust	Highland Grassland Field Officer
Environmental NGO's	Endangered Wildlife Trust	Executive: Head of Sustainability
Environmental NGO's	Endangered Wildlife Trust	Head of Conservation
Environmental NGO's	Mpumalanga Agri SA	Chairperson
Environmental NGO's	Mpumalanga Landbou Unie	General Manager
Environmental NGO's	Transvaal Landbou Unie	Manager
Environmental NGO's	Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA) : Northern Region	Programme Manager Water and Biodiversity
Environmental NGO's	Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)	Chairperson
Environmental NGO's	Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)	Ecologist and Environmental Scientist
Environmental NGO's	Earthlife Africa	Energy Policy Officer
Environmental NGO's	Earthlife Africa	Director
Environmental NGO's	Mpumalanga Wetland Forum	Chairperson
Environmental NGO's	South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)	Chairperson
Environmental NGO's	Watersal Forum	Chairperson
Environmental NGO's	Mpumalanga District Farmers Association	Chairperson
Environmental NGO's	Inkomati Usuthu Catchment Agency (IUCMA)	Scientist
Environmental NGO's	Inkomati Usuthu Catchment Agency (IUCMA)	Environmental Office: Water Resources Utilization
Environmental NGO's	Inkomati-Usuthu Catchment Management Areas (CMA)	Chief Executive Officer
Environmental NGO's	South African Bat Assessment Association	Zoologist
Environmental NGO's	Vulpro	Vulpro Renewable energy Consultation Associate
Environmental NGO's	Vulpro	
Air Traffic / Weather	South African Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)	Obstacle Inspector
Air Traffic / Weather	South African Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)	Database Coordinator
Air Traffic / Weather	Air Traffic and Navigation Service (ATNS)	Executive Engineering
Air Traffic / Weather	SA Weather Service (SAWS)	Head of Technical Services
Air Traffic / Weather	SA Weather Service (SAWS)	
Affected Landowners	Weithof Boerdery (Pty) Ltd	
Affected Landowners	SPIES CHARLOTTE	
Affected Landowners	DVN BOERDERY CC / MACAMA PTY LTD	
Affected Landowners		
Affected Landowners		
Affected Landowners	SHILOH KLOOF TRUST	
Affected Landowners	LAGERSPOORT TRUST	
Affected Landowners	DE WET FAMILIE TRUST	
Affected Landowners		
Affected Landowners		
Neighbouring Landowners	Aviagen South Africa (Pty) Ltd/Astral Operations	
Neighbouring Landowners	PELARGONIUM TRUST	
Neighbouring Landowners	STEYNSKRAAL 23 PTY LTD/ Kiepersol Gasteplaas	
Neighbouring Landowners	VALAQUA PTY LTD/ COBSA Valpre Spring Water	
Neighbouring Landowners	Tuin van Eden	
Neighbouring Landowners	RUSTPOORT 1906 TRUST/ The Wild Lodge and Wedding Venue	
Neighbouring Landowners	DECAPO INV PTY LTD	
Neighbouring Landowners	DECAPO INV PTY LTD	
Neighbouring Landowners	ININGI INV 110 PTY LTD	
Neighbouring Landowners	ININGI INV 110 PTY LTD	
Neighbouring Landowners	INHLE BEVERAGES PTY LTD	
Neighbouring Landowners	WILLIAM BARRETT FARM TRUST/ Charnick Wedding and Functions Venue	
Neighbouring Landowners	BANABATAU PROP PTY LTD	
Neighbouring Landowners	LEEUKRAAL CC	
Neighbouring Landowners	KLIPFONTEIN BELEGINGS PTY LTD	
Neighbouring Landowners		
Neighbouring Landowners	CARRICK RHODES AVENUE PTY LTD/ Sidiba Lodge	
Neighbouring Landowners	CARRICK RHODES AVENUE PTY LTD/ Sidiba Lodge	
Neighbouring Landowners		
Neighbouring Landowners	ZINGELA LODGE CC	
Neighbouring Landowners	J E P BELEGINGS PTY LTD	Farm 19/406
Neighbouring Landowners	INTELEK TRAINING & CONSULTATION ACADEMU CC	Farm 43/406
Neighbouring Landowners		
Neighbouring Landowners	BEERLAAGTE BEEF PTY LTD	
Neighbouring Landowners	MARIANTON ORCHARDS PTY LTD	Farm 15/559
Neighbouring Landowners	PRESTIGE CATLE RANCH PTY LTD	
Neighbouring Landowners	SOLOPROP 1171 CC	Farm 15/399
Neighbouring Landowners	SOLOPROP 1171 CC	Farm 15/399
Neighbouring Landowners	SUPERSTRIKE INV 97 PTY LTD	
Neighbouring Landowners	Mood Begin Guest Farm	
Neighbouring Landowners	Department of Land Reform and Rural Development (DLRRD)	Project Officer
Neighbouring Landowners	Department of Land Reform and Rural Development (DLRRD)	
Neighbouring Landowners	Blazing Hooves Horsemanship Academy	
Neighbouring Landowners	Caesarsvlei Estate/ RM Olivier Boerdery	
Neighbouring Landowners	Mondoro Lodge Wedding Venue	
Neighbouring Landowners	BONSMA ENTERPRISES PTY LTD	
Neighbouring Landowners	JOHANNES & MARIA GESIENA CHRISTINA MULLER	Farm 62/392
Neighbouring Landowners	RYNO WESSEL BADENHORST	Farm 66/392
Neighbouring Landowners	VERNON JOHN & JOHANNA WILHELMINA CATHARINA SCHROEDER	Farm 17/399
Neighbouring Landowners	Ruach Pinto Sport Horses	
	The Stone Cellar	
	GFG2007 Ihuba Capital Agricultural Primary Co-Operative Limited	Chairperson
	GFG2007 Ihuba Capital Agricultural Primary Co-Operative Limited	
	GFG2007 Ihuba Capital Agricultural Primary Co-Operative Limited	
	Leo Agri Trust	
Visual	Alice Clockner Nature Reserve	
Neighbouring Landowners	Hurricane Corso	
	16/399	
	Tshwane University of Technology	
	Rustpoort 1906 Trust	Trustee
	399 Steynskraal Heideberg	
	Sentio	
	Oak View Manor	
	Oak View Manor	
	PNE Group	Project Development Onshore South Africa

		Infrastructure South Africa		
		Heidelberg Aviation Association		
		Kartal Mining (Pty) Ltd		
		Lepus Minerals (Pty) Ltd		
		Dissput Boerdery/Dissput Trust		
		Lesedi Local Municipality		
		DFFE		
		DWS		

Landowners
Air Traffic / Weather
Local Municipality
State Owned Entity
District Municipality
National Departments
Adjacent Landowners
Environmental NGO's
Provincial Departments
Business
Registered I&AP

Appendix B

NOTIFICATIONS



Appendix B.1

NOTIFICATION LETTERS





Your Ref: Temporary DFFE Reference
Number: 2024-11-0018

Our Ref: 41106304

13 March 2026

Dear Sir/Madam,

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS, MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG (Temporary DFFE Reference Number: 2024-11-0018)

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)

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The proponent outlined in the table below proposes to establish a Wind Energy Facility (WEF), application for environmental authorisation, near Heidelberg and Balfour in the Gauteng and Mpumalanga Provinces. The proposed authorisation includes the following Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process:

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process
ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 170MWac WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Farm Names			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remaining Extent of Portion 4 of the Farm De Hoek 411• The Farm Orion No 413• Portion 7 of the Farm Driefontein 405• Remaining Extent of Portion 1 of the Farm Driefontein 405• Portion 5 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Driefontein 405• Remaining Extent of Portion 9 of the Farm Malanskraal No 407	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Portion 17 (a Portion of Portion 8) of the Farm Malanskraal No 407• Portion 16 (a Portion of Portion 4) of the Farm Malanskraal No 407• Remainder of Portion 18 (a Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Malanskraal 407• Portion 20 (a Portion of Portion 13) of the Farm Malanskraal 407• Remaining Extent of Portion 13 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal 407	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406• Portion 17 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406• Portion 24 (a portion of Portion 23) of the Farm Steynskraal 399• Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Modderfontein 410• Portion 7 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406• Portion 35 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406	

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Malanskraal Number 407 Portion 12 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal Number 407 Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Driefontein Number 405 Remaining Extent of the Farm Driefontein 405 Remainder of Portion 6 (Kingsmead) of the Farm Malanskraal 407 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 1 of the Farm Weltevreden Nr. 449 Farm Bothas Spruit Nr. 404 Remaining Extent of Portion 1 of the Farm Steynskraal 399 Portion 25 (a portion of Portion 11) of the Farm Steynskraal 399 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 15 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406 Remaining Extent of Portion 5 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406 Portion 32 (a portion of Portion 5) of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406 Remaining Extent of Portion 11 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Steynskraal 399 	

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS

The proposed project triggers several listed activities contained in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Listing Notice 1 (GNR983), Listing Notice 2 (GNR984) and Listing Notice 3 (GNR985), as amended, and therefore, authorisation to undertake the listed activities must be sought via a S&EIR process. The anticipated listed activity numbers associated with the proposed project are reflected in the table below. Should you wish to obtain a complete copy of these listed activities, please contact the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), details provided below.

Project Name	Listing Notice	Applicable Triggers							
Scoping EIA for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ABO Uvemvane WEF 1 	GNR 983	11 (i)	12(ii) (a)(c)	14	19	24 (ii)	28(ii)	48 (i) (a) (c)	56 (ii)
	GNR 984	1	15						
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14(ii) (a)(c)	18	23(ii) (a)(c)		
MPRDA	Section 53	Surface use in terms of Section 53 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (no. 28 of 2002)							
NHRA	Section 38(8)	Review of an Impact Assessment related to an application for Environmental Authorisation							

REGISTRATION

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the EAP by ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd, on behalf of ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd, to manage the S&EIR process. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Project 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 process.

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) is available for public comment from **13 March 2026 to 15 April 2026**. The report will be available for download from the link and QR code below. Printed copies of the DSR will be available for review at the following venues:

- Ratanda Proper Library - Nkomo St, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP, 1443



- Heidelberg Public Library - 7 Jacobs St, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP, 1441
- Ward 3 Public Library - Joubert street, Balfour, 2410
- Grootvlei Power Station Stores - Seventh Street, Grootvlei
- WSP Website - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
- Datafree Website - <https://wsp-engage.com/>

The following documents are available for public review and comment:

- Draft Scoping Report and associated appendices

Kindly ensure that all comments on the proposed project or requests to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party are submitted to the contact details provided herewith, by **15 April 2026**.

Should you have any queries/comments, or to register as a stakeholder and to receive further information, please do not hesitate to contact the WSP Public Participation Office:

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

All comments received will be recorded and responded to in the Final Amendment Report that will be submitted to the DFFE for decision-making.

Yours faithfully

Digitally signed by
Maharaj, Jashmika
(ZAJM05082)

Jashmika Maharaj
Senior Environmental Consultant

JM/AS

cc: Ashlea Strong (Principal Associate - EAP)



DFFE Reference Number:
14/12/16/3/3/2/2803

Our Ref: 41106304

24 August 2026

Dear Sir/Madam,

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE ABO UMEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS, MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG (DFFE Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803)

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 of the applications for environmental authorisations (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended)

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The proponent outlined in the table below proposes to establish a Wind Energy Facility (WEF), application for environmental authorisation, near Heidelberg and Balfour in the Gauteng and Mpumalanga Provinces. The proposed authorisation includes the following Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process:

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process
ABO Umemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 170MWac WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Farm Names			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406• Portion 17 (a Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Lagerspoort Nr 406• Remaining Extent of Portion 4 of the Farm De Hoek 411• Portion 45 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406• Portion 7 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406• Portion 19 of the Farm De Hoek No 411• Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Modderfontein 410	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Farm Orion No 413• Remaining Extent of Portion 5 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406• Portion 7 of the Farm Driefontein 405• Remaining Extent of Portion 9 of the Farm Malanskraal No 407• Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Malanskraal 407• Portion 12 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal 407• Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Driefontein 405• Remaining Extent of the Farm Driefontein 405	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remainder of Portion 6 (Kingsmead) of the Farm Malanskraal 407• Portion 17 (a Portion of Portion 8) of the Farm Malanskraal No 407• Farm Bothas Spruit Nr. 404• Portion 16 (a Portion of Portion 4) of the Farm Malanskraal No 407• Remaining Extent of Portion 13 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal 407• Remainder of Portion 18 (a Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Malanskraal 407• Portion 1 of the Farm Weltevreden Nr. 449	

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS

The proposed project triggers several listed activities contained in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Listing Notice 1 (GNR983), Listing Notice 2 (GNR984) and Listing

Building 1, Maxwell Office Park
Magwa Crescent West, Waterfall City
Midrand, 1685
South Africa
Tel: +27 11 254 4800
wsp.com

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

Notice 3 (GNR985), as amended, and therefore, authorisation to undertake the listed activities must be sought via a S&EIR process. The anticipated listed activity numbers associated with the proposed project are reflected in the table below. Should you wish to obtain a complete copy of these listed activities, please contact the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), details provided below.

Project Name	Listing Notice	Applicable Triggers							
Scoping EIA for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ABO Uvemvane WEF 1 	GNR 983	11 (i)	12(ii) (a)(c)	14	19	24 (ii)	28(ii)	48 (i) (a) (c)	56 (ii)
	GNR 984	1	15						
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14(ii) (a)(c)	18	23(ii) (a)(c)		
MPRDA	Section 53	Surface use in terms of Section 53 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (no. 28 of 2002)							
NHRA	Section 38(8)	Review of an Impact Assessment related to an application for Environmental Authorisation							

REGISTRATION

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the EAP by ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd, on behalf of ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd, to manage the S&EIR process. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Project 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 process.

DRAFT EIA REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (DEIAR) is available for public comment from **24 August 2026 to 25 September 2026**. The report will be available for download from the links below. Printed copies of the DEIAR will be available for review at the following venues:

- Ratanda Proper Library - Nkomo St, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP, 1443
- Heidelberg Public Library - 7 Jacobs St, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP, 1441
- Ward 3 Public Library - Joubert street, Balfour, 2410
- Grootvlei Power Station Stores - Seventh Street, Grootvlei
- WSP Website - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
- Datafree Website - <https://wsp-engage.com/>

The following documents are available for public review and comment:

- DEIAR and associated appendices

Kindly ensure that all comments on the proposed project or requests to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party are submitted to the contact details provided herewith, by **25 September 2026**.

Should you have any queries/comments, or to register as a stakeholder and to receive further information, please do not hesitate to contact the WSP Public Participation Office:

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



All comments received will be recorded and responded to in the Final Stakeholder Engagement Report that will be submitted to the DFFE for decision-making.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jashmika Maharaj'.

Digitally signed by
Maharaj, Jashmika
(ZAJM05082)

Jashmika Maharaj
Senior Environmental Consultant

JM/AS

cc:Ashlea Strong (Principal Associate - EAP)



[Click here to enter destination address](#)

Your Ref: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803

Our Ref: 41106304

16 October 2026

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Stakeholder,

Notice of the Re-submission of the Application for Environmental Authorisation for the Proposed Establishment of ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1, Mpumalanga and Gauteng Provinces (DFFE REF: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803)

ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd proposes to establish a Wind Energy Facility (WEF) in the Mpumalanga and Gauteng Provinces. WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) was appointed as the independent and suitably qualified EAP, to manage and undertake the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) Process.

An application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and associated Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, was submitted on 23 March 2026 to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) and was allocated the reference number 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803. The Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) was submitted to the DFFE on 12 October 2026. Email correspondence received from the DFFE on 13 October 2026 informed the EAP and Applicant that the according to the DFFE records the application had lapsed in terms of Regulation 23(1) of GNR 326, as amended, as the Final EIAR was due in fact due on or before Friday, 09 October 2026.

This notification is to inform you that WSP will be re-submitting the application for EA for the proposed project in terms of Regulation 21(2) of GNR 326, as amended. This regulation affords the Applicant the option to re-apply and re-submit the Final EIAR (subject to additional public participation in terms of Regulation 21(2)(d)) to the DFFE within 2 years of acceptance of the Scoping Report (dated 22 June 2026).

Please refer to the table below for an outline of how all the provisions of Regulation 21(2)(a)(b)(c) and (d) will be met.

REGULATION

MOTIVATION

Regulation 21: Submission of scoping report to competent authority:	
(2) Subject to regulation 46, and if the findings of the scoping report is still valid and the environmental context has not changed, the submission of a scoping report as contemplated in subregulation (1) need not be complied with—	The Acceptance of the Scoping Report for the proposed project was received on 23 June 2026 (letter dated 22 June 2026). The Scoping Report is therefore still valid, and the environmental context has not changed.
(a) in cases where a scoping report was accepted as part of a previous application for environmental authorisation and the application has lapsed or was refused because of insufficient information;	The scoping report was accepted as per of the EA application 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803 and lapsed as a result of the late submission of the Final EIAR, and not due to a refusal or insufficient information.

REGULATION

MOTIVATION

<p>(b) on condition that regulation 16 is complied with and that such application is accompanied by proof that registered interested and affected parties, who participated in the public participation process conducted as part of the previous application, have been notified of this intended resubmission of the application prior to submission of such application;</p>	<p>Regulation 16 has been complied with as part of the EA Application 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803. This letter informs registered interested and affected parties (I&APs) of the application lapse and the intention to resubmit the application.</p> <p>The registered interested and affected parties will also be informed via email and SMS when the application is resubmitted, and the Draft EIA Report is available for public review and comment.</p>
<p>(c) if the application contemplated in paragraph (b) is submitted by the same applicant for the same development, as applied for and lapsed or refused as contemplated in paragraph (a); and</p>	<p>The applicant is ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd and will not change and the proposed development also remains unchanged.</p>
<p>(d) if an environmental impact assessment report inclusive of specialist reports and an EMPr, which must have 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, is submitted within a period of two years from the date of the acceptance of the scoping report contemplated in paragraph (a).</p>	<p>The first Draft EIA Report, inclusive of specialist report and EMPr, was subject to the legislated public participation process (PPP), in accordance with the law, from 25 August 2026 to 28 September 2026. The PPP conducted in this regard included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Notification Letters: circulated via email on 24 August 2026. ■ Site Notices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — First round of site notices was placed in English, Afrikaans, IsiZulu on 13 March 2026 (Draft Scoping Phase). — Second round of site notices placed in Sesotho for the Draft EIA phase (additional local language as requested by DFFE) on 25 August 2026. ■ Advertisements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Placed in English, Afrikaans, IsiZulu on 11 March 2026 in the Heidelberg Nigel Heraut Newspaper (Draft Scoping Phase). — Placed in Sesotho for the Draft EIA phase (additional local language as requested by DFFE) on 19 August 2026 in the Heidelberg Nigel Heraut Newspaper. ■ SMS: Stakeholders and I&APs were notified via SMS on 25 August 2026. <p>Draft EIA Reports: Uploaded to the WSP Website and DataFree website (free download service).</p> <p>The updated Draft EIA Report inclusive of specialist reports and an EMPr, will be subjected to an additional public participation process of at least 30 days. All comments received during this review period will be incorporated into the Final EIA Report. Submission of this Final EIA Report will be undertaken well within a period of two years from the date of the acceptance of the scoping report.</p>

We hereby confirm that the content of the report fully complies with the requirements set out in Appendix 3 of GNR 326, as amended, and has not undergone any material changes, save for the inclusion of responses to comments captured in the Stakeholder Engagement Report and the strengthening of mitigation measures in response to stakeholder input.



As part of the required PPP, all registered I&APs will be informed of the availability of the Draft EIAr Report for review, of which the public will have 30 days to provide comment. A newspaper advert will also be published on 28 October 2026 in the Heidelberg Nigel Heraut.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ashlea Strong'.

Digitally signed by Strong, Ashlea
(ZAAS02685)
DN: cn=Strong, Ashlea
(ZAAS02685), ou=WSPObjects,
email=Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com
Date: 2026.10.16 14:03:53 +02'00'

Ashlea Strong
Principal Associate

Appendix B.2

NEWSPAPER ADVERT



ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS, MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG

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)

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The proponent outlined in the table below proposes to establish a Wind Energy Facility (WEF), application for environmental authorisation, near Heidelberg and Balfour in the Gauteng and Mpumalanga Provinces. The proposed authorisation includes the following Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process:

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process
ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 170MWac WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Farm Names			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remaining Extent of Portion 4 of the Farm De Hoek 411 The Farm Orion No 413 Portion 7 of the Farm Driefontein 405 Remaining Extent of Portion 1 of the Farm Driefontein 405 Portion 5 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Driefontein 405 Remaining Extent of Portion 9 of the Farm Malanskraal No 407 Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Malanskraal Number 407 Portion 12 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal Number 407 Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Driefontein Number 405 Remaining Extent of the Farm Driefontein 405 Remainder of Portion 6 (Kingsmead) of the Farm Malanskraal 407 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion 17 (a Portion of Portion 8) of the Farm Malanskraal No 407 Portion 16 (a Portion of Portion 4) of the Farm Malanskraal No 407 Remainder of Portion 18 (a Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Malanskraal 407 Portion 20 (a Portion of Portion 13) of the Farm Malanskraal 407 Remaining Extent of Portion 13 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal 407 Portion 1 of the Farm Weltevreden Nr. 449 Farm Bothas Spruit Nr. 404 Remaining Extent of Portion 1 of the Farm Steynskraal 399 Portion 25 (a portion of Portion 11) of the Farm Steynskraal 399 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406 Portion 17 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406 Portion 24 (a portion of Portion 23) of the Farm Steynskraal 399 Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Modderfontein 410 Portion 7 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406 Portion 35 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406 Portion 15 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406 Remaining Extent of Portion 5 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406 Portion 32 (a portion of Portion 5) of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406 Remaining Extent of Portion 11 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Steynskraal 399 	

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS

The proposed project triggers several listed activities contained in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Listing Notice 1 (GNR983), Listing Notice 2 (GNR984) and Listing Notice 3 (GNR985), as amended, and therefore, authorisation to undertake the listed activities must be sought via a S&EIR process. The anticipated listed activity numbers associated with the proposed project are reflected in the table below. Should you wish to obtain a complete copy of these listed activities, please contact the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), details provided below.

Project Name	Listing Notice	Applicable Triggers						
Scoping EIA for: • ABO Uvemvane WEF 1	GNR 983	11(i)	12(ii)(a)(c)	14	19	24(ii)	28(ii)	48(i)(a)(c)
	GNR 984	1	15					
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14(ii)(a)(c)	18	23(ii)(a)(c)	
MPRDA	Section 53	Surface use in terms of Section 53 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (no. 28 of 2002)						
NHRA	Section 38(8)	Review of an Impact Assessment related to an application for Environmental Authorisation						

REGISTRATION

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the EAP by ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd, on behalf of ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd, to manage the S&EIR process. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Project 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 process.

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) is available for public comment from **13 March 2026 to 15 April 2026**. The report will be available for download from the link and QR code below. Printed copies of the DSR will be available for review at the following venues:

- Ratanda Proper Library - Nkomo St, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP, 1443
- Heidelberg Public Library - 7 Jacobs St, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP, 1441
- Ward 3 Public Library - Joubert street, Balfour, 2410
- Grootvlei Power Station Stores - Seventh Street, Grootvlei
- WSP Website - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
- Datafree Website - <https://wsp-engage.com/>

Kindly ensure that all comments on the proposed project or requests to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party are submitted to the contact details provided herewith, by **15 April 2026**. Should you have any queries/comments, please do not hesitate to contact the WSP Public Participation Office

Contact the WSP Public Participation Office to register as a stakeholder and to receive further information:

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.

UHLELO LWEMVUME YEZEMVELO

ISAZISO NGOHLELO LWEMVUME YEZEMVELO LWESIKHUNGO ESIHLONGOZWAYO SIKAGESI OPHEHLWA NGOMOYA ESAZIWA NGE ABO UVEMVANE ENERGY FACILITY 1 KUSIFUNDAZWE ZASEMPUMALANGA NESASEGAUTENG

Lesaziso sinikwa ngokulandela Umthethonqubo 41(2) Wesaziso Sombuso 982 (njengoba sichibiyelwe) sashicilelwa ngaphansi kwesigaba 24 no 24D soMthetho KaZwelonke Wokulawulwa Kwezemvelo (Umthetho, 107 ka 1998) (NEMA) (njengoba uchibiyelwe) ukuze kufakwe izicelo ezahlukene zemvume yezemvelo (EAs) eziphathelele nemisebenzi ebalulwe ngokulandela Isaziso Sombuso GNR 983, GNR 984 no GNR 985 (njengoba zichibiyelwe)

INCAZELO NENDAWO YOMSEBENZI: Umsunguli obalulwe etafuleni elibhalwe ngezansi uhlongozwayo ukwakha isikhungo esiphehla ugesi ngomoya, phecelezi iWind Energy Facility (WEF), futhi ufaka isicelo semvume yezemvelo eduze kwase Heidelberg nase Balfour kuzifundazwe zase Gauteng neMpumalanga. Imvume ehlongozwayo ihlanganisa Uhlelo Lokulinganisa Umsebenzi Nombiko Wokuthinteka Kwezemvelo (S&EIR):

Umsunguli Womsebenzi	Umsebenzi Ohlongozwayo	Ubuchwepheshe obuzosetshenziswa	Inqubo ezolandelwa
ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	Isikhungo Sikagesi Ophehlwa Ngomoya esingama-Megawathi angu 170MW ohamba ngezintambo kubandakanya nengqalasizinda yakhona	Umoya	S&EIR
Amagama amapulazi			
<div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ingxenywe esalayo yeSiqephu 4 sePulazi iDe Hoek 411• Ipulazi iOrion Nombolo 413• Isiqephu 7 sePulazi iDriefontein 405• Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 1 sePulazi iDriefontein 405• Isiqephu 5 (Ingxenywe Yesiqephu 1) sePulazi iDriefontein 405• Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 9 sePulazi iMalanskraal No 407• Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 2 sePulazi iMalanskraal Nombolo 407• Isiqephu 12 (isiqephu sesiqephu 2) sePulazi iMalanskraal Nombolo 407• Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 2 sePulazi iDriefontein Nombolo 405• Ingxenywe esalayo yePulazi iDriefontein 405• Ingxenywe yesiqephu 6 (iKingsmead) sePulazi iMalanskraal 407</div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Isiqephu 17 (isiqephu sesiqephu 8) sePulazi Malanskraal Nombolo 407• Isiqephu 16 (isiqephu sesiqephu 4) sePulazi iMalanskraal No 407• Ingxenywe yesiqephu 18 (isiqephu se siqephu 3) sePulazi i Malanskraal 407• Isiqephu 20 (isiqephu sesiqephu 13) sePulazi iMalanskraal 407• Ingxenywe esalayo yesiqephu 13 (isiqephu sesiqephu 2) sePulazi iMalanskraal 407• Isiqephu 1 sePulazi i Weltevreden Nombolo. 449• IPulazi iBothas Spruit Nombolo. 404• Ingxenywe esalayo yesiqephu 1 sePulazi iSteynskraal 399• Isiqephu 25 (isiqephu sesiqephu 11) sePulazi iSteynskraal 399• Ingxenywe esalayo yeSiqephu 2 sePulazi iLagerspoort Number 406</div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Isiqephu 17 sePulazi iLagerspoort Nombolo 406• Isiqephu 24 (isiqephu sesiqephu 23) sePulazi iSteynskraal 399• Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 2 sePulazi iModderfontein 410• Isiqephu 7 sePulazi iLagerspoort Nombolo 406• Isiqephu 35 sePulazi iLagerspoort 406• Isiqephu 15 sePulazi iLagerspoort 406• Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 5 sePulazi iLagerspoort 406• Isiqephu 32 (isiqephu sesiqephu 5) sePulazi iLagerspoort Nombolo 406• Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 11 (isiqephu sesiqephu 1) saPulazi iSteynskraal 399</div></div>			

IZICELO ZEZEEMVELO: Umsebenzi ohlongozwayo uholela emisebenzini eminingi ebalulwe kwiSaziso Sohlu 1 (GNR983, Isaziso Sohlu 2 (GNR984) kanye Nesaziso Sohlu 3 (GNR985) esiqukethwe yiMithethonqubo Yokuthinteka Kwezemvelo (EIA) njengoba ichibiyelwe., ngakho-ke, imvume yokwenza imisebenzi ebaluliwe kufanele icelwe ngendlela yokulinganisa umsebenzi futhi kwenziwe umbiko ngokuthinteka kwezemvelo. Inani lemisebenzi esohlwini okulindeleke ukuthi iyathinteka emsebenzini ohlongozwayo ibhalwe etafuleni elingezansi. Uma ufisa ukuthola ikhophi ephelele yemisebenzi ebaluliwe, sicela ukuba uthintane noMholi Wokuthinteka Kwezemvelo (EAP), usebenzise imininingwane ebhalwe ngezansi.

Igama lomsebenzi	Isaziso Sohlu	Imithetho NeZaziso Zombuso ezithintekayo							
Scoping EIA for: • ABO Uvemvane WEF 1	GNR 983	11(i)	12(ii)(a)(c)	14	19	24(ii)	28(ii)	48(i)(a)(c)	56(ii)
	GNR 984	1	15						
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14(ii)(a)(c)	18	23(ii)(a)(c)		
MPRDA	Isigaba 53	Indawo ephezulu esetshenziswayo ngokweSigaba 53 Somthetho Wokuthuthukiswa Kwezimbiwa Nezinsiza ZikaPhethiloli (Umthetho 28 ka 2002)							
NHRA	Isigaba 38(8)	Ukubuyekeza Kholo Lokuthinteka Kwamagugu okuhambelana nesicelo Semvume Yezemvelo							

UKUBHALISA: Abakwa WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) baqokwe yinkampani i ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd njengabahloli bokuthinteka kwezemvelo abazimele (EAP) bemele i ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd ukuphatha uhlelo lwe S&EIR Amaqembu afisa ukubhalisa ngokusemthethweni njengafuna ukubamba iqhaza ukuze baveze imibono yabo Ngomsebenzi Ohlongozwayo bayacelwa ukuba bathumele imininingwane ephelele abangathintwa kuyo bayithumele ku (EAP) ekhelini elibhalwe ngezansi. Labo ababhalisiwe njengabazobamba iqhaza bayothunyelwa yonke imibiko ezoba khona futhi bayokwaziswa ngamunye ngamathuba ayovela okubamba iqhaza kokwenziwayo.

ISIKHATHI SOKUCUBUNGULA UMBIKO WESILINGANISO SOMSEBENZI OSALUNGISWA: Umbiko Wesilinganiso Somsebenzi Osalungiswa (DSR) uyatholakala ukuze kuphawulwe ngawo kusuka mhlaka **13 Mashi 2026 kuze kube mhlaka 15 Ephrelil 2026**. Umbiko uyatholakala ngokulandwa kulinki nakukhodi ye QR engezansi. Amakhophi asephapheni eDSR ayatholakala ukuze afundwe ezindaweni ezilandelayo:

- Umtapo wolwazi I Ratanda Proper Layibhrari - Nkomo St, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP, 1443
- Umtapo wolwazi womphakathi wase Heidelberg Layibhrari Yomphakathi - 7 Jacobs St, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP, 1441
- Umtapo wolwazi womphakathi wase Ward 3 Layibhrari Yomphakathi - Joubert Street, Balfour, 2410

- Grootvlei Isiteshi Sokuphehla Ugesi- Ezitolo - Seventh Street, Grootvlei
- WSP Webhusayithi - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
- Iwebhusayithi yabangenadatha - <https://wsp-engage.com/>

Sicela nqiniseke ukuthi yonke imibono ngomsebenzi ohlongozwayo nezicelo zokubhalisa njengabathintekayo nabanentshisekelo kuthunyelwe kusetshenziswa imininingwane ebhalwe ngezansi kuze kube ngumhlaka 15 Ephrelil 2026. Uma unemibuzo kumbe uthanda ukuphawula sicela ungabazi ukuthinta ihhovisi lokuxhumana nomphakathi WSP Public Participation Office.

Thinta abakwa WSP Public Participation Office: ukubhalisa njengothintekayo futhi ukuthola olunye ulwazi
Ihovisi Lokuxhumana Nomphakathi; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Iposi: PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; **Tel:** 011 254 4800; **Fekisi:** 086 582 1561; **Imeyili:** pp@wsp.com

Ukuvikeleka Kwemininingwane Yabantu: Abakwa WSP bazosebenzisa ininingwane ethile ngawe njengomuntu othintekayo nonentshisekelo (I&AP) ngesizathu sokuba ubhaliswe njenge (I&AP) futhi sizogcina imininingwane yakho emabhukwini ethu, lokhu sikwenza ngemvume yakho. Abakwa WSP bazosebenzisa lemininingwane ukukuthinta mayelana neminye imisebenzi ethi mayifane esikhathini esizayo. Abakwa WSP bayohlala besebenzisa imininingwane yabantu ngokulandela Umthetho Wokuvikelwa Kwemininingwane Yabantu Umthetho 4 ka 2013. Uvumelekile ukuba usebenzise ilungelo lakho njengomuntu okuphethe imininingwane yakhe ukusazisa uma ufisa ukuyeka ukubhaliswa njengothintekayo noma onentshisekelo kumbe ungasathandi ukuthi imininingwane yakho ibe semabhukwini ethu



OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSES

KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE ABO UVEMVANE WINDENERGIE-FASILITEIT 1, OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSES, MPUMALANGA EN GAUTENG

Kennis word hiermee gegee kragtens regulasie 41(2) van GNR 982 (soos gewysig), gepubliseer volgens artikel 24 en 24D van die Nasionale Wet op Omgewingsbestuur (Wet 107 van 1998) (NEMA) (soos gewysig) vir aktiwiteite wat geïdentifiseer is kragtens GNR 983, GNR 984 en GNR 985 (soos gewysig)

BESKRYWING EN LIGGING: Die aansoeker wat genoem word in die tabel hieronder wil 'n Windenergie-fasiliteit (WEF) oprig en wil aansoek doen om omgewingsgoedkeuring naby Heidelberg en Balfour in Gauteng en Mpumalanga. Die voorgestelde goedkeuring sluit die volgende verslae oor omvang en invloed op die omgewing (S&EIR) in:

Aansoeker	Projek	Tegnologie	Proses
ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 170 MWac (MW alternatiewe stroom) WEF, insluitend verwante infrastruktuur	Wind	S&EIR
Plaasname			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 4 van die plaas De Hoek 411 Plaas Orion 413 Deel 7 van die plaas Driefontein 405 Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 1 van die plaas Driefontein 405 Deel 5 ('n gedeelte van deel 1) van die plaas Driefontein 405 Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 9 van die plaas Malanskraal 407 Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 2 van die plaas Malanskraal 407 Deel 12 ('n gedeelte van deel 2) van die plaas Malanskraal 407 Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 2 van die plaas Driefontein 405 Oorblywende gedeelte van die plaas Driefontein 405 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Res van deel 6 (Kingsmead) van die plaas Malanskraal 407 Deel 17 ('n gedeelte van deel 8) van die plaas Malanskraal 407 Deel 16 ('n gedeelte van deel 4) van die plaas Malanskraal 407 Res van deel 18 ('n gedeelte van deel 3) van die plaas Malanskraal 407 Deel 20 ('n gedeelte van deel 13) van die plaas Malanskraal 407 Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 13 ('n gedeelte van deel 2) van die plaas Malanskraal 407 Deel 1 van die plaas Weltevreden 449 Plaas Bothas Spruit 404 Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 1 van die plaas Steynskraal 399 Deel 25 ('n gedeelte van deel 11) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> van die plaas Steynskraal 399 Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 2 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406 Deel 17 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406 Deel 24 ('n gedeelte van deel 23) van die plaas Steynskraal 399 Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 2 van die plaas Modderfontein 410 Deel 7 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406 Deel 35 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406 Deel 15 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406 Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 5 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406 Deel 32 ('n gedeelte van deel 5) van die plaas Lagerspoort 406 Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 11 ('n gedeelte van deel 1) van die plaas Steynskraal 399 	

OMGEWINGSAANSOEKE: Die voorgestelde projek dien as sneller vir verskeie genoemde aktiwiteite in die Regulasies oor die evaluering van invloed op die omgewing (EIA), Kennisgewing 1 (GNR 983), Kennisgewing 2 (GNR 984) en Kennisgewing 3 (GNR 985), soos gewysig. Daar moet gevolglik goedkeuring verleen word om die genoemde aktiwiteite te verrig deur middel van 'n S&EIR-proses. Die verwagte genoemde aktiwiteite en nommers wat verband hou met die voorgestelde projek, word aangedui in die tabel hieronder. Indien u 'n volledige afskrif van die genoemde aktiwiteite nodig het, moet u asseblief met die praktisynt wat verantwoordelik is vir die evaluering van die invloed op die omgewing (EAP) skakel. Die besonderhede word hieronder aangedui.

Naam van projek	Kennisgewing (lys)	Toepaslike snellers							
Omvang volgens EIA vir: • ABO Uvemvane WEF 1	GNR 983	11(ii)	12(ii)(a)(c)	14	19	24(ii)	28(ii)	48(i)(a)(c)	56(ii)
	GNR 984	1	15						
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14(ii)(a)(c)	18	23(ii)(a)(c)		
MPRDA	Artikel 53	Oppervlaktegebruik kragtens artikel 53 van die Wet op die Ontwikkeling van Minerale- en Petroleumhulpbronne (Wet 28 van 2002)							
NHRA	Artikel 38(8)	Oorsig van invloedevaluering wat verband hou met 'n aansoek om omgewingsgoedkeuring							

REGISTRASIE: ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd, namens ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd, het WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) aangestel as EAP om die S&EIR-proses te hanteer. Partye wat formeel wil registreer as belanghebbendes om kommentaar te lewer oor die voorgestelde projek, word versoek om volledige skakelbesonderhede (telefoonnommers en adresse) aan die EAP te stuur by die adres(se) hieronder. Geregistreerde belanghebbendes sal in die toekoms alle korrespondensie ontvang en individueel in kennis gestel word van verdere geleenthede om deel te neem aan die prosesse.

INSAE-TYDPERK VIR DIE KONSEPWYSIGINGSVERSLAG: Die konsepverslag (DSR) oor die omvang is beskikbaar vir openbare kommentaar van 13 Maart 2026 tot 15 April 2026. Die verslag sal elektronies beskikbaar wees deur middel van die skakel en die QR-kode hieronder. Gedrukte weergawes van die DSR sal beskikbaar wees by die volgende persele:

- Ratanda Proper-biblioteek - Nkomostraat, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP 1443
- Heidelbergse Openbare Biblioteek - Jacobsstraat 7, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP 1441
- Wyk 3 se openbare biblioteek - Joubertstraat, Balfour 2410
- Grootvlei-kragstasiewinkel - Sewende straat, Grootvlei
- WSP se webblad - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
- Datavrye webblad - <https://wsp-engage.com/>

Maak asseblief seker dat alle kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projek of versoeke om te registreer as belanghebbende party of party wat geraak word, teen 15 April 2026 ingedien word by die adresse hieronder. Indien u enige vrae/kommentaar het, moet u nie huiwer om WSP se kantoor vir openbare deelname te skakel nie.

Skakel WSP se kantoor vir openbare deelname om te registreer as belanghebbende en om verdere inligting te ontvang:
Kantoor vir openbare deelname: WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Pos: Posbus 6001, Halfway House 1685; Tel: 011 254 4800; Faks: 086 582 1561; E-pos: pp@wsp.com

Beskerming van persoonlike inligting: WSP gaan sekere van u persoonlike inligting as belanghebbende en party wat geraak word (I&AP) verwerk vir die doel van registrasie as I&AP en sodat u besonderhede in ons databasis opgeneem kan word indien u instem dat dit gedoen kan word. WSP gebruik die besonderhede om in die toekoms met u te skakel oor ander relevante projekte. WSP verwerk in alle gevalle u persoonlike inligting volgens die Wet op die Beskerming van Persoonlike Inligting, Wet 4 van 2013. U is geregtig daarop om u regte oor u data uit te oefen en u kan ons laat weet indien u registrasie as I&AP gekanselleer en onttrek moet word en u nie meer u inligting in ons databasis wil hê nie.



TSHEBETSO TSA TUMELLO YA TIKOLOHONG

TSHEBISO KA NTSHETSOPELE E SISINTSWENG YA TSHEBETSO YA TUMELLO YA ABO UVEVMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, MPUMALANGA LE GAUTENG

Mona ho fanwa ka tsebiso ka ho ya ka Molawana wa 41(2) wa GNR 982 (jwalo ka ha o fetotswe)) e phatlaladitswe tlasa karolo ya 24 le 24D ya Molao wa Naha wa Tsamaiso ya Tikoloho (Nomoro ya 107 wa 1998) (NEMA) (jwalo ka ha o fetotswe) bakeng sa ho romelwa hape ha dikopo tse fapaneng tsa tumello tsa tikolohong (di-EA) mabapi le mesebetsi e hlauweng ka ho ya ka GNR 983, GNR 984 le GNR 985 (jwalo ka ha e fetotswe)

TLHALOSO LE SEBAKA: Batshehetsi ba boletsweng lenaneng le mona ka tlase ba sisinya hore ho thehwe Wind Energy Facility (WEF), e tla hloka kopo ya tumello ya tikolohong, haufi le Heidelberg le Balfour tse Diprovinseng tsa Gauteng le Mpumalanga. Tumello e sisintsweng e kenyelletsa tshebetso e latelang ya Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR):

Motshehetsi	Projeke	Thekenoloji	Tshebetso
ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	Ho fihla ho 170MWac WEF ho kenyelletswa le meralo ya motheo e amanang le yona	Moya	S&EIR
Amagama amapulazi			

- Boholo ba Sebaka se Setseng sa Karolo 2 ya Polasi ya Lagerspoort Nomoro ya 406
 - Karolo 17 (Karolo ya Karolo 3) ya Polasi ya Lagerspoort Nomoro ya 406
 - Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 4 ya Polasi ya De Hoek 411
 - Karolo 45 ya Polasi ya Lagerspoort 406
 - Karolo 7 ya Polasi ya Lagerspoort Nomoro ya 406
 - Karolo 19 ya Polasi ya De Hoek No 411
 - Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 2 ya Polasi ya Modderfontein 410
 - Polasi ya Orion No 413
- Boholo ba Sebaka se Setseng sa Karolo 5 ya Polasi ya Lagerspoort 406
 - Karolo 7 ya Polasi ya Driefontein 405
 - Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 9 ya Polasi ya Malanskraal No 407
 - Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 2 ya Polasi ya Malanskraal No 407
 - Karolo 12 (Karolo ya Karolo 2) ya Polasi ya Malanskraal 407
 - Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 2 ya Polasi ya Driefontein 405
 - Boholo bo Setseng ba Polasi ya Driefontein 405
 - Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 6 ya Polasi ya Malanskraal No 407
- Karolo 17 (Karolo ya Karolo 8) ya Polasi ya Malanskraal No 407
 - Polasi ya Bothas Spruit Nr. 404
 - Karolo 16 (Karolo ya Karolo 4) ya Polasi ya Malanskraal No 407
 - Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 13 (Karolo ya Karolo 2) ya Polasi ya Malanskraal 407
 - Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 18 (Karolo ya Karolo 3) ya Polasi ya Malanskraal 407
 - Karolo 1 ya Polasi ya Weltevreden Nr. 449

TSHEBETSO TSA TIKOLOHO: Projeke e sisingwang e hlalisa mesebetsi e mmalwa e boletsweng e ka hara Melawana ya Tekolo ya Sekgahla se bang Tikolohong e leng Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Listing Notice 1 (GNR983), Listing Notice 2 (GNR984) le Listing Notice 3 (GNR985), jwalo ka ha e fetotswe, mme ka hoo, tumello ya ho phetha mesebetsi e boletsweng e tshwanetswe ho kotjwa ka tshebetso ya S&EIR. Dinomoro tsa mesebetsi o lebelletsweng o boletsweng o amanang le projeke e sisintsweng di bontshwa lenaneng le mona ka tlase. Ha o batla ho fumana khopi e felletseng ya mesebetsi ena e boletsweng, re kopa hore o iteanye le Mosebeleletsi wa Tekolo ya Tikoloho (EAP), diatereseng tseo ho fanweng ka tsona mona ka tlase.

Igama lomsebenzi	Isaziso Sohlu	Imithetho NeZaziso Zombuso ezithintekayo						
Scoping EIA for: • ABO Uvemvane WEF 1	GNR 983	11(i)	12(ii)(a)(c)	14	19	24(ii)	28(ii)	48(i)(a)(c)
	GNR 984	1	15					
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14(ii)(a)(c)	18	23(ii)(a)(c)	
MPRDA	Isigaba 53	Indawo ephezulu esetshenziswayo ngokweSigaba 53 Somthetho Wokuthuthukiswa Kwezimbiwa Nezinsiza ZikaPhethiloli (Umthetho 28 ka 2002)						
NHRA	Isigaba 38(8)	Ukubuyekiswa Kohlolo Lokuthinteka Kwamagugu okuhambelana nesicelo Sem-vume Yezemvelo						

NGODISO: WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) e kgethuwe ho ba EAP ke ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd, lebitsong la ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd, ho tsamaisa tshebetso ya S&EIR. Batho kapa mekgatlo e batlang ho ngodisa ho ba bakgathatema bakeng sa ho fana ka ditshwaelo ka Projeke e Sisintsweng e kotjwa hore e romele dintlha tsona yona tse felletseng tsa ho iteanya le yona ho EAP atereseng eo ho fanweng ka yona mona ka tlase. Bakgathatema ba ngodisitsweng ba tla romelwa dingollano tsohle tsa nakong e tlang mme ba tsebiswe ka bong ka menyella e meng e leng teng ya ho nka karolo tshebetsoeng ena.

MORALO WA NAKO YA TLHAHLOBO YA RAPOROTO YA TEKOLo YA SEKGAHLA TIKOLOHONG (EIA): Moralo wa Raporoto ya Tekolo ya Sekgahla se bang Tikolohong (DEIAR) o a fumaneha hore setjhaba se tshwaele ka ona ho tloha ka la 24 Phato 2026 ho isa ho la 25 Loetse 2026. Raporoto e tla fumaneha hore ho kgonwe ho e bula ho tswa linking le khoutung ya QR e mona ka tlase. Dikhopi tse hatisitsweng tsa DEIAR di tla fumaneha ho ka hlalajwa dibakeng tse latelang:

- Ratanda Proper Library - Nkomo St, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP, 1443
- Heidelberg Public Library - 7 Jacobs St, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP, 1441
- Ward 3 Public Library - Joubert Street, Balfour, 2410
- Grootvlei Power Station Stores - Seventh Street, Grootvlei
- Webosaeteng ya WSP - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
- Webosaeteng ya Data e sa lefellweng - <https://wsp-engage.com/>

Re kopa hpre o etse bonnete ba hore ditshwaelo tsohle tse mabapi le projeke e sisingwang kapa dikopo tsa ho ngodiswa jwalo ka Motho ya nang le Kgahleho hape ya Amehileng di romelwe diatereseng tsa ho iteanya tseo ho fanweng ka tsona mona, pele ho feta la 24 Phato 2026. Ha o ka ba le dipotso/ditshwalo dife kapa dife, re kopa hore o se ke wa qeqea ho iteanya le ba Ofisi ya Bonkakarlo ba Setjhaba ya WSP.

Iteanye le ba Ofisi ya Bonkakarlo ba Setjhaba ya WSP hore o ngodise jwalo ka mokgathatema le ho fumana tlhahisoleseding e eketsehileng:

Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Poso: PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; Tel: 011 254 4800; Fekse: 086 582 1561; Emeile: pp@wsp.com

Tshireletso ya Tlhahisoleseding ya Motho ka Seqo: WSP e tla sebetsana le tlhahisoleseding e itseng ya motho ka seqo e leng e mabapi le wena jwalo ka motho ya nang le kgahleho hape a amehile (I&AP) bakeng sa merero ya ho etsa hore o kgone ho ingodisa jwalo ka I&AP le ho boloka dintlha tsa hao ho databeise ya rona, ha o re dumella ho etsa jwalo. WSP e tla sebedisa dintlha tsena ho iteanya le wena ka diprojeke tse ding tse tshwanetseng nakong e tlang. WSP kamehla e tla sebetsana le tlhahisoleseding ya motho ka seqo ya hao ka ho ya ka Molao wa Tshireletso ya Tlhahisoleseding ya Motho ka Seqo wa 4 wa 2013. O dumelletswa ho sebedisa ditokelo tsa hao jwalo ka monga dintlha mme o re tsebise ha o batla ho hlakolwa ngodisong ya ho ba motho ya nang le kgahleho hape ya amehileng kapa haebe ha o sa batla hore dintlha tsa moo ho ka iteangwang le wena ho tsona di kenyelletswa databeising ya rona.



Changemaker gets Africa award nod

Ratanda changemaker Pretty Kekana is making headlines across Africa after being nominated in the Leadership category at the prestigious Emerge Africa Awards.

The recognition celebrates her work empowering young people through her organisation, MoTsha Change in Motion.

Kekana said the organisation was established to address social challenges in her community. She said the nomination reflects the resilience and potential of Ratanda’s youth.

“MoTsha Change in Motion was born from a desire to give back to Ratanda. Growing up here, I saw young people full of talent and ambition, but many faced obstacles, including limited access to education, mentorship, and basic resources. Our programmes aim to provide guidance, support, and opportunities, so that every young person can



Pretty Kekana, founder of MoTsha Change in Motion, has been nominated in the Leadership category at the Emerge Africa Awards.

realise their potential,” she said. Kenakana said that she is humbled by the nomination. “I’m grateful for the nomination, and it shines a light on the community that shaped me and the young people whose lives we are trying to change every day. Our

initiatives include a sanitary dignity project tackling period poverty, mental health awareness workshops, mentorship sessions, and leadership development programmes. These interventions are already producing tangible results, from improved school attendance to boosted confidence among participants,” she said.

Kekana added that she would also like to establish a youth innovation hub in Ratanda.

“We want to have an innovation hub offering digital labs, mentorship rooms, career guidance services, and corporate partnerships to unlock bursaries and internships. I am a servant-leader, guided by integrity, family, and purpose. I believe the recognition at the Emerge Africa Awards highlights the potential of grassroots leadership beyond metropolitan centres,” she said.

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS, MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG

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)

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION: The proponent outlined in the table below proposes to establish a Wind Energy Facility (WEF), application for environmental authorisation, near Heidelberg and Balfour in the Gauteng and Mpumalanga Provinces. The proposed authorisation includes the following Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process:

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process
ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 170MWac WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Farm Names			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Remaining Extent of Portion 4 of the Farm De Hoek 411The Farm Orion No 413Portion 7 of the Farm Driefontein 405Remaining Extent of Portion 1 of the Farm Driefontein 405Portion 5 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Driefontein 405Remaining Extent of Portion 9 of the Farm Malanskraal No 407Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Malanskraal Number 407Portion 12 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal Number 407Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Driefontein Number 405Remaining Extent of the Farm Driefontein 405Remainder of Portion 6 (Kingsmead) of the Farm Malanskraal 407	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Portion 17 (a Portion of Portion 8) of the Farm Malanskraal No 407Portion 16 (a Portion of Portion 4) of the Farm Malanskraal No 407Remainder of Portion 18 (a Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Malanskraal 407Portion 20 (a Portion of Portion 13) of the Farm Malanskraal 407Remaining Extent of Portion 13 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal 407Portion 1 of the Farm Weltevreden Nr. 449Farm Bothas Spruit Nr. 404Remaining Extent of Portion 1 of the Farm Steynskraal 399Portion 25 (a portion of Portion 11) of the Farm Steynskraal 399The Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Portion 17 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406Portion 24 (a portion of Portion 23) of the Farm Steynskraal 399Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Modderfontein 410Portion 7 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406Portion 35 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406Portion 15 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406Remaining Extent of Portion 5 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406Portion 32 (a portion of Portion 5) of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406Remaining Extent of Portion 11 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Steynskraal 399	

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS: The proposed project triggers several listed activities contained in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Listing Notice 1 (GNR 983), Listing Notice 2 (GNR9 84) and Listing Notice 3 (GNR 985), as amended, and therefore, authorisation to undertake the listed activities must be sought via an S&EIR process. The anticipated listed activity numbers associated with the proposed project are reflected in the table below. Should you wish to obtain a complete copy of these listed activities, please contact the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), details provided below.

Project Name	Listing Notice	Applicable Triggers							
Scoping EIA for: ABO Uvemvane WEF 1	GNR 983	11(i)	12(ii)(a)(c)	14	19	24(ii)	28(ii)	48(i)(a)(c)	56(ii)
	GNR 984	1	15						
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14(ii)(a)(c)	18	23(ii)(a)(c)		
MPRDA	Section 53	Surface use in terms of Section 53 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (no. 28 of 2002)							
NHRA	Section 38(8)	Review of an Impact Assessment related to an application for Environmental Authorisation							

REGISTRATION: WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the EAP by ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd, on behalf of ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd, to manage the S&EIR process. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Project 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 process.

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD: The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) is available for public comment from **13 March 2026 to 15 April 2026**. The report will be available for download from the link and QR code below. Printed copies of the DSR will be available for review at the following venues:

- Ratanda Proper Library - Nkomo St, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP, 1443
- Heidelberg Public Library - 7 Jacobs St, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP, 1441
- Ward 3 Public Library - Joubert street, Balfour, 2410
- Grootvlei Power Station Stores - Seventh Street, Grootvlei
- WSP Website - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
- Datafree Website - <https://wsp-engage.com/>

Kindly ensure that all comments on the proposed project or requests to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party are submitted to the contact details provided herewith, by 15 April 2026. Should you have any queries/comments, please do not hesitate to contact the WSP Public Participation Office.

Contact the WSP Public Participation Office to register as a stakeholder and to receive further information: 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.



Adopt a pet

The Heidelberg SPCA is appealing to residents to open their hearts and homes by adopting pets currently in its care.

The organisation says several dogs are available for adoption and need homes. By adopting, community members not only give an animal a second chance but also help the SPCA create space to assist more animals in need. Prospective adopters can contact the SPCA on 016 342 4114 or send a WhatsApp to 073 912 1699 for more information and to arrange a visit.



Velvet is a female Jack Russel.



Blossom is a female Jack Russel.



Pepper is a female cross-breed.



Milo is a male Jack Russel.

UHLELO LWEMVUME YEZEMVELO

ISAZISO NGOHLELO LWEMVUME YEZEMVELO LWESIKHUNGO ESIHLONGOZWAYO SIKAGESI OPHEHLWA NGOMOYA ESAZIWA NGE ABO UVEMVANE ENERGY FACILITY 1 KUSIFUNDAZWE ZASEMPUMALANGA NESASEGAUTENG

Lesaziso sinikwa ngokulandela Umthethonqubo 41(2) Wesaziso Sombuso 982 (njengoba sichibiyelwe) sashicilelwa ngaphansi kwesigaba 24 no 24D soMthetho KaZwelonke Wokulawulwa Kwezemvelo (Umthetho. 107 ka 1998) (NEMA) (njengoba uchibiyelwe) ukuze kufakwe izicelo ezahlukene zemvume yezemvelo (EAs) eziphathelele nemisebenzi ebalulwe ngokulandela Isaziso Sombuso GNR 983, GNR 984 no GNR 985 (njengoba zichibiyelwe)

INCAZELO NENDAWO YOMSEBENZI: Umsunguli obalulwe etafuleni elibhalwe ngezansi uhlongoza ukwakha isikhungo esiphela ugesi ngomoya, phecelezi iWind Energy Facility (WEF), futhi ufaka isicelo semvume yezemvelo eduze kwase Heidelberg nase Balfour kuzifundazwe zase Gauteng neMpumalanga. Imvume ehlongozwayo ihlanganisa Uhlelo Lokulinganisa Umsebenzi Nombiko Wokuthinteka Kwezemvelo (S&EIR):

Umsunguli Womsebenzi	Umsebenzi Ohlongozwayo	Ubuchwepheshe obuzosetshenziswa	Inqubo ezolandelwa
ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	Isikhungo Sikagesi Ophehlwa Ngomoya esingama-Megawathi angu 170MW ohamba ngezintambo kubandakanya nengqalasizinda yakhona	Umoya	S&EIR
Amagama amapulazi			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ingxenywe esalayo yeSiqephu 4 sePulazi iDe Hoek 411IPulazi iOrion Nombolo 413Isiqephu 7 sePulazi iDriefontein 405Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 1 sePulazi iDriefontein 405Isiqephu 5 (Ingxenywe Yesiqephu 1) sePulazi iiDriefontein 405Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 9 sePulazi iMalanskraal No 407Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 2 sePulazi iMalanskraal Nombolo 407Isiqephu 12 (isiqephu sesiqephu 2) sePulazi iiMalanskraal Nombolo 407Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 2 sePulazi iiDriefontein Nombolo 405Ingxenywe esalayo yePulazi iDriefontein 405Ingxenywe yesiqephu 6 (iKingsmead) sePulazi iMalanskraal 407	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Isiqephu 17 (isiqephu sesiqephu 8) sePulazi Malanskraal Nombolo 407Isiqephu 16 (isiqephu sesiqephu 4) sePulazi iMalanskraal No 407Ingxenywe yesiqephu 18 (isiqephu se siqephu 3) sePulazi i Malanskraal 407Isiqephu 20 (isiqephu sesiqephu 13) sePulazi iMalanskraal 407Ingxenywe esalayo yesiqephu 13 (isiqephu sesiqephu 2) sePulazi iMalanskraal 407Isiqephu 1 sePulazi i Weltevreden Nombolo. 449IPulazi iBothas Spruit Nombolo. 404Ingxenywe esalayo yesiqephu 1 sePulazi iSteynskraal 399Isiqephu 25 (isiqephu sesiqephu 11) sePulazi iSteynskraal 399Ingxenywe esalayo yeSiqephu 2 sePulazi iLagerspoort Number 406	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Isiqephu 17 sepulazi iLagerspoort Nombolo 406Isiqephu 24 (isiqephu sesiqephu 23) sePulazi iSteynskraal 399Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 2 sePulazi iiModderfontein 410Isiqephu 7 sePulazi iLagerspoort Nombolo 406Isiqephu 35 sePulazi iLagerspoort 406Isiqephu 15 sePulazi iLagerspoort 406Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 5 sePulazi iLagerspoort 406siqephu 32 (isiqephu sesiqephu 5) sePulazi iLagerspoort Nombolo 406Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 11 (isiqephu sesiqephu 1) saPulazi iSteynskraal 399	

IZICELO ZEZEEMVELO: Umsebenzi ohlongozwayo uholela emisebenzini eminingi ebalulwe kwiSaziso Sohlu 1 (GNR 983, Isaziso Sohlu 2 (GNR 984) kanye Nesaziso Sohlu 3 (GNR 985) esiqukethwe yiMithethonqubo Yokuthinteka Kwezemvelo (EIA) njengoba ichibiyelwe., ngakho-ke, imvume yokwenza imisebenzi ebaluliwe kufanele icelwe ngendlela yokulinganisa umsebenzi futhi kwenziwe umbiko ngokuthinteka kwezemvelo. Inani lemisebenzi esohlwini okulindeleke ukuthi iyathinteka emsebenzini ohlongozwayo ibhalwe etafuleni elingezansi. Uma ufisa ukuthola ikhophi ephelele yemisebenzi ebaluliwe, sicela ukuba uthintane noMhlozi Wokuthinteka Kwezemvelo (EAP), usebenzise imininingwane ebhalwe ngezansi.

Igama lomsebenzi	Isaziso Sohlu	Imithetho NeZaziso Zombuso ezithintekayo							
Scoping EIA for: ABO Uvemvane WEF 1	GNR 983	11(i)	12(ii)(a)(c)	14	19	24(ii)	28(ii)	48(i)(a)(c)	56(ii)
	GNR 984	1	15						
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14(ii)(a)(c)	18	23(ii)(a)(c)		
MPRDA	Isigaba 53	Indawo ephezulu esetshenziswayo ngokweSigaba 53 Somthetho Wokuthuthukiswa Kwezimbiwa Nezinsiza ZikaPhethiloli (Umthetho 28 ka 2002)							
NHRA	Isigaba 38(8)	Ukubuyezekwa Kohlolo Lokuthinteka Kwamagugu okuhambelana nesicelo Semvume Yezemvelo							

UKUBHALISA: Abakwa WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) baqokwe yinkampani i ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd njengabahloli bokuthinteka kwezemvelo abazimele (EAP) bemele i ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd ukuphatha uhlelo lwe S&EIR Amaqembu afisa ukubhalisa ngokusemthethweni njengafuna ukubamba iqhaza ukuze baveze imibono yabo Ngomsebenzi Ohlongozwayo bayacelwa ukuba bathumele imininingwane ephelele abangathintwa kuyo bayithumele ku (EAP) ekheleni elibhalwe ngezansi. Labo ababhalisive njengabazobamba iqhaza bayothunyelwa yonke imibiko ezoba khona futhi bayokwaziswa ngamunye ngamathuba ayovela okubamba iqhaza kokwenziwayo.

ISIKHATHI SOKUCUBUNGULA UMBIKO WESILINGANISO SOMSEBENZI OSALUNGISWA: Umbiko Wesilinganiso Somsebenzi Osalungiswa (DSR) uyatholakala ukuze kuphawulwe ngawo kusuka mhlaka **13 Mashi 2026 kuze kube mhlaka 15 Ephreli 2026**. Umbiko uyatholakala ngokulandwa kulinki nakukhodi ye QR engezansi. Amakhophi asephapheni eDSR ayatholakala ukuze afundwe ezindaweni ezilandelayo:

- Umtapo wolwazi I Ratanda Proper Layibhrari - Nkomo St, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP, 1443
- Umtapo wolwazi womphakathi wase Heidelberg Layibhrari Yomphakathi - 7 Jacobs St, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP, 1441
- Umtapo wolwazi womphakathi wase Ward 3 Layibhrari Yomphakathi - Joubert Street, Balfour, 2410
- Grootvlei Isithesi Sokuphehla Ugesi- Ezitolo - Seventh Street, Grootvlei
- WSP Webhusayithi - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
- Iwebhusayithi yabangendatha - <https://wsp-engage.com/>

Sicela niqiniseke ukuthi yonke imibono ngomsebenzi ohlongozwayo nezicelo zokubhalisa njengabathintekayo nabanentshisekelo kuthunyelwe kusetshenziswe imininingwane ebhalwe ngezansi kuze kube ngumhlaka **15 Ephreli 2026**.Uma unemibuzo kumbe uthanda ukuphawula sicela ungangabazi ukuthinta ihhovisi lokuxhumana nomphakathi WSP Public Participation Office.

Thinta abakwa WSP Public Participation Office: ukubhalisa njengothintekayo futhi ukuthola olunye ulwazi Ihhovisi Lokuxhumana Nomphakathi; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Iposi: PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; **Tel:** 011 254 4800; **Fekisi:** 086 582 1561; **Imeyili:** pp@wsp.com

Ukuvikeleka Kwemininingwane Yabantu: Abakwa WSP bazosebenzisa ininingwane ethile ngawe njengomuntu othintekayo nonentshisekelo (I&AP) ngesizathu sokuba ubhaliswe njenge (I&AP) futhi sizogcina imininingwane yakho emabhukwini ethu, lokhu sikwenza ngemvume yakho. Abakwa WSP bazosebenzisa lemininingwane ukukuthinta mayelana neminye imisebenzi ethi mayifane esikhathini esizayo. Abakwa WSP bayohlala besebenzisa imininingwane yabantu ngokulandela Umthetho Wokuvikelwa Kwemininingwane Yabantu Umthetho 4 ka 2013. Uvumelekile ukuba usebenzise ilungelo lakho njengomuntu okuphethwe imininingwane yakhe ukusazisa uma ufisa ukuyeka ukubhaliswa njengothintekayo noma onentshisekelo kumbe ungasathandi ukuthi imininingwane yakho ibe semabhukwini ethu.



Alra Park karate students excel at belt test

HEIDELBERG - Young martial artists from Alra Park proved that dedication and discipline lead to success when they delivered an impressive performance at a provincial belt test held in Boksburg on February 28.

Students from the Alrapark Enshin karate dojo travelled to

Sunrise to take part in the official grading, where they were assessed on their techniques, kata, stamina, and overall understanding of karate.

The learners rose to the occasion, demonstrating confidence, focus and determination throughout the evaluation process.

According to dojo instructor Shihan Visser, the learners showed exceptional commitment in the weeks leading up to the test.

“I am incredibly proud of each and every student who stepped onto the floor for this grading. They have been training consistently, pushing through tough ses-

sions and supporting one another as a team. What we saw was the result of hard work, perseverance and a willingness to improve every single day,” he said.

Visser also added that beyond the physical techniques, the students demonstrated the core values of karate.

“They showed respect, discipline and strong character, which are just as important as punches and kicks. Watching them perform with confidence and composure made me very proud as their instructor.

“They truly represented Alrapark with honour,” he said.



Shihan Visser stands with his students following their outstanding performance at the provincial grading.



Alra Park Enshin Karate Dojo students proudly display their new belts after successfully completing the provincial grading in Sunrise, Boksburg.

Cambridge FC secures 2-0 away victory against Vrrphaa

NIGEL – Cambridge Football Club delivered a commanding performance on the road, securing a 2–0 away victory against Vrrphaa FC on February 27.

Cambridge FC travelled to Vosloorus for the night fixture, which formed part of the regional Hollywood Bets match schedule.

From the opening whistle, Cambridge set the tone, starting the match with high intensity, sharp movement and relentless energy that kept Vrrphaa FC under sustained pressure.

Cambridge started the match with high intensity and full of energy. The actions led to a brilliant build-up goal where right back Banele Dunge played a quality cross that deflected off a Vrrphaa FC player into the net in the fifth minute of the match.

Bridges’ early goal instilled confidence in the players to keep the ball and control possession.

The home team didn’t sit back and tried to string close combination passes, trying to find a way through the middle, but Cambridge, playing with experienced centre midfielders, managed to control the tempo of the game.

Both teams created more chances but failed to convert.

Cambridge’s strategy was to play long balls and catch their opponents on the transition, which worked well as the ball was spread to

their pacy wingers, making their opponents work overtime. The visiting team suffered two major blows when two of its U21 players were taken off the field with injuries in the first half.

The second half was a much more tactical affair, as the pace of the game slowed and both teams tried to build from the back and manage the game.

Cambridge made some changes, bringing on fresh legs on the wings, and it paid off as winger Mpumelelo Klipa Mazibuko dribbled past two players and scored at the near post to make the score line 2-0 with 15 minutes to play. Cambridge had the backing of their supporters, who travelled all the way to Vosloorus to support the boys and gave them that extra kick to push for all three points away from home. The home team tried everything to reduce the deficit, but Cambridge’s disciplined defence dealt with each attack.

The match ended 2-0 in Nigel’s favour. Assistant coach Daniel Tshidi said, “The boys came to fight after a disappointing 2-1 defeat in Kwa-Thema last week. We needed to respond and bounce back to winning ways.

Chairperson Ignatius Maphike said, “Despite our financial challenges, we keep going and wait for one door to open with sponsorship, as travelling is a huge challenge to get the boys to games.”

League kicks off with 11 teams

HEIDELBERG - The third season of Mzumbe Masters League officially kicked off on March 1, with 11 teams taking to the Obed Sports Ground.

The growing league, which caters for footballers aged 35 and older, has expanded steadily since its launch three years ago.

League coordinator Elvis Mahlangu said the initiative’s vision was to keep experienced players active in the sport they love.

“The league was established with only six teams. We wanted to encourage players over 35 who still have a passion for soccer. Last year, we grew to eight teams when teams from Sky City and Balfour joined, and this season, we have 11 teams participating, which shows the growth and commitment. Matches are played every second Sunday, with five fixtures contested during the opening round,” he said.

Mahlangu also highlighted some of their challenges, particularly the condition of the playing facilities.

“One of our main challenges is that we



Players compete during opening fixtures of the Mzumbe Masters League.

do not have a suitable pitch. We appeal to local businesses and stakeholders to assist us with sponsorship or any form of support to help improve our facilities and sustain the league,” he said.

Opening match results were as follows:

- Amajita Masters 0-0 Hot Beans Masters
- Madrid Masters 2- 0 Army Gym Masters
- Lizos0-3 Jusca Masters
- Inhlizyo FC 0-0 Heidelberg FC
- Sky City Galaxy 3-1 Abadlali Masters.

OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSES

KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE ABO UVMVANE WINDENERGIE-FASILITEIT 1, OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSES, MPUMALANGA EN GAUTENG

Kennis word hiermee gegee kragtens regulasie 41(2) van GNR 982 (soos gewysig), gepubliseer volgens artikel 24 en 24D van die Nasionale Wet op Omgewingsbestuur (Wet 107 van 1998) (NEMA) (soos gewysig) vir aktiwiteite wat geïdentifiseer is kragtens GNR 983, GNR 984 en GNR 985 (soos gewysig)

BESKRYWING EN LIGGING: Die aansoeker wat genoem word in die tabel hieronder wil 'n Windenergie-fasiliteit (WEF) oprig en wil aansoek doen om omgewingsgoedkeuring naby Heidelberg en Balfour in Gauteng en Mpumalanga. Die voorgestelde goedkeuring sluit die volgende verslae oor omvang en invloed op die omgewing (S&EIR) in:

Aansoeker	Projek	Tegnologie	Proses
ABO Uvmvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 170 MWac (MW alternatiewe stroom) WEF, insluitend verwante infrastruktuur	Wind	S&EIR
Plaasname			
<div><div><div>• Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 4 van die plaas De Hoek 411</div><div>• Plaas Orion 413</div><div>• Deel 7 van die plaas Driefontein 405</div><div>• Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 1 van die plaas Driefontein 405</div><div>• Deel 5 ('n gedeelte van deel 1) van die plaas Driefontein 405</div><div>• Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 9 van die plaas Malanskraal 407</div><div>• Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 2 van die plaas Malanskraal 407</div><div>• Deel 12 ('n gedeelte van deel 2) van die plaas Malanskraal 407</div><div>• Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 2 van die plaas Driefontein 405</div><div>• Oorblywende gedeelte van die plaas Driefontein 405</div></div><div><div>• Res van deel 6 (Kingsmead) van die plaas Malanskraal 407</div><div>• Deel 17 ('n gedeelte van deel 8) van die plaas Malanskraal 407</div><div>• Deel 16 ('n gedeelte van deel 4) van die plaas Malanskraal 407</div><div>• Res van deel 18 ('n gedeelte van deel 3) van die plaas Malanskraal 407</div><div>• Deel 20 ('n gedeelte van deel 13) van die plaas Malanskraal 407</div><div>• Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 13 ('n gedeelte van deel 2) van die plaas Malanskraal 407</div><div>• Deel 1 van die plaas Weltevreden 449</div><div>• Plaas Bothas Spruit 404</div><div>• Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 1 van die plaas Steynskraal 399</div><div>• Deel 25 ('n gedeelte van deel 11)</div></div><div><div>• van die plaas Steynskraal 399</div><div>• Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 2 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406</div><div>• Deel 17 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406</div><div>• Deel 24 ('n gedeelte van deel 23) van die plaas Steynskraal 399</div><div>• Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 2 van die plaas Modderfontein 410</div><div>• Deel 7 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406</div><div>• Deel 35 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406</div><div>• Deel 15 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406</div><div>• Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 5 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406</div><div>• Deel 32 ('n gedeelte van deel 5) van die plaas Lagerspoort 406</div><div>• Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 11 ('n gedeelte van deel 1) van die plaas Steynskraal 399</div></div></div>			

OMGEWINGSAANSOEKE: Die voorgestelde projek dien as sneller vir verskeie genoemde aktiwiteite in die Regulasies oor die evaluering van invloed op die omgewing (EIA), Kennisgewing 1 (GNR 983), Kennisgewing 2 (GNR 984) en Kennisgewing 3 (GNR 985), soos gewysig. Daar moet gevolglik goedkeuring verleen word om die genoemde aktiwiteite te verrig deur middel van 'n S&EIR-proses. Die verwagte genoemde aktiwiteite en nommers wat verband hou met die voorgestelde projek, word aangedui in die tabel hieronder. Indien u 'n volledige afskrif van die genoemde aktiwiteite nodig het, moet u asseblief met die praktisyn wat verantwoordelik is vir die evaluering van die invloed op die omgewing (EAP) skakel. Die besonderhede word hieronder aangedui.

Naam van projek	Kennisgewing (lys)	Toepaslike snellers							
Omvang volgens EIA vir: ABO Uvmvane WEF 1	GNR 983	11(i)	12(ii)(a)(c)	14	19	24(ii)	28(ii)	48(i)(a)(c)	56(ii)
	GNR 984	1	15						
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14(ii)(a)(c)	18	23(ii)(a)(c)		
MPRDA	Artikel 53	Oppervlaktegebruik kragtens artikel 53 van die Wet op die Ontwikkeling van Mineraal- en Petroleumhulpbronne (Wet 28 van 2002)							
NHRA	Artikel 38(8)	Oorsig van invloedevaluering wat verband hou met 'n aansoek om omgewingsgoedkeuring							

REGISTRASIE: ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd, namens ABO Uvmvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd, het WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) aangestel as EAP om die S&EIR-proses te hanteer. Partye wat formeel wil registreer as belanghebbendes om kommentaar te lewer oor die voorgestelde projek, word versoek om volledige skakelbesonderhede (telefoonnommers en adresse) aan die EAP te stuur by die adres(se) hieronder. Geregistreerde belanghebbendes sal in die toekoms alle korrespondensie ontvang en individueel in kennis gestel word van verdere geleenthede om deel te neem aan die proses.

INSAE-TYDPERK VIR DIE KONSEPWYSIGINGSVERSLAG: Die konsepverslag (DSR) oor die omvang is beskikbaar vir openbare kommentaar van **13 Maart 2026 tot 15 April 2026**. Die verslag sal elektronies beskikbaar wees deur middel van die skakel en die QR-kode hieronder. Gedrukte weergawes van die DSR sal beskikbaar wees by die volgende persele:

- Ratanda Proper-biblioteek - Nkomosstraat, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP 1443
- Heidelbergse Openbare Biblioteek - Jacobsstraat 7, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP 1441
- Wyk 3 se openbare biblioteek - Joubertstraat, Balfour 2410
- Grootvlei-kragstasiewinkel - Sewende straat, Grootvlei
- WSP se webblad - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
- Datavrye webblad - <https://wsp-engage.com/>

Maak asseblief seker dat alle kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projek of versoeke om te registreer as belanghebbende party of party wat geraak word, teen 15 April 2026 ingedien word by die adresse hieronder. Indien u enige vrae/kommentaar het, moet u nie huiwer om WSP se kantoor vir openbare deelname te skakel nie

Skakel WSP se kantoor vir openbare deelname om te registreer as belanghebbende en om verdere inligting te ontvang: Kantoor vir openbare deelname: WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Pos: Posbus 6001, Halfway House 1685; **Tel:** 011 254 4800; **Faks:** 086 582 1561; **E-pos:** pp@wsp.com

Beskerming van persoonlike inligting: WSP gaan sekere van u persoonlike inligting as belanghebbende en party wat geraak word (I&AP) verwerk vir die doel van registrasie as I&AP en sodat u besonderhede in ons databasis opgeneem kan word indien u instem dat dit gedoen kan word. WSP gebruik die besonderhede om in die toekoms met u te skakel oor ander relevante projekte. WSP verwerk in alle gevalle u persoonlike inligting volgens die Wet op die Beskerming van Persoonlike Inligting, Wet 4 van 2013. U is geregtig daarop om u regte oor u data uit te oefen en u kan ons laat weet indien u registrasie as I&AP gekanselleer en onttrek moet word en u nie meer u inligting in ons databasis wil hê nie.



Karateka collect medals at nationals

NIGEL - After the SARMAF East-Gauteng trials in March, several students of Shihan-Dai Leon Gagiano's Tenshinkan Karate Nigel dojo qualified to participate in the national championships.

Forty-one of these students registered to participate in the championships in Sasolburg recently, in different categories such as kata, unison kata, kumite, and non-sharp weapons.

They collected a total of 72 medals at nationals, with 26 gold, 22 silver and 24 bronze medals in the mix.



The SARMAF SA participants from the Nigel dojo.



Board members of the NLFA have thrown their support behind the referee recruitment campaign, encouraging young football enthusiasts to take up the whistle.

Take up the whistle

NIGEL - The Nigel Local Football Association is inviting young football enthusiasts to take up the whistle and become the next generation of match officials as part of its referee development programme.

The association is encouraging young people who are passionate about football to consider refereeing, describing it as an opportunity to play a vital role in the sport's growth while developing valuable leadership and decision-making skills. Successful applicants will receive training on the Laws of the Game, as well as fitness training to prepare them for the

physical demands of officiating football matches.

According to the NLFA, the initiative aims to strengthen the standard of refereeing in local football while creating opportunities for young people to remain actively involved in the sport.

The association believes that developing skilled referees is essential to building the future of football in Nigel and surrounding communities. Interested individuals can contact Oupa Masiteng on 077 362 60053 or Themba Maseko on 076 595 26423 for more information about the programme and the registration process.



Karate vegters wat KSA junior en Protea kleure verwerf het, waaronder vier van Tenshinkan Nigel.

Tenshinkan Karate Nigel ontvang toekennings

NIGEL - Lede van Tenshinkan Karate Nigel, asook instrukteur Shihan-Dai Leon Gagiano, is onlangs in Durban met Karate Suid-Afrika (KSA)-toekennings vereer.

Die erkenning volg nadat die junior karatekas verlede jaar hul KSA-juniorkleure en die seniors hul Protea-kleure in die wapenafdeling verwerf het.

Die lede het Tenshinkan Karate in Oktober 2025 met trots in Wallis by die ICO Internasionale Kampioenskap in die KSA se nie-skerpwap-

enafdeling verteenwoordig. Elkeen het 'n goue-, silwer- of bronsmedalje by die kampioenskap verower.

"Ons is uiters trots op die talentvolle studente wat ons dorp verteenwoordig. Ons studente het uitstekende prestasies gelewer," sê Gagiano.

Gagiano het sy KSA Protea-kleure ontvang, Diandri Pretorius het haar KSA-juniorkleure ontvang, Julian Devenier is met Protea-kleure vereer en Dev Rampersad het KSA-juniorkleure ontvang.

TSHEBETSO TSA TUMELLO YA TIKOLOHONG

TSEBISO KA NTSHETSOPELE E SISINTSWENG YA TSHEBETSO YA TUMELLO YA ABO UVMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, MPUMALANGA LE GAUTENG

Mona ho fanwa ka tsebiso ka ho ya ka Molawana wa 41(2) wa GNR 982 (jwalo ka ha o fetotswe)) e phatlaladitswe tlasa karolo ya 24 le 24D ya Molao wa Naha wa Tsamaiso ya Tikoloho (Nomoro ya 107 wa 1998) (NEMA) (jwalo ka ha o fetotswe) bakeng sa ho romelwa hape ha dikopo tse fapaneng tsa tumello tsa tikolohong (di-EA) mabapi le mesebetsi e hlauweng ka ho ya ka GNR 983, GNR 984 le GNR 985 (jwalo ka ha e fetotswe)

TLHALOSO LE SEBAKA: Batshehetsi ba boletsweng lenaneng le mona ka tlase ba sisinya hore ho thehwe Wind Energy Facility (WEF), e tla hloka kopo ya tumello ya tikolohong, haufi le Heidelberg le Balfour tse Diprovinseng tsa Gauteng le Mpumalanga. Tumello e sisintsweng e kenyelletsa tshebetso e latelang ya Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR):

Motshehetsi	Projeke	Thekenoloji	Tshebetso
ABO Uvmvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	Ho fihla ho 170MWac WEF ho kenyelletswa le meralo ya motheo e amanang le yona	Moya	S&EIR
Mobitso a Dipolasi			
• Boholo ba Sebaka se Setseng sa Karolo 2 ya Polasi ya Lagerspoort Nomoro ya 406	• Polasi ya Orion No 413	• Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 6 ya Polasi ya Malanskraal No 407	
• Karolo 17 (Karolo ya Karolo 3) ya Polasi ya Lagerspoort Nomoro ya 406	• Boholo ba Sebaka se Setseng sa Karolo 5 ya Polasi ya Lagerspoort 406	• Karolo 17 (Karolo ya Karolo 8) ya Polasi ya Malanskraal No 407	
• Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 4 ya Polasi ya De Hoek 411	• Karolo 7 ya Polasi ya Driefontein 405	• Polasi ya Bothas Spruit Nr. 404	
• Karolo 45 ya Polasi ya Lagerspoort 406	• Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 9 ya Polasi ya Malanskraal No 407	• Karolo 16 (Karolo ya Karolo 4) ya Polasi ya Malanskraal No 407	
• Boholo 7 ya Polasi ya Lagerspoort Nomoro ya 406	• Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 2 ya Polasi ya Malanskraal No 407	• Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 13 (Karolo ya Karolo 2) ya Polasi ya Malanskraal 407	
• Karolo 19 ya Polasi ya De Hoek No 411	• Karolo 12 (Karolo ya Karolo 2) ya Polasi ya Malanskraal 407	• Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 18 (Karolo ya Karolo 3) ya Polasi ya Malanskraal 407	
• Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 2 ya Polasi ya Modderfontein 410	• Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 2 ya Polasi ya Driefontein 405	• Karolo 1 ya Polasi ya Weltevreden Nr. 449	

TSHEBETSO TSA TIKOLOHO: Projeke e sisingswang e hlalisa mesebetsi e mmalwa e boletsweng e ka hara Melawana ya Tekolo ya Segkahla se bang Tikolohong e leng Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Listing Notice 1 (GNR983), Listing Notice 2 (GNR984) le Listing Notice 3 (GNR985), jwalo ka ha e fetotswe, mme ka hoo, tumello ya ho phetha mesebetsi e boletsweng e tshwanetswe ho kotjwa ka tshebetso ya S&EIR. Dinomoro tsa mesebetsi o lebelletsweng o boletsweng o amanang le projeke e sisintsweng di bontshwa lenaneng le mona ka tlase. Ha o batla ho fumana khopi e felletseng ya mesebetsi ena e boletsweng, re kopa hore o iteanye le Mosebetsi wa Tekolo ya Tikoloho (EAP), diatereseng tseo ho fanwang ka tsona mona ka tlase.

Lebitso la Projeke	Tsebiso ya Lenane	Dihlasedi tse Sebetsang						
Scoping EIA for: ABO Uvmvane WEF 1	GNR 983	11(ii)	12(ii)(a)(c)	14	19	24(ii)	28(ii)	48(i)(a)(c) 56(ii)
	GNR 984	1	15					
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14(ii)(a)(c)	18	23(ii)(a)(c)	
MPRDA	Karolo ya 53	Tshebetsi ya bokahodimo ka ho ya ka Karolo ya 53 ya Molao wa Tlhabololo ya Diminerale le Dihlahiswa tsa Petroliamo (no. 28 ya 2002)						
NHRA	Karolo ya 38(8)	Tlhalobolo ya Tekolo ya Segkahla e amanang le kopo ya Tumello ya Tikolohong						

NGODISO: WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) e kgethuwe ho ba EAP ke ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd, lebitsong la ABO Uvmvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd, ho tsamaisa tshebetso ya S&EIR. Batho kapa mekgatlo e batlang ho ngodisa ho ba bakgathatema bakeng sa ho fana ka ditshwaelo ka Projeke e Sisintsweng e kotjwa hore e romele dintlha tsona yona tse felletseng tsa ho iteanya le yona ho EAP aterseng eo ho fanwang ka yona mona ka tlase. Bakgathatema ba ngoditsweng ba tla romelwa dingolano tsohle tsa nakong e tlang mme ba tsebiswe ka bong ka menyela e meng e leng teng ya ho nka karolo tshebetsoeng ena.

MORALO WA NAKO YA TLHAHLOBO YA RAPOROTO YA TEKOLO YA SEGKAHLA TIKOLOHONG (EIA): Moralo wa Raporo to ya Tekolo ya Segkahla se bang Tikolohong (DEIAR) o a fumaneha hore setjhaba se tshwaele ka ona ho tlhoa ka la 24 Phato 2026 ho isa ho la 25 Loetse 2026. Raporo to e tla fumaneha hore ho kgonwe ho e bula ho tswa linking le khoutung ya QR e mona ka tlase. Dikhopi tse hatitsitsweng tsa DEIAR di tla fumaneha ho ka hlalohjwa dibakeng tse latelang:

- Ratanda Proper Library - Nkomo St, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP, 1443
- Heidelberg Public Library - 7 Jacobs St, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP, 1441
- Ward 3 Public Library - Joubert Street, Balfour, 2410
- Grootvlei Power Station Stores - Seventh Street, Grootvlei
- Webosaeteng ya WSP - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
- Webosaeteng ya Data e sa lefellelweng - <https://wsp-engage.com/>

Re kopa hore o etse bonnete ba hore ditshwaelo tsohle tse mabapi le projeke e sisingswang kapa dikopo tsa ho ngodiswa jwalo ka Motho ya nang le Kgahleho hape ya Amehileng di romelwe diatereseng tsa ho iteanya tseo ho fanwang ka tsona mona, pele ho feta la 24 Phato 2026. Ha o ka ba le dipotsa/ditshwalo dife kapa dife, re kopa hore o se ke wa qeaqea ho iteanya le ba Ofisi ya Bonkakaro la Setjhaba ya WSP.

Iteanye le ba Ofisi ya Bonkakaro la Setjhaba ya WSP hore o ngodise jwalo ka mokgathatema le ho fumana tlhahisoleseding e eketsehileng: Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd Poso: PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685; Tel: 011 361 1300; Emeile: pp@wsp.com

Tshireletso ya Tlhalisoleseding ya Motho ka Seqo: WSP e tla sebetsana le tlhalisoleseding e itseng ya motho ka seqo e leng e mabapi le wena jwalo ka motho ya nang le kgahleho hape a amehile (I&AP) bakeng sa merero ya ho etsa hore o kgone ho ingodisa jwalo ka I&AP le ho boloka dintlha tsa hao ho database ya rona, ha o re dumella ho etsa jwalo. WSP e tla sebetsa dintlha tsa hao ho iteanya le wena ka diprojeke tse ding tse tshwanetseng nakong e tlang. WSP kamehla e tla sebetsana le tlhalisoleseding ya motho ka seqo ya hao ka ho ya ka Molao wa Tshireletso ya Tlhalisoleseding ya Motho ka Seqo wa 4 wa 2013. O dumelletswa ho sebetsa ditokelo tsa hao jwalo ka monga dintlha mme o re tsebise ha o batla ho hlakolwa ngodisong ya ho ba motho ya nang le kgahleho hape ya amehileng kapa haeba ha o sa batla hore dintlha tsa moo ho ka iteangwang le wena ho tsona di kenyelletswa databaseing ya rona.



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Appendix B.3

SITE NOTICES





NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE ABO UVMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS, MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES

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)

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION: The proponent outlined in the table below proposes to establish a Wind Energy Facility (WEF), application for environmental authorisation, near Heidelberg and Balfour in the Gauteng and Mpumalanga Provinces. The proposed authorisation includes the following Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process:

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process
ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 170MWac WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Farm Names			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Remaining Extent of Portion 4 of the Farm De Hoek 411The Farm Orion No 413Portion 7 of the Farm Driefontein 405Remaining Extent of Portion 1 of the Farm Driefontein 405Portion 5 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Driefontein 405Remaining Extent of Portion 9 of the Farm Malanskraal No. 407Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Malanskraal No. 407Portion 12 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal No. 407	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Driefontein No. 405Remaining Extent of the Farm Driefontein 405Remainder of Portion 6 (Kingsmead) of the Farm Malanskraal 407Portion 17 (a Portion of Portion 8) of the Farm Malanskraal No. 407Portion 16 (a Portion of Portion 4) of the Farm Malanskraal No. 407Remainder of Portion 18 (a Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Malanskraal 407Portion 20 (a Portion of Portion 13) of the Farm Malanskraal 407	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Remaining Extent of Portion 13 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal 407Portion 1 of the Farm Weltevreden No. 449Farm Bothas Spruit No. 404Remaining Extent of Portion 1 of the Farm Steynskraal 399Portion 25 (a portion of Portion 11) of the Farm Steynskraal 399The Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Lagerspoort No 406Portion 17 of the Farm Lagerspoort No. 406Portion 24 (a portion of Portion 23) of the Farm Steynskraal 399	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Modderfontein 410Portion 7 of the Farm Lagerspoort No. 406Portion 35 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406Portion 15 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406Remaining Extent of Portion 5 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406Portion 32 (a portion of Portion 5) of the Farm Lagerspoort No. 406Remaining Extent of Portion 11 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Steynskraal 399

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS: The proposed project triggers several listed activities contained in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Listing Notice 1 (GNR983), Listing Notice 2 (GNR984) and Listing Notice 3 (GNR985), as amended, and therefore, authorisation to undertake the listed activities must be sought via an S&EIR process. The anticipated listed activity numbers associated with the proposed project are reflected in the table below. Should you wish to obtain a complete copy of these listed activities, please contact the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), details provided below.

Project Name	Listing Notice	Applicable Triggers							
Scoping EIA for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">ABO Uvemvane WEF 1	GNR 983	11(i)	12(ii)(a)(c)	14	19	24(ii)	28(ii)	48(i)(a)(c)	56(ii)
	GNR 984	1	15						
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14(ii)(a)(c)	18	23(ii)(a)(c)		
MPRDA	Section 53	Surface use in terms of Section 53 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (no. 28 of 2002)							
NHRA	Section 38(8)	Review of an Impact Assessment related to an application for Environmental Authorisation							

REGISTRATION: WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the EAP by ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd, on behalf of ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd, to manage the S&EIR process. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Project 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 process.

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) is available for public comment from **13 March 2026 to 15 April 2026**. The reports will be available for download from the link and QR code below. Printed copies of the DSR will be available for review at the following venues:

Name of Public Place	Address	Name of Public Place	Address	FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd; Tel: 011 254 4800; E-mail: pp@wsp.com	Or scan the QR code
Ratanda Proper Library	Nkomo St, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP, 1443	Ward 3 Public Library, Balfour	Joubert street, Balfour, 2410		
Heidelberg Public Library	7 Jacobs St, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP, 1441	Grootvlei Power Station Stores	Seventh Street, Grootvlei		
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents	WSP Data Free Website	https://wsp-engage.com/		
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.					

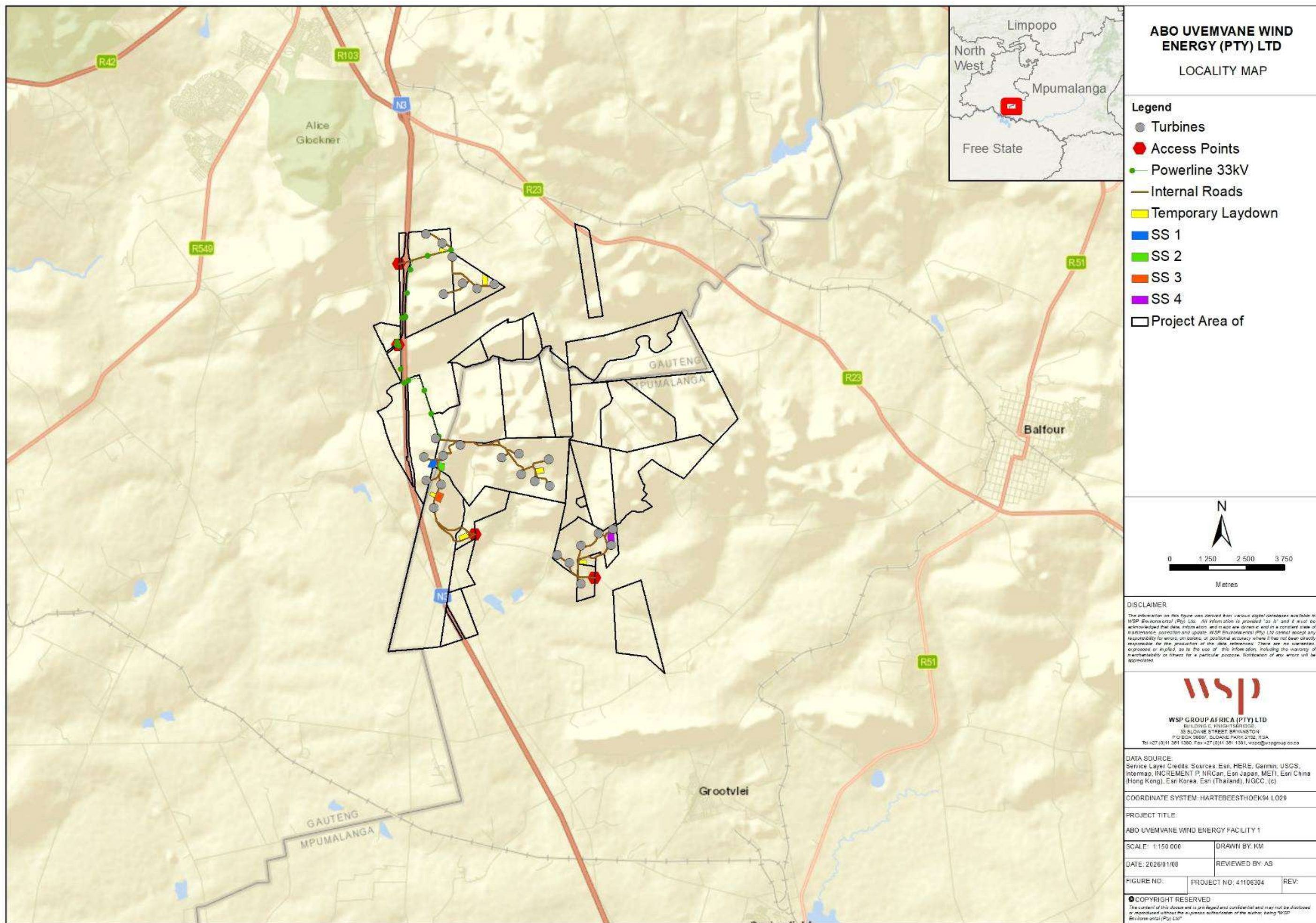


Figure 1: Locality of the project site for for the ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1

KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN DIE ABO UVEMVANE WINDENERGIE-FASILITEIT 1, OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSES, MPUMALANGA EN GAUTENG

OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSES

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)

BESKRYWING EN LIGGING: Die aansoeker wat genoem word in die tabel hieronder wil 'n Windenergie-fasiliteit (WEF) oprig en wil aansoek doen om omgewingsgoedkeuring naby Heidelberg en Balfour in Gauteng en Mpumalanga. Die voorgestelde goedkeuring sluit die volgende verslae oor omvang en invloed op die omgewing (S&EIR) in:

Aansoeker	Projek	Tegnologie	Proses
ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	Tot 170 MWac (MW alternatiewe stroom) WEF, insluitend verwante infrastruktuur	Wind	S&EIR
Farm Names			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 4 van die plaas De Hoek 411Plaas Orion 413Deel 7 van die plaas Driefontein 405Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 1 van die plaas Driefontein 405Deel 5 ('n gedeelte van deel 1) van die plaas Driefontein 405Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 9 van die plaas Malanskraal 407Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 2 van die plaas Malanskraal 407Deel 12 ('n gedeelte van deel 2) van die plaas Malanskraal 407	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 2 van die plaas Driefontein 405Oorblywende gedeelte van die plaas Driefontein 405Res van deel 6 (Kingsmead) van die plaas Malanskraal 407Deel 17 ('n gedeelte van deel 8) van die plaas Malanskraal 407Deel 16 ('n gedeelte van deel 4) van die plaas Malanskraal 407Res van deel 18 ('n gedeelte van deel 3) van die plaas Malanskraal 407Deel 20 ('n gedeelte van deel 13) van die plaas Malanskraal 407	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 13 ('n gedeelte van deel 2) van die plaas Malanskraal 407Deel 1 van die plaas Weltevreden 449Plaas Bothas Spruit 404Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 1 van die plaas Steynskraal 399Deel 25 ('n gedeelte van deel 11) van die plaas Steynskraal 399Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 2 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406Deel 17 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406Deel 24 ('n gedeelte van deel 23) van die plaas Steynskraal 399	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 2 van die plaas Modderfontein 410Deel 7 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406Deel 35 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406Deel 15 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 5 van die plaas Lagerspoort 406Deel 32 ('n gedeelte van deel 5) van die plaas Lagerspoort 406Oorblywende gedeelte van deel 11 ('n gedeelte van deel 1) van die plaas Steynskraal 399

OMGEWINGSAANSOEKE: Die voorgestelde projek dien as sneller vir verskeie genoemde aktiwiteite in die Regulasies oor die evaluering van invloed op die omgewing (EIA), Kennisgewing 1 (GNR983), Kennisgewing 2 (GNR984) en Kennisgewing 3 (GNR985), soos gewysig. Daar moet gevolglik goedkeuring verleen word om die genoemde aktiwiteite te verrig deur middel van 'n S&EIR-proses. Die verwagte genoemde aktiwiteite en nommers wat verband hou met die voorgestelde projek, word aangedui in die tabel hieronder. Indien u 'n volledige afskrif van die genoemde aktiwiteite nodig het, moet u asseblief met die praktisyn wat verantwoordelik is vir die evaluering van die invloed op die omgewing (EAP) skakel. Die besonderhede word hieronder aangedui.

Naam van projek	Kennisgewing (lys)	Toepaslike snellers							
Omvang volgens EIA vir: <ul style="list-style-type: none">ABO Uvemvane WEF 1	GNR 983	11(i)	12(ii)(a)(c)	14	19	24(ii)	28(ii)	48(i)(a)(c)	56(ii)
	GNR 984	1	15						
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14(ii)(a)(c)	18	23(ii)(a)(c)		
MPRDA	Artikel 53	Oppervlakgebruik kragtens artikel 53 van die Wet op die Ontwikkeling van Mineraal- en Petroleumhulpbronne (Wet 28 van 2002)							
NHRA	Artikel 38(8)	Oorsig van invloedevaluering wat verband hou met 'ns aansoek om omgewingsgoedkeuring							

REGISTRASIE: ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd, namens ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd, het WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) aangestel as EAP om die S&EIR-proses te hanteer. Partye wat formeel wil registreer as belanghebbendes om kommentaar te lewer oor die voorgestelde projek, word versoek om volledige skakelbesonderhede (telefoonnommers en adresse) aan die EAP te stuur by die adres(se) hieronder. Geregistreerde belanghebbendes sal in die toekoms alle korrespondensie ontvang en individueel in kennis gestel word van verdere geleenthede om deel te neem aan die proses.

INSAE-TYDPERK VIR DIE KONSEPWYSIGINGSVERSLAG: Die konsepverslag (DSR) oor die omvang is beskikbaar vir openbare kommentaar van **13 Maart 2026 tot 15 April 2026**. Die verslag sal elektronies beskikbaar wees deur middel van die skakel en die QR-kode hieronder. Gedrukte weergawes van die DSR sal beskikbaar wees by die volgende persele:

Naam van publieke plek	Adres	Naam van publieke plek	Adres	FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: Public Participation Office; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd; Tel: 011 254 4800; E-mail: pp@wsp.com	Or scan the QR code
Ratanda Proper biblioteek	Nkomo Straat, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP, 1443	Ward 3 Public Library, Balfour	Joubert Straat, Balfour, 2410		
Heidelberg Openbare Biblioteek	7 Jacobs Straat, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP, 1441	Grootvlei Power Station Stores	Seventh Straat, Grootvlei		
WSP se webblad	https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents	WSP Datavrye webblad	https://wsp-engage.com/		
WSP gaan sekere van u persoonlike inligting as belanghebbende en party wat geraak word (I&AP) verwerk vir die doel van registrasie as I&AP en sodat u besonderhede in ons databasis opgeneem kan word indien u instem dat dit gedoen kan word. WSP gebruik die besonderhede om in die toekoms met u te skakel oor ander relevante projekte. WSP verwerk in alle gevalle u persoonlike inligting volgens die Wet op die Beskerming van Persoonlike Inligting, Wet 4 van 2013. U is geregtig daarop om u regte oor u data uit te oefen en u kan ons laat weet indien u registrasie as I&AP gekanselleer en onttrek moet word en u nie meer u inligting in ons databasis wil hê nie.					

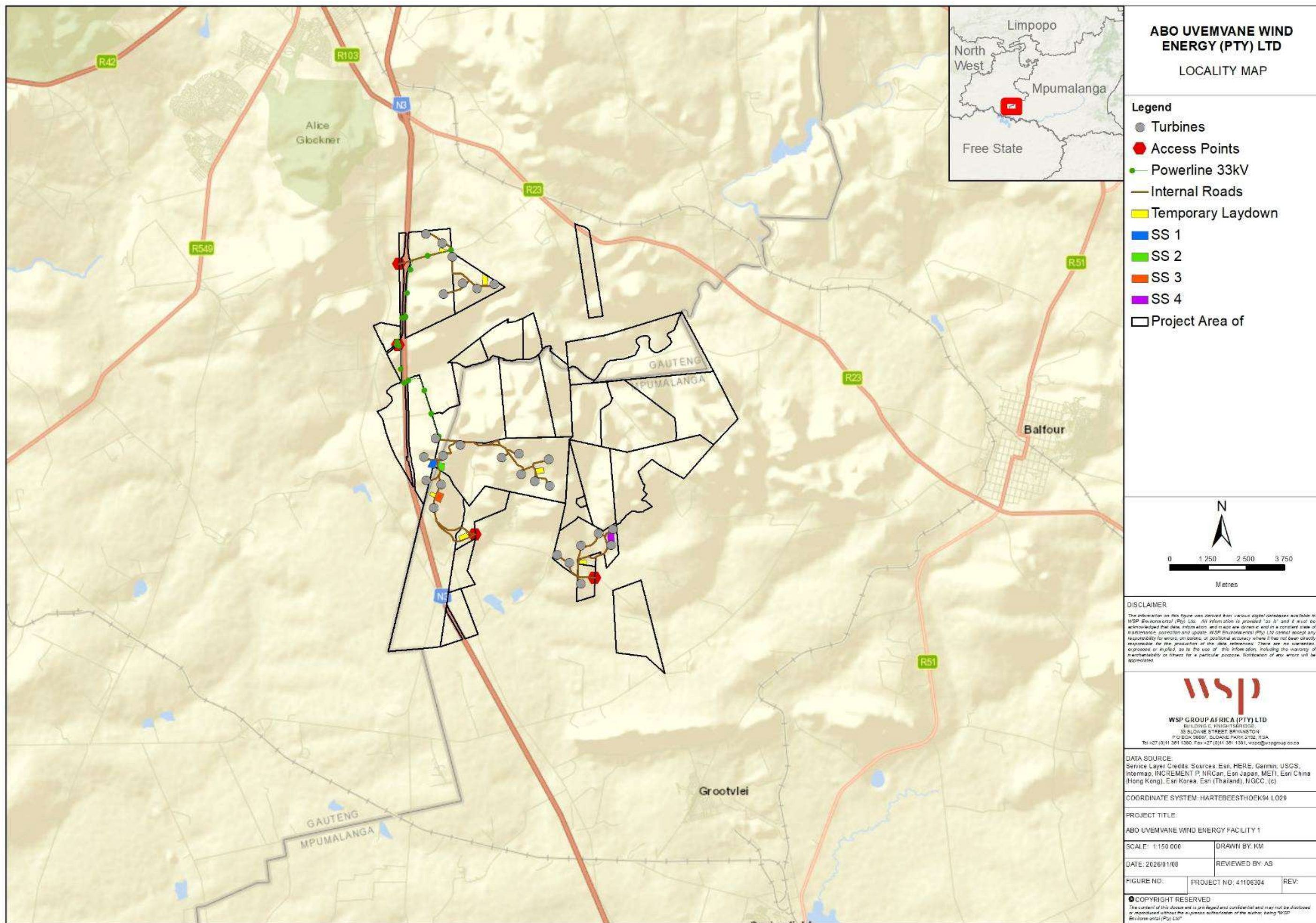


Figure 1: Locality of the project site for for the ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1)



ISAZISO NGOHLELO LWEMVUME YEZEMVELO LWESIKHUNGO ESIHLONGOZWAYO SIKAGESI OPHEHLWA NGOMOYA ESAZIWA NGE ABO UVEMVANE ENERGY FACILITY 1
KWIZIFUNDAZWE SASEMPUMALANGA NESASEGAUTENG,

UHLELO LWEMVUME YEZEMVELO

Lesaziso sinikwa ngokulandela Umthethonqubo 41(2) Wesaziso Sombuso 982 (njengoba sichibiyelwe) sashicilelwa ngaphansi kwesigaba 24 no 24D soMthetho KaZwelonke Wokulawulwa Kwezemvelo (Umthetho. 107 ka 1998) (NEMA) (njengoba uchibiyelwe) ukuze kufakwe izicelo ezahlukeni zemvume yezemvelo (EAs) eziphathelene nemisebenzi ebalulwe ngokulandela Isaziso Sombuso GNR 983, GNR 984 no GNR 985 (njengoba zichibiyelwe)

INCAZELO NENDAWO YOMSEBENZI: Umsunguli obalulwe etafuleni elibhalwe ngezansi uhlongoza ukwakha isikhungo esiphehla ugesi ngomoya, phecelezi iWind Energy Facility (WEF), futhi ufaka isicelo semvume yezemvelo eduze kwase Heidelberg nase Balfour kuzifundazwe zase Gauteng neMpumalanga. Imvume ehlongozwayo ihlanganisa Uhlelo Lokulinganisa Umsebenzi Nombiko Wokuthinteka Kwezemvelo (S&EIR):

Umsunguli Womsebenzi	Umsebenzi Ohlongozwayo	Ubuchwepheshe obuzosetshenziswa	Inqubo ezolandelwa
ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	sikhungo Sikagesi Ophehlwa Ngomoya esingamaMegawathi angu 170MW ohamba ngezintambo kubandakanya nengqalasizinda yakhona	Moya	S&EIR
Amagama amapulazi			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ingxenywe esalayo yeSiqephu 4 sePulazi iDe Hoek 411Ipulazi iOrion Nombolo 413Isiqephu 7 sePulazi iDriefontein 405Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 1 sePulazi iDriefontein 405Isiqephu 5 (Ingxenywe Yesiqephu 1) sePulazi iDriefontein 405Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 9 sePulazi iMalanskraal No 407Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 2 sePulazi iMalanskraal Nombolo 407Isiqephu 12 (isiqephu sesiqephu 2) sePulazi iMalanskraal Nombolo 407	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 2 sePulazi iDriefontein Nombolo 405Ingxenywe esalayo yePulazi iDriefontein 405Ingxenywe yesiqephu 6 (iKingsmead) sePulazi iMalanskraal 407Isiqephu 17 (isiqephu sesiqephu 8) sePulazi Malanskraal Nombolo 407Isiqephu 16 (isiqephu sesiqephu 4) sePulazi iMalanskraal No 407Ingxenywe yesiqephu 18 (isiqephu sesiqephu 3) sePulazi iMalanskraal 407Isiqephu 20 (isiqephu sesiqephu 13) sePulazi iMalanskraal 407	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ingxenywe esalayo yesiqephu 13 (isiqephu sesiqephu 2) sePulazi iMalanskraal 407Isiqephu 1 sePulazi i Weltevreden Nombolo. 449 • IPulazi iBothas Spruit Nombolo. 404Ingxenywe esalayo yesiqephu 1 sePulazi iSteynskraalIngxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 5 sePulazi iLagerspoort 406Isiqephu 32 (isiqephu sesiqephu 5) sePulazi iLagerspoort Nombolo 406Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 11 (isiqephu sesiqephu 1) saPulazi iSteynskraal 399	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Isiqephu 25 (isiqephu sesiqephu 11) sePulazi iSteynskraal 399Ingxenywe esalayo yeSiqephu 2 sePulazi iLagerspoort Number 406Isiqephu 17 sepulazi iLagerspoort Nombolo 406Isiqephu 24 (isiqephu sesiqephu 23) sePulazi iSteynskraal 399Ingxenywe esalayo Yesiqephu 2 sePulazi iModderfontein 410Isiqephu 7 sePulazi iLagerspoort Nombolo 406Isiqephu 35 sePulazi iLagerspoort 406siqephu 15 sePulazi iLagerspoort 406

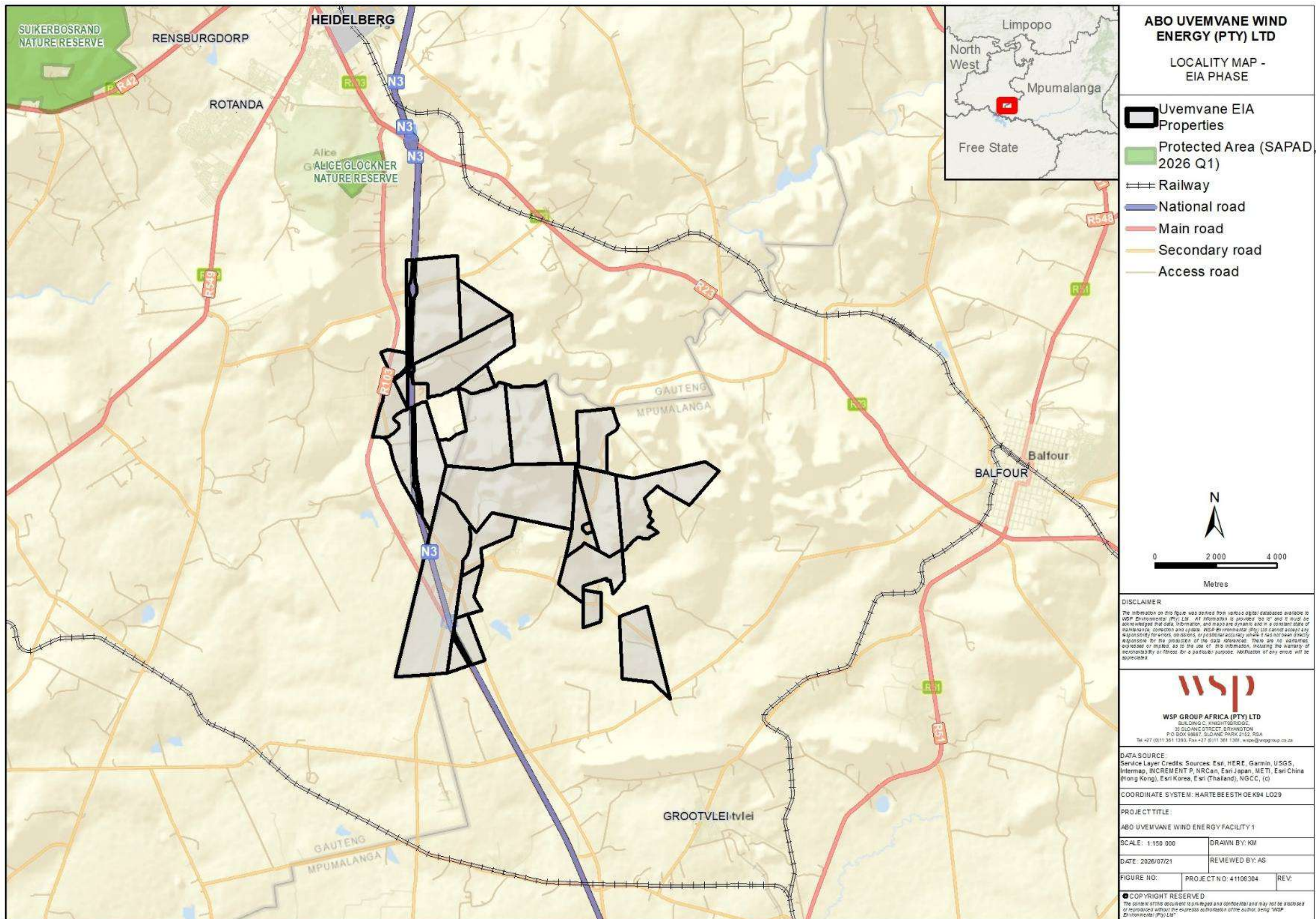
IZICELO ZEZEMVELO: Le phrojekthi ehlongozwayo ibandakanya imisebenzi ethile ebalulwe ku-Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Listing Notice 1 (GNR983), Listing Notice 2 (GNR984) kanye ne-Listing Notice 3 (GNR985), njengoba zichitshiyelwe. Ngakho-ke, imvume yokwenza leyo misebenzi kumele itholakale ngokusebenzisa inqubo ye-S&EIR. Izinombolo zemisebenzi ehambisana nale phrojekthi ehlongozwayo ziboniswe etafuleni elingezansi. Uma ufisa ukuthola ikhophi ephelile yale misebenzi, sicela uxhumane nochwepheshe wokuhlola umthelela emvelweni (i-EAP), imininingwane yakhe inikeziwe ngezansi.

Igama lomsebenzi	Isaziso Sohlu	Imithetho NeZaziso Zombuso ezithintekayo							
Scoping & EIA for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">ABO Uvemvane WEF 1	GNR 983	11(ii)	12(ii)(a)(c)	14	19	24(ii)	28(ii)	48(i)(a)(c)	56(ii)
	GNR 984	1	15						
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14(ii)(a)(c)	18	23(ii)(a)(c)		
MPRDA	Isigaba 53	Indawo ephezulu esetshenziswayo ngokweSigaba 53 Somthetho Wokuthuthukiswa Kwezimbiwa Nezinsiza ZikaPhethiloli (Umthetho 28 ka 2002)							
NHRA	Isigaba 38(8)	Ukubuyekizwa Kohlolo Lokuthinteka Kwamagugu okuhambelana nesicelo Semvume Yezemvelo							

UKUBHALISA: Abakwa WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) baqokwe yinkampani i ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd njengabahloli bokuthinteka kwezemvelo abazimele (EAP) bemele i ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd ukuphatha uhlelo lwe S&EIR Amaqembu afisa ukubhalisa ngokusemthethweni njengafuna ukubamba iqhaza ukuze baveze imibono yabo Ngomsebenzi Ohlongozwayo bayacelwa ukuba bathumele imininingwane ephelile abangathintwa kuyo bayithumele ku (EAP) kwimininingwane ebhalwe ngezansi. Labo ababhalisiwe njengabazobamba iqhaza bayothunyelwa yonke imibiko ezoba khona futhi bayokwaziswa ngamunye ngamathuba ayovela okubamba iqhaza kokwenziwayo.

ISIKHATHI SOKUCUBUNGULA UMBIKO WESILINGANISO SOMSEBENZI OSALUNGISWA: Umbiko Wesilinganiso Somsebenzi Osalungiswa (DSR) uyatholakala ukuze kuphawulwe ngawo kusuka mhlaka **13 Mashi 2026** kuze kube mhlaka **15 Ephreli 2026**. Umbiko uyatholakala ngokulandwa kulinki nakukhodi ye QR engezansi. Amakhophi ayiphepha eDSR ayatholakala ezindaweni ezilandelayo ukuze afundwe:

Igama Lendawo Yomphakathi	ikheli	Igama Lendawo Yomphakathi	ikheli	<div>UKUZE UTHOLE ULWAZI OLWENGEZIWE, SICELA UXHUMANE:</div> <div>Ihhovisi Lokubamba Iqhaza Komphakathi; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd;</div> <div>Ucingo: 011 361 1300;</div> <div>I-imeyili: pp@wsp.com</div>	Noma skena ikhodi ye-QR
Umtapo wolwazi I Ratanda Proper	Nkomo Street, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP, 1443	Umtapo wolwazi womphakathi wase Ward 3	Joubert Street, Balfour, 2410		
Umtapo wolwazi womphakathi wase Heidelberg	7 Jacobs Street, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP, 1441	Grootvlei Isiteshi Sokuphehla Ugesi-Ezitolo	Seventh Street, Grootvlei		
WSP Webhusayithi	https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents	Iwebhusayithi yabangenadatha	https://wsp-engage.com/		
<p>I-WSP izocubungula ulwazi oluthile lomuntu siqu olumayelana nawe njengomuntu onentshisekelo nothintekayo (I&AP) ngenhloso yokukubhalisa njenge-I&AP nokugcina imininingwane yakho kusizindlwazi sethu, uma usinika imvume yokwenza kanjalo. I-WSP izosebenzisa le mininingwane ukuxhumana nawe mayelana namanye amaphrojekthi esikhathini esizayo. I-WSP iyohlale icubungula ulwazi lwakho ngokuhambisana noMthetho Wokuvikelwa Kolwazi Lomuntu Siqu (Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013). Unelungelo lokusebenzisa amalungelo akho njengomnikazi wolwazi futhi usazise uma ufisa ukukhansela ukubhaliswa kwakho njenge-I&AP noma uma ungasafuni ukuthi imininingwane yakho yokuxhumana ifakwe kusizindlwazi sethu.</p>					



Umfanekiso 1: Indawo yephrojekthi ye-ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1



TSEBISO KA NTSHETSOPELE E SISINTSWENG YA TSHEBETSO YA TUMELLO YA ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, MPUMALANGA LE GAUTENG

TSHEBETSO TSA TUMELLO YA TIKOLOHONG

Mona ho fanwa ka tsebiso ka ho ya ka Molawana wa 41(2) wa GNR 982 (jwalo ka ha o fetotswe)) e phatlaladitswe tlasa karolo ya 24 le 24D ya Molao wa Naha wa Tsamaiso ya Tikoloho (Nomoro ya 107 wa 1998) (NEMA) (jwalo ka ha o fetotswe) bakeng sa ho romelwa hape ha dikopo tse fapaneng tsa tumello tsa tikolohong (di-EA) mabapi le mesebetsi e hlwauweng ka ho ya ka GNR 983, GNR 984 le GNR 985 (jwalo ka ha e fetotswe)

TSHEBETSO TSA TIKOLOHO: Batshehetsi ba boletsweng lenaneng le mona ka tlase ba sisinya hore ho thehwe Wind Energy Facility (WEF), e tla hloka kopo ya tumello ya tikolohong, haufi le Heidelberg le Balfour tse Diprovenseng tsa Gauteng le Mpumalanga. Tumello e sisintsweng e kenyelletsa tshebetso e latelang ya *Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR)*:

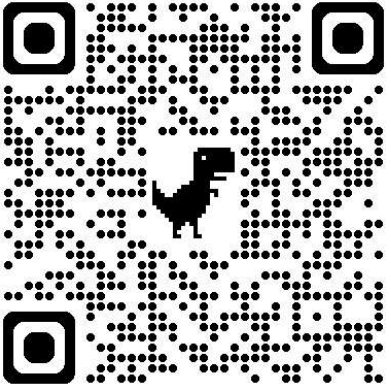
Motshehetsi	Projeke	Thekenoloji	Tshebetso
ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	Ho fihla ho 170MWac WEF ho kenyelletswa le meralo ya motheo e amanang le yona	Moya	S&EIR
Amagama amapulazi			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Boholo ba Sebaka se Setseng sa Karolo 2 ya Polasi ya Lagerspoort Nomoro ya 406Karolo 17 (Karolo ya Karolo 3) ya Polasi ya Lagerspoort Nomoro ya 406Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 4 ya Polasi ya De Hoek 411Karolo 45 ya Polasi ya Lagerspoort 406Karolo 7 ya Polasi ya Lagerspoort Nomoro ya 406Karolo 19 ya Polasi ya De Hoek No 411	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 2 ya Polasi ya Modderfontein 410Polasi ya Orion No 413Boholo ba Sebaka se Setseng sa Karolo 5 ya Polasi ya Lagerspoort 406Karolo 7 ya Polasi ya Driefontein 405Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 9 ya Polasi ya Malanskraal No 407	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 2 ya Polasi ya Malanskraal No 407Karolo 12 (Karolo ya Karolo 2) ya Polasi ya Malanskraal 407Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 2 ya Polasi ya Driefontein 405Boholo bo Setseng ba Polasi ya Driefontein 405Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 6 ya Polasi ya Malanskraal No 407Karolo 17 (Karolo ya Karolo 8) ya Polasi ya Malanskraal No 407	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Polasi ya Bothas Spruit Nr. 404Karolo 16 (Karolo ya Karolo 4) ya Polasi ya Malanskraal No 407Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 13 (Karolo ya Karolo 2) ya Polasi ya Malanskraal 407Boholo bo Setseng ba Karolo 18 (Karolo ya Karolo 3) ya Polasi ya Malanskraal 407Karolo 1 ya Polasi ya Weltevreden Nr. 449

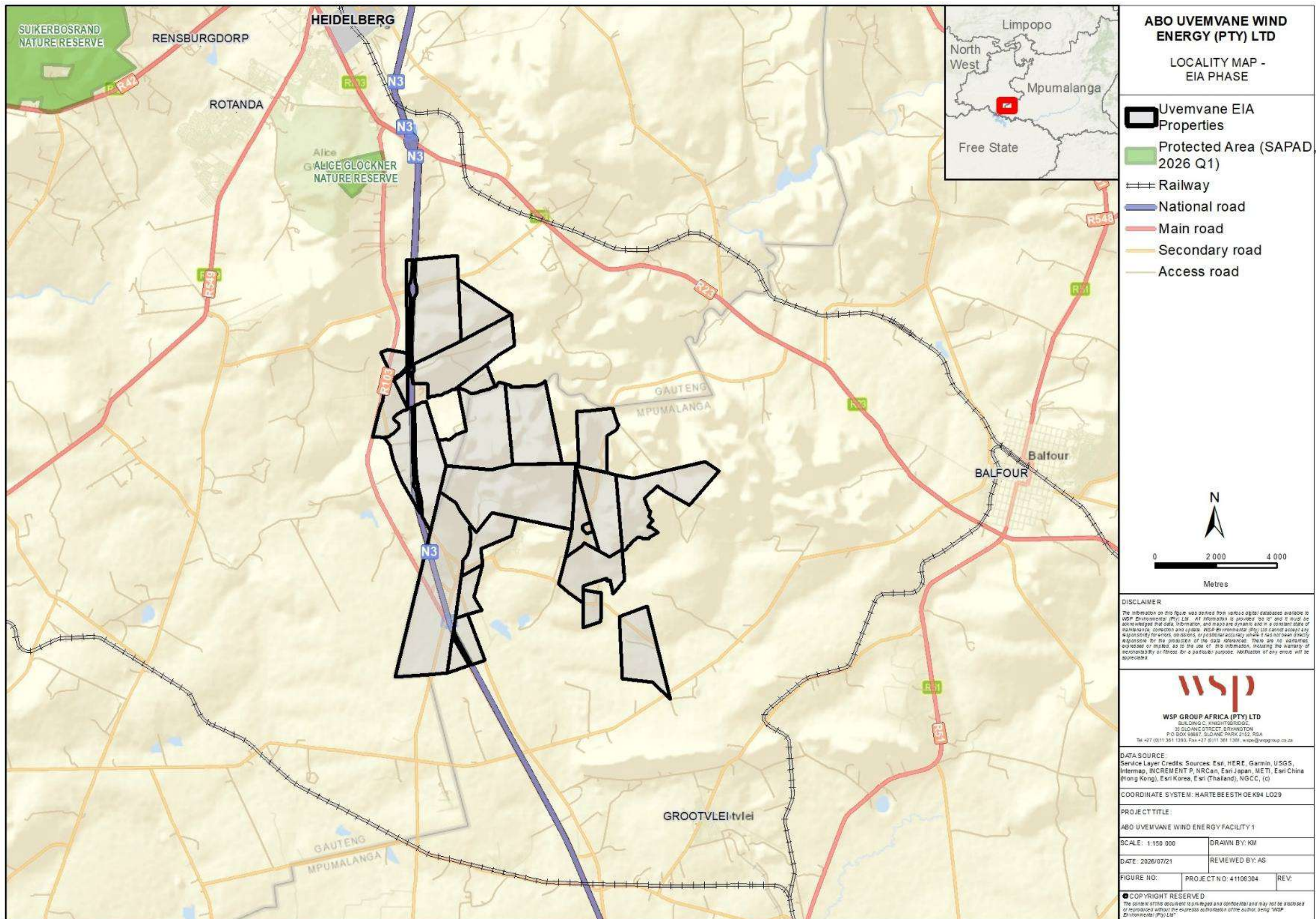
IZICELO ZEZEMVELO: Projeke e sisingwang e hlalisa mesebetsi e mmalwa e boletsweng e ka hara Melawana ya Tekolo ya Sekgahla se bang Tikolohong e leng *Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Listing Notice 1 (GNR983), Listing Notice 2 (GNR984) le Listing Notice 3 (GNR985)*, jwalo ka ha e fetotswe, mme ka hoo, tumello ya ho phetha mesebetsi e boletsweng e tshwanetswe ho kotjwa ka tshebetso ya S&EIR. Dinomoro tsa mosebetsi o lebelletsweng o boletsweng o amanang le projeke e sisintsweng di bontshwa lenaneng le mona ka tlase. Ha o batla ho fumana khopi e felletseng ya mesebetsi ena e boletsweng, re kopa hore o iteanye le Mosebeletsi wa Tekolo ya Tikoloho (EAP), diatereseng tseo ho fanweng ka tsona mona ka tlase.

Lebitso la Projeke	Tsebiso ya Lenane	Dihlasedi tse Sebetsang							
Scoping & EIA for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">ABO Uvemvane WEF 1	GNR 983	11(i)	12(ii)(a)(c)	14	19	24(ii)	28(ii)	48(i)(a)(c)	56(ii)
	GNR 984	1	15						
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14(ii)(a)(c)	18	23(ii)(a)(c)		
MPRDA	Karolo ya 53	Tshebediso ya bokahodimo ka ho ya ka Karolo ya 53 ya Molao wa Tlhabololo ya Diminerale le Dihlahiswa tsa Petroliamo (no. 28 ya 2002)							
NHRA	Karolo ya 38(8)	Tliahlobo ya Tekolo ya Sekgahla e amanang le kopo ya Tumello ya Tikolohong							

NGODISO: WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) e kgethuwe ho ba EAP ke ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd, lebitsong la ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd, ho tsamaisa tshebetso ya S&EIR. Batho kapa mekgatlo e batlang ho ngodisa ho ba bakgathatema bakeng sa ho fana ka ditshwaelo ka Projeke e Sisintsweng e kotjwa hore e romele dintlha tsona yona tse felletseng tsa ho iteanya le yona ho EAP atereseng eo ho fanweng ka yona mona ka tlase. Bakgathatema ba ngodisitsweng ba tla romelwa dingollano tsohle tsa nakong e tlang mme ba tsebiswe ka bong ka menyetla e meng e leng teng ya ho nka karolo tshebetsoneng ena.

MORALO WA NAKO YA TLHAHLOBO YA RAPOROTO YA TEKOLO YA SEKGAHLA TIKOLOHONG (EIA): Moralo wa Raporoto ya Tekolo ya Sekgahla se bang Tikolohong (DEIAr) o a fumaneha hore setjhaba se tshwaele ka ona ho tloha ka la **25 Phato 2026** ho isa ho la **28 Loetse 2026**. Raporoto e tla fumaneha hore ho kgonwe ho e bula ho tswa linking le khoutung ya QR e mona ka tlase. Dikhopi tse hatisitsweng tsa DEIAr di tla fumaneha ho ka hlalojwa dibakeng tse latelang:

Lebitso la Sebaka sa Setjhaba	ikheli	Igama Lendawo Yomphakathi	ikheli	UKUZE UTHOLE ULWAZI OLWENGEZIWE, SICELA UXHUMANE: Ofisi ya Kabelo ya Sechaba ; WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd; Mohala : 011 361 1300; Imeile: pp@wsp.com	Kapa u skene khoutu ea QR
Laeborari ya Ratanda Proper	Nkomo Street, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP, 1443	Laeborari ea Sechaba ea Ward 3	Joubert Street, Balfour, 2410		
Umtapo wolwazi Laeborari ya Setjhaba ya Heidelberg	7 Jacobs Street, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP, 1441	Seteishene sa Matla sa Grootvlei – Mabenkele	Seventh Street, Grootvlei		
Webosaeteng ya WSP	https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents	Webosaeteng ya Data e sa lefellweng	https://wsp-engage.com/		
Tshireletso ya Tliahisoleseding ya Motho ka Seqo: WSP e tla sebetsana le tliahisoleseding e itseng ya motho ka seqo e leng e mabapi le wena jwalo ka motho ya nang le kgahleho hape a amehile (I&AP) bakeng sa merero ya ho etsa hore o kgone ho ingodisa jwalo ka I&AP le ho boloka dintlha tsa hao ho databeise ya rona, ha o re dumella ho etsa jwalo. WSP e tla sebedisa dintlha tsena ho iteanya le wena ka diprojeke tse ding tse tshwanetseng nakong e tlang. WSP kamehla e tla sebetsana le tliahisoleseding ya motho ka seqo ya hao ka ho ya ka Molao wa Tshireletso ya Tliahisoleseding ya Motho ka Seqo wa 4 wa 2013. O dumellatswe ho sebedisa ditokelo tsa hao jwalo ka monga dintlha mme o re tsebise ha o batla ho hlakolwa ngodisong ya ho ba motho ya nang le kgahleho hape ya amehileng kapa haebe ha o sa batla hore dintlha tsa moo ho ka iteangwang le wena ho tsona di kenyelletswa databeising ya rona.					



Setšoantšo sa 1: Sebaka sa projeke ea Setsi sa Matla a Moea sa ABO Uvemvane sa 1



PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE RE-SUBMISSION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATION AND AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS, MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG

Notice is given in terms of Regulation 41(2) of GNR 326, as amended (07 April 2017) published under section 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) for submission of applications for Environmental Authorisations (EA) in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 327 as amended (7 April 2017), and Regulation 21(2) of GNR 326, as amended (07 April 2017) for the re-submission of an application for EA.

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The proponent outlined in the table below proposes to establish a Wind Energy Facility (WEF), requiring an application for environmental authorisation, near Heidelberg and Balfour in the Gauteng and Mpumalanga Provinces. The proposed authorisation includes the following Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process:

Applicant	Project	Technology	Process
ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 170MWac WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Farm Names			
<div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none">The Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406Portion 17 (a Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Lagerspoort Nr 406Remaining Extent of Portion 4 of the Farm De Hoek 411Portion 45 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406Portion 7 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406Portion 19 of the Farm De Hoek No 411Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Modderfontein 410The Farm Orion No 413</div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none">Remaining Extent of Portion 5 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406Portion 7 of the Farm Driefontein 405Remaining Extent of Portion 9 of the Farm Malanskraal No 407Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Malanskraal 407Portion 12 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal 407Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Driefontein 405Remaining Extent of the Farm Driefontein 405</div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none">Remainder of Portion 6 (Kingsmead) of the Farm Malanskraal 407Portion 17 (a Portion of Portion 8) of the Farm Malanskraal No 407Farm Bothas Spruit Nr. 404Portion 16 (a Portion of Portion 4) of the Farm Malanskraal No 407Remaining Extent of Portion 13 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal 407Remainder of Portion 18 (a Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Malanskraal 407Portion 1 of the Farm Weltevreden Nr. 449</div></div>			

An application for Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and associated Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended, was submitted on 23 March 2026 to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) and was allocated the reference number 14/12/16/3/3/2/2803. The Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) was submitted to the DFFE on 12 October 2026. Email correspondence received from the DFFE on 13 October 2026 informed the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) and Applicant that the according to the DFFE records the application had lapsed as the Final EIAR was due on or before Friday, 09 October 2026. WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) is applying for the re-submission of application for EA for the proposed project in terms of Regulation 21(2) of GNR 326. The Approval of the Scoping Report was received on 22 June 2026 and is therefore still valid.

All registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) were informed of WSP's intent to re-submit the application for EA for the proposed project in terms of Regulation 21(2) of GNR 326 via email and SMS on 16 October 2026.

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATION

Project Name	Listing Notice	Applicable Triggers							
Scoping EIA for: • ABO Uvemvane WEF 1	GNR 983	11(i)	12(ii)(a)(c)	14	19	24(ii)	28(ii)	48(i)(a)(c)	56(ii)
	GNR 984	1	15						
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14(ii)(a)(c)	18	23(ii)(a)(c)		
MPRDA	Section 53	Surface use in terms of Section 53 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (no. 28 of 2002)							
NHRA	Section 38(8)	Review of an Impact Assessment related to an application for Environmental Authorisation							

REGISTRATION AND SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS

WSP has been appointed as the independent EAP by ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd, on behalf of ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd, to manage the S&EIR process. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Project 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 process.

DRAFT EIAR REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft EIAR is available for public comment from **28 October 2026 to 30 November 2026**. Kindly ensure that all comments on the proposed project or requests to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party are submitted to the contact details provided herewith, by **30 November 2026**. Should you have any queries/comments, please do not hesitate to contact the WSP Public Participation Office. The report will be available for download from the links and QR code below. We hereby confirm that the content of the report fully complies with the requirements set out in Appendix 3 of GNR 326, as amended, and has not undergone any material changes, save for the inclusion of responses to comments captured in the Stakeholder Engagement Report and the strengthening of mitigation measures in response to previous stakeholder input. Printed copies of the DEIAR will be available for review at the following venues:

Name of Public Place	Address	Name of Public Place	Address	FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: Public Participation Office WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd Post: PO Box 6001, Halfway House, 1685 Tel: 011 254 4800 E-mail: pp@wsp.com	Or scan the QR code
Ratanda Proper Library	Nkomo Street, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP, 1443	Ward 3 Public Library	Joubert Street, Balfour - MP, 2410		
Heidelberg Public Library	7 Jacobs Street, Heidelberg - GP, 1441	WSP Data Free Website	https://wsp-engage.com/		
WSP Website	https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents				
<i>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.</i>					

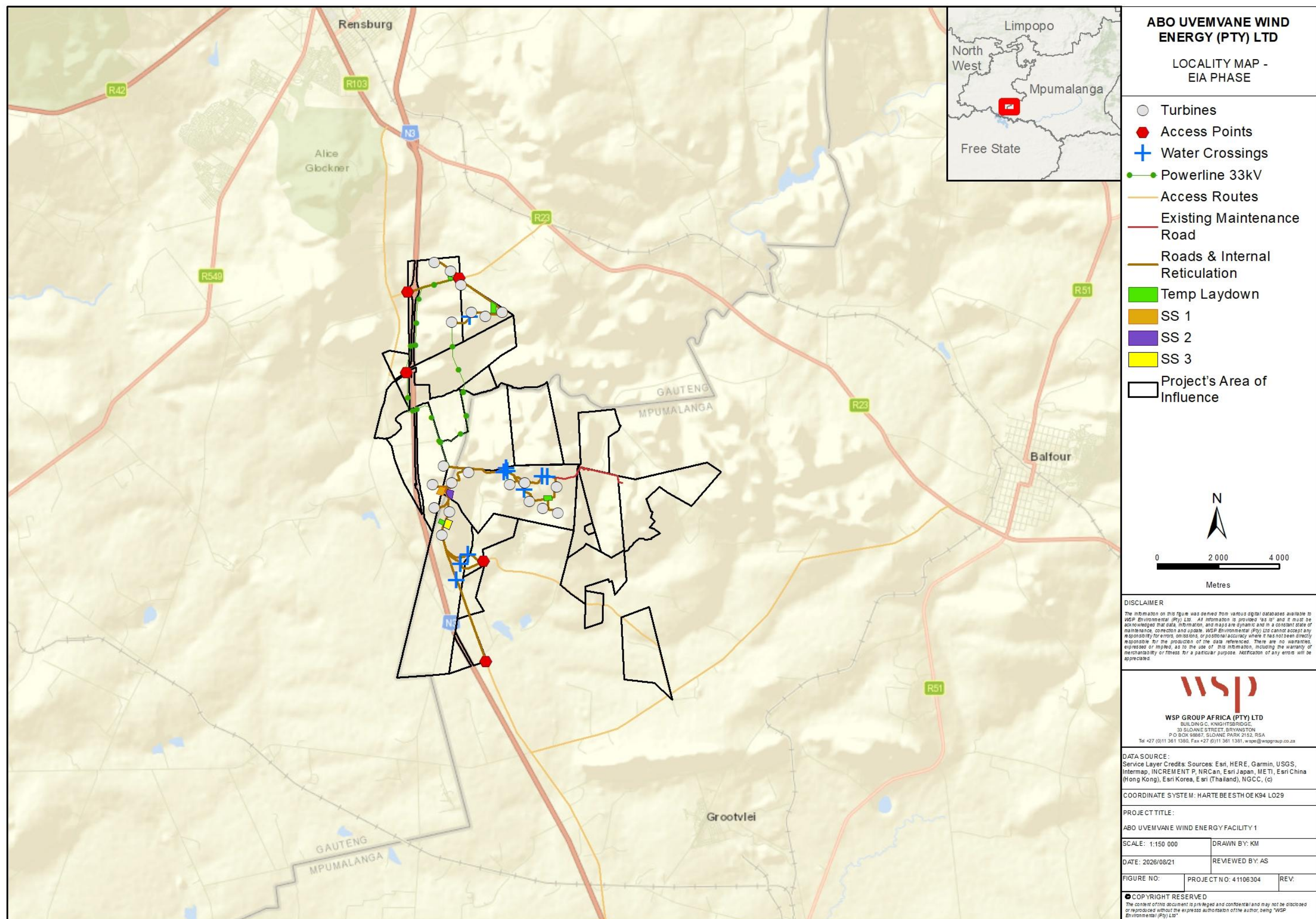


Figure 1: Locality of the project site for for the ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1

Appendix B.4

PROOF OF EMAILS AND SMSS





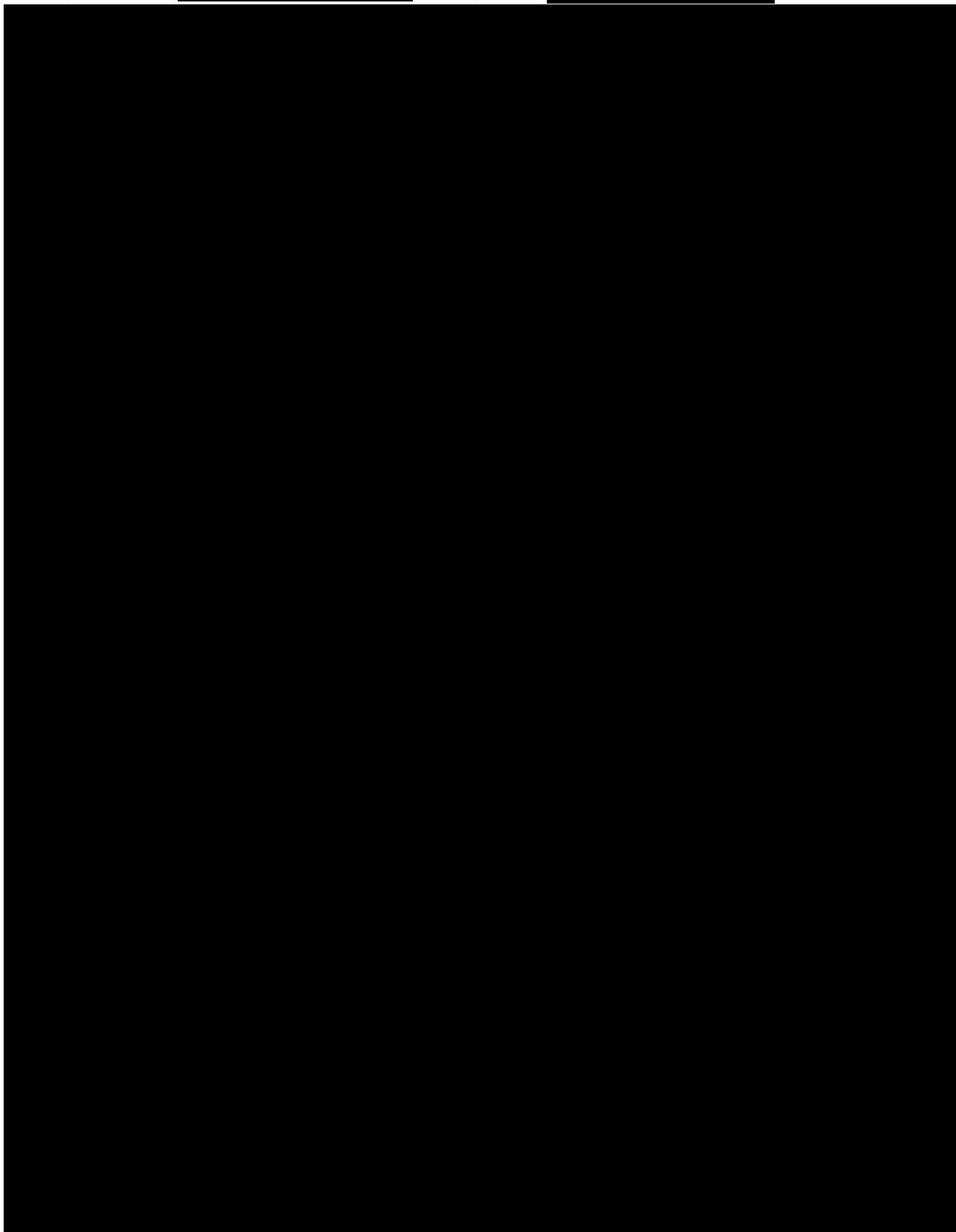
Outlook

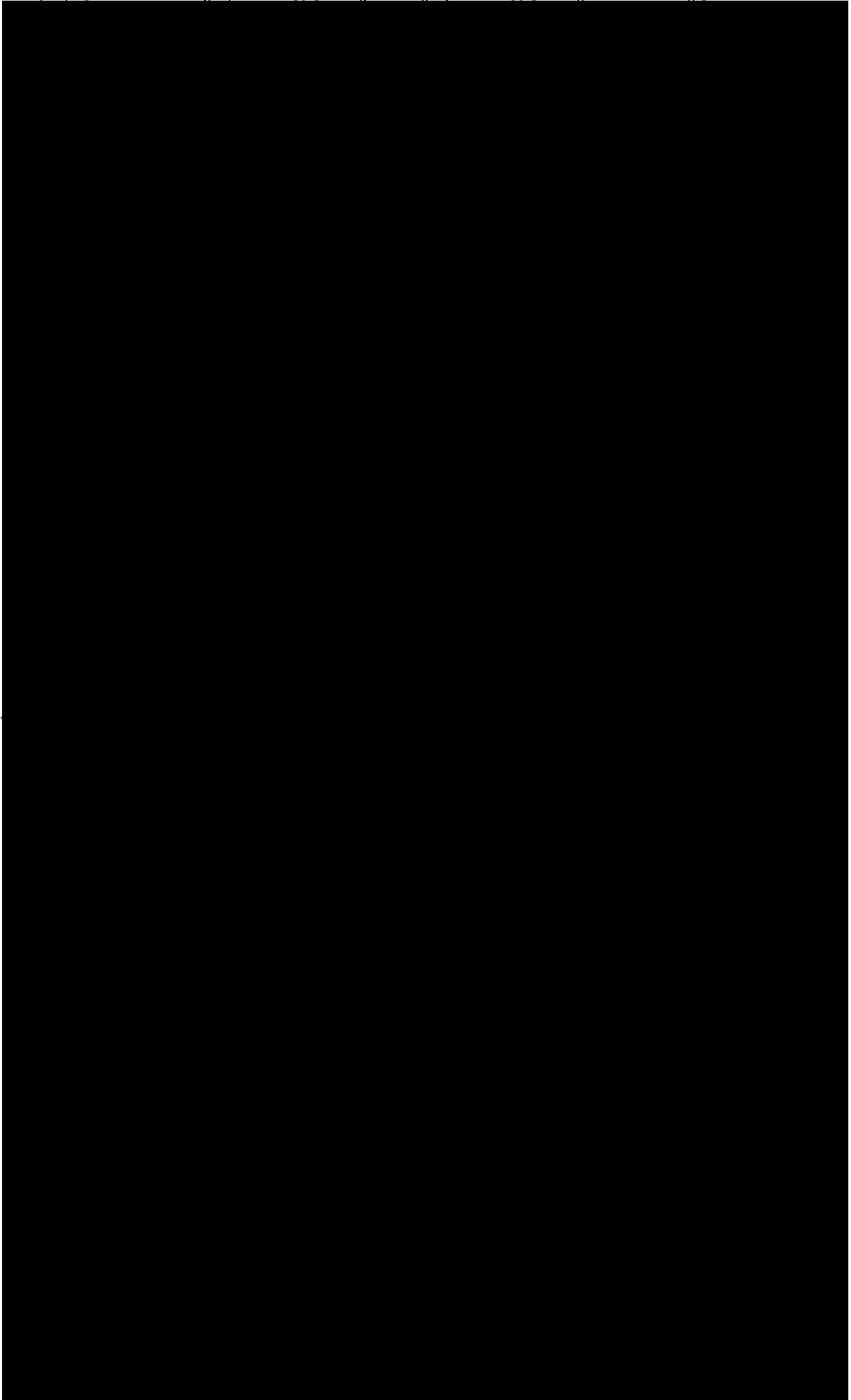
41106304 - NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS, MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG.

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

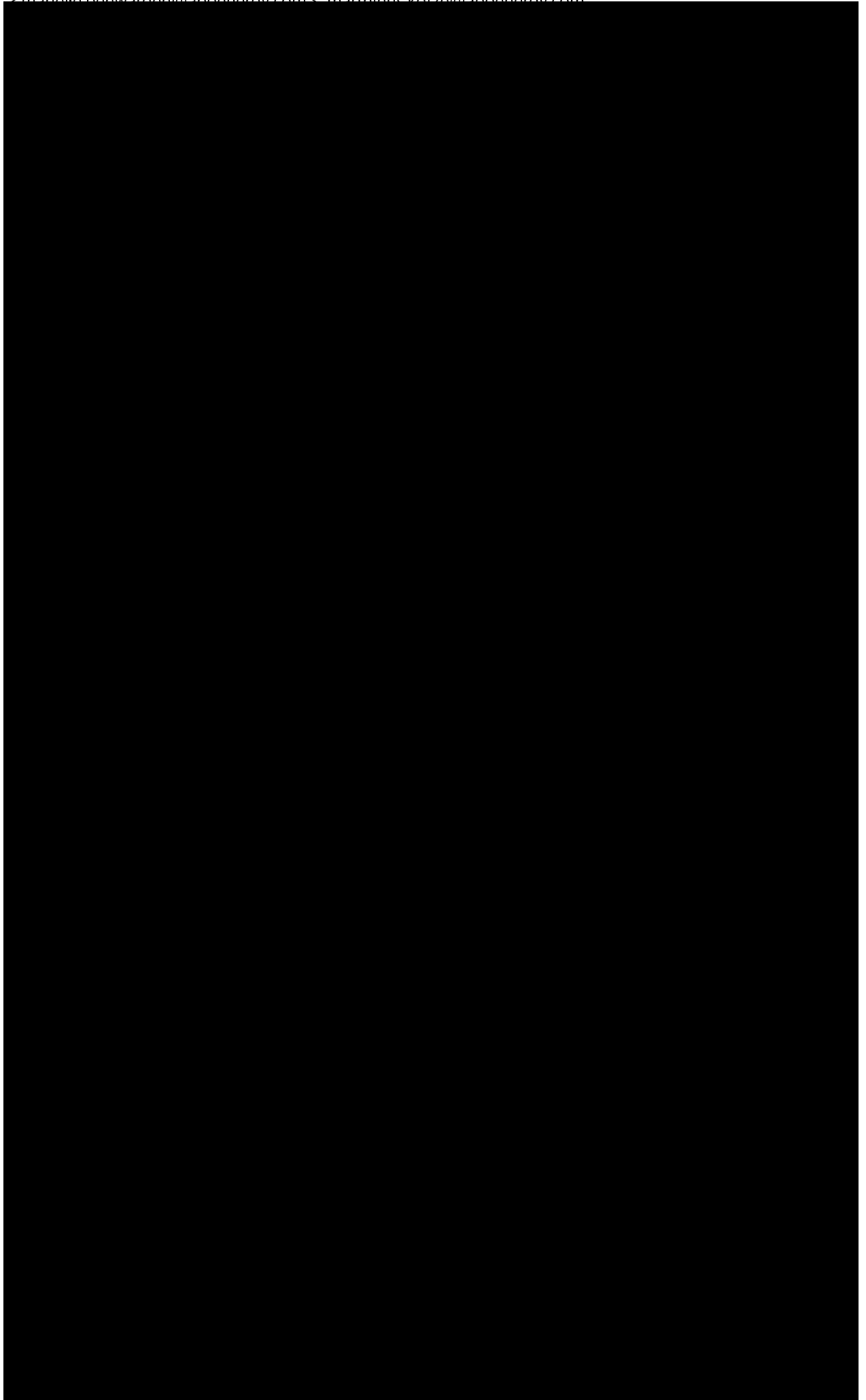
Date Fri 3/13/2026 3:46 PM

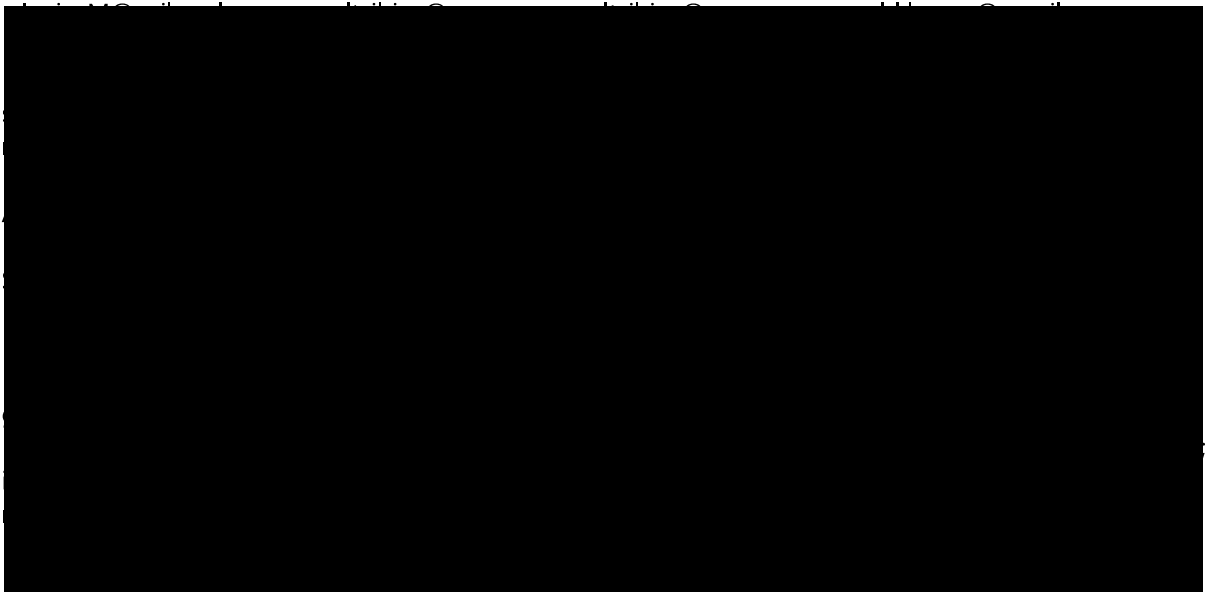
Bcc Maharaj, Jashmika <j[REDACTED]>; Strong, Ashlea <A.H.Strong@[REDACTED]>; Mathulwe,





<marielle.papwarden@abceenergy.com>; marthinus.ketze@abceenergy.com





1 attachment (3 MB)

41106304_ABO Uvemvane_Stakeholder Notification Letter_Signed.pdf;

Dear Stakeholder,

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE ABO UVEMVANE WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1, ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS, MPUMALANGA AND GAUTENG.

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)**

DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The proponent outlined in the table below proposes to establish a Wind Energy Facility (WEF), application for environmental authorisation, near Heidelberg and Balfour in the Gauteng and Mpumalanga Provinces. The proposed authorisation includes the following Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process:

Proponent	Project	Technology	Process
ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd	Up to 170MWac WEF including associated infrastructure	Wind	S&EIR
Farm Names			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remaining Extent of Portion 4 of the Farm De Hoek 411 • The Farm Orion No. 413 • Portion 7 of the Farm Driefontein 405 • Remaining Extent of Portion 1 of the Farm Driefontein 405 • Portion 5 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Driefontein 405 • Remaining Extent of Portion 9 of the Farm Malanskraal No. 407 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 17 (a Portion of Portion 8) of the Farm Malanskraal No. 407 • Portion 16 (a Portion of Portion 4) of the Farm Malanskraal No. 407 • Remainder of Portion 18 (a Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Malanskraal 407 • Portion 20 (a Portion of Portion 13) of the Farm Malanskraal 407 • Remaining Extent of Portion 13 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal 407 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Lagerspoort No. 406 • Portion 17 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406 • Portion 24 (a portion of Portion 23) of the Farm Steynskraal 399 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Modderfontein 410 • Portion 7 of the Farm Lagerspoort No. 406 • Portion 35 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406 • Portion 15 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Malanskraal No.407 • Portion 12 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal No. 407 • Remaining Extent of Portion 2 of the Farm Driefontein No.405 • Remaining Extent of the Farm Driefontein 405 • Remainder of Portion 6 (Kingsmead) of the Farm Malanskraal 407 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of the Farm Weltevreden No. 449 • Farm Bothas Spruit No. 404 • Remaining Extent of Portion 1 of the Farm Steynskraal 399 • Portion 25 (a portion of Portion 11) of the Farm Steynskraal 399 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remaining Extent of Portion 5 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406 • Portion 32 (a portion of Portion 5) of the Farm Lagerspoort No. 406 • Remaining Extent of Portion 11 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Steynskraal 399
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ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS

The proposed project triggers several listed activities contained in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations Listing Notice 1 (GNR983), Listing Notice 2 (GNR984) and Listing Notice 3 (GNR985), as amended, and therefore, authorisation to undertake the listed activities must be sought via a S&EIR process. The anticipated listed activity numbers associated with the proposed project are reflected in the table below. Should you wish to obtain a complete copy of these listed activities, please contact the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), details provided below.

Project Name	Listing Notice	Applicable Triggers							
Scoping EIA for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ABO Uvemvane WEF 1	GNR 983	11(i)	12(ii)(a)(c)	14	19	24(ii)	28(ii)	48(i)(a)(c)	56(ii)
	GNR 984	1	15						
	GNR 985	4	10	12	14(ii)(a)(c)	18	23(ii)(a)(c)		
MPRDA	Section 53	Surface use in terms of Section 53 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (no. 28 of 2002)							
NHRA	Section 38(8)	Review of an Impact Assessment related to an application for Environmental Authorisation							

REGISTRATION

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed as the EAP by ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd, on behalf of ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd, to manage the S&EIR process. Parties wishing to formally register as stakeholders in order to offer their comment on the Proposed Project 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 process.

DRAFT SCOPING REPORT REVIEW PERIOD

The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) is available for public comment from **13 March 2026 to 15 April 2026**. The report will be available for download from the link and QR code below. Printed copies of the DSR will be available for review at the following venues:

- Ratanda Proper Library - Nkomo St, Ratanda, Heidelberg - GP, 1443
- Heidelberg Public Library - 7 Jacobs St, Heidelberg, Heidelberg - GP, 1441
- Ward 3 Public Library - Joubert street, Balfour, 2410
- Grootvlei Power Station Stores - Seventh Street, Grootvlei
- WSP Website - <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
- Datafree Website - <https://wsp-engage.com/>