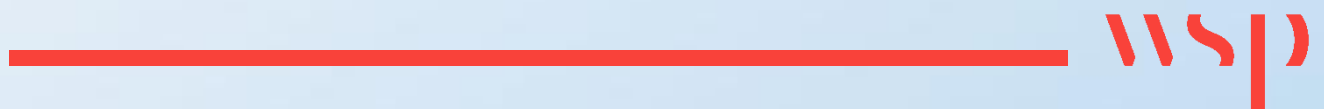


Appendix I

PRE-APPLICATION MEETING MINUTES



Maharaj, Jashmika

From: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Friday, 20 March 2026 09:15
To: Maharaj, Jashmika
Cc: Kelli Ross; Strong, Ashlea
Subject: RE: 2024-11-0018_Pre-Application Meeting Minutes for Approval_ABO_Uvemvane WEFs
Attachments: 2024-11-0018_20241212_ABO_Uvemvane WEF_Pre-App Minutes_FINAL_.pdf

Dear Maharaj

The minutes of the meeting has been reviewed and approved.

Regards
Thulisile

From: Maharaj, Jashmika <jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com>
Sent: Thursday, 19 March 2026 21:26
To: Thulisile Nyalunga <TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Kelli Ross <kelli.ross@aboenergy.com>; Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: 2024-11-0018_Pre-Application Meeting Minutes for Approval_ABO_Uvemvane WEFs
Importance: High

Dear Thulisile,

RE: 2024-11-0018_Pre-Application Meeting Minutes for Approval_ABO_Uvemvane WEFs

This is a kind follow up to my previous email regarding the review of the pre-application meeting minutes for the above-mentioned project.

I have also tried to reach you telephonically with no success.

Your response will be much appreciated.

Kind regards,
Jashmika Maharaj
Senior Consultant

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



From: Maharaj, Jashmika
Sent: Tuesday, 17 March 2026 15:07
To: TNYALUNGA@dffe.gov.za
Cc: kelli.ross@aboenergy.com; Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>
Subject: RE: 2024-11-0018_Pre-Application Meeting Minutes for Approval_ABO_Uvemvane WEFs
Importance: High

Dear Thulisile,

I hope you are well.

The email trail and attachments refer.

Please note that the above-mentioned project was submitted to the DFFE on Friday, 13 March 2026.

However, the application has since been removed from the DFFE submission folder due to the pre-application meeting minutes not being acknowledged or signed by the DFFE case officer.

We were informed that you were the assigned case officer during the pre-application meeting held on the 25 November 2024.

Please can you urgently sign/ acknowledge the attached meeting minutes so that the EAP can resubmit the application.

Thank you.

Kind regards,
Jashmika Maharaj
Senior Consultant

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



From: Strong, Ashlea <Ashlea.Strong@wsp.com>

Sent: Thursday, 12 December 2024 14:29

To: TNYPALUNGA@dfpe.gov.za

Cc: kelli.ross@aboenergy.com; Robyn Luyt <rluyt@mpg.gov.za>; marielle.penwarden@aboenergy.com; SDLOMO@dfpe.gov.za; TSANGWENI@dfpe.gov.za; Bongani.Shabangu@gauteng.gov.za; environmentsue@gauteng.gov.za; ERICK.MOLETSANE@gauteng.gov.za; HELLEN.SITHOLE@gauteng.gov.za; LIVHUWANI.DEMANA@gauteng.gov.za; Nhlanhla.Makhathini@gauteng.gov.za; NOTHANDO.NGWENYA@gauteng.gov.za; steven.mukhola@gauteng.gov.za; THABANE.SIBEKO@gauteng.gov.za; Tjatja.Mosia@gauteng.gov.za; Wesi.Moagi@gauteng.gov.za; mbuyanesb@gmail.com; Gavin Cowden <GCowden@mpg.gov.za>; Sindy Mbuyane <MbuyaneSB@mpg.gov.za>; frans@mtpa.co.za; Mervyn.Lotter@mtpa.co.za; Maharaj, Jashmika <jashmika.maharaj@wsp.com>

Subject: 2024-11-0018_Pre-Application Meeting Minutes for Approval_ABO_Uvemvane WEFs

Importance: High

Good Afternoon

Please find attached the Final Minutes of the Pre-application Meeting that took place on 25 November 2024 for the ABO Uvemvane WEF Facilities for your approval and signature (on page 7)

Kind Regards,



Ashlea Strong
Principal Associate

T +27 11 361-1392
M +27 82 786-7819





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

wsp.com

WSP is a proud Level 1 B-BBEE contributor and is internationally certified for ISO 9001, 14001 & 45001

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AGENDA & MEETING NOTES

PROJECT NUMBER	41106304	MEETING DATE	25 November 2024
PROJECT NAME	ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facilities 1 & 2	VENUE	MS Teams
CLIENT	ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd	RECORDED BY	Jashmika Maharaj
MEETING SUBJECT	Pre-application meeting for the proposed ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facilities 1 & 2(2024-11-0018)		
PRESENT	<p>Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) Thulisile Nyalunga (TN) Thabile Sangweni (TS) Sindiswa Dlomo (SD) Thulisile Nyalunga (TN)</p> <p>Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD) Erick Moletsane (EM) Hellen Sithole (HS) Tjatja Mosia (TM) Livhuwani Demana (LD) Thabane Sibeko (TS)</p> <p>Mpumalanga Tourism & Parks Agency (MTPA) Mervyn Lotter (ML) Frans Krige (FK)</p> <p>Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (MDARDLEA) Robyn Luyt (RL) Sindisiwe Mbuyane (SM) Gavin Cowden (GC) Okwethu Fakude (OF) CZ Khubeka (CZK)</p> <p>ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd (Applicant) Kelli Ross (KR) – ABO Energy; Marielle Penwarden (MP) – ABO Energy;</p> <p>WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (EAP) Ashlea Strong (AS) – WSP; Jashmika Maharaj (JM) – WSP.</p>		
APOLOGIES	None		

MEETING NOTES

DISTRIBUTION	Meeting Attendees
CONFIDENTIALITY	Confidential

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION	DUE
NOTE			
These notes constitute a summary of the key discussion points and decisions made during the progress discussion. They are not intended to reflect the exact discussions held.			
1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION			
	<p>AS opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and allowed GDARD, MDARDLEA, DFFE, MTPA, ABO Energy and WSP to introduce themselves and state their role in the project.</p> <p>AS proceeded to present the meeting's agenda via a slide presentation. The presentation is included in Appendix A.</p>	N/A	N/A
2. PROJECT BACKGROUND			
	<p>AS presented details and location for the proposed project and stated that the (Applicant) ABO Energy South Africa's plans to establish two wind energy facilities, ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facilities (WEF) 1 & 2 located between Heidelberg and Balfour.</p> <p>AS confirmed that the since the projects cover both the Gauteng and the Mpumalanga provinces, therefore both commenting authorities were invited to the meeting.</p> <p>AS further explained, that WEF 1 is planned to have a capacity of up to 240 megawatts (MW), while the WEF 2 will have a capacity of up to 180MW, and that both projects trigger a full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIAs). While the grid connection for the projects will require a separate impact assessment since various components are still to be confirmed.</p> <p>AS then showed a map of the proposed wind energy facilities and mentioned, that the proposed WEF 1 and WEF 2 include various farm portions for which the landowner consent has already been received.</p> <p>AS further explained that the total project area for WEF 1 is approximately 4900 hectares (ha) and WEF 2 is approximately 3400ha. The Applicant has developed preliminary layouts for the facilities indicating that up to 33 turbines are proposed for WEF 1 and up to 25 are proposed for WEF 2.</p> <p>AS confirmed that the projects do not fall within a renewable energy development zone or a strategic transmission corridor.</p> <p>AS mentioned, that mapped Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) fall within the southern section of the proposed projects located in Mpumalanga, and the northern section of the project area within Gauteng. While the South and Southwestern portions of the project sites within Mpumalanga consist of Other Natural Areas and Ecological Support Areas (ESA). Whereas the Gauteng portions, mostly consist of ESAs</p>		

MEETING NOTES

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION	DUE
	<p>and important areas, and a small portion of irreplaceable biodiversity in the north and northwestern sections.</p> <p>AS confirmed that in terms of the National Threatened Ecosystems, there are some small sections of least concerned ecosystems and vulnerable areas.</p> <p>AS mentioned, the release of Gauteng-C plan 4.0 and the need to request data from GDARD.</p> <p>RL raised concerns about the fact that the a Landscape-Scale Climate Change Corridor traverses the North / North Eastern portion of WEF 1 as well as that the site also comprises CBAs (1 and 2) and ESAs within Mpumalanga and mentioned that this must be considered. RL further noted that MDARDLEA will require the number of turbines that will fall inside Mpumalanga as they are tracking this information on a provincial scale.</p> <p>AS noted this point in response and mentioned that the cumulative information will be requested from ML.</p> <p>ML mentioned that when the Department develops their sector plan, they consult with GDARD to align with the climate change corridors, hence his request that WSP use the latest data.</p> <p>TM inquired requested clarity on the location of the facilities.</p> <p>KR clarified that WEF1 spans both Gauteng and Mpumalanga, while WEF2 is located entirely in Gauteng.</p> <p>TM prompted further discussion regarding the mapping of project boundaries and requested clarity on the rotor tip height to determine the measurement off the ground.</p> <p>AS responded that the tip height will 280 metres and will be 80 metres off the ground.</p> <p>RL requested for the locations of the turbines for WEF 1 and WEF 2 such that the turbine locations can be incorporated into their (Mpumalanga's) Renewable Energy map..</p> <p>ML advised that the bioregional plan should be used as well as the C-Plans, since the bioregional plans are updates to the sector plans undertaken by GDARD.</p> <p>MP inquired about the implications of the National Climate Change Corridor for development.</p> <p>ML responded that National Climate Change Corridor is used to show connectivity between species and ecosystems with the changing climate. Therefore, this must be considered to determine the impact on species movement through any obstruction caused by the development.</p> <p>ML confirmed that the sector plan and the Departments handbook contain this information.</p>	<p>AS to request latest Gauteng C-Plan data from GDARD;</p> <p>AS to request cumulative information from ML</p>	

3. TYPICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

MEETING NOTES

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION	DUE
	<p>AS then proceeded to discuss the ongoing scoping phase for the wind facilities, highlighting that specialists are currently verifying site sensitivities, with results expected by early December.</p> <p>AS advised that both wind facilities are anticipated to trigger full scoping and environmental impact assessment processes and that the facilities will be applied for under two Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV), allowing each to have its own Environmental Authorisation.</p> <p>AS mentioned, that a Water Use License is required but WSP has not been appointed to undertake this application process at this stage.</p>	N/A	N/A
4. LISTED ACTIVITIES AND DFFE SCREENING TOOL			
	<p>AS proceeded to present on the potential listed activities triggered in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2014) (GN R. 983, as amended by GNR 327); and explained that the projects potentially trigger Listing Notice 1, Listing Notice 2 and Listing Notice 3; indicating that a full Scoping and EIA process will be followed for both facilities.</p> <p>AS then presented the outcome of the DFFE Screening Tool and highlighted that the results showed significant variations in sensitivity for archaeology and palaeontology for each WEF.</p> <p>AS continued to present the results from the DFFE screening tool which indicated that very high and high sensitivities requiring various specialist assessments, ranging from agriculture, visual, heritage, palaeontology, terrestrial biodiversity including plant and animal species, aquatic biodiversity and avifauna, which will need to be commissioned for both facilities.</p> <p>AS proceeded to discuss the progress of various specialist studies, including pre-construction monitoring for birds and bats.</p> <p>ML expressed the need for appointing a SACNASP registered invertebrate specialist due to the presence of the Heidelberg Copper, and AS confirmed that a registered specialist has been appointed. ¹</p> <p>SD sought clarification on the timing of specialist studies in relation to site sensitivity verification and requested that the scoping report must include the findings of the site sensitivity verification which will then inform what specialist studies will form part of the EIA.</p> <p>AS confirmed the specialists' studies have been commissioned but not yet completed and acknowledged that the site verification will determine which studies will be further assessed as full assessments or compliance statements.</p> <p>EM requested clarity on whether WEF 2 falls within protected areas.</p>	N/A	N/A

¹ Refer to post meeting note for further detail.

MEETING NOTES

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION	DUE
	<p>AS confirmed that the site falls mostly within ESA and important areas, with a very small portion in the north that falls within irreplaceable species and falls within the National Protected Area Expansion Strategy. AS confirmed that there are no gazetted protected areas within the sites.</p> <p>GC inquired confirmation on the appointed bat and avifauna specialists, and AS and KR confirmed that the appointed bat specialist is Low de Vries of Volant Environmental, and the avifauna specialist is Anja Albertyn of Holland & Associates Environmental Consultants.</p>		
5. COMPETENT AUTHORITY			
	<p>AS sought confirmation that the DFFE will be the CA for the project.</p> <p>SD provided confirmation that the DFFE will be the CA for the project.</p> <p>SD inquired whether any grid connections will form part of this project and AS responded that the grid connection or overhead powerline will be a separate application and only the internal powerlines will be included in the current application.</p> <p>SD suggested acquiring confirmation during the meeting on whether the DFFE should also be the CA for the grid connection in order to simplify the decision-making process and to avoid different CA having to assess the WEF and the grid connection.</p> <p>RL expressed support for DFFE being the CA for the application processes, which is also dependent on whether the grid connection is cross-boundary, then DFFE would automatically be the CA.</p> <p>TM agreed with the approach advised by MDARDLEA and is in support of the DFFE being the CA. The group agreed on the importance of a unified approach to streamline the application process.</p> <p>MP inquired about the timeframe for the drafting and approval of the Section 24C(a) of NEMA agreement.</p> <p>AS advised that previously the Applicant or the EAP had written a letter to the provincial department to provide the necessary motivation for the request, thereafter the provincial department requested the Section 24C(a) of NEMA agreement from DFFE.</p> <p>AS further advised that the timeframe for approval of the Section 24C(a) of NEMA agreement is approximately two months and RL agreed and advised that the timeframe for approval can vary dependent on the Department's internal administrative processes.</p> <p>TM further advised that GDARD or DFFE could initiate the Section 24C(a) of NEMA agreement, and TN agreed with this.</p> <p>AS requested, confirmation on the application requirements for the Section 24C(a) of NEMA agreement.</p> <p>TN advised that the Applicant could submit the application and thereafter the process can be initiated.</p>	N/A	N/A

MEETING NOTES

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION	DUE
	<p>SD advised that at this stage it is pre-mature to confirm this since the grid connections layout is not yet confirmed and advised that the grid connection must be first be finalised prior to the initiation of the Section 24C(a) of NEMA agreement process.</p> <p>MP stated that the Applicant would prefer to initiate the Section 24C(a) of NEMA agreement process prior to the submission of the application for the project.</p>		
6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION			
	<p>AS proceeded to discuss the public participation plan, and advised site notices and advertisements will be drafted in English, Afrikaans, and another local language.</p> <p>AS further explained that site notices will be placed in areas surrounding the project site, between Heidelberg and Balfour, and the newspaper advertisement will be placed in local and provincial newspapers to due to the project's cross boundary location.</p> <p>AS advised that the project database has been initiated and the relevant stakeholders, neighbouring landowners and ward councillors and state department are being included.</p> <p>AS also advised, that draft scoping reports, and the draft and final EIA will each be made available for a 30-day public review period and will be distributed to local libraries and other venues accessible to the public, and other platforms including the WSP website and the WSP Datafree website.</p> <p>AS mentioned, that public meeting will be made available upon request, however, key stakeholder engagement will be held with the CA and other key Department involved in the project.</p> <p>SD emphasised the need to also present the summary of the reports in English, Afrikaans and the other local language so that the key stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties can understand the details of the project.</p> <p>RL advised that the Department would require the reports be submitted as a hard copy, to the Ermelo office. Additionally, that the links to the projects be shared with RL, GC and ML.</p> <p>AS also mentioned, that a hard copy of the draft reports will be shared as a hard copy with MTPA, and the final will be shared using a memory stick.</p>	N/A	N/A
7. TIMEFRAMES			
	<p>AS proceeded to discuss the project timeframes and expressed awareness that the project does not fall within a Strategic Transmission Corridor (GN113) or with a REDZ (GN114).</p> <p>AS requested, clarity from the DFFE on decision making timeframes and the applicability of Minister Creecy's statement regarding the 57-day turn-around time for authority review for Renewable Energy Projects.</p> <p>SD confirmed that the 57-day turnaround period for Renewable Energy Project, is still in effect.</p>		

MEETING NOTES

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION	DUE
	AS continued to present the key milestones for the project and highlighted that WSP will prepare the application forms and submit the draft scoping reports by June 2025, and submit the final reports by July 2025.		
4.0 CONCLUDING			
	<p>SD emphasised the importance of good communication with provincial and conservation departments during the application process to ensure the seamless execution of the project, particularly regarding turbine placement.</p> <p>HS requested that information be shared early in the EIA process for effective commenting.</p> <p>No further comments from attendees.</p> <p>AS concluded the meeting at 11h06.</p>	N/A	N/A
5.0 POST MEETING NOTE			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WSP has received the updated C-Plan 4.0 from the GDARD. AS shared the project location (kml) with ML for GIS plotting. ML shared the cumulative information following the pre-application meeting. Bathusi Environmental Consulting has been appointed to undertake the invertebrate assessment and ecological consultant, Reinier Terblanche (SACNASP Reg. No. 400244/05), will be conducting the site surveys. In research Reinier specializes in threatened butterfly species, integrated conservation frameworks, quantitative estimates of butterfly assemblages and vegetation dynamics of butterfly habitats. 	-	-

Approved:

tryalunga

DFFE



Digitally signed by Ashlea Strong
DN: cn=Ashlea Strong, c=ZA,
o=WSP Group Africa, ou=Earth and
Environment,
email=ashlea.strong@wsp.com
Date: 2024.12.12 13:33:32 +0200

WSP

KROSS 12/12/2024

ABO ENERGY

APPENDIX A – PRESENTATION

wsp

1

DFFE

Pre-Application Meeting

ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facilities

25 November 2024



1

wsp

2

Introductions

Developer

ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd
Kelli Ross
Marielle Penwarden

EAP

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Ashlea Strong
Jashmika Maharaj

Authority

DFFE:

Thulisile Nyalunga
Thabile Sangweni
Sindiswa Dlomo

MDARDLEA:

Gavin Cowden
Sindisiwe Mbuyane
Robyn Luyt

GDARD:

Bongani Shabangu
Erick Moletsane
Nhlanhla Makhathini
Steven Mukhola
Wesi Moagi

MTPA:

Frans Krige
Mervyn Lotter



2

1



Agenda

1

Overview of the Project
Background
Location
Technical Description

2

Overview & Confirmation of Permitting Processes
Listed Activities
Specialist Assessments as identified by DFFE Screening Tool
Specialist Studies commissioned
Competent Authority

3

Public Participation Process

4

Timeframes

5

Discussion
Clarification Questions
Way Forward

3



Overview of the Project

Background

ABO Energy South Africa (Pty) Ltd (ABO) proposes to establish two renewable energy facilities near Heidelberg and Balfour, in the Gauteng and Mpumalanga Provinces, known as the ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facilities (WEF), which require various applications for environmental authorisation.

The proposed project consists of the following subprojects:

- ABO Uvemvane WEF 1 (up to 240MWac), 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
- ABO Uvemvane WEF 2 (up to 180MWac), located in the Lesedi Local Municipality and Midvaal Local Municipality within the Sedibeng District Municipality, in the Gauteng Province

Note: the EGI component of the WEFs will be subject to separate environmental impact assessments, which will run slightly behind the current processes.

4



Overview of the Project

Location

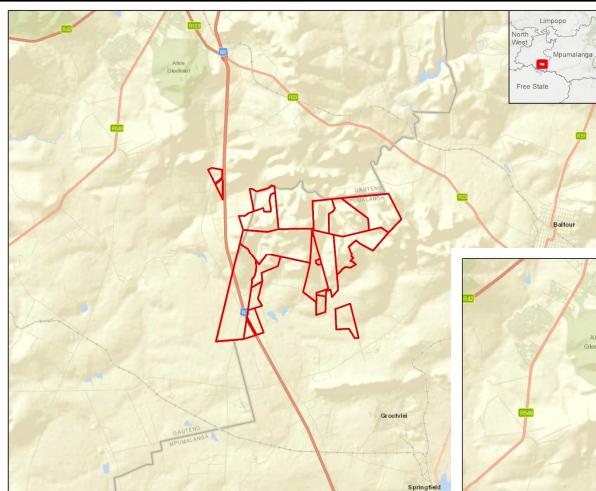
	ABO Uvemvane WEF 1	ABO Uvemvane WEF 2
Province	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mpumalanga Province Gauteng Province 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gauteng Province
District Municipalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gert Sibande District Municipality Sedibeng District Municipality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sedibeng District Municipality
Local Municipalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dipaleseng Local Municipality Lesedi Local Municipality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lesedi Local Municipality Midvaal Local Municipality
Farms	<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 RE of Portion 1 of the Farm Driefontein 405 Portion 5 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Driefontein 405 RE of Portion 2 of the Farm Driefontein Number 405 RE of the Farm Driefontein 405 RE of Portion 9 of the Farm Malanskraal No 407 RE of Portion 2 of the Farm Malanskraal Number 407 Portion 12 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal Number 407 RE of Portion 6 (Kingsmead) of the Farm Malanskraal 407 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 RE 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 RE of Portion 13 (a Portion of Portion 2) of the Farm Malanskraal 407 Portion 1 of the Farm Weltevreden No 449 The Farm Botha Spruit Number 404 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RE of Portion 1 of the Farm Steynskraal 399 Portion 25 (a portion of Portion 11) of the Farm Steynskraal 399 RE of Portion 11 (a Portion of Portion 1) of the Farm Steynskraal 399 Portion 24 (a portion of Portion 23) of the Farm Steynskraal 399 RE of Portion 4 of the Farm Steynskraal 399 Portion 6 of the Farm Steynskraal 399 RE of Portion 2 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406 Portion 17 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406 Portion 7 of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406 Portion 35 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406 Portion 15 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406 RE of Portion 5 of the Farm Lagerspoort 406 Portion 32 (a portion of Portion 5) of the Farm Lagerspoort Number 406 RE of Portion 2 of the Farm Modderfontein 410

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Locality of the proposed WEFs

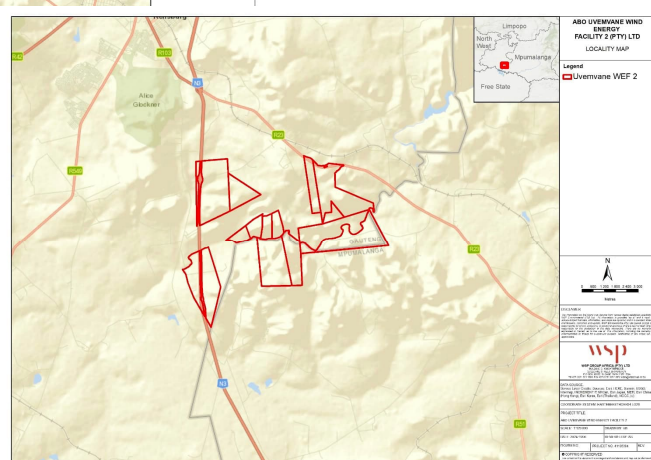


ABO Uvemvane WIND ENERGY FACILITY 1 (PTY) LTD LOCALITY MAP

Legend

Uvemvane WEF 1

ABO Uvemvane WEF 1



ABO Uvemvane WIND ENERGY FACILITY 2 (PTY) LTD LOCALITY MAP

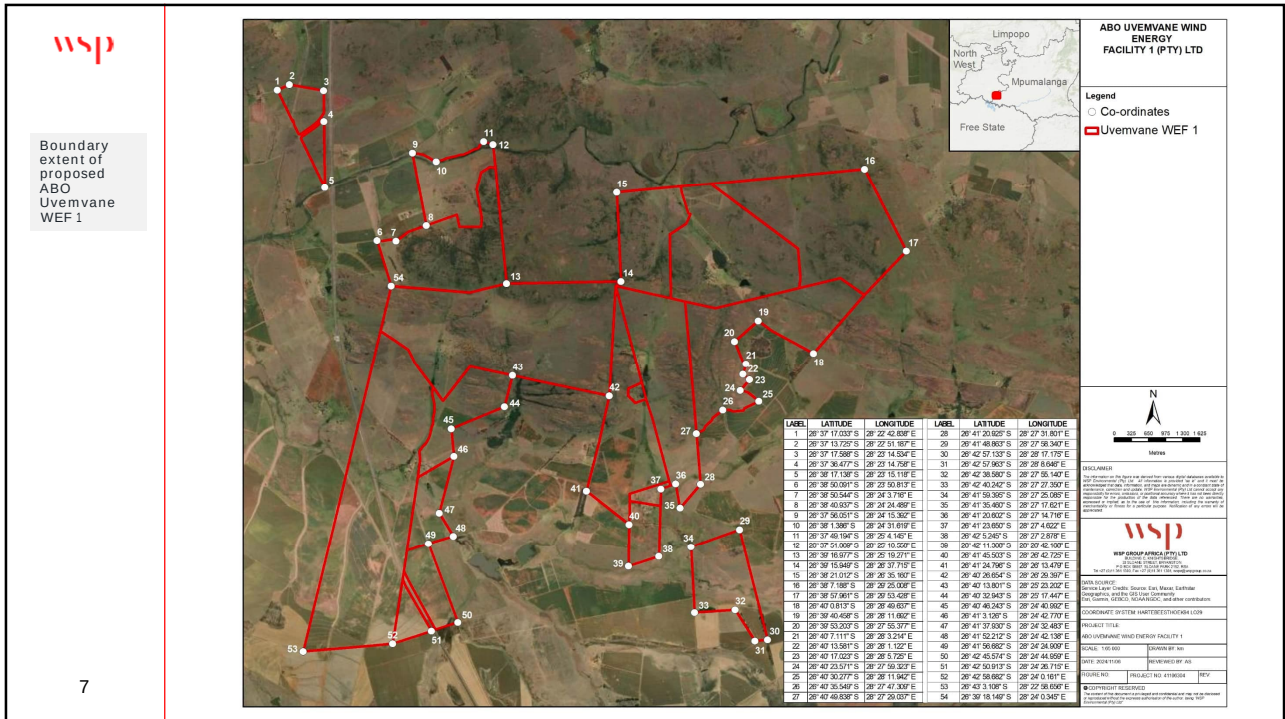
Legend

Uvemvane WEF 2

ABO Uvemvane WEF 2

6

6





Overview of the Project

Typical Infrastructure

Specifications	ABO Uvemvane WEF 1	ABO Uvemvane WEF 2
Total Project Area	• Approx. 4900 ha	• Approx. 3400 ha
Buildable Area	• The layout will be informed by the outcome of the site sensitivity verification assessments	
Wind Turbines	• Up to 33	• Up to 25
WEF capacity	• Up to 240MWac	• Up to 180MWac
Hub Height	• Up to 180m	• Up to 180m
Rotor Diameter	• Up to 200m (Blade length – 100m)	• Up to 200m (Blade length – 100m)
Internal Powerline	• Up to 132kV	• Up to 132kV
Temporary laydown areas/ construction compounds (includes concrete batching)	• Up to 25 ha	• Up to 25 ha
On-site Substation footprint including BESS	• Up to 5ha	• Up to 5ha
BESS capacity	• To be confirmed	• To be confirmed

9

9



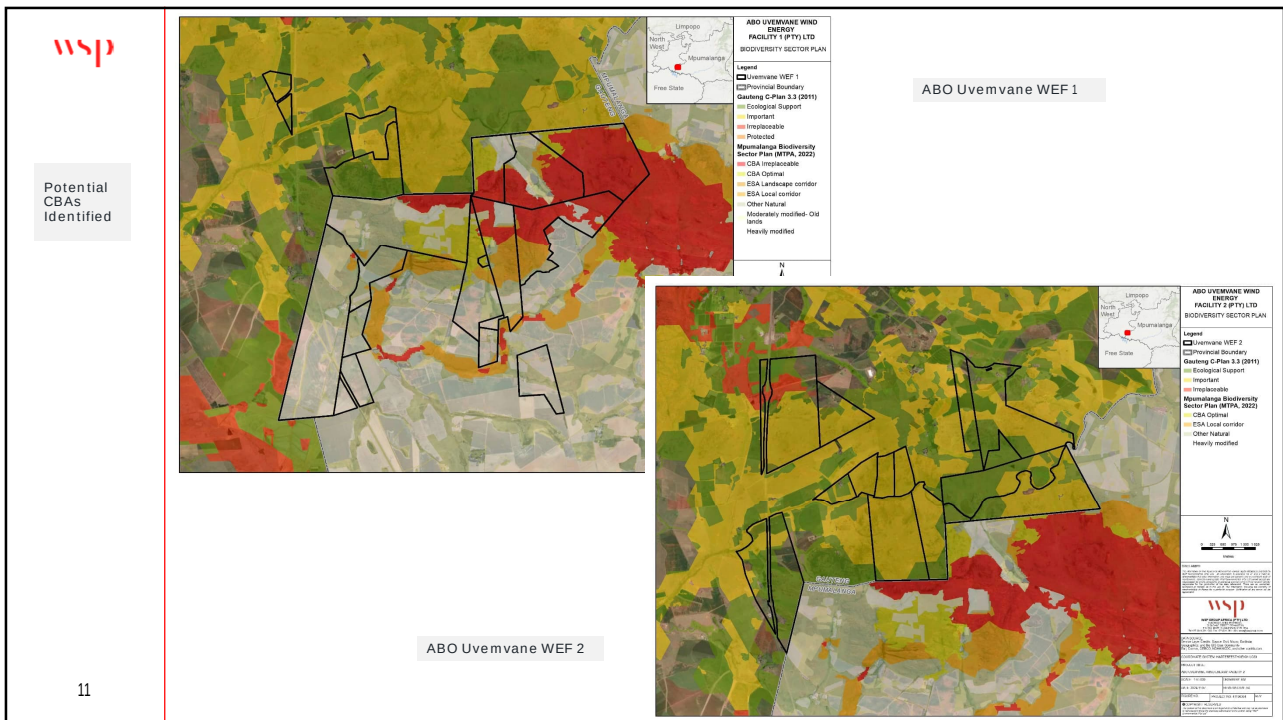
Overview of the Project

Key Considerations

- In Mpumalanga, the general project area falls within Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) (both irreplaceable and optimal) and Ecological Support Areas (ESA).
- In Gauteng, the general area falls within areas designated as either Ecological support, important and irreplaceable
- The project area also falls within the National Protected Area Expansion Strategy (NPAES) Focus Areas.
- The main ecosystems in the project area are listed as least concern with a few small patches of vulnerable ecosystems
- The Project Area does not fall within a Renewable Energy Development Zone or a Strategic Transmission Corridor .

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Permitting Processes

Environmental Authorisation Process

The below will be applied for under two Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs), allowing each its own Environmental Authorisation

Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) Processes:

- ABO Uvemvane WEF 1 (up to 240MWac):
 - ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd
- ABO Uvemvane WEF 2 (up to 180MWac):
 - ABO Uvemvane Wind Energy Facility 2 (Pty) Ltd

Water Use Licence:

- Water use Licences and/or General Authorisations will be applied for as required

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Permitting Processes

Listed Activities

Listing Notice 1

Activity 11(ii)-Overhead Powerlines (up to 132kV)	Activity 24(ii)-The Facility will require the development of internal roads and/or access roads around the site wider than 13m
Activity 12(ii)(a)(c)-The Facility will require the development of internal roads and/or access roads and electrical cabling (both above and underground) around the site.	Activity 28(ii)-The Facility is considered a commercial and/or industrial development, and is located on several farm portions zoned for agricultural use outside an urban area, used for agricultural purposes, buildable area to be greater than 1ha
Activity 14-The Facility will require storage and handling of dangerous goods.	Activity 48(i)(a)(c)-Transport of large infrastructure components related to the facility will require the expansion of existing access and/or internal roads.
Activity 19-Internal access roads and stormwater control infrastructure, will collectively require the excavation, infilling or removal of soil exceeding 10m ³ from delineated watercourses on site	Activity 56(i)(ii)-Transport of large infrastructure components related to the facility will require the widening of existing access and/or internal roads where no reserve exists and where such road is wider than 8 metres.

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Permitting Processes

Listed Activities – Listing Notice 2:

Listing Notice 2

Activity 1-The proposed energy generation technology (i.e. Wind) will generate more than 20MW of electricity output from a renewable resource

Activity 15-Facilities will result in the clearance of at least 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation.

16

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Permitting Processes

Listed Activities – Listing Notice 3:

Listing Notice 3

Activity 3 (f & c) - The proposed project includes the development of a telecommunications tower with a height of up to 32m.	Activity 14 (ii)(a)(c)(f & c) -The Facility will require the development of internal roads and/or access roads around the site.
Activity 4 (f & c) -Internal access roads required 12-13m wide roads with 12m radius turning circles, gravel surface.	Activity 18 (f & c) -Transport of large infrastructure components related to the facility will require the widening of existing access and/or internal roads by more than 4 metres or the lengthening of existing access and/or internal roads by more than 1km within the Mpumalanga Province.
Activity 10 (f & c) -The Facility will require storage and handling of dangerous goods, including fuel, cement, and chemical storage onsite, that will be greater than 30 m³ but not exceeding 80 m³ within the specified geological areas.	Activity 23 (ii)(a)(c)(f & c) -The Facility will require the expansion of existing internal roads and/or access roads around the site.
Activity 12 (f & c) -The clearance of indigenous vegetation will be required for the facility exceeding 300m²	

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Permitting Processes

DEA Screening Tool Identified Sensitivities

WEF 1 = ○ WEF 2 = X

	Very High Sensitivity	High Sensitivity	Medium Sensitivity	Low Sensitivity
Agriculture Theme	X	○		
Animal Species Theme		○ X		
Aquatic Biodiversity Theme	○ X			
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Theme	X			○
Avian (Wind) Theme				○ X
Bats (Wind) Theme		○ X		
Civil Aviation Theme			○ X	
Defence Theme			○ X	
Flicker Theme	○ X			
Landscape (Wind) Theme	○ X			
Palaeontology Theme	○		X	
Noise Theme	○ X			
Plant Species Theme			○ X	
RFI (Wind) Theme		○ X		
Terrestrial Biodiversity Theme	○ X			
Vulture Species Theme			○ X	

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DEA Screening Tool Specialist Assessments

Specialist Study	ABO Uvemvane WEF 1	ABO Uvemvane WEF 1
Agricultural	X	X
Landscape / Visual	X	X
Archaeological and Cultural heritage	X	X
Palaeontological	X	X
Terrestrial Biodiversity	X	X
Aquatic Biodiversity	X	X
Avian Impact	X	X
Civil Aviation	X	X
Defence	X	X
RFI	X	X
Noise	X	X
Flicker (included in Landscape / visual Assessment)	X	X
Traffic	X	X
Geotechnical	X	X
Socio-Economic	X	X
Plant Species	X	X
Animal Species	X	X

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Specialist Studies Commissioned

SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT	COMMENT
Soils and Agricultural Potential Assessment	A soils and agricultural survey will be undertaken.
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment	An Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment will be undertaken.
Palaeontology Impact Assessment	A Palaeontological Impact Assessment will be undertaken.
Visual Impact Assessment	The projects could potentially impact sensitive visual receptors. A Visual Impact Assessment will therefore be undertaken. The Visual impact Assessment will consider impacts related to flicker.
Terrestrial Biodiversity Impact Assessment	The projects could affect CBA and NPAES Focus Areas. A Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment will be undertaken. This assessment will include both plant and animal species themes. In addition, a separate invertebrate assessment will also be undertaken.
Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment	The projects could affect FEPA areas. An Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment will be undertaken.
Freshwater Impact Assessment	The projects could potentially impact water resources. A Freshwater Impact Assessment will therefore be undertaken as part of the Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment.
Avifauna Impact Assessment	Due to the potential impacts on birds as a result of the projects, an Avifauna Assessment will be undertaken.
Bat Impact Assessment	Due to the potential impacts on bats as a result of the projects, a Bat Assessment will be undertaken. This study will be specific to the WEFs.
Social Impact Assessment	A detailed social assessment will be prepared. The social statement will be based on a desktop review and telephonic interviews with key stakeholders.

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Specialist Studies Com missioned

SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT	COMMENT
Noise Impact Assessment	Due to potential impacts on sensitive receptors with regards to noise generated from the wind turbines, a Noise Assessment will be undertaken.
Geotechnical Assessment	A preliminary desktop Geotechnical Assessment will be undertaken as part of the S&EIA Process.
Traffic Assessment	A traffic assessment will be undertaken.
Qualitive Risk Assessment	A hazard and risk identification assessment for the BESS facility will be undertaken.
RFI	A compliance statement will be compiled. The South African Weather Service (SAWS) and relevant telecom munications stakeholders will be engaged with as part of the Public Participation Process.
Civil Aviation	A compliance statement will be compiled. The Civil Aviation Authority will be included on the project stakeholder database. They will be informed of the proposed Project, and comment will be sought. An Application for the Approval of Obstacles will also be submitted to SACAA in terms of the relevant legislation, outside of the NEMA process, at the appropriate time .
Defence	A compliance statement will be compiled. The Department of Defence will be included on the project stakeholder database. They will be informed of the proposed Project, and comment will be sought.

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Competent Authority

o Section 24C(2)(a) of NEMA

- The Minister must be identified as the Competent Authority (CA) if the activity has implications for international environmental commitments or relations

o GN 779 of 01 July 2016

- Identifies the Minister as the CA for the consideration and processing of environmental authorisations and amendments thereto for activities related the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) 2010 – 2030

DFFE is therefore deemed to be the Competent Authority for both the WEF projects

DFFE to please confirm the above for minute purposes

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Public Participation Process

Public Participation Plan

- A consolidated approach to the Public Participation (PP) Process for both the S&EIA processes respectively
- Site notices:
 - English, Afrikaans and one other local language – to be confirmed
 - Onsite and in the surrounding areas
- Compilation and management of I&AP Database
- Written notification:
 - Owners and occupiers on or adjacent to the proposed project site
 - Municipality Ward Councillor
 - District Municipality
 - Relevant State Departments
- Advertisement (English, Afrikaans and one other local language in local and provincial newspapers)
- Draft Report Review for 30 days
 - WSP on request
 - Online on the WSP website
 - WSP will confirm with local Public Libraries as to whether they are open and able to accept documents for public review
- Public or focus group meetings will be held on request.

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Timeframes

Timeframes

- Authority Timeframes
 - Does not fall within a Strategic Transmission Corridor (GN 113)
 - Does not fall within a REDZ (GN 114)
 - We require clarity regarding the Authority decision making timeframes as a result of Minister Creecy's statement in May 2023
 - 107 days vs 57 days
 - Is this statement still applicable?
- Key Milestones:
 - Submission of Application Forms – June 2025
 - Draft Scoping Report Public Review – June to July 2025
 - Submission of Final Scoping Reports – July 2025
 - Submission of Draft EIA Reports and Public Review – October to November 2025
 - Submission of Final EIA Reports - December 2025

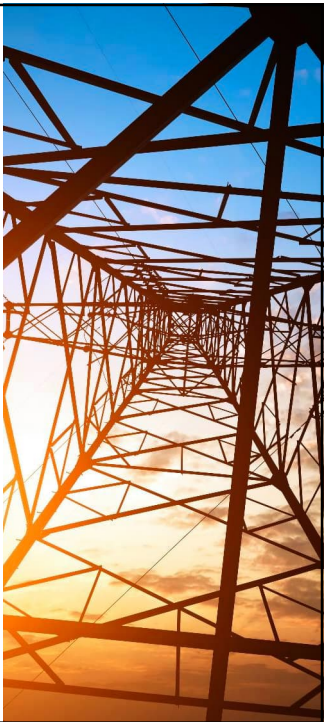
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Discussion

- Questions:
- Way Forward



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Thank you

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