



Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd

SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND E-SAF PLANT, HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE

Stakeholder Engagement Report





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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd (Phelan eFuels) is proposing the development of a *Phelan eFuels-Saldanha Bay Project* that will produce Electro-Sustainable Aviation Fuel (eSAF). The facility (the Project) will be located near Hopefield, Western Cape (**Figure 1-1**).

The facility will produce eSAF from biogenic CO₂, captured via carbon capture technology, and green hydrogen via electrolysis, which will be developed in phases as follows:

- Phase 1 - 35 000 tonne per annum (tpa) (Q4 2028);
- Phase 2 - 35 000 tpa (Q3 2030); and
- Phase 3 - 70 000 tpa (Q3 2032).

At full scale, the total project will output 140 000 tpa of eSAF. The operation strategy for the plant is that the processing plant downstream of electrolysis will operate 24/7 with the availability of the battery energy storage and hydrogen buffer storage to feed the downstream Reverse Water Gas Shift, Fischer Tropsch Synthesis and Refining when renewable energy is intermittent.

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) has been appointed by (Phelan eFuels) to undertake the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process and to act as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) for the project.

The Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP). is the Competent Authority for the S&EIR Process.

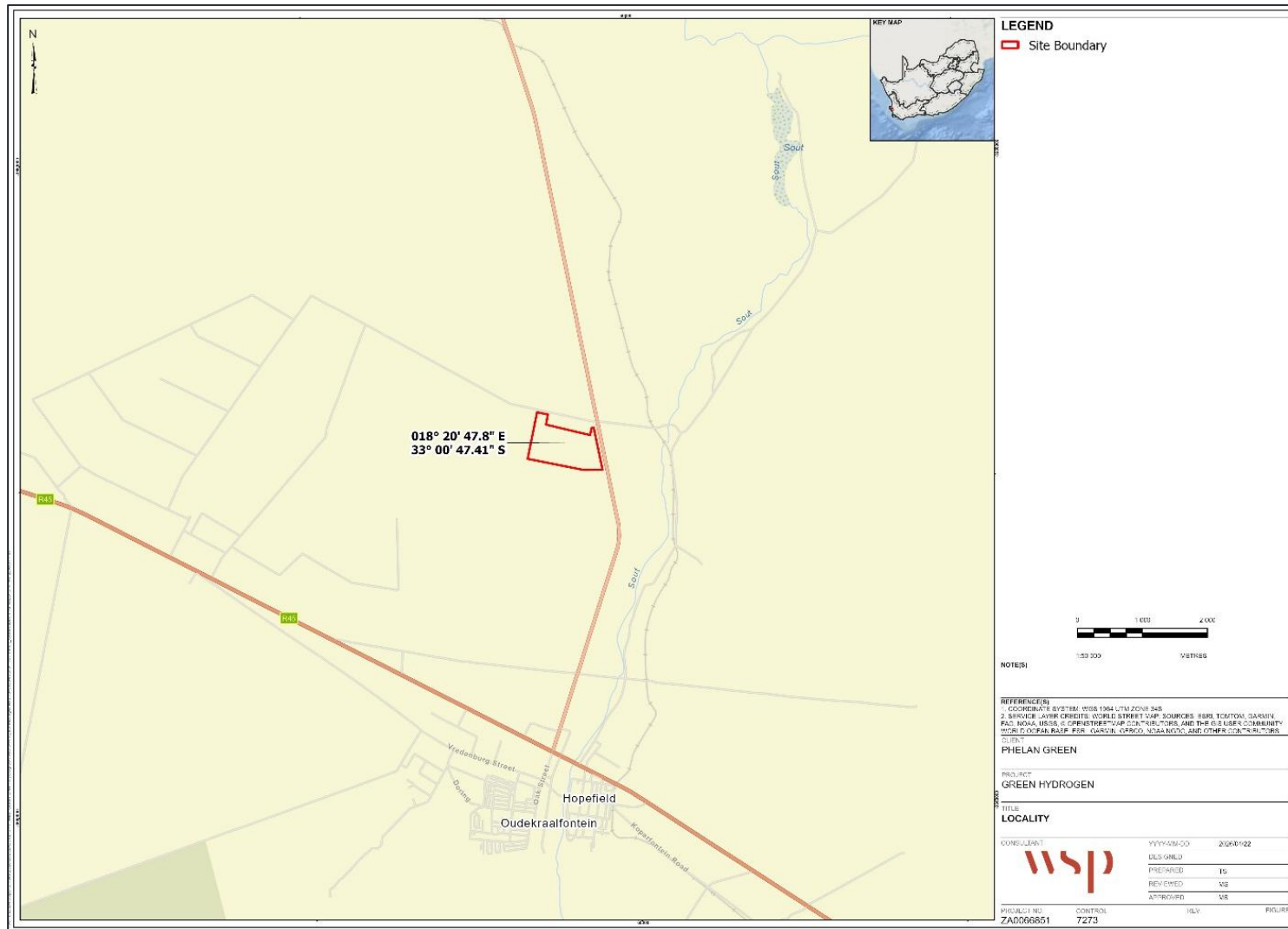


Figure 1-1 - Locality of the Project

1.2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

1.2.1 PURPOSE

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.

Public participation and stakeholder engagement in the EA process is important for the following reasons:

- The environment is held in public trust; therefore, use of environmental resources is everyone's concern.
- It is a way to ensure that projects meet citizens' needs and are suitable for 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 by communicating their concerns and comments in a formal process.
- Finally, the final Authorisation decision by the Competent Authority (CA), the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEADP), is informed when local knowledge, values, and expert public knowledge have been offered into the assessment process for CA decision-making.

1.2.2 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Public Participation Process (PPP) can be summarised as follows. To:

- Identify relevant individuals, organisations, and communities who may be interested in or affected by the 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.
- To inform and provide the public with information and an understanding of the proposed Project, issues, and solutions.

1.2.3 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 is as follows:

- 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 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.

1.2.4 RIGHTS, ROLES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STAKEHOLDER

In terms of Chapter 6, specifically Section 43(1) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations promulgated under NEMA, 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 stakeholders 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 Fisheries, Forestry and Environment (DFFE), or within any extension of a timeframe agreed by the Applicant, Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) and/or CA.
- 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 PPP 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 benefits of the activities conducted.
- 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.
- Verifying that their issues have been considered.

In order to participate effectively, stakeholders should:

- Become involved in the process as early as possible.
- Register as a stakeholder.
- 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 concluded.
- 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.
- Recognise that the process is confined to issues that are directly relevant to the application.

1.2.5 APPROACH TO STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The stakeholder engagement approach 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 the PPP as provided for in the EIA Regulations, 2014 promulgated under NEMA.
- Consider the needs, interests, and values of stakeholders.

The public participation guideline in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 promulgated under NEMA tabulates the level of public participation required for various levels of anticipated project impacts.

2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TO DATE

2.1 PRE-APPLICATION PHASE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Tasks undertaken during the Pre-Application Phase are detailed in the following Sections.

2.1.1 IDENTIFICATION OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS

The Pre-application Phase commenced with the compilation of a stakeholder database to include relevant stakeholders, such as commenting authorities, municipalities, adjacent landowners/occupiers, ward councillors, public interest groups as well as other stakeholders who may be interested or affected by the project.

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 in order to be registered as stakeholders and included in future communication regarding the project.

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

Table 2-1 - I&AP Table

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	The applicant is the landowner. The landowner is Cultisol (Pty) Ltd (A wholly owned subsidiary of Phelan Green Group)
(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	The project site is a greenfield site and not currently occupied.

NEMA Requirement	Discussion
(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	<p>The surrounding businesses and landowners have been included in the stakeholder database and will continue to be informed through the scoping process.</p> <p>Site notices were placed at locations accessible to the public in at the project site, in Hopefield, Saldanha and Langebaan.</p> <p>Adverts were placed in English and Afrikaans in two newspapers.</p>
(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	<p>Ward Councillors for the site been included in the stakeholder database and was notified via email and SMS notifications.</p>
(v) the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area	<p>Saldanha Bay Local Municipality, (WC014) is located within the West Coast District Municipality (DC1) in the Western Cape Province of South Africa.</p> <p>Representatives from the local and district municipalities have been added to the stakeholder database.</p>
(vi) any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity	<p>The DEA&DP has been consulted as the CA regarding the EA application.</p> <p>The Department of Water and Sanitation has been consulted as the CA regarding the Water Use Licence application.</p> <p>The West Coast District Municipality has been consulted as the CA regarding the Atmospheric Emission Licence application.</p>
(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 in the I&AP database, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Saldanha Bay Local Municipality; ■ Cape Nature; ■ West Coast District Municipality; ■ Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa; ■ Western Cape Government Department of Infrastructure; ■ The Green Connection; ■ South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA); ■ South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA); ■ Heritage Western Cape; ■ Western Cape Department of Agriculture; ■ Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: Directorate: Air Quality Management; ■ Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: Directorate: Waste Management; ■ Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management; ■ Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management; ■ Department of Water and Sanitation; and ■ West Coast Environmental Protection Association.

2.2 SCOPING PHASE

The Draft Scoping Report (DSR) and Background Information Letters (BILs), in English and Afrikaans, were placed on public review for a period of 30 days from **07 May 2026** to **08 June 2026** at the Hopefield, Langebaan, and Saldanha Libraries. Additionally, electronic versions of the report and Background Information Letters (BILs) were placed on the WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) website to be accessed by the public at the following links: <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents> and the WSP data-free website at <https://wsp-engage.com/>.

Proof of the placement of the DSR in the public domain is included in **Appendix A.1**.

2.2.1 DIRECT NOTIFICATION

Notification of the proposed project was issued to stakeholders, via direct correspondence (i.e. email and SMS) on **06 May 2026**. The purpose of the notification was to offer stakeholders the opportunity to register on the project database and to communicate the details of the project and how to provide comment on the DSR and the proposed project.

Proof of notification is included in **Appendix A.2** and **Appendix A.3** of this report.

2.2.2 SITE NOTICES

The EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, require that site notices be fixed at places conspicuous to the public at the boundary or on the fence of the site where the activity (to which the application relates) is to be undertaken, as well as at any alternative sites. Posters (in English and Afrikaans), conforming to the size specifications as per the EIA Regulations, 2014 were placed on **05 May 2026** at the following points:

Table 2-2 – Site Notice Placement

Street	Coordinates
Along MR234 Road	33°01'41"S, 18°21'17"E
Corner OP5560 and MR234 Road	33°0'37"S, 18°21'7"E
Along MR234 Road	33°02'28"S, 18°20'58"E
Hopefield Library	33°03'39"S, 18°20'32"E
Saldanha Library	33°0'25"S, 17°56'40"E

A copy of the site notices and proof of placement are included in **Appendix A.4**.

2.2.3 ADVERTISEMENT

Notification of the proposed project as well as an opportunity to register and comment on the DSR was issued to the general public via advertisements published in the Weslander (in English and Afrikaans) and Cape Times (in English) newspapers on **07 May 2026**. Copies of the advertisements are included as **Appendix B**.

3 COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

Following the receipt of comments from stakeholders, a CRR was prepared. All comments received from stakeholders during the public comment period for the DSR have been captured and responded to in **Table 3-1**. Copies of the actual comments received are attached in **Appendix D**.

Table 3-1 – Comments and Responses

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
1.	DEADP - EIA Admin Email 06 May 2026	Dear Sir/Madam The Directorate confirms receipt of your correspondence. Please be advised that the assigned case officer will provide a formal response.	The comment has been noted
2.	Openserve (Pty) Ltd Email 06 May 2026	<p>I hereby inform you that Openserve approves the proposed work indicated on your drawing in principle. This approval is valid for 06 months only, after which reapplication must be made if the work has not been completed.</p> <p>Any changes or deviations from the original planning during or prior to construction must immediately be communicated to this office.</p> <p>Approval is granted, subject to the following conditions. As per sketch attached, Openserve infrastructure will be affected, consequently the conditions below and on the attached legend will apply.</p> <p>Telecommunication services position is shown as accurately as possible but should be regarded as approximate only.</p> <p>Should alterations or relocation of existing infrastructure be required, such work will be done at the request and cost of the applicant.</p> <p>Please notify this office within 21 working days from this letter of acceptance and if any alternative proposal is available or if a recoverable work should commence.</p>	The comment has been noted

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>It would be appreciated if this office can be notified within 30 days of completion of the construction work.</p> <p>Confirmation is required on completion of construction as per agreed requirements.</p> <p>Should Openserve infrastructure be damaged while work is undertaken, kindly contact our representative immediately.</p>	
3.	<p>Openserve (Pty) Ltd</p> <p>Email</p> <p>07 May 2026</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Please find attached your approved Openserve wayleave.</p>	The comment has been noted
4.	<p>DEADP - Directorate: Development Facilitation</p> <p>Email</p> <p>07 May 2026</p>	<p>Dear WSP PP Team,</p> <p>Thank you for the notification regarding the release of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR).</p> <p>The Department's Directorate: Development Management (Region 1) is the commenting authority for the EIA application and will submit comments on the DSR within the legislated timeframes. You are further advised to consult with the Directorates: Air Quality Management and Pollution & Chemicals Management for their respective comments on the DSR.</p> <p>The Directorate: Development Facilitation is responsible for coordinating the Department's comments on the Water Use Licence (WUL) and Atmospheric Emission Licence (AEL) applications.</p>	<p>Thank you for the email.</p> <p>Thank you for sharing the information internally with the relevant stakeholders. We can confirm that we have added the contact details of all the parties listed in your email on the project's stakeholder database.</p> <p>The current notification to I&APs serves the purpose to announce the proposed project, inform on the availability of the Draft Scoping Report and, inter alia, the Water Uses that will be applied for (as per the requirements of S17 of the Water Uses Licence Application and Appeals Regulations, 2017) and to</p> <p>encourage interested and affected parties to register to ensure that they receive all future correspondence.</p> <p>The environmental authorisation application processes (Scoping and EIA, WULA and AEL applications) are still ongoing and there will be a second round of public review during which all relevant specialist assessments and</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>Please ensure that deadp.s24o@westerncape.gov.za is included on the distribution list for all correspondence and documentation related to these applications.</p> <p>Kindly note that the Department is unable to provide comments on the Water Use Licence Application at this stage, as no documentation has been released for commenting purposes. The Department requires, inter alia, the Draft Motivation Report, Integrated Water and Waste Management Plan, Aquatic Biodiversity Assessment, Hydrological/Geohydrological Assessment, as well as any other specialist studies or supporting documents necessary to enable meaningful comment. In the absence of the above-mentioned documentation, the current commenting period of 07 May to 06 July 2025 is deemed premature and must be extended. Interested and Affected Parties must be afforded the full legislated 60-day commenting period once the required documents have been formally released for comment.</p> <p>Regarding the AEL application, please provide the Department with a copy of the AEL application form, Atmospheric Impact Report, and any additional supporting documentation once available. It is anticipated that these documents will be released alongside the Draft EIA Report.</p>	<p>associated documentation (such as the Integrated Water and Waste Management Plan) and the DEIR will be made available for public review and comment.</p> <p>The copy of the AEL was forwarded to the stakeholder.</p>
5.	IAfrica Email 8 May 2026	Request via the WSP website to register as a stakeholder.	Kindly note that you have been registered as a stakeholder on this project.

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
6.	WCEPA (West Coast Environmental Protection Association) 11 May 2026	I refer to the draft scoping report published for comment in respect of the Phelan Green project (ref no. ZA0066851.7273). At page 8 of the draft scoping report, it is stated that a copy of the AEL application will be available on request. WCEPA hereby request a copy of the AEL application.	The AEL application was sent to the stakeholder on 11 May 2026
7.	WCEPA (West Coast Environmental Protection Association) 11 May 2026	Dear Sir/Madam, I refer to the draft scoping report published for comment in respect of the Phelan Green project (ref no. ZA0066851.7273). <u>WULA</u> At page 8 of the draft scoping report, it is stated that Phelan will apply for a water use licence, with the commenting period opening on 7 May 2026 and closing on 6 July 2026. However, the notice on the website does not provide any further detail of the WULA and the application itself does not appear on your website. WCEPA wishes to comment on the WULA, but cannot do so absent a copy of the application documents. Kindly urgently provide me with a copy of the WULA documentation and advise where the application documents have been published for public comment. I await your urgent response.	Thank you for your enquiry. The current notification to I&APs is to announce the proposed project, inform on the availability of the Draft Scoping Report and, inter alia, the Water Uses that will be applied for (as per the requirements of S17 of the Water Uses Licence Application and Appeals Regulations, 2017). The environmental authorisation application processes (Scoping and EIA, WULA and AEL applications) are still ongoing and there will be a second round of public review during which all relevant specialist assessments and associated documentation (such as the Integrated Water and Waste Management Plan that will provide more details on the water uses) will be made available for public review and comment. We have added your details to the stakeholder database to ensure that you receive all future correspondence on opportunities to review and comment. I trust that you will find this in order.

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
8.	Email 11 May 2026	Name: [REDACTED] Mobile Number: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED] Preferred Communication: email	Kindly note that you have been registered as a stakeholder on the project
9.	Western Cape Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport Email 13 May 2026	Good day Please can you provide me with HWC reference number for me to provide you with a comment. If there was no NID trigger, please note that HWC cannot comment on matters that do not form part of our mandate.	The HWC reference number (27640SB0304) and the response to the NID was sent to the stakeholder on 20 May 2026
10.	Western Cape Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport Email 21 May 2026	Please note that HWC can only comment on completed HIA's that meet the requirements of section 38(3) of the NHRA. Please note completed HIA and the relevant payment must be made to @HWC HWC. Please use your NID reference number.	Thank you for your correspondence. We will upload the report and make the necessary payment accordingly
11.	Email 13 May 2026	Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Draft Scoping Report. My comments is in my official capacity as Senior Manager: Solid Waste and Bulk Water Supply for Saldanha Bay Municipality. 1) It is noted that a desktop geohydrological assessment was conducted, and that Stormwater management plans are in place. It is however crucial that no groundwater contamination occur.	Good day Thank you for your correspondence. We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on groundwater and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>2) It is indicated that municipal potable water will be utilised, and that 8ML/day will be needed at full production, that may be reduced to 3 - 5 ML/day after water recycling and optimization in detailed design has been conducted. Saldanha Bay Municipality does not have bulk water capacity to provide 8ML/day for the project. It is acknowledged that a water capacity report was compiled and discussed with the municipality. Further discussions will however be required in this regard.</p> <p>3) With regards to solid waste management the applicant must take note that Saldanha Bay Municipality only collects and processes general waste. All hazardous waste management must be conducted by suitably qualified private service providers. These service providers must be accredited by the municipality as per our Integrated Waste Management By-Law.</p>	<p>compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report. Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated specialist reports.</p> <p>The Applicant acknowledges your comment regarding the potable water that may be required for the project and thanks the Saldanha Bay Municipality for its continued engagement on the matter of bulk water supply. As discussed directly with the Municipality and your technical team during prior consultations, it is confirmed that the Phase 1 water demand (approximately 2 ML/day) falls within existing municipal bulk water capacity, and that the Municipality has indicated its support for the project to find solutions for the following phases.</p> <p>Phelan Green and the Municipality are in agreement that water supply for subsequent project phases will require a collaborative approach to unlock additional water sources and upgrade water infrastructure as needed. Phelan Green commits to working closely with the Municipality to plan so that they can ensure that supply constraints do not become a limiting factor to project progression.</p> <p>The Applicant further notes the Municipality's requirements for the management of hazardous waste and will ensure implementation of these requirements.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
12.	Email 14 May 2026	<p>I am totally against this "development" so near to Hopefield.</p> <p>There are many open spaces away from people which can be used.</p> <p>Why do you people not respect other people's lives and freedom to breathe clean air and live in peace.</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for your correspondence and the comments raised in the two emails received on 14 and 18 May respectively.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and will address these during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process.</p> <p>During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>
13.	DEADP - Directorate: Development Facilitation Email 18 May 2026	<p>Dear WSP PP Office,</p> <p>Thank you for your response and for providing the AEL application form. I confirm that I have successfully downloaded the document.</p> <p>Kindly proceed with registering the Department for the AEL and WUL applications, and please notify us once the relevant documentation is available for our review and comments.</p>	<p>Thank you for that confirmation.</p> <p>The Department has been registered and will be notified of the relevant documentation once available for your review and comments.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
14.	ARNELIA Email 18 May 2026	Good day, When and where will you be holding information meetings for below project?	Thank you for your correspondence. There are currently no formal information meetings planned during the environmental authorisation process for this project. Should you, as a neighbouring landowner, wish to engage on the proposed project, we can set up either a virtual call, face-to-face discussion or focus group meeting at a time convenient to you. Please let us know your preference
15.	Email 18 May 2026	Good evening, It has come to my attention that an ad for a public meeting was posted in Die Burger by WSP. Could you perhaps provide more information. Look forward to your response.	The notification for a public meeting was not published by WSP in Die Burger. The notification relates to a separate application for environmental authorisation undertaken for Phelan Green by a different environmental consultant.
16.	Email 18 May 2026	How will this project be beneficial to the Hopefield community, especially the impoverished community of OudeKraalFontein in Hopefield? Social economically, financially and long term future??	Thank you for your correspondence and the comments raised. We have noted your comments, specifically with reference to the potential positive and negative socio-economic impacts and will address these during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report. Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
			comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report. I trust that you will find this in order.
17.	<p>DFFE: Biodiversity Conservation</p> <p>Email</p> <p>18 May 2026</p>	<p>Dear Sir/Madam</p> <p><u>RE: Department of Forestry Fisheries and the Environment Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation on the 6th of May 2026 for review and comment on the project mentioned in the subject line.</u></p> <p>Kindly note that the project has been allocated to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] (Copied in this email).</p> <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@dfffe.gov.za for attention of [REDACTED]</p>	<p>Thank you for the update. Those in copy have been added to the stakeholder database and will receive all communication going forward.</p>
18.	<p>Email</p> <p>18 May 2026</p>	<p>This is to inform you of me and my family's deep concern for the heritage loss of Hopefield; the environmental destruction, that is pollution of air and water.</p> <p>This concern is for the impact on local groundwater and aquifers as well as municipal water systems.</p> <p>Also worried and concerned on the economic impact on the poorest people and the rest of the locals as well as concerned about health and wellbeing, which includes safety of movement in and around Hopefield and on the roads.</p>	<p>Thank you for your correspondence and the comments raised in the two emails received on 14 and 18 May respectively.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and will address these during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process.</p> <p>During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>You cannot think that your ideas will benefit Hopefield, that is not what is going to happen. It is now time to be completely open and honest with our townspeople and think about the impact on the peoples lives.</p> <p>I really hope you reconsider.</p>	<p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>
19.	<p>Couvaloup guesthouse</p> <p>18 May 2026</p> <p>Email</p>	<p>I am writing as a concerned resident/community member regarding the proposed Phelan Green Hydrogen and eSAF Project near Hopefield and Saldanha.</p> <p>I acknowledge the importance of economic development and the potential opportunities that large scale renewable energy projects may bring. However, I believe there are serious environmental, social, and infrastructural concerns that require careful consideration before this project proceeds.</p> <p>My concerns include the following:</p> <p><u>Water Security and Aquifer Protection</u></p> <p>Hopefield and the surrounding areas already experience water vulnerability and dependence on groundwater systems. I am deeply concerned about the long-term impact that large-scale industrial water use may have on local aquifers, boreholes, and municipal water supplies. Clear scientific evidence and independent oversight are needed to ensure that local communities and agriculture will not suffer water shortages or irreversible groundwater damage.</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you very much for your email and comments raised.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and will address these during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p><u>Impact on Sensitive Natural Environments</u></p> <p>The West Coast region contains fragile ecosystems and unique fynbos biodiversity. I am concerned about habitat destruction, industrial expansion, increased traffic, dust, and pollution affecting the surrounding natural environment and wildlife.</p>	
		<p><u>Industrialisation of a Rural Area</u></p> <p>Hopefield is valued for its rural character, agricultural heritage, tourism appeal, and quieter way of life. I am concerned that a development of this scale may permanently alter the identity and character of the area.</p> <p>I own the oldest house in the town, the Karl Bremer family house dating back to 1852 and to have such development on the whole side of the town of Hopefield will totally kill my business.</p>	
		<p><u>Noise, Traffic, and Air Quality</u></p> <p>Construction and operational activity could significantly increase heavy vehicle traffic, industrial noise, dust, and atmospheric pollution. The long-term effect on nearby residents, farms, and small businesses should be fully assessed and transparently communicated.</p>	
		<p><u>Transparency and Long-Term Accountability</u></p> <p>I request that all environmental studies, groundwater assessments, risk mitigation plans, and monitoring processes remain publicly accessible and independently reviewed. Communities should continue to be</p>	

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>meaningfully consulted throughout every phase of the process.</p> <p><u>Local Economic Benefit</u></p> <p>If the project proceeds, there should be legally enforceable commitments regarding local employment, skills development, and meaningful economic participation for surrounding communities rather than temporary or external-only benefits.</p> <p>I respectfully request that these concerns be fully considered during the Environmental Impact Assessment process and any Water Use Licence Application deliberations.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>	
20.	Email 20 May 2026	<p>I just want to clarify that all the things that were said to us as a community of Hopefield the promises that it will be done and i also want to work and what are the skills of this jobs.</p>	<p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>Please note that WSP is currently undertaking the environmental authorisation application process for the proposed project, and therefore not responsible or involved in the hiring or recruitment processes, should the project be authorised. However, your details have been included in the project stakeholder database. This database will be made available to the project owner, who may choose to use it as a potential source of local labour, should opportunities arise.</p> <p>I trust that you will finds this in order.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
21.	Protect the West Coast Email 21 May 2026	<p>Dear WSP Public Participation Office, I hope this email finds you well.</p> <p>Kindly note that Protect the West Coast, a Non-Profit Company, hereby registers as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) in respect of the environmental authorisation application made by Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd for the proposed Green Hydrogen and eSAF Plant near Hopefield, West Coast District, Western Cape Province, with reference number ZA0066851.7273.</p> <p>In the interests of procedural transparency and informed stakeholder engagement, and in accordance with the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act, 107 of 1998 (NEMA), we respectfully request that you furnish us with the following documentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Scoping Report (DSR) and, in due course, and the • Environmental Impact Assessment Report(EIR); 	<p>Thank you for your correspondence. Herewith response on your requests:</p> <p>1. Draft Scoping Report (DSR) and, in due course, the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIR); You can download a copy of the Draft Scoping Report from the following websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSP Website: https://www.wsp.com/enZA/services/public-documents • Data-free Website: https://wsp-engage.com/

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Environmental Management Programme (EMPr); 	<p>2. Draft Environmental Management Programme (EMPr);</p> <p>The Draft EIA and EMPr will be available during the next phase of the process.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the reports.</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All relevant specialist studies commissioned for the project; 	<p>3. All relevant specialist studies commissioned for the project;</p> <p>The specialist studies will be available during the next phase of the process, together with the DEIR and EMPr.</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Plan of Study for the Impact Assessment phase; 	<p>4. The Plan of Study for the Impact Assessment phase;</p> <p>Please refer to section 8 of the Draft Scoping Report for the Plan of Study for the EIA Phase.</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of all concurrent licence applications, including the Water Use Licence Application (WULA) submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation and the Atmospheric Emission Licence (AEL) application submitted to the West Coast District Municipality; 	<p>5. Copies of all concurrent licence applications, including the Water Use Licence Application (WULA) submitted to the Department of Water and Sanitation and the Atmospheric Emission Licence (AEL) application submitted to the West Coast District Municipality;</p> <p>You can download a copy of the AEL application here: ZA0066851.7273 - Phelan Green AEL</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
			The documentation pertaining to the WULA will be available during the next phase of the process and will be made available for public review.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Google Earth file clearly showing the application area and project footprint in .kmz or .kml format; 	<p>6. A Google Earth file clearly showing the application area and project footprint in .kmz or .kml format;</p> <p>Please see attached files.</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full name and contact details of the applicant, Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd; 	<p>7. Full name and contact details of the applicant, Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd;</p> <p>Please refer to Table 1-1 in the Draft Scoping Report for the details of the Project Proponent</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed CVs and professional registration certificates of all appointed Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAPs) and specialists; and 	<p>8. Detailed CVs and professional registration certificates of all appointed Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAPs) and specialists; and</p> <p>Please refer to Appendix A of the Draft Scoping Report for the EAP's CV. The specialist details and declarations will be made available with the DEIR during the next phase of the project.</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proof of acceptance of the application by the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP). <p>We wish to receive all future correspondence and documents relating to this process by email.</p>	<p>9. Proof of acceptance of the application by the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP).</p> <p>The DEADP communicated on 20 May that they accepted the application form and assigned the following reference number: 16/3/3/2/F4/5/3019/26. A copy of the Departments formal communication will be appended to the Final Scoping Report.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>We thank you in advance for your attention to this matter and look forward to meaningful participation in the environmental authorisation process.</p> <p>Kindly acknowledge receipt of this email.</p>	<p>Those in copy have been added to the stakeholder database and will receive all communication going forward.</p>
22.	<p>Email</p> <p>01 June 2026</p>	<p>I do not have a business, financial, personal, or cultural stake that will be directly impacted because of the approval or refusal of this application.</p> <p>Further details concerning the impact: No comment</p> <p>Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application: I am concerned about the impact on the environment, and I am concerned about the impact on the community.</p>	<p>Thank you for your correspondence and the comments raised.</p> <p>We have noted your comments, specifically with reference to the potential positive and negative environmental and community impacts and will address these during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process.</p> <p>During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order</p>
23.	<p>Sirius Power South Africa</p> <p>Email</p> <p>01 June 2026</p>	<p>Dear WSP team,</p> <p>Can you please register me as an I&AP on the above-mentioned project?</p>	<p>Kindly note that you have been registered as an I&AP.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
24.	Cullinan & Associates Email 03 June 2026	<p><u>PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND E-SAF PLANT IN HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE – REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION TO SUBMIT COMMENTS</u></p> <p>1. We refer to the environmental authorisation process being undertaken WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (“WSP”) on behalf of Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd for the proposed Phelan eFuels Saldanha Bay Project near Hopefield, Western Cape (project reference number: ZA0066851.7273).</p> <p>2. We understand that the proposed project concerns the development of a green hydrogen and electro-sustainable aviation fuel facility which, at full scale, is intended to produce approximately 140,000 tonnes per annum of eSAF. We further understand that the project includes, among other components, hydrogen generation by electrolysis, carbon capture, syngas generation, Fischer-Tropsch synthesis, refining, water treatment facilities, chemical and product storage, temporary waste storage, stormwater infrastructure and truck-loading facilities.</p> <p>3. We also understand that the project is being advanced through a Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting process under the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 and that related authorisation processes include a water use licence application under the National Water Act 36 of 1998</p>	<p>Thank you very much for your correspondence, which has been well received. We have noted your client’s concerns and the request for an extension to the public review period. To clarify, the public review period for the Draft Scoping Report concludes on Monday, 8 June 2026.</p> <p>As outlined in Regulation 21(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), the Final Scoping Report—along with a Stakeholder Engagement Report capturing all comments and responses—must be submitted within 44 days of receipt of the application by the Competent Authority, which in this case is the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning. The submission deadline is calculated from 6 May 2026, making our final submission date 18 June 2026.</p> <p>With this in mind, we kindly request that your client’s comments be submitted by no later than close of business on Thursday, 11 June 2026. This will provide us with adequate time to review, respond, and include the information within the Final Scoping Report for submission. I trust this additional time will be favourable to your client’s needs.</p> <p>Your client’s details are on the project’s stakeholder database, and they will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		and an atmospheric emission licence application under the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act 39 of 2004.	<p>availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Please feel free to reach out if you have any further questions or require additional clarification.</p>
		4. We act on behalf of Arnelia Farms (Pty) Ltd, Hans Hettasch and Maria Theres Hettasch, who are registered interested and affected parties (“our clients”). Our clients are neighbouring landowners whose properties share a boundary with the property on which the proposed development is to be located.	
		5. Our clients’ concerns include, inter alia, impacts that may arise for neighbouring agricultural land, existing farming operations, water resources, access roads, safety, rural character of Hopefield, the loss of property value and the reasonable use and enjoyment of its properties.	
		6. We consulted with our clients on Monday afternoon, 1 June 2026, in order to obtain preliminary instructions regarding the proposed development and the preparation of comments on the Draft Scoping Report. We were, however, only formally mandated in this matter yesterday evening.	
		7. In these circumstances, we respectfully request an extension of the period within which our client may submit comments on the Draft Scoping Report. Our instructions are that the current public participation period closes on or about 6 June 2026. We have also noted that the project documentation appears to refer to the public review period for the Draft Scoping Report running from 7 May 2026 to 8	

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>June 2026. To avoid any uncertainty, our clients request that the period for submission of comments be extended by at least one week from the applicable closing date, and preferably until Monday, 15 June 2026.</p> <p>8. We do not consider that the requested extension would cause any material prejudice to the applicant or to the environmental assessment process. On the contrary, it would advance the objects of informed public participation under NEMA and the EIA Regulations and would reduce the risk of avoidable disputes later in the process concerning the adequacy of the opportunity afforded to directly affected landowners.</p> <p>9. We therefore request that WSP confirm, as soon as possible, that our clients may submit its comments on the Draft Scoping Report by no later than Monday, 15 June 2026.</p> <p>10. If WSP is not willing to grant the extension requested, please provide written reasons for that decision and confirm the final date by which our clients' comments must be received.</p> <p>In that event, our clients' reserve their rights, including the right to contend that the time afforded for meaningful participation was inadequate in the circumstances.</p> <p>We look forward to hearing from you.</p>	

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
25.	Cullinan & Associates Email 03 June 2026	<p>Thank you for your prompt response and for granting the extension until Thursday, 11 June 2026. This time will be helpful to our client.</p> <p>Please could you add our email addresses [REDACTED] to the project stakeholder database.</p> <p>We will reach out separately should we require further information.</p>	<p>Thank you for the email. The below email addresses will be added to the project's stakeholder database.</p>
26.	Adjacent landowner Email 04 June 2026	<p>Dear [REDACTED] WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.</p> <p>New registration as an I&AP from [REDACTED]</p> <p>I have a business, financial, personal, or cultural stake that will be directly impacted because of the approval or refusal of this application.</p> <p><u>Further details concerning the impact:</u></p> <p>Resident near ground water area as well frequenting the river systems.</p> <p><u>Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:</u></p> <p>I am concerned about the impact on the environment I am an adjacent landowner</p> <p><u>Additional comments:</u></p>	<p>Thank you for your correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments, specifically with reference to requesting more information on the potential impact on groundwater and surface water and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		There is already severe ground water pressure in that area due to farming	
27.	Protect the West Coast Email 05 June 2026	<p>New registration as an I&AP</p> <p>I do not have a business, financial, personal, or cultural stake that will be directly impacted because of the approval or refusal of this application.</p> <p><u>Further details concerning the impact:</u></p> <p>No comment</p> <p><u>Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:</u></p> <p>I am concerned about the impact on the environment I am concerned about the impact on the community</p> <p><u>Additional comments:</u></p> <p>As an ornithologist, I am especially concerned about anything that threatens the habitat of the already highly vulnerable Black Harrier and Southern Black Korhaan. The potential threat to the groundwater and Langebaan Lagoon is also a very grave concern as it would affect many people, their businesses, a national park, and a globally important wetland. While I fully support the generation of "clean" fuel, this must be done in a way that is genuinely clean and does not cause further environmental damage.</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for your correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to requesting more information on the potential impact on avifauna, groundwater and surface water and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report. I trust that you will find this in order.</p>
28.	Commercial Hotel Email 05 June 2026	<p>Good Morning</p> <p>I would like to confirm that the deadline for comment on this scoping report is on the 8th June.</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for your correspondence.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>I see there is also mention on the WULA for which the deadline for comments is tomorrow, but this application is not included in the documents supplied. Please can you advise on the process for the WULA.</p> <p>Thanks</p>	<p>Yes, that is correct. The end of the public review period for the Draft Scoping Report and the deadline for comments is today.</p> <p>With reference to your question regarding the WULA. The current notification to I&APs serves the purpose to announce the proposed project, inform on the availability of the Draft Scoping Report and, inter alia, the Water Uses that will be applied for and to encourage interested and affected parties to register to ensure that they receive all future correspondence.</p> <p>The environmental authorisation application processes (Scoping and EIA, WULA and Atmospheric Emission Licence applications) are still ongoing and there will be a second round of public review during which all relevant specialist assessments and associated documentation (such as the Integrated Water and Waste Management Plan) and the Draft Environmental Impact Report will be made available for public review and comment.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>
29.	Protect the West Coast Email	New registration as an I&AP from Jacque Smit Details	Good day

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
	05 June 2026	<p>I do not have a business, financial, personal, or cultural stake that will be directly impacted because of the approval or refusal of this application.</p> <p><u>Further details concerning the impact:</u></p> <p>No comment</p> <p><u>Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:</u></p> <p>I am concerned about the impact on the environment I am concerned about the impact on the community</p>	<p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on the environment and potential social impacts and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated specialist reports.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>
30.	<p>Protect the West Coast</p> <p>Email</p> <p>05 June 2026</p>	<p>New registration as an I&AP from Jacque Smit Details</p> <p>I do not have a business, financial, personal, or cultural stake that will be directly impacted because of the approval or refusal of this application.</p> <p><u>Further details concerning the impact:</u></p> <p>No comment</p> <p><u>Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:</u></p> <p>I am concerned about the impact on the environment I am concerned about the impact on the community</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on groundwater, soils and traffic and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p><u>Additional comments:</u> I cannot object to this enough, there will be contamination of the ground water and soil -increased container traffic and large rigs will destroy the infrastructure in the area. Rather find a more suitable site in saldanha itself</p>	<p>findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated specialist reports.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>
31.	<p>Comment Sheet 05 June 2026</p>	<p>To Whom It May Concern at WSP</p> <p>With reference to the Scoping and EIA process, application for atmospheric emission licence, water use authorisation and public participation process, Hopefield, Western Cape Province, please find attached my Registration and Comment Sheet.</p> <p>I am concerned about the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contamination of the aquifer. • Failure of the applicant to deliver on promises of employment, local procurement and community development when the project is live, as is currently being highlighted in De Aar, where the applicant has two solar projects. • Extraction and depletion of groundwater • Failure to take into consideration the likely impacts of climate change in the area of Hopefield over the next two decades and the way the e-fuels plant can 	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impacts on groundwater, climate change, social matters, traffic and existing roads, biodiversity and avifauna, and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Please note that the document that was placed in the public domain for review is the Draft Scoping Report. In short, a Draft Scoping Report is an early-stage document in the EIA process that sets out what the impact</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>exacerbate these and thus the likely effects on the human and more-than-human populations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influx of workers that will change the social structure of the town of Hopefield, bringing with it increased risks to health, the incidence of GBV and other forms of crime, and the risk of the kind of xenophobic violence that is being instigated across South Africa at the time of this submission and of which there is a history in the country. • Increased road traffic of heavy vehicles bearing hazardous loads and workers, which together can constitute a constantly moving blockade that impedes movement of ordinary vehicles driven by ordinary citizens going about their ordinary day-to-day business. • Failure of the applicant to deliver on promises of employment, local procurement and community development when the project is live, as is currently being highlighted in De Aar, where the applicant has two solar projects. • Degradation of the fynbos biome in the Critical Biodiversity area and Hopefield Sand Fynbos • Treats to endangered species, including (1) the Black Harrier (<i>Circus maurus</i>), which is listed as Endangered by Birdlife South Africa (see https://www.birdlife.org.za/red-list/black-harrier/, accessed 05-06-2026) and (2) the Southern Black Korhaan (<i>Afrotis afra</i>), which Birdlife South Africa lists as Vulnerable (see https://www.birdlife.org.za/red-list/southern-black-korhaan/, accessed 05-06-2026) • The measure of an organisation's trustworthiness is whether their communication is truthful and 	<p>assessment will focus on before detailed studies are undertaken. It has the aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the proposed project and its context so stakeholders understand what is being planned. • It identifies the key potential environmental and social impact that need to be studied further • It outlines the methods and scope of the future EIA, including what specialist studies will be done and how. • It records issues and concerns raised by stakeholders and explains how these will be addressed in the next phase. <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated specialist studies.</p> <p>We would like to clarify that your reference to the public participation process and the consultant (reference to a public meeting held) is applicable to a separate process and project not related to this environmental authorisation application process for the Green Hydrogen and eSAF Plant Project.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>transparent, and whether their actions are just and fair.</p> <p>The way the public participation processes for the e-fuels plant and the related solar installation are being handled by applicant's consultants suggests that the applicant is not trustworthy.</p> <p>Examples of communication and action that erode the impression of trustworthiness include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ timing public participation processes so that comments on both the solar facility and the e-fuels plant occur simultaneously; ○ distributing inadequate, cursory impact assessments or no impact assessments at all (for the e-fuels plant); ○ holding public meetings after comment submission deadlines; ○ advertising in media that are least likely to be read by local citizens and advertising processes at extremely short notice. <p>All these actions constitute grounds for forming the impression that the applicant and their paid consultants are not trustworthy. This begs important questions about the kind of relationship the applicant as a local business envisages having with the citizens of Hopefield. Is it their intention that the citizens of Hopefield do not trust them? Or is it unimportant to them whether they are trusted or not? Is it their assumption that the citizens of Hopefield are fools and thus expendable?</p>	

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		The experience of their engagement with the community of citizens of Hopefield over the past year does not auger well for a respectful constructive relationship over the longer term.	
32.	Comment Sheet 06 June 2026	<p>I am concerned about the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hopefield is a water-scarce town. Our water source is already compromised by Kropz mine. Your development will cause our town to run dry completely, which is a problem—water is a Human Right. • Impact of large numbers of additional trucks on our roads, rendering the road conditions poor and dangerous • Very high risk of lithium & hydrogen explosion. A fire station is not sufficient to deal with this kind of aftermath and I honestly don't think the Phelan Group has thought that through. Then again, they won't live in Hopefield so it won't be their problem. This makes Hopefield a very dependable town. • The high numbers of people being brought in for work & the fact that they will bring families and need place to stay. The infrastructure of the town cannot handle it. The social structure will change, a clash of cultures will ensue and the likelihood of a squatter situation will remain after the work is completed. All of this also will result in increased crime and GBV • Developers' total lack of understanding of, and contribution towards the town (Hopefield) in employment or compensation. For example, educational bursaries could be offered now to candidates to study and learn about future technologies 	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on water use and availability, traffic, air quality, social matters and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report that will also be made public for review.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated specialist assessments.</p> <p>We would like to clarify that your reference to the public participation process and the consultant (reference to a public meeting held) is applicable to a separate process and project not related to this environmental authorisation</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The environmental impact is unthinkable. Your EIA is insufficient and not applicable. Valuable fynbos areas will be under threat, along with the sensitive ecosystems that thrive in fynbos <p>The way the project/approvals have been handled i.e. little notice for meetings/input, insufficient/late/non information supplied, incorrect figures used to indicate impact studies etc;. Also you are not really consulting with the town. You are forcing this development upon us, and there are very few people who want it, thinking it means JOBS for them (which it doesn't really, especially in the long run). The consultant has been purposefully divisive in the town, talking openly about the HAVES and the HAVE NOTS. Of course it will sow division and it is unasked for. He also cannot handle a hall full of people who are angry and disappointed.</p>	<p>application process for the Green Hydrogen and eSAF Plant Project.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>
33.	Protect the West Coast Email 07 June 2026	<p>New registration as an I&AP</p> <p>I have a business, financial, personal, or cultural stake that will be directly impacted because of the approval or refusal of this application.</p> <p><u>Further details concerning the impact:</u></p> <p>As a conservationist I am concerned about the impact it will have on prime Black Harrier breeding ground-sandveld fynbos. This species is highly endangered and the at scale degradation of the fynbos, or massive human footprint such a development will require, could have a detrimental effect on the breeding success of these birds</p> <p><u>Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:</u></p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impacts on avifauna and biodiversity and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		I am concerned about the impact on the environment	<p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated specialist studies.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>
34.	<p>Protect the West Coast</p> <p>Email</p> <p>08 June 2026</p>	<p>New registration as an I&AP</p> <p>I have a business, financial, personal, or cultural stake that will be directly impacted because of the approval or refusal of this application.</p> <p><u>Further details concerning the impact:</u> The Hydrogen is a great safety hazard for us as Neighboring farm with families living there. Not even mentioning the effect this operation will have on our natural water sources.</p> <p><u>Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:</u> I am concerned about the impact on the environment I am concerned about the impact on the community I live on and/or occupy land in the area I work and/or conduct business in the area</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on water use and availability and potential safety impacts and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated specialist studies.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
35.	Email 08 June 2026	<p>Good Afternoon</p> <p>To whom it may concern. I do have several concerns about the process, please see them below:</p> <p><u>1. Public Participation & Process Concerns:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confusing Scoping Report: The report is unclear on whether impact studies have actually been completed, or not. It lacks provided study data, and relies on a biodiversity study from a separate project. • Project Splitting: The developer (Phelan Energies) is illegally splitting interconnected components (hydrogen plant, solar farm, biomass boiler, and wind farm) into separate proposals. This overwhelms the public with paperwork, and confuses the public. It would might come across as deliberately confusing. • Lack of Transparency: Key documents, such as the environmental authorization application (submitted March 23, 2026) and the water use license application (submitted May 7, 2026), were not shared with the public that we know of. 	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence. Kindly find herewith a response to your comments and concerns raised.</p> <p>The baseline environmental information presented in the Draft Scoping Report is derived from available specialist assessments and existing data sources relevant to the project area. This information represents a preliminary characterisation of the biophysical and socio-economic environment and is used to identify key environmental sensitivities, constraints, and potential impacts. Baseline data in an EIA context serves as a reference point describing current environmental conditions, which informs the identification of issues and the scope of further investigations. At the scoping stage, the level of detail is intentionally broad and based on available information, as the purpose of the Draft Scoping Report is to determine the scope of work and the specialist studies required for the subsequent Environmental Impact Assessment phase. Additional detailed specialist studies are then undertaken during the EIA phase to supplement, refine, and verify the baseline environment, ensuring that impact assessments are based on robust and up-to-date information.</p> <p>The Applicant has indicated that the application for environmental authorisation for the Solar PV project commenced before the Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Project as the latter project's technical process description and engineering design was still being finalised. In addition, both projects could operate independently from each other and is therefore being</p>

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			<p>subjected to separate applications for environmental authorisation.</p> <p>Application forms for Environmental Authorisation (EA) and Water Use Licence (WUL) are generally not the primary documents used for stakeholder engagement, even though they form part of the overall application record. These application forms are primarily administrative documents used to formally lodge an application with the competent authority, rather than to assess environmental impacts. The public participation process is instead focused on providing stakeholders with access to detailed assessment reports (e.g. EIRs, EMPs), which contain the information necessary to understand potential impacts, alternatives, and mitigation measures. Regulatory guidelines emphasise consultation on these reports rather than on application forms, as they enable meaningful and informed stakeholder input.</p>
		<p><u>2. Environmental Concerns:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Threat to Endangered Fynbos: The project will destroy massive amounts of natural Hopefield Sandveld Fynbos (critically endangered, and not "vulnerable" as the report claims), risking Hopefield's ecology and eco-tourism. Water Scarcity: Demanding 3 to 8 million liters of drinking water daily from a water-scarce region to produce export fuel for Europe is highly unsustainable. Just drive through the area and you can see it is a water-scarce area. Pollution Risks: Chemical processes required for e-SAF production threaten to contaminate local underground water, the Berg River, and the air. There 	<p>Your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on biodiversity, water use and availability and potential pollution risks, including air quality, are noted and more information will be provided during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p>

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		are many households which use the underground water from boreholes as well as farmers with livestock.	
		<p><u>3. Social & Economic Concerns:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overstated Economic Benefits: Massive developments typically attract outside job seekers rather than solving local unemployment, and the project threatens existing local businesses. Thus the jobs that they are promising, we know will not come from local Hopefield people. We know that they will bring in their own contractors. Also as Hopefield is a largely Nature driven business (Honey, farms, eco tourism) many businesses will leave Hopefield if this plant does happen. Thus actually causing job losses in the area. Loss of Town Character: Hopefield is a safe, rural tourist town valued for its lifestyle and lack of informal settlements. The project will permanently disrupt this culture with the influx of contract workers Poor Location Choice: This heavy industrial project should rather be in the nearby Saldanha Bay Industrial Development Zone (IDZ) near the harbor, not on pristine ecological land. Flawed Justification: The report incorrectly uses the presence of an existing small-footprint wind farm to justify widespread industrialization of the area. <p><u>Main Takeaway:</u></p> <p>The project should be treated as a single, unified proposal. And should rather be located in the Saldanha IDZ to</p>	<p>Similarly, social and economic impacts will be assessed during the impact assessment phase and the outcome, including mitigation thereof, will be presented in the EIA report and Environmental Management Programme.</p> <p>With reference to the concern on why the project is not being developed at the Saldanha IDZ. The Applicant has indicated that the Saldanha IDZ does not have sufficient space for this development.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft EIA Report, specialist studies and EMPr.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>protect Hopefield's critically endangered environment, water security, and rural community character.</p> <p>Thank you for your time</p>	
36.	<p>Protect the West Coast</p> <p>Email</p> <p>08 June 2026</p>	<p>New registration as an I&AP</p> <p>I have a business, financial, personal, or cultural stake that will be directly impacted because of the approval or refusal of this application.</p> <p><u>Further details concerning the impact:</u> I am a local permaculturist working in the environment and are aware of the impact on local sensitive species such as Black Harriers (their migration route) golden Moles, Korhaan and also the Hopefield Sandveld Fynbos critically endangered (not vulnerable as they mention) 14 Red data plant species Our water resources are also a huge worry as it will affect all of us living in Hopefield.</p> <p><u>Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:</u> I am concerned about the impact on the environment I am concerned about the impact on the community I live on and/or occupy land in the area I work and/or conduct business in the area.</p> <p><u>Additional comments:</u> Please help us with the transparency of the environmental plan.</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on the local biodiversity. A Biodiversity Impact Assessment will be undertaken, and the results of this assessment will be provided during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, the results of all the independent specialists' findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report that will also be made public for review.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated specialist assessments.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>
37.		Dear Sir / Madam,	Good day

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
	<p>Farm community and adjacent landowner - Matjiesfontein</p> <p>Email</p> <p>08 June 2026</p>	<p>While the proposed eSAF plant may have environmental benefits globally, the process involves large-scale industrial operations with potential local impacts on water, air quality, and farming activities.</p> <p>As a neighbouring landowner, my biggest concern is water. From what I understand, the project will use and handle large amounts of water, and this raises real concerns. From which water source will the plant be taking water? Any drop in groundwater levels, or any contamination of boreholes or nearby rivers like the <i>Soutrivier</i>, will directly affect my property.</p> <p>I am also worried about air pollution from the plant and possible noxious gases. This type of operation involves chemicals and fuel production. It could affect crops, soil, livestock, and especially bees.</p> <p>Constant noise and lighting are not normal in this area, and the plant will change that as operations will be 24/7. This could disturb livestock and change the farming environment in ways that are difficult to manage. The location right next to the road also creates an eyesore when it could be placed further back from the main road to minimize visual impact. Traffic is also likely to increase. More heavy trucks on rural roads usually mean more dust and road damage. How will this be managed?</p> <p>There are also risks around chemical storage and waste. If anything goes wrong, it could contaminate soil or water, and the effects could last for decades. What will be in place to prevent something like this happening?</p> <p>Another issue that should not be overlooked is security. Developments like this usually bring more people into the</p>	<p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the use and availability of water, air quality, noise, traffic, visual, social and security impacts and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>The Applicant is proposing to use Municipal water, subject to confirmation of availability from the Saldanha Bay Municipality, and water from the existing registered borehole on the property, subject to the approval from the Department of Water and Sanitation. The purpose of the proposed pipeline is to convey sewage water to the existing Hopefield Waste Water Treatment Works for treatment, again subject to confirmation of capacity to treat from the Saldanha Bay Municipality.</p> <p>The biomass boilers will be located on the northern side of the proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant. The CO₂ will be supplied by a third-party to the plant via direct pipelines.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>area, including contractors and temporary workers. In rural areas, that often leads to more theft and trespassing. Farm security is already a challenge, and any increase in crime will directly affect both safety and day-to-day farming operations. How do you propose to ensure the continued safety and security of the community who live close to the project?</p> <p>Please clarify the exact location and nature of the third-party biomass boiler supplying the CO₂, to the plant. Also, how will the supply be transported to the plant?</p> <p>All these things need to be looked at properly, not just individually but the combined impact is what really matters to landowners and residents.</p> <p>I would expect proper, detailed studies on water, air quality, farming impacts, traffic, noise, environmental risks, and security, with clear explanations of how these risks will be managed.</p> <p>Please keep me informed of any further reports or developments.</p>	<p>availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated specialist studies.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>
38.	Email 08 June 2026	<p>Good day. Please find below a few of my points for objection. Very basically summarised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will impact our local community. • It will devastate our indigenous flora & fauna which is the sandveld (listed as critically endangered) • There is insufficient resources and accommodation • Our natural aquifer will be put under tremendous pressure. 480 000L per day!! 	<p>Good day Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on biodiversity, water use and availability, traffic and social impacts and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> legally, the site for the solar is too close to our town. Only 875m away... absurd!!-our roads will not handle the traffic. Transporting isotonic containers between 17-40 thousand Litres per day which equals 10-20 tanks per day -the oldest town on the west coast of South Africa will be engulfed by a solar plant. the impact assessments have not been done correctly and they have split projects to undermine the high impact to pose it as less threatening. They have not advertised this enough or engaged properly with our community to enlighten us we have bird life here such as the harrier hawk who breed in this area -safety will be heavily compromised hazardous chemicals (once again so close to our town) wanting to use our municipal pottable water too, which will heavily impact our town's availability of water. <p>This should not be allowed to take place so close to our town!!! This whole proposal has not been done in a manner which poses the real scenario. Everything has been painted with a positive paintbrush, which it is not. Projects have been split to undermine the actual total knock on affect of the project by addressing bits and pieces. This is not accurate. EIA's not properly done!! Trying to divide a town with promises of work.</p> <p>The whole delivery from the outset of this project is underhanded.</p>	<p>of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p> <p><u>Further response:</u></p> <p>The Solar PV facility was initiated as a standalone project and is supported by its own funding model and independent commercial viability.</p> <p>At the time that the Solar PV EIA process commenced, the associated processing plant remained at an early stage of development, with limited technical definition, and would only have been considered for implementation at a later stage.</p> <p>Both the Solar PV facility and the processing plant are subject to separate, full EIA processes in accordance with the applicable regulatory requirements, and the sequencing reflects the respective stages of project development rather than an intentional division of related activities.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
39.	Protect the West Coast Email 08 June 2026	<p>New registration as an I&AP</p> <p>I have a business, financial, personal, or cultural stake that will be directly impacted because of the approval or refusal of this application.</p> <p><u>Further details concerning the impact:</u></p> <p>It will impact our local community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will devastate our indigenous flora & fauna which is the sandveld (listed as critically endangered). • There is insufficient resources and accommodation • Our natural aquifer will be put under tremendous pressure. 480L per day!!! legally, the site for the solar is too close to our town. Only 875m away... absurd!! - our roads will not handle the traffic. Transporting isotonic containers between 17-40 thousand Litres per day which equals 10-20 tanks per day -the oldest town on the west coast of South Africa will be engulfed by a solar plant. - the impact assessments have not been done correctly and they have split projects to undermine the high impact to pose it as less threatening. -They have not advertised this enough or engaged properly with our community to enlighten us - we have bird life here such as the harrier hawk who breed in this area -safety will be heavily compromised hazardous chemicals (once again so close to our town) - wanting to use our municipal portable water too which will heavily impact our town's availability of water. This should not be allowed to take place so close to our town!!! 	<p>Good day Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on biodiversity, water use and availability, traffic and social impacts and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p> <p><u>Further response:</u></p> <p>The Solar PV facility was initiated as a standalone project and is supported by its own funding model and independent commercial viability.</p> <p>At the time that the Solar PV EIA process commenced, the associated processing plant remained at an early stage of development, with limited technical definition, and would only have been considered for implementation at a later stage.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p><u>Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:</u></p> <p>I am concerned about the impact on the environment I am concerned about the impact on the community I am an adjacent landowner I live on and/or occupy land in the area I visit the area for recreational purposes I work and/or conduct business in the area</p>	Both the Solar PV facility and the processing plant are subject to separate, full EIA processes in accordance with the applicable regulatory requirements, and the sequencing reflects the respective stages of project development rather than an intentional division of related activities.
40.	<p>Adjacent Landowner - Arnelia Farms</p> <p>Comment Sheet</p> <p>08 June 2026</p>	<p>To whom it may concern</p> <p>Here are my comments and registration as an interested and affected party for the project with reference ZA0066851.7273</p> <p>I live on the farm that borders the farm/site on the western side where the proposed projects are planned. My house is 3.5km as the crow flies from the proposed site. As a farm we grow flowers and have a lot of labourers working in the fields.</p> <p>During the warm summer months we have very dry/hot days and the wind is blowing from a easternly direction thus blowing directly from the site to the farm and houses. The biogas plant have a flame burning to burn the methane, carbon dioxide and hydrogen sulfide that are released into the air. However, there are shoot and particles released into the air that can cause asthma, worsen respiratory disease and impact cardiovascular health.</p> <p>Further it also release nitrogen oxides and sulfar dioxide. By burning these gases it forms a irritating chemical</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on air quality and human health. An Air Quality Impact Assessment will be undertaken, and the results of this assessment will be provided during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, the results of all the independent specialists' findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report that will also be made public for review.</p> <p>The Applicant is proposing to use Municipal water, subject to confirmation of availability from the Saldanha Bay Municipality, and water from the existing registered borehole on the property, subject to the approval from the Department of Water and Sanitation. The purpose of the proposed pipeline is to convey sewage water to the existing Hopefield Waste Water Treatment Works for</p>

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		<p>compound that cause lung irritation and aggravate breathing issues for people living and working downwind as we are.</p> <p>I work on a farm to experience the daily natural beauty and to breathe the fresh air but all this development is takin my basic human right away.</p> <p>The hydrogen part of the plant is even more dangerous to the environment and people living and working in close proximity. One of the by product is carbon monoxide which is odorless and dangerous can travel a few kilometers downwind before it dilutes into the air.</p> <p>There were four instances in the last 7 years where hydrogen plants caused loss of life, injuries and damage to the buildings. (Gangneung, South Korea (May 2019) Kjorbo, Norway (June 2019) Santa Clara, California (June 2019) and Northwest Queensland, Australia (September 2023)</p> <p>The hydrogen plant is also going to use a lot of water for the process to produce hydrogen. The plant will use 10 - 30 liters to create one kilogram of hydrogen. To create 80 000tpa of green hydrogen you will need two billion four hundred thousand liters (2 400 000m³) of water.</p> <p>Our farm only has a water license (WULA) of 400 000m³ per year and we are not using our full allotment due to the aquafer not being that strong.</p> <p>You want to lay a pipeline from the neighboring sewage farm but this is also not viable as we applied for the grey water but they are using it to irrigate the entrances and</p>	<p>treatment, again subject to confirmation of capacity to treat from the Saldanha Bay Municipality.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>sports fields in town and with grey water you will need a lot more water</p> <p>The other problem is that the farm only has one entrance and the proposed pipeline goes directly in front to the farm entrance creating a blockade for a few days to prevent people coming to work as well as we that live on the farm can not leave the farm to go to town.</p> <p>I really hope they can move the proposed project to a site further away from where people are living because we all know that new parts and machinery work great but as they age and are not maintained properly they tend to malfunction and create disasters.</p>	
41.	<p>Protect the West Coast</p> <p>Email</p> <p>08 June 2026</p>	<p>New registration as an I&AP</p> <p>I have a business, financial, personal, or cultural stake that will be directly impacted because of the approval or refusal of this application.</p> <p><u>Further details concerning the impact:</u></p> <p>It will impact our local community. -It will devastate our indigenous flora & fauna which is the sandveld (listed as critically endangered). -There is insufficient resources and accommodation -Our natural aquifer will be put under tremendous pressure. 480L per day!!! legally, the site for the solar is too close to our town. Only 875m away... absurd!! -our roads will not handle the traffic. Transporting isotonic containers between 17-40 thousand Litres per day which equals 10-20 tanks per day -the oldest town on the west coast of South Africa will be engulfed by a solar plant. - the impact assessments have not been done</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on biodiversity, water use and availability, traffic and social impacts and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the</p>

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		<p>correctly and they have split projects to undermine the high impact to pose it as less threatening. -They have not advertised this enough or engaged properly with our community to enlighten us - we have bird life here such as the harrier hawk who breed in this area -safety will be heavily compromised hazardous chemicals (once again so close to our town) - wanting to use our municipal portable water too which will heavily impact our town's availability of water. This should not be allowed to take place so close to our town!!!</p> <p><u>Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:</u></p> <p>I am concerned about the impact on the environment I am concerned about the impact on the community I am an adjacent landowner I live on and/or occupy land in the area I visit the area for recreational purposes I work and/or conduct business in the area</p>	<p>availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p> <p><u>Further response:</u></p> <p>The Solar PV facility was initiated as a standalone project and is supported by its own funding model and independent commercial viability.</p> <p>At the time that the Solar PV EIA process commenced, the associated processing plant remained at an early stage of development, with limited technical definition, and would only have been considered for implementation at a later stage.</p> <p>Both the Solar PV facility and the processing plant are subject to separate, full EIA processes in accordance with the applicable regulatory requirements, and the sequencing reflects the respective stages of project development rather than an intentional division of related activities.</p>
42.	Email 08 June 2026	<p>Project Reference Number: ZA0066851.7273 Project Name: Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield, WSP Contact Number: 011 361 1300Applicant / Developer: Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd</p> <p>Good day.</p> <p>Please find below a few of my points for objection. Very basically summarised.</p>	<p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the requirement for housing of the construction contractors and potential impact on biodiversity, water use and availability, traffic and social impacts and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-Saf Plant, Hopefield WSP The proposed Solar farm and Hydrogen Plant planned for Hopefield has raised concerns and many unanswered questions.</p> <p>The authorities have been vague and not truthful with their explanation at a recent meeting. Promises of jobs? False as the local community that are unemployed do not have the skills required?</p> <p>No housing available for the thousands of contractors? Told that they will be bussed in? From where? The impact on the local community will be severe, bringing in crime, squatter camps, and the filth that comes with these projects.</p> <p>More importantly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will devastate our indigenous flora & fauna which is the sandveld (listed as critically endangered). • There is insufficient resources and accommodation • school cannot accommodate any new learners • Our natural aquifer will be put under tremendous pressure. 480 000L per day!! • Legally, the huge tract of land for the solar plant is too close to the town. Only 875m away... absurd!! Less than 1km? • the site is three times bigger than the Hopefield town itself-our roads will not handle the traffic. Transporting isotonic containers between 17-40 thousand Litres per day which equals 10-20 tanks per day 	<p>compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Notification of the proposed project as well as an opportunity to register and comment on the DSR was issued to the general public via advertisements published in the Weslander (in English and Afrikaans) and Cape Times (in English) newspapers on 07 May 2026.</p> <p>The Applicant has indicated that the application for environmental authorisation for the Solar PV project commenced before the Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Project as the latter project's technical process description and engineering design was still being finalised. In addition, both projects could operate independently from each other and is therefore being subjected to separate applications for environmental authorisation.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the oldest town on the west coast of South Africa will be engulfed by a solar plant. the impact assessments have not been done correctly and they have split the two projects to undermine the high impact it poses so make it sound less threatening. They have not advertised this enough or engaged properly with our community to enlighten us Where have these two projects been advertised? we have bird life here such as the harrier hawk who breed in this area-safety will be heavily compromised hazardous chemicals (once again so close to our town) wanting to use our municipal potable water too, which will heavily impact our town's availability of water <p>This project should not be allowed to take place so close to the town!!! This whole proposal has not been done in an underhanded manner as we have seen with most of these government projects that are pushed through for the sake of greed which poses the real threat. Everything has been painted with a positive paintbrush, which it is not. Projects have been split to undermine the actual total knock on effect of the project by addressing bits and pieces. This is not accurate. EIA's not properly done!! Trying to divide a town with promises of work.</p> <p>The previous Mayor of Saldanha Municipality was also underhanded in pusing these projects through without proper consultation. He resigned as Mayor to take up a position with this very company for his benefit.</p>	

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>The Government allowing foreign companies to destroy our environment and heritage? Shocking to say the least!</p> <p>Who is benefitting through corrupt deals?</p>	
43.	<p>Protect the West Coast</p> <p>Email</p> <p>08 June 2026</p>	<p>New registration as an I&AP</p> <p>I do not have a business, financial, personal, or cultural stake that will be directly impacted because of the approval or refusal of this application.</p> <p><u>Further details concerning the impact:</u></p> <p>No comment</p> <p><u>Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:</u></p> <p>I am concerned about the impact on the environment I am concerned about the impact on the community</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on the environment and potential social impacts and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated specialist reports.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>
44.	<p>Botanical Society of South Africa – Weskus Branch</p>	<p>Comment on the Draft Scoping and environmental impact reporting process for the proposed Green hydrogen and E-SAF plant, Hopefield, Western Cape</p> <p>Project Number: ZA0066851.7273</p>	<p>Good day</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
	Comment Sheet & Email 08 June 2026	<p>The Botanical Society of South Africa is a 113-year-old, Not-for-Profit organization dedicated to the protection and sustainable use of South Africa's indigenous plants. Our mission is to inspire a South Africa where people love, protect, and are custodians of indigenous plants. Our conservation strategy focuses on six key areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Responding to the plant-poaching crisis 2. Protecting important plant areas and threatened species 3. Increasing human conservation capacity and awareness 4. Creating conservation career opportunities for youth 5. Supporting botanical gardens and plant collections 6. Promoting wise management of important plant habitats <p>These objectives guide our efforts to conserve, restore, and ensure a sustainable future for plant biodiversity in South Africa. Through our branches, including the Weskus Branch, we actively engage in local conservation initiatives and provide informed input on developments that may impact our natural heritage. This comment reflects our commitment to safeguarding the unique flora of the Western Cape and ensuring that development projects align with conservation priorities.</p>	<p>Thank you for your correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on surface water, groundwater, the storage and handling of topsoil, wildfire prevention and control, traffic and socio-economics and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report. The recommendations in your letter are well received and will be considered for inclusion in the Environmental Management Programme.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated specialist reports.</p> <p>With reference to the comment on the proposed abstraction of groundwater. The Applicant is proposing to abstract groundwater from the existing registered borehole on the property, subject to the approval from the Department of Water and Sanitation to change the registration to industrial use.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>The Weskus branch of the Botanical Society (Bot Soc) wishes to register as a Interested and Affected Party and has the following comments regarding the proposed development:</p> <p><u>Aquatic Impacts</u></p> <p>Surface water: The potential for sedimentation and pollution from runoff is noted. However, the significance of these impacts may be understated, as even low-intensity disturbances can result in cumulative degradation of sensitive aquatic habitats, particularly in systems that are already hydrologically constrained and seasonally variable.</p> <p>Groundwater: The proposed groundwater abstraction of approximately 175,000 m3 per annum is identified as a key risk factor for depletion. While this is acknowledged, the assessment does not clearly demonstrate whether this volume is sustainable under extended dry periods or multi-year drought conditions when recharge may be significantly reduced.</p> <p>Given the slow and variable rate of natural replenishment, especially during drought years, it is not clear whether the proposed level of abstraction can be sustained over the long term without contributing to gradual depletion of this shared groundwater resource.</p> <p>The report also highlights a high risk of groundwater contamination due to the highly permeable nature of the shallow aquifer and the potential for pollutants to migrate</p>	

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		<p>toward sensitive receptors, including the Sout River and the Langebaan Lagoon.</p> <p>This is particularly concerning given that the Langebaan Lagoon, a protected RAMSAR wetland of international importance, depends on surrounding groundwater systems and wetlands for much of its freshwater input. Unlike many lagoon systems, there are no freshwater rivers flowing into the lagoon, meaning underground seepage plays an important ecological role.</p> <p>If ground water is over-abstracted or polluted, these impacts may migrate through the aquifer over time and affect the wider lagoon system, including water quality, wetland function, and habitat for birds and marine life. Given the sensitivity and protected status of the lagoon, a precautionary approach should be taken to ensure that long-term and cumulative impacts on this connected groundwater system are properly understood.</p> <p><u>Terrestrial Biodiversity</u></p> <p>More than 30% of the study site (primarily the western portion) is classified under three CBA 1 subcategories: terrestrial, wetland, and river, and the project is also identified as located partially within a CBA 2 area. Even where areas are degraded, the designation of CBA 2 and ESA indicates that the site still forms part of a strategically important biodiversity network. These areas retain ecological value through their restoration potential, contribution to landscape connectivity, and potential presence of remnant species and soil seed banks. Degradation does not remove their biodiversity</p>	

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		<p>importance, particularly in a highly fragmented and sensitive system such as Hopefield Sand Fynbos.</p> <p>The report lists several species of conservation significance and concern associated with Hopefield Sand Fynbos with a high likelihood of occurring within the study area, although they were not located during the field survey conducted in November 2023. Given the nature of fynbos ecosystems, this “not recorded during survey” outcome does not necessarily indicate absence, particularly as many species are seasonal, cryptic, localised, or only identifiable during specific flowering periods. As a result, the actual status of species of conservation significance on the site remains uncertain, and it is not clear whether they occur as viable populations, fragmented remnants, or isolated individuals.</p> <p>This uncertainty is important, as it directly affects how impact significance is assessed and whether avoidance, mitigation, or loss is appropriate within a Critical Biodiversity Area context. For this reason, additional seasonal ground-truthing by local specialists familiar with Hopefield Sand Fynbos is recommended to confirm the presence or absence of threatened and conservation-significant species.</p> <p>Where construction results in vegetation clearance, search, and rescue operations for indigenous plant species suitable for relocation should be undertaken prior to any disturbance, and the removal of indigenous vegetation throughout all phases of the development</p>	

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		<p>should be strictly monitored by an independent Environmental Control Officer (ECO).</p> <p>Search, rescue, and the translocation of species from construction areas to identified on-site restoration or rehabilitation areas should be undertaken by a suitably qualified restoration practitioner with demonstrated experience in Sand Fynbos to maximise survival rates and ecological recovery potential. The developer should establish a dedicated environmental management fund to ensure that search and rescue operations, plant translocation, and the rehabilitation of impacted water sources and vegetation are properly implemented, adequately resourced, and maintained for the duration of construction and operational phases.</p> <p><u>The control of invasive alien plant species</u></p> <p>A site-specific Alien Invasive Eradication Programme is a mandatory requirement to ensure the project complies with the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (NEM:BA) and its Alien and Invasive Species Regulations. The goal of this programme is to effectively control both invasive alien species and noxious weeds.</p> <p>A detailed alien clearing plan must be compiled for the site, identifying priority areas where the removal of invasive alien species can support natural regeneration. It is recommended that an experienced local alien clearing contractor be appointed to assist with the initial clearing of woody invasive species such as <i>Acacia saligna</i> and <i>Acacia cyclops</i>.</p>	

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		<p>The developer must ensure that sufficient funds are set aside for the implementation of the IAP eradication programme throughout the project's life cycle.</p> <p><u>The management of topsoil</u></p> <p>The project plans to use progressive rehabilitation, which involves returning topsoil to disturbed areas as soon as they are no longer needed for construction. This rapid return is intended to ensure higher levels of recruitment from the existing indigenous seed bank. However, storage conditions are critical, particularly in a climate with hot, dry, windy summers and winter storms. Poorly managed stockpiles can lead to desiccation, erosion, compaction, and loss of microbial function, reducing the viability of indigenous seeds and bulbs.</p> <p>A further risk is the composition of the seed bank itself. Disturbed soils may contain significant quantities of invasive alien species whose seeds are long-lived and may remain dormant until favourable conditions arise. Reuse of stockpiled topsoil, particularly poorly managed stockpiles, may therefore unintentionally promote invasive plant recruitment rather than indigenous vegetation recovery, potentially resulting in re- infestation.</p> <p><u>Wildfire prevention and control</u></p> <p>The property occurs within a fire-prone fynbos system, where fire is a natural ecological process, but uncontrolled wildfires can become highly destructive. The severe wildfires of summer 2025/2026 in the Western Cape demonstrated the vulnerability of both natural ecosystems</p>	

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>and infrastructure, with losses of vegetation, property, and biodiversity.</p> <p>A fire management plan should be developed for the property that address how wildfires will be prevented and controlled on site. It is recommended that the landowner or lessee become a member of the Greater Cederberg Fire Protection Association (GCFPA) and comply fully with its operational requirements, including mandatory training, maintenance of defensible space and firebreaks, and the provision and upkeep of appropriate firefighting equipment on site. Fire management planning should also include proactive reduction of invasive alien vegetation to reduce fuel load continuity and fire severity, thereby improving both ecological resilience and fire safety outcomes.</p> <p><u>Increased traffic due to construction and operations</u></p> <p>Although the project access is primarily via MR234, a notable proportion of construction-related traffic will still interface with regional routes that are already characterised by high traffic volumes and elevated accident rates.</p> <p>The introduction of approximately 24 heavy truck trips per day during peak construction, along with abnormal loads, has the potential to exacerbate existing safety risks on the R27, a known high-risk route with a history of serious accidents involving both vehicles and wildlife. Increased heavy vehicle movements are likely to elevate the probability of collision events, particularly under conditions</p>	

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		<p>of driver fatigue, high-speed travel, and mixed traffic conditions.</p> <p>Considering the above, it is requested that a precautionary, detailed traffic and road safety assessment be undertaken during the E1A phase, with specific attention to cumulative impacts on the R27 corridor and associated safety risks.</p> <p>In addition, repeated heavy vehicle use may contribute to the progressive deterioration of road surfaces, which can indirectly increase accident risk through reduced road quality, increased maintenance interruptions, and hazardous driving conditions such as potholes, edge breakage, and uneven surfacing.</p> <p><u>The proposed socio-economic benefits for the Hopefield region.</u></p> <p>The project is expected to generate positive impacts through employment creation, skills development, and general infrastructure growth in the Hopefield region. However, it also identifies potential negative impacts associated with the influx of jobseekers and construction activity, which may place additional pressure on already constrained local resources.</p> <p>The socio-economic benefits presented are not sufficiently supported by clear implementation mechanisms or measurable commitments. There is no indication of how local employment will be prioritised, how many jobs will be allocated to local, residents, or how skills transfer will be structured and sustained beyond the construction phase.</p>	

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		<p>A more robust approach would require a formal Socio Economic Development Framework incorporating local hiring and procurement targets, structured training programmes, and human capital development measures such as bursaries and internships for local students in relevant technical, environmental, and vocational fields.</p> <p>Collaboration with local institutions, including Saldanha Bay Municipality and organisations such as the Cape West Coast Biosphere Reserve, could further strengthen implementation and long-term capacity building. Without such mechanisms, there is a risk that socio-economic benefits will be short-term and externally captured, while social and infrastructure pressures remain concentrated at a local level.</p>	

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
45.	Email 08 June 2026	<p><u>SUBJECT: Formal Objection, Public Participation Comments, and Documentation of Systemic Procedural Flaws from a Local Resident</u></p> <p>I am submitting this formal objection as a Christian resident of the Hopefield community. As a follower of Christ, I recognise a profound biblical duty to act as a faithful steward of God's creation. This duty mandates that I actively protect the earth, preserve our finite natural resources, and defend the health, safety, and peace of my family and neighbours. Furthermore, Scripture commands us to walk in total honesty and stand against actions hidden in darkness or driven by deceit.</p> <p>I declare clearly and unequivocally that I am not against social and economic development. I fully support progress, industrial expansion, and job creation that uplifts the West Coast, provided it constitutes sustainable, equitable, and procedurally fair development. True, ethical development must lift a community up through transparent consultation and scientific safety; it cannot be built on corporate greed, systemic exclusion, hidden agendas, or the reckless exploitation of the vital water and land provided to sustain this town.</p> <p>My foundational objection is rooted in the non-transparent, exclusionary manner in which this project was brought to our doorstep between 2012 and 2025, which has undermined the Hopefield community's constitutional right to a fair administrative process. Regional planning was originally executed under a 2012–2020 fossil fuel mandate for oil and gas servicing, but a subsequent strategic shift by the Western Cape Government Department of</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on air quality, biodiversity, water use and availability, the public safety risks from emergency situations, socio-economic impacts and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Please note that the document that was placed in the public domain for review is the Draft Scoping Report. In short, a Draft Scoping Report is an early-stage document in the EIA process that sets out what the impact assessment will focus on before detailed studies are undertaken. It has the aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the proposed project and its context so stakeholders understand what is being planned. • It identifies the key potential environmental and social impact that need to be studies further • It outlines the methods and scope of the future EIA, including what specialist studies will be done and how.

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		<p>Economic Development and Tourism (DEDAT) and the Saldanha Bay Municipality (SBM) quietly realigned the region into a "Green Hydrogen Corridor." Between 2022 and 2023, the municipality modified its internal master maps, Spatial Development Framework (SDF), and Integrated Development Plan (IDP) behind closed doors to accommodate this change. Utilising this hidden state guidance, Phelan Green Energy deployed quiet shell companies, ironclad Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs), and isolated negotiation tactics to lock down thousands of hectares of private farming land before the town could collectively evaluate the impact on our shared resources.</p> <p>This led to a deliberate concealment phase where downstream processing details were withheld from public awareness. When public participation windows finally opened in April 2025 under Cullisol Holdings, the development was deceptively advertised as a standard, benign solar farm. This active misdirection obscured the high-risk reality that the solar arrays were engineered to feed a heavy chemical refinery processing 184,000 tons of Fischer-Tropsch crude and aviation fuel right next to our homes. By treating a fragile, water-scarce aquifer ecosystem as a mere macroeconomic checkbox and allowing a hazardous chemical facility to be fragmented and drip-fed to the public, the role players have caused a complete failure of transparency, administrative accountability, and public trust.</p> <p>I formally enter this section into the official record to remind all state actors involved of a foundational constitutional and ethical truth; the government serves us, the citizens, and not the other way around. Public offices,</p>	<p>•It records issues and concerns raised by stakeholders and explains how these will be addressed in the next phase.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>The Applicant has indicated that the application for environmental authorisation for the Solar PV project commenced before the Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Project as the latter project's technical process description and design was still being finalised. In addition, both projects have the ability to operate independently from each other and is therefore being subjected to separate applications for environmental authorisation.</p> <p>With reference to the comment on the proposed abstraction of groundwater. The Applicant is proposing to abstract groundwater from the existing registered borehole on the property, subject to the approval from the Department of Water and Sanitation to change the registration to industrial use.</p> <p>Your comments and concerns are noted and will be recorded in the Comments and Response Report that will</p>

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		<p>municipal councils, and provincial departments hold their power as an absolute trust given by the people to protect local livelihoods, ensure transparency, and safeguard the common heritage of our communities. When government mechanisms are instead utilised to hide large-scale industrial realignments, shield private multinational interests from public view, and bypass meaningful local consultation, it represents an inversion of democracy. The administrative structures of the state must answer to the residents of Hopefield, whose lives and environment are directly impacted by these decisions, rather than forcing the community to serve the mandates of an elite political or corporate agenda.</p> <p>Based on the chronological manipulation and severe resource risks identified above, I formally register my specific objections on the following grounds:</p>	<p>be appended to the Final Scoping Report for submission to the Competent Authority.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p><u>I object to the procedural unfairness and deceptive fragmentation of this application (NEMA):</u></p> <p>The public participation process conducted between April 2025 and May 2026 directly violates the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA). “Salami-slicing” the project by advertising it as a simple “solar facility” in 2025, only to unveil a massive heavy chemical refinery in May 2026, constitutes administrative deception. This flawed process has been severely compounded by rushed notices and messy public participation phases that left ordinary citizens entirely excluded and disoriented. Because I support development that aligns with sustainability and absolute fairness, I demand the scoping process be suspended until transparent, physical, plain-language town hall meetings are hosted directly in Hopefield to align corporate goals with genuine community integration.</p>	
		<p><u>I object to the use of non-applicable, closed-loop mining data to justify massive groundwater depletion and borehole failure (WULA):</u></p> <p>The Draft Scoping Report relies heavily on historical, non-applicable aquifer data, specifically the Airborne Electromagnetic (AEM) mapping and diagnostic plots generated for the Kropz Elandsfontein phosphate mine. The Kropz mine operates a closed-loop system where water is immediately reinjected back into the ground.</p>	

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		<p>Phelan's eSAF plant is a consumptive facility that will permanently extract and destroy an estimated 175,000 m³ of groundwater per year.</p> <p>I object to this because continuous industrial pumping might create an expanding cone of depression, dropping the localised water table and directly drying out neighbouring residential and agricultural boreholes. Furthermore, high-volume extraction within these fragile sand and gravel paleochannels might trigger sand pulling and screen siltation, causing severe mechanical pump clogging and infrastructure failure for residents while jeopardising the long-term water quality of the whole system. On these grounds, I demand a comprehensive further investigation into the real, unmitigated local impact, and I demand the outright refusal of this water use license</p> <p><u>I object to the unmonitored chemical hazards and severe lack of atmospheric baseline studies, and I demand further investigation and the outright refusal of this license (AEL):</u></p> <p>The production of Electro-Sustainable Aviation Fuel (eSAF) introduces volatile, high-pressure hydrogen storage, carbon capture, and synthetic chemical processing just 3km from residential doorsteps. The current scoping documents completely fail to outline a comprehensive Quantitative Risk Assessment (QRA), an emergency town evacuation protocol, or a baseline air quality study to evaluate long-term toxic emissions under the Atmospheric Emission Licence (AEL) framework. On these grounds of immediate public health and safety risks, I demand a thorough, further independent investigation into the local atmospheric impacts, and I demand that the authorities refuse this atmospheric emission license.</p>	

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		<p><u>I object to the irreversible destruction of critical biodiversity and heritage space:</u></p> <p>The 797-hectare footprint on the Portugeese Fontyn 167 farm directly encroaches upon designated Critical Biodiversity Areas and threatens the highly endangered, fragile Hopefield Sand Fynbos. When evaluating the true scope of the entire project, explicitly including the massive surrounding solar farms and that span over 6,000 hectares (60,000,000 square meters) of private land, the cumulative ecological impact is devastating. This massive combined industrial footprint will permanently clear thousands of hectares of pristine natural landscape, causing irreversible damage to the local flora and destroying the vital, irreplaceable habitats of endemic West Coast fauna. This localised animal and plant life faces immediate displacement, habitat fragmentation, and localised extinction due to heavy industrial clearing, noise pollution, and chemical hazards. I demand that comprehensive, further ecological impact studies be done during the right time of year and the right time of day; conducting desktop reviews or off-season site visits completely misses the critical West Coast spring flower blooming cycles and masks the presence of nocturnal or seasonal fauna. Sacrificing a unique, irreplaceable ecosystem to produce fuel for export to European aviation markets violates our core duty of environmental stewardship, and I demand a thorough further investigation into these cumulative impacts and the outright refusal of this authorisation.</p> <p><u>I object to the extreme ethical injustice of violating our ecosystem for a global corporate agenda:</u></p>	

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		<p>This development represents a severe ethical imbalance where local resources are sacrificed to serve a foreign climate and economic agenda. The Hopefield community is being forced to shoulder the localised environmental devastation, industrial hazards, and resource depletion, while the end product, clean aviation fuel, is exported entirely to satisfy the decarbonisation targets of European aviation markets. Pitting the immediate survival of a water-scarce African ecosystem against the corporate green energy quotas of the global North is an unconscionable ethical compromise.</p> <p><u>I object to the unmitigated socio-economic strain and outright corporate exploitation of our rural town:</u></p> <p>The proposed business model represents the outright corporate exploitation of our local resources. Phelan Green Energy plans to extract 175,000 m³ of local groundwater and occupy vast agricultural areas to manufacture jet fuel strictly for international export, leaving the local population to absorb 100% of the environmental and infrastructural damage. Furthermore, the highly technical nature of chemical hydrogen refining ensures that high-paying, long-term employment will be allocated to outside experts rather than residents.</p> <p>The forced transformation of Hopefield from a quiet, historical rural farming and eco-tourism community into a heavy industrial zone will permanently shatter our town's economy and identity. Our local economy relies heavily on agriculture and the unique West Coast biodiversity that draws tourists to our annual flower seasons and natural landscape. Replacing this sustainable, heritage-based economy with a massive chemical refinery will devastate</p>	

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>local eco-tourism, destroy agricultural land values, and permanently alter the peaceful rural landscape. The actual, unmitigated socio-economic strain forced onto Hopefield will include an unmanaged influx of job seekers, a severe burden on our fragile municipal service infrastructure, an increase in local crime, heavy construction traffic, structural noise, and dust pollution, permanently fracturing the quiet rural identity, livelihood, and safety of our town. On these grounds, I demand a thorough further investigation into these cumulative local economic impacts and the definitive refusal of this environmental authorisation.</p> <p><u>I object to the severe conflict of interest that has completely shattered institutional trust:</u></p> <p>The documented public revelation in January 2026 that SBM Executive Mayor André Truter, the very official who led the 2022/2023 municipal re-alignments to facilitate this green corridor, abruptly resigned to take an executive corporate seat at Phelan Green Energy destroys public trust in this process. The severity of this breach cannot be overstated; it represents an egregious violation of basic public accountability, where the highest office of local government was used to restructure municipal planning frameworks to benefit a future private employer. This clear revolving-door action taints the integrity of all prior administrative realignments and turns public participation into a retrospective mockery. I demand a formal, independent forensic audit into the municipal planning handovers conducted between 2022 and 2026 before any environmental authorisations or licenses are considered.</p>	

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p><u>I object to the omission of critical disaster plans and demand mandatory protection against worst-case scenarios:</u></p> <p>I officially demand immediate, transparent answers detailing exactly how the residents of Hopefield will be protected if a worst-case catastrophic failure occurs at this facility, and how this project will tangibly uplift and secure our town instead of endangering it. The synthesis, storage, and heavy transport of highly volatile hydrogen gas, synthetic crude, and aviation fuels classify this development as a Major Hazardous Installation (MHI). The Draft Scoping Report fails to present a localised, worst-case disaster blueprint. We demand to know: What is the exact thermal radiation and blast radius if a storage tank ruptures? How will a toxic chemical leak or containment breach impact the Hopefield aquifer and municipal drinking lines? What specific, fully funded emergency evacuation protocols are being established for a rural town with restricted access roads and limited emergency services? True social and economic development must mean that a project actively builds up, protects, and permanently uplifts the infrastructure, medical capabilities, and safety grids of the host community. The residents of Hopefield refuse to be treated as an acceptable collateral risk for an industrial installation.</p> <p>As a resident committed to sustainable, equitable development, I refuse to watch our natural resources be bartered away in secret. I officially demand that WSP Group Africa and the competent environmental authorities reject this Draft Scoping Report due to fatal public communication flaws, distorted baseline water data, and a</p>	

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>severe breach of administrative justice. Based on my convictions and legal rights, I formally register my definitive opposition across all eight core components of this evaluation.</p> <p>Unconditionally, I request that my name be officially registered as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) for all phases of this development, and that all future correspondence, reports, and meetings regarding every component of this project be handled publicly and transparently in the light.</p> <p>Finally, I demand a thorough further investigation into the cumulative long-term resource risks and the definitive refusal of this environmental authorisation and its associated licenses until an honest, independent, and comprehensive socio-economic and ecological review takes place that treats the solar farms and chemical plant as a single, collective project, holding all role players accountable.</p>	
46.	<p>Saldanha Bay Municipality – Land Use Planning and Development Control</p> <p>Email</p> <p>08 June 2026</p>	<p>Dear Sir/Madame</p> <p><u>RE: DRAFT SCOPING REPORT: SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTING PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND E-SAF PLANT, HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE</u></p> <p>1. The Draft Scoping Report: Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting Process for The Proposed Green Hydrogen And E-Saf Plant, Hopefield, Western Cape received by the Saldanha Bay Municipality (“SBM”) 06 May 2026 refers.</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>Your comments and request for additional information are noted and will be captured in the Comments and Response Report.</p> <p>It can be confirmed that the Chief and Traditional Leader from the Aikonese Cochoqua Tribe were both included in the public participation process. It would be much appreciated if you could provide additional contact details</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>2. Please advise if the Khoi and San representatives were included for public participation.</p> <p>3. Please include the Environment & Heritage Section of the Saldanha Bay Municipality on the list of contacts for any Paleontological and Archaeological findings for our records.</p> <p>4. Will the transportation system of product and people also use alternative renewable energy sources.</p> <p>5. What percentage of the Green Hydrogen And E-Saf Plant construction materials will be alternative to the mainstream materials?</p> <p>6. What percentage of the labour will be specialised/skilled?</p>	<p>of Khoi and San representatives that should be included.</p> <p>Similarly, could you please provide the contact details of a representative from the Environment & Heritage Section of the Saldanha Bay Municipality that should be included on the stakeholder database.</p> <p>The Applicant will provide more detail on the following, which will be included in the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether the transportation system of product and people will use alternative renewable energy sources. • The percentage of the Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant construction materials that will constitute alternative materials to the mainstream materials. • The percentage of labour that will be specialised / skilled. <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated specialist assessments.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
47.	<p>Cape Nature – Conservation Operations: Landscape West</p> <p>Email</p> <p>08 June 2026</p>	<p><u>RE: DSR – PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND E-SAF PLANT, HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE</u></p> <p>Herewith comments on this application.</p> <p>1. It is understood this application entails the development of an electro-hydrogen facility producing aviation fuel.</p> <p>2. Please note that the proposed development footprint falls within a macro ecological corridor. Please complete the attached and return to allow CapeNature to share the spatial data of this corridor with you – complete section A, section B, sign on page 2, complete and sign last page. The development footprint should be aligned to be outside of the macro-ecological corridor.</p> <p>3. While it is agreed that a full biodiversity assessment is required (including botanical, faunal, and spatial biodiversity considerations) please ensure that the specialists have groundtruthed the relevant habitats/vegetation on site and provide a delineation of the ecological condition across the footprint, as well as confirmation of alignment with mapped vegetation types, presence or absence of SCC, an account of the actual faunal and botanical component and constraints on site, as well as an assessment of SEI and impact assessment. The impact assessment should also assess the impacts on the actual botanical and faunal components of the site. Any rehabilitation or translocation proposed should include a rehabilitation or translocation plan to indicate the rehabilitation/translocation receptor sites, species, and methodologies that will be used. These could be a separate plan added to the EMP or could be included in</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>Your comments and requirements for the biodiversity and wetland specialist assessments have been passed on to the respective specialists and will be actioned accordingly.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		the EMPr, but if so needs to be sufficiently detailed to allow for quantification of rehabilitation/translocation outcomes and include monitoring and adaptive management processes. If residual impacts (based on the impact on the ecosystems presently on site) are at thresholds that warrant biodiversity offsets then the NBOG and its requirements must be considered and implemented where relevant. It is supported that an aquatic assessment is provided. Any wetland removal that requires rehabilitation should also be conducted with a rehabilitation management plan, and any wetland removal and remediation proposed should be done in the context of wetland offset quantification.	
48.	Email 08 June 2026	<p><u>SCOPING AND EIA, APPLICATION FOR ATMOSPHERIC EMISSIONS LICENCE, WATER USE AUTHORISATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS, HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.</u></p> <p>Reference: ZA0066851.7273</p> <p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>Please find my concerns for the Solar/Hydrogen plant planned for HOPEFIELD below.</p> <p>1: Public Participation Process and presentation 2: Environmental Concerns and lack thereof. 3: Impacts on social structures in and around HOPEFIELD.</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on biodiversity, wetlands, surface water, water use and availability, traffic and social impacts and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p><u>1: Public Participation Process and Presentation</u></p> <p>Firstly I would to join my voice to many other. The presentation of the this scoping report is very confusing. The layout is confusing and does not stipulate the full project step by step or in phases. But rather a lot of information just jammed into one document.</p> <p>Previous encounters with scopes of works, that had this same element, it was done on purpose in order to hide or divert attention away from sensitive findings.</p> <p>Secondly, the public was only made aware of this project, after the land was bought by the Company concerned. Which on its own is cause for concern. HOPEFIELD is a very small unique town. The community is a very close knit one. And we the public was not aware of this massive scale Solar plant and Hydrogen plant. Giving off the feeling that it does not matter what the public have to say in this matter.</p> <p>Thirdly, A lot of focus is put on the solar farm and not on the Hydrogen plant. And as the single use of the solar plant is to supply power to the hydrogen Plant. The Construction is handled in a illegal fashion of Project splitting.</p> <p>Environmental studies that was done focus on the impact of the solar farm and minimal on the Hydrogen plant. Which then in effect would just get pushed through under the same EIA report. Scoping report mentions the impact assessment for a 900mw Solar farm. But then at the public</p>	<p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated specialist studies.</p> <p>In response to your comments on the presentation of information in the Draft Scoping Report and public participation process, the following should be noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 2 Project Description of the Draft Scoping Report for the Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant provides a systematic description of the proposed project in terms of location, proposed project infrastructure, utilities required for the project, waste streams that will be produced by the project, supporting infrastructure required and access to the facility. Figure 2-4 provides an overall process schematic of the proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF plant. • The Draft Scoping Report's focus is the proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant. • The public meeting referred to in your correspondence was for the proposed PV Solar Project. This environmental authorisation application process is being handled by a different environmental consultant. <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>meeting it was mentioned that the solar farm would be 2000mw.</p> <p>The whole report is misleading and contradicting. In one instance, it mentions that the solar plant will feed electricity into the Eskom grid. And the very next moment, it states the solar farm will be solely for the Hydrogen plant.</p> <p>Based on all these questionable procedures and lack of procedures, from EIA reports, to project goals and objectives and general outlay of the planned process, this points to a very poor business plan.</p> <p>And from a business point of view, this will do a lot a damage to the community of HOPEFIELD.</p> <p><u>2: Environmental Concerns</u></p> <p>Probably the most important aspect of this whole project.</p> <p>The Cape West Coast house's 13% of the world's population of Fynbos species. HOPEFIELD forms part of the green belt that stretches from Melkbosstrand to Piketberg. Which is crucial for migrating animals. Over the last 40 years, HOPEFIELD has played a active roll in Fynbos Conservation. Even hosting the annual Fynbos Skou. To rip up 2000ha of natural Fynbos veld, is a absolute ludicrous thought. And goes the against the very fi ber of what makes HOPEFIELD, HOPEFIELD. We are situated in a very unique geographical location. Three biomes meet here. 1: Renoster veld, 2: Strand Veld, 3: Wetlands.</p>	<p><u>Further response:</u></p> <p>The Solar PV facility was initiated as a standalone project and is supported by its own funding model and independent commercial viability.</p> <p>At the time that the Solar PV EIA process commenced, the associated processing plant remained at an early stage of development, with limited technical definition, and would only have been considered for implementation at a later stage.</p> <p>Both the Solar PV facility and the processing plant are subject to separate, full EIA processes in accordance with the applicable regulatory requirements, and the sequencing reflects the respective stages of project development rather than an intentional division of related activities.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>All three these Fynbos biomes house very sensitive Species. The proposed location for the solar farm, and Hydrogen plant, spans over all three biomes. But this is nowhere mentioned in the EIA.</p> <p>HOPEFIELD has numerous fynbos specialists and not one was approached when the EIA study was done. Which is a direct disregard of Public participation and for the say of the people.</p> <p>The Sout river flows through Hopefield and through the proposed area earmarked for the solar farm. 8 km from there is the Berg river. Which forms a massive wetland and flood plains before it reaches the ocean. The impact on the biodiversity of plants and animals will be astronomical. Hopefields main charm is the quiet west coast town surrounded by nature. In effect this Project will ultimately kill the Town.</p> <p>The Hydrogen plant will require 3mil – 8mil drinkable water per day. It is a absolute ludicrous thought that they would build it here as the west coast is a semi arid region. We simply just don't have the water. The aquafer which is underground, forms a massively important part of our ecosystem. And it plays a fundamental role in the Biodiversity of the Langebaan Lagoon. Contamination or over utilizing of the aquafer will result in complete collapse of various Eco-systems.</p> <p>All in all the Idea Of producing “Green” Hydrogen for a Overseas market, while destroying our Beautiful, Natural And Protected Fynbos is absolutely madness.</p>	

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		<p><u>3: Social impacts</u></p> <p>It was blatantly mentioned that the Project will make use of its own people, in other words, bring people in. In that regards the statement of job creation is made irrelevant. But what will happen is job seeker will be pulled to HOPEFIELD, which will result in the start of o informal settlement. Which in turn will introduce negative elements in the community.</p> <p>The R45 is already under heavy pressure due to the transportation of the wind turbines, from Saldanha. The R45 is also a high accident rate road. The increase in trucks, will without a doubt have detrimental eff ects on the tar road. Also increase the risk of motor car accidents. As the R45 is the main artery to the west coast.</p> <p>In Conclusion, HOPEFIELD Stands to loose it Identity, its Natural Plant life, everything that makes it special and unique.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to state my concerns</p>	
49.	<p>Protect the West Coast NPC</p> <p>Email</p> <p>08 June 2026</p>	<p><u>RE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION COMMENTS - PHELAN EFUELS SALDANHA (PTY) LTD - SCOPING PHASE (REF: ZA0066851.7273)</u></p> <p><u>1. Introduction</u></p> <p>Protect the West Coast NPC (PTWC) is a registered Non-Profit Company whose mandate includes ensuring legally compliant and sustainable development of the Western Cape's coastline and associated ecosystems. PTWC is a</p>	<p>Good morning</p> <p>Thank you for your email and comments on the Draft Scoping Report for the proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant near Hopefield, Western Cape.</p> <p>The comments will be recorded and addressed in the Comments and Response Report that will be appended</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>registered Interested and Affected Party in respect of the above-referenced application.</p> <p>These comments are submitted on the Draft Scoping Report (dSR) within the comment period closing 8 June 2026. PTWC expressly reserves the right to submit further and supplementary comments on all subsequent documentation, including the Environmental Impact Report, Environmental Management Programme, specialist studies, and GNR 1147-compliant financial provision documentation, and requests that a full 30-day commenting period be afforded in respect of each document when it is made available.</p>	to the Final Scoping Report for submission to the Competent Authority, DEADP.
		<p><u>2. Groundwater and the Langebaan Lagoon</u></p> <p>The dSR identifies that the site overlies an aquifer with high vulnerability to contamination, and acknowledges a potential migration pathway by which contaminated groundwater could reach the Langebaan Lagoon, a Ramsar-listed wetland within the West Coast National Park, approximately 29 km from the site. The facility proposes to abstract up to approximately 175 000 m3 of groundwater per year for process water. The significance of this pathway, and the sustainability of groundwater abstraction at this scale, require thorough and independent specialist assessment during the EIA phase, with particular attention to chemical spill risk, industrial wastewater management, and the interaction between process water demand and aquifer recharge rates.</p> <p>PTWC further draws attention to the cumulative water resource pressures arising from existing industrial</p>	The groundwater specialist reports will be available in the Draft EIA Report.

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		operations in the broader aquifer system. The dSR does not adequately address the cumulative impact on the Langebaan Lagoon of this development alongside the Kropz phosphate mining operations at Elandsfontein, which potentially draws on the same regional aquifer system. PTWC requests that the EIA phase include a dedicated cumulative impact assessment addressing this specifically.	
		<u>3. Wastewater Disposal</u> The proposed discharge of industrial effluent to the Hopefield Municipal Wastewater Treatment Works, which has a reported total capacity of 0.9 megalitres per day, raises concern. The dSR does not adequately resolve whether the municipal works is capable of receiving and treating the volumes and character of industrial effluent anticipated from this facility. This requires substantive resolution in the EIA phase, and PTWC requests that the relevant specialist assessment address the municipal works' capacity, current loading, and suitability to receive industrial process water of this nature	Industrial effluent will not send to the Hopefield WWTW. It will be treated on site. Waste generated as a result of the treatment will be taken to specialist landfill sites in Cape Town by licenced waste removal companies. The purpose of the proposed pipeline is to convey sewage water to the existing Hopefield Waste Water Treatment Works for treatment, subject to confirmation of capacity to treat from the Saldanha Bay Municipality.
		<u>4. Biodiversity</u> The development footprint falls partially within a Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA2) and is adjacent to Hopefield Sand Fynbos, a vegetation type of very high conservation significance. The DFFE Screening Tool has flagged the potential presence of the Endangered Black Harrier (<i>Circus maurus</i>) and the Vulnerable Southern Black Korhaan (<i>Afrotis afra</i>) in the area. The dSR	The biodiversity specialist reports will be available in the Draft EIA Report.

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		<p>further identifies a high probability of occurrence of several threatened plant species on site, including the Endangered <i>Leucadendron foedum</i> (Hopefield Cornbush) and <i>Leucospermum hypophyllocarpodendron</i> subsp. <i>canaliculatum</i> (Snakestem Pincushion).</p> <p>PTWC requests that the EIA phase incorporate comprehensive, peer-reviewed specialist biodiversity and botanical assessments, and that the mitigation hierarchy required under NEMA be rigorously applied before any offset arrangements are considered. PTWC will submit detailed comments on the specialist biodiversity studies once these are made available.</p>	
		<p><u>5. Hazardous Materials and Quantitative Risk Assessment</u></p> <p>The facility will store and handle significant quantities of hazardous materials including hydrogen, LPG, naphtha, ammonia, and amine solvents, and is likely to be classified as a Major Hazard Installation. PTWC notes that a Quantitative Risk Assessment (QRA) has been conducted but that its findings are not publicly available at this stage of the process. PTWC requests that the QRA and all supporting risk documentation be made available to registered I&APs prior to finalisation of the EIA report, in accordance with the public participation requirements of the EIA Regulations, 2014.</p>	The outcome of the Quantitative Risk Assessment (QRA) will be made available in the Draft EIA Report.
		<p><u>6. Alternatives</u></p> <p>The dSR does not reflect an assessment of alternative sites. Section 24(4)(b) of NEMA requires that the environmental impact assessment process consider reasonable alternatives. PTWC requests that the EIA</p>	<i>Section 2.5.1 Site Alternatives</i> states “The selection of the Project infrastructure site is the outcome of a feasibility assessment by the proponent, which <i>inter alia</i> served to identify site options that would be optimal for eSAF production and associated infrastructure requirements. The study area is considered suitable for

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		<p>phase include a genuine alternatives assessment, including site alternatives, and that the rationale for the selection of the proposed site be transparently set out.</p>	<p>the establishment of the proposed processing facility due to several key factors, including proximity to solar resources, favourable climatic conditions, site extent, land availability and the site's close proximity to the Aurora Substation.</p> <p>Due to the requirement to have the plant in close proximity of the Solar PV and BESS facility, the current site position is the only feasible alternative and therefore no other site alternatives are being considered."</p>
		<p><u>7. Cumulative Impact: Concurrent Solar PV Development</u></p> <p>PTWC notes that a concurrent application has been submitted by Phelan Green Saldanha Energy (Pty) Ltd for a 1.6 GW solar photovoltaic facility spanning approximately 28 cadastral properties on and surrounding Farm Portugeesche Fontyn 167, being the same farm on which the present application is situated. That application is being processed separately by a different EAP.</p> <p>The two applications share an overlapping footprint, share identified threatened species of concern, and will collectively place substantial pressure on the same CBA-designated and scape and the same regional aquifer system. Considered individually, each application risks understating the aggregate environmental impact. PTWC submits that the EIA phase for the present application must address the cumulative impact of both developments together, and requests that the competent authority satisfy itself that the two processes are adequately coordinated</p>	<p>Cumulative impacts will be assessed during the Impact Assessment Phase.</p>

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		<p>so that no significant cumulative impacts are assessed in isolation.</p> <p>PTWC further notes that 28 previously approved wind and solar EIA applications exist within 30 km of the site, three of which are recorded as being on or immediately adjacent to the project area. This broader infrastructure context compounds PTWC's concern that the cumulative biodiversity and water resource impacts on this landscape have not yet been adequately assessed</p>	
		<p><u>8. Water Use Licence Application</u></p> <p>PTWC notes that a Water Use Licence Application has been submitted in connection with the proposed facility and that a separate public participation process in respect of that application is ongoing, with a comment period closing on 6 July 2026. PTWC intends to submit comments on the WULA process separately and within that timeframe. PTWC requests that the EIA process and the WULA process be adequately coordinated by the relevant authorities, and that any findings or conditions arising from the WULA process be incorporated into and reflected in the EIA documentation before the environmental authorisation is finalised.</p>	<p>The current notification to I&APs was to announce the proposed project, inform on the availability of the Draft Scoping Report and, inter alia, the Water Uses that will be applied for (as per the requirements of S17 of the Water Uses Licence Application and Appeals Regulations, 2017).</p> <p>The environmental authorisation application processes (Scoping and EIA, WULA and AEL applications) are still ongoing and there will be a second round of public review during which all relevant specialist assessments and associated documentation (such as the Integrated Water and Waste Management Plan that will provide more details on the water uses) will be made available for public review and comment.</p>
		<p><u>9. Further Participation</u></p> <p>PTWC reserves all rights to supplement these comments and to submit further submissions as additional documentation, including the Environmental Impact Report, EMP, specialist studies, and GNR 1147-compliant rehabilitation and financial provision</p>	<p>The proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF production facility does not constitute prospecting, exploration, mining, or production operations as contemplated under the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) Financial Provisioning Regulations, 2015 (Government Notice R.1147), and these Regulations are therefore not applicable to the project. Accordingly, the preparation</p>

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		<p>documentation, becomes available. Nothing in these comments constitutes a waiver of any of PTWC's rights in respect of this application.</p> <p>Kindly acknowledge receipt of this correspondence and ensure that these comments are recorded and addressed in the Comment and Response Report.</p>	<p>and submission of GNR 1147—compliant financial provision, rehabilitation, and mine closure plans is not required as part of the Environmental Authorisation application process. Notwithstanding the above, rehabilitation, decommissioning and closure-related impacts associated with the proposed development will be addressed through the Environmental Impact Assessment process and incorporated into the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) in accordance with the requirements of NEMA and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended). Where relevant, project-specific closure objectives and management measures will be defined to ensure that environmental risks are appropriately mitigated and managed throughout the operational and post-decommissioning phases.</p>
50.	Email 08 June 2026	<p>Good evening, we are residents of Hopefield. We registered as interested and affected party for the solar panel project and would like you to register us as an interested and affected party for this Hydrogen and e-SAF Project.</p> <p>We do have some major concerns about the project and these are mainly to do with Water.</p> <p>1. We are worried about the over-use of scarce water resources – with the huge amount of water that your project will be using, what happens if the municipal water supply to Hopefield itself runs low or out altogether?</p> <p>2. The Aquiver – this is so precious and is our supply underground – it extends as far as Langebaan Lagoon.</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on biodiversity, traffic, water use and availability, surface water and groundwater and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report. The Environmental Management Programme will detail proposed mitigation measures and a monitoring</p>

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		<p>If it is contaminated by the project it will be a disaster. Will Phelan undertake to test the aquifer water on an ongoing basis? The same goes for groundwater. It is so easy for a leak to happen with all the storage ponds holding polluted water including chemicals, at various stages of production, waiting to be processed or taken away. Then there is leakage from the many trucks loading and unloading. Will there be regular inspections to check on leakages and pollution?</p> <p>3. In general, will there be frequent on-going independent tests on pollution throughout the life of the project?</p> <p>4. Is the plant far enough from Hopefield to avoid the town being affected by explosion, fire, air pollution, etc?</p> <p>5. The dramatic increase in traffic is of concern. The R45 at the bottom of the hill where the crossroad is, left to Velddrif and the Plant, and right into Hopefield, is a very dangerous one even now, and with all the trucks and extra transport vehicles, will the question of safety at that crossing be addressed?</p> <p>6. The town of Hopefield and surrounding area has a character completely of its own and represents peace, quiet and beauty. We hope that as much of that can be conserved as possible. It is full of birds, some rare, and beautiful flowers, and fynbos that needs to be preserved.</p> <p>We trust that all the tests set out in the Draft Scoping Report and still to be done, will be carried out and results circulated and we look forward to reading the EIA with all</p>	<p>programme to ensure monitoring of aspects such groundwater, dust, emissions, etc.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report, Environmental Management Programme and associated specialist studies.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order</p>

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		<p>the updated mitigation measures, as soon as it is produced.</p> <p>Please acknowledge receipt of this commentary</p>	
51.	<p>Commercial Hotel</p> <p>Email</p> <p>08 June 2026</p>	<p><u>SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS, APPLICATION FOR ATMOSPHERIC EMISSION LICENCE, WATER USE AUTHORISATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS, HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.</u></p> <p>Reference: ZA0066851.7273</p> <p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>I would hereby like to raise my concerns regarding the proposed hydrogen plant in Hopefield.</p> <p><u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS</u></p> <p>Firstly, I would like to say that I find this scoping report overly complicated and very confusing. In some sections it sounds like the impact studies were done already and in other sections it sounds like it still needs to be done. No impact studies were provided with this comment process, yet there is so much data in the report that can only come from proper impact studies. The report also seems to reference the biodiversity study done for the solar farm which is also planned by the same company, Phelan Energies.</p> <p>This brings me to my second concern, project splitting. Not only does this illegal practice make it very difficult for the public to make informed decisions on the project as a</p>	<p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>Please find herewith a response to the comments and concerns raised.</p> <p><u>Public Participation Process</u></p> <p>The specialist information presented in the Scoping Report describe the baseline environmental conditions of the study area (typically wider than just the project area). In this context, specialist studies compile available data from site investigations, desktop reviews, and existing information sources to establish a clear understanding of the current (pre-development) state of the biophysical and socio-economic environment. This baseline description provides a reference point (status quo environment) against which the potential impacts of the proposed development can be identified and assessed during the subsequent impact assessment phase. The purpose of including specialist input at the scoping stage is not to present detailed impact assessments, but rather to identify key environmental features, sensitivities, and receptors that may be affected by the project. The specialists will conduct impact assessments during the impact assessment phase, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report. Your details have been added to the stakeholder</p>

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		<p>whole, it also confuses our community on where we stand in the process of which project, and we are drowned in different sets of reports and studies. At the same time that this scoping report for the hydrogen plant was made public, there was a public meeting for the solar farm. This creates so much confusion on what we are commenting on and which set of paperwork goes with which process. Then it seems like we will be going through a third and possibly forth process for a biomass boiler and wind farm. This is all one project. In the current plan, one cannot exist without the other, all planned on the same land. This should all be part of one proposal and process.</p> <p>In the munities of the first public meeting held for the solar farm on 13 March 2025, Blair Phelan explained that the reason for the project splitting is because it is two different companies executing the different projects, but it is all done by Phelan Energies.</p> <p>Another part of this same issue comes up in the scoping report of the hydrogen plant. In the section where the feasibility is discussed, it mentions the exciting solar farm as a reason why this site is ideal. This is very misleading. The solar farm does not exist yet and is only being built for the hydrogen plant.</p> <p>There is also great concern for the processes that are being followed. In the scoping report there is mention that the environmental authorisation was submitted on 23 March 2026. Why was this not made public, and why is it not included in the scoping report.</p>	<p>database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated specialist studies.</p> <p>The Applicant has indicated that the application for environmental authorisation for the Solar PV project commenced before the Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Project as the latter project's technical process description and design was still being finalised. In addition, both projects have the ability to operate independently from each other and is therefore being subjected to separate applications for environmental authorisation.</p> <p>With reference to the site alternatives, it is stated in the Draft Scoping Report that the study area is considered suitable for the establishment of the proposed processing facility due to several key factors, including proximity to solar resources, favourable climatic conditions, site extent, land availability and the site's close proximity to the Aurora Substation. Authorisations have been granted for several solar and wind facilities within 30 km of the proposed project area.</p> <p>Application forms for Environmental Authorisation (EA) and Water Use Licence (WUL) are generally not the primary documents used for stakeholder engagement, even though they form part of the overall application record. These application forms are primarily administrative documents used to formally lodge an</p>

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		<p>There is also mention of a water use license application submitted on 7 May 2026, but the public was also not informed about this.</p> <p><u>ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS</u></p> <p>When it comes to the environment, I am extremely concerned. We live in one of the most beautiful parts of the country surrounded by Fynbos. Over the last 40 years Hopefield has built an industry around this and host a Fynbos Show annually. The farms where they are planning this hydrogen plant and solar farm is 70% natural Hopefield Sandveld Fynbos which is classified as critically endangered. They down play this by saying it is vulnerable, but even so, we should be protecting this veld type for future generations.</p> <p>According to the scoping report they will need between 3M and 8M litres of drinking water per day from the Saldanha Bay Municipality system. This is probably the most ridiculous part of the scoping report. South Africa is a water scarce country and prone to devastating drought. The idea that we will be using our drinking water to produce fuel for Europe is ludicrous!</p> <p>The risk we are taking with possible contamination of our underground water and the Berg River also seems too dangerous with all the chemicals needed to process e-SAF.</p> <p>I struggle to understand the 'green' label slapped on this project. 2000Ha of critically endangered Fynbos will be removed, drinking water will be put through a very</p>	<p>application with the competent authority, rather than to assess environmental impacts. The public participation process is instead focused on providing stakeholders with access to detailed assessment reports (e.g.EIRs, EMPs), which contain the information necessary to understand potential impacts, alternatives, and mitigation measures. Regulatory guidelines emphasise consultation on these reports rather than on application forms, as they enable meaningful and informed stakeholder input.</p> <p><u>Environmental Concerns</u></p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the use and availability of water and biodiversity and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process.</p> <p>The Applicant is proposing to use Municipal water, subject to confirmation of availability from the Saldanha Bay Municipality, and water from the existing registered borehole on the property, subject to the approval from the Department of Water and Sanitation. The municipality assess in a strict technical due diligence process water availability for commercial use of any party. The plant will have a circular water system which is zero liquid discharge and this ensures that no water goes to waste and additional water is only needed for top-up to replace what is lost from evaporation.</p> <p><u>Social Concerns</u></p>

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		<p>dangerous chemical process to produce e-SAF, with dangerous emissions release into our air so that first world countries can enjoy the benefits of clean air and low carbon emissions.</p> <p><u>SOCIAL CONCERNS</u></p> <p>I find the social impact is also being down played in both the hydrogen and solar farm scoping reports, with great focus on the economic development and job creation. In my experience these massive developments do not solve unemployment for the community affected, but rather attract more job seekers who compete with the locals. There is also great concern for job losses as some of the biggest employers are considering moving their businesses if this project goes ahead.</p> <p>Hopefield is a safe and clean rural town, and people live in harmony as a community. This is one of the few town in South African that does not have an informal settlement. This is part of Hopefield's charm, which attracts thousands of tourists every year, and the Special Development Framework for Saldaha Bay emphasises this. These projects will change the character and culture of our town forever. Many people choose to live in Hopefield, not for the economic opportunities, but rather for the simple lifestyle and high quality of life.</p> <p>We have a beautiful Industrial Development Zone right next to the Saldaha harbour which is specifically developed for these types of high industrial activities. Here</p>	<p>Similarly, socio-economic impacts will be assessed during the impact assessment phase and reported on in the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>With reference to the question on why the project is not being developed at the Saldanha IDZ. The Applicant has indicated that the Saldanha IDZ does not have sufficient space for this development.</p> <p>Your comments and concerns are noted and will be recorded in the Comments and Response Report that will be appended to the Final Scoping Report for submission to the Competent Authority.</p>

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		<p>it will not risk one town's character, yet we can all share in the benefits.</p> <p>There is mention in the scoping report that the existing wind farm already changed our sense of place to justify this project, but the wind farm is not nearly as big as this project and has a very small footprint, which created the opportunity to rehabilitate the once disturbed farm land to a beautiful natural veld. Also, this is like saying that one can just as well break all your windows, because one is cracked.</p> <p>I do hope my comments will be considered.</p>	
52.	Email 09 June 2026	<p>Good day.</p> <p>Please find below a few of my points for objection. Very basically summarised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will impact our local community. • It will devastate our indigenous flora & fauna which is the sandveld (listed as critically endangered). • There is insufficient resources and accommodation • Our natural aquifer will be put under tremendous pressure. 480 000L per day!!! • legally, the site for the solar is too close to our town. Only 875m away... absurd!! • our roads will not handle the traffic. Transporting isotonic containers between 17-40 thousand Litres per day which equals 10-20 tanks per day • the oldest town on the west coast of South Africa will be engulfed by a solar plant. 	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on avifauna, biodiversity, water use and availability, traffic, dangerous goods handling and storage and social impacts and will provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the impact assessments have not been done correctly and they have split projects to undermine the high impact to pose it as less threatening. They have not advertised this enough or engaged properly with our community to enlighten us we have bird life here such as the harrier hawk who breed in this area safety will be heavily compromised hazardous chemicals (once again so close to our town) wanting to use our municipal pottable water too, which will heavily impact our town's availability of water. 	<p>comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated specialist reports.</p> <p>I trust that you will find this in order.</p> <p><u>Further response:</u></p> <p>The Solar PV facility was initiated as a standalone project and is supported by its own funding model and independent commercial viability.</p> <p>At the time that the Solar PV EIA process commenced, the associated processing plant remained at an early stage of development, with limited technical definition, and would only have been considered for implementation at a later stage.</p> <p>Both the Solar PV facility and the processing plant are subject to separate, full EIA processes in accordance with the applicable regulatory requirements, and the sequencing reflects the respective stages of project development rather than an intentional division of related activities.</p>
53.	<p>Hopefield</p> <p>Email</p> <p>09 June 2026</p>	<p>Good Day Public Participation Office</p> <p>Thank you for this acknowledgement.</p> <p>I would like to clarify that my reference to the public participation process and the consultants is applicable to the approach and ethos of the entire development that the Phelan group is proposing in Hopefield. In this instance, it really does not help to split the projects because that</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the response. It is noted and will be recorded in the Comments and Response Report that will be appended to the Final Scoping Report for submission to the Competent Authority.</p> <p><u>Further response:</u></p>

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		<p>action and the mess of communication it is engendering is in itself a substantive element of the kind of action and communication that undermines my and other citizens of Hopefield's perception of your client's trustworthiness. It goes to the matter of whether their approach is one of good faith in the manner of their engagement with the citizens of Hopefield and the greater Saldanha Bay region. Both WSP and Eco Compliance are paid service providers to the companies within the Phelan Group that are pursuing the development of the e-SAF production facility and the solar facility that will provide electricity for it. In the context of a public participation process, both consultancies act as agents of their client. I trust that my concerns will be communicated to your client.</p>	<p>The Solar PV facility was initiated as a standalone project and is supported by its own funding model and independent commercial viability.</p> <p>At the time that the Solar PV EIA process commenced, the associated processing plant remained at an early stage of development, with limited technical definition, and would only have been considered for implementation at a later stage.</p> <p>Both the Solar PV facility and the processing plant are subject to separate, full EIA processes in accordance with the applicable regulatory requirements, and the sequencing reflects the respective stages of project development rather than an intentional division of related activities.</p>
54.	<p>West Coast Environmental Protection Association</p> <p>Email</p> <p>09 June 2026</p>	<p>Dear PP,</p> <p>Please find attached the comments of WCEPA in respect of the draft scoping report in respect of the proposed Green Hydrogen and E_SAF plant near Hopefield.</p> <p>While this comment is submitted one day after the expiry of the 30-day comment period, I submit that this comment should be included in the public participation report on the draft scoping report and taken into account. As noted in the comments, the nature and scope of the project and the local community necessitated public meetings in order that I&APs could obtain a proper understanding of the technical documentations and give meaningful input.</p> <p><u>Re: Comments on Draft Scoping Report in respect of proposed Green Hydrogen and Electro-Sustainable</u></p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p><u>Aviation Fuel plant, Hopefield, Western Cape (ZA0066851.7273)</u></p> <p>1. West Coast Environmental Protection Association ('WCEPA'), a local environmental voluntary association, hereby submits comments on the aforesaid draft scoping report.</p> <p><u>Defective Public Participation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of public meeting <p>2. On a proper interpretation of the considerations listed in paragraph 5 of the Public Participation Guideline for the Environmental Impact Assessment Process (Guideline 7),¹ the comment opportunity in the Draft Scoping Report required the convening of public meetings for the local communities of Hopefield, Saldanha and St. Helena Bay.</p> <p>3. Instead, the local community is expected to submit written comment in respect of highly technical reports without the benefit of a public meeting. The lack of a public meeting precludes any meaningful opportunity to comment on the draft scoping report.</p> <p>4. In particular, given the scale of the anticipated impacts of the proposed project and the sensitivity of the receiving environment (e.g. impacted terrestrial and aquatic CBA areas) and the characteristics of the Hopefield community, the meaningful public participation necessitated a public meeting. In this regard, it is noted that the Hopefield community is predominantly Afrikaans speaking, with many not proficient in English, and includes a large proportion of indigent persons. To expect this community</p>	<p>The concern regarding the absence of a public meeting is noted. In terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), there is no explicit legal requirement mandating that a public meeting must be held as part of the Public Participation Process. The Regulations require that all potential Interested and Affected Parties be given adequate notice and a reasonable opportunity to comment through prescribed methods such as site notices, written notifications and newspaper advertisements. All of which were undertaken during the public participation period for the Draft Scoping Report.</p> <p>With reference to your comment that the Hopefield Community is predominantly Afrikaans speaking, the advertisement, Background Information Letter and Site notices were made available in both Afrikaans and English. To ensure more accessibility during the Impact Assessment phase, the executive summary of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be translated to Afrikaans in addition to the English version.</p>

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		to comment on highly technical documents written in English – without the benefit of a public meeting – is unreasonable.	
		<p><u>Unavailability of WULA / Misleading statements in Draft Scoping Report</u></p> <p>5. The notice of this comment opportunity and the draft scoping report have made misleading statements that the related WULA and the AEL application are available on request from I&APs. Despite the fact that WCEPA requested the WULA by mid-May 2026, no application documents have been received. As such, WCEPA's ability to make meaningful comment on the Draft Scoping Report.</p>	<p>On 11 May 2026, the WSP PP Office responded to the WCEP's request for a copy of the AEL application and provided a link where the application could be downloaded.</p> <p>In response to the request for the WULA, the following was provided: "The current notification to I&APs is to announce the proposed project, inform on the availability of the Draft Scoping Report and, inter alia, the Water Uses that will be applied for (as per the requirements of S17 of the Water Uses Licence Application and Appeals Regulations, 2017).</p> <p>The environmental authorisation application processes (Scoping and EIA, WULA and AEL applications) are still ongoing and there will be a second round of public review during which all relevant specialist assessments and associated documentation (such as the Integrated Water and Waste Management Plan that will provide more details on the water uses) will be made available for public review and comment.</p> <p>We have added your details to the stakeholder database to ensure that you receive all future correspondence on opportunities to review and comment."</p>
		<p><u>Project Splitting</u></p> <p>6. The proposed Hydrogen and E-SAF plant (the processing plant) of Phelan aFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd</p>	<p>The Applicant has indicated that the application for environmental authorisation for the Solar PV project commenced before the Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Project as the latter project's technical process</p>

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		<p>(Phelan eFuels) and the proposed 1.6GW PV Solar Facility (PV Solar Facility) of Phelan Green Saldanha Energy (Pty) Ltd (Phelan Green) are functionally interdependent. The processing plant has no independent utility without its power supply and vice-versa.</p> <p>7. By splitting these projects, the true impacts of each project (including the cumulative impacts) are not identified and assessed and the assessment of alternatives is artificial. Moreover, as both projects will likely require biodiversity offsets, the calculation of the offset will also be skewed.</p> <p>8. According to the draft scoping report for the proposed PV Solar Facility, its express purpose is to power the processing plant and no location alternatives are considered. The scoping report for the PV Solar Facility was published for comment in April 2026.</p> <p>9. In the present draft scoping report, it is baldly claimed that the “requirement to have the plant in close proximity of the Solar PV and BESS facility” renders the proposed site “the only feasible alternative” and hence no site alternatives are considered.</p> <p>10. In other words, by splitting these projects, their respective “preferred locations” are rendered a fait accompli.</p>	<p>description and engineering design was still being finalised. In addition, both projects could operate independently from each other and is therefore being subjected to separate applications for environmental authorisation.</p>
		<p><u>Incorrect description of Hopefield</u></p> <p>The report describes Hopefield as follows: “Over time, the settlement has evolved into an agri-village, primarily</p>	<p>Your comment is noted. The socio-economic baseline information will be supplemented with the valuable</p>

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		<p>serving as a home for farmworkers from the surrounding areas.” This statement is incorrect and raises concerns about the validity of the background information used for the scoping report.</p> <p>12. The majority of the workforce of Hopefield work in a wide variety of sectors, such as building, retail, fishing. The workers of Arnelia farms do live in town, but most farmworkers live on the farm they work on.</p> <p><u>Social Impact Assessment.- Inadequate Scope</u></p> <p>13. The impacts and mitigation measures which are identified as forming part of the scope of the SIA are inadequate.</p> <p>14. No reference is made to a tourism impact assessment and how the impacts of the processing plant on the local tourism economy will be mitigated to acceptable levels. In particular, this assessment must include interviews with local businesses dependent on the tourism industry and take into account the impacts on annual festivals such as Hopefield's Fynbos Festival.</p> <p>15. Given that the draft scoping report already acknowledges the potential high impact of the loss of sense of place, it is difficult to understand the omission of a proper tourism impact assessment.</p> <p>16. In addition, the report makes no mention of Arnelia Farms, a flower farm in close proximity of the proposed plant. Arnelia Farms is the biggest employer in Hopefield.</p>	<p>information gathered during the public participation process.</p> <p><u>Social Impact Assessment – Inadequate Scope, Traffic Impact Assessment and Transport of Hazardous Materials, Noise Impacts – Inadequate Scope, Botanical Impact Assessment</u></p> <p>Please note that the document that was placed in the public domain for review is the Draft Scoping Report. In short, a Draft Scoping Report is an early-stage document in the EIA process that sets out what the impact assessment will focus on before detailed studies are undertaken. It has the aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the proposed project and its context so stakeholders understand what is being planned. • It identifies the key potential environmental and social impact that need to be studies further • It outlines the methods and scope of the future EIA, including what specialist studies will be done and how. • It records issues and concerns raised by stakeholders and explains how these will be addressed in the next phase. <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impacts on socio-economic aspects, traffic and transport of hazardous materials, noise and biodiversity and will</p>

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		<p>The social impact assessment must consider the impact of the plant on Arnelia Farms and whether the development of the plant may result in the closure of Arnelia Farms. Interviews with Arnelia Farms and their employees are crucial, so that the EAP may determine the likelihood of the farm closure and the impact on the resulting job losses.</p>	<p>provide more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p>
		<p><u>Traffic Impact Assessment and Transport of Hazardous Materials</u></p> <p>17. The EIA must assess the impacts of transporting hazardous materials along the proposed route options for the haulage of imported materials.</p> <p>Noise Impacts – Inadequate Scope</p> <p>18. Given that the development site and the receiving environment contain CBAs, the noise impacts on fauna must be assessed.</p>	<p>Your comments are noted. Traffic and noise impacts will be assessed during the impact assessment phase and included in the Draft EIA Report for public review.</p> <p>With reference to the question on why the project is not being developed at the Saldanha IDZ. The Applicant has indicated that the Saldanha IDZ does not have sufficient space for this development.</p>
		<p><u>Botanical Impact Assessment</u></p> <p>19. The statement is made that the site contains no species of conservation concern (SCC) despite the fact that several red list species are associated with the vegetation type and only a single site visit was conducted in November 2023.</p> <p>20. In several sections in the report, the vegetation type present at the site is referred to as “Hopefield Sandy Fynbos” instead of Hopefield Sand Fynbos. The fact that</p>	<p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated specialist studies.</p>

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		<p>the report makes such a basic error – an error most likely emanating from the botanical survey report raises serious questions about the expertise of the author.</p> <p>21. Given that the field investigation was only conducted on 2 November 2023, as opposed during the August – October period, it is highly likely that the specialist would not have been able to identify all the geophytes present at the site, or distinguished correctly between certain species.</p> <p>22. Species identifications recorded on the iNaturalist database within close proximity of the proposed site includes several red list species, e.g. <i>Leucospermum rodolentum</i> (near threatened) (some 791m from site) and <i>Erepsia brevipetala</i> (endangered) (some 760m from the site). The lack of iNaturalist observations on the development site suggests that it has not been made accessible to botanists/ CREW for botanical surveys.</p> <p>23. The Botanical Impact Assessment does not appear to have taken into account the 2025 SANBI National Biodiversity Assessment, which has listed Hopefield Sand Fynbos as Endangered. As the 2025 NBA represents the best available information, this endangered status of Hopefield Sand Fynbos must be considered in the impact assessment even though the national list must still be updated to reflect the most recent NBA.</p> <p>24. The Botanical Impact Assessment also makes no reference to the potential presence or historical extent of Piketberg Quartz Succulent Shrubland (critically endangered) in the north-east corner of the site per the</p>	

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		<p>Beta version of the National Vegetation Map: NVM 2024 (latest update of the map of the National Vegetation Map Project and follows VEGMAP 2018).</p> <p><u>Biodiversity offset</u></p> <p>25. The report does not identify the need for a biodiversity offset, regardless of the fact that a residual biodiversity impact is reasonably likely given the endangered status of Hopefield Sand Fynbos, the extent of the proposed clearance and the presence of CBAs at the site and in the receiving environment. Irreversible industrialisation of Hopefield which cannot be mitigated</p> <p>26. This aspect must be dealt with in the EIA. The site selection was rendered a fait accompli because of the location of the connected PV Solar Plant. No explanation is provided why the developers opted to buy agricultural land as opposed to buying property in nearby industrial zones.</p> <p>27. In this regard, no explanation is provided why these locations were selected despite the fact that the development of both the solar plant and the processing plant are not in line with the Municipality's IDP.</p>	
55.	Email 10 June 2026	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I am writing to you today with a sense of deep urgency, born out of a profound love and respect for the unique ecosystem of Hopefield and the surrounding West Coast district.</p>	<p>Good day</p> <p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impact on avifauna, biodiversity, water use and availability, groundwater, noise, air quality, traffic and will provide</p>

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		<p>While the global shift toward green energy is a necessary journey, placing a massive commercial-scale green hydrogen, solar, and electro-sustainable aviation fuel (eFuels) facility on the doorstep of Hopefield threatens to irreversibly shatter an irreplaceable natural sanctuary.</p> <p>One of our gravest concerns is the imminent depletion and contamination risk of our incredibly scarce water sources. Hopefield is a drought-prone, semi-arid agricultural area that relies heavily on fragile local aquifers. This massive project is estimated to consume millions of liters of water per day via groundwater extraction and municipal potable supplies. Drawing this immense volume from our groundwater risks permanent aquifer drawdown, directly threatening our local farms, residents, and the nearby Ramsar-protected Berg River estuary. This highly permeable aquifer is vulnerable to chemical spills; any toxic leakage from the industrial plant would permanently devastate our freshwater systems and the agricultural economy that sustains us.</p> <p>Hopefield's highly fragile Sandveld and Hopefield Fynbos sustain a delicate web of wildlife. The proposed footprint of this heavy industrial development will fragment habitats that are home to sensitive local fauna, including roaming buck, small mammals, and our slow-moving, vulnerable tortoises who simply cannot flee from heavy earthmoving equipment. Furthermore, our skies belong to iconic apex predators. The majestic African Fish Eagles that catch the thermals over our rivers, the African Harrier Hawk and the owls that maintain the ecological balance at night, rely on the absolute tranquility of this rural landscape to hunt and breed. The construction and 24/7 operation of an industrial</p>	<p>more information during the impact assessment phase of the process, which is the next phase of the process. During this phase, independent specialists will assess the potential impacts of the proposed project, and their findings will be compiled into a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p> <p>The Applicant is proposing to use Municipal water, subject to confirmation of availability from the Saldanha Bay Municipality, and water from the existing registered borehole on the property, subject to the approval from the Department of Water and Sanitation.</p> <p>Your details have been added to the stakeholder database, and you will therefore receive all future correspondence and notifications on opportunities to comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and the specialist assessments.</p> <p>Your comments and concerns are noted and will be recorded in the Comments and Response Report that will be appended to the Final Scoping Report for submission to the Competent Authority</p>

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		<p>plant will inevitably chase these magnificent species away, leaving the majestic sightings for textbooks and not "face to face" encounters.</p> <p>While proponents of the project dangle the promise of massive local job creation, our community is staring itself blind against this work creation without looking at the fine print. The heavy employment boom is temporary, limited only to the rough construction phase. Once the plant transitions to its specialized 24/7 chemical processing operation, the permanent job pool will shrink to a mere handful. Crucially, these long-term positions require highly specific engineering, chemical, and automated qualifications that the vast majority of local Hopefield residents simply do not possess. Local workers will be left with the short-term dust, while the long-term specialized jobs are outsourced to highly qualified professionals from outside our area.</p> <p>The immediate community of Hopefield will bear the brunt of severe environmental and infrastructural degradation:</p> <p><u>Acoustic Disruption & Noise Pollution:</u></p> <p>The constant drone of heavy earthmoving machinery during construction, followed by 24/7 industrial processing, compressors, and high-pressure storage systems, will completely strip Hopefield of its peaceful rural character.</p> <p><u>Air Pollution & Dust:</u></p>	

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		<p>The constant movement of massive haulage trucks across sandy West Coast soils will generate severe particulate matter (dust) and emissions, compromising the crisp, clean air that our community and agricultural sector rely on. Health issues can arise e.g asthma, sinus infections etc.</p> <p><u>Destruction of Infrastructure:</u></p> <p>The regional roads (such as the MR234 and R45) are designed for light agricultural transit. Forcing fleet loads of heavy construction vehicles and industrial transport onto these routes will cause rapid deterioration, leaving the community with fractured infrastructure and heightened road safety risks.</p> <p>We urge the Phelan Green Group to remember that true sustainability cannot be achieved by sacrificing pristine, biodiverse ecosystems and local water security for international climate targets. We call on you to protect the water, the tortoises, the buck, the fish eagles, and the people of Hopefield by seeking an alternative, already-industrialized location for this facility.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>A Concerned Resident of the West Coast Community Hopefield</p>	
56.	Cullinan & Associates Email	<p>Dear Ms Schlechter,</p> <p>INTRODUCTION</p>	Good day Mr Seema

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
	11 June 2026	<p>1. We represent Arnelia Farms CC (“Arnelia”), a Close Corporation with registration number 1999/025492/23, Mrs Maria Theres Hettasch (“Mrs Hettasch”) and Mr Hans Bernhard Hettasch (“Mr Hettasch”).</p> <p>(collectively referred to as “our clients”)</p> <p>2. These comments are submitted in response to the Draft Scoping Report dated May 2026 (“the DSR”) concerning the proposed Green Hydrogen and Electro-Sustainable Aviation Fuel (“e-SAF”) plant (collectively, the “Facility” or “Project”) which Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd plans to develop on Remainder of Farm Portugeesche Fontyn 167, located approximately 3km north of Hopefield in the Western Cape (the “Site”). The DSR was circulated for public comment by WSP (the “EAP”) on or about 7 May 2026, with comments being due by 8 June 2026 (with a request for an extension being granted until 11 June 2026.</p> <p>BACKGROUND</p> <p>3. Our clients are registered interested and affected parties (“I&APs”). They are neighbouring and nearby landowners and occupiers whose proprietary, residential, agricultural, horticultural interests will be directly and materially affected by the proposed Facility, together with</p>	<p>Thank you for the correspondence.</p> <p>Kindly find herewith a response to the comments and concerns raised.</p>

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		<p>the proposed enabling solar photovoltaic facility¹ (“Solar PV Facility”) which is intended to be established by Saldanha Energy Pty Ltd (or one of its subsidiaries) across multiple farm portions in the Hopefield area, including the Site. Application has been made for the environmental authorisation of the Solar PV Facility by Phelan Green Saldanha Energy Pty Ltd (or one of its subsidiaries) in terms of a separate application (under ref number HSP 02/2025)²</p> <p>4. Arnelia is the registered owner of Erf 2177, Hopefield. Mr Hettasch is the registered owner of Erven 2176, 2178 and 2179, Hopefield. These properties adjoin, alternatively, are situated in close proximity to the Project.</p> <p>5. Arnelia operates a long-established specialist wholesale nursery and horticultural enterprise in the Hopefield area. Its operations include the cultivation and sale of a variety of indigenous and ornamental plant species, including members of the Proteaceae family, Agathosma species (buchs), Chamelaucium species (wax flowers) and other specialised horticultural products. It supplies the South</p>	

¹ The related Hopefield Solar PV application proposes a very large renewable energy facility of 1,600 MW to 2,000 MW over approximately 4,801.21 hectares and records its own construction and operational water requirements for road construction, panel cleaning, maintenance and sanitation.

² The proposed construction the 1.6GW Hopefield PV Solar energy Facility on Farm Portugeese Fontyn 167, Farm Portugeese Fontyn 2/167 and Farm Theewatervlei 315, Western Cape Province.

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		<p>African horticultural market and also cultivates cut flowers for export to international markets.</p> <p>6. Given the nature of its business, Arnelia's operations depends on carefully managed environmental conditions (which are not readily re-created once compromised), including:</p> <p>6.1. reliable access to water of adequate quantity and quality;</p> <p>6.2. the control of dust, pollutants and airborne contaminants; the protection of plant health; compliance with phytosanitary and export requirements; and</p> <p>6.3. the preservation of a surrounding land-use context compatible with high-value horticultural production.</p> <p>7. According to the DSR, the Facility will entail extensive infrastructure and activities involving significant impacts on the surrounding environment, with substantial implications for Arnelia's farming operations. This is borne out by the fact that the Facility will require a water use licence ("WUL") under the National Water Act ("NWA"), and an atmospheric emission licence ("AEL") under the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act ("NEM:AQA"), in addition to the environmental authorisation required in terms of the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 ("NEMA"). The Site is also located within the Swartland Protected Agricultural Area ("Swartland PPA"),</p>	

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		<p>declared in terms of the Preservation and Development of Agricultural Land Act.</p> <p>8. The DSR notes³ that the proposed section 21 water uses which will be involved in the Facility include: taking water from a water resource; storing water; impeding or diverting flow in a watercourse, disposing of waste in a manner that may detrimentally impact a water resource and altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse. The DSR also identifies listed activities for atmospheric emissions, including storage and handling of petroleum products specifically with reference to the proposed storage of Naphtha and Liquefied Petroleum Gas ("LPG") and organic chemicals industry activities.⁴ Given the environmental impacts associated with an industrial development of this nature and scale (which will extend beyond the boundaries of the Site), the proposed Facility (and related Solar PV Facility) will also have significant implications for the high value agricultural land which the Swartland PPA seeks to protect.</p> <p>9. Given the nature of the water uses and atmospheric emission-related activities requiring authorisation, it is clear that our clients' farming and horticultural operations, water security, environmental conditions, visual amenity,</p>	

³ Page 62 of the DSR.

⁴ Page 62 of the DSR.

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		<p>sense of place and the broader integrity of the rural setting in which they live and work, stand to be substantially compromised.</p> <p>10. The failure to raise a specific issue at this stage must not be interpreted as a waiver of any rights or as limiting the scope of any future legal or administrative challenge.</p> <p><u>FAILURE TO IDENTIFY THE FULL SCOPE OF IMPACTS REQUIRING ASSESSMENT</u></p> <p>Proposed narrow assessment of the Facility without taking account of the cumulative impacts of the Solar PV Facility</p> <p>11. From the DSR it is clear that the Project will involve e-SAF production, green hydrogen generation via electrolysis, hazardous chemical storage, carbon capture, continuous 24/7 industrial operations, complex waste and wastewater management, transport logistics; and renewable electricity generation, among other activities. The DSR does not however present a holistic description of the activities and processes that will be associated with the Facility. This means that the scope of the impacts identified for assessment in the EIA process is also compromised. In particular, the failure to identify impacts related to the Solar PV Facility as requiring assessment in the EIA process for the Facility is particularly concerning as it obscures the full scope and scale of the development project, given that the Facility is integrally linked to the Solar PV Facility.</p> <p>12. The DSR is also primarily focussed on the risk profile of the e-SAF product. The EIA process must however take</p>	<p>The document released for public review is a Draft Scoping Report (DSR), which represents an early stage in the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process. Its purpose is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> describe the proposed project and associated infrastructure; identify key potential environmental and socio-economic impacts; and define the scope and methodology for the subsequent Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) phase. <p>The DSR identifies potential impacts and sets out the Plan of Study for EIA, rather than providing a final or exhaustive impact assessment, which will be undertaken during the EIA phase through detailed specialist studies.</p> <p>Section 2 of the DSR provides a description of the proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Facility, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> proposed infrastructure and process components; utilities and resource requirements (e.g. water, energy);

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		<p>account of the full spectrum of impacts associated with the Facility as a whole, including risks associated with storage and handling of hazardous chemicals and materials, water demand implications, power demand considerations, waste streams (including waste water), traffic impacts on the broader community, fire and explosion risks, environmental contamination risks, atmospheric emissions, wastewater systems, and surrounding receptors.</p> <p>13. Regulation 11(3) and 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 provides that:</p> <p>“(3) If a proponent or applicant intends undertaking more than one activity as part of the same development within the area of jurisdiction of a competent authority, a single application must be submitted for such development and the assessment of impacts, including cumulative impacts, where applicable, and consideration of the application, undertaken in terms of these Regulations, will include an assessment of all such activities forming part of the development.</p> <p>(4) If one or more proponents intend undertaking interrelated activities at the same or different locations within the area of jurisdiction of a competent authority, the competent authority may, in writing, agree that the proponent or proponents submit a single application in respect of all of those activities and to conduct a consolidated assessment process but the potential environmental impacts of each activity, including its</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> waste streams and associated management systems; and supporting infrastructure and logistics. <p>Notwithstanding the above, the comment regarding the need for a clearer and more integrated project description is noted.</p> <p>The Solar PV project is subject to a separate environmental authorisation process managed by a different environmental consultant, and its public participation process has been conducted independently. The applications are currently being processed separately, in part due to differences in project development timelines and design readiness.</p> <p>It should further be noted that the projects are capable of operating independently; however the PV facility may form part of the broader renewable energy supply context for the region and the project.</p> <p>The comment with reference to Regulation 11(3) and 11(4) of the EIA Regulations, 2014 is acknowledged.</p> <p>At this stage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separate applications have been submitted for the respective developments; and The approach taken is consistent with the current regulatory acceptance of separate but related applications.

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		<p>cumulative impacts, must be considered in terms of the location where the activity is to be undertaken.”</p> <p>14. The Solar PV Facility is functionally necessary for the construction, operation, safety, water balance, energy supply, waste management, logistics or export of the Facility. It follows that the associated impacts must be identified and assessed at the appropriate level of detail in the EIA process for the Facility to enable the competent authority to take account of the full spectrum of impacts associated with those interrelated developments. The danger in assessing the facility in isolation of the Solar PV Facility is that the Project may be assessed as less complex, less risky and less intrusive than it actually is.</p> <p>15. Given the Applicant is a subsidiary of Phelan Green Saldanha Energy Pty Ltd, it follows that the Facility and Solar PV Facility ought properly to be considered in a single scoping and EIA process (on the basis of Regulation 11(3) in order to ensure that the related impacts are identified and assessed holistically. Even if the Applicant for the Solar PV Facility is not the same as the Facility, the assessment of these developments should be considered in the context of a single scoping and EIA process on the basis provided in Regulation 11(4).</p> <p>16. Even if the scoping and EIA process for the Solar PV Facility is not combined with the Facility process on the basis provided in Regulation 11(3) and (4), the impacts associated with the Solar PV Facility are nonetheless relevant and must be addressed in order to provide an accurate assessment of cumulative impacts (particularly</p>	<p>In line with regulatory requirements and good practice, the EIA phase will include an assessment of cumulative impacts, as committed to in the DSR, including those associated with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • surrounding developments; • regional infrastructure; and • relevant planned or approved projects. <p>The EAP concurs that the EIA must take account of the full spectrum of impacts associated with the facility as a whole. Therefore, the EIA phase will include, as applicable, assessment of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hazardous materials handling and storage risks; • fire and explosion risks; • water demand and supply; • wastewater and waste management; • atmospheric emissions (AEL process); • transport and traffic; • socio-economic impacts; and • impacts on surrounding sensitive receptors.

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		<p>given that the competent authority is required to take account of all relevant factors in reaching its decision).⁵</p> <p>17. Without the full scope of the Project being adequately described and associated impacts (including cumulative impacts of the associated Solar PV Facility) being identified for consideration in the EIA phase, the scoping process remains deficient. In the circumstances the DSR in its current form does not provide the competent authority with a reliable basis on which to accept the Plan of Study for EIA. It also does not provide our clients, other neighbouring landowners, residents and affected businesses with a fair opportunity to understand and comment on the true nature of the Project and the nature and extent of the impacts that will require consideration in the EIA process in order to effectively participate in the scoping process. This concern is compounded by the fact that the DSR mischaracterises the Facility as “a clean and sustainable energy carrier that can be utilised across multiple sectors, including transportation, energy storage, and manufacturing, contributing to the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions.” This characterisation of the Facility however obscures and misconstrues its true nature as a major industrial chemical and fuels facility on high value agriculturally zoned land near a rural town.</p>	<p>These will be addressed through dedicated specialist studies in accordance with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations.</p>

⁵ Section 240 of NEMA.

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		<p>18. Any further draft of the Scoping Report must therefore provide a comprehensive description of the nature and extent of the activities that will be involved in both the Facility and the Solar PV Facility (along with any associated processes) and must identify the impacts associated with such proposed development projects holistically.</p>	
		<p><u>Inadequate identification of water use and atmospheric impacts (and related socio-economic implications)</u></p> <p>19. The DSR states that there is a mean annual precipitation of 251 mm/a for the Hopefield area and describes the climate as semi-arid, with low rainfall, high evaporation and limited surface water. In those conditions, any water-supply proposal for a major industrial plant must be tested not only for average-year operation but for stressed-year operation. The DSR furthermore identifies at paragraph 7.5, the risks to downstream groundwater users as sensitive receptors. Similarly, the potential atmospheric emissions which will be associated with the Facility (which may result in the generation of dust and other particulate matter and chemical residues being deposited on crops) may pose a significant threat to the local agricultural economy.</p>	<p>The DSR acknowledges that the Hopefield area is characterised by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • low mean annual precipitation (~251 mm/a); • semi-arid conditions; • high evaporation rates; and • limited surface water availability. <p>These baseline conditions are explicitly recognised in the DSR and inform the identification of water resources and groundwater users as sensitive receptors. The concern regarding the importance of evaluating water supply under stressed (drought) conditions is therefore valid and is noted for further consideration in the EIA phase.</p> <p>At the scoping stage, the DSR identifies water demand and water resource impacts as key issues requiring detailed investigation, with the understanding that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DSR does not present a final water supply solution, but rather identifies water use as a key impact area to be assessed further; and • Detailed assessment of water availability, supply options and associated risks will be undertaken

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		<p>20. In <i>Fuel Retailers Association of Southern Africa v Director-General: Environmental Management</i>⁶, the Constitutional Court made clear that environmental decision-making under NEMA requires the integration of social, economic and environmental considerations. The environmental authority must therefore be provided with an EIA Report which enables it to consider and evaluate the potential socio-economic implications.</p> <p>21. Given the implications of the proposed Facility for the local farming community, it is imperative that such information is comprehensively addressed in the EIA process in order to ensure that the full scope of impacts can be considered by the competent authority.</p> <p>22. Any further draft of the scoping report must therefore identify and consider impacts related to drought conditions and contamination issues which may compromise water resources, as well as potential implications of atmospheric emission on local agricultural operations, such as Arnelia. The socio-economic assessment must also specifically address the implications of such impacts on the livelihoods of the local rural community.</p>	<p>as part of the Water Use Licence Application (WULA) and supporting specialist studies.</p> <p>The EIA phase will include a water balance assessment and Integrated Water and Waste Management Plan, which will evaluate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • water demand under operational scenarios; • water supply options and associated reliability; and • risks to groundwater and downstream users. <p>The findings of these studies will be made available during the EIA public review phase, for further review and comment.</p> <p>In addition, a specialist hydrogeological and freshwater assessment forms part of the EIA process, focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • potential contamination pathways; • impacts associated with wastewater handling and storage; • interaction with nearby wetlands and catchments; and

⁶ (CCT67/06) [2007] ZACC 13; 2007 (10) BCLR 1059 (CC); 2007 (6) SA 4 (CC).

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> risks to downstream users. <p>The EIA phase will also include the development of mitigation measures and monitoring requirements to ensure that impacts to groundwater resources are avoided or minimised.</p> <p>As previously stated, the proposed Facility will require an Atmospheric Emissions Licence (AEL), and an Air Quality Impact Assessment will be undertaken during the EIA phase. This assessment will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> quantify emissions (including particulate matter and other pollutants); model dispersion and deposition patterns; assess potential impacts on surrounding receptors, including agricultural areas; and identify mitigation measures to minimise impacts. <p>The concern regarding potential impacts on the local agricultural economy, including specific farming operations, is acknowledged.</p> <p>The EIA phase will consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the potential effects of water scarcity or contamination on agricultural users; the implications of air emissions, including dust and deposition.

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		<p><u>Inadequate identification of impacts on agricultural resources</u></p> <p>23. The DSR acknowledges that “The site is considered very high sensitivity due to the site being located within the Swartland Protected Agricultural Area.” The Agricultural assessment however assessed the agricultural potential of the site to be “medium” due to its relatively low cropping potential.⁷ That assessment was however based on an on-site investigation of the soils and agricultural condition of the Site, but did not take account of the implications of the Facility on the Swartland PAA as a whole.</p> <p>24. As explained above, the proposed Facility poses significant threats to surrounding agricultural operations, particularly in respect of water use, environmental contamination and atmospheric impacts. It is therefore not appropriate to limit the agricultural assessment to a narrow consideration on the impacts on the agricultural potential of the site itself, without considering the broader impacts of the Facility on the Swartland PAA.</p> <p>25. Any further draft of the scoping report should therefore specifically provide for the agricultural assessment to</p>	<p>The DSR acknowledges that the project is located within the Swartland Protected Agricultural Area (PAA), which is identified as an area of very high agricultural sensitivity due to its regional importance for food production and agricultural sustainability.</p> <p>At the same time, the specialist Agricultural Impact Assessment undertaken at the scoping stage indicates that the site-specific agricultural potential is moderate (“medium”), based on soil characteristics and on-site conditions.</p> <p>These findings are not contradictory, but reflect two different scales of assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • site-scale agricultural capability, and • regional agricultural importance of the PAA. <p>The Agricultural Impact Assessment included in the DSR is preliminary in nature, consistent with the purpose of the scoping phase, which is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify key sensitivities; • confirm the need for specialist studies; and

⁷ 8.4 of the DSR.

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		consider the potential impacts of the Facility on surrounding high potential agricultural land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> define the appropriate scope of further investigation in the EIA phase. <p>Therefore, the initial assessment focused primarily on the agricultural potential of the site footprint, which is a standard requirement at the scoping stage. Broader regional impacts and indirect effects are identified at a high level, but not yet assessed in detail.</p>
		<p><u>Inadequate identification of potential impacts associated with incidents</u></p> <p>26. The DSR identifies a substantial on-site hazardous-materials inventory. This includes, among other things, hydrogen gas, carbon dioxide, oxygen, nitrogen, naphtha, e-SAF, LPG, ammonia, potassium hydroxide, amines, caustic, anti-scalants, hydrochloric-acid-based cleaners, sodium metabisulfite, sodium hypochlorite and peroxide-based chemicals. The DSR further refers to the use of a flare for the combustion of flammable gases.</p> <p>27. Despite this, the DSR does not adequately identify the risks associated with major-incident scenarios that may arise from the proposed development and the associated risks to the environment and the community. While it makes provision for a risk assessment to be undertaken in accordance with the Major Hazard Installation Regulations, the potential environmental and socio-economic impacts of a potential major incident must be comprehensively addressed in the EIA process (which assessment must go beyond the MHI risk assessment to take account of the full scope of potential environmental</p>	<p>The DSR identifies that the Facility will include the storage, handling and processing of a range of hazardous substances, including flammable gases, fuels, and chemical reagents associated with the hydrogen and e-SAF production processes.</p> <p>The DSR further recognises that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> these activities introduce potential risks to the environment and surrounding receptors; and risk-related impacts (including fire, explosion and chemical release) constitute key impact areas to be assessed in the EIA phase. <p>As stated earlier, the DSR is an early-stage document and therefore the DSR does not present a full quantitative risk assessment but rather confirms that such assessments are required and will be undertaken during the EIA phase. The risk assessment will be undertaken in accordance with the Major Hazard Installation (MHI) Regulations. The EIA phase will not rely solely on the MHI Risk Assessment, but will integrate</p>

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		<p>impacts and their implications for the local community and businesses).</p> <p>28. While the DSR confirms that geohydrological and surface water assessments will be undertaken, those assessments must consider the full extent of contamination and other environmental impacts which may arise in the event of a water contamination incident, notwithstanding the applicable legal obligations contained in the NWA.⁸</p> <p>29. A further concern is that the DSR indicates that the geohydrological assessment will be undertaken as a desktop study. Given that the Facility will store and handles dangerous goods in quantities exceeding 500m³ and will entail multiple water treatment and waste treatment systems, it is crucial that the EIA phase includes a comprehensive assessment of potential contamination risks and the efficacy of emergency measures that may be implemented in that regard.</p>	<p>its findings into the broader environmental impact assessment.</p> <p>The EIA will consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • potential environmental consequences of major incidents (e.g. contamination of soil, groundwater and surface water); • impacts on surrounding receptors, including nearby communities and land uses; and • potential socio-economic implications, including disruption to local activities and infrastructure. <p>The EIA phase will include an assessment of contamination risks, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • potential release pathways (e.g. spills, leaks, system failures); • impacts on groundwater and surface water resources; and • implications for downstream users.

⁸ Section 19 of the NWA, requires owners, controllers, occupiers and users of land to take all reasonable measures to prevent pollution from occurring, continuing or recurring, including ceasing or controlling the act causing pollution, containing pollutants, eliminating the source, and remedying effects. Section 20 deals similarly with emergency incidents and requires reasonable measures to contain, minimise, clean up and remedy the effects of the incident.

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			The assessment will be done by taking into account the design and adequacy of containment systems, pollution prevention measures, and the effectiveness of emergency response and mitigation measures.
		<p><u>Inadequate identification of visual and landscape Impacts</u></p> <p>30. Although the DSR does indicate that a Visual Impact Assessment (“VIA”) will be undertaken, the proposed scope of that assessment is limited to the Facility. In the circumstances, the VIA must take account of the visual impacts associated with the Facility and the Solar PV Facility (together with any existing or approved development in the surrounding area). The VIA must also consider:</p> <p>30.1. the extent to which the proposed development may alter the rural and agricultural character of the area;</p> <p>30.2. the visual impacts associated with security lighting, night-time operations and any flaring activities;</p> <p>30.3. the implications of the proposed development for any local business that rely upon the rural character and landscape quality of the area for their business operations (i.e tourism operations); and</p> <p>30.4. the visual impacts experienced from neighbouring farms, public roads and settlements, including Hopefield itself.</p>	The comment is noted and will be communicated to the specialist for consideration during the impact assessment.

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		<p><u>Inadequate identification of the full scope of cumulative impacts associated with the Facility</u></p> <p>31. While cumulative impacts are referred to throughout the DSR, they are not identified for assessment in a comprehensive and integrated manner. In particular, insufficient consideration appears to have been given to the cumulative implications of:</p> <p>31.1. increasing industrialisation within a predominantly agricultural landscape (particularly the cumulative implications of the development of Facility and the Solar PV Facility;</p> <p>31.2. cumulative pressures on water resources; and</p> <p>31.3. cumulative impacts on agricultural enterprises and agricultural land uses.</p>	<p>The DSR identifies cumulative impacts as a relevant consideration and includes these within the scope of the EIA phase and therefore, cumulative impacts are identified at a screening level in the DSR.</p> <p>Detailed cumulative impact assessment is deferred to the EIA phase, where sufficient specialist data and project design information will be available.</p>
		<p><u>INADEQUATE MOTIVATION FOR THE NEED AND DESIRABILITY OF THE FACILITY</u></p> <p>32. A scoping report must provide a motivation for the need and desirability of the proposed activity, including the need and desirability of the activity in the context of the preferred location.⁹ Section 3 of the DSR (pp 55 to 57)</p>	<p>Section 3 of the DSR addresses the need and desirability of the proposed project by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • outlining the strategic and policy context for green hydrogen and e-SAF; and

⁹ These of listed in section 1. Objective of the Scoping Process in Appendix 2 to the EIA Regulations, 2014.

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		<p>purports to address the need and desirability of the proposed e-SAF facility. It does so mainly by reference to high-level policy consideration.</p> <p>For example, it refers, <i>inter alia</i>, to:</p> <p>32.1. The global climate-change emergency and the Paris Agreement (Vide clause 3.1 of the DSR);</p> <p>32.2. the benefits of e-SAF, including drop-in capability, circular carbon use, claimed high performance, improved air quality and scalability;</p> <p>32.3. the role that green hydrogen may play in decarbonising hard-to-abate sectors; and</p> <p>32.4. national policy statements in support of green hydrogen and green industrialisation</p> <p>(Vide clause 3.2.1 of the DSR).</p> <p>33. It is not disputed that the Facility may, in appropriate circumstances, contribute to decarbonisation and industrial development. That is not the issue. The issue is whether this particular project is needed and desirable in this particular location. The DSR does not adequately answer that question.</p> <p>34. The DSR's need and desirability assessment makes a case for the green hydrogen and e-SAF industry. It does not make a sufficient case for locating a large-scale industrial fuels manufacturing facility on the Site,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> describing the role of the proposed development in contributing to decarbonisation objectives and industrial development. <p>At the scoping stage, the need and desirability assessment is high-level in nature, with the objective being to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> establish the strategic rationale for the project; and identify key issues to be further assessed in the EIA phase. <p>The comment that the assessment must more clearly address site-specific need and desirability is acknowledged.</p>

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		<p>particularly given the implications for surrounding agricultural land uses. The fact that a particular technology may serve a climate or industrial-policy objective does not on its own establish that the selected site is environmentally acceptable, land-use compatible, water-secure and socially appropriate. In the circumstances that the DSR ought properly to have explained why an industrial facility of this nature should be located on agriculturally zoned land in a rural landscape near Hopefield, rather than in an existing industrial area or another location with fewer environmental, agricultural, water-resource and social constraints.</p> <p>35. The scoping report must also explain why renewable electricity could not be supplied through wheeling, grid connection, contractual procurement or another configuration; why the e-SAF plant could not be located closer to an existing industrial area, port infrastructure, wastewater capacity, emergency services or bulk logistics infrastructure; and why the environmental and social disadvantages of the selected rural site are justified.</p> <p>36. In this regard, the DSR does not adequately engage with a number of material considerations, including:</p> <p>36.1. the fact that the proposed development is located within a Protected Agricultural Area;</p> <p>36.2. the proximity of the proposed development to existing agricultural enterprises, including neighbouring flower farming operations and other agricultural activities;</p>	

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		<p>36.3. the implications of introducing a large-scale industrial processing facility into an area characterised by agricultural land uses and rural settlement patterns;</p> <p>36.4. the implications of the proposed land-use change for the long-term agricultural character and functioning of the area;</p> <p>36.5. the potential impacts of the Project on neighbouring agricultural operations, water users and landscape character; and</p> <p>36.6. whether the anticipated benefits of the Project outweigh the environmental, social and agricultural trade-offs associated with the Site.</p> <p>37. The DSR further does not appear to meaningfully consider whether the objectives of the Project could be achieved at alternative sites that may present fewer environmental and socio-economic constraints.</p> <p>38. In the absence of such an assessment, it is difficult to understand how the conclusion that the Site is desirable has been reached.</p> <p>39. We submit that the need and desirability assessment as currently contained in the DSR is incomplete because it focuses primarily on the desirability of the proposed Facility rather than the need and desirability of the Project on the Site.</p>	

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		<p><u>FAILURE TO IDENTIFY SUITABLE SITE ALTERNATIVES</u></p> <p>40. The object of the scoping process¹⁰ is, amongst other things to:</p> <p>40.1. identify and confirm the preferred activity and technology alternative through an identification of impacts and risks and a ranking process of those impacts and risks; and</p> <p>40.2. identify and confirm the preferred site through a detailed site-selection process, which includes an identification of impacts and risks, including cumulative impacts, and a ranking process of all identified alternatives focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic and cultural aspects of the environment.</p> <p>41. The EIA Regulations, 2014 contain the following definition:</p> <p><i>“alternatives”, in relation to a proposed activity, means different means of meeting the general purpose and</i></p>	<p>Section 2.5 of the DSR recognises that the EIA Regulations require the identification and description of reasonable alternatives, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • site (location) alternatives; • technology alternatives; • layout and design alternatives; • operational alternatives; and • the no-go option. <p>At the scoping stage, the DSR identifies the categories of alternatives relevant to the project; and outlines the intention to assess these alternatives further in the EIA phase. The EIA phase will further consider the suitability of the selected site relative to reasonable alternatives, where such alternatives are feasible and can be meaningfully assessed and whether the proposed location represents a best practicable environmental option. The EIA phase will expand on the no-go alternative to consider environmental, social and economic implications of not proceeding with the project and the extent to which project objectives could be achieved through alternative means or configurations (to the extent reasonable and practicable).</p>

¹⁰ which are listed in section 1. Objective of the Scoping Process in Appendix 2 to the EIA Regulations, 2014

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		<p><i>requirements of the activity which may include alternatives to the—</i></p> <p><i>a) property on which or location where the activity is proposed to be undertaken;</i></p> <p><i>(b) type of activity to be undertaken;</i></p> <p><i>(c) design or layout of the activity;</i></p> <p><i>(d) technology to be used in the activity; or</i></p> <p><i>(e) operational aspects of the activity;</i></p> <p><i>and includes the option of not implementing the activity;”</i></p> <p>42. The assessment of alternatives is intended to provide options for choice in order to enable decision-makers to select the best practicable environmental option.</p> <p>43. Section 2.5 of the DSR notes that the EIA Regulations provide for the Scoping and EIA process to identify and describe alternatives considered, or to motivate why alternatives were not considered. It also records that different categories of alternatives could include different locations, technology types and project layouts. Despite this the DSR does not provide a detailed site-selection process and states that “due to the requirement to have the plant in close proximity to the Solar PV and BESS facility, the current site position is the only feasible</p>	

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>alternative and no other site alternatives are being considered.”</p> <p>44. While proximity to renewable-energy infrastructure may be a relevant factor it does not, without more, justify excluding all other sites from consideration. If it did, an applicant could predetermine the location of a high-impact industrial facility simply by first selecting the location of an associated energy facility and then asserting that all downstream infrastructure must follow it. The nature and scale of the proposed Facility and related Solar PV Facility (along with the significant implications thereof for surrounding agricultural land uses) warrant the identification and assessment of alternative sites in order to provide real options for choice by the competent authority.</p> <p>45. The DSR therefore conflates the question of whether the Site is convenient or commercially advantageous for the applicant; with the question of whether it is environmentally, socially and land-use preferable when compared with reasonable alternatives. It is particularly problematic that the DSR relies on proximity to the Solar PV Facility and BESS facility while elsewhere describing the Facility as supplied by renewable power, possible wind-power wheeling, battery storage and intelligent energy-management systems. Once it is accepted that energy may be supplied through an integrated power arrangement, the scoping report must explain why the Facility must be located on the site rather than at, or near, existing industrial, port, water, wastewater, emergency-</p>	

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>response or logistics infrastructure. The DSR does not however provide that explanation.</p> <p>46. The nature and scale of the proposed Facility and related Solar PV Facility (along with the significant implications thereof for surrounding agricultural land uses) warrant the identification and assessment of alternative sites in order to provide real options for choice by the competent authority.</p> <p>47. The definition of alternatives also includes operational aspects of the activity. Any further draft of the scoping report must identify whether the plant can operate at reduced scale, reduced hours, different phasing, different storage inventories, different transport schedules, different water-use profiles, different emergency-containment capacities or different renewable-power configurations in order to reduce impacts.</p> <p>48. The no-go alternative must identify whether the project objectives could be pursued elsewhere or through a less harmful configuration.</p> <p>49. In the absence of such an assessment, it is difficult for interested and affected parties (including our clients), as well as the competent authority, to understand why the proposed site has been identified as the preferred location or whether less environmentally sensitive alternatives may be available.</p>	
		<u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION CONCERNS</u>	The public participation process undertaken for the Draft Scoping Report was conducted in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014,

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>50. Chapter 6 of the EIA Regs requires consultation with, among others, owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken. It further states that the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting ("S&EIR") process will include a public participation process in which all neighbouring landowners will be notified of the project and provided with an opportunity to comment on the relevant documents during the regulated comment periods.</p> <p>51. The DSR mentions that the public participation process is intended to identify relevant individuals, organisations and communities who may be interested in or affected by the Facility. It also mentions that an effective public participation process requires the prior disclosure of relevant and adequate project information to enable stakeholders to understand the risks, impacts and opportunities of the proposed project.</p> <p>52. Our clients are neighbouring landowners who occupy properties situated in close proximity to the proposed development site and who have a direct and substantial interest in the outcome of the application.</p> <p>53. Notwithstanding their proximity to the proposed development and the potential impacts identified in these comments, neither the commenting parties nor, to their knowledge, Arnelia received direct notification of the application, the public participation process or the availability of the DSR. Our clients' experience does not accord with chapter 6 of the EIA regs.</p>	<p>which require that Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) be given adequate notice of the application and stakeholders be provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment through prescribed notification methods. The 30-day period is the minimum statutory requirement prescribed by the EIA Regulations. However, upon the request, an extension to the comment period was granted.</p> <p>The EIA phase will provide a second round of public participation, during which more detailed specialist studies will be available and stakeholders will have a further opportunity to review and comment on the project.</p> <p>As outlined in the DSR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the PPP included site notices, newspaper advertisements and direct notifications to identified stakeholders; and the Draft Scoping Report was made available for a 30-day public comment period, in line with regulatory requirements. <p>The PPP aims to identify and notify affected landowners and stakeholders based on available information and stakeholder databases. It is recognised that stakeholder databases may not always be exhaustive since the identification and notification of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) must be undertaken in compliance with applicable data protection legislation, including the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (POPIA). POPIA places restrictions on the collection, access, and use of personal information, including private contact</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>54. The concern is compounded by the scale and complexity of the DSR, its appendices and its associated developments and the supporting material/expert studies. The DSR was made available for a 30-day comment period. It concerns a technically complex industrial facility with multiple specialist disciplines, overlapping NEMA, NWA and AEL processes, and extensive implications for water, air quality, traffic, visual impacts, social impacts, hazardous substances, wastewater, brine, biodiversity and neighbouring land uses.</p> <p>55. A 30-day period may satisfy the minimum regulatory period in ordinary circumstances, however it is clearly inadequate in the current circumstances. Where affected persons become aware of the process only after part of the period has elapsed or mostly through, and where the project documentation is extensive, technical and incomplete in material respects, the opportunity to participate may be substantially compromised. The subsequent granting of an extension to our clients is welcomed. It does not, however, cure the broader concern for all I&APs. Our clients are concerned that other neighbouring landowners, occupiers, farm workers, road users, residents and vulnerable stakeholders may also be unaware of the application, or may not understand the true nature, scale and risk profile of the proposed development.</p> <p>56. There is also a concern about fragmentation of participation. The Project will require, at least, an environmental authorisation, a WUL and an AEL. It also</p>	<p>details of landowners and occupiers, unless such information is lawfully obtained and processed. As a result, the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) is limited to using publicly available information, existing stakeholder databases, and information provided through lawful channels when identifying and notifying I&APs. The EAP is not permitted to access or utilise private databases or personal contact information without appropriate legal basis or consent.</p> <p>Therefore, in the case of notification to Arnelia Farms cc, direct notification was sent to the following email addresses: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].</p> <p>Additional stakeholders who have since become aware of the project by means of the different methods of notification (advertisements, site notices, emails and sms) have been formally registered on the stakeholder database and will receive all future correspondence. The EAP will continue to update and expand the stakeholder database throughout the EIA phase and all statutory notification methods (including public notices and advertisements) will continue to be used to ensure broad awareness, as required by the EIA Regulations.</p> <p>With reference to the concern that the DSR and supporting documentation is complex and difficult to interpret, the following should be noted that the DSR is a technical document intended to describe the project, identify key impacts and define the scope of the EIA phase. Efforts have been made to enhance accessibility, including provision of an executive summary and making</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>refers to associated infrastructure, wastewater treatment, sewage infrastructure and tanker logistics.</p> <p>57. If these processes proceed in parallel or separately, affected persons may be required to comment on different parts of the same functional development at different times, through different portals, and on different records. That is not conducive to meaningful participation.</p> <p>58. The Environmental Assessment Practitioner (“EAP”) should provide an integrated account of the project and identify, in one place, all related approvals, processes, comment periods and documents.</p> <p>59. The characterisation, size and structure of the DSR, make it difficult for ordinary stakeholders to identify the key issues and impacts at scoping stage, thereby impairing meaningful participation. In the circumstances, any future reporting circulated by the EAP should ensure that adequate time (and not just the prescribed minimum time) is allowed for I&APs to provide comments on reports.</p>	<p>documentation available through multiple platforms. For the EIA phase additional efforts will be made to improve clarity where possible and summary materials will be provided to facilitate understanding by non-technical stakeholders.</p> <p>With reference to the concern regarding fragmentation of participation across multiple regulatory processes (EA, WULA, AEL) it is important to note that the project forms part of an integrated regulatory process, which includes Environmental Authorisation (under NEMA), Water Use Licence Application (WULA) and Atmospheric Emissions Licence (AEL). While these processes may involve separate legal requirements and authorities, the intention is to provide stakeholders with a coordinated understanding of the project and ensure that relevant information is made available during the EIA phase.</p>

		<p><u>CONCLUSION</u></p> <p>60. In summary, and for the reasons set out in this document, the DSR in its current form does not provide a sound basis for the assessment of the Facility in the EIA phase. In particular:</p> <p>60.1. The scope of the impact assessment proposed is limited to the Facility and does not include the impacts associated Solar PV Facility, notwithstanding the fact that the development of the Solar PV Facility is integral to the Facility itself.</p> <p>60.2. DSR has also failed to adequately identify the scope of the potential impacts which will be associated with the Facility itself, particularly in respect of impacts on:</p> <p>60.2.1. neighbouring landowners, existing agricultural and horticultural operations and the livelihoods of the local rural community;</p> <p>60.2.2. air quality concerns (including dust and particulate matter and chemical residue deposits on crops);</p> <p>60.2.3. the availability of water resources, and implications for existing water users;</p> <p>60.2.4. visual and landscape character;</p> <p>60.2.5. the high potential agricultural land across the Swartland PAA (and not only the Site); and</p>	<p>Your comments and concerns and the EAP's response will be recorded in the Comments and Response Report that will be appended to the Final Scoping Report for submission to the Competent Authority.</p>
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		<p>60.2.6. the full extent of environmental and socio-economic impacts associated with incidents and major-hazard risks.</p> <p>60.3. The DSR's motivation for need and desirability is also substantially flawed. It makes a general case for green hydrogen and e-SAF in principle but does not adequately motivate the need and desirability of locating the Facility on the Site.</p> <p>60.4. Significantly, the DSR has failed to identify reasonable and feasible location alternatives for assessment in the EIA Phase. This represents a major flaw given that the Facility is wholly incongruent in the agricultural setting of the Site.</p> <p>61. The DSR requires extensive revision to address the issue identified above, and should be circulated for further public comment before being circulated as a final report.</p> <p>62. Our clients reserve all rights to supplement, amend and expand these submissions during the EIA phase, once the specialist studies, Draft EIR, EMP, WULA material, AEL material, risk assessments, emergency-response plans, land-use documents and other related authorisation materials are made available. All rights to object to, appeal or review any Environmental Authorisation or related approval that may follow are reserved.</p>	
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#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
57.	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning Letter by Email 12 June 2026	1. The DSR and associated documents dated and received by this Department via electronic mail correspondence on 6 May 2026 and this Department's acknowledgement thereof dated 20 May 2026, refer.	The statement is noted.
		2. This Directorate's comments on the DSR are as follows: 2.1. Project description 2.1.1. The proposal entails the development of a Green Hydrogen and electro-Sustainable Aviation Fuel ("e-SAF") manufacturing facility and associated infrastructure on the Farm Portugeesche Fontyn No. 167, Hopefield. 2.1.2. The total development footprint of the proposal is approximately 61ha. 2.1.3. The description of the proposed development must be revised to include details of the associated infrastructure as it related to the applicable listed activities, i.e. the details of the pipeline infrastructure, the access roads, the volume of dangerous goods, the effluent/sewage infrastructure, reservoirs, stormwater retention ponds etc.	The project description in Section 2 of the FSR has been updated to include details of the associated infrastructure as it relates to the applicable listed activities.
		2.2. Bulk Service Infrastructure Capacity 2.2.1. Since the property is undeveloped and not serviced to accommodate the proposed development, you are advised to obtain confirmation in this regard, from the appointed consulting engineers in the form of a service confirmation report, which is further supported by the	This requirement is noted by the Applicant. A service confirmation report, supported by the relevant municipal services capacity departments within the Saldanha Bay Municipality will be included in the Draft EIA Report.

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>relevant municipal service capacity departments within Saldanha Bay Municipality.</p> <p>2.2.2. Section 2.3.1 on page 46 of the DSR indicates “The water that will be used on the plant will be sourced from the municipal potable water line. In addition, the plant will recycle and reuse water from the onsite wastewater treatment works.”. Given the water-scarce nature of the West Coast region and the ongoing pressures on municipal water resources, the reliance on potable water should be carefully considered. In this regard, the availability and long-term security of water supply from the Saldanha Bay Municipality should be confirmed, and the feasibility of alternative water sources should be investigated. From a resource efficiency perspective, the investigation and comparative analyses of alternatives should demonstrate whether the use of potable water represents the most sustainable and appropriate option for the proposed development.</p> <p>2.2.3. The engineering services report should verify the design and operational capacities of bulk service infrastructure and road networks, and provide the technical data required to assess the applicability of the listed activities associated with the proposed development.</p>	<p>This requirement is noted by the applicant. Confirmation will be obtained from the Saldanha Bay Municipality on the availability and long-term security of water supply.</p> <p>The feasibility of alternative water sources will be investigated by the Applicant. The details will be included in the Draft EIA Report.</p> <p>This requirement is noted by the Applicant. The engineering services report will be included in the Draft EIA Report.</p>
		<p>2.3. Water Use License(“WUL”) Application</p> <p>2.3.1. Based on the information submitted with the Application Form, it is understood that a WUL Application Process has been initiated with the Department of Water</p>	<p>The WUL Application documentation submitted to DWS as well as comments from the Department will be included in the Draft EIA Report.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>and Sanitation to confirm whether a General Authorisation / Water Use Licence is required.</p> <p>2.3.2. Proof of the approval to proceed with the WUL Application Process with the Department of Water and Sanitation dated 27 April 2026 has been included in the Application Form.</p> <p>2.3.3. Please note that the WUL Application particulars (forms and supplementary documentation) submitted to DWS must be included in the draft EIA Report.</p> <p>2.3.4. Please ensure that comment regarding the proposed development is obtained from DWS and included in the draft EIA Report.</p> <p>2.3.5. Failure to obtain comment from DWS may prejudice the outcome of this application.</p>	
		<p>2.4. Screening Tool, The Protocols, Site Sensitivity Verification Report("SSVR") and Specialist Assessments</p> <p>2.4.1. This Directorate's correspondence in acknowledgement of receipt of the Application Form and DSR dated 20 May 2026 remains valid and has reference.</p> <p>2.4.2. The SSVR was not included in the submission of the DSR, however, the following additional comments must be addressed and included in the revised SSVR to be submitted with the Draft EIR.</p> <p>2.4.2.1. The submission of the Application Form included four Screening Tool Reports (dated 4 March 2026, 9</p>	<p>The revised SSVR, as per the requirements of the comments, will be appended to the Draft EIA Report.</p> <p>It can be confirmed that an Ambient Air Quality Impact Assessment and a Health Impact Assessment will be undertaken. The results thereof will be included in the Draft EIA Report.</p> <p>The comment on the desktop Geotechnical Assessment and desktop Geohydrological Assessment is noted. The assessments will be upgraded accordingly and will include an impact assessment of the associated infrastructure.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>March 2026, 10 March 2026 and 29 April 2026) relevant to each Application Category. However, the DSR only included the Screening Tool Report dated 4 March 2026 and the subsequent summary of the environmental sensitivities identified in the Screening Tool Report (dated 4 March 2026) as described on page 89 of the DSR in the Table 5-3 Sensitivities Identified in the DFFE Screening Report, does not confirm whether a Health Impact Assessment and an Ambient Air Quality Impact Assessment will be undertaken. Based on the nature and scale of the proposed development, proximity to existing agricultural land use activities, and the fact that an Atmospheric Emissions License is required for the proposed development, the aforementioned specialist assessments must be undertaken.</p> <p>2.4.2.2. The Table must be revised to include all specialist assessments identified in the four Screening Tool Reports. Confirmation whether these specialist assessments will be undertaken must be addressed in the revised SSVR to be submitted with the draft EIR.</p> <p>2.4.2.3. It is further understood that a Desktop Geotechnical Assessment and Desktop Geohydrological Assessment has been commissioned to be undertaken. Due to the nature and scale of the proposed development, the aforementioned specialist assessments must not be limited to desktop assessments. Site-specific investigations are required to adequately assess the environmental constraints to further determine the impact significance and substantiate the suitability of the proposed development in its current design and format.</p>	

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>2.4.2.4. Please ensure that the aforementioned specialist assessments are not limited to the proposed e-SAF Plant only but includes an impact assessment of the associated infrastructure.</p> <p>2.4.2.5. Please ensure that the appointed specialists and their reports meet the requirements as stipulated in the Protocols.</p> <p>2.4.2.6. Please ensure that the revised SSVR includes all identified themes and specialist assessments identified by the Screening Tool Reports. The SSV Report must be based on the more recent Screening Tool Reports and revised accordingly to meet the requirements in terms of the Protocols.</p> <p>2.4.2.7. Where a specialist assessment is required, but no specific environmental theme protocol has been prescribed, the level of assessment must be based on the findings of the site verification and must comply with Appendix 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).</p> <p>2.4.2.8. Please note that should relevant commenting authorities require any additional specialist assessments, the relevant specialist assessment must be undertaken.</p>	
		<p>2.5. Alternatives</p> <p>2.5.1. The investigation of Alternatives highlighted on pages 52 and 53, Section 2.5 of the DSR, which is limited to the investigation of Site and Technology Alternatives, is noted.</p>	<p>The Department's comments and requirements for the investigation of alternatives are noted and will be addressed accordingly in the Draft EIA Report.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>2.5.2. Be advised that in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), the investigation of alternatives is mandatory. All alternatives identified must therefore be investigated to determine if they are feasible and reasonable. In this regard it must be noted that the Department may grant authorisation for an alternative as if it has been applied for or may grant authorisation in respect of all or part of the activity applied for as specified in Regulation 24 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). Alternatives are not limited to site and technology alternatives, but include layout alternatives, design, activity and operational alternatives.</p> <p>2.5.3. Furthermore, please note that the absence of certain specialist studies or the reliance on desktop-based specialist assessments in lieu of more site-specific investigations, limits the evidentiary basis upon which alternatives can be meaningfully identified, assessed, and compared (see comment on Desktop Geotechnical and Geohydrological Assessments). As a result, the impact assessment process is not supported by sufficient site-specific information to enable a robust assessment and evaluation of alternatives.</p> <p>2.5.4. The investigation of alternatives must be revisited based on the outcomes of the specialist assessments as these findings should influence the comparative analyses of reasonable and feasible alternatives.</p> <p>2.5.5. The Environmental Assessment Practitioner is required to demonstrate that alternatives were duly considered for the proposed development.</p>	

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>2.5.6. Where additional alternatives were not identified or assessed, a clear motivation must be provided, supported by practical, technical, environmental and spatial constraints, confirming that no other feasible or reasonable alternatives exist beyond the preferred option and the mandatory no go alternative.</p> <p>2.5.7. You are further reminded of the mandatory requirement to investigate and assess the option of not proceeding with the proposed activity (i.e., the “no-go” option) in addition to other alternatives identified. Every EIA process must therefore identify and investigate alternatives, with feasible and reasonable alternatives to be comparatively assessed.</p>	
		<p>2.6. Need and Desirability</p> <p>2.6.1. The Need and Desirability aspect of the proposed development as described in Section 3 on Pages 55 to 57 of the DSR, is noted. While the alignment of the proposed development with certain development frameworks is acknowledged, insufficient consideration has been given to the planning implications of locating a development of this nature and scale outside the urban area on land zoned for Agricultural purposes.</p> <p>The Need and Desirability assessment must therefore be expanded to adequately justify the appropriateness of the proposed location from a spatial planning and land use management perspective.</p> <p>2.6.2. For instance, the DSR indicates the proposed development aligns with the objectives of the Saldanha</p>	<p>The Department’s comments and requirements for the expansion of the Needs and Desirability Assessment are noted and will be addressed accordingly in the Draft EIA Report.</p> <p>The Scoping Report has been updated to include a consideration of the Objectives of the Greater Saldanha Environmental Management Framework.</p> <p>The referral of the project to the Land Use Planning division within the Department is noted.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>Bay Municipal Spatial Development Framework (SDF), which guides land-use planning, economic development, and infrastructure investment within the municipality. However, no further details regarding how the proposed development aligns with certain provisions of the SDF, is provided.</p> <p>2.6.3. The site is located within the Greater Saldanha Environmental Management Framework (“EMF”) and spans across mapped “Conservation Zone” and “Controlled Development Zone” Environmental Management Zones. The objectives of the EMF must be considered in the Scoping Report.</p> <p>2.6.3.1. In terms of the Greater Saldanha EMF, Conservation Areas are identified as spatial components where the primary environmental management objective is the protection and maintenance of ecological processes, biodiversity pattern and ecological infrastructure, and where land use change is generally discouraged unless it can be demonstrated that it will not compromise ecological integrity. Controlled Environment areas are defined as areas where sustainable land use change may be considered, subject to compliance with EMF environmental management guidelines, thresholds of concern, and decision-making criteria designed to ensure that impacts remain within acceptable limits.</p> <p>2.6.3.2. As such, development proposals within these zones are required to demonstrate consistency with the Greater Saldanha EMF objectives, with specific regard to ecological sensitivity, cumulative impact considerations,</p>	

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>and the maintenance of the desired environmental management state of the receiving environment.</p> <p>2.6.4. You are reminded that Regulation 8 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) stipulates that a competent authority is required to inform the proponent or applicant of any factors that might prejudice the success of their application. Be advised that this specific case has been referred to the Land Use Planning component within this Department for comment. As soon as comments are obtained, this will be communicated.</p>	
		<p>2.7. Public Participation</p> <p>2.7.1. Please ensure that the comments raised during the Public Participation Process are adequately addressed.</p> <p>2.7.2. Due to the nature and scale of the proposed development in the context of the receiving environment, as prescribed in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), promulgated under section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), a more robust Public Participation Process is requested beyond the minimum requirements prescribed in terms of Regulation 41(2) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).</p> <p>2.7.3. Notwithstanding compliance with these minimum requirements, and in line with the principles of Section 2 of NEMA, it is recommended that an enhanced public participation process be undertaken to ensure meaningful engagement, the Public Participation Process should include, but not limited to, the following additional</p>	<p>Comments received during the DSR Public Participation Process are detailed and addressed in this Comments and Response report.</p> <p>The Department's requirement for a more robust Public Participation Process is noted and the proposed process and methods of engagement during the Draft EIA Report phase will be revisited and revised accordingly.</p>

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>measures, viz. extended comment periods, targeted engagement with key stakeholders and organs of state, additional consultation sessions where appropriate in the form of open days, public meetings, and the use of electronic media, etc., to ensure that all potentially affected parties are adequately informed and afforded a reasonable opportunity to participate in the decision-making process.</p> <p>2.7.4. Please be reminded that a Public Participation Process must fulfil the requirements outlined in Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended). Proof of having complied with the said requirements must be included in future reports that will be submitted to this Department.</p> <p>2.7.5. Please be reminded that the Plan of Study for EIA must comply with all of the requirements of Section 2 (1)(h)(i) to (j) of Appendix 2 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended).</p>	
		<p>2.8. General</p> <p>2.8.1. Your attention is drawn to Appendix 2 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) for the requirements with respect to the 'Content of the Scoping Report'. Please comply with these requirements.</p>	This requirement is noted. Table 1-3 of the FSR provides a breakdown of the legislated report requirements as detailed in Appendix 2 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) and the corresponding sections in the report.
		<p>3. Please note, it is prohibited in terms of Section 24F of the NEMA for a person to commence with a listed activity unless the competent authority has granted an environmental authorisation for the undertaking of the activity. A person convicted of an offence in terms of the above is liable for a fine not exceeding R10 million or</p>	The requirements are noted by the Applicant and the EAP.

#	Name	Comment	Response from EAP/Applicant/Specialist
		<p>imprisonment for a period not exceeding 10 years, or to both such fine and imprisonment.</p> <p>4. Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.</p> <p>5. The Department reserves the right to revise or withdraw comments and request further information based on the information received.</p>	

4 WAY FORWARD

The FSR will be submitted to the DEADP (the competent authority) who then have 43 days to accept or reject the FSR. Should the report be accepted, the EIA phase of the project will proceed, and the draft EIA report will be made available for public review and comment.

All stakeholders will be notified via email and SMS of the availability of the EIA report.

Appendix A

NOTIFICATIONS



Appendix A.1

REPORT PLACEMENT





WSP WEBSITE

[Who we are](#)[What we do](#)[Insights](#)[Careers](#)[Investors](#)[News](#)[Contact us](#)

Title of Project: Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield

Document on Public Display: Draft Scoping Report

Project No: ZA0066851.7273

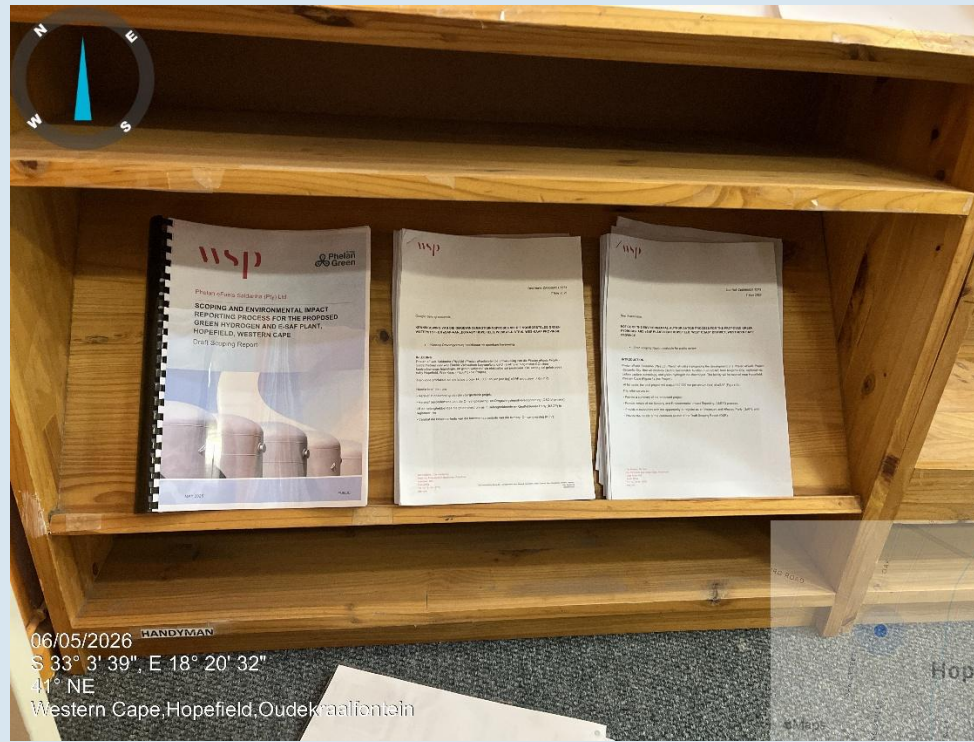
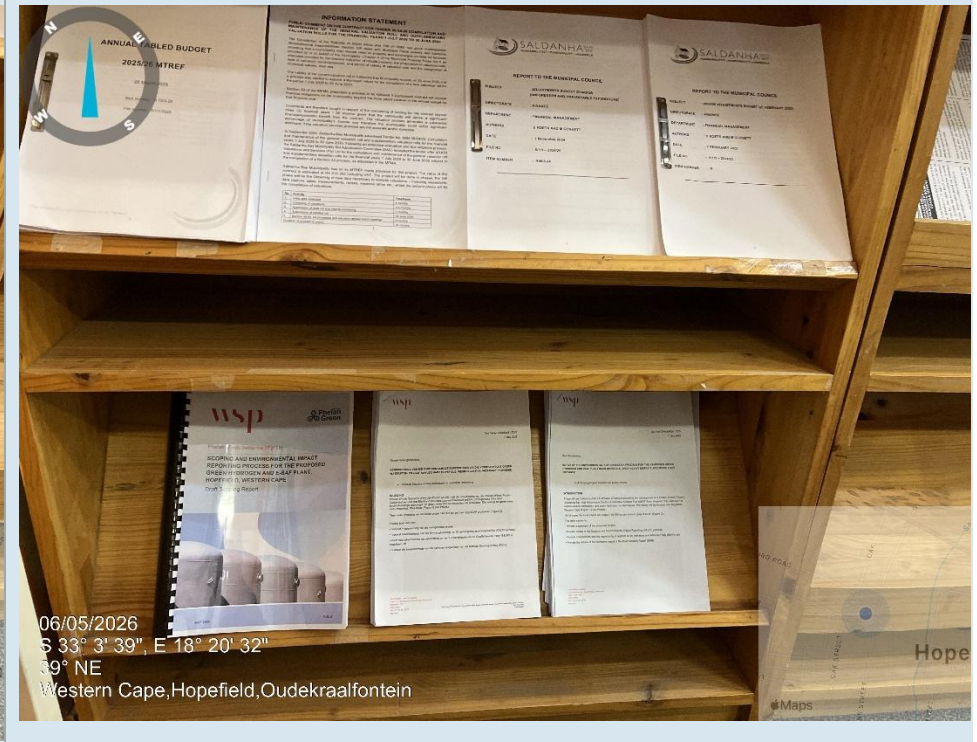
Contact Person: WSP PP Office | **Tel:** 011 361 1300 | **Email:** pp@wsp.com

- [Draft Scoping Report](#)
- [Appendix A - EAP CV](#)
- [Appendix B - EAP Declaration](#)
- [Appendix C1 - Locality Map](#)
- [Appendix C2 - Layout Map](#)
- [Appendix C3 - Critical Biodiversity Areas](#)
- [Appendix C4 - Watercourses](#)
- [Appendix C5 - Vegetation Map](#)
- [Appendix C6 - Overall Sensitivity Map](#)
- [Appendix D - DFFE Screening Tool Report](#)
- [Appendix F1 - Adverts](#)

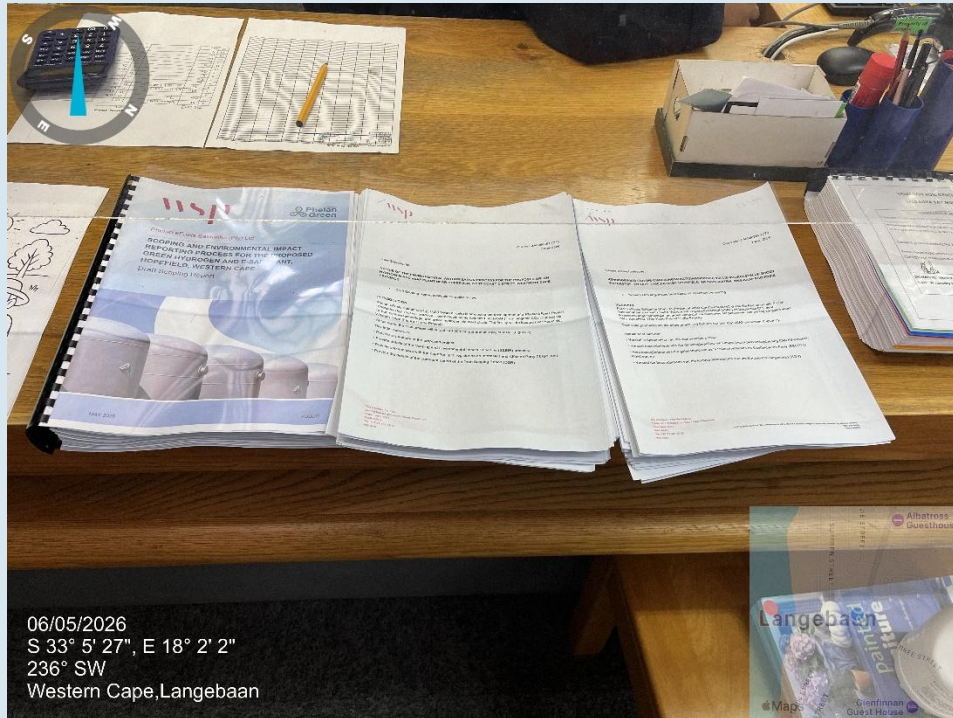
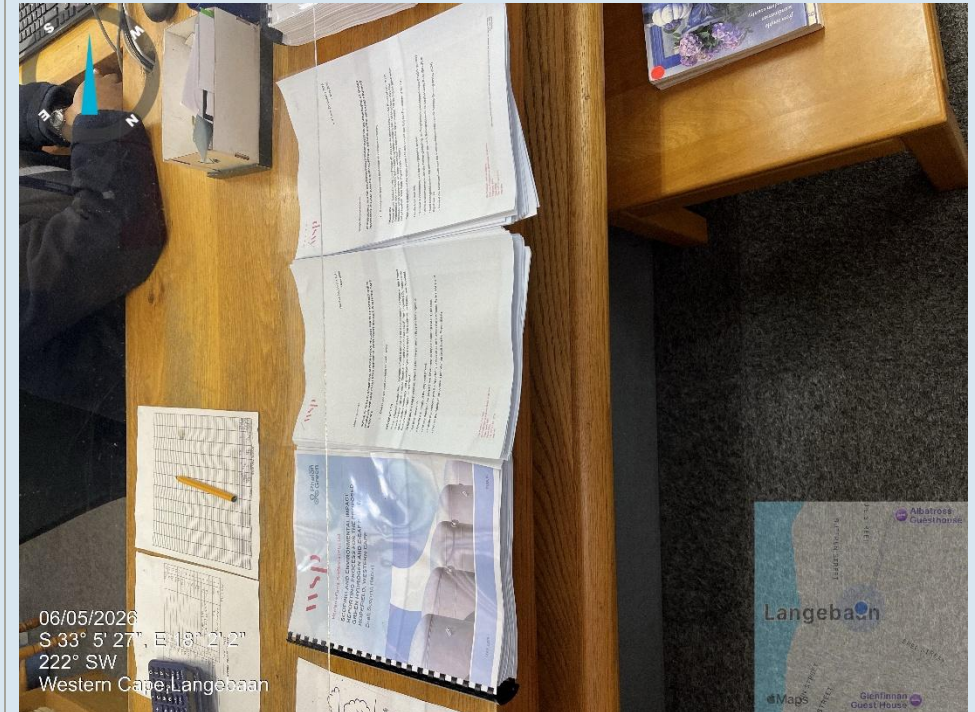


REPORT PLACEMENT

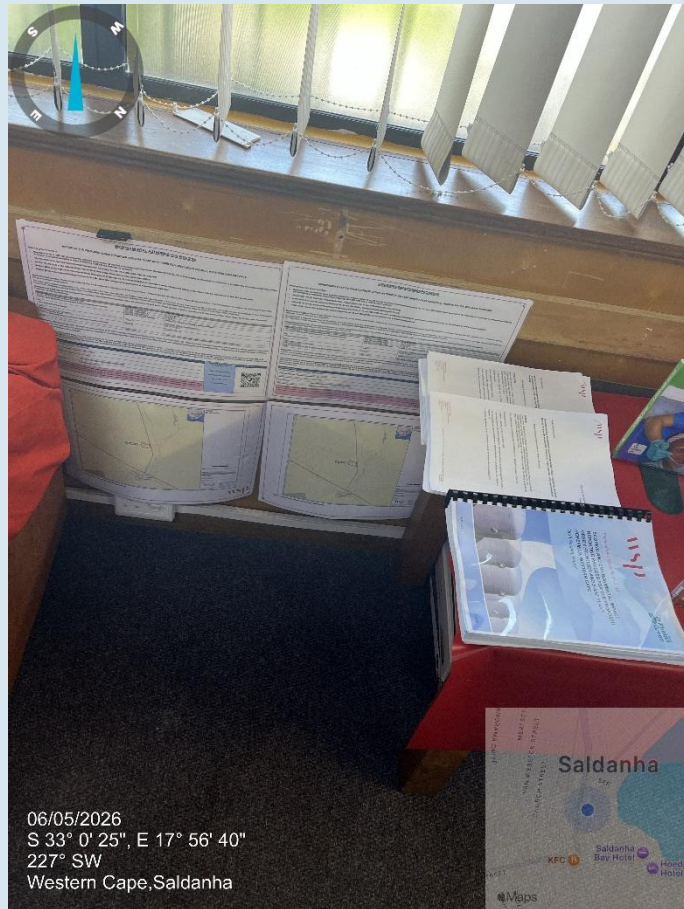
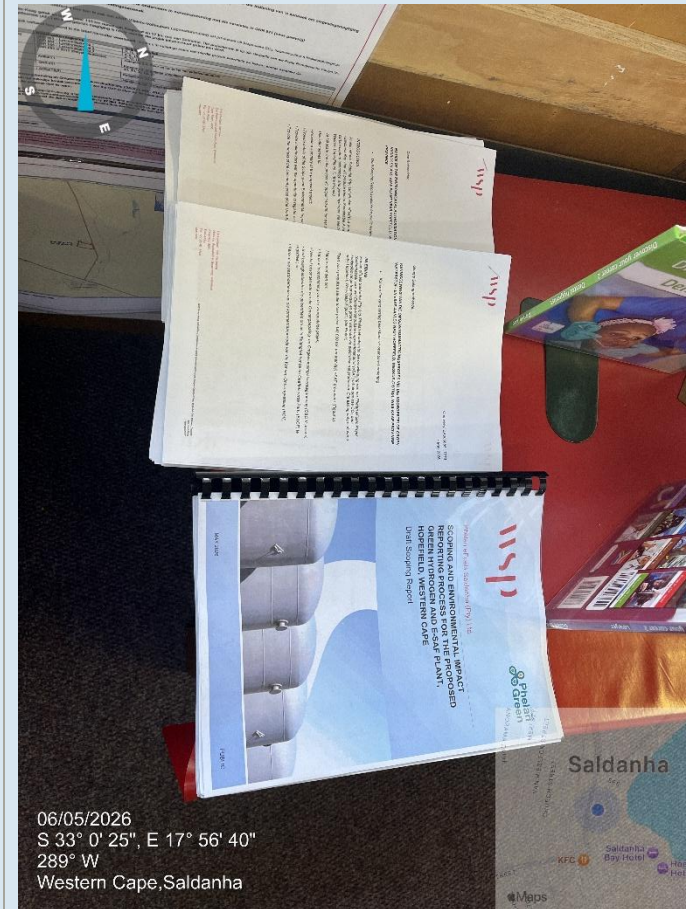
Hopefield Library



Langebaan Library



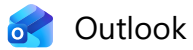
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Appendix A.2

EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS



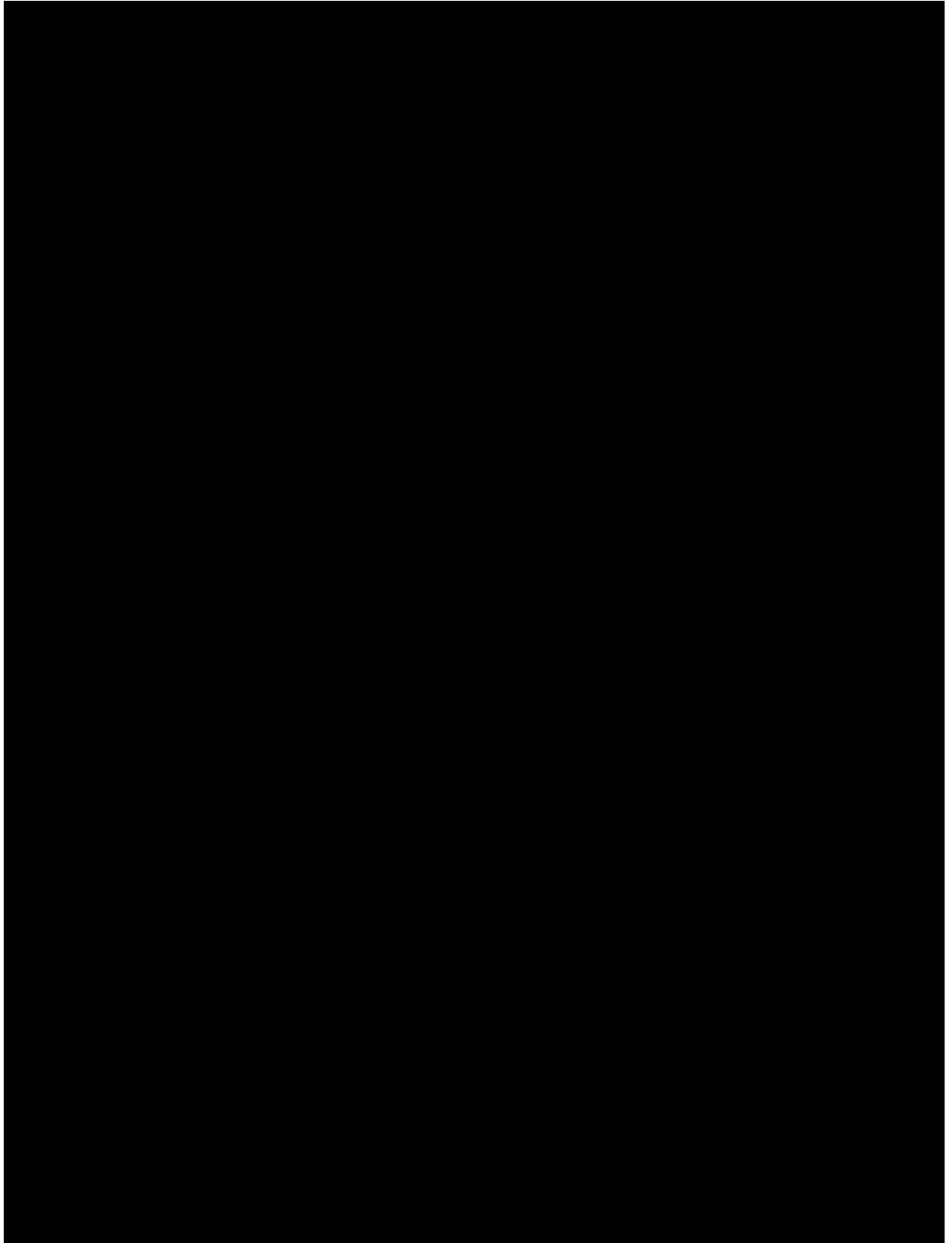


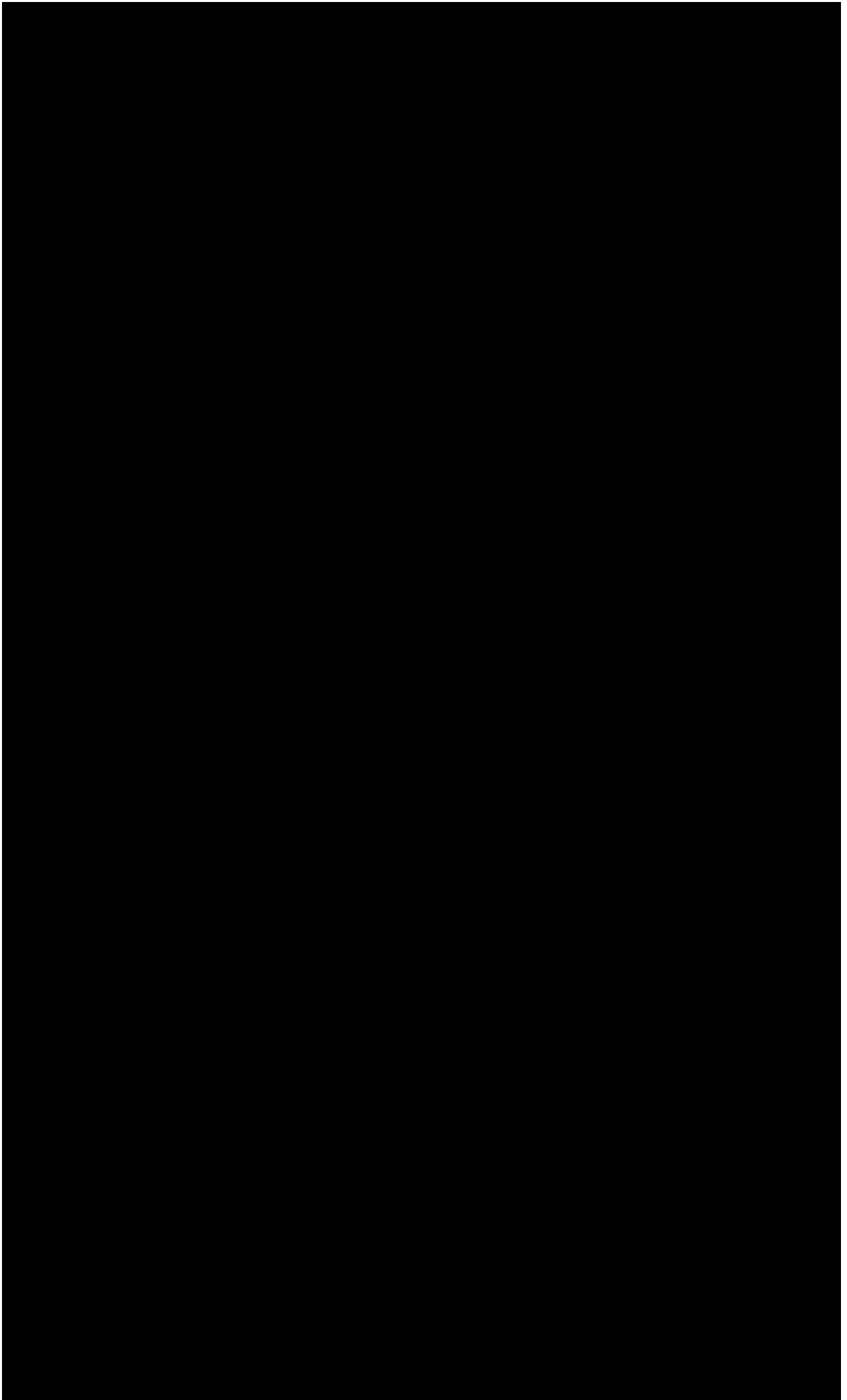
ZA0066851.7273 – NOTIFICATION: NOTICE OF THE INTEGRATED REGULATORY PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND ELECTRO-SUSTAINABLE AVIAATION FUEL (e-SAF) PLANT NEAR HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

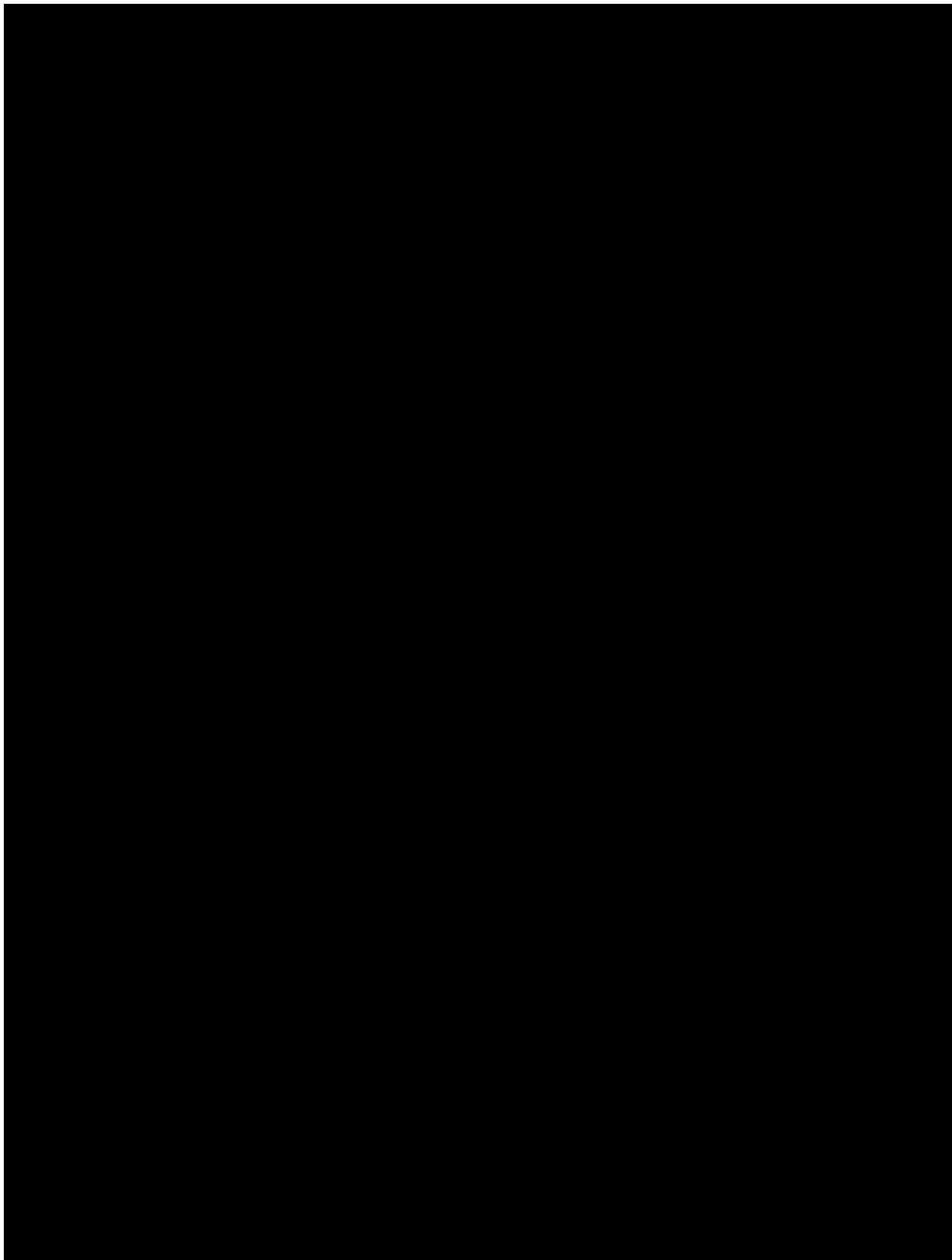
From ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>

Date Wed 5/6/2026 2:04 PM

Bcc







 2 attachments (3 MB)

ZA0066851.7273_Phelan Green_BIL_Afr_DSR_Final_29042026.pdf;
ZA0066851.7273_PhelanGreen_BIL_Eng_DSR_Final_29042026.pdf;

Dear Stakeholder,

Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd is proposing to undertake the *Phelan eFuels Project – Saldanha Bay* that will produce eSAF (Electro-Sustainable Aviation Fuel) from biogenic CO₂, captured via carbon capture technology, and green hydrogen via electrolysis.

The project site is situated approximately 3 km north of Hopefield in the West Coast District in the Western Cape and is approximately 115 km north of Cape Town and 57 km east of Saldanha. The project site is on the Remainder of Farm Portugeesche Fontyn No167, Malmesbury District. Applications for environmental authorisation, an Atmospheric Emission Licence (AEL) and water use authorisation are required before the project infrastructure can be constructed.

Please refer to the attached background information letter for more information on the proposed project, the availability of the Draft Scoping Report for public review and the opportunity to comment.

Kind regards,

Public Participation Office

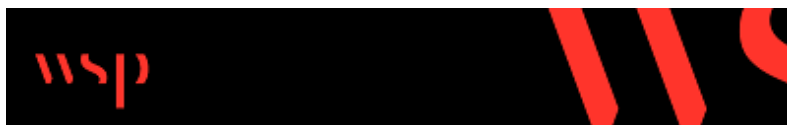
T +27 11 254 4800

T +27 11 361 1300

WSP

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

wsp.com



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



Our Ref: ZA0066851.7273

7 May 2026

Dear Stakeholder,

NOTICE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND eSAF PLANT NEAR HOPEFIELD, WEST COAST DISTRICT, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

- Draft Scoping Report available for public review

INTRODUCTION

Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd (Phelan eFuels) is proposing the development of a *Phelan eFuels Project -Saldanha Bay* that will produce Electro-Sustainable Aviation Fuel (eSAF) from biogenic CO₂, captured via carbon capture technology, and green hydrogen via electrolysis. The facility will be located near Hopefield, Western Cape (Figure 1) (the Project).

At full scale, the total project will output 140 000 ton per annum (tpa) of eSAF (Figure 2).

This letter serves to:

- Provide a summary of the proposed project;
- Provide details of the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process;
- Provide stakeholders with the opportunity to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP); and
- Provide the details of the comment period of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR).

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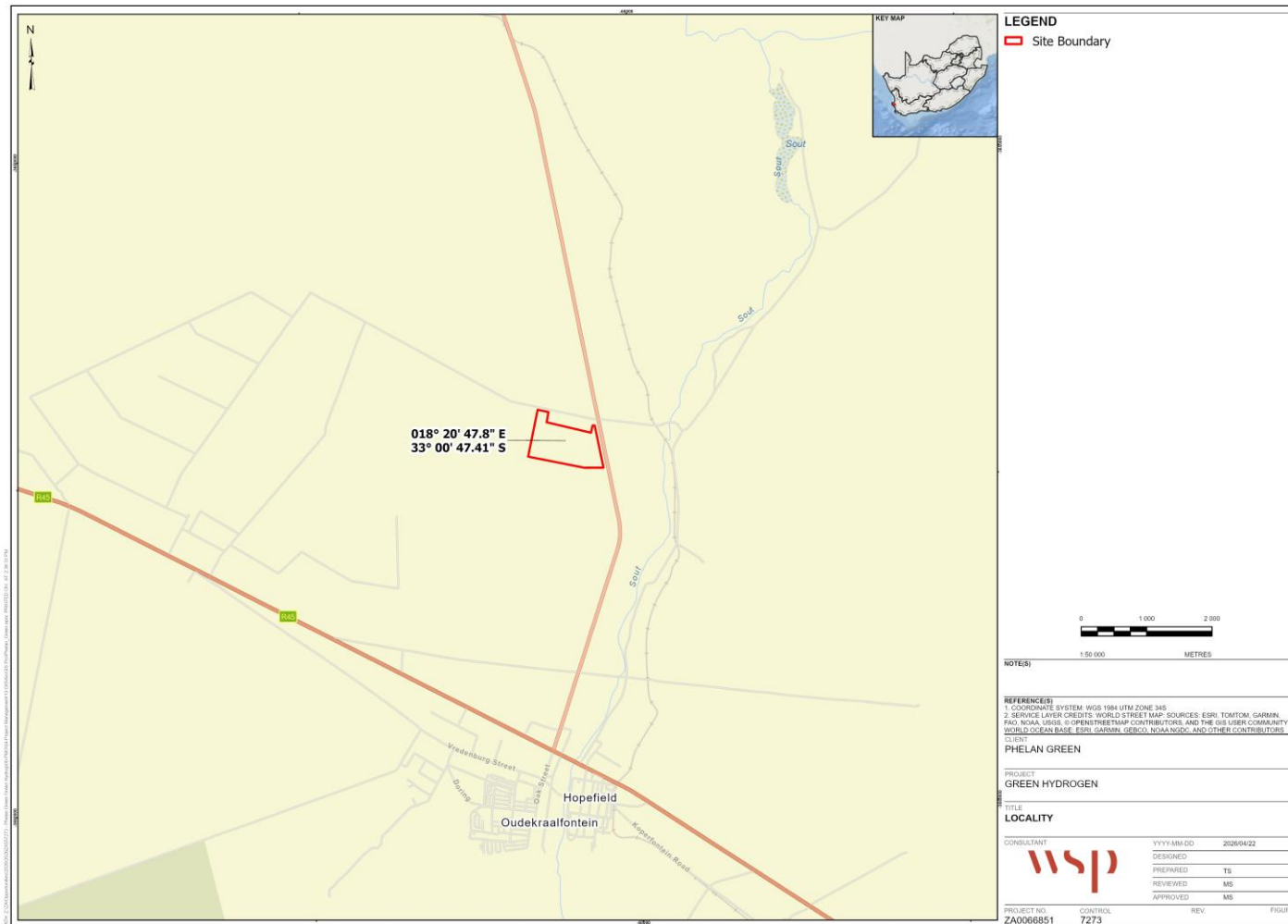


Figure 1: Locality of the Phelan eFuels – Saldanha Bay Project

The Pavilion, 1st Floor
 Cnr Portwood and Beach Road, Waterfront
 Cape Town, 8001
 South Africa
 Tel: +27 21 481 8700
 wsp.com

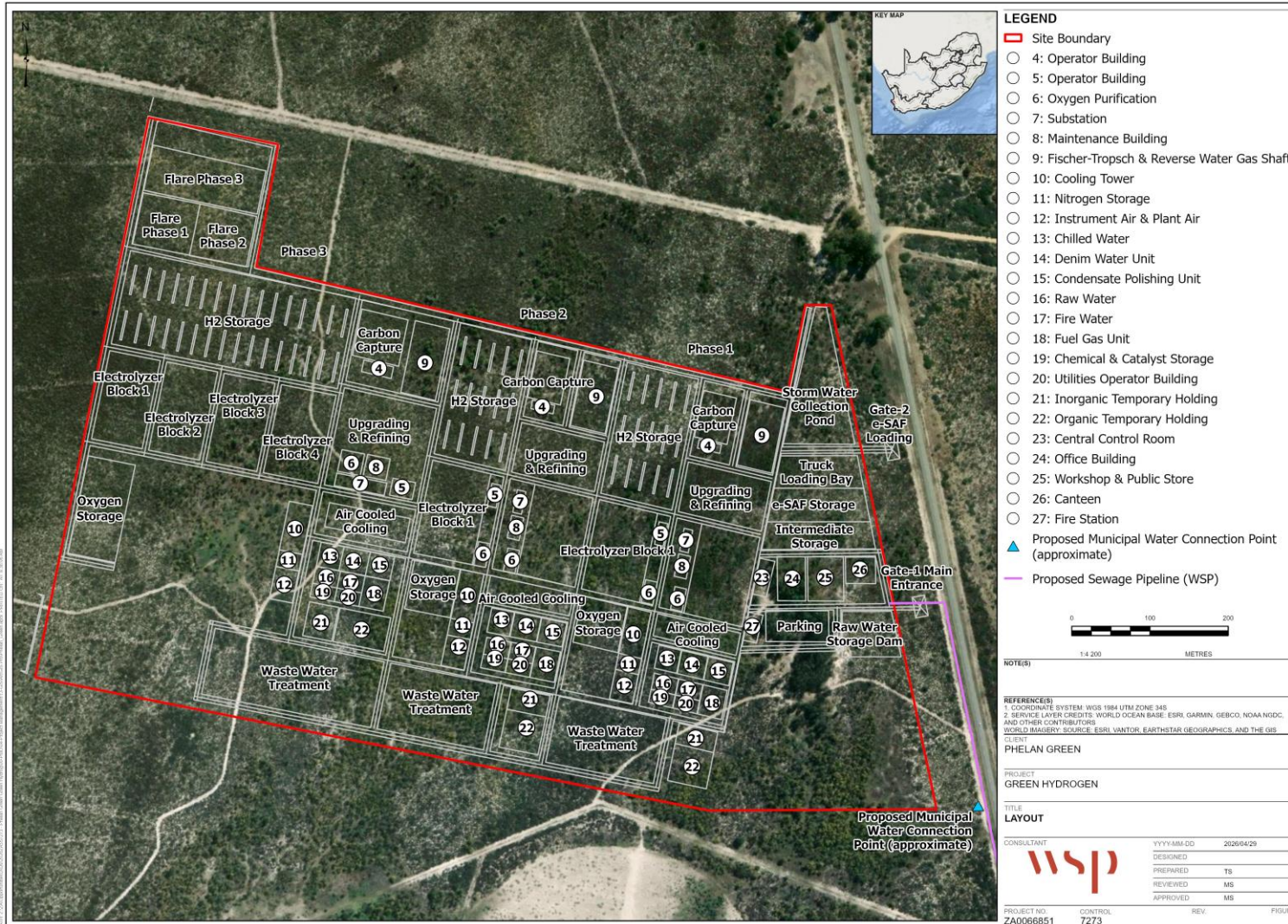


Figure 2: Proposed layout of the Phelan eFuels – Saldanha Bay Project

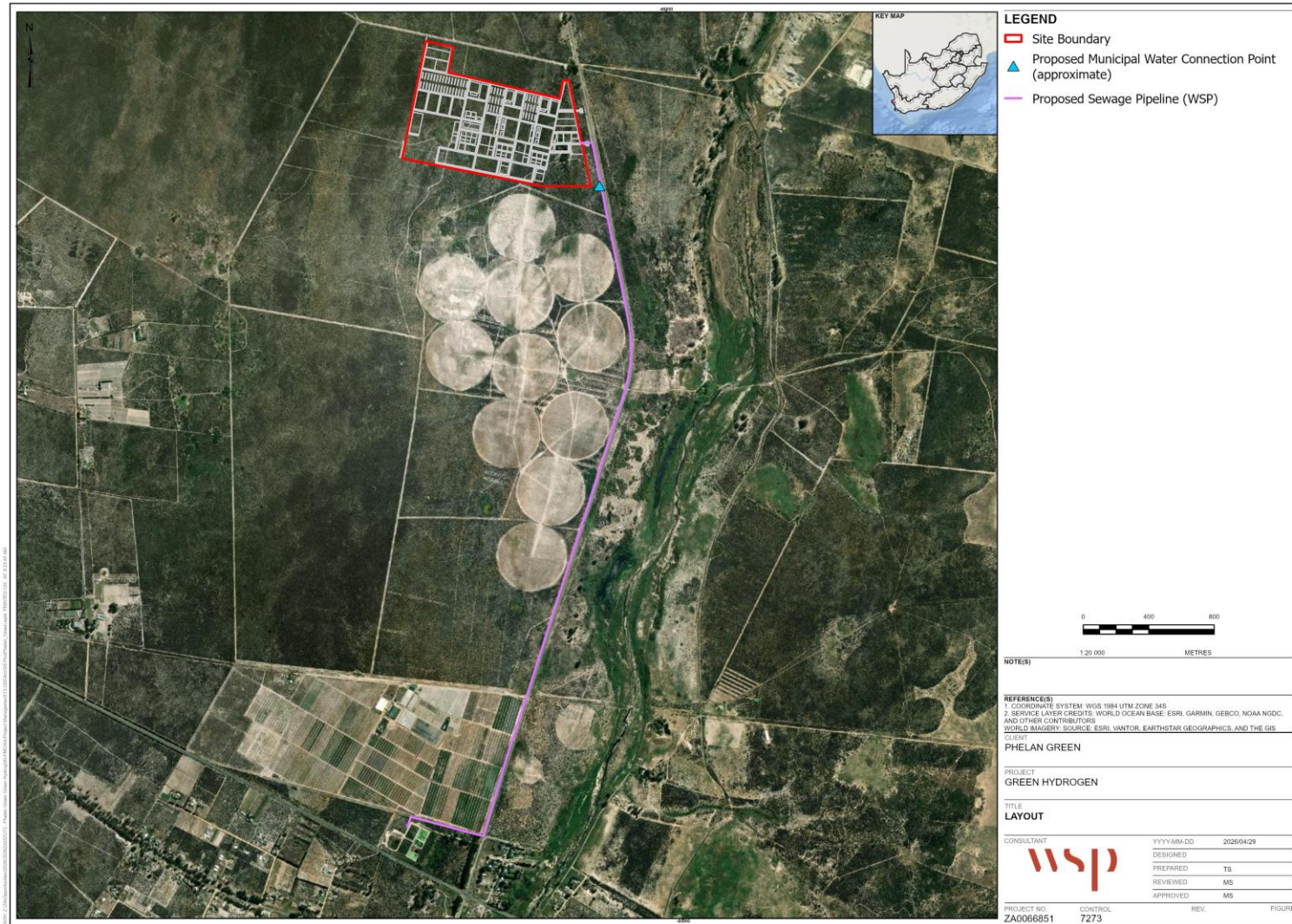


Figure 3: Proposed layout, with sewage pipeline, of the Phelan eFuels – Saldanha Bay Project



SITE LOCALITY

The proposed Project development area is located in the Saldanha Local Municipality within the West Coast District Municipality in the Western Cape Province (Figure 1). The Project structures and infrastructure are proposed to be located on the following land parcel:

- Remainder of the Farm Portugeesche Fontyn 167

Access to the site is obtained via the MR234, travelling north from Hopefield, which borders the site along its eastern boundary. The surrounding land use is predominantly agricultural, with the Soutrivier located to the east of the site.

The approximate centre point co-ordinates of the proposed Project area are (Figure 1):

- Latitude (S): 33° 00' 47.41"S
- Longitude (E): 18° 20' 47.8"E.

The closest town is Hopefield, approximately 3km south of the proposed site, and 115km north of Cape Town. Hopefield is a small town located within a semi-arid agricultural area, where wheat cultivation, sheep farming, and honey production constitute the primary economic activities. The town lies along the R45 between Malmesbury and Vredenburg and is situated approximately 120 km north of the Cape Town central business district.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The operation strategy for the plant is that the processing plant downstream of electrolysis will operate 24/7 with the availability of the battery energy storage and hydrogen buffer storage to feed the downstream Reverse Water Gas Shift, Fischer Tropsch Synthesis and Refining when renewable energy is intermittent. The Project is proposed to be developed in phases as follows:

- Phase 1 - 35 000 tpa (Q4 2028)
- Phase 2 - 35 000 tpa (Q3 2030)
- Phase 3 - 70 000 tpa (Q3 2032)

The facility will be powered primarily by renewable energy.

The process components will consist of (Figure 4):

- Green Hydrogen generation
Hydrogen gas is produced by splitting purified water using renewably generated electricity in a process called electrolysis.
- Carbon capture
The Project will capture the biogenic CO₂, via carbon capture technology, from the flue gas by-product from biomass boilers operated by a third party for use as a feedstock in downstream eSAF production.
- Syngas generation and eSAF Production
Syngas, which is a mixture of carbon monoxide and hydrogen, is made in a reactor using the reverse water gas shift reaction. The syngas is then fed into a Fischer Tropsch reactor, where it is converted into hydrocarbons. The Fischer Tropsch products will be subsequently separated into heavy hydrocarbons (referred to as FT waxes), light hydrocarbon condensate (LHC), and water. The heavy hydrocarbons and the light hydrocarbon condensate, known as FT Crude, will be further processed in a catalytic upgrading unit to produce synthetic paraffinic kerosene (SPK). The SPK product will be distilled, producing eSAF.

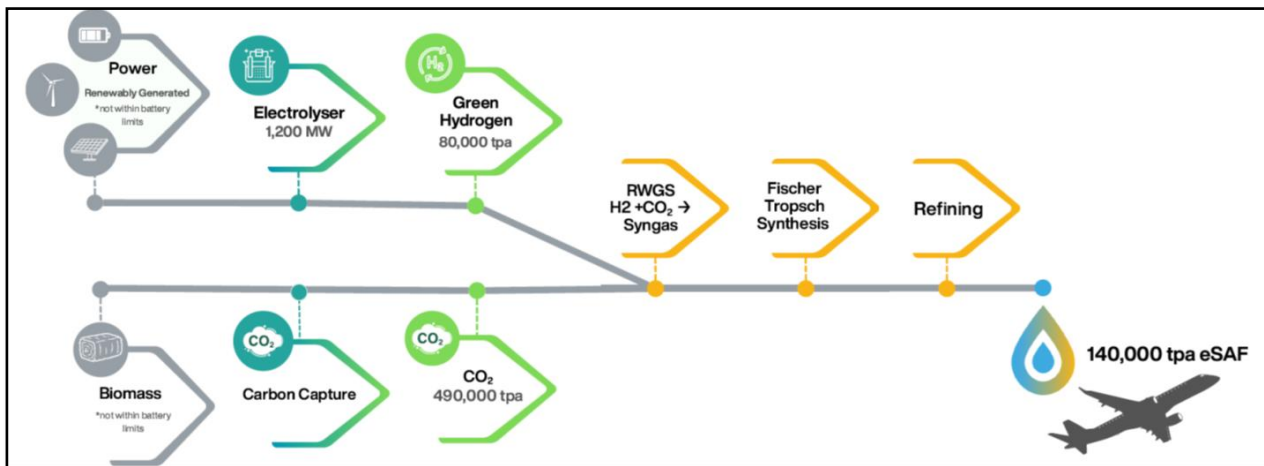


Figure 4: Overall process schematic of Phelan eFuels project for eSAF production.

The following infrastructure will be required in support of the process:

- Water storage facilities (ponds and tanks)
- Product storage tanks
- Chemical storage tanks
- Temporary waste storage facilities
- Water treatment facilities
- Truck loading area, truck weighbridge and security room.
- Maintenance workshop and store area.
- Administration buildings, canteen, parking.
- Office building;
- Control room;
- First Flush Pond;
- Storm Water Collection Pond and associated canals and sumps;
- Fire station

Further project details are provided in the Draft Scoping Report.

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION PROCESS

Phelan eFuels is applying for environmental authorisation (EA) to support the above-mentioned project.

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) (as amended), the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended), Phelan eFuels is required to undertake a Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) Process and submit a Scoping Report, Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

The S&EIR process consists of various phases with associated timelines as defined in the 2014 EIA Regulations (as amended). The process can generally be divided into four main phases, namely;

- (i) an unregulated pre-application phase;
- (ii) an Application and Scoping Phase (current phase);
- (iii) an Impact Assessment Phase; and
- (iv) Authorisation and Appeal Phase.

The competent authority responsible for the decision on whether to grant environmental authorisation is the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP).

WATER USE LICENCE APPLICATION (WULA)

Phelan eFuels is also required to submit an application for water use authorisation to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) for water uses as specified in section 21 of the National Water Act (No. 36 of 1998) (NWA). These water uses include:

- Section 21 (a) taking water from a water resource
- Section 21 (b) storing water
- Section 21 (c) impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse
- Section 21 (g) disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact a water resource.
- Section 21 (i) altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse.

ATMOSPHERIC EMISSION LICENCE (AEL) APPLICATION

The facility will require an Atmospheric Emission Licence (AEL), as required in terms of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (No. 39 of 2004) and Government Notice Regulation 893 of 2013 (Listed Activities) for the following categories:

- Category 2.4: Storage and handling of petroleum products
- Category 6: Organic Chemicals Industry

The application will be submitted to the West Coast District Municipality for decision-making

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP), an independent environmental and engineering consulting firm, has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the S&EIR, WULA and the AEL applications.

PURPOSE OF THE SCOPING REPORT

In summary, the purpose of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) is to provide information, regarding:

- The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process as stipulated in the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, including the process to be followed in conducting the environmental and social impact assessment, and the stakeholder engagement including consultation with regulatory authorities,
- The policy and legislative context for the project,
- A motivation for the need and desirability for the project, in the context of the preferred location,
- The proposed activities, the location of the project and activities to be undertaken,
- The plan of study for the impact assessment phase,
- The current baseline environmental conditions within the project footprint;
- The potential environmental and social impacts provisionally identified for the project,
- The alternatives being investigated, and
- The methodology used to assess the significance of the impacts.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Invitation to register as an I&AP, to comment

Stakeholders are invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and to participate in the environmental authorisation processes by commenting on the proposed S&EIR, AEL and WULA processes as follows:

- Completing the enclosed Registration and Comment Sheet and return it to the WSP PP Office by post or email.



- Providing comments on the proposed project, Draft Scoping Report by contacting the Public Participation Office telephonically or by email.

Public Review of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR)

The Draft Scoping Report will be made available at the venues and websites below for review. Comments on the project and the above applications are invited for a period of 30 days from **07 May 2026** to **08 June 2026**. The 60-day WULA comment period will start on **07 May 2026** and conclude on **06 July 2026**. The AEL application will run concurrently with the S&EIR process. A copy of the AEL application form will be available on request. Decision on the AEL application will be made within 60 days from the date when all required documentation for the application has been provided. The applicant will be notified within 30 days from the date of the decision.

Printed copies of the Draft Scoping Report are available at the public places listed below. This background information letter, registration and comment sheet and the Draft Scoping Report can be downloaded from the following websites:

- WSP Website: <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
- Data-free Website: <https://wsp-engage.com/>

Name of Public Place	Contact Number
Hopefield Library, Oak Street, Hopefield	022 723 0384
Langebaan Library, 7 Breë Street, Langebaan	022 707 5030
Saldanha Library, Berg Street, Saldanha	022 714 8010

We would like to encourage you to actively participate in the environmental authorisation process. Should you wish to obtain more information to comment, please contact the WSP Public Participation (PP) office at 011 361 1300 or email: pp@wsp.com.

WAY FORWARD

After the public review period on the Draft Scoping Report has closed, the report will be updated and submitted to the DEA&DP for review in order to proceed with the EIA phase of the process.

Yours sincerely

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd

Attachments: Registration and Comment Sheet

WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an I&AP for purposes of enabling your registration as an I&AP and for purposes of storing your details on our database if you consent for us to do so. WSP uses these details to contact you about other 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.

PHELAN EFUELS – SALDANHA BAY PROJECT

**SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS, APPLICATION FOR ATMOSPHERIC EMISSION LICENCE, WATER USE
AUTHORISATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS, HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.**

Registration and Comment Sheet

Draft Scoping Report Review Period: 07 May 2026 to 08 June 2026



Your comments make an important contribution to these permitting processes. We would like to encourage you to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) so that we can keep you updated and can respond to any questions or concerns that you may have.

PERSONAL DETAILS					
Name	Surname	Title	Organisation / Department / Farm/ Community (If applicable)		
Contact Details					
Mobile Number					
Office Number					
Home Number					
Fax Number					
Email Address					
Postal Address				Postal code	
WSP, will not share personal information with a third party					
LANDOWNERS					
If your property is adjacent to the Project site, please tell us your, street address, farm name and/or erf/portion number					
WOULD YOU LIKE TO REGISTER AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY? (Mark with an X)				YES	NO
Preferred Method of Communication (Mark with an X)		Post	Email	Fax	
In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), I disclose below any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that I may have in the approval or refusal of the application:		Date			
		Signature			

COMMENT(S)

You are welcome to use additional pages should you so wish to do so.

I have the following comments to make regarding the proposed project:

[illegible]

Please ask the following of my colleagues / friends to register as Interested and Affected Parties:

NAME	CONTACT DETAILS

PLEASE RETURN THE REGISTRATION AND COMMENT SHEET TO:

**Public Participation Office
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 6001, HALFWAY HOUSE, 1685
Tel: 011 361 1300
Email: pp@wsp.com
Reference: ZA0066851.7273**

THANK YOU



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 for purposes of storing your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP uses these details to contact you about other 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.

Geagte Belanghebbende,

KENNISGEWING VAN DIE OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSES VIR DIE VOORGESTELDE GROEN WATERSTOF- EN eSAF-AANLEG NABY HOPEFIELD, WESKUS-DISTRIK, WES-KAAP PROVINSIE

- Konsep Omvangverslag beskikbaar vir openbare hersiening

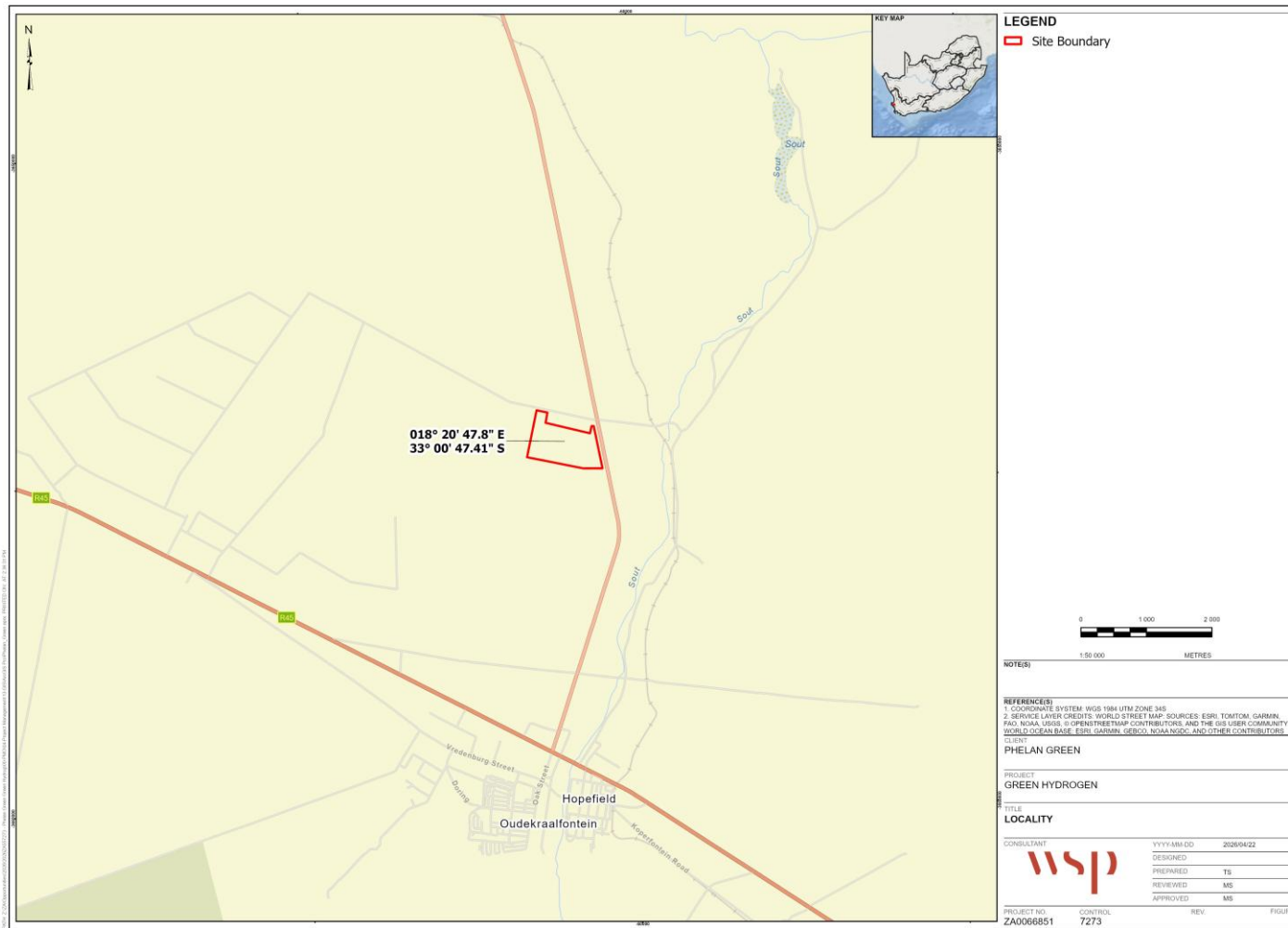
INLEIDING

Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd (Phelan eFuels) stel die ontwikkeling van die *Phelan eFuels Projek - Saldanhabaai* voor wat Elektro-Volhoubare Lugvaartbrandstof (eSAF) uit biogeniese CO₂, deur koolstofopvangs tegnologie, en groen waterstof via elektrolise sal produseer. Die aanleg sal geleë wees naby Hopefield, Wes-Kaap (Figuur1) (die Projek).

Teen volle produksie sal die totale projek 140 000 ton per jaar (tpj) eSAF produseer (Figuur 2).

Hierdie brief dien om:

- Verskaf 'n opsomming van die voorgestelde projek;
- Verskaf besonderhede van die Omvangbepaling- en Omgewingsimpakverslagdoening (O&OIV-proses);
- Bied belanghebbendes die geleentheid om as 'n Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Party (B&GP) te registreer; en
- Verskaf die besonderhede van die kommentaarperiode van die Konsep-Omvangverslag (KOV).



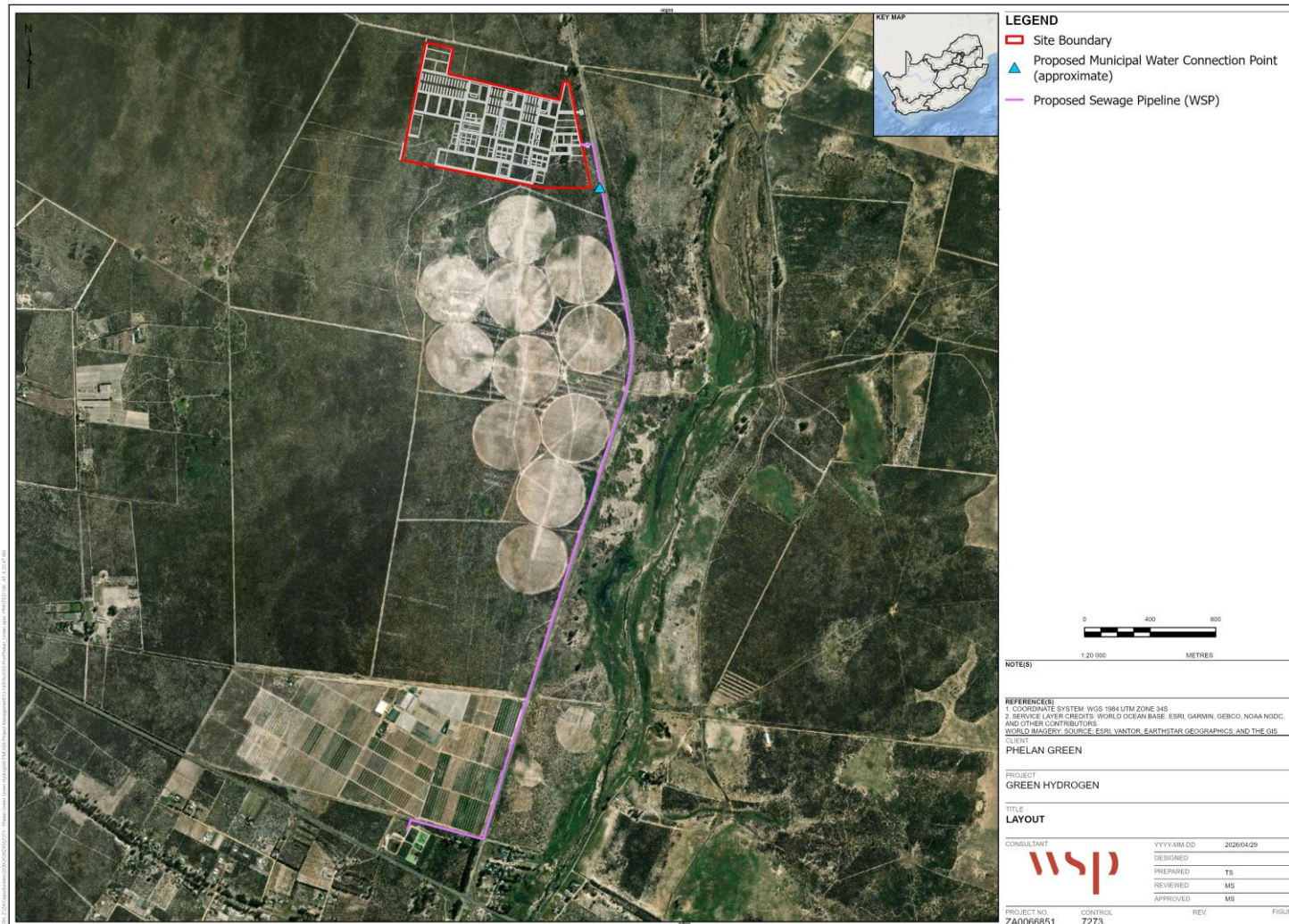
Figuur 1: Ligging van die Phelan eFuels – Saldanhabaai-projek

Die Paviljoen, 1ste Verdieping
 Hoek van Portsworld en Beachweg, Waterfront
 Kaapstad, 8001
 Suid-Afrika
 Tel: +27 21 481 8700
 wsp.com

WSP Groep Afrika (Edms) Bpk | Geregistreerde adres: Maxwell Kantoorpark, Magwa Crescent Wes, Waterfall City, Midrand, Gauteng.
 1685, Suid-Afrika
 1999/008928/07



Figuur 2: Voorgestelde uitleg van die Phelan eFuels Projek – Saldanhabaai



Figuur 3: Voorgestelde uitleg, met p van die Phelan eFuels Projek – Saldanha

TERREINLIGGING

Die voorgestelde Projekgebied is geleë in die Saldanha Plaaslike Munisipaliteit binne die Weskus Distriksmunisipaliteit in die Wes-Kaap Provinsie (Figuur 1). Daar word voorgestel dat die projekstrukture en -infrastruktuur op die volgende grondperseel geleë sal wees:

- Res van die plaas Portugeesche Fontyn 167

Toegang tot die terrein word verkry via die MR234, geleë aan die oostelike grens. Die omliggende grondgebruik is hoofsaaklik vir landbou, met die Soutrivier oos van die terrein geleë.

Die benaderde middelpuntkoördinate van die voorgestelde projekgebied is (Figuur 1):

- Breedtegraad (S): 33° 00' 47.41"S
- Lengtegraad (O): 18° 20' 47.8"O.

Die naaste dorp is Hopefield, ongeveer 3 km suid van die voorgestelde terrein, en 115 km noord van Kaapstad. Hopefield is 'n klein dorpie geleë in 'n semi-ariëde landbougebied, waar koringverbouing, skaapboerdery en heuningproduksie die primêre ekonomiese aktiwiteite uitmaak. Die dorp lê langs die R45 tussen Malmesbury en Vredenburg en is ongeveer 120 km noord van die Kaapstadse sentrale sakekern geleë.

PROJEKBESKRYWING

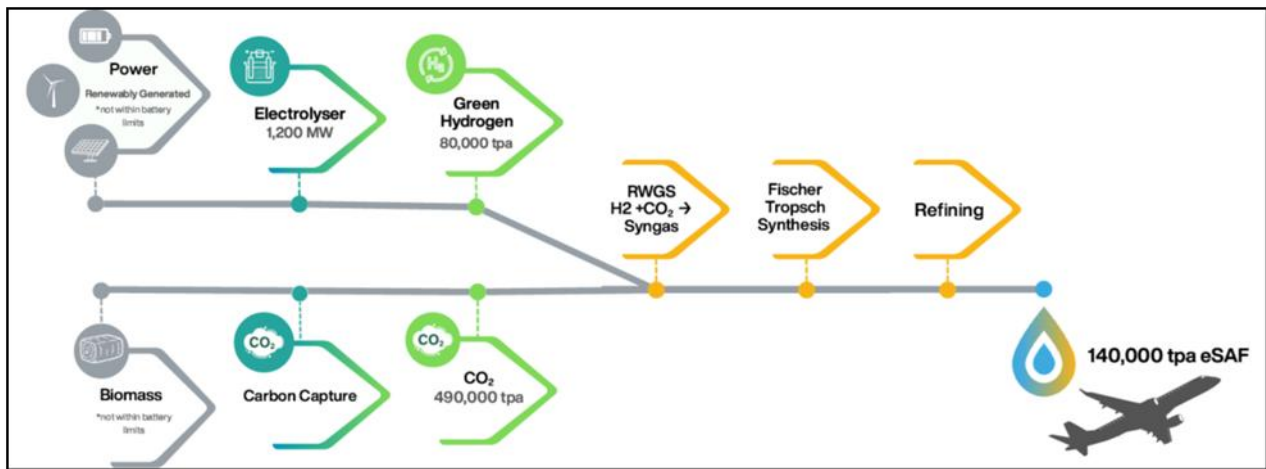
Die bedryfstrategie vir die aanleg is dat die verwerkingsaanleg stroomaf van elektrolise, 24/7 sal werk met die beskikbaarheid van die battery-energieberging en waterstofbufferberging om die stroomaf omgekeerde watergasverskuiwing, Fischer Tropsch-sintese en raffinering te voed wanneer hernubare energie sporadies is. Daar word voorgestel dat die Projek in fases soos volg ontwikkel sal word:

- Fase 1 - 35 000 tpj (Kwartaal 4 2028)
- Fase 2 - 35 000 tpj (Kwartaal 3 2030)
- Fase 3 - 70 000 tpj (Kwartaal 3 2032)

Die fasiliteit sal hoofsaaklik aangedryf word deur hernubare energie.

Die proseskomponente sal bestaan uit (Figuur 4):

- Groen Waterstofopwekking
Waterstofgas word geproduseer deur gesuiwerde water te splits met behulp van hernubaar opgewekte elektrisiteit in 'n proses genaamd elektrolise.
- Koolstofopvang
Die Projek sal die biogene CO₂, via koolstofopvangs tegnologie, van die rookgasbyproduk vasgevang vanaf biomassa ketels bedryf deur 'n derde party vir gebruik as 'n grondstof in stroomaf eSAF-produksie.
- Sintesegasopwekking en eSAF-produksie
Sintesegas, wat 'n mengsel van koolstofmonoksied en waterstof is, word in 'n reaktor gemaak deur die omgekeerde watergasverskuiwingsreaksie te gebruik. Die sintesegas word dan in 'n Fischer Tropsch-reaktor gevoer, waar dit in koolwaterstowwe omgeskakel word. Die Fischer Tropsch-produkte sal vervolgens geskei word in swaar koolwaterstowwe (verwys na as FT-wasse), ligte koolwaterstofkondensaat (LHC) en water. Die swaar koolwaterstowwe en die ligte koolwaterstofkondensaat, bekend as FT Crude, sal verder verwerk word in 'n katalitiese opgraderingseenheid om sintetiese paraffienkerosene (SPK) te produseer. Die SPK-produk sal gedistilleer word, wat eSAF produseer.



Figuur 4: Algehele prosesskema van die Phelan eFuels-projek vir eSAF-produksie.

Die volgende infrastruktuur sal benodig word ter ondersteuning van die proses:

- Waterbergingsfasiliteite (damme en tenks)
- Produk stoortenks
- Chemiese stowwe stoortenks
- Tydelike afvalbergingsfasiliteite
- Waterbehandelingsfasiliteite
- Vragmotorlaaiarea, vragmotorweegbrug en sekuriteitskamer
- Onderhoudswerkswinkel en stoorarea
- Administrasiegeboue, kantien, parking
- Kantoorgebou
- Beheerkamer
- Eerste Spoeldam
- Stormwaterdam en gepaardgaande kanale en putte
- Brandweerstasie

Verdere projekbesonderhede word in die Konsep-omvangsverslag verskaf.

OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSES

Phelan eFuels doen aansoek om omgewingsmagtiging (OM) om die bogenoemde projek te ondersteun.

Ingevolge die Nasionale Omgewingsbestuurswet (Nr. 107 van 1998) (NEMA) (soos gewysig), die Regulasies vir Omgewingsimpakstudies, 2014 (OIB) (soos gewysig), word Phelan eFuels vereis om 'n Omvangsbepaling- en Omgewingsimpakverslagdoening (O&OIV)-proses te onderneem en 'n Omvangsbepalingsverslag, Omgewingsimpakstudieverslag en Omgewingsbestuursprogram in te dien.

Die O&OIV-proses bestaan uit verskeie fases met gepaardgaande tydlyne soos gedefinieer in die 2014 OIB-regulasies (soos gewysig). Die proses kan oor die algemeen in vier hoof fases verdeel word, naamlik;

- (i) 'n ongeregleerde voor-aansoekfase;
- (ii) 'n Toepassings- en Omvangsfase (huidige fase);
- (iii) 'n Impakassesseringsfase; en
- (iv) Magtiging- en Appèlfase.

Die bevoegde owerheid wat verantwoordelik is vir die besluit oor die toestaan van omgewingsmagtiging, is die Wes-Kaapse Departement van Omgewingsake en Ontwikkelingsbeplanning (DEA&DP).

AANSOEK OM WATERGEBRUIKSLISENSIE (WULA)

Phelan eFuels moet ook 'n aansoek vir watergebruiksmagtiging by die Departement van Water en Sanitasie (DWS) indien vir watergebruike soos uiteengesit in artikel 21 van die Nasionale Waterwet (No. 36 van 1998) (NWA). Hierdie watergebruike sluit in:

- Artikel 21 (a) die neem van water uit 'n waterbron
- Artikel 21 (b) berging van water
- Artikel 21 (c) belemmering of afleiding van die vloei van water in 'n waterloop
- Artikel 21 (g) die wegdoen van afval op 'n wyse wat 'n waterbron nadelig kan beïnvloed.
- Artikel 21 (i) verandering van die bedding, oewers, loop of eienskappe van 'n waterloop.

AANSOEK OM ATMOSFERIESE UITLATINGSLISENSIE (AEL)

Die fasiliteit sal 'n Atmosferiese Uitlatingslisensie (AEL) benodig, soos vereis ingevolge die Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur: Luggehaltewet (Nr. 39 van 2004) en Regeringskennisgewingregulasie 893 van 2013 (Gelyste Aktiwiteite) vir die volgende kategorieë:

- Kategorie 2.4: Stoor en hantering van petroleumprodukte
- Kategorie 6: Organiese Chemikalieëbedryf

Die aansoek sal aan die Weskus Distriksmunisipaliteit voorgelê word vir besluitneming.

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP), 'n onafhanklike omgewings- en ingenieurskonsultasiefirma, is aangestel as die onafhanklike Omgewingsassesseringspraktisyn (OAP) om die S&EIR, WULA en die AEL-aansoek te onderneem.

DOEL VAN DIE OMVANGVERSLAG

Kortliks, die doel van die Konsep-Omvangverslag (KOV) is om inligting te verskaf rakende:

- Die Omgewingsimpakstudie proses soos bepaal in die OIB Regulasies 2014, soos gewysig, insluitend die proses wat gevolg moet word in die uitvoering van die omgewings- en sosiale impakstudie, en die betrokkenheid van belanghebbendes, insluitend oorlegpleging met regulerende owerhede.
- Die beleids- en wetgewende konteks vir die projek.
- 'n Motivering vir die behoefte en wenslikheid van die projek, in die konteks van die voorkeurligging.
- Die voorgestelde aktiwiteite, die ligging van die projek en aktiwiteite wat onderneem sal word,
- Die studieplan vir die impakstudiefase.
- Die huidige basislyn-omgewingstoestande binne die projekvoetspoor.
- Die potensiële omgewings- en sosiale impakte wat voorlopig vir die projek geïdentifiseer is.
- Die alternatiewe wat ondersoek word.
- Die metodologie wat gebruik word om die betekenis van die impakte te bepaal.

OPENBARE DEELNAMEPROSES

Uitnodiging om as 'n B&GP te registreer, om kommentaar te lewer

Belanghebbendes word genooi om as Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Partye (B&GP's) te registreer en deel te neem aan die omgewingsmagtigingsprosesse deur kommentaar te lewer op die voorgestelde S&EIR, AEL- en WULA-prosesse soos volg:

- Voltooi die ingeslote Registrasie- en Kommentaarvorm en stuur dit per pos of e-pos terug na die WSP PP-kantoor.
- Lewer kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projek, Konsep-omvangsverslag, deur die WSP Kantoor vir Openbare Deelname telefonies of per e-pos te kontak.

Openbare oorsig van die konsep-omvangsverslag (KOV)

Die Konsep-OIB-verslag is by die onderstaande plekke en webtuistes beskikbaar gestel vir hersiening. Kommentaar kan gelewer word op die projek en bogenoemde aansoeke vir 'n tydperk van 30 dae vanaf **07 Mei 2026** tot **08 Junie 2026**. Die 60-dae WULA-kommentaarperiode sal begin op **07 Mei 2026** en eindig op **06 Julie 2026**. Die AEL-aansoek sal gelyktydig met die O&OIV-proses verloop. 'n Afskrif van die AEL-aansoek is beskikbaar op aanvraag. 'n Besluit oor die AEL-aansoek sal binne 60 dae vanaf die datum waarop al die vereiste dokumentasie vir die aansoek ingedien is, geneem word. Die aansoeker sal binne 30 dae vanaf die datum van die besluit in kennis gestel word.

Gedrukte kopieë van die Konsep-Omvangverslag is beskikbaar by die openbare plekke wat hieronder gelys word. Hierdie agtergrondinligtingsbrief, 'n registrasie en kommentaarvorm, en die Konsep-Omvangverslag kan van die volgende webwerwe afgelaai word:

- WSP-webwerf: <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
- Datavrye webwerf: <https://wsp-engage.com/>

Naam van openbare plek	Kontaknommer
Hopefield Biblioteek, Oakstraat, Hopefield	022 723 0384
Langebaan Biblioteek, Breëstraat 7, Langebaan	022 707 5030
Saldanha Biblioteek, Bergstraat, Saldanha	022 714 8010

Ons wil u aanmoedig om aktief deel te neem aan die omgewingsmagtigingsproses. Indien u meer inligting wil bekom om kommentaar te lewer, kontak asseblief die WSP Openbare Deelname (PP) kantoor by 011 361 1300 of e-pos: pp@wsp.com.



VOLGEND STAP

Nadat die openbare oorsigtydperk vir die Konsep-omvangverslag gesluit het, sal die verslag opgedateer word en aan die DEA&DP voorgelê word vir oorsig om met die OIB-fase van die proses voort te gaan.

Die uwe

WSP Groep Afrika (Edms) Bpk

Aanhegsels: Registrasie- en Kommentaarblad

WSP sal sekere persoonlike inligting oor u as 'n B&GP verwerk met die doel om u registrasie as 'n B&GP moontlik te maak en om u besonderhede op ons databasis te stoor indien u toestemming gee dat ons dit doen. WSP gebruik hierdie besonderhede om u in die toekoms oor ander projekte te kontak. WSP sal u persoonlike inligting altyd verwerk in ooreenstemming met die Wet op die Beskerming van Persoonlike Inligting 4 van 2013. U is geregtig om u regte as 'n data-onderwerp uit te oefen en ons te laat weet as u as 'n B&GP gederegistreer wil word of as u nie meer wil hê dat u kontakbesonderhede op ons databasis ingesluit word nie.

PHELAN EFUELS -SALDANHA BAY PROJEK

**OMVANGSBEPALING- EN OMGEWINGSIMPAKVERSLAGDOENING PROSES, AANSOEK VIR 'N
ATMOSFERIESE UITSLATINGSLISENSIE (AEL), WATERGEBRUIKSMAGTIGING EN PUBLIEKE
DEELNAMEPROSES, HOPEFIELD, WES-KAAP PROVINSIE.**

Registrasie- en Kommentaarblad

Hersieningstydperk vir die Konsep Omvangsbepalingsverslag: 07 Mei 2026 tot 08 Junie 2026



U kommentaar lewer 'n belangrike bydrae tot hierdie omgewingsmagtigingsprosesse. Ons wil u aanmoedig om as 'n Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Party (B&GP) te registreer sodat ons u op hoogte kan hou en kan reageer op enige vrae of bekommernisse wat u mag hê.

PERSOONLIKE BESONDERHEDE				
Naam	Van	Titel	Organisasie / Departement / Plaas / Gemeenskap (Indien van toepassing)	
Kontakbesonderhede				
Selfoonnommer				
Kantoornommer				
Huisnommer				
Faksnommer				
E-posadres				
Posadres			Poskode	
WSP sal nie persoonlike inligting met 'n derde party deel nie				
GRONDEIENAARS				
Indien u eiendom aangrensend aan die projekarea is, vertel ons asseblief u straatadres, plaasnaam en/of erf-/gedeeltenommer.				
WIL U AS 'N BELANGHEBBENDE EN GEAFFEKTEERDE PARTY REGISTREER? (Merk met 'n X)			JA	NEE
Voorkeurmetode van kommunikasie (Merk met 'n X)	Pos	E-pos	Faks	
Ingevolge die OIB-regulasies, 2014 (soos gewysig), maak ek hieronder enige direkte sake-, finansiële, persoonlike of ander belang bekend wat ek mag hê in die goedkeuring of weiering van die aansoek:	Datum			
	Handtekening			

KOMMENTAAR

U is welkom om addisionele bladsye te gebruik indien u dit so verkies.

Ek het die volgende kommentaar te lewer rakende die voorgestelde projek:

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal dashed lines, typical of primary school handwriting practice paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the entire width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings present.

Vra asseblief die volgende van my kollegas/vriende om as Belangstellende en Geaffekteerde Partye te registreer:

NAAM	KONTAKBESONDERHEDE

**STUUR ASSEBLIEF DIE REGISTRASIE- EN KOMMENTAARBLAD
TERUG NA:**

**Kantoor vir Openbare Deelname
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Posbus 6001, Halfway House, 1685
Tel: 011 361 1300
E-pos: pp@wsp.com
Verwysing: ZA0066851.7273**

DANKIE



WSP sal sekere persoonlike inligting oor u as 'n belanghebbende en geaffekteerde party (I & GP) verwerk met die doel om u registrasie as 'n I & GP moontlik te maak en met die doel om u besonderhede op ons databasis te stoor, indien u toestemming gee dat ons dit doen. WSP gebruik hierdie besonderhede om u in die toekoms oor ander projekte te kontak. WSP sal u persoonlike inligting altyd verwerk in ooreenstemming met die Wet op die Beskerming van Persoonlike Inligting 4 van 2013. U is geregtig om u regte as 'n data-onderwerp uit te oefen en ons te laat weet as u as 'n I & GP gederegistreer wil word of as u nie meer wil hê dat u kontakbesonderhede op ons databasis ingesluit word nie.

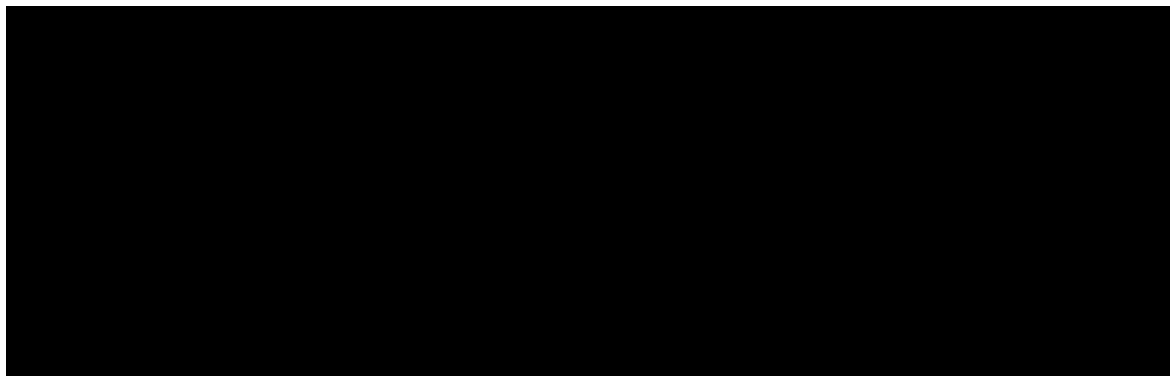


2: ZA0066851.7273 – NOTIFICATION: NOTICE OF THE INTEGRATED REGULATORY PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND ELECTRO-SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUEL (e-SAF) PLANT NEAR HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

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

Date Wed 5/6/2026 2:10 PM

Bcc



 2 attachments (3 MB)

ZA0066851.7273_Phelan Green_BIL_Afr_DSR_Final_29042026.pdf;
ZA0066851.7273_PhelanGreen_BIL_Eng_DSR_Final_29042026.pdf;

Dear Stakeholder,

Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd is proposing to undertake the *Phelan eFuels Project – Saldanha Bay* that will produce eSAF (Electro-Sustainable Aviation Fuel) from biogenic CO₂, captured via carbon capture technology, and green hydrogen via electrolysis.

The project site is situated approximately 3 km north of Hopefield in the West Coast District in the Western Cape and is approximately 115 km north of Cape Town and 57 km east of Saldanha. The project site is on the Remainder of Farm Portugeesche Fontyn No167, Malmesbury District. Applications for environmental authorisation, an Atmospheric Emission Licence (AEL) and water use authorisation are required before the project infrastructure can be constructed.

Please refer to the attached background information letter for more information on the proposed project, the availability of the Draft Scoping Report for public review and the opportunity to comment.

Kind regards,

Public Participation Office

T +27 11 254 4800

T +27 11 361 1300

WSP

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

Confidential

This message, including any document or file attached, is intended only for the addressee and may contain privileged and/or confidential information. Any other person is strictly prohibited from reading, using, disclosing or copying this message. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the message. Thank you.

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



Our Ref: ZA0066851.7273

7 May 2026

Dear Stakeholder,

NOTICE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND eSAF PLANT NEAR HOPEFIELD, WEST COAST DISTRICT, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

- Draft Scoping Report available for public review

INTRODUCTION

Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd (Phelan eFuels) is proposing the development of a *Phelan eFuels Project -Saldanha Bay* that will produce Electro-Sustainable Aviation Fuel (eSAF) from biogenic CO₂, captured via carbon capture technology, and green hydrogen via electrolysis. The facility will be located near Hopefield, Western Cape (Figure 1) (the Project).

At full scale, the total project will output 140 000 ton per annum (tpa) of eSAF (Figure 2).

This letter serves to:

- Provide a summary of the proposed project;
- Provide details of the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) process;
- Provide stakeholders with the opportunity to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP); and
- Provide the details of the comment period of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR).

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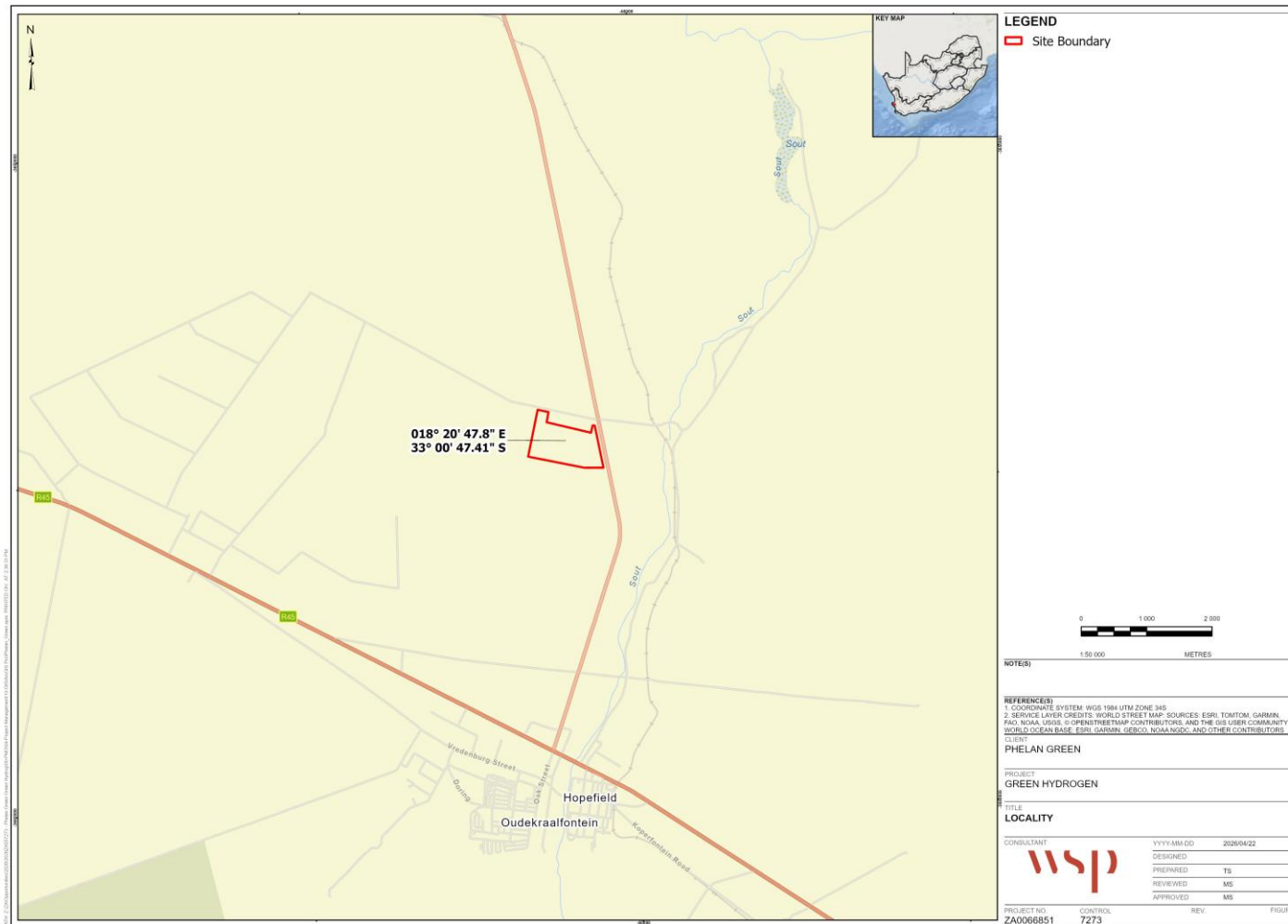


Figure 1: Locality of the Phelan eFuels – Saldanha Bay Project

The Pavilion, 1st Floor
Cnr Portwood and Beach Road, Waterfront
Cape Town, 8001
South Africa
Tel: +27 21 481 8700
wsp.com

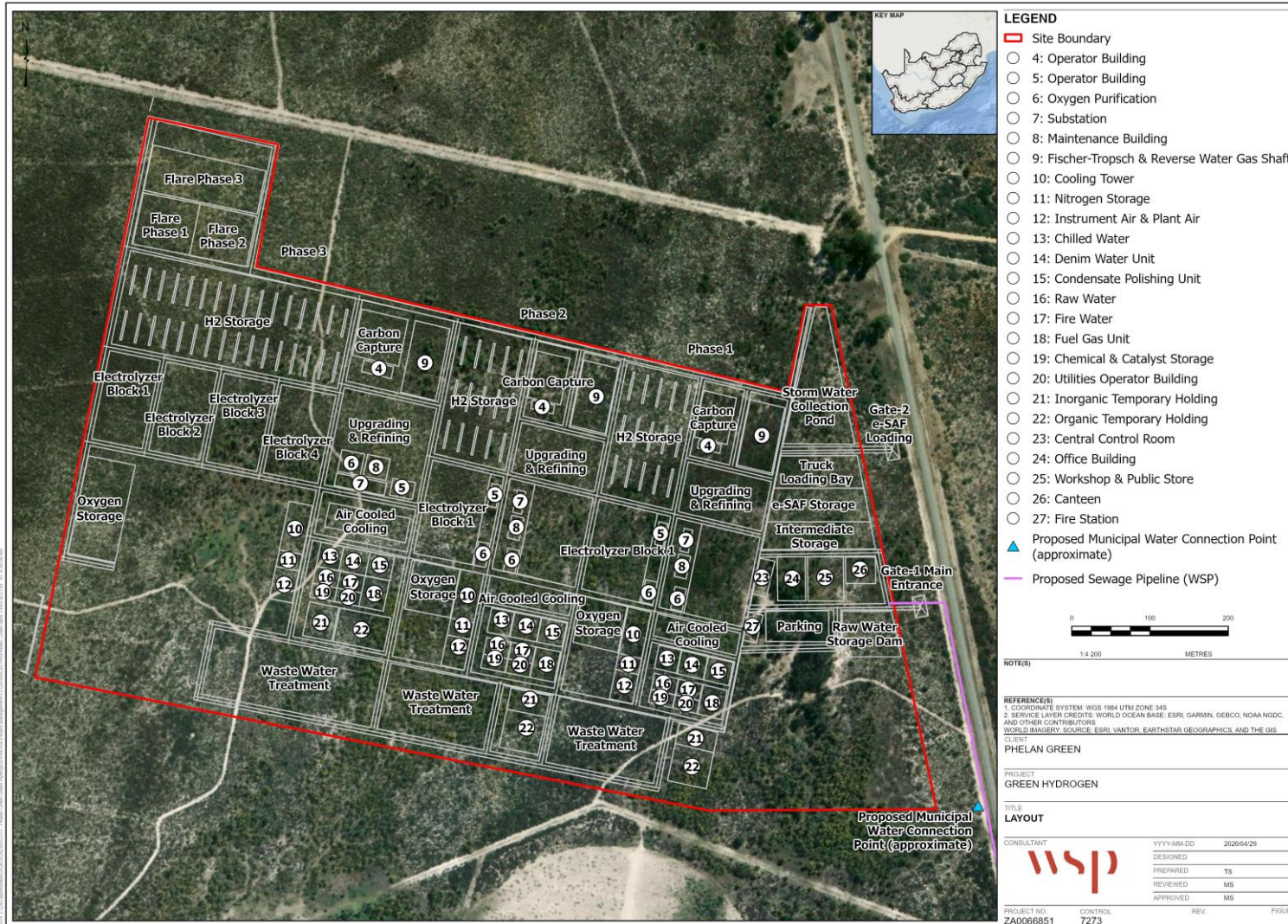


Figure 2: Proposed layout of the Phelan eFuels – Saldanha Bay Project

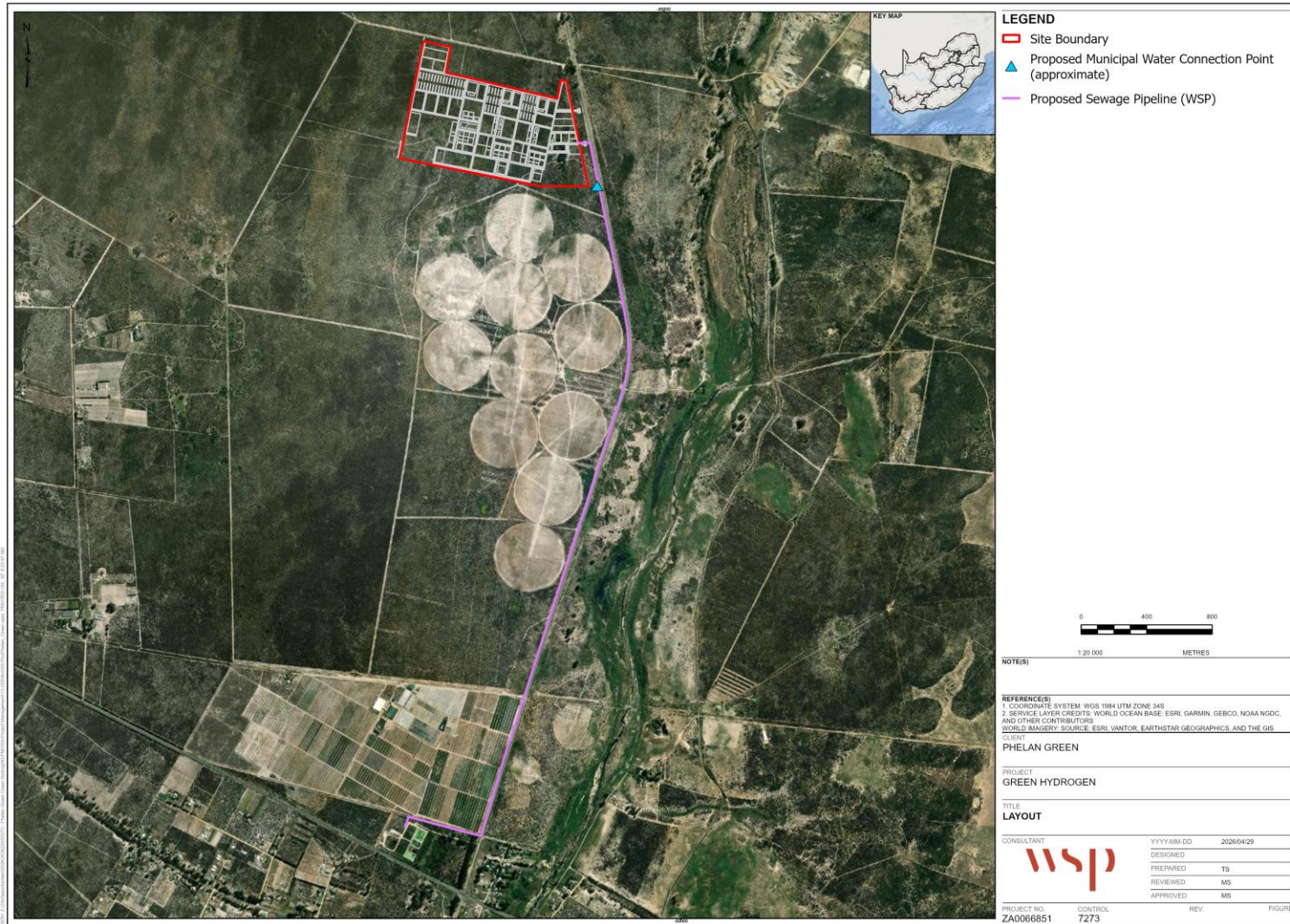


Figure 3: Proposed layout, with sewage pipeline, of the Phelan eFuels – Saldanha Bay Project

SITE LOCALITY

The proposed Project development area is located in the Saldanha Local Municipality within the West Coast District Municipality in the Western Cape Province (Figure 1). The Project structures and infrastructure are proposed to be located on the following land parcel:

- Remainder of the Farm Portugeesche Fontyn 167

Access to the site is obtained via the MR234, travelling north from Hopefield, which borders the site along its eastern boundary. The surrounding land use is predominantly agricultural, with the Soutrivier located to the east of the site.

The approximate centre point co-ordinates of the proposed Project area are (Figure 1):

- Latitude (S): 33° 00' 47.41"S
- Longitude (E): 18° 20' 47.8"E.

The closest town is Hopefield, approximately 3km south of the proposed site, and 115km north of Cape Town. Hopefield is a small town located within a semi-arid agricultural area, where wheat cultivation, sheep farming, and honey production constitute the primary economic activities. The town lies along the R45 between Malmesbury and Vredenburg and is situated approximately 120 km north of the Cape Town central business district.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The operation strategy for the plant is that the processing plant downstream of electrolysis will operate 24/7 with the availability of the battery energy storage and hydrogen buffer storage to feed the downstream Reverse Water Gas Shift, Fischer Tropsch Synthesis and Refining when renewable energy is intermittent. The Project is proposed to be developed in phases as follows:

- Phase 1 - 35 000 tpa (Q4 2028)
- Phase 2 - 35 000 tpa (Q3 2030)
- Phase 3 - 70 000 tpa (Q3 2032)

The facility will be powered primarily by renewable energy.

The process components will consist of (Figure 4):

- Green Hydrogen generation
Hydrogen gas is produced by splitting purified water using renewably generated electricity in a process called electrolysis.
- Carbon capture
The Project will capture the biogenic CO₂, via carbon capture technology, from the flue gas by-product from biomass boilers operated by a third party for use as a feedstock in downstream eSAF production.
- Syngas generation and eSAF Production
Syngas, which is a mixture of carbon monoxide and hydrogen, is made in a reactor using the reverse water gas shift reaction. The syngas is then fed into a Fischer Tropsch reactor, where it is converted into hydrocarbons. The Fischer Tropsch products will be subsequently separated into heavy hydrocarbons (referred to as FT waxes), light hydrocarbon condensate (LHC), and water. The heavy hydrocarbons and the light hydrocarbon condensate, known as FT Crude, will be further processed in a catalytic upgrading unit to produce synthetic paraffinic kerosene (SPK). The SPK product will be distilled, producing eSAF.

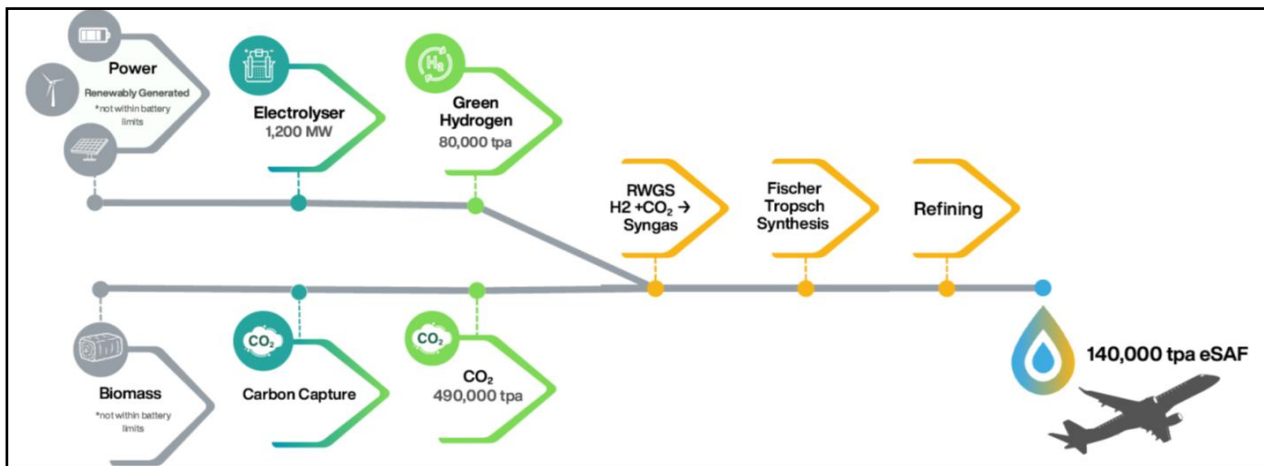


Figure 4: Overall process schematic of Phelan eFuels project for eSAF production.

The following infrastructure will be required in support of the process:

- Water storage facilities (ponds and tanks)
- Product storage tanks
- Chemical storage tanks
- Temporary waste storage facilities
- Water treatment facilities
- Truck loading area, truck weighbridge and security room.
- Maintenance workshop and store area.
- Administration buildings, canteen, parking.
- Office building;
- Control room;
- First Flush Pond;
- Storm Water Collection Pond and associated canals and sumps;
- Fire station

Further project details are provided in the Draft Scoping Report.

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORIZATION PROCESS

Phelan eFuels is applying for environmental authorisation (EA) to support the above-mentioned project.

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) (as amended), the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (as amended), Phelan eFuels is required to undertake a Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR) Process and submit a Scoping Report, Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Environmental Management Programme (EMPr).

The S&EIR process consists of various phases with associated timelines as defined in the 2014 EIA Regulations (as amended). The process can generally be divided into four main phases, namely;

- (i) an unregulated pre-application phase;
- (ii) an Application and Scoping Phase (current phase);
- (iii) an Impact Assessment Phase; and
- (iv) Authorisation and Appeal Phase.

The competent authority responsible for the decision on whether to grant environmental authorisation is the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP).

WATER USE LICENCE APPLICATION (WULA)

Phelan eFuels is also required to submit an application for water use authorisation to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) for water uses as specified in section 21 of the National Water Act (No. 36 of 1998) (NWA). These water uses include:

- Section 21 (a) taking water from a water resource
- Section 21 (b) storing water
- Section 21 (c) impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse
- Section 21 (g) disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact a water resource.
- Section 21 (i) altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse.

ATMOSPHERIC EMISSION LICENCE (AEL) APPLICATION

The facility will require an Atmospheric Emission Licence (AEL), as required in terms of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (No. 39 of 2004) and Government Notice Regulation 893 of 2013 (Listed Activities) for the following categories:

- Category 2.4: Storage and handling of petroleum products
- Category 6: Organic Chemicals Industry

The application will be submitted to the West Coast District Municipality for decision-making

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP), an independent environmental and engineering consulting firm, has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the S&EIR, WULA and the AEL applications.

PURPOSE OF THE SCOPING REPORT

In summary, the purpose of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR) is to provide information, regarding:

- The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process as stipulated in the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended, including the process to be followed in conducting the environmental and social impact assessment, and the stakeholder engagement including consultation with regulatory authorities,
- The policy and legislative context for the project,
- A motivation for the need and desirability for the project, in the context of the preferred location,
- The proposed activities, the location of the project and activities to be undertaken,
- The plan of study for the impact assessment phase,
- The current baseline environmental conditions within the project footprint;
- The potential environmental and social impacts provisionally identified for the project,
- The alternatives being investigated, and
- The methodology used to assess the significance of the impacts.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Invitation to register as an I&AP, to comment

Stakeholders are invited to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and to participate in the environmental authorisation processes by commenting on the proposed S&EIR, AEL and WULA processes as follows:

- Completing the enclosed Registration and Comment Sheet and return it to the WSP PP Office by post or email.



- Providing comments on the proposed project, Draft Scoping Report by contacting the Public Participation Office telephonically or by email.

Public Review of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR)

The Draft Scoping Report will be made available at the venues and websites below for review. Comments on the project and the above applications are invited for a period of 30 days from **07 May 2026** to **08 June 2026**. The 60-day WULA comment period will start on **07 May 2026** and conclude on **06 July 2026**. The AEL application will run concurrently with the S&EIR process. A copy of the AEL application form will be available on request. Decision on the AEL application will be made within 60 days from the date when all required documentation for the application has been provided. The applicant will be notified within 30 days from the date of the decision.

Printed copies of the Draft Scoping Report are available at the public places listed below. This background information letter, registration and comment sheet and the Draft Scoping Report can be downloaded from the following websites:

- WSP Website: <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
- Data-free Website: <https://wsp-engage.com/>

Name of Public Place	Contact Number
Hopefield Library, Oak Street, Hopefield	022 723 0384
Langebaan Library, 7 Breë Street, Langebaan	022 707 5030
Saldanha Library, Berg Street, Saldanha	022 714 8010

We would like to encourage you to actively participate in the environmental authorisation process. Should you wish to obtain more information to comment, please contact the WSP Public Participation (PP) office at 011 361 1300 or email: pp@wsp.com.

WAY FORWARD

After the public review period on the Draft Scoping Report has closed, the report will be updated and submitted to the DEA&DP for review in order to proceed with the EIA phase of the process.

Yours sincerely

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd

Attachments: Registration and Comment Sheet

WSP will be processing certain personal information about you as an I&AP for purposes of enabling your registration as an I&AP and for purposes of storing your details on our database if you consent for us to do so. WSP uses these details to contact you about other 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.

PHELAN EFUELS – SALDANHA BAY PROJECT

**SCOPING AND EIA PROCESS, APPLICATION FOR ATMOSPHERIC EMISSION LICENCE, WATER USE
AUTHORISATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS, HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.**

Registration and Comment Sheet

Draft Scoping Report Review Period: 07 May 2026 to 08 June 2026



Your comments make an important contribution to these permitting processes. We would like to encourage you to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) so that we can keep you updated and can respond to any questions or concerns that you may have.

PERSONAL DETAILS					
Name	Surname	Title	Organisation / Department / Farm/ Community (If applicable)		
Contact Details					
Mobile Number					
Office Number					
Home Number					
Fax Number					
Email Address					
Postal Address				Postal code	
WSP, will not share personal information with a third party					
LANDOWNERS					
If your property is adjacent to the Project site, please tell us your, street address, farm name and/or erf/portion number					
WOULD YOU LIKE TO REGISTER AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY? (Mark with an X)				YES	NO
Preferred Method of Communication (Mark with an X)		Post	Email	Fax	
In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), I disclose below any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that I may have in the approval or refusal of the application:		Date			
		Signature			

COMMENT(S)

You are welcome to use additional pages should you so wish to do so.

I have the following comments to make regarding the proposed project:

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal dashed lines, typical of primary school handwriting practice paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the entire width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings present.

Please ask the following of my colleagues / friends to register as Interested and Affected Parties:

NAME	CONTACT DETAILS

PLEASE RETURN THE REGISTRATION AND COMMENT SHEET TO:

**Public Participation Office
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 6001, HALFWAY HOUSE, 1685
Tel: 011 361 1300
Email: pp@wsp.com
Reference: ZA0066851.7273**

THANK YOU



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 for purposes of storing your details on our database, if you consent for us to do so. WSP uses these details to contact you about other 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.

Geagte Belanghebbende,

**KENNISGEWING VAN DIE OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSES VIR DIE VOORGESTELDE GROEN
WATERSTOF- EN eSAF-AANLEG NABY HOPEFIELD, WESKUS-DISTRIK, WES-KAAP PROVINSIE**

- Konsep Omvangverslag beskikbaar vir openbare hersiening

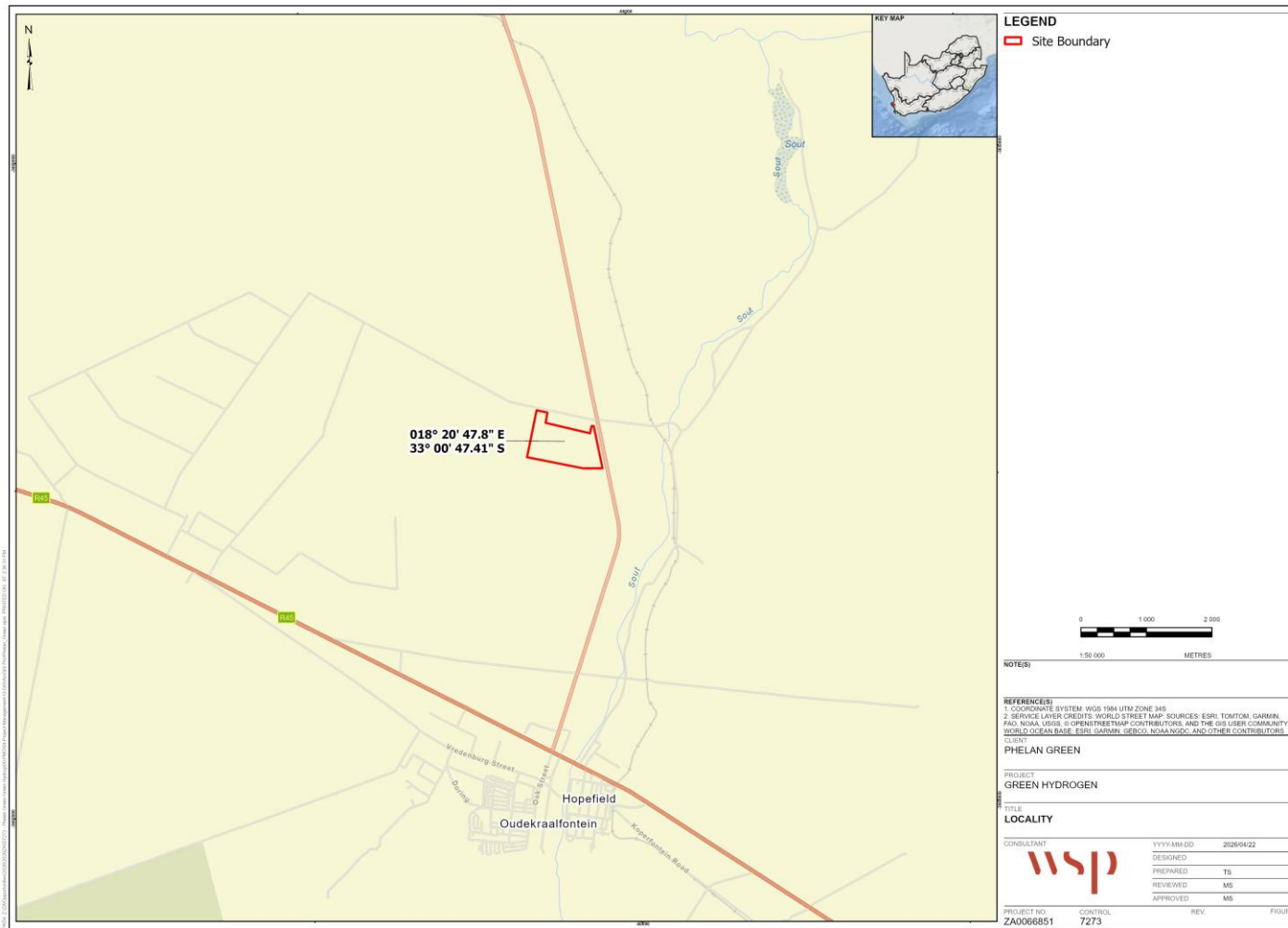
INLEIDING

Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd (Phelan eFuels) stel die ontwikkeling van die *Phelan eFuels Projek - Saldanhabaai* voor wat Elektro-Volhoubare Lugvaartbrandstof (eSAF) uit biogeniese CO₂, deur koolstofopvangs tegnologie, en groen waterstof via elektrolise sal produseer. Die aanleg sal geleë wees naby Hopefield, Wes-Kaap (Figuur1) (die Projek).

Teen volle produksie sal die totale projek 140 000 ton per jaar (tpj) eSAF produseer (Figuur 2).

Hierdie brief dien om:

- Verskaf 'n opsomming van die voorgestelde projek;
- Verskaf besonderhede van die Omvangbepaling- en Omgewingsimpakverslagdoening (O&OIV-proses);
- Bied belanghebbendes die geleentheid om as 'n Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Party (B&GP) te registreer; en
- Verskaf die besonderhede van die kommentaarperiode van die Konsep-Omvangverslag (KOV).



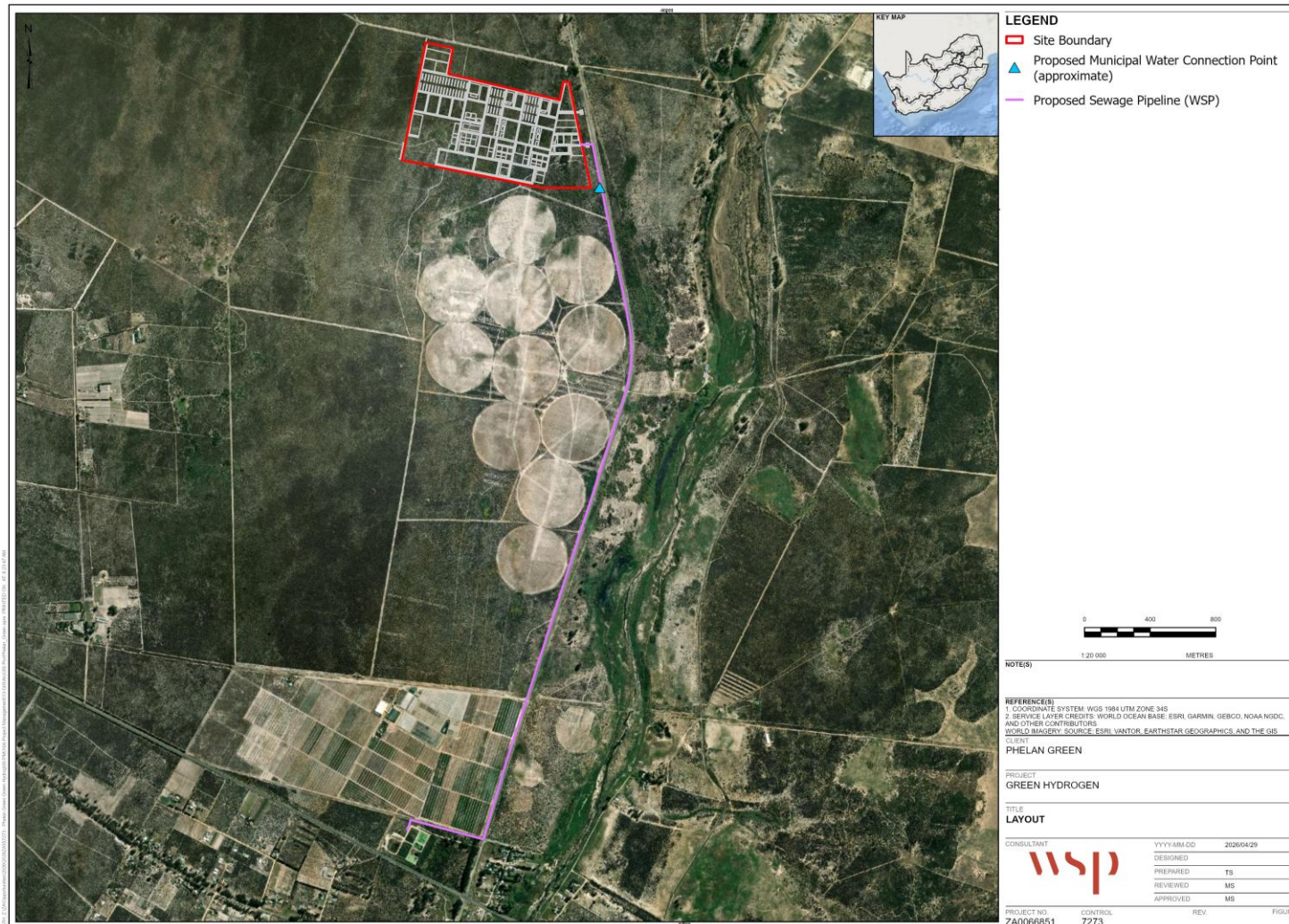
Figuur 1: Ligging van die Phelan eFuels – Saldanhabaai-projek

Die Paviljoen, 1ste Verdieping
 Hoek van Portsworld en Beachweg, Waterfront
 Kaapstad, 8001
 Suid-Afrika
 Tel: +27 21 481 8700
 wsp.com

WSP Groep Afrika (Edms) Bpk | Geregistreerde adres: Maxwell Kantoorpark, Magwa Crescent Wes, Waterfall City, Midrand, Gauteng.
 1685, Suid-Afrika
 1999/008928/07



Figuur 2: Voorgestelde uitleg van die Phelan eFuels Projek – Saldanhaabaai



Figuur 3: Voorgestelde uitleg, met p van die Phelan eFuels Projek – Saldanhaabaai

TERREINLIGGING

Die voorgestelde Projekgebied is geleë in die Saldanha Plaaslike Munisipaliteit binne die Weskus Distriksmunisipaliteit in die Wes-Kaap Provinsie (Figuur 1). Daar word voorgestel dat die projekstrukture en -infrastruktuur op die volgende grondperseel geleë sal wees:

- Res van die plaas Portugeesche Fontyn 167

Toegang tot die terrein word verkry via die MR234, geleë aan die oostelike grens. Die omliggende grondgebruik is hoofsaaklik vir landbou, met die Soutrivier oos van die terrein geleë.

Die benaderde middelpuntkoördinate van die voorgestelde projekgebied is (Figuur 1):

- Breedtegraad (S): 33° 00' 47.41"S
- Lengtegraad (O): 18° 20' 47.8"O.

Die naaste dorp is Hopefield, ongeveer 3 km suid van die voorgestelde terrein, en 115 km noord van Kaapstad. Hopefield is 'n klein dorpie geleë in 'n semi-ariëde landbougebied, waar koringverbouing, skaapboerdery en heuningproduksie die primêre ekonomiese aktiwiteite uitmaak. Die dorp lê langs die R45 tussen Malmesbury en Vredenburg en is ongeveer 120 km noord van die Kaapstadse sentrale sakekern geleë.

PROJEKBESKRYWING

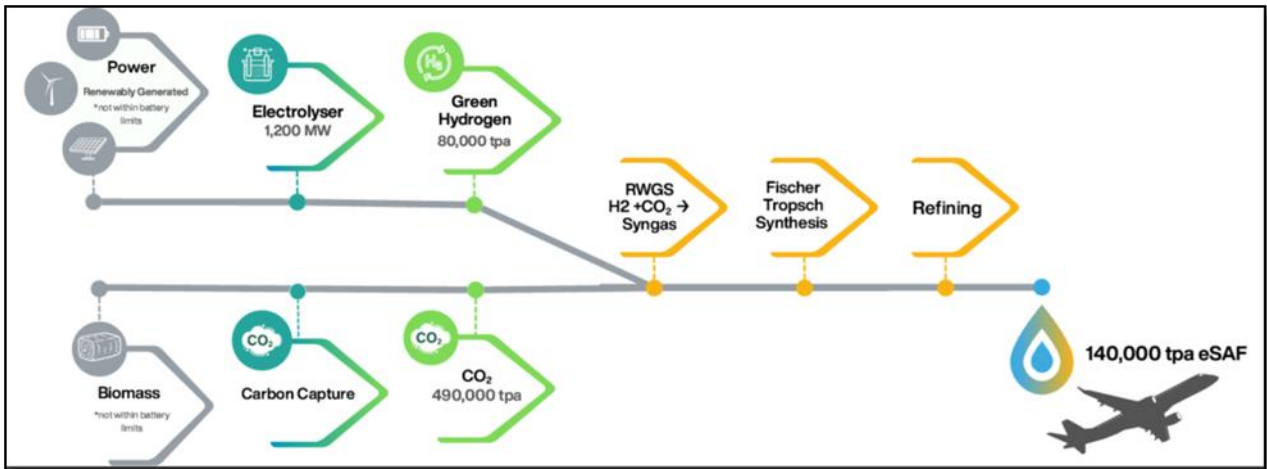
Die bedryfstrategie vir die aanleg is dat die verwerkingsaanleg stroomaf van elektrolise, 24/7 sal werk met die beskikbaarheid van die battery-energieberging en waterstofbufferberging om die stroomaf omgekeerde watergasverskuiwing, Fischer Tropsch-sintese en raffinering te voed wanneer hernubare energie sporadies is. Daar word voorgestel dat die Projek in fases soos volg ontwikkel sal word:

- Fase 1 - 35 000 tpj (Kwartaal 4 2028)
- Fase 2 - 35 000 tpj (Kwartaal 3 2030)
- Fase 3 - 70 000 tpj (Kwartaal 3 2032)

Die fasiliteit sal hoofsaaklik aangedryf word deur hernubare energie.

Die proseskomponente sal bestaan uit (Figuur 4):

- Groen Waterstofopwekking
Waterstofgas word geproduseer deur gesuiwerde water te splits met behulp van hernubaar opgewekte elektrisiteit in 'n proses genaamd elektrolise.
- Koolstofopvang
Die Projek sal die biogene CO₂, via koolstofopvangs tegnologie, van die rookgasbyproduk vasgevang vanaf biomassa ketels bedryf deur 'n derde party vir gebruik as 'n grondstof in stroomaf eSAF-produksie.
- Sintesegasopwekking en eSAF-produksie
Sintesegas, wat 'n mengsel van koolstofmonoksied en waterstof is, word in 'n reaktor gemaak deur die omgekeerde watergasverskuiwingsreaksie te gebruik. Die sintesegas word dan in 'n Fischer Tropsch-reaktor gevoer, waar dit in koolwaterstowwe omgeskakel word. Die Fischer Tropsch-produkte sal vervolgens geskei word in swaar koolwaterstowwe (verwys na as FT-wasse), ligte koolwaterstofkondensaat (LHC) en water. Die swaar koolwaterstowwe en die ligte koolwaterstofkondensaat, bekend as FT Crude, sal verder verwerk word in 'n katalitiese opgraderingseenheid om sintetiese paraffienkerosene (SPK) te produseer. Die SPK-produk sal gedistilleer word, wat eSAF produseer.



Figuur 4: Algehele prosesskema van die Phelan eFuels-projek vir eSAF-produksie.

Die volgende infrastruktuur sal benodig word ter ondersteuning van die proses:

- Waterbergingsfasiliteite (damme en tenks)
- Produk stoortenks
- Chemiese stowwe stoortenks
- Tydelike afvalbergingsfasiliteite
- Waterbehandelingsfasiliteite
- Vragmotorlaaiarea, vragmotorweegbrug en sekuriteitskamer
- Onderhoudswerkswinkel en stoorarea
- Administrasiegeboue, kantien, parking
- Kantoorgebou
- Beheerkamer
- Eerste Spoeldam
- Stormwaterdam en gepaardgaande kanale en putte
- Brandweerstasie

Verdere projekbesonderhede word in die Konsep-omvangsverslag verskaf.

OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSES

Phelan eFuels doen aansoek om omgewingsmagtiging (OM) om die bogenoemde projek te ondersteun.

Ingevolge die Nasionale Omgewingsbestuurswet (Nr. 107 van 1998) (NEMA) (soos gewysig), die Regulasies vir Omgewingsimpakstudies, 2014 (OIB) (soos gewysig), word Phelan eFuels vereis om 'n Omvangsbepaling- en Omgewingsimpakverslagdoening (O&OIV)-proses te onderneem en 'n Omvangsbepalingsverslag, Omgewingsimpakstudieverslag en Omgewingsbestuursprogram in te dien.

Die O&OIV-proses bestaan uit verskeie fases met gepaardgaande tydlyne soos gedefinieer in die 2014 OIB-regulasies (soos gewysig). Die proses kan oor die algemeen in vier hoof fases verdeel word, naamlik;

- (i) 'n ongeregleerde voor-aansoekfase;
- (ii) 'n Toepassings- en Omvangsfase (huidige fase);
- (iii) 'n Impakassesseringsfase; en
- (iv) Magtiging- en Appèlfase.

Die bevoegde owerheid wat verantwoordelik is vir die besluit oor die toestaan van omgewingsmagtiging, is die Wes-Kaapse Departement van Omgewingsake en Ontwikkelingsbeplanning (DEA&DP).

AANSOEK OM WATERGEBRUIKSLISENSIE (WULA)

Phelan eFuels moet ook 'n aansoek vir watergebruiksmagtiging by die Departement van Water en Sanitasie (DWS) indien vir watergebruike soos uiteengesit in artikel 21 van die Nasionale Waterwet (No. 36 van 1998) (NWA). Hierdie watergebruike sluit in:

- Artikel 21 (a) die neem van water uit 'n waterbron
- Artikel 21 (b) berging van water
- Artikel 21 (c) belemmering of afleiding van die vloei van water in 'n waterloop
- Artikel 21 (g) die wegdoen van afval op 'n wyse wat 'n waterbron nadelig kan beïnvloed.
- Artikel 21 (i) verandering van die bedding, oewers, loop of eienskappe van 'n waterloop.

AANSOEK OM ATMOSFERIESE UITLATINGSLISENSIE (AEL)

Die fasiliteit sal 'n Atmosferiese Uitlatingslisensie (AEL) benodig, soos vereis ingevolge die Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur: Luggehaltewet (Nr. 39 van 2004) en Regeringskennisgewingregulasie 893 van 2013 (Gelyste Aktiwiteite) vir die volgende kategorieë:

- Kategorie 2.4: Stoor en hantering van petroleumprodukte
- Kategorie 6: Organiese Chemikalieëbedryf

Die aansoek sal aan die Weskus Distriksmunisipaliteit voorgelê word vir besluitneming.

WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP), 'n onafhanklike omgewings- en ingenieurskonsultasiefirma, is aangestel as die onafhanklike Omgewingsassesseringspraktisyn (OAP) om die S&EIR, WULA en die AEL-aansoek te onderneem.

DOEL VAN DIE OMVANGVERSLAG

Kortliks, die doel van die Konsep-Omvangverslag (KOV) is om inligting te verskaf rakende:

- Die Omgewingsimpakstudie proses soos bepaal in die OIB Regulasies 2014, soos gewysig, insluitend die proses wat gevolg moet word in die uitvoering van die omgewings- en sosiale impakstudie, en die betrokkenheid van belanghebbendes, insluitend oorlegpleging met regulerende owerhede.
- Die beleids- en wetgewende konteks vir die projek.
- 'n Motivering vir die behoefte en wenslikheid van die projek, in die konteks van die voorkeurligging.
- Die voorgestelde aktiwiteite, die ligging van die projek en aktiwiteite wat onderneem sal word,
- Die studieplan vir die impakstudiefase.
- Die huidige basislyn-omgewingstoestande binne die projekvoetspoor.
- Die potensiële omgewings- en sosiale impakte wat voorlopig vir die projek geïdentifiseer is.
- Die alternatiewe wat ondersoek word.
- Die metodologie wat gebruik word om die betekenis van die impakte te bepaal.

OPENBARE DEELNAMEPROSES

Uitnodiging om as 'n B&GP te registreer, om kommentaar te lewer

Belanghebbendes word genooi om as Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Partye (B&GP's) te registreer en deel te neem aan die omgewingsmagtigingsprosesse deur kommentaar te lewer op die voorgestelde S&EIR, AEL- en WULA-prosesse soos volg:

- Voltooi die ingeslote Registrasie- en Kommentaarvorm en stuur dit per pos of e-pos terug na die WSP PP-kantoor.
- Lewer kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projek, Konsep-omvangsverslag, deur die WSP Kantoor vir Openbare Deelname telefonies of per e-pos te kontak.

Openbare oorsig van die konsep-omvangsverslag (KOV)

Die Konsep-OIB-verslag is by die onderstaande plekke en webtuistes beskikbaar gestel vir hersiening. Kommentaar kan gelewer word op die projek en bogenoemde aansoeke vir 'n tydperk van 30 dae vanaf **07 Mei 2026** tot **08 Junie 2026**. Die 60-dae WULA-kommentaarperiode sal begin op **07 Mei 2026** en eindig op **06 Julie 2026**. Die AEL-aansoek sal gelyktydig met die O&OIV-proses verloop. 'n Afskrif van die AEL-aansoek is beskikbaar op aanvraag. 'n Besluit oor die AEL-aansoek sal binne 60 dae vanaf die datum waarop al die vereiste dokumentasie vir die aansoek ingedien is, geneem word. Die aansoeker sal binne 30 dae vanaf die datum van die besluit in kennis gestel word.

Gedrukte kopieë van die Konsep-Omvangverslag is beskikbaar by die openbare plekke wat hieronder gelys word. Hierdie agtergrondinligtingsbrief, 'n registrasie en kommentaarvorm, en die Konsep-Omvangverslag kan van die volgende webwerwe afgelaai word:

- WSP-webwerf: <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
- Datavrye webwerf: <https://wsp-engage.com/>

Naam van openbare plek	Kontaknommer
Hopefield Biblioteek, Oakstraat, Hopefield	022 723 0384
Langebaan Biblioteek, Breëstraat 7, Langebaan	022 707 5030
Saldanha Biblioteek, Bergstraat, Saldanha	022 714 8010

Ons wil u aanmoedig om aktief deel te neem aan die omgewingsmagtigingsproses. Indien u meer inligting wil bekom om kommentaar te lewer, kontak asseblief die WSP Openbare Deelname (PP) kantoor by 011 361 1300 of e-pos: pp@wsp.com.



VOLGEND STAP

Nadat die openbare oorsigtydperk vir die Konsep-omvangverslag gesluit het, sal die verslag opgedateer word en aan die DEA&DP voorgelê word vir oorsig om met die OIB-fase van die proses voort te gaan.

Die uwe

WSP Groep Afrika (Edms) Bpk

Aanhegsels: Registrasie- en Kommentaarblad

WSP sal sekere persoonlike inligting oor u as 'n B&GP verwerk met die doel om u registrasie as 'n B&GP moontlik te maak en om u besonderhede op ons databasis te stoor indien u toestemming gee dat ons dit doen. WSP gebruik hierdie besonderhede om u in die toekoms oor ander projekte te kontak. WSP sal u persoonlike inligting altyd verwerk in ooreenstemming met die Wet op die Beskerming van Persoonlike Inligting 4 van 2013. U is geregtig om u regte as 'n data-onderwerp uit te oefen en ons te laat weet as u as 'n B&GP gederegistreer wil word of as u nie meer wil hê dat u kontakbesonderhede op ons databasis ingesluit word nie.

PHELAN EFUELS -SALDANHA BAY PROJEK

**OMVANGSBEPALING- EN OMGEWINGSIMPAKVERSLAGDOENING PROSES, AANSOEK VIR 'N
ATMOSFERIESE UITSLATINGSLISENSIE (AEL), WATERGEBRUIKSMAGTIGING EN PUBLIEKE
DEELNAMEPROSES, HOPEFIELD, WES-KAAP PROVINSIE.**

Registrasie- en Kommentaarblad

Hersieningstydperk vir die Konsep Omvangsbepalingsverslag: 07 Mei 2026 tot 08 Junie 2026



U kommentaar lewer 'n belangrike bydrae tot hierdie omgewingsmagtigingsprosesse. Ons wil u aanmoedig om as 'n Belanghebbende en Geaffekteerde Party (B&GP) te registreer sodat ons u op hoogte kan hou en kan reageer op enige vrae of bekommernisse wat u mag hê.

PERSOONLIKE BESONDERHEDE					
Naam	Van	Titel	Organisasie / Departement / Plaas / Gemeenskap (Indien van toepassing)		
Kontakbesonderhede					
Selfoonnommer					
Kantoornommer					
Huisnommer					
Faksnommer					
E-posadres					
Posadres				Poskode	
WSP sal nie persoonlike inligting met 'n derde party deel nie					
GRONDEIENAARS					
Indien u eiendom aangrensend aan die projekarea is, vertel ons asseblief u straatadres, plaasnaam en/of erf-/gedeeltenommer.					
WIL U AS 'N BELANGHEBBENDE EN GEAFFEKTEERDE PARTY REGISTREER? (Merk met 'n X)					JA NEE
Voorkeurmetode van kommunikasie (Merk met 'n X)			Pos	E-pos	Faks
Ingevolge die OIB-regulasies, 2014 (soos gewysig), maak ek hieronder enige direkte sake-, finansiële, persoonlike of ander belang bekend wat ek mag hê in die goedkeuring of weiering van die aansoek:			Datum		
			Handtekening		

KOMMENTAAR

U is welkom om addisionele bladsye te gebruik indien u dit so verkies.

Ek het die volgende kommentaar te lewer rakende die voorgestelde projek:

[illegible]

Vra asseblief die volgende van my kollegas/vriende om as Belangstellende en Geaffekteerde Partye te registreer:

NAAM	KONTAKBESONDERHEDE

**STUUR ASSEBLIEF DIE REGISTRASIE- EN KOMMENTAARBLAD
TERUG NA:**

**Kantoor vir Openbare Deelname
WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd
Posbus 6001, Halfway House, 1685
Tel: 011 361 1300
E-pos: pp@wsp.com
Verwysing: ZA0066851.7273**

DANKIE



WSP sal sekere persoonlike inligting oor u as 'n belanghebbende en geaffekteerde party (I & GP) verwerk met die doel om u registrasie as 'n I & GP moontlik te maak en met die doel om u besonderhede op ons databasis te stoor, indien u toestemming gee dat ons dit doen. WSP gebruik hierdie besonderhede om u in die toekoms oor ander projekte te kontak. WSP sal u persoonlike inligting altyd verwerk in ooreenstemming met die Wet op die Beskerming van Persoonlike Inligting 4 van 2013. U is geregtig om u regte as 'n data-onderwerp uit te oefen en ons te laat weet as u as 'n I & GP gederegistreer wil word of as u nie meer wil hê dat u kontakbesonderhede op ons databasis ingesluit word nie.

Appendix A.3

SMS NOTIFICATIONS





My Account



Message History Detail: Batch 2209160814

Time submitted 2026-05-06 14:20:27.0

Total messages 176

Total credits 176.00

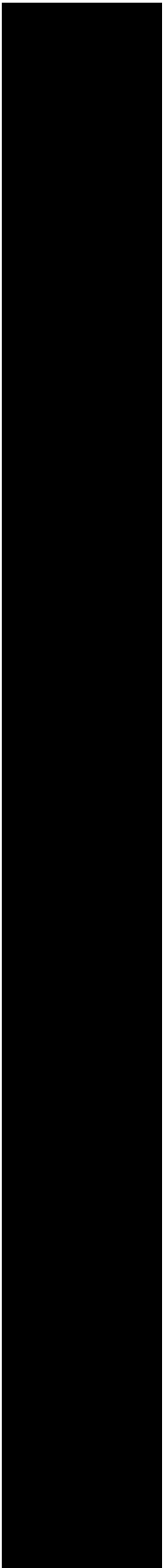
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	Delivered to mobile	73.30%
	Delivery failed	4.55%
	Delivered upstream	21.02%

Recipient	Status	Credits	Completed time	Body	Help
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	Delivered to mobile	1.00	2026-05-06 14:20:00	Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): <div>ct WSP at pp@wsp.com</div>	
	Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 1 of 2): <div>NOTIFICATION: Public Review of Draft Scoping Report for the Phelan eFuels Green Hydrogen and eSAF Project near Hopefield - 07/05/2026 - 08/06/2026. Contact WSP at pp@wsp.com</div>	
	Delivered upstream	1.00		Concatenated SMS (part 2 of 2): <div>ct WSP at pp@wsp.com</div>	



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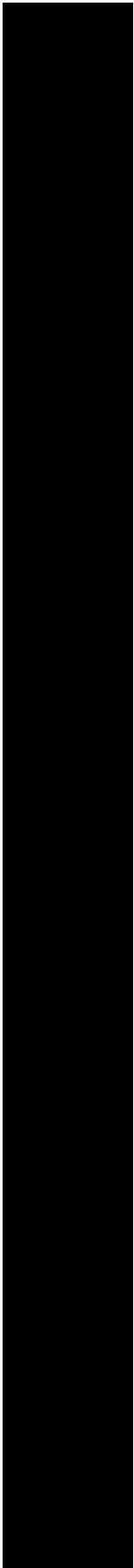
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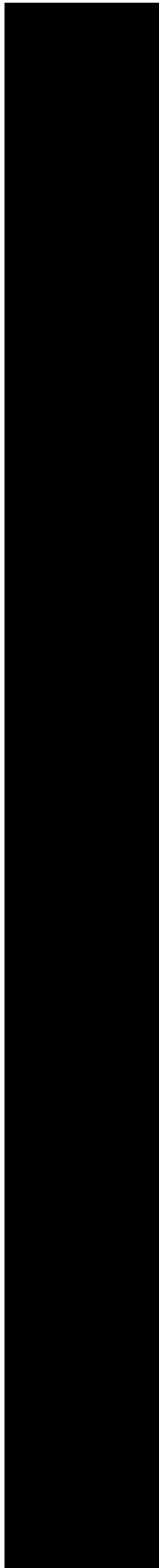
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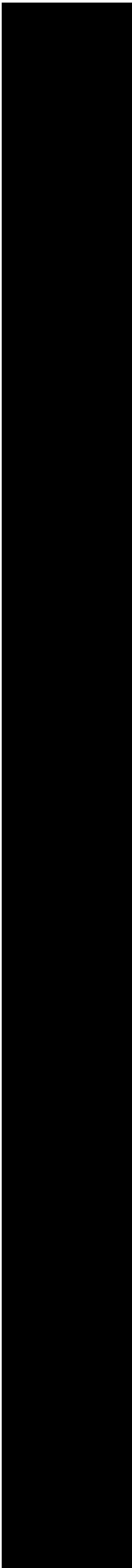


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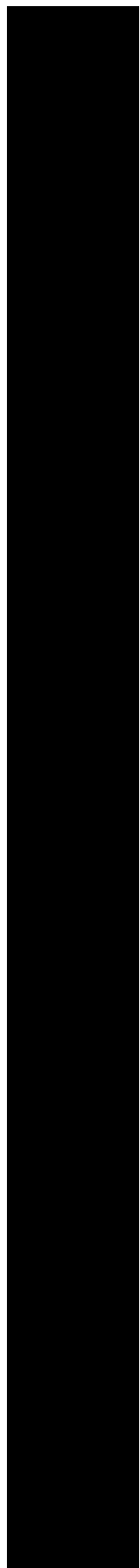


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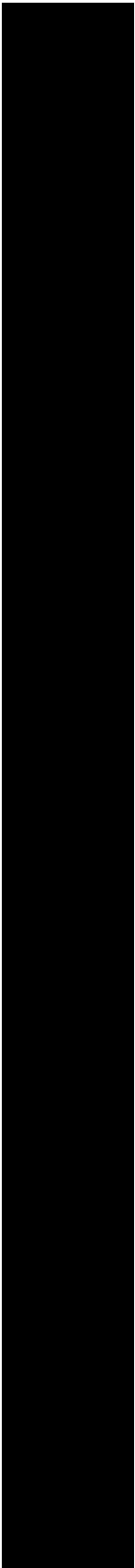


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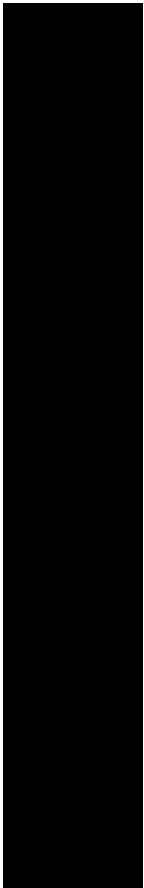


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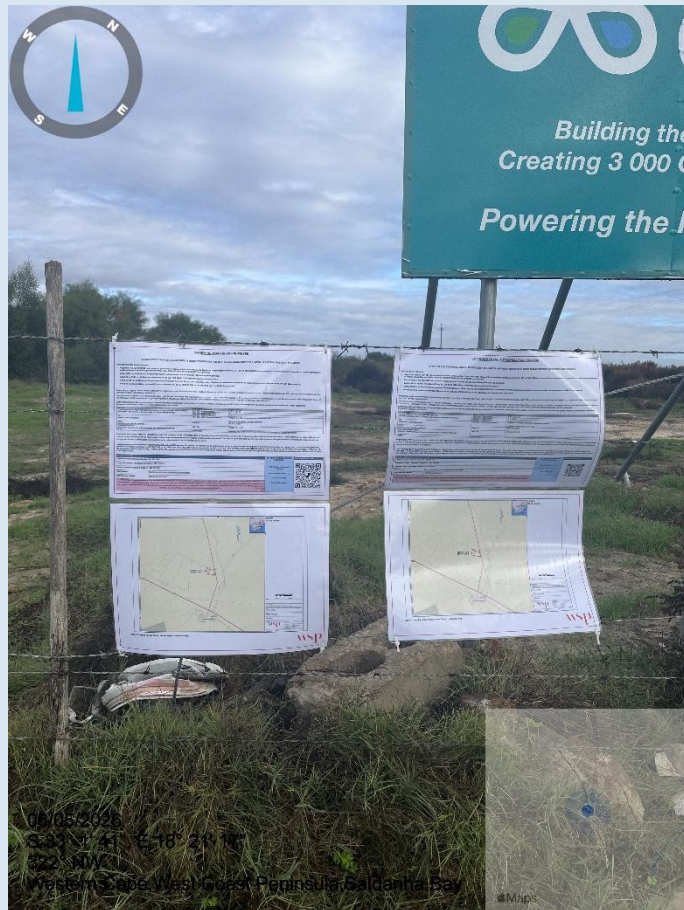
Appendix A.4

SITE NOTICES



SITE NOTICE PLACEMENT

Saldanha Library



Saldanha Library



Saldanha Library



Appendix B

NEWSPAPER ADVERT



ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND eSAF PLANT NEAR HOPEFIELD, WEST COAST DISTRICT, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

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 an application for environmental authorisation in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended)
- Section 46(3) of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, No. 39 of 2004 (NEM:AQA (as amended)
- Section 40 and 41(4) of the National Water Act, No. 36 of 1998 (NWA), Water Use Licence Application (WULA)
- Section 20(B) of the National Environmental Waste Management: Waste Act, No. 59 of 2008 (NEM:WA), to undertake a waste management activity in accordance with the requirements in GNR 921 (as amended)
- Section 38 (8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, No. 25 of 1999 (NHRA) for the submission of a development application

Description and Location: Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd is proposing to undertake the Phelan eFuels Project – Saldanha Bay that will produce eSAF (Electro-Sustainable Aviation Fuel) from biogenic CO₂, captured via carbon capture technology, and green hydrogen via electrolysis.

The project site is situated approximately 3 km north of Hopefield in the West Coast District in the Western Cape and is approximately 115 km north of Cape Town and 57 km east of Saldanha. The project site is on the Remainder of Farm Portugeesche Fontyn No 167, Malmesbury District. Applications for environmental authorisation, an Atmospheric Emission Licence (AEL) and water use authorisation are required before the project infrastructure can be constructed.

Environmental Applications: The anticipated listed activities 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, details provided below.

Project Name	Listing Notice	Applicable Triggers
Scoping and EIA for Green Hydrogen and eSAF Plant (Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning)	GNR 983 – Listing Notice 1	9, 10, 13, 24, 28
	GNR 984 – Listing Notice 2	4, 6, 15, 25
	GNR 985 – Listing Notice 3	4, 10, 12
AEL (West Coast District Municipality)	GNR 893 of 2013 (Listed Activities)	Category 2.4: Storage and handling of petroleum products Category 6: Organic Chemicals Industry
WULA (Department of Water and Sanitation)	Section 21	(a), (b), (c), (g), (i)
Waste Management Activity (Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning)	GNR 921	Category C (1), (2)
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 to manage the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR), AEL, WULA and public participation processes. 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 processes.

Draft Scoping Report Review Period: The Draft Scoping Report will be made available at the venues and websites below for review. Comments on the project and the above applications are invited for a period of 30 days from **07 May 2026 to 08 June 2026**. The 60-day WULA comment period will start on **07 May 2026** and conclude on **06 July 2026**. The AEL application will run concurrently with the S&EIR process. A copy of the AEL application form will be available on request. Decision on the AEL application will be made within 60 days from the date when all required documentation for the application has been provided. The applicant will be notified within 30 days from the date of the decision.

- Hopefield Library, 022 723 0384
 - Langebaan Library, 022 714 8010
 - Saldanha Library, 022 714 8010
 - WSP Website: <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
 - Data-free Website: <https://wsp-engage.com/>
- Online registration and comment sheet are available for download at the following website: <https://www.wsp.com/en-za/services/public-documents>.

CONTACT: WSP Public Participation (PP) Office **Tel:** 011 361 1300 **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.

Date of the advert: 07 May 2026

OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSESSE

KENNISGEWING VAN DIE VOORGESTELDE GROEN WATERSTOF- EN eSAF-AANLEG NABY HOPEFIELD, WESKUS DISTRIK, WES-KAAP PROVINSIE

Kennisgewing word gegee ingevolge

- Regulasie 41(2) van GNR 982 (soos gewysig) gepubliseer kragtens artikel 24 en 24D van die Nasionale Omgewingsbestuurswet, No. 107 van 1998 (NEMA) (soos gewysig) vir die indiening van 'n aansoek om omgewingsmagtiging met betrekking tot aktiwiteite geïdentifiseer ingevolge GNR 983, GNR 984 en GNR 985 (soos gewysig)
- Artikel 46(3) van die Nasionale Omgewingsbestuur: Luggehaltewet, No. 39 van 2004 (NEM:AQA) (soos gewysig)
- Artikel 40 en 41(4) van die Nasionale Waterwet, No. 36 van 1998 (NWA), Watergebruikslisensie-aansoek (WULA)
- Artikel 20 (B) van die Nasionale Omgewingsafvalbestuurswet: Afval, Nr. 59 van 2008 (NEM:WA), om 'n afvalbestuursaktiwiteit te onderneem in ooreenstemming met die vereistes in GNR 921 (soos gewysig)
- Artikel 38 (8) van die Wet op Nasionale Erfenishulpbronne, No. 25 van 1999 (NHRA) vir die indiening van 'n ontwikkelingsaansoek

Beskrywing en Ligging: Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd stel voor om die Phelan eFuels Projek – Saldanha Bay aan te pak wat eSAF (Elektro-Volhoubare Lugvaartbrandstof) sal produseer uit biogeniese CO₂, opgevang deur koolstofopvangings tegnologie, en groen waterstof deur elektroliese.

Die projekterrein is ongeveer 3 km noord van Hopefield in die Weskus Distrik in die Wes-Kaap geleë en is ongeveer 115 km noord van Kaapstad en 57 km oos van Saldanha. Die projekterrein is op Gedeelte van die Plaas Portugeesche Fontyn Nr. 167, Malmesbury Distrik. Aansoeke vir omgewingsmagtiging, 'n Atmosferiese Uitlatingslisensie (AEL) en watergebruik magtiging is nodig voordat die projek infrastruktuur gebou kan word.

Omgewingsaansoeke: Die verwagte gelyste aktiwiteite wat met die voorgestelde projek verband hou, word in die tabel hieronder weerspieël. Indien u 'n volledige kopie van hierdie gelyste aktiwiteite wil bekom, kontak asseblief die Omgewingsassesseringspraktisyn (OAP), besonderhede hieronder verskaf.

Projeknaam	Noteringskennisgewing	Gelyste Aktiwiteit
Omvangsbepaling- en Omgewings-impakverslagdoening vir Groen Waterstof en eSAF-aanleg (Wes-Kaapse Departement van Omgewing-sake en Ontwikkelingsbeplanning)	GNR 983 – Lyskennisgewing 1	9, 10, 13, 24, 28
	GNR 984 – Lyskennisgewing 2	4, 6, 15, 25
	GNR 985 – Lyskennisgewing 3	4, 10, 12
AEL (Weskus Distrik Munisipaliteit)	GNR 893 of 2013 (Gelyste Aktiwiteite)	Kategorie 2.4: Stoor en hantering van petroleumprodukte Kategorie 6: Organiese Chemiese Nywerheid
WULA (Department van Water en Sanitasie)	Artikel 21	(a), (b), (c), (g), (i)
Afvalbestuursaktiwiteit (Wes-Kaapse Departement van Omgewing-sake en Ontwikkelingsbeplanning)	GNR 921	Kategorie C (1), (2)
NHRA	Artikel 38(8)	Hersiening van 'n Impakassessering met betrekking tot 'n aansoek om Omgewing-smagtiging

Registrasie: WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd (WSP) is as die OAP aangestel om die Omvangsbepaling en Omgewingsimpakverslagdoening (O&OIV), AEL, WULA en openbare deelnameprosesse te bestuur. Partye wat formeel as belanghebbendes wil registreer om hul kommentaar oor die voorgestelde projek te lewer, word versoek om hul volledige kontakbesonderhede aan die OAP te stuur by die besonderhede hieronder. Geregistreerde belanghebbendes sal alle toekomstige korrespondensie ontvang en individueel in kennis gestel word van bykomende geleenthede om aan die prosesse deel te neem.

Hersieningstydperk vir die Konsep-Omgewingsimpakbepalings(OIB)-verslag: Die Konsep-OIB-verslag is by die onderstaande plekke en webtuistes beskikbaar gestel vir hersiening. Kommentaar kan gelewer word op die projek en bogenoemde aansoeke vir 'n tydperk van 30 dae vanaf **07 Mei 2026 tot 08 Junie 2026**. Die 60-dae WULA-kommentaarperiode sal begin op **07 Mei 2026** en eindig op **06 Julie 2026**. Die AEL-aansoek sal gelyktydig met die O&OIV-proses verloop. 'n Afskrif van die AEL-aansoek is beskikbaar op aanvraag. 'n Besluit oor die AEL-aansoek sal binne 60 dae vanaf die datum waarop al die vereiste dokumentasie vir die aansoek ingedien is, geneem word. Die aansoeker sal binne 30 dae vanaf die datum van die besluit in kennis gestel word.

- Hopefield Biblioteek, 022 723 0384
 - Langebaan Biblioteek, 022 714 8010
 - Saldanha Biblioteek, 022 714 8010
 - WSP-webwerf: <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
 - Datavrye webwerf: <https://wsp-engage.com/>
- Aanlyn registrasie en kommentaarvorm is beskikbaar vir aflaai by die bogenoemde webwerwe.

KONTAK: WSP Kantoor vir Openbare Deelname (PP) **Tel:** 011 361 1300 **E-pos :** pp@wsp.com

Beskerming van Persoonlike Inligting: WSP sal sekere persoonlike inligting oor u as 'n belanghebbende en geaffekteerde party (B&G) verwerk met die doel om u registrasie as 'n B&G moontlik te maak en u besonderhede op ons databasis te stoor, indien u toestemming gee dat ons dit doen. WSP sal hierdie besonderhede gebruik om u in die toekoms oor ander relevante projekte te kontak. WSP sal u persoonlike inligting altyd verwerk in ooreenstemming met die Wet op die Beskerming van Persoonlike Inligting 4 van 2013. U is geregtig om u regte as 'n data-onderwerp uit te oefen en ons te laat weet as u as 'n B&G gederegistreer wil word of as u nie meer wil hê dat u kontakbesonderhede op ons databasis ingesluit word nie

Datum van advertensie: 07 May 2026



Reën en modder: beskerm diere só

Thys Louw

Die winterreën bring broodnodige water, maar dit skep ook ideale toestande vir velprobleme by troeteldiere.

Nat weer, modderige erwe en klam slaapplekke kan maklik tot pynlike infeksies lei, veral sogenaamde jeukplek-kies – rooi, nat en seer kolle wat vinnig kan versprei. Vir baie huishoudings is voorkoming nie net beter nie, maar ook goedkoper as behandeling. ’n Jeukplekkie begin dikwels klein: ’n hond wat aanhoudend krap, lek of byt aan een plek. Binne ’n dag of twee kan dit in ’n rou wond ontwikkel.

Die voortdurende irritasie beskadig die vel en laat bakterieë toe om in te dring. In nat en warm toestande, waar vog teen

die vel vasgevang word, versprei die infeksie vinnig. Langharige honde is meer vatbaar omdat hul pels langer nat bly, maar enige troeteldier wat gereeld nat word, loop ’n risiko.

Een van die grootste oorsake is ’n klam slaapplek. Troeteldiere wat buite slaap, lê dikwels op nat komberse of karton. Dit hou die vel konstant klam en bevorder bakterie- en swamgroe.

Maak seker jou troeteldier het ’n droë, beskutte slaapplek en vervang nat beddegoed so gou moontlik. Modder tussen pote en tone is nog ’n probleem wat maklik misgekyk word. Modder bevat bakterieë wat irritasie kan veroorsaak.

Wanneer dit opdroog en vassteek, begin die diere lek en krap, wat tot infeksie kan lei. Ná wandelings of speletyd in die reën,



’n Kat wat krap. Foto: Vsyakh Ajith | Unsplash



Dierewelsyn | Animal Care

vee pote af en kyk vir rooiheid of seer kolle. Droog jou troeteldier goed af ná reën, veral onder die maag, by die oksels en agter die ore waar vog vasgevang word.

Gereelde borsel help ook om lugvloei te verbeter en die pels gesond te hou. Parasiete soos vlooië kan jeuk vererger, terwyl swak voeding die vel meer vatbaar maak. Let op vroeë tekens soos aanhoudende lek, haarverlies, rooi kolle of ’n onaangename reuk.

Hoe vinniger jy optree, hoe makliker is dit om die probleem te beheer. Met eenvoudige daaglikse sorg kan jy help om jou troeteldier gesond en gemaklik deur die nat winter te hou.

Pick poop up: it’s respectful

Letitia Van Zyl-Schultz

A growing concern among residents of Langebaan is of dog waste being left behind in public spaces, a problem served to dampen an otherwise-positive activity.

Walking one’s dog is one of life’s simple pleasures along the West Coast. From quiet suburban streets to scenic coastal routes such as the popular Shark Bay Walk, it’s a daily ritual that benefits both owners and their four-legged companions. Regular walks not only keep dogs healthy and stimulated, but also offer valuable time outdoors for families and individuals alike.

However, said one resident of Myburgh Park who recently raised her frustration, despite efforts to address the issue the problem persisted.

“I have in the past put a notice up on my wall asking residents to pick their dog poop up and not leave it on the pavement outside my house. Someone promptly removed the sign, and now the dog owners continue to let their dogs poop with abandon.”

She said she had taken it upon herself to clean up around her property, and had also noted an increase in dog waste along the well-known Shark Bay walking route. The concern is not only about cleanliness, but also mutual respect within the community as well as caring for the natural environment that so many residents and visitors enjoy.

According to the Saldanha Bay Municipality (SBM), which governs Langebaan, there are clear bylaws in place to address this issue. The Saldanha Bay Municipality By-law Relating to Public Nuisances specifically states in Section 10(2): “A person in charge of a dog in a street or public place, must remove any faeces left by the dog by wrapping it in paper or plastic and disposing of it in a receptacle provided for litter or refuse.”

In practical terms this means that wheth-



Dog owners urged to clean up after their pets.

er one is walking one’s dog on pavements, in streets, parks, beaches or any public open space one is legally required to:

- Pick up your dog’s waste immediately.
- Bag or wrap it.
- Dispose of it in a proper bin.

Failure to comply with this regulation is considered an offence and may result in fines if sufficient evidence is provided.

While enforcement does play a role the municipality emphasises that community cooperation is also key. Responsible pet ownership goes beyond feeding and exercising pets; it includes being mindful of shared spaces and fellow residents.

Dog walking remains an important and encouraged activity across West Coast towns. It promotes healthier lifestyles, strengthens the bond between owner and pet, and allows people to enjoy the region’s natural beauty.

But with such privilege comes responsibility. A small act, carrying a bag and picking up after one’s dog, can make a significant difference. It keeps neighbourhoods clean, prevents unpleasant encounters for others and helps maintain the beauty of areas such as Shark Bay for everyone to enjoy.

In the end it’s about respect for one’s neighbours, one’s environment and one’s community.

CRICKET

RCB receive backing to defend their title

FORMER India cricketer Suresh Raina believes Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) are strong favourites to defend their Indian Premier League (IPL) title this season, citing their balanced performances and clarity in roles across departments.

"I feel RCB can defend their title. The way they are playing, and how their

bowling unit is operating, with Captain Rajat Patidar leading from the front," Raina said.

Raina emphasised that RCB's strength lies not just in posting massive totals but in their attacking batting approach. "It is not just about scoring big 240-250 totals; everyone in the batting unit understands their roles," he added.

"After them, I feel Rajasthan Royals are doing a few things right, 18 years after their first title. It is a young team, but they are playing a very watchable brand of cricket," he noted. I IANS

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Pirates have given us chance to dream again

SHARP TURN



ZAAHIER ADAMS

EIGHT years ago, the Mother City was the site of a profound footballing tragedy. If that sounds melodramatic, consider what has transpired since.

I still vividly remember the sight of Orlando Pirates players, draped in their black-and-white, three-stripe uniforms, collapsing on the DHL Stadium turf. It wasn't just the physical exhaustion of 90 gruelling minutes; it was the crushing, suffocating weight of a dream that had been extinguished right in front of them.

Pirates had arrived in Cape Town buzzing with genuine title credentials. Trailing Mamelodi Sundowns by a mere four points with only two matches to play, the maths was simple: beat a stubborn Cape Town City – ironically coached by Pirates legend Benni McCarthy – while praying the now-defunct Ajax Cape Town could somehow trip up the Brazilians in Atteridgeville.

Instead, what unfolded was a masterclass in despair.

Ayanda Patoosi's fantastic strike didn't just find the back of the net; it pierced the very heart of Pirates' championship hopes.

The pressure had simply become too much to bear. While Pirates faltered in the Cape, Sundowns ruthlessly dispatched the Urban Warriors 3-1, wrapping both hands around the league title.

To add salt to an already gaping wound, the final weekend saw Pirates secure a hollow victory while the newly crowned champions stumbled. The final 2018/19 standings showed a mere two-point gap between the two sides.

That agonising afternoon ultimately set the tone for nearly a decade of South African football, with Sundowns building an untouchable

dynasty during that period.

Aside from Kaizer Chiefs' spirited but ultimately doomed title push the following season, the league has been a monopolised procession.

The chasing pack hasn't just been beaten over the last eight years; they have been routinely humiliated into submission. The numbers don't lie. For the past three seasons, Sundowns have been runaway champions with a gap of 12 points (2024/25), 23 points (2023/24), and 26 points (2022/23) separating them from their nearest challengers.

Nobody has come anywhere close to pushing Sundowns to the brink of panic. The tension, the final-day mathematics, and the sheer unpredictability of a title race vanished.

Therefore, the irony of Pirates facing Stellenbosch at the Athlone Stadium on Tuesday evening was not lost on me.

After all these years, once again, the Sea Robbers' championship aspirations hinged on a critical encounter in Cape Town. But on this occasion, there would be no tears. Instead, it

was a joyous celebration of singing and dancing in the stands with a sold-out crowd – primarily Pirates supporters – spurring on their team to a comfortable 2-0 victory.

The ghosts of eight years ago had been vanquished, with the three points collected moving Pirates to within touching distance of Sundowns with three matches remaining.

Pirates coach Abdeslam Ouaddou is certainly living every moment of the title run-in with the supporters.

"It creates a lot of interest for the fans, for South African fans. It's not funny when 10 games before the end of the season, you see the team is winning the title. So, for you as a fan, if you know at the beginning of the season who is going to be champion, you lose interest," Ouaddou said.

"The most important (thing) is to give this competitiveness to the PSL until the end. I think it was really a good test for us because you don't know what will happen in the next few matches against the rival. So, for us, the dream is still here. The players are going to fight.

"And it's possible, like I said at the beginning of the season, it's possible to fight until the last game and maybe the people will know the champion at the end of the last game."

Pirates may not go on to fulfil their dreams by breaking Sundowns' stranglehold on domestic football, as their destiny is linked to Miguel Cardoso's team not collecting the maximum nine points on offer.

But even if the Betway Premiership trophy does indeed return to Chloorkop for a record 19th time and not to Orlando Stadium, Pirates deserve their flowers for infusing fresh excitement back into South African football.

S SPORT

RUGBY



SPRINGBOK captain Siya Kolisi wants to end his rugby chapter at the Sharks with a bang over the next two weekends ahead of a move to the Stormers. 1 backpagePix

Kolisi reflects on Sharks' disappointment ahead of Durban farewell

LEIGHTON KOOPMAN

THE Sharks are still hurting after failing to qualify for the United Rugby Championship (URC) knockouts.

That is why they have set themselves the goal of finishing the season strongly in their two consolation fixtures against Italian clubs Benetton and Zebre over the next two weekends.

On Saturday, Leinster-slayers Benetton will visit the Shark Tank, and the coastal side will look to deliver a performance worthy of their supporters' support to show that all is not lost, despite likely being the only South African side not to reach the play-offs.

According to Sharks loose forward and Springbok captain Siya Kolisi, they endured a tough week at training following the last game.

"We are really disappointed that we didn't make the top eight, especially with the group that we have here," he said.

"We definitely should have qualified and have no excuses for missing out. However, we want to make sure that we finish the season strongly. It still hurts us, you know, with the way the fans have supported us so much and we couldn't deliver for them or for the club itself. We should be doing better than we did this season.

"But yeah, we've got a big challenge this week with Benetton. They are also a great team and have beaten some big sides this season. So, we want to finish our year strongly and hopefully the guys can build going forward from these last two games."

Kolisi, said it has been tough for him, especially knowing he is on his way out and that they could not secure a play-off place. The veteran will join the Stormers next season after a couple of years in Durban.

He added that he wants to enjoy his final two weeks in the coastal city and bid farewell properly to the fans during the last matches at Kings Park.

"Saying goodbye to the boys will be difficult. It's been a special place," he said of his time in Durban.

"Thank you so much to the people of KZN who have welcomed my family and me. My kids love coming here; they really enjoy supporting the team. They love the team, but they also love the city itself and the people here. Thank you for welcoming us and making us feel part of the family.

"We'll definitely come back as much as we can, and we'll always support the boys from afar. I'm grateful to the people here, and I'm grateful to the Sharks for everything they've done for me – for supporting me in everything and understanding how important family is. Not just saying it, but helping me get closer to my kids."

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708 LEGALS

HIGH COURT CAPE TOWN

Case No: 20484-2 ACTING JUSTICE WELGEMOED GENFIN (PTY) LTD - Applicant and TAWEE (PTY) LTD - Respondent

ORDER:

1. Respondent placed under provisional liquidation.

2. A Rule Nisi is issued calling upon interested parties to show cause on 29 May 2026, why the order should not be made final.

VAN DER MEER INC DURBANVILLE Tel: 021 979 2209

711 LOST DEED

Form JJJ LOST OR DESTROYED DEED

Notice is hereby given in terms of regulation 68 of the Deeds Registries Act, 1937, of the intention to apply for the issue of a certified copy of DEED OF TRANSFER NO. T24338/1978, passed by GAMIEF DANIELS BORN ON 22ND JUNE 1934 in favour of PETER JAFTHA BORN 26TH FEBRUARY 1929 in respect of Erf 6989 Portion of Erf 1718 Grassy Park, Situation at Grassy Park, in the local Area of Grassy Park, Cape Division MEASURING 469 (FOUR HUNDRED AND SIXTY-NINE) SQUARE METRES. Held by Deed Of Transfer T24338/1978

All persons having objection to the issue of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds at CAPE TOWN, INFORMATION DESK, 4TH FLOOR, 2 RIEBEEK STREET, FORESHORE, CAPE TOWN within two weeks after the date of the publication of this notice.

Dated at CAPE TOWN this 7th day of May 2026.

TJAART JOHANNES KRIEL C/O STRAUSS DALY ATTORNEYS 7 BREE STREET 13 FLOOR TOUCHSTONE HOUSE CAPE TOWN REF: TJAART JOHANNES KRIEL E-MAIL: Jkriel@strausssdaly.co.za TEL: 021 410-2200

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711 LOST DEED

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Notice is hereby given in terms of regulation 68 of the Deeds Registries Act, 1937, of the intention to apply for the issue of a certified copy of Deed of Transfer No. T6315/2003 (VA 1962/2018) passed by HEATHER MARIANNE BURKE. Identity Number: 280908 0086 08 7. Married, which marriage is governed by the laws of SOUTH AFRICA, in favour of RETHA STRYDOM. Identity Number: 640627 0113 08 0. Married out of Community of Property, in respect of Erf 16167 FISH HOEK, IN THE CITY OF CAPE TOWN, CAPE DIVISION, PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE.

All interested persons having objection to the issue of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds at Cape Town (Reception Desk) 4th Floor, 2 Riebeeck Street, Foreshore Place, Cape Town within two weeks from the date of the publication of this notice.

Dated at RONDEBOSCH on this 5TH MAY 2026

APPLICANT: Shameer Hamdulay Attorneys & Conveyancers 143 Milner Road Rondebosch Email: shameer@hamdulaylaw.co.za Contact no.: 021 685 4007

716 SALE OF BUSINESS

NOTICE OF SALE OF BUSINESS

NOTICE is hereby given in terms of Section 34(1) of Act 24 of 1936 that EASTCLIFF TOPS TRUST (IT 1969/2009) intends selling its businesses, GATEWAY SUPERSPAR and TOPS, as going concerns within a period not less than 30 (thirty) days and not more than 60 (sixty) days from the last publication of this notice. Bosse & Associates Attorneys - Block 3B, Unit B1 The Avenues Business Park, Cnr Village Walk & Parklands Main Road, Telephone: (021) 556-7675, (Ref: S5SWC/09/956).

714 PUBLIC NOTICES

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700 LEGALS

714 PUBLIC NOTICES

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION PROCESSES

NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND eSAF PLANT NEAR HOPEFIELD, WEST COAST DISTRICT, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

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 an application for environmental authorisation in respect of activities identified in terms of GNR 983, GNR 984 and GNR 985 (as amended)
- Section 46(3) of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act, No. 39 of 2004 (NEMA:QA (as amended)
- Section 40 and 41(4) of the National Water Act, No. 36 of 1998 (NWA), Water Use Licence Application (WULA)
- Section 20(B) of the National Environmental Waste Management: Waste Act, No. 59 of 2008 (NEM:WA), to undertake a waste management activity in accordance with the requirements in GNR 921 (as amended)
- Section 38 (8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, No. 25 of 1999 (NHRA) for the submission of a development application

Description and Location:

Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd is proposing to undertake the Phelan eFuels Project – Saldanha Bay that will produce eSAF (Electro-Sustainable Aviation Fuel) from biogenic CO₂ captured via carbon capture technology, and green hydrogen via electrolysis.

The project site is situated approximately 3 km north of Hopefield in the West Coast District in the Western Cape and is approximately 115 km north of Cape Town and 57 km east of Saldanha. The project site is on the Remainder of Farm Portugeesche Fontyn No 167, Malmesbury District. Applications for environmental authorisation, an Atmospheric Emission Licence (AEL) and water use authorisation are required before the project infrastructure can be constructed.

Environmental Applications:

The anticipated listed activities 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, details provided below.

Project Name	Listing Notice	Applicable Triggers
Scoping and EIA for Green Hydrogen and eSAF Plant (Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning)	GNR 983 – Listing Notice 1	9, 10, 13, 24, 28
	GNR 984 – Listing Notice 2	4, 6, 15, 25
	GNR 985 – Listing Notice 3	4, 10, 12
AEL (West Coast District Municipality)	GNR 893 of 2013 (Listed Activities)	Category 2.4: Storage and handling of petroleum products Category 6: Organic Chemicals Industry
WULA (Department of Water and Sanitation)	Section 21	(a), (b), (c), (g), (i)
Waste Management Activity (Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning)	GNR 921	Category C (1), (2)
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 to manage the Scoping and Environmental Impact Reporting (S&EIR), AEL, WULA and public participation processes. 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 processes.

Draft Scoping Report Review Period:

The Draft Scoping Report will be made available at the venues and websites below for review. Comments on the project and the above applications are invited for a period of 30 days from 07 May 2026 to 08 June 2026. The 60-day WULA comment period will start on 07 May 2026 and conclude on 06 July 2026. The AEL application will run concurrently with the S&EIR process. A copy of the AEL application form will be available on request. Decision on the AEL application will be made within 60 days from the date when all required documentation for the application has been provided. The applicant will be notified within 30 days from the date of the decision.

- Hopefield Library, 022 723 0384
- Langebaan Library, 022 714 8010
- Saldanha Library, 022 714 8010

- WSP Website: <https://www.wsp.com/en-ZA/services/public-documents>
- Data-free Website: <https://wsp-engage.com/>

Online registration and comment sheet are available for download at the following website: <https://www.wsp.com/en-zs/services/public-documents>.

CONTACT: WSP Public Participation (PP) Office Tel: 011 361 1300 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.

Date of the advert: 07 May 2026

wsp

ABDESAM Ouaddou, head coach of Orlando Pirates, reacts during the Betway Premiership clash against Stellenbosch FC at Athlone Stadium. 1 NIC BOTHMA backpagePix

Quaddou: Records only matter if you win the title

ZAAHIER ADAMS

MUCH like the English Premier League, which Orlando Pirates coach Abdeslam Ouaddou alluded to, the Betway Premiership title race will go down to the wire.

In an intriguing 2025/26 season, Pirates have thrown all they have at Mamelodi Sundowns. Prior to Sundowns' clash with Kaizer Chiefs at Loftus Versfeld on Wednesday evening, Ouaddou's charges had scored more goals (53-47) and conceded fewer (12-13) than their rivals from Pretoria, with both teams having played 27 matches.

Furthermore, goalkeeper Sipho Chaine has surpassed Moeneeb Josephs' record of 17 clean sheets for Pirates, set during the 2008/09 season, whilst equalling Ronwen Williams' PSL record for the most clean sheets (18) in a season.

Yet, Pirates' destiny is still not in their own hands should perennial champions Sundowns claim maxi-

mum points from their remaining three matches.

It is this fact that matters solely to Ouaddou, although his "warriors" will not give up the fight until the very last day of the season.

"You know, in every league, in every country, if you can see the Premier League in England, Manchester City, Arsenal, they're fighting. I think it's the same fight that we see in the PSL," the Moroccan said after the 2-0 victory over Stellenbosch FC.

"So this season we try to bring more competitiveness. I think the boys really did well. The guys were very brave; I'm very proud of them. I'm very proud to be the coach of these boys. We saw real warriors and players that clearly gave an answer. We are still here, and we're going to fight until the last second.

"We have to continue to fight, to improve the players, to try to be more creative, to be more consistent as well, because to break the record, it's fine, but it's for the show. The most important [thing] is if you break the record and you didn't win the title. So if we win the title and you break the record, now I think it's worth something."

The Buccaneers made significant progress under previous coach José Riveiro, with the Spaniard leading the Soweto giants to three consecutive MTN8 titles and two Nedbank Cup triumphs, where they defeated Sundowns in the 2023/24 final.

But Riveiro's best placing in the Premiership was second, which led to

Ouaddou joining the Soweto giants at the beginning of this season.

The former Fulham defender has made an immediate impact as he aims to become the first Pirates coach since Dutchman Ruud Krol (2010/11) to lead the Bucs to the promised land.

"Pirates were playing some nice football before I came, and I tried to analyse what we can improve in that team. And if you've seen last season, they conceded a lot of goals in transitions," he said.

"They conceded a lot of goals because the philosophy was more attacking, and sometimes they [forgot] to defend well.

"And it's what we rectified this season with the players.

"Look, if you definitely want to win a title, you really need to put [down a] strong foundation. You cannot win a title with a poor defence. This is a fact.

"But at the same time, you need to score goals. And the originality in our team [is that] the top scorers are not the strikers. It doesn't mean that they are bad.

"They are doing a great, great job. And I always say that my first defenders are my strikers, my front line. Everybody has to work in the team.

"I think that it's a collective sport. Everybody has to be involved in the task, either when we have to defend, [or] when we attack as well. It's [about being] willing to make efforts [and] not to be selfish in the team."