

# Appendix C

## COMMENTS RECEIVED



[REDACTED]

---

From: DEADP EIA Admin <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Wednesday, 06 May 2026 14:16  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: Fw: ZA0066851.7273 – NOTIFICATION: NOTICE OF THE INTEGRATED REGULATORY PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND ELECTRO-SUSTAINABLE AVAIATION FUEL (e-SAF) PLANT NEAR HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE  
Attachments: ZA0066851.7273\_Phelan Green\_BIL\_Afr\_DSR\_Final\_29042026.pdf; ZA0066851.7273\_PhelanGreen\_BIL\_Eng\_DSR\_Final\_29042026.pdf

Dear Sir/Madam

The Directorate confirms receipt of your correspondence.

Please be advised that the assigned case officer will provide a formal response.

Kind Regards

DEADP EIA ADMIN

Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

Western Cape Government

Website: [www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp](http://www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp)

Be 110% Green. Read from the screen.

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2026 2:04 PM  
Subject: ZA0066851.7273 – NOTIFICATION: NOTICE OF THE INTEGRATED REGULATORY PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND ELECTRO-SUSTAINABLE AVAIATION FUEL (e-SAF) PLANT NEAR HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

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 CO<sub>2</sub>, 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**

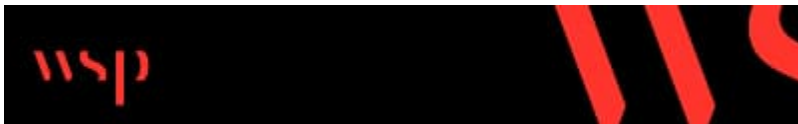
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-J AEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hqs7pbKl

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[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 17:00  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: ZA0066851.7273 – NOTIFICATION: NOTICE OF THE INTEGRATED REGULATORY PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND ELECTRO-SUSTAINABLE AVAIATION FUEL (e-SAF) PLANT NEAR HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for that confirmation.

The Department has been registered and will be notified of the relevant documentation once available for your review and comments.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

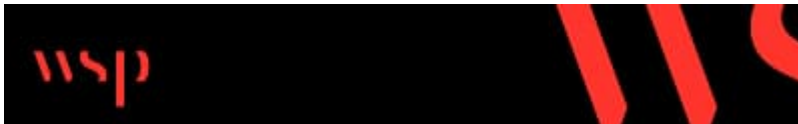
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 15:31  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Subject: RE: 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

Dear WSP PP Office,

Thank you for your response and for providing the AEL application form. I confirm that I have successfully downloaded the document.

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.

Kind regards,  
[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)>

Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 14:15

To: [REDACTED] ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)>

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: 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

Good day Ms [REDACTED]

Thank you for the email.

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.

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 encourage interested and affected parties to register to ensure that they receive all future correspondence.

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) and the DEIR will be made available for public review and comment.

Please find a copy of the AEL application here: ☐ [ZA0066851.7273 - Phelan Green AEL](#)

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

## Public Participation Office

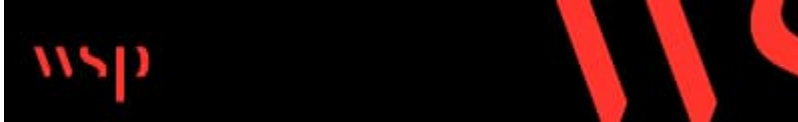
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, 07 May 2026 10:23  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)>  
Cc: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: 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

Dear WSP PP Team,

Thank you for the notification regarding the release of the Draft Scoping Report (DSR).

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.

The Directorate: Development Facilitation is responsible for coordinating the Department's comments on the Water Use Licence (WUL) and Atmospheric Emission Licence (AEL) applications. Please ensure that [REDACTED] is included on the distribution list for all correspondence and documentation related to these applications.

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.

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.

Kind regards,

Adri La Meyer  
Directorate: Development Facilitation  
Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning  
Western Cape Government

11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Utilitas Building, 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8000

Tel: [REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Website: [www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp](http://www.westerncape.gov.za/eadp)



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Should you not be able to contact the numbers above, please call +27 (0)21 483 4091 between 07:30-16:00

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From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)>  
Sent: Wednesday, 06 May 2026 14:04  
Subject: 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

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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

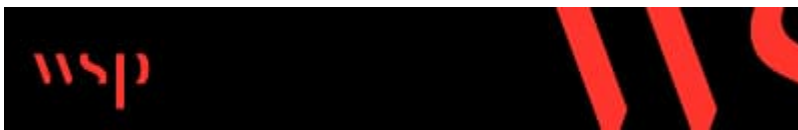
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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

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[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, 07 May 2026 11:11  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: ZA0066851.7273 - Service Affected - OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSES VIR DIE  
VOORGESTELDE GROEN WATERSTOF -AANLEG - HOPEFIELD, WESKUS-DISTRIK  
Attachments: Service affected-new.pdf; Service Request - Affected.pdf; WWIP\_WHPF1551\_26.pdf

Good day

Please find attached your approved Openserve wayleave.

Regards

[REDACTED]  
C: [REDACTED]  
i [REDACTED]

==== This e-mail and its contents are subject to the Openserve (Pty) Ltd E-mail legal notice  
<https://openserve.co.za/assets/documents/LegalEmail/OpenserveEMailLegalNotice.pdf> ====

**PLANT AFFECTED : FIBRE AND COPPER**

This wayleave, Reference **WWIP\_WHPF1551\_26** valid for 06 months from date here of and is subject to the following conditions:

1. No mechanical plant or vibrator type compactors may be used within three metres of any Openserve plant ( I.E. any Telecommunication equipment above or below ground level ).
2. The position of our plant affected by the proposal is indicated as approximate and  must be contacted at least 48 hours prior to commencement of the work, upon which the actual location of Openserve Plant will be indicated on site.
3. A written request must be submitted to Openserve for consideration should the applicant require our plant to be relocated. The cost of such relocation will be recoverable from the applicant.
4. It is the responsibility of the applicant to verify the existance of the indicated plant and to notify Openserve immediately should the applicant locate any Openserve plant which is not indicated on the plans.
5. Should the applicant expose any Openserve plant, the safeguard thereof will be the applicant's full responsibility.
6. Failing to comply with the above conditions or any special conditions addendum hereto will be regarded as gross negligence and the applicant will be held responsible for the damage or loss as a result thereof.

Date: 07 May 2026

  
For Regional General Manager

| Legend                                    |                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Underground Pipe                       |  |
| 2. Underground Cable                      |  |
| 3. Manhole                                |  |
| 4. Street Distributio Cabinet (SDC )      |  |
| 5. Jointing Pit / AJB                     |  |
| 6. Jointing Pillar ( PJ )                 |  |
| 7. Pipe Junction Box ( B/S )              |  |
| 8. Robot Control                          |  |
| 9. Pole                                   |  |
| 10. Stay                                  |  |
| 11. Strut                                 |  |
| 12. Aerial Cable ( A/C )                  |  |
| Optic Fibre indicated in PINK on the plan |                                                                                       |

The pipeline indicated (in Pink) contains **OPTIC FIBRE** cables.





1 Platinum CT  
Block A  
Marconi Beam  
Milnerton  
7441

[REDACTED]

Cell: [REDACTED]

Email: i [REDACTED]

OUR REF: WWIP\_WHPF1551\_26  
YOUR REF: ZA0066851.7273

.

7 MAY 2026

Attention: **WSP group Africa**  
**ZA - WSP - PPOffice**

Dear Sir /Madam

### SERVICES AFFECTED

APPLICATION FOR WAYLEAVE: OMGEWINGSMAGTIGINGSPROSES VIR DIE VOORGESTELDE GROEN WATERSTOF - AANLEG - HOPEFIELD, WESKUS-DISTRIK

The approval wayleave letter also **serves as the permit.**

With reference to your application dated **06 May 2026**

As important cables are affected, please contact our representative [REDACTED] telephone number [REDACTED] at least 48 hours prior of commencement on construction work.

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.

Any changes or deviations from the original planning during or prior to construction must immediately be communicated to this office.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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.

Telecommunication services position is shown as accurately as possible but should be regarded as approximate only.

Should alterations or relocation of existing infrastructure be required, such work will be done at the request and cost of the applicant.

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.

It would be appreciated if this office can be notified within 30 days of completion of the construction work. Confirmation is required on completion of construction as per agreed requirements.

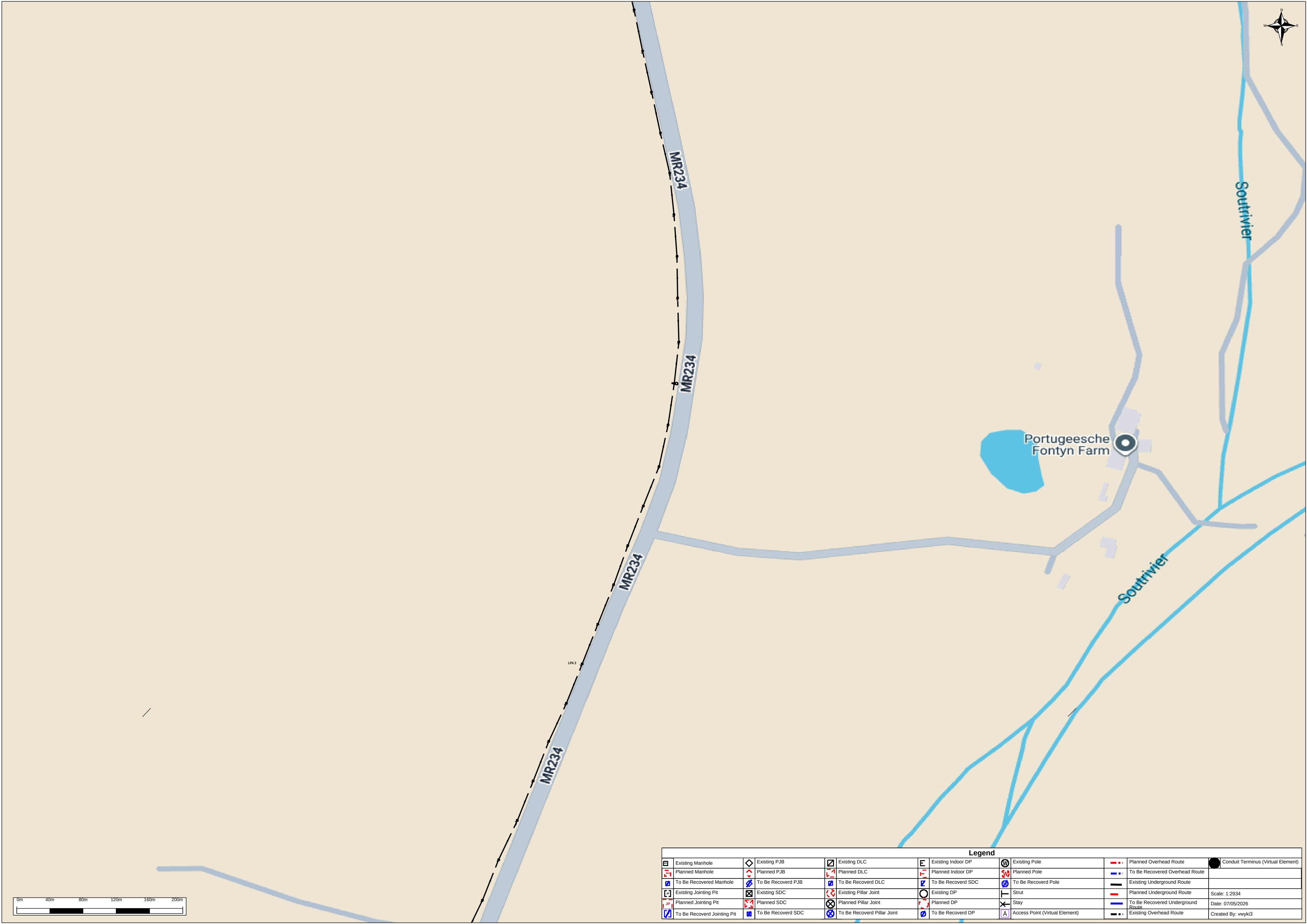
Should Openserve infrastructure be damaged while work is undertaken, kindly contact our representative immediately.

All Openserve rights remain reserved.

Yours faithfully



  
FOR  
**Selwyn Bowers**  
**Operations Manager**  
**Wayleave Management: Western Region**



| Legend |                             |  |                    |  |                             |  |                    |  |                                |  |                                   |  |                                    |
|--------|-----------------------------|--|--------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
|        | Existing Manhole            |  | Existing PJB       |  | Existing DLC                |  | Existing Indoor DP |  | Existing Pole                  |  | Planned Overhead Route            |  | Conduit Terminus (Virtual Element) |
|        | Planned Manhole             |  | Planned PJB        |  | Planned DLC                 |  | Planned Indoor DP  |  | Planned Pole                   |  | To Be Recovered Overhead Route    |  |                                    |
|        | To Be Recovered Manhole     |  | To Be Recoverd PJB |  | To Be Recoverd DLC          |  | To Be Recoverd SDC |  | To Be Recoverd Pole            |  | Existing Underground Route        |  |                                    |
|        | Existing Jointing Pit       |  | Existing SDC       |  | Existing Pillar Joint       |  | Existing DP        |  | Strut                          |  | Planned Underground Route         |  | Scale: 1:2934                      |
|        | Planned Jointing Pit        |  | Planned SDC        |  | Planned Pillar Joint        |  | Planned DP         |  | Stay                           |  | To Be Recovered Underground Route |  | Date: 07/05/2026                   |
|        | To Be Recoverd Jointing Pit |  | To Be Recoverd SDC |  | To Be Recoverd Pillar Joint |  | To Be Recoverd DP  |  | Access Point (Virtual Element) |  | Existing Overhead Route           |  | Created By: vwyk3                  |

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 14:17  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: ZA0066851.7273 (Public Participation Form - Elaine Ruck)

Good day Ms [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence and the comments raised.

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. 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.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

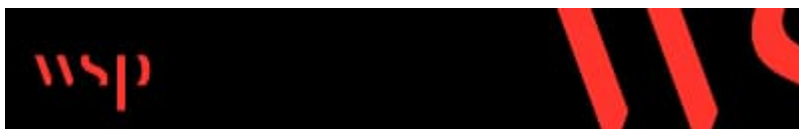
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, 07 May 2026 16:59  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: ZA0066851.7273 (Public Participation Form - Elaine Ruck)

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)>

Sent: Wednesday, 06 May 2026 14:04

Subject: 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

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Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

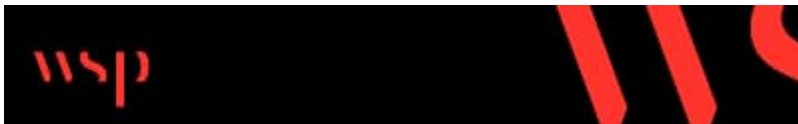
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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

**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/<br>Community<br>(If applicable) |                                           |                                                                     |
| Elaine                                                                                                                                                                                               | Ruck    | Miss  |                                                                   |                                           |                                                                     |
| Contact Details                                                                                                                                                                                      |         |       |                                                                   |                                           |                                                                     |
| Mobile Number                                                                                                                                                                                        |         |       |                                                                   |                                           |                                                                     |
| Office Number                                                                                                                                                                                        | n/a     |       |                                                                   |                                           |                                                                     |
| Home Number                                                                                                                                                                                          | n/a     |       |                                                                   |                                           |                                                                     |
| Fax Number                                                                                                                                                                                           | n/a     |       |                                                                   |                                           |                                                                     |
| Email Address                                                                                                                                                                                        |         |       |                                                                   |                                           |                                                                     |
| Postal Address                                                                                                                                                                                       |         |       |                                                                   | Postal code                               |                                                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      |         |       |                                                                   | 7                                         | 3 5 5                                                               |
| WSP, will not share personal information with a third party                                                                                                                                          |         |       |                                                                   |                                           |                                                                     |
| LANDOWNERS                                                                                                                                                                                           |         |       |                                                                   |                                           |                                                                     |
| If your property is adjacent to the Project site,<br>please tell us your street address, farm name<br>and/or erf/portion number                                                                      |         |       |                                                                   |                                           |                                                                     |
| WOULD YOU LIKE TO REGISTER AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY? (Mark with an X)                                                                                                                     |         |       |                                                                   |                                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| Preferred Method of Communication (Mark with an X)                                                                                                                                                   |         |       | Post                                                              | Email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fax                                                                 |
| In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), I disclose below<br>any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that I may<br>have in the approval or refusal of the application: |         |       | Date                                                              | 7 May 2026                                |                                                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      |         |       | 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:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>I am concerned about the following issues:</b>                                                                                                                                                             |
| • water shortage                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| • impact of number of additional trucks/vehicles on our roads                                                                                                                                                 |
| • risk of lithium & hydrogen explosion                                                                                                                                                                        |
| • number of people being brought in for work & the fact that they will bring families and need place to stay...will have a squatter situation which will remain after the work is completed – increased crime |
| • lack of contribution towards the town (Hopefield) in employment or compensation                                                                                                                             |
| • environmental impact                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| • 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                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

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](mailto: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.*

Project No ZA0066851.7273

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Friday, 08 May 2026 13:35  
To: [REDACTED]  
Cc: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: ZA0066851.7273 - Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant - General Comments

Good day [REDACTED],

Kindly note that you have been registered as a stakeholder on this project.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

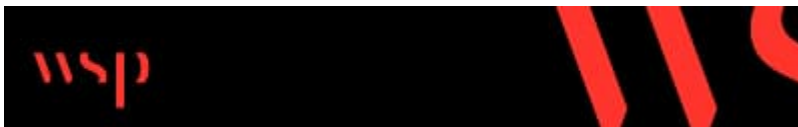
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, 08 May 2026 11:18  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: ZA0066851.7273 - Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant - General Comments

Name: [REDACTED]

Mobile Number: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Preferred Communication: email

Comments:

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 14:19  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: WULA.

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.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

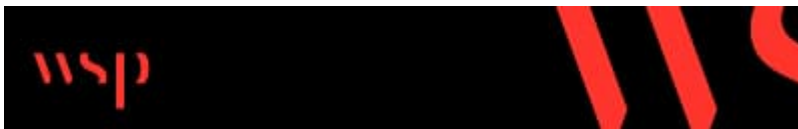
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---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 11 May 2026 11:21  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Cc: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Subject: WULA.

Dear Sir/Madam, I refer to the draft scoping report published for comment in respect of the Phelan Green project (ref no. ZA0066851.7273).

WULA

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.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]  
WCEPA (West Coast Environmental Protection Association)  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 11 May 2026 15:44  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: Re: AEL application.

Thank you.

On Mon, 11 May 2026, 15:40 ZA - WSP - PPOffice, <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)> wrote:

Good day Nicola,

Please find the application at the following link:  [ZA0066851.7273 - Phelan Green AEL](#)

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

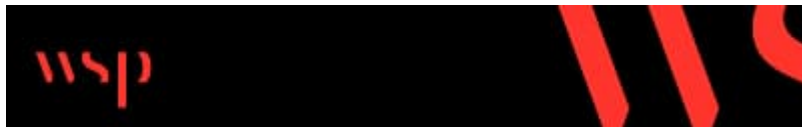
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---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 11 May 2026 11:36  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)>  
Subject: AEL application.

Dear Sir/Madam,

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.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

WCEPA (West Coast Environmental Protection Association)

Chairperson

---

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Monday, 11 May 2026 15:47  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: ZA0066851.7273 - Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant - General Comments

Good day [REDACTED]

Kindly note that you have been registered as a stakeholder on the project.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

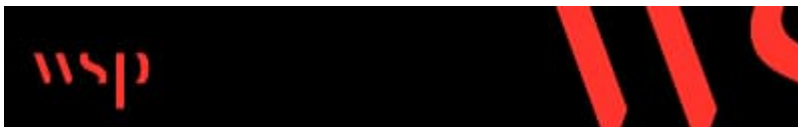
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---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 11 May 2026 10:32  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: ZA0066851.7273 - Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant - General Comments

Name: [REDACTED]

Mobile Number: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Preferred Communication: email

Comments:

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Tuesday, 09 June 2026 09:49  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice; [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: ZA0066851.7273 - Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant - General Comments

Good day [REDACTED]

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 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.

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.

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.

The Applicant further notes the Municipality's requirements for the management of hazardous waste and will ensure implementation of these requirements.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

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---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, 13 May 2026 10:30  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: ZA0066851.7273 - Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant - General Comments

Name: [REDACTED]

Mobile Number: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Preferred Communication: email

Comments: 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. 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. 3) With regards tpo 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.

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Thursday, 21 May 2026 15:33  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice; HWC HWC  
Subject: RE: ZA0066851.7273 – NOTIFICATION: NOTICE OF THE INTEGRATED REGULATORY PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND ELECTRO-SUSTAINABLE AVAIATION FUEL (e-SAF) PLANT NEAR HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Good day

Thank you for your correspondence. We will upload the report and make the necessary payment accordingly.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

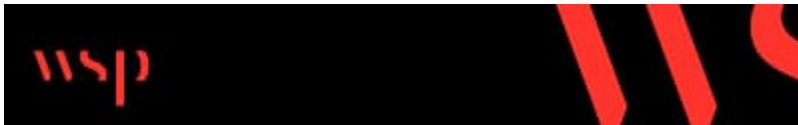
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---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, 21 May 2026 09:35  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>; HWC HWC <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: RE: ZA0066851.7273 – NOTIFICATION: NOTICE OF THE INTEGRATED REGULATORY PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND ELECTRO-SUSTAINABLE AVAIATION FUEL (e-SAF) PLANT NEAR HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Good day

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.

[REDACTED]  
Specialist Heritage Officer

Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport  
Protea Assurance Building Greenmarket Square, Cape Town  
Contact Number: [REDACTED]  
Website: [www.hwc.org.za](http://www.hwc.org.za) / [www.westerncape.gov.za](http://www.westerncape.gov.za)



---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)>

Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2026 4:35 PM

To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)>

Subject: RE: 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

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Good day [REDACTED]

Please find herewith the HWC reference number, as requested: 27640SB0304. Also attached is the Response to the NID.

Please let us know if you require any additional information.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

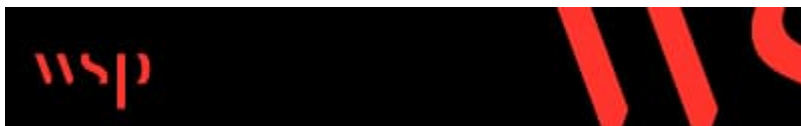
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, 13 May 2026 11:17

To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)>

Subject: RE: 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

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.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Specialist Heritage Officer

Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport  
Protea Assurance Building Greenmarket Square, Cape Town  
Contact Number: [REDACTED]  
Website: [www.hwc.org.za](http://www.hwc.org.za) / [www.westerncape.gov.za](http://www.westerncape.gov.za)



From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)>

Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2026 2:04 PM

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

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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 CO<sub>2</sub>, 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

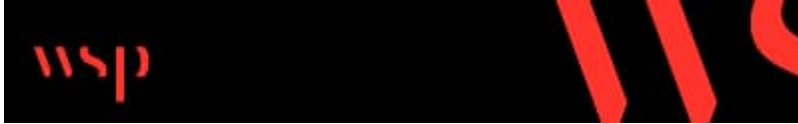
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"All views or opinions expressed in this electronic message and its attachments are the view of the sender and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Western Cape Government (the WCG). No employee of the WCG is entitled to conclude a binding contract on behalf of the WCG unless he/she is an accounting officer of the WCG, or his or her authorised representative. The information contained in this message and its attachments may be confidential or privileged and is for the use of the named recipient only, except where the sender specifically states otherwise.  
If you are not the intended recipient you may not copy or deliver this message to anyone."

[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, 14 May 2026 09:44  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: Re: 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

I am totally against this "development" so near to Hopefield.  
There are many open spaces away from people which can be used.  
Why do you people not respect other people's lives and freedom to breathe clean air and live in peace.

On Wed, 06 May 2026, 14:07 ZA - WSP - PPOffice, <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)> wrote:

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 CO<sub>2</sub>, 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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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKl

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Monday, 25 May 2026 17:08  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: Date of public participation meetings

Good day Mr [REDACTED]

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.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

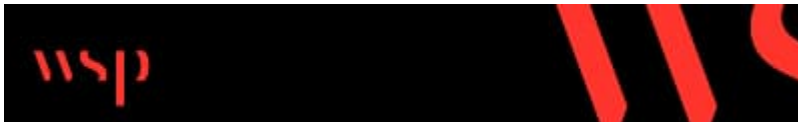
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 10:26  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: Date of public participation meetings

Good day,

When and where will you be holding information meetings for below project?

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

Thanks,



Arnelia Farms

PO Box 192 Hopefield 7355 South Africa

Tel

Cell

[www.arnelia.co.za](http://www.arnelia.co.za)

[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, 20 May 2026 18:51  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: Re: ZA0066851.7273 (Phelan eFuels Saldanha)

Thank you for the update.

On Wed, 20 May 2026, 16:30 ZA - WSP - PPOffice, <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)> wrote:

Good day Ms [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence and the comments raised in the two emails received on 14 and 18 May respectively.

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.

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.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 15:26  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)>  
Subject: ZA0066851.7273 (Phelan eFuels Saldanha)

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. This concern is for the impact on local groundwater and aquifers as well as municipal water systems.

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.

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.

I really hope you reconsider.

Regards

Mrs [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 16:46  
To: [REDACTED] ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: ZA0066851.7273 – NOTIFICATION: NOTICE OF THE INTEGRATED REGULATORY PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND ELECTRO-SUSTAINABLE AVAIIATION FUEL (e-SAF) PLANT NEAR HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Good day [REDACTED],

Thank you for the update. Those in copy have been added to the stakeholder database and will receive all communication going forward.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

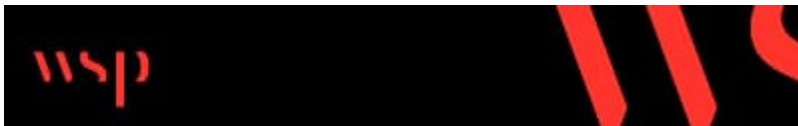
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---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 08:30  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: Department of Forestry Fisheries and the Environment Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation hereby acknowledge receipt of the invitation on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2026 for review and comment on the project mentioned in the subject line.

Kindly note that the project has been allocated to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] (Copied in this email).

Note, all Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation by email: [BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za](mailto:BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za) for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation  
Sub-Directorate: Policy Development Mainstreaming EIA  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Cell: [REDACTED]  
Website: [www.environment.gov.za](http://www.environment.gov.za)  
National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment  
Environment House, 473 Steve Biko, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0083



---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)>  
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2026 2:04 PM  
Subject: 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

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 CO<sub>2</sub>, 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

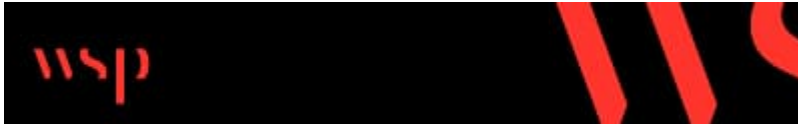
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Wednesday, 03 June 2026 13:36  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant

Good day [REDACTED],

Kindly note that you have been registered as an I&AP.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

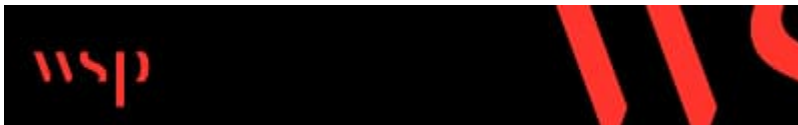
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 01 June 2026 16:56  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant

Dear WSP team,

Can you please register me as an I&AP on the above-mentioned project?

Best regards,

**DAVID NUNEZ**

executive director

cellphone [REDACTED]

email [REDACTED]

website [www.siriuspower.co.za](http://www.siriuspower.co.za)

**SIRIUS POWER SOUTH AFRICA**



[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 01 June 2026 18:27  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED] WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.

New registration as an I&AP from [REDACTED]

### Details

- **Application:** Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield
- **Application Code:** EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273
- **I&AP Name:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Email:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Mobile:** [REDACTED]

- 
- **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.**
  - **Further details concerning the impact:**  
No comment
  - **Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:**  
I am concerned about the impact on the environment | I am concerned about the impact on the community
- 

Sent via Protect the West Coast - Rippl Platform, on behalf of Miles Masterson. This email has been sent to you with their express consent. Kindly direct any further correspondence in relation to this application using the I&AP contact details above.



Date: 3 June 2026

TO: **WSP GROUP AFRICA**  
The Pavilion, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Victoria & Alfred Waterfront  
Cape Town  
8001

ATTENTION:

FROM:

Total pages: 3

Our ref: A060-001

---

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---

Dear

**PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND E-SAF PLANT IN HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE – REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION TO SUBMIT COMMENTS**

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

---

**Expertise grounded in experience**

Cullinan & Associates Incorporated (2001/001024/21)

DIRECTORS:

ATTORNEYS:

CONSULTANTS:

TRAINEES:

<http://cullinans.co.za/>

18A Ascot Road

Kenilworth 7708

Cape Town

eFuels Saldanha Bay Project near Hopefield, Western Cape (project reference number: ZA0066851.7273).

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.
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 and an atmospheric emission licence application under the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act 39 of 2004.
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 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.

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.
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.
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. 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.
11. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,



**CULLINAN & ASSOCIATES INC.**

Per:



[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, 04 June 2026 11:09  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from Michiel Bester

[REDACTED], WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.

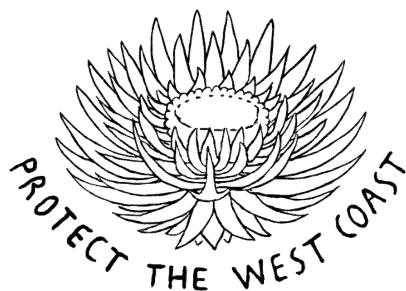
New registration as an I&AP from [REDACTED]

### Details

- **Application:** Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield
- **Application Code:** EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273
- **I&AP Name:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Email:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Mobile:** [REDACTED]

- 
- **I have a business, financial, personal, or cultural stake that will be directly impacted because of the approval or refusal of this application.**
  - **Further details concerning the impact:**  
Resident near ground water area as well frequenting the river systems.
  - **Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:**  
I am concerned about the impact on the environment | I am an adjacent landowner
  - **Additional comments:**  
There is already severe ground water pressure in that area due to farming
- 

Sent via Protect the West Coast - Ripl Platform, on behalf of Michiel Bester. This email has been sent to you with their express consent. Kindly direct any further correspondence in relation to this application using the I&AP contact details above.



[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 11:46  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from [REDACTED]

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence.

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.

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.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

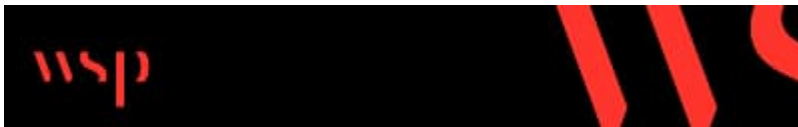
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, 05 June 2026 06:27  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>

[REDACTED], WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.

New registration as an I&AP from [REDACTED]

## Details

- **Application:** Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield
- **Application Code:** EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273
- **I&AP Name:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Email:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Mobile:** [REDACTED]

- 
- **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.**
  - **Further details concerning the impact:**  
No comment
  - **Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:**  
I am concerned about the impact on the environment | I am concerned about the impact on the community
  - **Additional comments:**  
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.

---

Sent via Protect the West Coast - Ripl Platform, on behalf of [REDACTED]. This email has been sent to you with their express consent. Kindly direct any further correspondence in relation to this application using the I&AP contact details above.



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

**Reference: ZA0066851.7273**

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To Whom It May Concern:

I would hereby like to raise my concerns regarding the proposed hydrogen plant in Hopefield.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS**

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.

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 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 fourth 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.

In the minutes 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.

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.

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.

There is also mention of a water use license application submitted on 7 May 2026, but the public was also not informed about this.

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS**

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.

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!

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.

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 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.

### SOCIAL CONCERNS

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.

Hopefield is a safe and clean rural town, and people live in harmony as a community. This is one of the few towns in South Africa 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 Saldanha 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.

We have a beautiful Industrial Development Zone right next to the Saldanha harbour which is specifically developed for these types of high industrial activities. Here it will not risk one town's character, yet we can all share in the benefits.

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.

I do hope my comments will be considered.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Thursday, 11 June 2026 18:03  
To: [REDACTED] ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: ZA0066851.7273 – NOTIFICATION: NOTICE OF THE INTEGRATED REGULATORY PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND ELECTRO-SUSTAINABLE AVAIATION FUEL (e-SAF) PLANT NEAR HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

Please find herewith a response to the comments and concerns raised.

### Public Participation Process

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 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.

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.

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.

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.

### Environmental Concerns

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.

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.

### Social Concerns

Similarly, socio-economic impacts will be assessed during the impact assessment phase and reported on in the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report. 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.

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.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

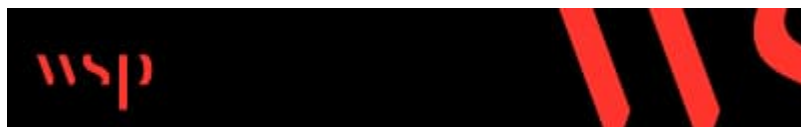
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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From: [Redacted]  
Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 15:01  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>

Subject: Re: 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

Good Afternoon Public Participation Office

Thanks you for the information in the email below.

Please find attached my comments on the scoping report.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

On 08 Jun 2026, at 11:46, ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)> wrote:

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence.

Yes, that is correct. The end of the public review period for the Draft Scoping Report and the deadline for comments is today.

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.

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.

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.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

[REDACTED]

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From: Commercial Hotel <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Friday, 05 June 2026 09:31  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)>  
Subject: Re: 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

Good Morning

I would like to confirm that the deadline for comment on this scoping report is on the 8th June.

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.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

On 06 May 2026, at 14:04, ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)> wrote:

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 CO<sub>2</sub>, 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**



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Green\_BIL\_Afr\_DSR\_Final\_29042026.pdf><ZA0066851.7273\_PhelanGreen\_BIL\_Eng\_DSR\_Final\_29042026.pdf>

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, 05 June 2026 09:31  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: Re: 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

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Thanks,

[REDACTED]

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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**

[REDACTED]

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Green\_BIL\_Afr\_DSR\_Final\_29042026.pdf><ZA0066851.7273\_PhelanGreen\_BIL\_Eng\_D  
SR\_Final\_29042026.pdf>

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Thursday, 21 May 2026 12:25  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice; [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: ZA0066851.7273 - Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant - General Comments

Good day Mr [REDACTED]

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 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.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

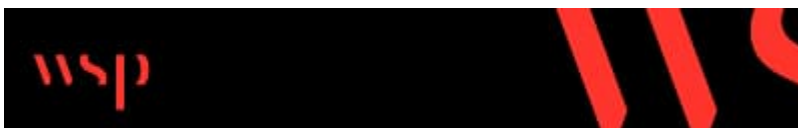
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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 21:35  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: ZA0066851.7273 - Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant - General Comments

Name: [REDACTED]

Mobile Number: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Preferred Communication: email

Comments: 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??

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Wednesday, 20 May 2026 08:59  
To: '[REDACTED]'; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: Public Participation Meeting - Hopefield  
Attachments: ZA0066851.7273\_Phelan Green\_BIL\_Afr\_DSR\_Final\_29042026.pdf; ZA0066851.7273\_PhelanGreen\_BIL\_Eng\_DSR\_Final\_29042026.pdf

Good day [REDACTED],

Please see the notification as sent to stakeholders below, it will provide more information:

---

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 CO<sub>2</sub>, 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

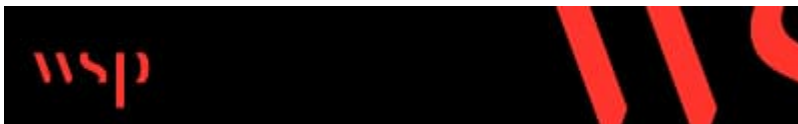
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---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 19:33  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: Public Participation Meeting - Hopefield

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.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Thursday, 21 May 2026 09:43  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: ZA0066851.7273 (Phelan eFuels Saldanha)

Good day Mr [REDACTED]

Thank you very much for your email and comments raised.

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.

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.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

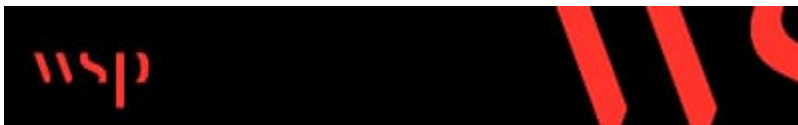
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 17:43  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: ZA0066851.7273 (Phelan eFuels Saldanha)

To whom it may concern,

I am writing as a concerned resident/community member regarding the proposed Phelan Green Hydrogen and eSAF Project near Hopefield and Saldanha.

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. My concerns include the following:

#### Water Security and Aquifer Protection

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.

#### Impact on Sensitive Natural Environments

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.

#### Industrialisation of a Rural Area

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.

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 .

#### Noise, Traffic, and Air Quality

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.

#### Transparency and Long-Term Accountability

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 meaningfully consulted throughout every phase of the process.

#### Local Economic Benefit

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.

I respectfully request that these concerns be fully considered during the Environmental Impact Assessment process and any Water Use Licence Application deliberations.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Kind regards,

[Redacted Signature]

mobile : [Redacted]

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Thursday, 21 May 2026 12:27  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice; [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: ZA0066851.7273 - Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant - General Comments

Good day Mr [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

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.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

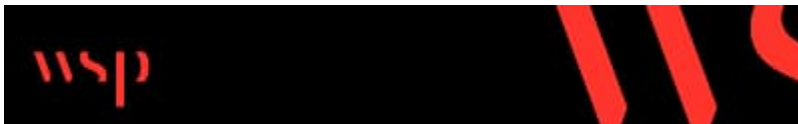
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, 20 May 2026 11:07  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: ZA0066851.7273 - Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant - General Comments

Name: [REDACTED]

Mobile Number: '[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Preferred Communication: sms,email

Comments: I just want to clarify that all the things that were said to us as a community of Hopefield the promises that it wil be done and i also want to work and what are the skills of this jobs

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Friday, 22 May 2026 17:05  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: Registration as I&AP and Request for Application Documentation - ZA0066851.7273 - Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd  
Attachments: Sewage line 4.99km.kmz; Site Boundary.kmz

Good day Mr [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence.

Herewith response on your requests:

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:

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

2. Draft Environmental Management Programme (EMPr);  
The Draft EIA and EMPr will be available during the next phase of the process.

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.

3. All relevant specialist studies commissioned for the project;  
The specialist studies will be available during the next phase of the process, together with the DEIR and EMPr.

4. The Plan of Study for the Impact Assessment phase;  
Please refer to section 8 of the Draft Scoping Report for the Plan of Study for the EIA Phase.

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;

You can download a copy of the AEL application here: [ZA0066851.7273 - Phelan Green AEL](#)

The documentation pertaining to the WULA will be available during the next phase of the process and will be made available for public review.

6. A Google Earth file clearly showing the application area and project footprint in .kmz or .kml format;  
Please see attached files.

7. Full name and contact details of the applicant, Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd;  
Please refer to Table 1-1 in the Draft Scoping Report for the details of the Project Proponent

8. Detailed CVs and professional registration certificates of all appointed Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAPs) and specialists; and  
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.

9. Proof of acceptance of the application by the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP).

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.

Those in copy have been added to the stakeholder database and will receive all communication going forward.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

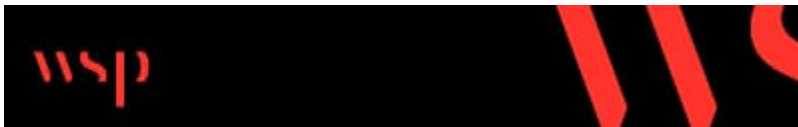
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Thursday, 21 May 2026 09:11

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

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Subject:** Registration as I&AP and Request for Application Documentation - ZA0066851.7273 - Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd

Dear WSP Public Participation Office,

I hope this email finds you well.

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.

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:

- Draft Scoping Report (DSR) and, in due course, the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIR);
- Draft Environmental Management Programme (EMPr);
- All relevant specialist studies commissioned for the project;
- The Plan of Study for the Impact Assessment phase;
- 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;
- A Google Earth file clearly showing the application area and project footprint in .kmz or .kml format;
- Full name and contact details of the applicant, Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd;
- Detailed CVs and professional registration certificates of all appointed Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAPs) and specialists; and
- Proof of acceptance of the application by the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP).

We wish to receive all future correspondence and documents relating to this process by email.

We thank you in advance for your attention to this matter and look forward to meaningful participation in the environmental authorisation process.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this email.



Kind Regards

[REDACTED]  
Attorney (In-House)

Protect The West Coast

E: [REDACTED]

W: <https://www.protectthewestcoast.org/>



Watch Ours, Not Mine [here](#)

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Tuesday, 09 June 2026 09:47  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from [REDACTED]

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

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.

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.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

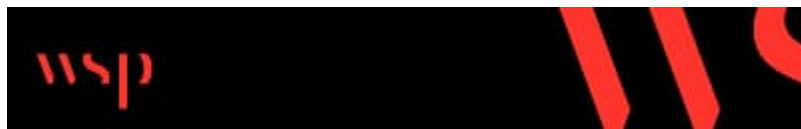
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, 05 June 2026 11:54  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>

Subject: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from Jacque Smit

Dear [REDACTED], WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.

New registration as an I&AP from [REDACTED]

### Details

- **Application:** Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield
- **Application Code:** EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273
- **I&AP Name:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Email:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Mobile:** [REDACTED]

- 
- **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.**
  - **Further details concerning the impact:**  
No comment
  - **Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:**  
I am concerned about the impact on the environment | I am concerned about the impact on the community
- 

Sent via Protect the West Coast - RiPl Platform, on behalf of [REDACTED]. This email has been sent to you with their express consent. Kindly direct any further correspondence in relation to this application using the I&AP contact details above.



[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Tuesday, 09 June 2026 09:46  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from [REDACTED]

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

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 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 comment and provide further input, such as the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and associated specialist reports.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

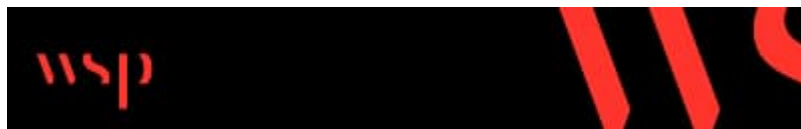
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, 05 June 2026 12:35  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>

Subject: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from Craig Waring

Dear [REDACTED], WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.

New registration as an I&AP from [REDACTED]

### Details

- **Application:** Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield
- **Application Code:** EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273
- **I&AP Name:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Email:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Mobile:** [REDACTED]

- 
- **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.**
  - **Further details concerning the impact:**  
No comment
  - **Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:**  
I am concerned about the impact on the environment | I visit the area for recreational purposes | I work and/or conduct business in the area
  - **Additional comments:**  
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
- 

Sent via Protect the West Coast - RiPl Platform, on behalf of [REDACTED] This email has been sent to you with their express consent. Kindly direct any further correspondence in relation to this application using the I&AP contact details above.



[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Wednesday, 10 June 2026 10:43  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: Ref: ZA0066851.7273

Good day [REDACTED]

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.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

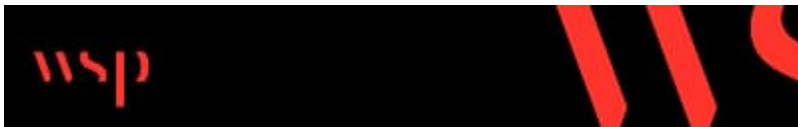
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, 09 June 2026 11:50  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: RE: Ref: ZA0066851.7273

Good Day Public Participation Office

Thank you for this acknowledgement.

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 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.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hopefield

7355

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)>

Sent: Tuesday, 9 June 2026 09:45

To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)>

Subject: RE: Ref: ZA0066851.7273

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

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.

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:

- 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.

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.

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.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

## Public Participation Office

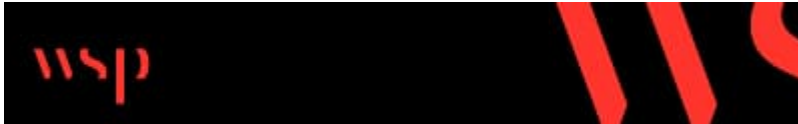
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---

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, 05 June 2026 12:56

To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)>

Subject: Ref: ZA0066851.7273

To Whom It May Concern at WSP

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.

Yours faithfully.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Hopefield

7355

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

---

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[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Tuesday, 09 June 2026 09:43  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: Public Participation Reply Hopefield Hydrogen

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

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.

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.

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.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

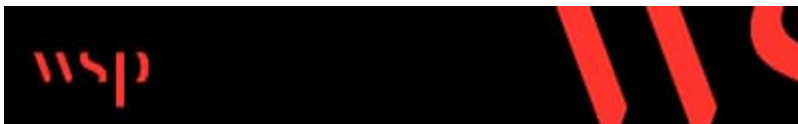
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Saturday, 06 June 2026 16:17  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: Public Participation Reply Hopefield Hydrogen  
Importance: High

**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/<br>Community<br>(If applicable) |             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      |         | MS        |                                                                   |             |
| Contact Details                                                                                                                                                                                      |         |           |                                                                   |             |
| Mobile Number                                                                                                                                                                                        |         |           |                                                                   |             |
| Office Number                                                                                                                                                                                        | n/a     |           |                                                                   |             |
| Home Number                                                                                                                                                                                          | n/a     |           |                                                                   |             |
| Fax Number                                                                                                                                                                                           | n/a     |           |                                                                   |             |
| Email Address                                                                                                                                                                                        |         |           |                                                                   |             |
| Postal Address                                                                                                                                                                                       |         |           |                                                                   | Postal code |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      |         |           |                                                                   | 7 3 5 5     |
| WSP, will not share personal information with a third party                                                                                                                                          |         |           |                                                                   |             |
| LANDOWNERS                                                                                                                                                                                           |         |           |                                                                   |             |
| If your property is adjacent to the Project site,<br>please tell us your street address, farm name<br>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 X                                                           | Fax         |
| In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), I disclose below<br>any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that I may<br>have in the approval or refusal of the application: |         | Date      | 7 May 2026                                                        |             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      |         | 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:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>I am concerned about the following issues:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 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.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• impact of large numbers of additional trucks on our roads, rendering the road conditions poor and dangerous</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Very high risk of lithium &amp; 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.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The high numbers of people being brought in for work &amp; 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</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 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</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 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</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 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.</li></ul> |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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](mailto: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.*

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Tuesday, 09 June 2026 09:44  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from [REDACTED]

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

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.

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.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

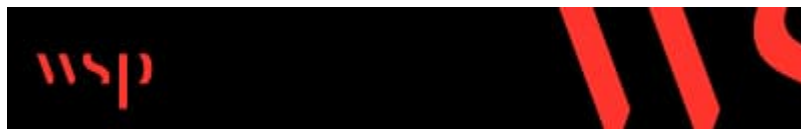
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Sunday, 07 June 2026 09:50  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>

Subject: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from Ron Moller

Dear [REDACTED], WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.

New registration as an I&AP from [REDACTED]

### Details

- **Application:** Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield
- **Application Code:** EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273
- **I&AP Name:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Email:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Mobile:** [REDACTED]

- 
- **I have a business, financial, personal, or cultural stake that will be directly impacted because of the approval or refusal of this application.**
  - **Further details concerning the impact:**  
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.
  - **Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:**  
I am concerned about the impact on the environment
- 

Sent via Protect the West Coast - Riopl Platform, on behalf of [REDACTED]. This email has been sent to you with their express consent. Kindly direct any further correspondence in relation to this application using the I&AP contact details above.



[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Tuesday, 09 June 2026 09:44  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from [REDACTED]

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

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.

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.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

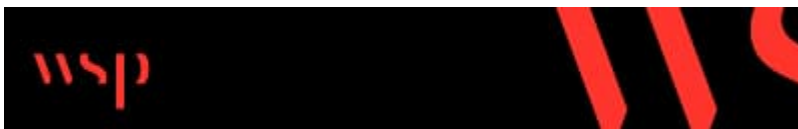
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 06:18  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>

Subject: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED] (EAPASA 2020/1430), WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.

New registration as an I&AP from [REDACTED]

### Details

- **Application:** Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield
- **Application Code:** EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273
- **I&AP Name:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Email:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Mobile:** [REDACTED]

- 
- **I have a business, financial, personal, or cultural stake that will be directly impacted because of the approval or refusal of this application.**
  - **Further details concerning the impact:**  
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.
  - **Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:**  
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
- 

Sent via Protect the West Coast - Ripl Platform, on behalf of [REDACTED]. This email has been sent to you with their express consent. Kindly direct any further correspondence in relation to this application using the I&AP contact details above.



[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Tuesday, 09 June 2026 09:42  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice; [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from [REDACTED]

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

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.

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.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

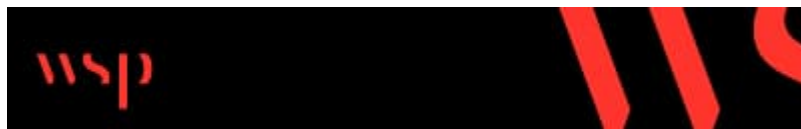
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 07:24  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>

Dear [REDACTED] (EAPASA 2020/1430), WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.

New registration as an I&AP from [REDACTED]

## Details

- **Application:** Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield
- **Application Code:** EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273
- **I&AP Name:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Email:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Mobile:** [REDACTED]

- 
- **I have a business, financial, personal, or cultural stake that will be directly impacted because of the approval or refusal of this application.**
  - **Further details concerning the impact:**  
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.
  - **Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:**  
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
  - **Additional comments:**  
Please help us with the transparency of the environmental plan.
- 

Sent via Protect the West Coast - Ripl Platform, on behalf of [REDACTED]. This email has been sent to you with their express consent. Kindly direct any further correspondence in relation to this application using the I&AP contact details above.



[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Wednesday, 10 June 2026 16:33  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: ZA0066851.7273 (Comment and Registration)

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

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.

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.

The biomass boilers will be located on the northern side of the proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant. The CO<sub>2</sub> will be supplied by a third-party to the plant via direct pipelines.

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.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 09:27  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: ZA0066851.7273 (Comment and Registration)

Please see my registration and comment regarding the proposed project.

Dear Sir / Madam,

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.

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 *Soutrivier*, will directly affect my property.

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.

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?

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?

Another issue that should not be overlooked is security. Developments like this usually bring more people into the 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?

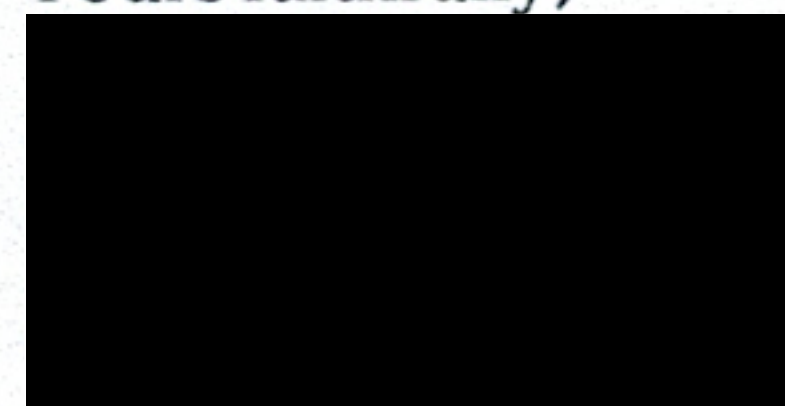
Please clarify the exact location and nature of the third-party biomass boiler supplying the CO<sub>2</sub> to the plant. Also, how will the supply be transported to the plant?

All these things need to be looked at properly, not just individually but the combined impact is what really matters to landowners and residents.

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.

Please keep me informed of any further reports or developments.

Yours faithfully,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of the sender.

# 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) |
| [REDACTED]                                                                                                                                                                                     | [REDACTED] | Ms             | [REDACTED]                                                  |
| Contact Details                                                                                                                                                                                |            |                |                                                             |
| Mobile Number                                                                                                                                                                                  | [REDACTED] |                |                                                             |
| Office Number                                                                                                                                                                                  | /          |                |                                                             |
| Home Number                                                                                                                                                                                    | /          |                |                                                             |
| Fax Number                                                                                                                                                                                     | /          |                |                                                             |
| Email Address                                                                                                                                                                                  | [REDACTED] |                |                                                             |
| Postal Address                                                                                                                                                                                 |            |                | Postal code                                                 |
| [REDACTED]                                                                                                                                                                                     |            |                | 8001                                                        |
| 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                                                                     |            | Matjiesfontein |                                                             |
| WOULD YOU LIKE TO REGISTER AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY? (Mark with an X)                                                                                                               |            |                | YES NO                                                      |
| YES                                                                                                                                                                                            |            |                | X                                                           |
| Preferred Method of Communication (Mark with an X)                                                                                                                                             | Post       | Email          | Fax                                                         |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                |            | X              |                                                             |
| 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       | 8/6/2026       |                                                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | Signature  | [REDACTED]     |                                                             |

## 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:

See attached comments -

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.

Type text here

**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<br>(If applicable) |                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                |         | Mr        | Arnelia Farms                                                  |                             |
| Contact Details                                                                                                                                                                                |         |           |                                                                |                             |
| Mobile Number                                                                                                                                                                                  |         |           |                                                                |                             |
| Office Number                                                                                                                                                                                  |         |           |                                                                |                             |
| Home Number                                                                                                                                                                                    |         |           |                                                                |                             |
| Fax Number                                                                                                                                                                                     |         |           |                                                                |                             |
| Email Address                                                                                                                                                                                  |         |           |                                                                |                             |
| Postal Address                                                                                                                                                                                 |         |           | Postal code                                                    |                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                |         |           | 7                                                              | 3 5 5                       |
| 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                                                                     |         |           |                                                                |                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                |         | 7355      |                                                                |                             |
| WOULD YOU LIKE TO REGISTER AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY? (Mark with an X)                                                                                                               |         |           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES                        | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| Preferred Method of Communication (Mark with an X)                                                                                                                                             |         | Post      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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      | 08/06/2026                                                     |                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                |         | 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:**

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.

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. Further it also release nitrogen oxides and sulfur dioxide. By burning these gases it forms a irritating chemical compound that cause lung irritation and aggravate breathing issues for people living and working downwind as we are.

I work on a farm to experience the daily natural beauty and to breathe the fresh air but all

continue on next page

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](mailto: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.*

Continue from previous page....

this development is takin my basic human right away.

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.

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) Kjørbo, Norway (June 2019) Santa Clara, California (June 2019) and Northwest Queensland, Australia (September 2023)

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 000m<sup>3</sup>) of water.

Our farm only has a water license (WULA) of 400 000m<sup>3</sup> per year and we are not using our full allotment due to the aquafer mot being that strong.

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 sports fields in town and with grey water you will need a lot more water

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.

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.

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Tuesday, 09 June 2026 09:39  
To: [REDACTED] ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: ZA0066851.7273

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

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.

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.

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.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

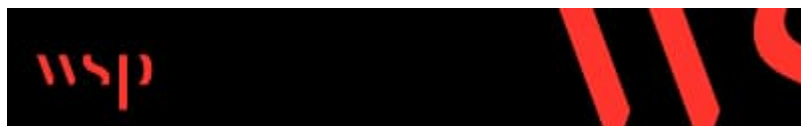
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 10:08  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: ZA0066851.7273

To whom it may concern

Here are my comments and registration as an interested and affected party for the project with reference ZA0066851.7273

Regards

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
Arnelia Farms

[REDACTED]

Tel [REDACTED]

Fax [REDACTED]

Cell [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[www.arnelia.co.za](http://www.arnelia.co.za)

[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 10:25  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED], WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.

New registration as an I&AP from [REDACTED]

### Details

- **Application:** Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield
- **Application Code:** EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273
- **I&AP Name:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Email:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Mobile:** [REDACTED]

- 
- **I have a business, financial, personal, or cultural stake that will be directly impacted because of the approval or refusal of this application.**
  - **Further details concerning the impact:**
    - 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 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!!!
  - **Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:**
    - 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

---

Sent via Protect the West Coast - Ripl Platform, on behalf of [REDACTED]. This email has been sent to you with their express consent. Kindly direct any further correspondence in relation to this application using the I&AP contact details above.



[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Tuesday, 09 June 2026 09:40  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice; [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from [REDACTED]

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

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.

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.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

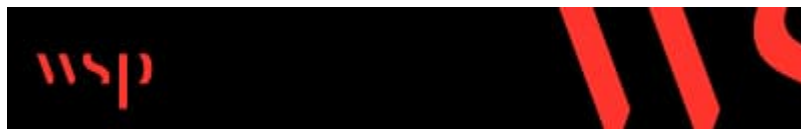
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**WSP**

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

**wsp.com**



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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: Ripl - No Reply [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 10:54  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>

Subject: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from Carla Jardine

Dear [REDACTED], WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.

New registration as an I&AP from [REDACTED]

## Details

- **Application:** Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield
- **Application Code:** EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273
- **I&AP Name:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Email:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Mobile:** [REDACTED]

- 
- **I have a business, financial, personal, or cultural stake that will be directly impacted because of the approval or refusal of this application.**
  - **Further details concerning the impact:**
    - 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 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!!!
  - **Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:**
    - 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

---

Sent via Protect the West Coast - RiPl Platform, on behalf of [REDACTED] This email has been sent to you with their express consent. Kindly direct any further correspondence in relation to this application using the I&AP contact details above.



[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Tuesday, 09 June 2026 09:40  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

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.

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.

Kind regards,

Public Participation Office

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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1685 South Africa

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-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 11:11  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant

Project Reference Number: ZA0066851.7273 Project Name: Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield, WSP Contact Number: 011 361 1300 Applicant / Developer: Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd

Good day.

Please find below a few of my points for objection. Very basically summarised.

- 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.
- 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.

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.

The whole delivery from the outset of this project is underhanded.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Thursday, 11 June 2026 18:01  
To: [REDACTED] ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: Project ref number ZA0066851.7273

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

Just to clarify, WSP is the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner for the application for environmental authorisation for the proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant Project. WSP is not involved in the EIA process for the proposed Solar Project and was not in attendance at the recent public meeting held for that project. WSP can therefore not respond to any comments or concerns regarding the proposed Solar Project or the information shared during the public meeting.

We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to biodiversity, avifauna, the use and availability of water, traffic, 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.

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.

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 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.

The public participation process is being conducted in accordance with the requirements of the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended). The project was advertised in Die Weslander (English and Afrikaans adverts) and the Cape Times (English advert) on Thursday, 7 May 2026. Site notices were placed at the proposed project site as well as the Hopefield, Langebaan and Saldanha Libraries.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

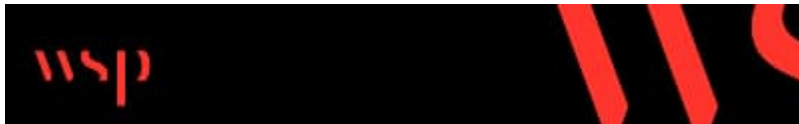
## Public Participation Office



### WSP

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

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 12:19

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

Subject: Project ref number ZA0066851.7273

**Project Reference Number: ZA0066851.7273 Project Name: Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield, WSP Contact Number: 011 361 1300 Applicant / Developer: Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd**

Good day.

Please find below a few of my points for objection. Very basically summarised.

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.

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?

**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.

More importantly

-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**
- 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.

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.

**The previous Mayor of Saldanha Municipality was also underhanded in pushing these projects through without proper consultation. He resigned as Mayor to take up a position with this very company for his benefit.**

The Government allowing foreign companies to destroy our environment and heritage? Shocking to say the least!

Who is benefitting through corrupt deals?

██████████

[REDACTED]

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 15:44  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED], WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.

New registration as an I&AP from [REDACTED]

### Details

- **Application:** Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield
- **Application Code:** EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273
- **I&AP Name:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Email:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Mobile:** [REDACTED]

- 
- **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.**
  - **Further details concerning the impact:**  
No comment
  - **Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:**  
I am concerned about the impact on the environment | I am concerned about the impact on the community
- 

Sent via Protect the West Coast - Riopl Platform, on behalf of [REDACTED]. This email has been sent to you with their express consent. Kindly direct any further correspondence in relation to this application using the I&AP contact details above.



**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/<br>Community<br>(If applicable) |                                         |                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      |         |           | Botanical Society of South<br>Africa - Weskus branch              |                                         |                             |
| Contact Details                                                                                                                                                                                      |         |           |                                                                   |                                         |                             |
| Mobile Number                                                                                                                                                                                        |         |           |                                                                   |                                         |                             |
| Office Number                                                                                                                                                                                        |         |           |                                                                   |                                         |                             |
| Home Number                                                                                                                                                                                          |         |           |                                                                   |                                         |                             |
| Fax Number                                                                                                                                                                                           |         |           |                                                                   |                                         |                             |
| Email Address                                                                                                                                                                                        |         |           |                                                                   |                                         |                             |
| Postal Address                                                                                                                                                                                       |         |           |                                                                   | Postal code                             |                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      |         |           |                                                                   | 7351                                    |                             |
| WSP, will not share personal information with a third party                                                                                                                                          |         |           |                                                                   |                                         |                             |
| LANDOWNERS                                                                                                                                                                                           |         |           |                                                                   |                                         |                             |
| If your property is adjacent to the Project site,<br>please tell us your, street address, farm name<br>and/or erf/portion number                                                                     |         |           |                                                                   |                                         |                             |
| WOULD YOU LIKE TO REGISTER AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY? (Mark with an X)                                                                                                                     |         |           |                                                                   | YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NO <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Preferred Method of Communication (Mark with an X)                                                                                                                                                   |         | Post      | Email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                         | Fax                                     |                             |
| In terms of the EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended), I disclose below<br>any direct business, financial, personal or other interest that I may<br>have in the approval or refusal of the application: |         | Date      | 08 June 2026                                                      |                                         |                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                      |         | 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:

see attached.

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](mailto: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.*

08 June 2026

For Attention: Public Participation Office  
WSP (Pty) Ltd

**Comment on the Draft Scoping and environmental impact reporting process for the proposed Green hydrogen and E-SAF plant, Hopefield, Western Cape**  
**Project Number: ZA0066851.7273**

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:

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

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.

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:

### **Aquatic Impacts**

**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.

**Groundwater:** The proposed groundwater abstraction of approximately 175,000 m<sup>3</sup> 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. 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.

### **BOTANICAL SOCIETY: WESKUS BRANCH**

Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden,

Landline: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

[www.botanicalsociety.org.za](http://www.botanicalsociety.org.za)

Facebook: Botanical Society of SA

Twitter: @BotSocSA

Instagram: botsocsa

Know, grow, protect, and enjoy South Africa's indigenous plants



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 toward sensitive receptors, including the Sout River and the Langebaan Lagoon.

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.

If groundwater 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.

### **Terrestrial Biodiversity**

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 importance, particularly in a highly fragmented and sensitive system such as Hopefield Sand Fynbos.

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.

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.

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 should be strictly monitored by an independent Environmental Control Officer (ECO).

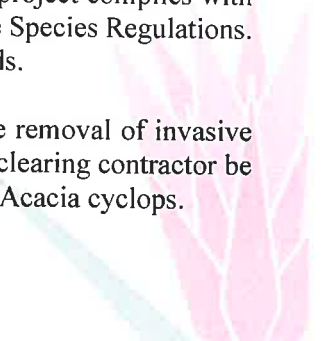
Search, rescue, and the translocation of species from construction areas to identified on-site restoration or rehabilitation areas should be undertaken by a suitably qualified restoration practitioner with demonstrated experience in Sand Fynbos to maximise survival rates and ecological recovery potential. 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.

### **The control of invasive alien plant species**

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.

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 *Acacia saligna* and *Acacia cyclops*.

Know, grow, protect, and enjoy South Africa's indigenous plants



The developer must ensure that sufficient funds are set aside for the implementation of the IAP eradication programme throughout the project's life cycle.

### **The management of topsoil**

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.

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.

### **Wildfire prevention and control**

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 and infrastructure, with losses of vegetation, property, and biodiversity.

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.

### **Increased traffic due to construction and operations**

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.

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 of driver fatigue, high-speed travel, and mixed traffic conditions.

Considering the above, it is requested that a precautionary, detailed traffic and road safety assessment be undertaken during the EIA phase, with specific attention to cumulative impacts on the R27 corridor and associated safety risks.

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.

### **The proposed socio-economic benefits for the Hopefield region.**

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.

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.

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.

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.

Kind regards,



Botanical Society of South Africa Weskus Branch



[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Tuesday, 09 June 2026 11:10  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: Reference Number: ZA0066851.7273 EA&DP

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence.

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.

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.

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.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

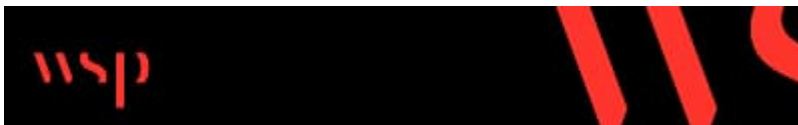
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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 17:28

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

Cc: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Reference Number: ZA0066851.7273 EA&DP

**Reference Number: ZA0066851.7273 EA&DP**

**Phelani EFuels - Saldanha Bay Project**

Dear WSP Group Africa

Please find attached the comments from the Botanical Society of South Africa – Weskus Branch regarding the Draft Scoping Report for the above-mentioned proposed development.

Our comments reflect the Branch’s concerns and recommendations relating to biodiversity conservation, ecological integrity, and sustainable land use within the Weskus region.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

**Botanical Society of South Africa**

Weskus Branch Chair & Information Officer

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**To:** WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd

**Attention:** WSP PP Office

**Date:** 8 June 2026

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

**Document on Public Display:** Draft Scoping Report

**Project Number:** ZA0066851.7273

**SUBJECT:** Formal Objection, Public Participation Comments, and Documentation of Systemic Procedural Flaws from a Local Resident

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.

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.

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 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.

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.

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, 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.

Based on the chronological manipulation and severe resource risks identified above, I formally register my specific objections on the following grounds:

**I object to the procedural unfairness and deceptive fragmentation of this application (NEMA):** 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.

**I object to the use of non-applicable, closed-loop mining data to justify massive groundwater depletion and borehole failure (WULA):** 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. Phelan's eSAF plant is a consumptive facility that will permanently extract and destroy an estimated 175,000 m<sup>3</sup> of groundwater per year. 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.

**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):** 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.

**I object to the irreversible destruction of critical biodiversity and heritage space:** 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.

**I object to the extreme ethical injustice of violating our ecosystem for a global corporate agenda:** 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.

**I object to the unmitigated socio-economic strain and outright corporate exploitation of our rural town:** The proposed business model represents the outright corporate exploitation of our local resources. Phelan Green Energy plans to extract 175,000 m<sup>3</sup> 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. 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 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.

**I object to the severe conflict of interest that has completely shattered institutional trust:** 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.

**I object to the omission of critical disaster plans and demand mandatory protection against worst-case scenarios:** 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.

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 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.

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.

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.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature and name of the sender.

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Thursday, 11 June 2026 17:58  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: SUBJECT: Objection to Proposed Hopefield Hydrogen Plant

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

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.

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:

- 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

## Public Participation Office

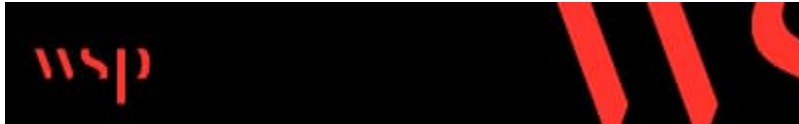
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 19:20  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: SUBJECT: Objection to Proposed Hopefield Hydrogen Plant  
Importance: High

To: WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd  
Attention: WSP PP Office

Date: 8 June 2026  
Title of Project: Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield  
Document on Public Display: Draft Scoping Report (Ref: ZA0066851.7273)  
Project Number: ZA0066851.7273

SUBJECT: Objection to Proposed Hopefield Hydrogen Plant

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached my formal objection to the proposed Hopefield Hydrogen Plant.

Kindly acknowledge receipt and register my objections in the official public participation process. Please keep me updated on all future phases of this application.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd  
P O Box 6001  
HALFWAY HOUSE  
1685  
Att: Public Participation Office

E MAIL: pp@wsp.com

Dear Sir/Madame

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

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.
2. Please advise if the Khoi and San representatives were included for public participation.
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.
4. Will the transportation system of product and people also use alternative renewable energy sources.
5. What percentage of the Green Hydrogen And E-Saf Plant construction materials will be alternative to the mainstream materials?
6. What percentage of the labour will be specialised/skilled?

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] .....

**SENIOR MANAGER: LAND USE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL**

Date: 08 June 2026

T: [REDACTED] • F: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] • www.saldanha.gov.za  
Private Bag X12 • Vredenburg • 7380

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Wednesday, 10 June 2026 10:44  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Cc: ZA - WSP - PPOffice; [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: ZA0066851.7273 – NOTIFICATION: NOTICE OF THE INTEGRATED REGULATORY PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND ELECTRO-SUSTAINABLE AVAIATION FUEL (e-SAF) PLANT NEAR HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Good day

Thank you for the correspondence.

Your comments and request for additional information are noted and will be captured in the Comments and Response Report.

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 of Khoi and San representatives that should be included.

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.

The Applicant will provide more detail on the following, which will be included in the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report:

- 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.

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.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**WSP**

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 16:10  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Cc: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>; [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: 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

Good afternoon

Please see attached.

Regards  
[REDACTED]

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From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, 06 May 2026 14:04  
Subject: 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

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 CO<sub>2</sub>, 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,

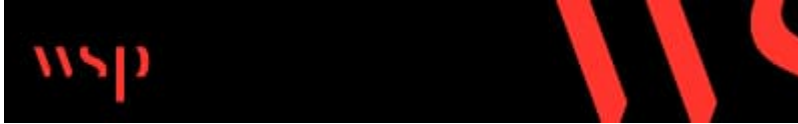
## Public Participation Office



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-LAEmHhHxdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKl

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|           |                                                                |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Postal    | PO Box 26, Porterville, 6810                                   |
| Physical  | [REDACTED]                                                     |
| Website   | <a href="http://www.capenature.co.za">www.capenature.co.za</a> |
| Enquiries | [REDACTED]                                                     |
| Telephone | [REDACTED]                                                     |
| Email     | [REDACTED]                                                     |
| Reference | SSD14/2/6/1/8/4/_167-Portugeesche fontyn_eSAF                  |
| Date      | 08 June 2026                                                   |

WSP (Pty) Ltd

Via email: [PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)

Attention: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

**RE: DSR – PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND E-SAF PLANT, HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE**

Herewith comments on this application.

1. It is understood this application entails the development of an electro-hydrogen facility producing aviation fuel.
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.
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 the EMP, 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.

CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any additional information that may be received.

Kind regards,

Land-Use Scientist: Landscape West  
Conservation Operations



[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Wednesday, 10 June 2026 10:43  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: ZA0066851.7273 – NOTIFICATION: NOTICE OF THE INTEGRATED REGULATORY PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND ELECTRO-SUSTAINABLE AVAIATION FUEL (e-SAF) PLANT NEAR HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

Your comments and requirements for the biodiversity and wetland specialist assessments have been passed on to the respective specialists and will be actioned accordingly.

Kind regards,

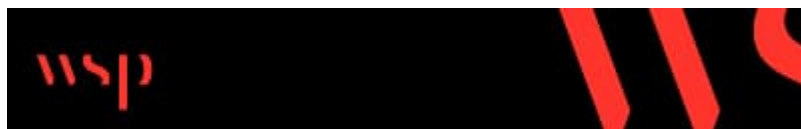
**Public Participation Office**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

**wsp.com**



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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 16:14  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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

Good day

See attached comment

Kind regards,

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)>

Sent: Wednesday, 06 May 2026 14:04

Subject: 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

**CAUTION:** This is an external email and may be malicious. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. If in any doubt, Report the Message.

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 CO<sub>2</sub>, 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,

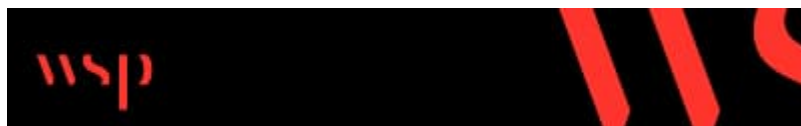
**Public Participation Office**



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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKI

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**Land-Use Scientist | Landscape West  
Conservation Operations**

t: [REDACTED]



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**BIODIVERSITY CAPABILITIES**

postal [REDACTED]  
 physical [REDACTED]  
 website [www.capenature.co.za](http://www.capenature.co.za)  
 enquiries [REDACTED]  
 telephone [REDACTED]  
 email [REDACTED]  
 reference DataSharingAgreement\_[org\_name]\_[YYYY]

**Request for Dataset(s)**

| <b>A. Applicant details</b>                 |             |                |                     |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Organisation/Institution                    |             |                |                     |
| Name                                        |             |                |                     |
| Surname                                     |             |                |                     |
| Position/Student no                         |             |                |                     |
| Email address                               |             |                |                     |
| Tel no                                      |             |                |                     |
| Postal address                              |             |                |                     |
| Third parties who will also access the data | <b>Name</b> | <b>Surname</b> | <b>Organisation</b> |
|                                             |             |                |                     |
|                                             |             |                |                     |
|                                             |             |                |                     |

| <b>B. Purpose</b>                                                                        |              |                |                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Project or study                                                                         |              | Private use    |                      |
| <b>If project or study, complete the rest of section B. If private use, leave blank.</b> |              |                |                      |
| Project name                                                                             |              |                |                      |
| Project description                                                                      |              |                |                      |
| Project completion date                                                                  | [DD/MM/YYYY] |                |                      |
| Supervisor details                                                                       | <b>Name</b>  | <b>Surname</b> | <b>Email address</b> |
|                                                                                          |              |                |                      |

| C. Datasets requested |                                            |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Dataset 1             | BSP_climate_adaptation_corridors_201701_gw |
| Dataset 2             |                                            |
| Dataset 3             |                                            |
| Dataset 4             |                                            |
| Dataset 5             |                                            |

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

| D. FOR OFFICE USE                                                                                             |       |         |       |      |            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|------|------------|
| Name                                                                                                          | Ismat | Surname | Adams | Date | 08.06.2026 |
| <p>[Comments]</p> <p>Consultant requires data to inform scoping and EIA process for proposed development.</p> |       |         |       |      |            |

| E. APPROVAL        |                                            |          |              |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------|--------------|
| Datasets requested |                                            | Approved | Not approved |
| Dataset 1          | BSP_climate_adaptation_corridors_201701_gw |          |              |
| Dataset 2          |                                            |          |              |
| Dataset 3          |                                            |          |              |
| Dataset 4          |                                            |          |              |
| Dataset 5          |                                            |          |              |

\_\_\_\_\_  
Duly authorised on behalf of CapeNature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **TERMS & CONDITIONS**

1. I understand that the data provided by the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board t/a CapeNature ("CapeNature") is issued to those named above and shall be protected due to privacy concerns.
2. I understand that data may not be passed to any third party without written consent from CapeNature, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. This includes clients, agents and colleagues unless they are named above and have received a copy of this form.
3. I understand that I may not copy, sell, distribute, disseminate, publish or broadcast the data in any form, including the internet, without written consent from CapeNature, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.
4. I undertake to inform CapeNature of any publications and reports emanating from the use of the data provided by CapeNature.
5. I will acknowledge CapeNature in accordance with generally accepted academic referencing guidelines and principles in all parts of any series of publications or reports arising from the project in which the dataset, or information derived from, it was used.
6. I confirm that all data provided by CapeNature shall be used for legitimate and legal purposes.
7. I confirm that to the best of my knowledge neither I, nor any of my colleagues who may have access to the data obtained from CapeNature have been investigated or convicted of any crime against nature conservation.
8. I confirm that to the best of my knowledge neither I, nor any of my colleagues have been responsible for the misuse of data.
9. I acknowledge that I cannot use the data provided by CapeNature for any purpose other than for which it was requested.
10. I acknowledge that the data provided by the CapeNature is deemed to have been accurate at the time of collection and further that CapeNature cannot guarantee the accuracy of the data supplied, although all data has been validated as far as is reasonably possible.



11. I will not hold CapeNature and its employees liable for any errors, damages and or financial loss which might arise from the inaccuracy and incompleteness of any data supplied by CapeNature.
12. I understand that this data may only be utilised for the specific project for which the data was requested. Where I require this data for future projects I am required to submit a new request in order for CapeNature to supply me with the most up-to-date data available.
13. I understand that CapeNature has the right to withhold any data from any person or body in accordance with the provisions of the Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000.
14. I acknowledge that CapeNature reserves the right to demand that the data user returns the data to CapeNature, for whatever reason, and destroy all other copies of the data.
15. Both Parties agree that they will comply with the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act No. 4 of 2013 and its regulations and process all personal data, to the extent that it is applicable, in accordance with the provisions of the aforesaid Act and Regulations.
16. If the data is applicable to a project or study, a copy of any project write-up (both a digital and paper copy) and all digital data collected and enhanced as part of the study (with completed metadata documents) must be supplied to CapeNature to support its work to conserve the environment and to make informed decisions.
17. I acknowledge that there is a turn-around time period of at least 2 (two) weeks from date of receipt of a duly completed application form.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (the applicant),  
accept the terms and conditions outlined herein on the \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_.

---

**Applicant signature**

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Wednesday, 10 June 2026 10:42  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: HOPEFIELD Solar Farm Concerns Ref# ZA0066851.7273

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

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.

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.

In response to your comments on the presentation of information in the Draft Scoping Report and public participation process, the following should be noted:

- 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.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

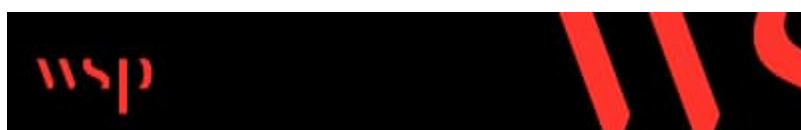
**Public Participation Office**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 19:33  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: HOPEFIELD Solar Farm Concerns Ref# ZA0066851.7273

To whom it may concern.  
Please Find Attached.

Kind Regards  
[REDACTED]



Protect the West Coast NPC

Email: [REDACTED]

Website: [www.protectthewestcoast.org](http://www.protectthewestcoast.org)

WSP Internal Ref: ZA0066851.7273

Our Ref: Phelan Green Hydrogen Plant

Date: 8 June 2026

[REDACTED]  
WSP South Africa (Pty) Ltd.

[REDACTED]  
Cnr Portwood Rd & Beach Rd  
Victoria & Alfred Waterfront  
Cape Town  
8001

And

Luca Guerrini  
Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd

[REDACTED]  
Green Point  
Cape Town  
8051

Cc: [REDACTED]  
Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning  
1 Dorp Street  
8th Floor  
Room 8-07  
Cape Town  
8000

**[BY EMAIL]**

Email: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

**RE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION COMMENTS - PHELAN EFUELS SALDANHA (PTY) LTD - SCOPING PHASE (REF: ZA0066851.7273)**

**1. Introduction**

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 registered Interested and Affected Party in respect of the above-referenced application.

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.

**2. Groundwater and the Langebaan Lagoon**

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 m<sup>3</sup> 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.

PTWC further draws attention to the cumulative water resource pressures arising from existing industrial 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.

**3. Wastewater Disposal**

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.

#### **4. Biodiversity**

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 (*Circus maurus*) and the Vulnerable Southern Black Korhaan (*Afrotis afra*) in the area. The dSR further identifies a high probability of occurrence of several threatened plant species on site, including the Endangered *Leucadendron foedum* (Hopefield Cornbush) and *Leucospermum hypophyllocarpodendron* subsp. *canaliculatum* (Snakestem Pincushion).

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.

#### **5. Hazardous Materials and Quantitative Risk Assessment**

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.

#### **6. Alternatives**

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 phase include a genuine alternatives assessment, including site alternatives, and that the rationale for the selection of the proposed site be transparently set out.

#### **7. Cumulative Impact: Concurrent Solar PV Development**

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.

The two applications share an overlapping footprint, share identified threatened species of concern, and will collectively place substantial pressure on the same CBA-designated

landscape 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 so that no significant cumulative impacts are assessed in isolation.

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.

## **8. Water Use Licence Application**

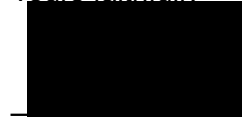
PTWC notes that a Water Use Licence Application has been submitted in connection with the proposed facility and that a separate public participation process in respect of that application is ongoing, with a comment period closing on 6 July 2026. PTWC intends to submit comments on the WULA process separately 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.

## **9. Further Participation**

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 documentation, becomes available. Nothing in these comments constitutes a waiver of any of PTWC's rights in respect of this application.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this correspondence and ensure that these comments are recorded and addressed in the Comment and Response Report.

Yours faithfully

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

---

Attorney (In-House)  
Protect the West Coast

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Tuesday, 09 June 2026 09:50  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice; Schlechter, Marie  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: Public Participation Comments - Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd - Scoping Phase - Ref: ZA0066851.7273

Good morning [REDACTED]

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.

The comments will be recorded and addressed in the Comments and Response Report that will be appended to the Final Scoping Report for submission to the Competent Authority, DEADP.

Kind regards,

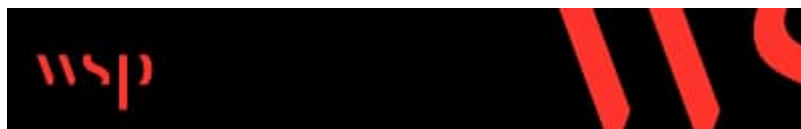
**Public Participation Office**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

---

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 20:59  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>; Schlechter, Marie [REDACTED]  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Subject: Public Participation Comments - Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd - Scoping Phase - Ref: ZA0066851.7273

Dear [REDACTED]

Please find attached PTWC's scoping phase comments in respect of the above-referenced application. Kindly confirm receipt and ensure that our comments are recorded on the I&AP register and addressed in the Comment and Response Report.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]  
Attorney (In-House)

Protect The West Coast

E: [REDACTED]  
W: <https://www.protectthewestcoast.org/>



Watch Ours, Not Mine [here](#)





**Protect the West Coast NPC**  
**Noordhoek, Cape Town, 7979**

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Website:** [www.protectthewestcoast.org](http://www.protectthewestcoast.org)

**WSP Internal Ref: ZA0066851.7273**  
**Our Ref: Phelan Green Hydrogen Plant**

Date: 8 June 2026

Marié Schlechter  
WSP South Africa (Pty) Ltd.  
The Pavilion, 1st Floor  
Cnr Portwood Rd & Beach Rd  
Victoria & Alfred Waterfront  
Cape Town  
8001

And

Luca Guerrini  
Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd  
47 Main Road  
Green Point  
Cape Town  
8051

Cc: Annelize de Villiers (Head of Office)  
Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning  
1 Dorp Street  
8th Floor  
Room 8-07  
Cape Town  
8000

**[BY EMAIL]**

Email: [pp@wsp.com](mailto:pp@wsp.com)

Email: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms Schlechter,

**RE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION COMMENTS - PHELAN EFUELS SALDANHA (PTY) LTD - SCOPING PHASE (REF: ZA0066851.7273)**

**1. Introduction**

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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.

**2. Groundwater and the Langebaan Lagoon**

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 m<sup>3</sup> 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.

PTWC further draws attention to the cumulative water resource pressures arising from existing industrial 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.

**3. Wastewater Disposal**

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.

#### **4. Biodiversity**

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 (*Circus maurus*) and the Vulnerable Southern Black Korhaan (*Afrotis afra*) in the area. The dSR further identifies a high probability of occurrence of several threatened plant species on site, including the Endangered *Leucadendron foedum* (Hopefield Cornbush) and *Leucospermum hypophyllocarpodendron* subsp. *canaliculatum* (Snakestem Pincushion).

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.

#### **5. Hazardous Materials and Quantitative Risk Assessment**

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.

#### **6. Alternatives**

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 phase include a genuine alternatives assessment, including site alternatives, and that the rationale for the selection of the proposed site be transparently set out.

#### **7. Cumulative Impact: Concurrent Solar PV Development**

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.

The two applications share an overlapping footprint, share identified threatened species of concern, and will collectively place substantial pressure on the same CBA-designated

landscape 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 so that no significant cumulative impacts are assessed in isolation.

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.

### **8. Water Use Licence Application**

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.

### **9. Further Participation**

PTWC reserves all rights to supplement these comments and to submit further submissions as additional documentation, including the Environmental Impact Report, EMPr, specialist studies, and GNR 1147-compliant rehabilitation and financial provision documentation, becomes available. Nothing in these comments constitutes a waiver of any of PTWC's rights in respect of this application.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this correspondence and ensure that these comments are recorded and addressed in the Comment and Response Report.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Yaman', written over a horizontal line.

Michael Yaman  
Attorney (In-House)  
Protect the West Coast

[REDACTED]

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From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Tuesday, 09 June 2026 11:17  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: 2026ZA557273 Phelan Hydrogen and eFuel Project, Hopefield - draft scoping report comments

Good day Ms and Mr [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

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 programme to ensure monitoring of aspects such groundwater, dust, emissions, etc.

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.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

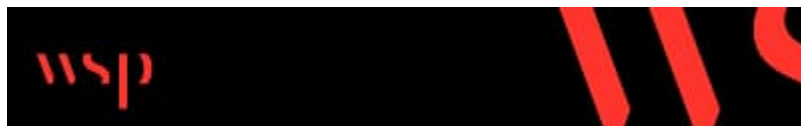
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 22:49  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: 2026ZA557273 Phelan Hydrogen and eFuel Project, Hopefield - draft scoping report comments  
Importance: High

A.M. and G.M. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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.

We do have some major concerns about the project and these are mainly to do with Water.

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?
2. The Aquifer – this is so precious and is our supply underground – it extends as far as Langebaan Lagoon. 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 ground water. 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?
3. In general, will there be frequent on-going independent tests on pollution throughout the life of the project?
4. Is the plant far enough from Hopefield to avoid the town being affected by explosion, fire, air pollution, etc?
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?
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.

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 the updated mitigation measures, as soon as it is produced.

A.M. and G.M. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Please acknowledge receipt of this commentary



Virus-free. [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

[REDACTED]

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From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Tuesday, 09 June 2026 11:18  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: Hydrogen plant

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

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.

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.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

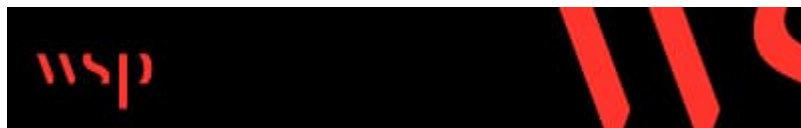
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, 09 June 2026 08:53  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: Hydrogen plant

Project Reference Number: ZA0066851.7273 Project Name: Proposed Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield, WSP Contact Number: 011 361 1300 Applicant / Developer: Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd

Good day.

Please find below a few of my points for objection. Very basically summarised.

- 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.
- 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.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Hopefield resident

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Thursday, 11 June 2026 18:00  
To: [REDACTED] ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: Objection to the Proposed Phelan E-fuel Hydrogen & Solar project: Hopefield

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

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 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 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.

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.

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.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, 10 June 2026 09:20  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>  
Subject: Objection to the Proposed Phelan E-fuel Hydrogen & Solar project: Hopefield

To whom it may concern,

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. 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.

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.

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 plant will inevitably chase these magnificent species away, leaving the majestic sightings for textbooks and not "face to face" encounters.

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.

The immediate community of Hopefield will bear the brunt of severe environmental and infrastructural degradation:

**Acoustic Disruption & Noise Pollution:** 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.

**Air Pollution & Dust:** 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.

**Destruction of Infrastructure:** 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.

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.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Resident of the West Coast Community - Hopefield

Dear Sir/Madan

**Re: Comments on Draft Scoping Report in respect of proposed Green Hydrogen and Electro-Sustainable Aviation Fuel plant, Hopefield, Western Cape (ZA0066851.7273)**

1. West Coast Environmental Protection Association ('WCEPA'), a local environmental voluntary association, hereby submits comments on the aforesaid draft scoping report.

**Defective Public Participation**

**Lack of public meeting**

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),<sup>1</sup> 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.
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.
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 to comment on highly technical documents written in English – without the benefit of a public meeting – is unreasonable.

**Unavailability of WULA / Misleading statements in Draft Scoping Report**

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.

**Project Splitting**

6. The proposed Hydrogen and E-SAF plant (**the processing plant**) of Phelan aFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd (**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.
7. By splitting these projects, the true impacts of each project (including the cumulative impacts) are not identified and assessed and the assessment of

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<sup>1</sup> GN 807 in GG 35769 of 10 October 2012.

alternatives is artificial. Moreover, as both projects will likely require biodiversity offsets, the calculation of the offset will also be skewed.

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.
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.
10. In other words, by splitting these projects, their respective “preferred locations” are rendered a *fait accompli*.

#### Incorrect description of Hopefield

11. The report describes Hopefield as follows: “Over time, the settlement has evolved into an agri-village, primarily 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.
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.

#### Social Impact Assessment.- Inadequate Scope

13. The impacts and mitigation measures which are identified as forming part of the scope of the SIA are inadequate.
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.
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.
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. 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.

#### Traffic Impact Assessment and Transport of Hazardous Materials

17. The EIA must assess the impacts of transporting hazardous materials along the proposed route options for the haulage of imported materials.

#### Noise Impacts – Inadequate Scope

18. Given that the development site and the receiving environment contain CBAs, the noise impacts on fauna must be assessed.

### Botanical Impact Assessment

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.
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 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.
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.
22. Species identifications recorded on the iNaturalist database within close proximity of the proposed site includes several red list species, e.g. *Leucospermum rodolentum* (near threatened) (some 791m from site) and *Erepsia brevipetala* (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.
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.
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 Beta version of the National Vegetation Map: NVM 2024 (latest update of the map of the National Vegetation Map Project and follows VEGMAP 2018).

### Biodiversity offset

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

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.
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.

[REDACTED]

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From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Thursday, 11 June 2026 17:59  
To: [REDACTED]; ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: 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

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

#### Lack of Public Participation

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.

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.

#### Unavailability of WULA / Misleading Statements in the Draft Scoping Report

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.

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).

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."

#### Project Splitting

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.

#### Incorrect Description of Hopefield

Your comment is noted. The socio-economic baseline information will be supplemented with the valuable information gathered during the public participation process.

Social Impact Assessment – Inadequate Scope, Traffic Impact Assessment and Transport of Hazardous Materials, Noise Impacts – Inadequate Scope, Botanical Impact Assessment

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:

- 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.

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 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.

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.

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.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

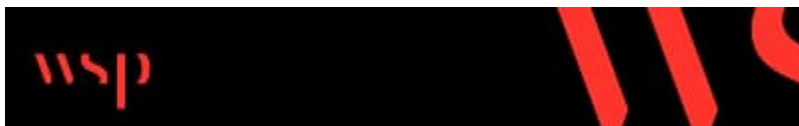
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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From: [Redacted]

Sent: Tuesday, 09 June 2026 21:11

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

Subject: Re: 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

Dear PP,

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.

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.

Best regards,



Chairperson -

[REDACTED]

---

From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Wednesday, 10 June 2026 10:45  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice; [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

We have noted your comments and concerns, specifically with reference to the potential impacts on the environment and socio-economics 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.

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.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

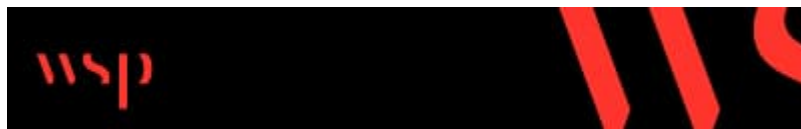
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 19:29  
To: ZA - WSP - PPOffice <PP@wsp.com>

Subject: I&AP Registration for EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273 from Nick Little

Dear [REDACTED], WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.

New registration as an I&AP from [REDACTED]

### Details

- **Application:** Green Hydrogen and e-SAF Plant, Hopefield
- **Application Code:** EIA Ref: 16/3/3/6/7/2/F4/5/3230/25WSP Project No.: ZA0066851.7273
- **I&AP Name:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Email:** [REDACTED]
- **I&AP Mobile:** [REDACTED]

- 
- **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.**
  - **Further details concerning the impact:**  
No comment
  - **Interest(s) impacted as a result of this application:**  
I am concerned about the impact on the environment | I am concerned about the impact on the community | I am an adjacent landowner | I visit the area for recreational purposes | I am concerned about the impact on my income
- 

Sent via Protect the West Coast - Ripl Platform, on behalf of [REDACTED] This email has been sent to you with their express consent. Kindly direct any further correspondence in relation to this application using the I&AP contact details above.



[REDACTED]

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From: ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Sent: Thursday, 11 June 2026 18:01  
To: [REDACTED] ZA - WSP - PPOffice  
Subject: RE: 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

Good day [REDACTED]

Thank you for the correspondence.

Kindly find herewith a response to your comments and concerns raised.

Public Participation Process:

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.

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.

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.

Environmental Concerns:

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.

Social and Economic Concerns:

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.

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.

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 EMP.

I trust that you will find this in order.

Kind regards,

**Public Participation Office**

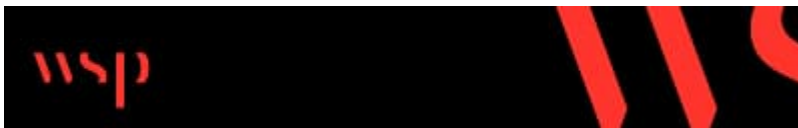
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, 08 June 2026 15:33

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

Subject: Re: 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

Good Afternoon

To whom it may concern.

I do have several concerns about the process, please see them below:

## **1. Public Participation & Process Concerns:**

- **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.

## **2. Environmental Concerns:**

- **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 are many households which use the underground water from boreholes as well as farmers with livestock.

## **3. Social & Economic Concerns:**

- **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.

## **Main Takeaway:**

The project should be treated as a single, unified proposal. And should rather be located in the Saldanha IDZ to protect Hopefield's critically endangered environment, water security, and rural community character.

Thank you for your time  
Kind Regards  


On Wed, May 6, 2026 at 2:07 PM ZA - WSP - PPOffice <[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)> wrote:

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 CO<sub>2</sub>, 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**





**WSP**

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Registered Number: 1999/008928/07 South Africa

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-LAEmHhHzdJzBITWfa4Hgs7pbKl

Date: 11 June 2026

TO: **WSP GROUP AFRICA**  
The Pavilion, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Victoria & Alfred Waterfront  
Cape Town  
8001

ATTENTION: WSP (Pty) Ltd  
Public Participation Office

[PP@wsp.com](mailto:PP@wsp.com)

CC:

FROM:

Total pages: 17

Our ref: A060-001

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Dear [REDACTED],

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Cullinan & Associates Incorporated (2001/001024/21)

DIRECTORS:

ATTORNEYS:

CONSULTANTS:

TRAINEES:

<http://cullinans.co.za/>

[REDACTED]  
Cape Town

## COMMENTS IN RESPECT OF THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED GREEN HYDROGEN AND E-SAF PLANT, HOPEFIELD, WESTERN CAPE

### INTRODUCTION

1. We represent Arnelia Farms CC ("██████████"), a Close Corporation with registration number 1999/025492/23, Mrs Maria Theres Hettasch ("██████████") and ██████████  
██████████  
(collectively referred to as "**our clients**")
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).

### BACKGROUND

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 the proposed enabling solar photovoltaic facility<sup>1</sup> ("**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)<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

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.
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 (buchus), *Chamelaucium* species (wax flowers) and other specialised horticultural products. It supplies the South African horticultural market and also cultivates cut flowers for export to international markets.
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:
  - 6.1. reliable access to water of adequate quantity and quality;
  - 6.2. the control of dust, pollutants and airborne contaminants; the protection of plant health; compliance with phytosanitary and export requirements; and
  - 6.3. the preservation of a surrounding land-use context compatible with high-value horticultural production.
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**"), declared in terms of the Preservation and Development of Agricultural Land Act.
8. The DSR notes<sup>3</sup> 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

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<sup>3</sup> Page 62 of the DSR.

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.<sup>4</sup> 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.

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, sense of place and the broader integrity of the rural setting in which they live and work, stand to be substantially compromised.
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.

#### **FAILURE TO IDENTIFY THE FULL SCOPE OF IMPACTS REQUIRING ASSESSMENT**

##### ***Proposed narrow assessment of the Facility without taking account of the cumulative impacts of the Solar PV Facility***

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.

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<sup>4</sup> Page 62 of the DSR.

12. The DSR is also primarily focussed on the risk profile of the e-SAF product. The EIA process must however take 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.

13. Regulation 11(3) and 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 provides that:

*“(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.*

*(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 cumulative impacts, must be considered in terms of the location where the activity is to be undertaken.”*

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.
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).

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 given that the competent authority is required to take account of all relevant factors in reaching its decision).<sup>5</sup>
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.
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.

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<sup>5</sup> Section 24O of NEMA.

***Inadequate identification of water use and atmospheric impacts (and related socio-economic implications)***

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.
20. In *Fuel Retailers Association of Southern Africa v Director-General: Environmental Management*<sup>6</sup>, 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.
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.
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.

***Inadequate identification of impacts on agricultural resources***

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

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

low cropping potential.<sup>7</sup> 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.

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.
25. Any further draft of the scoping report should therefore specifically provide for the agricultural assessment to consider the potential impacts of the Facility on surrounding high potential agricultural land.

***Inadequate identification of potential impacts associated with incidents***

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.
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 impacts and their implications for the local community and businesses).
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

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<sup>7</sup> 8.4 of the DSR.

environmental impacts which may arise in the event of a water contamination incident, notwithstanding the applicable legal obligations contained in the NWA.<sup>8</sup>

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 500m<sup>3</sup> 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.

***Inadequate identification of visual and landscape Impacts***

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:
  - 30.1. the extent to which the proposed development may alter the rural and agricultural character of the area;
  - 30.2. the visual impacts associated with security lighting, night-time operations and any flaring activities;
  - 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
  - 30.4. the visual impacts experienced from neighbouring farms, public roads and settlements, including Hopefield itself.

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<sup>8</sup> 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.

### **Inadequate identification of the full scope of cumulative impacts associated with the Facility**

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:
- 31.1. increasing industrialisation within a predominantly agricultural landscape (particularly the cumulative implications of the development of Facility and the Solar PV Facility;
  - 31.2. cumulative pressures on water resources; and
  - 31.3. cumulative impacts on agricultural enterprises and agricultural land uses.

### **INADEQUATE MOTIVATION FOR THE NEED AND DESIRABILITY OF THE FACILITY**

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.<sup>9</sup> Section 3 of the DSR (pp 55 to 57) purports to address the need and desirability of the proposed e-SAF facility. It does so mainly by reference to high-level policy consideration. For example, it refers, *inter alia*, to:
- 32.1. The global climate-change emergency and the Paris Agreement (*Vide* clause 3.1 of the DSR);
  - 32.2. the benefits of e-SAF, including drop-in capability, circular carbon use, claimed high performance, improved air quality and scalability;
  - 32.3. the role that green hydrogen may play in decarbonising hard-to-abate sectors; and
  - 32.4. national policy statements in support of green hydrogen and green industrialisation (*Vide* clause 3.2.1 of the DSR).

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

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.
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, 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.
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.
36. In this regard, the DSR does not adequately engage with a number of material considerations, including:
  - 36.1. the fact that the proposed development is located within a Protected Agricultural Area;
  - 36.2. the proximity of the proposed development to existing agricultural enterprises, including neighbouring flower farming operations and other agricultural activities;
  - 36.3. the implications of introducing a large-scale industrial processing facility into an area characterised by agricultural land uses and rural settlement patterns;
  - 36.4. the implications of the proposed land-use change for the long-term agricultural character and functioning of the area;

- 36.5. the potential impacts of the Project on neighbouring agricultural operations, water users and landscape character; and
  - 36.6. whether the anticipated benefits of the Project outweigh the environmental, social and agricultural trade-offs associated with the Site.
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.
38. In the absence of such an assessment, it is difficult to understand how the conclusion that the Site is desirable has been reached.
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.

#### **FAILURE TO IDENTIFY SUITABLE SITE ALTERNATIVES**

40. The object of the scoping process<sup>10</sup> is, amongst other things to:
- 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
  - 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.
41. The EIA Regulations, 2014 contain the following definition:
- “alternatives”, in relation to a proposed activity, means different means of meeting the general purpose and requirements of the activity which may include alternatives to the—*

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

*(a) property on which or location where the activity is proposed to be undertaken;*

*(b) type of activity to be undertaken;*

*(c) design or layout of the activity;*

*(d) technology to be used in the activity; or*

*(e) operational aspects of the activity;*

*and includes the option of not implementing the activity;”*

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.
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 alternative and no other site alternatives are being considered.”*
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.
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-response or logistics infrastructure. The DSR does not however provide that explanation.

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.
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.
48. The no-go alternative must identify whether the project objectives could be pursued elsewhere or through a less harmful configuration.
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.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION CONCERNS**

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.

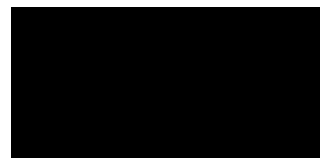
51. The DSR mentions that the public participation process is intended to identify relevant individuals, organisations and communities who may be interested in or affected by the Facility. It also mentions that an effective public participation process requires the prior disclosure of relevant and adequate project information to enable stakeholders to understand the risks, impacts and opportunities of the proposed project.
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.
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.
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.
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.

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 refers to associated infrastructure, wastewater treatment, sewage infrastructure and tanker logistics.
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.
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.
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.

## **CONCLUSION**

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:
  - 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.
  - 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:
    - 60.2.1. neighbouring landowners, existing agricultural and horticultural operations and the livelihoods of the local rural community;
    - 60.2.2. air quality concerns (including dust and particulate matter and chemical residue deposits on crops);

- 60.2.3. the availability of water resources, and implications for existing water users;
  - 60.2.4. visual and landscape character;
  - 60.2.5. the high potential agricultural land across the Swartland PAA (and not only the Site); and
  - 60.2.6. the full extent of environmental and socio-economic impacts associated with incidents and major-hazard risks.
- 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.
- 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.
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.
62. Our clients reserve all rights to supplement, amend and expand these submissions during the EIA phase, once the specialist studies, Draft EIR, EMPr, 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.



**CULLINAN & ASSOCIATES INC.**



**REFERENCE:** 16/3/3/2/F4/5/3019/26

**DATE:** 12 JUNE 2026

The Board of Directors  
Phelan eFuels Saldanha (Pty) Ltd.  
47 Main Road  
Green Point  
8051

**For Attention:** [REDACTED]

Cell: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Sir

**COMMENT ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT ("DSR") FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF AN ELECTRO-SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUEL ("E-SAF") MANUFACTURING FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON A PORTION OF THE REMAINDER OF FARM PORTUGEESCHE FONTYN NO. 167, HOPEFIELD.**

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.
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.
  - 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 relevant municipal service capacity departments within Saldanha Bay Municipality.
    - 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.

- 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.

## 2.3. Water Use License("WUL") Application

- 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 and Sanitation to confirm whether a General Authorisation / Water Use Licence is required.
- 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.
- 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.
- 2.3.4. Please ensure that comment regarding the proposed development is obtained from DWS and included in the draft EIA Report.
- 2.3.5. Failure to obtain comment from DWS may prejudice the outcome of this application.

## 2.4. Screening Tool, The Protocols, Site Sensitivity Verification Report("SSVR") and Specialist Assessments

- 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.
- 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.
  - 2.4.2.1. The submission of the Application Form included four Screening Tool Reports (dated 4 March 2026, 9 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.
  - 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.
  - 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.

- 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.
- 2.4.2.5. Please ensure that the appointed specialists and their reports meet the requirements as stipulated in the Protocols.
- 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.
- 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).
- 2.4.2.8. Please note that should relevant commenting authorities require any additional specialist assessments, the relevant specialist assessment must be undertaken.

## 2.5. Alternatives

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 2.5.5. The Environmental Assessment Practitioner is required to demonstrate that alternatives were duly considered for the proposed development.
- 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.
- 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.

## 2.6. Need and Desirability

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. 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.

2.6.2. For instance, the DSR indicates the proposed development aligns with the objectives of the Saldanha 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.

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.

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.

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, and the maintenance of the desired environmental management state of the receiving environment.

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.

## 2.7. Public Participation

2.7.1. Please ensure that the comments raised during the Public Participation Process are adequately addressed.

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).**

- 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 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.
- 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.
- 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).

2.8. General

- 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.
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 imprisonment for a period not exceeding 10 years, or to both such fine and imprisonment.
4. Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.
5. The Department reserves the right to revise or withdraw comments and request further information based on the information received.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted Signature]

pp [Redacted Initials]

**DIRECTOR: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT (REGION 1)**

Copied to:

1. [Redacted] (WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd.)  
2. [Redacted] (Saldanha Bay Municipality)

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