



To: ShawnJohnston <swjohnston@mweb.co.za>
Cc: Ravisha Ajodhapersadh
Bcc: brian mcmahon, Stuart Shearer, riaan.smit@eskom.co.za, Deon Rood, se@museumsnc.co.za, secretary@birdlife.org.za, Carolyn Ah Shene-Verdoorn <advocacy@birdlife.org.za>, space@saa.ac.za, pieter@abloy.co.za, Anton Odendal, Patrick Dowling
Subject: Re: Reminder Suurplaat Wind Energy Facility Public Meeting /Herinnering Suurplaat Sutherland Windplaas Publieke Vergadering

Signature: Signature #1

Belinda Mutti

Belinda Mutti

On 08 Sep 2010, at 8:37 AM, ShawnJohnston wrote:

Dear Stakeholder,

This is a friendly reminder of the Moyeng Energy Suurplaat Wind Energy Facility Public Meeting scheduled for:

Date: Monday, 13 September 2010

Time: 18:00 - 20:00

Venue: NG Church Hall - Sutherland

Draft EIA Report Availability: Sutherland Public Library and Savannah Environmental web site - www.savannahSA.com

All stakeholders are most welcome to attend.

Geagte Belanghebende Party,

Hierdie e-pos is n vriendelike herinnering van die Moyeng Energie Suurplaat Publieke Vergadering op:

Datum: Maandag, 13 September 2010

Tyd: 18:00 -20:00

Plek: NG Kerk Saal - Sutherland

Verslag: Sutherland Publieke Biblioteek en Savannah Environmental webtuiste - www.savannahSA.com

Alle belanghebende partye is welkom om hierdie vergadering by te woon.

Sincerely/Die uwe,

**Shawn Johnston
Process Specialist**

Sustainable Futures ZA



To: ShawnJohnston <swjohnston@mweb.co.za>

Cc: Ravisha Ajodhapersadh

Bcc: Alexander Agenbacht, Amelia Genis, Alvan Gabriel, AndreK@drakenstein.gov.za, andy@wessa.co.za, Johan VAN DEN BERG <jvandenber@basilread.co.za>, Hans Boer, BradleyG@ewt.org.za, charlesmuller@vodamail.co.za, chris@saa.ac.za, deon@boardwalkmanor.co.za, Kalla du Plessis, tania.swanepoel@erm.com, Leila Mahomed-Weideman

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P.O. Box 749
Rondebosch
7701**



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Cc: Ravisha Ajodhapersadh

 Bcc: jcooper@aberdare.co.za jlobuser@namakwa-dm.gov.za kg@saa.ac.za Kirsten.Scott@uct.ac.za Lourens Kotze leaskk@eskom.co.za lgu@adu.uct.ac.za Lars Starke
 Isak Malherbe nazli@saa.ac.za nassp@saa.ac.za Mmabunda@pgwc.gov.za mdp@saa.ac.za

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Rondebosch
7701
Cape Town**



To: ShawnJohnston <swjohnston@mweb.co.za>

Cc:

Lizelle Stroh wroets@capenature.co.za Willem Smith thembela@sao.ac.za Corne / Kuehne – Nagel / Bfn VF Bornman <corne.bornman@kuehne-nagel.com>

Bcc: Lauren Van Der Westhuizen <lauren.vanderwesthuizen@newenergyfinance.com> Lance Blaine Hendrik Reyneke

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Rondebosch
7701
Cape Town
South Africa



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Cc: Ravisha Ajodhapersadh

Bcc: Alana Duffel-Canham ebrahim@sanbi.org elizabeth@sao.ac.za elsenburg.landcare@elsenburg.com francois.williams@sake24.com Ivan Groenewald Paul Hardcastle
jacobpienaar@yahoo.com jakavulaz@caa.co.za jbonthuy@dieburger.com

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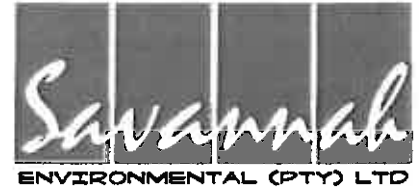
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**Sustainable Futures ZA
P.O. Box 749
Rondebosch
7701**



22 July 2010

Fax: 027 712 8040

Namakwa District Municipality
P.O. Box 5
Spingbok
8240
Northern Cape Province

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS:
PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SUURPLAAT WIND ENERGY FACILITY
NEAR SUTHERLAND, WESTERN CAPE ANF NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE
(DEA Ref No. 12/12DEA Reference No. 12/12/20/1932)**

To Whom It May Concern:

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SAVANNAH ENVIRONMENTAL (PTY) LTD
EGLIN OFFICE PARK, 4 EGLIN ROAD, SUNNINGHILL, GAUTENG
PO BOX 148, SUNNINGHILL, 2157, GAUTENG
TEL: +27 (0)11 234 6621 • FAX: +27 (0)86 684 0547 • E-MAIL: INFO@SAVANNAHSA.COM


WWW.SAVANNAHSA.COM

DIRECTORS: KM JODAS • J THOMAS • M MATSABU
COMPANY REGISTRATION NO.: 2006/000127/07
VAT REGISTRATION NO.: 4780226736

As an Organ of State, you are invited to participate in this process and register on the project database. Please can you provide the name and contact details of the relevant contact person at your department who we would liaise with regarding this project. By registering on the project database, you would receive all relevant information regarding the project and would be provided an opportunity to provide comment and input into the EIA process. Furthermore, the NEMA Amendment Act requires a 40-day review period be allowed for commenting authorities / organs of state to submit their comments to DEA. When you have register on the project database you will be informed on the availability of a draft EIA report for review.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information regarding the proposed project.

Sincerely,



Ravisha Ajodhapersadh

PO Box 148

Sunninghill, 2157

Tel: +2711 234-6621

Fax: +2786 684 0547

Cell: 084 300 0660

Email: ravisha@savannahsa.com

www.savannahSA.com

Addressee	Start Time	Time	Prints	Result	Note
0277128040	07-22 12:41	00:00:25	002/002	OK	

Note TMR: Timer TX, POL: Polling, ORS: Original Size Setting, FME: Frame Erase TX,
 MIX: Mixed Original TX, CAL: Manual TX, CSAC: CSAC, FWD: Forward, PC: PC Fax,
 BND: Double-Sided Binding Direction, SP: Special original, FCODE: F-code, RTX: Re-TX,
 BLY: Relay, MBX: Confidential, BUL: Bulletin, SIP: SIP Fax, IPADR: IP Address Fax,
 I-FAX: Internet Fax

Result OK: Communication OK, S-OK: Stop Communication, PW-OFF: Power Switch OFF,
 TEL: RX from TEL, NG: Other Error, Cont: Continue, No Ans: No Answer,
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 LOVR:Receiving length Over, POVR:Receiving page Over, FIL:File Error,
 DC:Decode Error, MDN:MDN Response Error, DSN:DSN Response Error.



22 July 2010

Fax: 027 712 8040

Namakwa District Municipality
 P.O. Box 5
 Spingbok
 8240
 Northern Cape Province

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 EGLIN OFFICE PARK, 4 EGLIN ROAD, SUNNINGHILL, GAUTENG
 PO BOX 149, SUNNINGHILL, 2157, GAUTENG
 TEL: +27 (0)11 234 6621 • FAX: +27 (0)11 684 0547 • E-MAIL: INFO@SAVANNAHSA.COM
 WWW.SAVANNAHSA.COM

.....
 DIRECTORS: KM JODAS • J THOMAS • M MATSABU
 COMPANY REGISTRATION NO.: 2006/000121/07
 VAT REGISTRATION NO.: 4780226736



22 July 2010

Fax: **023-5711307**

Hoogland Karoo Municipality
PO Box 24
Sutherland
6920

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS:
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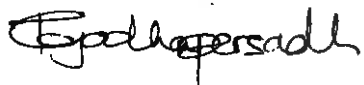
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Tel: +2711 234-6621

Fax: +2786 684 0547

Cell: 084 300 0660

Email: ravisha@savannahsa.com

www.savannahSA.com

Addressee	Start Time	Time	Prints	Result	Note
0235711307	07-22 12:43	00:00:36	002/002	OK	

Note TMR: Timer TX, POL: Polling, ORG: Original Size Setting, FME: Frame Erase TX,
 MIX: Mixed Original TX, CALL: Manual TX, CSRC: CSRC, FWD: Forward, PC: PC-Fax,
 BND: Double-Sided Binding Direction, SP: Special Original, FCODE: F-code, RTX: Re-TX,
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22 July 2010

Fax: 023-5711307

Hoogland Karoo Municipality
 PO Box 24
 Sutherland
 6920

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Northern Cape Department of Economic Affairs and Tourism
Fax: 053 832 9464
Private Bag X5054
KIMBERLEY
8300

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Cell: 084 300 0660

Email: ravisha@savannahsa.com

www.savannahSA.com

Addressee	Start Time	Time	Prints	Result	Note
0538329464	07-22 13:00	00:00:56	000/002	No Ans	

Note TMR: Timer TX, POL: Polling, ORS: Original Size Setting, FME: Frame Erase TX,
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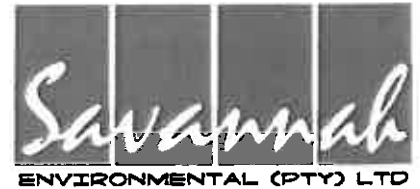
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22 July 2010

Fax: 023 5511019

Laingsburg Municipality
Private Bag X4
Laingsburg
6900

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COMPANY REGISTRATION NO.: 2006/000127/07
VAT REGISTRATION NO.: 4780226736

As an Organ of State, you are invited to participate in this process and register on the project database. Please can you provide the name and contact details of the relevant contact person at your department who we would liaise with regarding this project. By registering on the project database, you would receive all relevant information regarding the project and would be provided an opportunity to provide comment and input into the EIA process. Furthermore, the NEMA Amendment Act requires a 40-day review period be allowed for commenting authorities / organs of state to submit their comments to DEA. When you have register on the project database you will be informed on the availability of a draft EIA report for review.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information regarding the proposed project.

Sincerely,



Ravisha Ajodhapersadh

PO Box 148

Sunninghill, 2157

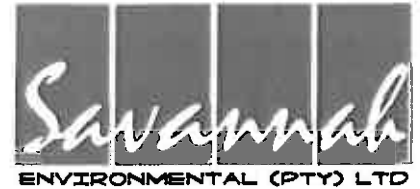
Tel: +2711 234-6621

Fax: +2786 684 0547

Cell: 084 300 0660

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22 July 2010

Fax: 021 946 1630

South African Roads Agency Limited (SANRAL) Western Region
Private Bag X19
Bellville
7535

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS:
PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SUURPLAAT WIND ENERGY FACILITY
NEAR SUTHERLAND, WESTERN CAPE ANF NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE
(DEA Ref No. 12/12DEA Reference No. 12/12/20/1932)**

To Whom It May Concern:

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process is currently being undertaken by Savannah Environmental in terms of the EIA Regulations in accordance with sections 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA; No. 107 1998), for the establishment of the Suurplaat wind energy facility near Sutherland as proposed by Moyeng Energy (Pty) Ltd.

In terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations published in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA, Act No. 107 of 1998), Moyeng Energy requires authorisation from the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) (in consultation with the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEADP) and Northern Cape Department of Nature Conservation) for the undertaking of the proposed project. In order to obtain authorisation for this project, comprehensive, independent environmental studies must be undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations.

This project has been registered with National DEA under application reference number **12/12/20/1932**. In this regard, Savannah Environmental has been appointed as the independent consultant to undertake the required EIA and public participation for the proposed project. The Scoping Phase study has been completed and is currently with DEA for their review and acceptance. The EIA phase will commence shortly.

UNIT 606, 1410 EGLIN OFFICE PARK, 4 EGLIN ROAD, SUNNINGHILL, GAUTENG
PO BOX 148, SUNNINGHILL, 2157, GAUTENG
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DIRECTORS: KM JODAS • J THOMAS • M MATSABU
COMPANY REGISTRATION NO.: 2006/000127/07
VAT REGISTRATION NO.: 4780226736

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Sincerely,



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Addressee	Start Time	Time	Prints	Result	Note
0219461630	07-22 13:01	00:00:26	002/002	OK	

Note TMR: Timer TX, POL: Polling, ORG: Original Size Setting, FME: Frame Erase TX,
MIX: Mixed Original TX, CALL: Manual TX, CSRC: CSRC, FWD: Forward, PC: PC-Fax,
BND: Double-Sided Binding Direction, SP: Special Original, FCODE: F-code, RTX: Re-TX,
RLY: Relay, MBR: Confidential, BUL: Bulletin, SIP: SIP Fax, IPADR: IP Address Fax,
I-FAX: Internet Fax

Result OK: Communication OK, S-OK: Stop Communication, PW-OFF: Power Switch OFF,
TEL: RX from TEL, NG: Other Error, Cont: Continue, No Ans: No Answer,
Refuse: Receipt Refused, Busy: Busy, M-Full: Memory Full,
LOVR: Receiving length Over, POVR: Receiving page Over, FIL: File Error,
DC: Decode Error, MDN: MDN Response Error, DSN: DSN Response Error.



22 July 2010

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Private Bag X19
Bellville
7535

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS:
PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SUURPLAAT WIND ENERGY FACILITY
NEAR SUTHERLAND, WESTERN CAPE ANF NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE
(DEA Ref No. 12/12DEA Reference No. 12/12/20/1932)**

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COMPANY REGISTRATION NO.: 2006/000121/01
VAT REGISTRATION NO.: 4780226736

Addressee	Start Time	Time	Prints	Result	Note
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Note TMR: Timer TX, POL: Polling, ORG: Original Size Setting, FME: Frame Erase TX,
 MIX: Mixed Original TX, CALL: Manual TX, CSRC: CSRC, FWD: Forward, PC: PC-Fax,
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22 July 2010

Northern Cape Department of Economic Affairs and Tourism
 Fax: 053 832 9464
 Private Bag X5054
 KIMBERLEY
 8300

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS:
 PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SUURPLAAT WIND ENERGY FACILITY
 NEAR SUTHERLAND, WESTERN CAPE ANF NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE
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PROPOSED SUURPLAAT WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE

COMMENTS AND RESPONSE REPORT: I&APs & STAKEHOLDERS

Comments Received on Draft Scoping Report

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
<i>General</i>			
1	Our family farm, Vinkekuil, lies adjacent to the proposed wind energy facility.	Andre Kowalewski, landowner Vinkekuil, comment by fax, 25 April 2010.	Comment noted.
2	Primarily environmental concerns, in the broad sense, but also concerned about social impacts and economic sustainability (financial and technological). We will comment on the Draft EIR.	Andy Gubb, Senior National Conservationist, Wild Life and Environmental Society of South Africa, Western Cape, comment by fax, 23 April 2010.	Comment noted.
3	Interested in energy projects in the Northern Cape and their effect upon the environment, wildlife and heritage sites.	Professor R. A. Hasty, individual, comment by e-mail, 22 April 2010.	Comment noted.
4	There is no objection against this method to generate (wind) energy, but the guidelines and checks and balances that will be in place to protect the environment against destruction and this is of concern.	Andre Kowalewski, landowner Vinkekuil, comment by fax, 25 April 2010.	The purpose of the current EIA process is to look at management and mitigation of environmental impacts. The Scoping phase of the EIA that has been done is mainly to identify potential environmental impacts and define the plan of study for the EIA phase. The EIA phase will look in more detail at environmental impacts and how these can be mitigated to acceptable levels.
5	As registered stakeholders in the Sutherland area, we have received and studied your EIA scoping document, and attended your public consultation and site visit. Your document asked for a formal response from us by April 30, which I am providing through this letter.	Professor Phil Charles, Director, South African Astronomical Observatory & National Research Foundation, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010.	Comments noted.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	<p>Please consider this letter provided as SAAO's formal response to the scoping document. My complete contact details are below. Please see that my PA (Nazli Mohamed: nazli@saa.ac.za) is copied in on all future communications regarding this issue.</p> <p>I would like to take the opportunity of thanking you and your colleagues for your assistance in arranging for our site visit yesterday (<i>held on 29 April 2010</i>). It was extremely useful for all of us to understand the scale of your development.</p>		
6	<p>We may comment in more depth during the next phase of the EIA. CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comments and request information based on any additional information that may be received.</p>	<p>Alana Duffell-Canham, CapeNature Scientific Services, comment by e-mail, 19 April 2010</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>
Vegetation			
7	<p>The proposed Suurplaat Wind Energy Facility site contains several vegetation types. The Western Cape portion of the site is mostly covered by Gamka Karoo and Central Mountain Shale Renosterveld in a largely natural state. Both of these vegetation types are considered to be Least Threatened but very little of either are formally conserved.</p>	<p>Alana Duffell-Canham, CapeNature Scientific Services, comment by e-mail, 19 April 2010</p>	<p>The vegetation and ecology of the area will be considered in more detail during the EIA phase for the proposed project through a specialist ecology study.</p>
8	<p>The site also occurs within the Hantam-Roggeveld of Floristic Endemism which contains a high number of endemic plant species and is considered to have high conservation value.</p>	<p>Alana Duffell-Canham, CapeNature Scientific Services, comment by e-mail, 19 April 2010</p>	<p>This has been noted in the scoping report. The vegetation and ecology of the area will be considered in more detail during the EIA phase for the proposed project through a specialist ecology study.</p>

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
9	A recent and associated publication provides a more detailed review of the vegetation around the proposed site – refer to VAN DER MERWE, H, VAN ROOYEN, M.W. & VAN ROOYEN, N. 2009. Vegetation of the Hantam-Tanqua-Roggeveld subregion, South Africa Part 2: Succulent Karoo Biome related vegetation. Koedo 50: 160-183 (also see attached maps). The southern border of this study was approximately the Northern Cape/Western Cape boundary, is pertinent to the northern section of the proposed development site.	C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart, Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010	The vegetation and ecology of the area will be considered in more detail during the EIA phase for the proposed project through a specialist ecology study. This existing information will be consulted as part of this study.
10	It is stated that the study area is situated in the heart of the Hantam-Roggeveld Centre of Endemism, which is considered a high priority for conservation in order to preserve species and ecosystems typical of this Centre. The evaluation of optional sites is accordingly strongly recommended.	C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart, Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010	The vegetation and ecology of the area will be considered in more detail during the EIA phase for the proposed project through a specialist ecology study. In particular, sensitive areas associated with the Hantam-Roggeveld Centre of Endemism will be considered in relation to turbine locations in order to inform the layout of the wind energy facility.
11	Botanical surveys on site shall have to occur during the appropriate season (-s) in order to improve the review of local flora, especially with regard to geophytic and annual species and possible RDL species.	C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart, Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010	Comment noted.
12	It should be noted that the proposed development site falls within the CBA1 (Critical Biodiversity Area: Irreplaceable Site) and CBA2 (Critical Biodiversity Area: Important Areas) regions of the Namaqua District Biodiversity Sector Plan (bgis.sanbi.org/namkwa/project). The impact would therefore be very high and to	C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart, Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010	The vegetation and ecology of the area will be considered in more detail during the EIA phase for the proposed project through a specialist ecology study. In particular, sensitive areas associated with the Hantam-Roggeveld Centre of Endemism will be considered in relation to turbine locations in order to inform the layout of the wind energy facility.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	some extent irreplaceable on the biodiversity.		An Environmental Management Plan (EMP) will also be drafted as part of the EIA. The purpose of the EMP is to provide measures to mitigate, avoid or limit environmental impacts.
13	Possible impacts and effects of the development on vegetation ecology with regard to the lowland-highland interface in the locality is another impact that will have to be considered.	C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart, Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010	Comment noted. The vegetation and ecology of the area will be considered in more detail during the EIA phase for the proposed project through a specialist ecology study.
14	The escarpment plays a big role in the cyclonic weather we experience (which in part is the reason why the escarpment has high wind occurrence which makes it suitable for WEF's) which plays a primary role in the vegetation occurring in these areas. Similarly, it is an ecotone area which results in high species diversity to occur along our escarpment.	C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart, Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010	Comment noted.
15	How will the Sterboom (Tree Rice-bush) <i>Cliffortia arborea</i> on the farms Vinkekuil and Nootgedaght, that occur only in isolated areas be protected? Will the presence of construction equipment and large volumes of dust have any influence on the survival of the trees?	Andre Kowalewski, landowner Vinkekuil, comment by fax, 25 April 2010.	Based on the desktop level specialist ecological study, research has shown in previous surveys in and around the study area that the Sterboom (Tree Rice-bush) <i>Cliffortia arborea</i> has been recorded in this region of the Karoo. The presence of this and other protected tree species in the study area will be confirmed in a survey during the EIA phase of the study. Potential impacts on this species (as well as other sensitive species) will be assessed in the detailed EIA studies. A draft EMP will be compiled as part of the EIA Report. The EMP will provide measures on how to avoid or mitigate impacts on tree species of concern.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
Heritage Sites			
16	Please note that a few rock art paintings exist on the farm Vinkekuil that's not part of the development area, however its adjacent to the proposed development.	Andre Kowalewski, landowner Vinkekuil, comment by fax, 25 April 2010.	A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) will be undertaken during the EIA phase of the project. However this study will focus on the proposed development area (farm portions included as part of the wind energy facility) and turbine positions. The HIA will provide an indication of any heritage sites of significance which may be impacted by the proposed development and that would require mitigation or a permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA).
Decommissioning			
17	The future plans for the site and infrastructure after decommissioning (20-30 years) needs to be described more fully and the possibility of upgrading the existing (proposed) site to more advanced technologies infrastructure.	C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart, Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010	The Scoping Report (Chapter 2) outlines the decommissioning activities that could take place for the wind energy facility. The draft EMP that will be developed during the EIA will be relevant to decommissioning activities; however this document will need to be updated in the long term in order to be relevant to specific decommissioning activities as they are planned at that time (as the wind energy facility will be operational for up to 25 years).
Sensitive areas			
18	The site contains many wetlands and drainage channels and can be considered to potentially have high conservation importance from a freshwater perspective.	Alana Duffell-Canham, CapeNature Scientific Services, comment by e-mail, 19 April 2010	The presence and distribution of wetlands and drainage lines in relation to the proposed wind energy facility will be defined and considered in more details during the EIA phase.
19	Disturbance within ecologically important areas such as the Hantam-Roggeveld Centre of Floristic Endemism is not desirable and turbines, roads, power lines, substations and other related infrastructure should be kept out of this area as much as possible. In addition, no construction should take place within wetlands	Alana Duffell-Canham, CapeNature Scientific Services, comment by e-mail, 19 April 2010	The vegetation and ecology of the area will be considered in more detail during the EIA phase for the proposed project through a specialist ecology study. The EIA study will also define "no-go" areas, sensitive areas and acceptable levels of environmental disturbance to inform the planning of the proposed development.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	and drainage channels.		
Fauna and Avifauna (Birds and Bats)			
20	Impacts of wind turbines on avifauna are inadequately known in South Africa and therefore consideration needs to be given to adequate and frequent monitoring measures and the possibility that should the wind turbines prove to have high negative impacts on certain species, consideration will need to be given to decommissioning (and the associated impacts) of some or all of the wind masts.	Alana Duffell-Canham, CapeNature Scientific Services, comment by e-mail, 19 April 2010	A specialist avifauna study will be done during the EIA phase of the project. Appropriate mitigation measures or monitoring of avifauna will be recommended from the outcomes of this study.
21	With reference to Appendix F, Page 24. The bat species, De Winton's Long-eared bat, is unlikely to occur in the study area. Rather, the Near-threatened (Friedmann & Daly 2004) Leseueur' hairy bat (<i>Cistugo lesueuri</i>) is more likely to occur in the area according to the latest literature (Skinner & Chimimba 2005). The species distribution is poorly understood, but due to its reliance on rocky areas for roosting, it may very likely occur in the area. This species is therefore likely to be heavily impacted by the WEF, considering the size of the facility, which would be a permanent threat to the species during the operational phase. The status of this species in the study area must be determined during the EIA process.	C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart, Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010	Comment noted. The species listed as potentially occurring in the area is based on existing information for the area. The presence of Lesueur's hairy bat and other avifauna of conservation concern will be considered in more detail during the EIA phase. Any updated information sources that is known by the DE&NC is most welcomed and those provided will be included in the EIA study.
22	Refer to Appendix F, Page 33, Paragraph 3. Besides assessing the habitat requirements of animal species to determine their presence in the study area, field work should be undertaken to determine the presence of species which are likely to be impacted directly by the Suurplaat	C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart, Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April	Comment noted. The species listed as potentially occurring in the area is based on existing information for the area. The presence of Lesueur's hairy bat and other avifauna of conservation concern will be determined through field work during the EIA phase. Any updated information sources that is known by the DE&NC is most

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	WEF, such as bats and birds. The presence of important species, such as Lesueur's hairy bat, as an example, must be established without doubt as opposed to only accepting the presence of the species based on published distribution maps and habitat descriptions.	2010	welcomed and those provided will be included in the EIA study.
23	Refer to Appendix G: Avifaunal specialist study, Page 27, Under heading Conclusion and plan of study for the EIA. Last paragraph. It is mentioned that surveys will be conducted to determine flight routes of birds. No mention is made of when these surveys will be conducted. Since flight routes may vary between seasons e.g. specific periods of migration, it would be essential to repeat the surveys during a number of different seasons to obtain more reliable information regarding the bird routes. Will the EIA process be sufficiently long enough to allow for such comprehensive sampling?	C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart, Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010	The EIA process does not typically allow for seasonal monitoring such as is suggested. Field work will be supplemented by existing information from the study area, both from existing published sources and landowner information. Ongoing monitoring of the avifauna in the study area during the lifetime of the wind energy facility will be a recommendation of the EIA.
24	It has been found that the blades kill bats (slapping them in the air), getting hit they fall to the ground, dead.	C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart, Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010	Comment noted.
25	How will the wind turbines affect birds of prey in the area? A large population of Witkruis eagles exist in this area.	Andre Kowalewski, landowner Vinkekuil, comment by fax, 25 April 2010.	The avifauna study will consider bird interactions with wind turbines. International experiences and lessons learnt on wind energy facilities will be consulted in order to predict possible impacts on birds of prey.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
Housing and Construction Period			
26	<p>1. Where will the construction teams be located?</p> <p>2. Over what period will the construction period occur?</p> <p>3. Will construction occur in phases?</p>	<p>Andre Kowalewski, landowner Vinkekuil, comment by fax, 25 April 2010.</p>	<p>1. It is proposed that the construction teams be housed on site within a formal construction camp.</p> <p>2. Construction is expected to take approximately 24 months to complete.</p> <p>3. The project is planned in a phased approach.</p>
Social Development			
27	<p>It seems like the developer are not interested in providing any local electricity distribution for properties in the immediate area of the proposed wind energy facility. It's noted that the power will be sent to the grid 50km away.</p>	<p>Andre Kowalewski, landowner Vinkekuil, comment by fax, 25 April 2010.</p>	<p>The WEF will supply electricity into the 400kV national transmission network under the REFIT scheme. The facility will also be subject to what is technically feasible. Then responsibility for local electricity distribution lies with the local authority or Eskom.</p>
Sense of Place			
28	<p>Refer to Appendix F, Page 30, first paragraph. It is stated that the scale of comparison between the current coal generation power and wind energy generation in South Africa indicates that the current facility is relatively insignificant to the total power generation in South Africa (SA).</p> <p>While it is agreed that the expansion of wind energy facilities in the country will contribute positively to the establishment of renewable energy infrastructure, the significant impact that the Suurplaat WEF will have on the specific receiving environment, in addition to the significant visual impact on such a pristine environment, outweighs the benefits.</p>	<p>C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart, Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010</p>	<p>The Scoping level study has not drawn final conclusions on the impacts of the project, as its purpose is to identify any potential environmental issues which could arise from the proposed development. At this stage of the study no conclusions on the environmental costs and benefits of the project have been made. The EIA phase will assess the overall environmental impacts (positive and negative) of the project and make a conclusion as to whether these can be managed to acceptable levels. It should be noted that the wind energy facility will occupy less than 5% of the total study area, and the receiving environment could most likely retain existing ecological processes during the operation of the WEF.</p>
Economic and Tourism			
29	<p>Sutherland has an important tourism industry based on the South African Large Telescope</p>	<p>C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart,</p>	<p>Comments noted. The Northern Cape Department of Economic Affairs and Tourism has been added to the</p>

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	(SALT) as well as the 'sense of place' experience which it offers. The relatively pristine Great Escarpment plays a pivotal role in supporting this tourism industry, which in all likelihood will be severely negatively impacted by the Suurplaat WEF. It is therefore strongly recommended that this draft scoping report for the proposed Suurplaat WEF near Sutherland be submitted to the Northern Cape Department of Economic Affairs and Tourism for comments.	Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010	I&AP database for the project.
30	Renewable energy provision to the detriment of the environment, the astronomical attraction and eco tourism economic benefits, cannot be regarded sustainable, but at the cost /trade off. These financial implications to tourism and the astronomical activities of this area will have to be investigated thoroughly.	C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart, Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010	Discussion with the South African Astronomical Observatory is underway, and the SAAO are working with the developer and the Civil Aviation Authority on how the wind energy facility and the SAAO can co-exist with minimal impact to SAAO and SALT. The impact of wind energy facilities on tourism in South Africa is largely unknown as there are very few large-scale wind energy facilities in operation. Potential impacts on tourism will be assessed as part of the Social Impact Assessment which will be undertaken as part of the EIA phase of the process.
31	Need and Desirability of the facility. There is no mention in the background information document on the economic viability of the facility in the surrounding area. Also, it does not discuss who exactly will benefit from this facility.	Makhegu Mabunda, Sub-Directorate "Spatial Planning", Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Western Cape, comment by e-mail, 10 May 2010.	The WEF will be evaluated in terms of the viability of the specific facility under the REFIT regulations – this is measured in terms of its contribution to renewable energy in RSA on a national basis. There will however be substantial indirect "economic" benefit to the local economy resulting from the major investment in the area and the resulting WEF construction and operation process.
Types of Studies			
32	Because of the large land area over which the wind turbines will be dispersed, the access to	Professor R. A. Hasty, individual, comment by e-	Comments noted. These issues will be assessed within the detailed specialist studies to be undertaken in the

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	<p>the wind turbine sites both for operation and maintenance upon completion as well as the access and perhaps greater disturbance during construction must be considered within several of the specialist studies, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialist Ecological Study, • Avifauna study, • Noise Impact Assessment, • Heritage Impact Assessment, • Geological and Geotechnical Study, • Agricultural areas and potential, and • Land Capability Study. <p>For the same reasons, access to the wind turbine sites by communication and power transmission lines both during operation and construction must be considered in the specialist studies.</p>	<p>mail, 22 April 2010.</p>	<p>EIA phase of the process.</p>
Access to Water for Construction			
33	<p>From where will water for construction be sourced?</p>	<p>Andre Kowalewski, landowner Vinkekuil, comment by fax, 25 April 2010.</p>	<p>No major water requirements during the construction process – if there is not sufficient or suitable underground/local water sources, water will be transported to site.</p>
Visual Impact			
34	<p>Would like to point out the following and know how it will be addressed – visual impact?</p>	<p>Andre Kowalewski, landowner Vinkekuil, comment by fax, 25 April 2010.</p>	<p>A visual impact assessment will be undertaken during the EIA phase of the process in order to determine the extent and significance of potential visual impacts associated with the proposed wind energy facility. This study will include a simulation of the proposed facility in order to provide an indication of what the facility will look like from various vantage points in the study area.</p>
35	<p>We note that the Suurplaat development on the</p>	<p>Professor Phil Charles,</p>	<p>Comments noted.</p>

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	Hartebeestefontein site and surrounding areas is approximately 28km from our observing station on the SAAO plateau, including SALT which is recognised in your document as a significant activity in this area. At a height of >100m, and on the ridge that is south east of our telescope, your analysis correctly shows that the majority of your wind turbines will be visible from the plateau.	Director, South African Astronomical Observatory & National Research Foundation, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010.	
36	Since the Suurplaat WEF is perhaps not the only WEF planned for the Great Escarpment (see Appendix E3, second page, second paragraph), it may serve as a precedent for additional WEFs potentially resulting in a far greater cumulative impact on the unique visual and heritage resources of the Great Escarpment.	C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart, Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010	The EIA study looks at cumulative impacts of existing developments (for which there is none in this area), as it is difficult and not possible to predict the cumulative impacts of other planned wind energy facilities and whether each project will be implemented or not.
37	Please note that no Visual Impact Assessment is included (Appendix J) in the scoping report, which is instead replaced by a second copy of the Avifaunal Impact Assessment.	C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart, Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010	This has been corrected in the final scoping report.
38	1. Do you have simulated images of the proposed wind turbines on the landscape, especially Vinkekuil (no 144 and 143/2)? It's important to know what the layout and orientation would be. These units will be extremely visible from the existing road (P2254). The existing Telkom mast/dish is already and eyesore that's situated on the perimeter of the gravel road (P2254).	Andre Kowalewski, landowner Vinkekuil, comment by fax, 25 April 2010.	1. A visual impact assessment will be undertaken during the EIA phase of the process in order to determine the extent and significance of potential visual impacts associated with the proposed wind energy facility. This study will include a simulation of the proposed facility in order to provide an indication of what the facility will look like from various vantage points in the study area.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	<p>2. What will the footprint per turbine be?</p> <p>3. Will the turbines be placed in clusters governed by access or will it be placed in rows and parallel to each other?</p> <p>4. What is the impact of the height of turbines on the natural horizon?</p>		<p>2. Each turbine will have a foundation of approximately 15m x 15m x 4m. Each turbine will be approximately 100 m in height.</p> <p>3. The layout of the turbines will be determined by the wind regime of the site. This is currently being monitored on site.</p> <p>4. This will be assessed during the EIA phase of the process.</p>
39	<p>Visual impact of masts (vegetation in the study area is low). Wind turbines can be very exposed and visually intrusive. The visual impacts of 400 masts must be thoroughly investigated considering the fact that the area falls within an area where the general vegetation is low lying.</p>	<p>Makhegu Mabunda, Sub-Directorate "Spatial Planning", Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Western Cape, comment by e-mail, 10 May 2010.</p>	<p>A visual impact assessment will be undertaken during the EIA phase of the process in order to determine the extent and significance of potential visual impacts associated with the proposed wind energy facility. This study will include a simulation of the proposed facility in order to provide an indication of what the facility will look like from various vantage points in the study area.</p>
Night Lighting and Atmospheric Seeing Conditions			
40	<p>Our main concern is that of any lighting to be associated with the turbines and definition of the perimeter area. Accordingly, we wish to point out that all developments in the Sutherland area must conform to the Astronomy Geographic Advantage Act Regulations, the key point of which is that all external night lighting must be FCO (fully cut-off), with no light emitted in the upward direction. This is because our observing station is home to SALT, the Southern African Large Telescope, the largest single telescope in the Southern Hemisphere, and which is now protected by the AGA Act.</p>	<p>Professor Phil Charles, Director, South African Astronomical Observatory & National Research Foundation, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010.</p>	<p>Discussion with SAAO, CAA, Department of Science and Technology (DST) (management authority of the AGA Bill) and Moyeng Energy to reach consensus and a way forward on the matter and how it will be dealt with.</p> <p>Based on discussion with DST Moyeng were informed that there are acceptable levels of night sky lighting for SAAO. What will need to be investigated is what number of turbines is below the acceptable levels of night sky lighting. SAAO, CAA and/ Moyeng Energy will have to do this calculation to determine thresholds of acceptable lighting for SAAO. Another option is to put a radar light / sensor to pick up oncoming flights for the CAA, in which case any significant lighting impact on SAAO will be avoided. Another option is to make the Suurplaat wind energy facility area a "no fly" zone or "restricted"</p>

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
			<p>fly zone from the CAA side. Furthermore, if a "no fly" zone or "restricted" fly zone or radar light/ sensor is used, there will also be a need for a secondary system.</p> <p>This matter is being looked at in more detail by the relevant parties (SAAO, Moyeng Energy, CAA and the DST).</p>
41	<p>For your information, the key points from the Regulations are in section 7 (Central Optical Astronomy Advantage Area):</p> <p>(4) Outdoor light fixtures, or arrays of light fixtures, emitting more than 800 lumens should not emit more than 0.8% of the total flux in the upper hemisphere.</p> <p>(5) Lighting should be low pressure sodium.</p> <p>It is very important that we protect the Sutherland night sky for astronomical use, and so we recommend that you approach the CAA and seek ways that will ideally eliminate, or at least minimize their contribution to the night sky background. Possibilities that we have already discussed with Moyeng personnel include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) ask for permission to use only low intensity type A lighting (10cd red warning light); (b) request that the area of the wind farm be declared a "no-fly zone" for aircraft operating below a specified altitude (say, 5000ft); 	<p>Professor Phil Charles, Director, South African Astronomical Observatory & National Research Foundation, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010.</p>	<p>Comment noted. Refer to response contained under point number 40.</p>

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	(c) limiting the beam of the lighting to be much narrower (plus minus 5 degrees); (d) slaving the warning lights to be the Sutherland radar station so that are only activated in the event of an aircraft entering this airspace below a specified altitude (say, 5000ft).		
42	Finally, one of my technical staff has pointed out that, in the direction of your turbines, their turbulence may have an impact on the stability of the atmosphere above them, and hence possibly interfere with the atmospheric "seeing" conditions. While such turbulence is almost certainly going to be present around the turbines, we will investigate whether this is likely to have any discernible effect on our image quality in that direction.	Professor Phil Charles, Director, South African Astronomical Observatory & National Research Foundation, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010.	Comment noted.
Sutherland Airstrip			
43	You will also be aware that the Sutherland airstrip is only a few km west of your farm, and approach paths may be impacted by your development.	Professor Phil Charles, Director, South African Astronomical Observatory & National Research Foundation, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010.	Moyeng are aware of this and a wind farm application has been lodged with the CAA.
Sutherland World Heritage Site			
44	The IAU (International Astronomical Union) had senior members recently visit Sutherland, thereby making them aware of just how dark the night sky can be there. The IAU is currently engaging with UNESCO on the identification of World Heritage Sites for Astronomy. Since these are associated with the world's largest	Professor Phil Charles, Director, South African Astronomical Observatory & National Research Foundation, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010.	Comment noted.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	telescopes, and of course SALT is the only one in Africa, the IAU is intending to nominate SALT as one of these sites.		
Ecological Impact			
45	Would like to point out the following and know how it will be addressed – ecological impact?	Andre Kowalewski, landowner Vinkekuil, comment by fax, 25 April 2010.	Potential impacts on the vegetation and ecology of the area will be assessed in more detail during the EIA phase for the proposed project through a specialist ecology study.
46	Detailed, on-site studies will be required to properly identify sensitive and ecologically important areas. We therefore are pleased to note that more detailed, botanical, freshwater, fauna and avifauna studies are being proposed for the EIA phase of this application.	Alana Duffell-Canham, CapeNature Scientific Services, comment by e-mail, 19 April 2010	Comment noted.
47	Biophysical impacts. The ecosystem types prevalent in the area where the wind energy facility is proposed must be clearly investigated. Development in highly sensitive areas must be avoided, and is not recommended. It is also advised that in order to avoid significant botanical impacts, the wind energy facility must be established in areas where the least habitat fragmentation is likely to take place. The correct land use guidelines for these types of ecosystems must be applied.	Makhegu Mabunda, Sub-Directorate "Spatial Planning", Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Western Cape, comment by e-mail, 10 May 2010.	Potential impacts on the vegetation and ecology of the area will be assessed in more detail during the EIA phase for the proposed project through a specialist ecology study. The EIA study will also define "no-go" areas, sensitive areas and acceptable levels of environmental disturbance to inform the planning of the proposed development.
Noise Pollution			
48	Would like to point out the following and know how it will be addressed – noise impact?	Andre Kowalewski, landowner Vinkekuil, comment by fax, 25 April 2010.	A noise impact assessment and noise modelling will be undertaken during the EIA phase to investigate potential noise impacts and levels.
49	What will the impact of increased noise levels from the turbine blades and vibrations be on	Andre Kowalewski, landowner Vinkekuil,	A noise impact assessment and noise modelling will be undertaken during the EIA phase to investigate noise

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	homesteads in the immediate area? How far will the noise levels be audible?	comment by fax, 25 April 2010.	impacts and levels.
50	Acoustic impacts from the turbines. Wind turbines produce noise even though recent designs have resulted in noise level reduction. It remains advisable though to thoroughly study the noise impacts of 400 wind turbines, not only on humans but also on the wildlife in the area.	Makhegu Mabunda, Sub-Directorate "Spatial Planning", Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Western Cape, comment by e-mail, 10 May 2010.	A noise impact assessment and noise modelling will be undertaken during the EIA phase to investigate noise impacts and levels.
Safety & Security			
51	Would like to point out the following and know how it will be addressed – safety and security?	Andre Kowalewski, landowner Vinkekuil, comment by fax, 25 April 2010.	Safety and security to be addressed in two phase – construction and operation. Both phases will have different requirements and will be provided for. It is still too early for specific processes to be implemented; the local community are welcome to provide suggestions.
52	<p>At construction and operation we can expect an increase in people, criminals and poachers, much more than the current situation.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How will large scale migration and job seeking be limited? 2. With cattle poaching that will increase the immediate area will be affected. 3. What is meant with the limited maintenance over the first 10 years? Will there be a permanent work force on site to look after the 400 turbines or will it be done on a monthly basis? 	Andre Kowalewski, landowner Vinkekuil, comment by fax, 25 April 2010.	<p>These are all issues to be addressed – what is important is to note is that Moyeng Energy will establish a long term relation with the community and will therefore take note of the communities requirements.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Specialised employment requirements will be arranged with development contractors. There will also be semi - and unskilled labour requirements and initial discussion have already been held with local representatives to discuss this issue. No specific arrangements have been discussed or agreed. This will be an ongoing process and local community suggestions and involvement are welcomed. 2. Part of security arrangements – see point 51. 3. Maintenance requirements for wind energy facilities are reasonably limited, meaning it will not require major full time personnel or processes

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
Access, Road and Transmission Infrastructure			
53	Would like to point out the following and know how it will be addressed – the impact on the existing and already poor road infrastructure?	Andre Kowalewski, landowner Vinkekuil, comment by fax, 25 April 2010.	Transportation study will be conducted that will point out what is required to accommodate the transportation of equipment during construction – we can assume that some upgrade of existing road infrastructure will be required which Moyeng Energy will be responsible for.
54	Transmission power line routes should be indicated together with other associated infrastructure.	C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart, Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010	Transmission power line routes and associated infrastructure will be considered in the EIA phase once a preliminary layout of the facility is available.
55	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will the existing gravel road (P2254) be upgraded before the proposed facility is built and additional heavy traffic is allowed on the road? (The Northern Cape Government/District Municipality let the road deteriorate and the road is poorly maintained) 2. Is it proposed that the facility would be accessed from the Sutherland direction? 3. Where will you source road building materials? Will it be mined along the current route? Or will it be accessed somewhere else? 4. Are the road designs to the various turbines already done? Or are they being planned? Are you planning to build roads across farms that are not part of the project 	Andre Kowalewski, landowner Vinkekuil, comment by fax, 25 April 2010.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 0. Transportation study to indicate what is required – I assume the P2254 is the gravel road to the site and can only imagine that it will be upgraded. 2. Transportation study to specify – existing road infrastructure to be used where possible. 3. Transportation study will indicate what is required – initial indications are that no major road upgrade construction is required. 4. This will also be determined as part of the Transportation study and can only be finalised once the turbine lay-out has been determined and agreed.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	currently?		
56	Depth of foundations for turbines. The depth and foundations of the turbines must not interfere with the water table below the ground, to avoid any form of contamination of the underground water sources.	Makhegu Mabunda, Sub-Directorate "Spatial Planning", Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Western Cape, comment by e-mail, 10 May 2010.	The turbine foundation will be 15m x 15m x 4m, it is unlikely that the water table will be affected, due to the rocky nature of the area.
57	Access to the site. The use of existing roads to access individual mast sites is recommended.	Makhegu Mabunda, Sub-Directorate "Spatial Planning", Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Western Cape, comment by e-mail, 10 May 2010	Comment noted. However, it is unlikely that existing access roads will be available to access all mast positions. Therefore, internal access roads are likely to be required.
Environmental Management Plan			
58	Topsoil handling and preservation during excavation should be explained, as it will be central to rehabilitation purposes since <i>inter alia</i> geophytic plant species constitute an important part of the local flora of the Hantam Roggeveld Center of Endemism.	C. Geldenhuys, A.L. Mabunda, E.S. Swart, Department of Environment and Nature Conservation – Northern Cape Government, comment by e-mail, 30 April 2010	The EMP will address topsoil management and rehabilitation.
59	Erosion. In areas where the soil is hard-packed, a bit of disturbance may be required to install the turbines. The removal of natural vegetation must be limited to a bare minimum and must not be undertaken without proper planning and delineation. Trampling of natural vegetation must be limited and masts and materials should ideally be carried to the site where direct access via existing access roads is not	Makhegu Mabunda, Sub-Directorate "Spatial Planning", Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Western Cape, comment by e-mail, 10 May 2010	The EMP will address management of the issues mentioned.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	available. Any cement or concrete mixing must be done on an impervious surface to prevent soil contamination and to protect the vegetation in the area.		
60	A construction and operational phase Environmental Management Plan ("EMP") which must include thorough mitigation measures and monitoring of the impacts must also be provided.	Makhegu Mabunda, Sub-Directorate "Spatial Planning", Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Western Cape, comment by e-mail, 10 May 2010	An EMP will be developed during the EIA phase. This EMP will address construction and operation.
Heritage			
61	A heritage impact assessment must be done containing inputs in terms of palaeontology, archaeology and sense of place. The findings of these assessments should be made available to the public and an opportunity afforded to registered Interested and Affected Parties to provide further comments on these documents	Makhegu Mabunda, Sub-Directorate "Spatial Planning", Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Western Cape, comment by e-mail, 10 May 2010	An HIA will be undertaken during the EIA phase in accordance with the national Heritage Resources Act.
Alternatives			
62	Exploration of technology alternatives: Technology alternatives, and; Site Alternatives.	Makhegu Mabunda, Sub-Directorate "Spatial Planning", Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Western Cape, comment by e-mail, 10 May 2010	Since the siting of a wind energy facility is dependent on the availability of the wind resource, it is accepted that site alternatives for developments of this nature would be limited. No site alternatives are therefore being investigated within the EIA process. A regional assessment study was however undertaken as part of the pre-feasibility study for the facility in order to determine the suitability of the site from an environmental perspective. The outcomes of this study are discussed in Chapter 2 of the Scoping Report. The EIA will consider layout and design alternatives within the proposed development site in order to avoid

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
			identified sensitive areas. This approach to the consideration of alternatives is accepted by DEA, the competent authority for the proposed project.
Other Authorities			
63	<p>Input must also be sought from these authorities listed below (motivation for this is also given):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Cape Department of Agriculture (“WCDA”) - The proposed wind energy facility will be established on previously cultivated areas. The comments from this Department would be useful regarding the “end use” (i.e. the land use during the operational phase and thereafter) of the current agricultural areas. In addition, comments from the department will be useful regarding the soil capability when considering the option of re-establishing small-scale farming practices; • Department of Water Affairs (“DWA”) - The proposed wind energy facility and its associated infrastructure may pose indirect impacts on areas identified as sensitive to development, which may include nearby water courses, natural wetlands, drainage lines, etc.; • Heritage Western Cape (“HWC”); 	Makhegu Mabunda, Sub-Directorate “Spatial Planning”, Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Western Cape, comment by e-mail, 10 May 2010	Comment noted. All of these authorities have been informed and are involved in this EIA process.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cape Nature - Sensitive indigenous vegetation may be impacted on by the proposed wind energy facility and its associated infrastructure, and; • Eskom - The proposed wind energy facility will require electricity to power the stations and therefore, confirmation of the availability of electricity for this, needs to be provided. 		
Meeting With Civil Aviation Authority And South African Astronomical Observatory			
Meeting With The Department Of Science And Technology			
64	The DST's role is for containment in relation to the AGA Bill.	Dr. Tshepo Seekoe – Department of Science and Technology (DST), Lipuo Mothae – DST, Tommie Potgieter – Moyeng Energy, Ravisha Ajodhapersadh – Savannah Environmental. Meeting with the Department of Science and Technology, CSIR Offices, Pretoria, 06 May 2010.	Comment noted.
65	Moyeng Energy must communicate with the DST and CSIR regarding the proposed development.	Dr. Tshepo Seekoe – Department of Science and Technology (DST) Meeting with the Department of Science and Technology, CSIR Offices, Pretoria, 06 May 2010.	Comment noted.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
Pre Sutherland Site Visit Meeting			
66	Will all the turbines be located in the 286km ² or 5% of this area?	Ramotholo Sefako – SAAO. Focus group meeting with SAAO, Sutherland, 29 April 2010.	The micrositing of the turbine layout will be finalized at a later stage and the actual turbines positions will only compromise a small portion of the secured sites - the 286km ² refers to the "visual impacted" area. Suitable areas will be identified through the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process. Consideration would be given to wind resources, ecological footprint and key findings of the EIA.
67	The 286 km ² area, will it be a concentrated squared area on the landscape?	Ramotholo Sefako – SAAO. Focus group meeting with SAAO, Sutherland, 29 April 2010.	The shape and footprint of the area would be come clear once the all studies are completed. The visual impact assessment study would also provide input into the siting of the area.
68	SAAO will be providing input on the needs of SALT and SAAO. This would include operating conditions, darkness, lighting and other key concerns for their operations. SAAO want the development of the wind energy facility to not have any major impacts on SALT and to ensure optimal operational conditions for the Sutherland observatory are maintained. We see the proposed WEF project as only the start of the wind energy industry in this area and it will grow in the coming decades. So we need to get it right at this point. We need to get the right approach for lighting, visual and the Civil Aviation Authority. Our comments will be on the	Prof. Charles - SAAO. Focus group meeting with SAAO, Sutherland, 29 April 2010.	Refer to response contained under point number 40. A meeting has been held with the CAA on 22 April 2010 and the DST in May 2010. The SAAO is a key stakeholder and will be included in the I&AP database and informed as part of the public participation process.

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
	AGA requirements – the "Central Area" is a specifically defined area and is of importance to SAAO. We would appreciate it if our comments could be followed up during the EIA phase. Lightings specifications will be crucial.		
69	The International Astronomical Union with SAAO are also looking at the Sutherland area as a UNESCO World Heritage Site for Astronomy. Sutherland is one of the darkest places on Earth. This declared site goes with the largest telescopes in the world. SALT has been earmarked as one of the UNESCO sites. The process is currently driven by the International Astronomical Union.		Comment noted.
Sutherland Scoping Phase Public Meeting			
70	Will other developers be able to use the Suurplaat grid connection?	Chris Coetzee: Public meeting with SAAO, Sutherland, 29 April 2010.	It is not possible for other developers to use the grid connection as it would be designed for the Suurplaat wind energy facility.
71	In the presentation you do not make mention for the AGA Act.	Chris Coetzee: Public meeting with SAAO, Sutherland, 29 April 2010.	The EIA looks at relevant environmental legislation. The AGA (similar to SAAF) was not a specific "tick -box" in the EIA, but it will be considered under the CAA component, which is a specific component of the EIA process as lighting requirements are environmental issues.
72	If the EIA don't look at the other two acts. Who will be looking at the other acts?	Chris Coetzee: Public meeting with SAAO,	It is for this reason that Moyeng, SAAO and the CAA need to start entering into formal discussions

No.	Issue	Raised by	Response
		Sutherland, 29 April 2010.	to ensure all acts are given the same compliance.
73	Is Komsberg Nature Reserve part of the area?	Chris Coetzee: Public meeting with SAAO, Sutherland, 29 April 2010.	It is not part and falls outside the project area.
74	Raindeer occur in the area; it was introduced into the area below the escarpment and it is something you should be aware of	Chris Coetzee: Public meeting with SAAO, Sutherland, 29 April 2010.	Comment noted.