



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 · PRETORIA · 0001 · Fedsure Building · 315 Pretorius Street · PRETORIA
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Reference: 12/12/20/1582

Enquiries: Tambudzani Mulaudzi

Tel: 012 310 3144 Fax: 012 320 7539 E-mail: tmulaudzi@environment.gov.za

Ms Ravisha Ajodhapersadh
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

Fax: 086 684 0547

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Ms Ajodhapersadh

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT: PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RHEBOKSFONTEIN WIND ENERGY FACILITY NEAR DARLING, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Department confirms having received the draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report dated September 2010 for the above-mentioned project on 28 September 2010.

You are hereby reminded that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely

Ms Lize McCourt
Chief Director: Environmental Impact Management
Department of Environmental Affairs
Letter signed by: Ms Hilda Bezuidenhout
Designation: Assistant Director: Environmental Impact Evaluation
Date: 12/10/2010



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NEAS Reference: DEAT/EIA/5956/2009

DEA Reference: 12/12/20/1582

Enquiries: Sandile Vilakazi

Telephone: 012 310-3891 **Fax:** 012 320-7539 **E-mail:** svilakazi@environment.gov.za

Ms. Jo-Anne Thomas
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
P O Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

Fax no: 086 684 0547

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Ms. Thomas

REJECTION OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE RHEBOKSFONTEIN WIND FARM AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR DARLING, IN THE SWARTLAND LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

1. The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) dated November 2010 received by the Department on 22 November 2010 has reference.
2. The EIAR has been rejected by the Department in terms of regulation 35(1)(d) of GN No. R385 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2006 because, inter alia:

2.1 Locality/Layout Map

The specialist studies recommended that some of the turbines be moved from their current positions due to the sensitivity of the area. The Department found that the EIAR did not contain the revised layout map indicating the new proposed positions of the wind turbines recommended by the specialist studies. To enable the department to make a speedy decision on the application, it is recommended that the revised layout plan also indicate the following:

- Turbine positions;
- Foundation footprint;
- Permanent laydown area footprint;
- Construction period laydown footprint;
- Internal roads indicating width (construction period width and operation period width) and with numbered sections between the other site elements which they serve (to make commenting on sections possible);
- Wetlands, drainage lines, rivers, stream and water crossing of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used;
- Heritage sites that will be affected by the turbines and associated infrastructure;
- Substation(s) and/or transformer(s) sites including their entire footprint;

- Cable routes and trench dimensions (where they are not along internal roads);
- Connection routes to the distribution/transmission network;
- Cut and fill areas at turbine sites along roads and at substation/transformer sites indicating the expected volume of each cut and fill;
- Borrow pits;
- Spoil heaps (temporary for topsoil and subsoil and permanently for excess material);
- Buildings including accommodation; and
- All "no-go" areas

Revisions to the layout must be in consultation with the relevant stakeholders; and the Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment of Sites Suitable for Wind Energy Facilities in the Western Cape Province must be taken into account.

An A3 locality map is not included in the final EIR as requested in the acceptance letter for scoping report and plan of study for Environmental Impact Assessment issued by the Department on 06 August 2010. You also requested to submit an A3 locality map with the specifications indicated in the letter of acceptance must be forwarded to the Department.

2.2 Alternatives

The report dated November 2010 is silent on alternatives. Please be advised that in terms of the EIA regulations the investigation of alternatives is mandatory. All alternatives identified must therefore be assessed and must be feasible and reasonable, including disadvantages and advantages that the proposed activity or alternative will have on the environment and on the community that may be affected by the activity. The report is also silent with regard to the route alignment alternatives for the overhead 132kV power line linking the substation at the wind energy facility to Eskom's Dassenburg Substation in Atlantis. The Department is therefore not in a position to make an informed decision with regard to the overhead power lines to be connected to the wind farm based on the information provided in the EIR dated November 2010.

2.3 Visual Impact Study

The results of the Visual Impact study indicate that the proposed development will have a high negative visual impact on a large area around the site that is viewed as having special landscape and tourism value. You are therefore requested to address and resolve the issues concerning the potential visual effects of the project in consultation with the relevant stakeholders.

2.4 Noise Impact Study

The Noise Impact Study recommended that some of the turbines should be relocated as they will have a significantly high negative impact on at least 32 noise receptors in the surrounding environment. The study further recommended that turbines should be relocated 1000m away from the sensitive receptor and that a supplementary Noise study must be conducted for the revised layout. You are therefore requested to conduct a supplementary Noise Impact

assessment for all the relocated turbines and the findings must inform the final layout plan that must be submitted with the amended EIRF for decision making.

2.5 Botanical Specialist Study

The Department noted that the Botanical Specialist Study attached in **Appendix G** of the EIR dated November 2010 is incorrect as it is for the proposed West Coast One project (**DEA Ref: 12/12/20/1581**). The Department is therefore subsequently not in a position to make an informed decision based on the information provided in the EIR as it does not know the ecological sensitivity of the proposed site. You are therefore requested to submit the Botanical Specialist study which is relevant for this project with the amended EIR.

2.6 Heritage Western Cape

The Department has noted that you have also included incorrect comments from Heritage Western Cape (HWC) in the EIR dated November 2010. In a letter dated 03 November 2010, forwarded to you and the Department by Heritage Western Cape; HWC requested for a 3D visual presentation of the proposed development in order for them to make an informed decision regarding the proposed development. Proof that the 3D visual presentation was conducted for Heritage Western Cape is not included in the report. You are requested to forward proof that the presentation was conducted for HWC to this Department.

2.7 Department of Water Affairs

The Department of Water Affairs (DWA) was identified as a possible interested and affected party for the proposed development on page 47 of the Scoping Report dated July 2010. The location of the proposed development traverses a number of wetland areas and drainage lines. The abstraction of groundwater is also listed as part of the proposed development. There is no proof of communication with DWA in the final EIAR. You are therefore requested to provide a proof that the DWA was given an opportunity to comment in the EIR and such comments must be forwarded to the Department.

3. In terms of regulation 35(2)(a), you are entitled to resubmit after making the necessary amendments. Should you wish to resubmit the report, please note that in order to give effect to the requirements of administrative justice, you must make the amended report which is to be submitted to the Department available to registered interested and affected parties and all stakeholders for comment. A copy of any comments that are received from an interested and affected party on the amended report must be submitted to the Department together with the amended report.
4. You are hereby reminded that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.
5. The Department reserves the rights to revise or withdraw its comments or request further information from you based on any information received.

6. You are hereby reminded that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours faithfully



Ms Sibusisiwe Hlela

ACTING CHIEF DIRECTOR: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT

Department of Environmental Affairs

Letter signed by: Mr Dumisani Mthembu

Designation: Director: Environmental Impact Evaluation

Date: 29/03/2011

CC: Mr. Tommie Potgieter

Moyeng Energy (Pty) Ltd

Fax no: (011) 286 7258



environmental affairs

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Reference: 12/12/20/1581; 1582 and 1583

Enquiries: Mr. Takalani Maswime

Telephone: (012) 310 3780 **Fax:** (012) 320 7539 **E-mail:** TMaswime@deat.gov.za

Ms Jo-Anne Thomas
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

Fax: (086) 684 0547

Dear Ms Thomas

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE APPLICATION FORMS
FOR THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED
INFRASTRUCTURE ON THE WEST COAST (REF: 12/12/20/1581); A SITE NEAR DARLING
(REF: 12/12/20/1582); AND A SITE NEAR SUURPLAAT (REF: 12/12/20/1583); WESTERN AND
NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES**

The Department confirms having received the amended application form for environmental authorisation of the abovementioned project on 31 March 2010.

You are hereby reminded that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours faithfully

Ms Lize McCourt

**Chief Director: Environmental Impact Management
Department of Environmental Affairs**

Letter signed by: Mr Takalani Maswime

Designation: PEO: Environmental Impact Evaluation: Parastatals Projects

Date: 07/05/2010

CC: Mr Tommie Potgieter

Moyeng Energy (Pty) Ltd

Fax: (011) 286 7258



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Ms Ravisha Ajodhapersadh
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
P.O Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

Fax no: 086 684 0547

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Ms Ajodhapersadh

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION: ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCOPING REPORT AND THE PLAN OF STUDY FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED RHEBOKSFONTEIN WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES NEAR DARLING, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Final Scoping Report (FSR) and Plan of Study for the Environmental Impact Assessment (POSEIA) dated July 2010 and received by the Department on 07 July 2010 refer.

The Department has evaluated the submitted FSR dated July 2010 and is satisfied that the FSR complies with the minimum requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2006. The FSR is hereby accepted by the Department in terms of GN R.385 (31) (1) (a) of the EIA Regulations, 2006, subject to the following conditions:

- a) The total footprint of the proposed development should be indicated. Exact locations of the turbines, power lines, substations and associated infrastructure should be mapped at an appropriate scale. Sensitive areas such as rivers and wetland areas should be shown clearly.
- b) Details of the future plans for the site and infrastructure after decommissioning in 20-30 years and the possibility of upgrading the proposed infrastructure to more advanced technologies.
- c) Ecological surveys should be undertaken during the appropriate season and the relevant Biodiversity Sector Plan should be considered.
- d) Possible impacts and effects of the development on the vegetation ecology with regard to lowland-highland interface in the locality should be indicated.
- e) Possible impacts and effects of the development on the livestock farming in the area.
- f) Possible impacts and effects of the development on the eco-tourism in the area.

- g) The EIR should include information on the economic viability of the facility to the surrounding area and how the local community will benefit.
- h) Possible light pollution and risks of fire.
- i) Information on services required on the site, e.g. sewage, refuse removal, water and electricity. Confirm these services in terms of capacity, supplier and other legislative requirements.
- j) A spatial analysis should be undertaken in order to create a visual impact index that will aid in determining potential areas of visual impact and site specific issues.

Adherence to the requirements of the **Western Cape Department's Regional Methodology for Wind Energy Site Selection Guideline and Strategic Environmental Assessment of Wind Farms in the Western Cape** is recommended.

You may proceed with the environmental impact assessment process in accordance with the tasks contemplated in the plan of study for environmental impact assessment as required in terms of the EIA Regulations, 2006.

Please ensure that comments from all relevant authorities are submitted to the Department with the Final Environmental Impact Report. This includes but is not limited to the Western Cape Provincial Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, the Swartland Municipality and the Civil Aviation Authority South Africa (CAA). Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final EIR.

The applicant is hereby reminded to comply with the requirements of GN R.385 (77) with regard to the time period allowed for complying with the requirements of the Regulations, and GN R. 385 (58) and (59) with regard to the allowance of a comment period for interested and affected parties on all reports submitted to the competent authority for decision-making. The reports referred to are listed in GN R. 385 (58) (3a-3g).

Please ensure that the Final EIR includes at least one A3 regional map of the area and the locality maps included in the Final EIR illustrate the different proposed alignments and above ground storage of fuel. The maps must be of acceptable quality and as a minimum, have the following attributes:

- Maps are relatable to one another;
- Cardinal points;
- Co-ordinates;
- Legible legends;
- Indicate alternatives;
- Latest land cover;
- Vegetation types of the study area; and
- A3 size locality map.

Further, it must be reiterated that, should an application for Environmental Authorisation be subject to the provisions of Chapter II, Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999, then this Department will not be able to make nor issue a decision in terms of your application for Environmental Authorisation pending a letter from the pertinent heritage authority categorically stating that the application fulfils the requirements of the relevant heritage resources authority as described in Chapter II, Section 38 (8) of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999.

Please submit at least one electronic copy (CD/DVD) of the complete final report with the hard copy documents.

You are hereby reminded that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours faithfully



Ms Lize McCourt

CHIEF DIRECTOR: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT

Department of Environmental Affairs

Letter signed by: Mr Dumisani Mthembu

Designation: Director: Environmental Impact Evaluation

Date: 6/08/2010

CC: T. Potgieter Moyeng Energy (Pty) Ltd
A Barnes DEADP

Fax: 011 286 7258
Fax: 021 483 4372

Verwysing
Reference
Isalathiso

E12/2/3/5-F4/22-WJ105/10

Navrae
Enquiries
Imibuzo

CONSTANCE MUSEMBURI



Datum
Date
Umhla

07 JUN 2010
Of Issue

Departement van Omgewingsake en Ontwikkelingsbeplanning
Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
IsSebe leMicimbi yeNdalo esiNgyongileyo noCwangciso loPhuhliso

The Director
Department of Environmental Affairs
Private Bag X447
PRETORIA
0001

Attention: Mr. T. Maswime

Tel: (012) 310 3824

Fax: (012) 320 7539

Dear Sir

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SCOPING REPORT ("DSR") FOR THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR VREDENBURG, WESTERN CAPE.

The abovementioned request for comments dated and received by the Department on 12 May 2010 and the site visit conducted on 21 May 2010 refer. (The Department of Environmental Affairs ("DEA") reference number is: 12/12/20/1581).

This Department's executive summary of comments contained in this letter:

This Department re-confirms its support of renewable energy and regards wind energy facilities as of strategic importance. This is reflected in the Department adopting a strategic approach in identifying sites at regional level for the development of wind energy facilities. The Department believes that the strategic approach taken by this Department will significantly contribute to the sustainable implementation of wind energy facilities in the long term.

Based on the information provided in the draft Scoping Report, the principles contained in this Department's strategic approach to wind energy site selection and subsequent to the site visit, this Department is of the opinion that Portion 0 (Remaining extent) and Portion 4 of Farm 40, Boebezaks Kraal is not a suitable site for a wind energy facility. However, Portions 4 and 5 of Farm 95, Zoutkasfontein, Portions 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 9 of Farm 46, Frans Vlei and Portion 1 (Remaining extent) of Farm 40 Boebezaks Kraal may be acceptable following further investigation for the development of a wind energy facility at a site-specific level through an Environmental Impact Assessment process. The following comments refer:

1. Regional Context

The Scoping Report states that this Department's Regional Methodology for Wind Energy Site Selection Guideline was considered. However, the proposed site is not consistent with the guideline regarding the 4km buffer from the coastline. When applying this guideline to the specific site, the following must be considered:

- o the proximity of the site to the coastline is less than 4 km;

*Department Of Environmental Affairs & Development Planning
Directorate: Environmental Management (Region B)*

- o the proximity of residential development to the site (approximately 3 km east of Paternoster which is in close proximity to the coastline);
- o the 35km buffer associated with the Langebaanweg airfield;
- o that the hill forms a very prominent landscape feature that is visible from long stretches of the coast line (Kasteelberg, an important archaeological site in the Vredenburg Peninsula is located on the boundary of Farm 40, Boebezaks Kraal); and
- o that the proposed site is on either side of the gravel road from Vredenburg to Stompneusbaai.

In summary the receiving environment in this instance is sensitive from both a local as well as regional point of view.

2. Visual impact of the proposed masts

It is envisaged that the proposed masts would be visually exposed to the outlying areas of Vredenburg, Laingsville, Paternoster and Port Owen. The proposed masts will also be visible from a number of homesteads and farm settlements in the area as well as from large sections of the West Coast Biosphere Reserve's buffer zone. Based on the visual assessment report dated April 2010 and compiled by MetroGIS (Pty) Ltd, the visual impact associated with the proposed development will result in a high visual impact. Since the proposed masts are proposed on an elevated site, this Department considers the facility as visually obtrusive to the abovementioned areas.

3. Impact of the masts on the landscape character of the area

When considering a site for a wind energy facility one of the criteria to take into account is how vulnerable the landscape character is to change. The Vredenburg peninsula is generally seen as having a high scenic value with a high tourism potential, brought about by its location on the Atlantic seaboard. The sea and hills create the landscape character of the area in Vredenburg. The proposed construction of these masts on the proposed Portion 0 (Remaining extent) and Portion 4 of Farm 40, Boebezaks Kraal may result in a change to the current landscape character and a wind energy facility may not be appropriate for the site. The construction of the proposed masts on site may alter the sense of place.

4. Alternatives

It must be noted that the selection of feasible and reasonable alternatives must be linked to the impacts identified in the process as well as the issues identified. It is advised that alternative sites be investigated for the proposed masts as there is no mention in the draft Scoping Report that consideration is given to other sites for the masts. Sites in more open landscapes with the ability to absorb wind energy structures would be more appropriate and must be considered.

5. Biophysical impacts

The Botanical Assessment Report dated 24 March 2010 compiled by Nick Helme Botanical Surveys has identified the proposed site to be a both terrestrial and aquatic Critical Biodiversity Area. The site lies within the Fynbos biome and the Cape Floristic Region. The vegetation type on site includes Cape Inland Salt Pan, Saldanha Flats Strandveld and Saldanha Granite Strandveld which are considered to be endangered vegetation types. However, the vegetation has been heavily impacted on by agriculture and this Department is of the opinion that any development on the remaining vegetation in high sensitive areas must be avoided and is not recommended.

*Department Of Environmental Affairs & Development Planning
Directorate: Environmental Management (Region B)*

6. Cumulative Impacts


Cumulative impacts are a fundamental component of the recommended Regional Methodology for Wind Energy Site Selection Guideline. It is noted that related applications in the Vredenburg Peninsula (from different applicants) have been submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs. It is concerning that a very high negative visual impact may result by allowing wind farms to be too close together. Given the large scale and value of the Vredenburg Peninsula landscapes to tourism and heritage, it is recommended that wind energy sites based on an overlay of the preferred wind energy areas are considered to ensure that a minimum distance of 30km and a preferred distance of 50 km separate any future wind farm.

7. Conclusion

When considering the issues of concern raised above, the cumulative implications of allowing wind energy facilities to be established in similar sensitive environments will be unacceptable (and unsustainable) at a regional and provincial level.

This Department reserves the right to revise or withdraw any comments or request further information from you based on any information that might be received.

Yours faithfully



ANTHONY BARNES
DIRECTOR: INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (REGION B)

Copies to: (1) Ms. R. Ajodhapersadh (Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd.)
(2) Mr. S. Johnston (Sustainable Futures ZA)

Fax: (086) 684 0547
Fax: (086) 510 2537

DRAFT NOTES FROM MEETING

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS
WEST COAST ONE WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED
INFRASTRUCTURE, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE
RHEBOKSFONTEIN WIND ENERGY FACILITY, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE
SUURPLAAT WIND ENERGY FACILITY NEAR SUTHERLAND, WESTERN &
NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCES

AUTHORITIES MEETING

HELD AT WESTERN CAPE DEA&DP OFFICES, 1 DORP STREET, CAPE TOWN
19 JULY 2010
at 10h00

PRESENT

Sanjith Mungroo – Moyeng Energy
Tommie Potgieter – Moyeng Energy
Jo-Anne Thomas – Savannah Environmental
Ravisha Ajodhapersadh – Savannah Environmental
Constance Musemburi – DEA&DP
Melanese Schippers – DEA&DP
Ieptieshaam Bekko – DEA&DP
Takalani Maswime – National DEA

APOLOGIES

Paul Hardcastle – DEA&DP
A L Mabunda – Northern Cape Department of Environment & Nature Conservation

NOTES OF THE MEETING / ISSUES DISCUSSED

- » Jo-Anne Thomas and Tommie Potgieter provided an introduction to the three Wind Energy Facility EIA's that Savannah Environmental is undertaking on behalf of Moyeng Energy.

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DIRECTORS: KM JODAS • J THOMAS • M MATSABU

COMPANY REGISTRATION NO.: 2006/000127/07

VAT REGISTRATION NO.: 4780226736

- » The purpose of the meeting was to discuss comments or issues raised by the provincial departments during the Scoping phase of the three EIA projects. Furthermore, for Savannah Environmental / Moyeng Energy to seek clarity on the conditions contained in the letter of acceptance of Scoping report from DEA for the Suurplaat wind energy facility.
- » Leptieshaam Bekko requested that DEA copy DEA&DP when sending letters for acceptance of Scoping Reports for wind energy facilities so that DEA&DP receive this information.
- » Jo-Anne Thomas: One of the comments raised by DEA&DP was regarding alternatives, specifically site alternatives. The approach taken and accepted so far for these EIA's have been to consider layout alternatives and not site alternatives, as the siting of a wind energy facility is largely driven by the wind resource in an area. Moyeng Energy elaborated on the regional methodology and site identification and pre-feasibility studies that were undertaken prior to site selection. Leptieshaam Bekko stated that often in the EIA reports it is not clear on site identification and how the developer has chosen a particular site. It was agreed that the EIA reports will contain more information on site identification studies and how the developer has come to choose a particular site for wind energy facility development.
- » Takalani Maswime enquired into technology alternatives and whether this will be looked at. Jo-Anne Thomas clarified that regarding different wind energy technologies (turbines), the worst-case scenario is looked at such as the maximum height of the wind turbine. Tommie Potgieter added that the choice of a specific turbine technology is something Moyeng Energy is still considering and this is not specified in the EIA to allow the developer to choose the most appropriate wind turbine / technology.
- » Jo-Anne Thomas: Wind data is confidential / commercially sensitive and requested clarity whether authorities would need this information. Leptieshaam Bekko stated that a summary and interpretation of the wind data in an area is what will be useful for DEA&DP; however should they request this information (which can remain confidential) for external / technical review Moyeng would need to make the information available to them.
- » Jo-Anne Thomas requested clarity regarding the comments from DEA&DP regarding overlaying proposed wind energy facilities in relation to the DEA&DP's "preferred areas for wind energy development" as well as assessment of cumulative impacts. Leptieshaam clarified that this comment and the comments on these projects are directed to National DEA for their consideration during decision-making on these EIAs. She added that the EIA should still look at cumulative impacts based on the number of turbines.
- » Ravisha Ajodhapersadh added that currently it appears that the provinces' comments on the draft Scoping Report are directly incorporated into the conditions / information requested by DEA in the letters of acceptance for the Scoping Report/s. Therefore Savannah Environmental seeks clarity on this

information and have written a letter to DEA in this regard. This includes issues such as “appropriate season” for undertaking vegetation surveys amongst other issues.

- » A site visit to the Suurplaat site near Sutherland was proposed by Savannah Environmental. DEA&DP will propose a date based on availability. DEA indicated that a representative will attend this site visit.
- » DEA&DP to check for the official version of the comments on the draft Scoping Report for the Suurplaat Wind Energy Facility and forward this information to Savannah Environmental.
- » Savannah Environmental plan on commencing with the EIA phase for these projects once the letters of acceptance for the Scoping Reports for the West Coast One and Rheboksfontein projects are received from DEA.



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Ms Karen Jodas
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Dear Ms Jacobs

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE APPLICATION FORM FOR THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON A SIET NEAR DARLING, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Department confirms having received the application form for environmental authorisation of the abovementioned project on 31 July 2009. You may proceed with the Scoping Report process required in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2006.

Having considered the information contained in the application form, it is evident that you do not intend to apply for exemption from any provision contained in the EIA Regulations. Please note that should you fail to meet a requirement of the regulation and if no exemption from that provision was applied for, your application Scoping Report will be rejected.

The Department requires that you provide a description of the need and desirability of the proposed activity; and any identified alternatives to the proposed activity that are feasible and reasonable. You are hereby reminded that it is mandatory 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. Alternatives may include technological, design or process alternatives.

You are advised that in undertaking the Scoping process you must take into account the above applicable guidelines developed by the Department. Refer to the Department's Integrated Environmental Management Information Series and copies of these series can be obtained from: Mr. Simon Moganetsi, Tel: (012) 310 3062, smoganetsi@deat.gov.za; or

Ms. Fuziwe Mkuthi, Tel: (012) 310 3043, fmkuthi@deat.gov.za, at the Department

The Applicant must ensure that all requirements of Chapter II, Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999, are complied with in this EIA process, and that the comments and / or recommendations of the relevant heritage resources authority responsible for the area in which the development is proposed, is considered.

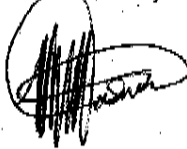
The comments and/or response from the relevant heritage resource agency must clearly state that the requirements of the Heritage Resources Act have been met during the study.

The application has been assigned the reference number **12/12/20/1582**. Kindly quote this reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.

Please be informed that the provincial department of environmental affairs must comment on all reports before it is submitted to this Department.

You are hereby reminded that the activity may not commence prior to an environmental authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours faithfully



Ms Lize McCourt

Chief Director: Environmental Impact Management

Department of Environmental Affairs

Letter signed by: Mr Takalani Maswime

Designation: PEO: Environmental Impact Evaluation: Parastatals and National

Date: 04/08/2008

CC: Mr Tommie Potgieter

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