



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447 · PRETORIA · 0001 · Fedsure Forum Building · 315 Pretorius Street · PRETORIA
Tel (+ 27 12) 310 3911 · Fax (+ 2712) 322 2682

Reference: 12/12/20/1861

Enquiries: Lene Grobbelaar

Telephone: 012-310-3087 **Fax:** 012-320-7539 **E-mail:** lgrobbelaar@deat.gov.za

Attention: Karen Jodas
Savannah Environmental
PO Box 148
Sunninghill
2157

Fax no: 086 684 0547

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Karen

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE APPLICATION FORM FOR SCOPING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS: PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HAPPY VALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY ON A SITE NEAR HUMANSDORP IN THE EASTERN CAPE - (HAPPY VALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY)

The Department confirms having received the application submitted by you on 31 March 2010 for environmental authorisation of the abovementioned project. You may proceed with the scoping process required in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2006.

The application has been assigned the reference number **12/12/20/1861**. Kindly quote this reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.

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 scoping process and that the comments and/ or recommendations of the relevant heritage resources authority responsible for the area in which the development is proposed, are considered.

In addition, please ensure that the pertinent provincial authority is provided with a commenting opportunity on the proposed development.



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Reference: 12/12/20/1861

Enquiries: Ndivhudza Sebei

Tel: 012 310 3630 Fax: 012 320 7539 E-mail: nsebei@environment.gov.za

Ms Karen Jacobs
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

Fax: 086 684 0547

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Ms Jodas

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF REVISED DRAFT SCOPING REPORT AND
AMENDMENT TO APPLICATION: PROPOSED HAPPY VALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY
ON A SITE NEAR HUMANSDORP, EASTERN CAPE**

The Department confirms having received the revised draft Scoping Report dated November 2010 for the above-mentioned project on 22 November 2010.

Please note that the Department will start reviewing once the final Scoping Report is received.

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: 24/12/2010



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NEAS Reference No.: DEAT/EIA/12309/2011

Reference: 12/12/20/1861

Enquiries: Ndivhudza Sebei

Telephone: 012-395-1774 **Fax:** 012-320-7539 **E-mail:** Nsebei@environment.gov.za

Ms Karen Jodas
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
P. O. Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

Fax no: (086) 684 0547

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Ms Jodas

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION: PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HAPPY VALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY ON A SITE NEAR HUMANSDORP IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Final Scoping Report (FSR) and Plan of Study for the Environmental Impact Assessment (PoSEIA) dated December 2010 and received by the Department on 03 January 2011 refers.

The Department has evaluated the submitted FSR dated December 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.

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 Kouga Local Municipality and Eastern Cape Provincial Department of Economic Development and Environmental Affairs, South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) and the National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF). You are further requested to obtain a confirmation letter from Eskom indicating that the applicant will be able to connect to either the Eskom power grid/network, substation/s or power line. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final EIR.

The final micro-siting/position (i.e. final layout) of the substation/s and wind turbines must be submitted together with the Final Environmental Impact Report.

The new application form must be submitted to the Department with 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 illustrating the different proposed alignments. 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 three hard copy documents.

Attached please find information that should be used in the preparation of the EIR. This will enable the department to make a speedy decision on the application submitted.

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

Yours faithfully



Mr Dumisani Mthembu

ACTING CHIEF DIRECTOR: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT

Department of Environmental Affairs

Date: 13/04/2011

CC: Keith Kirby

REISA

Fax: (086) 557 2061

EIA INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR WIND FARM APPLICATIONS

1. General site information

The following general site information is required:

- Descriptions of all affected farm portions
- 21 digit Surveyor General codes of all affected farm portions
- Copies of deeds of all affected farm portions
- Photos of areas that give a visual perspective of all parts of the site
- Photographs from sensitive visual receptors (tourism routes, tourism facilities, etc.)
- Turbine design specifications including:
 - Nacelle height
 - Blade length
 - Turbine shaft dimensions
 - Foundation dimensions
 - Laydown area dimensions (construction period and thereafter)
 - Blade rotation direction
 - Generation capacity
- Onsite measured wind parameters (speed, variability, etc.)
- Generation capacity of the facility as a whole at delivery points

This information must be indicated on the first page of any Scoping or EIA document. It is also advised that it be double checked as there are too many mistakes in the applications that have been received that take too much time from authorities to correct.

2. Site maps and GIS information

Site maps and GIS information should include at least the following:

- All maps/information layers must also be provided in ESRI Shapefile format
- All affected farm portions must be indicated
- The exact site of the application must be indicated (the areas that will be occupied by the application)
- A status quo map/layer must be provided that includes the following:
 - Current use of land on the site including:
 - Buildings and other structures
 - Agricultural fields
 - Grazing areas
 - Natural vegetation areas (natural veld not cultivated for the preceding 10 years) with an indication of the vegetation quality as well as fine scale mapping in respect of Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecological Support Areas
 - Critically endangered and endangered vegetation areas that occur on the site
 - Bare areas which may be susceptible to soil erosion
 - Cultural historical sites and elements
 - Rivers, streams and water courses
 - Ridgelines and 20m continuous contours with height references in the GIS database
 - Fountains, boreholes, dams (in-stream as well as off-stream) and reservoirs
 - High potential agricultural areas as defined by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
 - Buffer zones (also where it is dictated by elements outside the site):
 - 500m from any irrigated agricultural land

- 1km from residential areas
 - Indicate isolated residential, tourism facilities on or within 1km of the site
- A slope analysis map/layer that include the following slope ranges:
 - Less than 8% slope (preferred areas for turbines and infrastructure)
 - between 8% and 12% slope (potentially sensitive to turbines and infrastructure)
 - between 12% and 14% slope (highly sensitive to turbines and infrastructure)
 - steeper than 18 % slope (unsuitable for turbines and infrastructure)
- A map/layer that indicate locations of birds and bats including roosting and foraging areas (specialist input required)
- A site development proposal map(s)/layer(s) that indicate:
 - 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)
 - River, stream and water crossing of roads and cables indicating the type of bridging structures that will be used
 - 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 (the connection must form part of the EIA even if the construction and maintenance thereof will be done by another entity such as ESKOM)
 - 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

With the above information authorities will be able to assess the strategic and site impacts of the application.

3. Regional map and GIS information

The regional map and GIS information should include at least the following:

- All maps/information layers must also be provided in ESRI Shapefile format
- The map/layer must cover an area of 20km around the site
- Indicate the following:
 - roads including their types (tarred or gravel) and category (national, provincial, local or private)
 - Railway lines and stations
 - Industrial areas
 - Harbours and airports
 - Electricity transmission and distribution lines and substations
 - Pipelines
 - A visibility assessment of the areas from where the facility will be visible
 - Critical Biodiversity Areas and Ecological Support Areas
 - Critically Endangered and Endangered vegetation areas
 - Agricultural fields

- Irrigated areas
- An indication of new road or changes and upgrades that must be done to existing roads in order to get equipment onto the site including cut and fill areas and crossings of rivers and streams.

4. Important stakeholders

Amongst other important stakeholders, comments from the National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries must be obtained and submitted to the Department. Request for comment must be submitted to:

Mrs. Anneliza Collett
Directorate: Land Use & Soil Management
Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries
Tel: 012 - 319 7508
Fax: 012 - 329 5938
e-mail: AnnelizaC@nda.agric.za
www.agis.agric.za

In addition, comments must be requested from Eskom (Mr Kevin Leask or Mr Ronald Marais (011) 8008111) regarding grid connectivity and capacity.



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Enquiries: Ndivhudza Sebei

Telephone: 012-310-1810 **Fax:** 012-320-7539 **E-mail:** Nsebei@environment.gov.za

Attn: Karen Jodas
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
P. O. Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

Fax no: (086) 684 0547

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Karen Jodas

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION: PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HAPPY VALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY ON A SITE NEAR HUMANSDORP IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The final scoping report (FSR) and plan of study for the environmental impact assessment dated August 2010 and received by the Department on 26 August 2010 refers.

The Department has evaluated the submitted FSR dated August 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.

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 Kouga Local Municipality and Eastern Cape Province Department of Economic Development and Environmental Affairs. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the Final EIR.

Alternatives must be submitted to the Department with the Final Environmental Impact Report.

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: 14/10/2010

CC: Keith Kirby

REISA

Fax: (086) 557 2061



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Enquiries: Lene Grobbelaar

Tel: 012 310 3087 **Fax:** 012 320 7539 **Email:** lgrobbelaar@environment.gov.za

Ms Karen Jodas
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

Fax: 086 684 0547

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Ms Jodas

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF FINAL SCOPING REPORT: PROPOSED HAPPY VALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY ON A SITE NEAR HUMANSDORP, EASTERN CAPE

The Department confirms having received the final Scoping Report dated 25 August 2010 for the above-mentioned project on 26 August 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 and Tourism
Letter signed by: Hilda Bezuidenhout
Designation: Assistant Director: Environmental Impact Evaluation
Date: 09/09/2010



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Enquiries: Portia Leshilo

Tel: 012 395 1769 Fax: 012 320 7539 E-mail: pleshilo@environment.gov.za

Mr John von Mayer
Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 148
SUNNINGHILL
2157

Fax: 086 684 0547

PER FACSIMILE / MAIL

Dear Mr Von Mayer

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF DRAFT EIAR: THE PROPOSED HAPPY VALLEY WIND ENERGY FACILITY NEAR HUMANSDORP

The Department confirms having received the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report dated August 2011 for the above-mentioned project on 10 August 2011.

Please note that the Department will start reviewing once the final Environmental Impact Assessment Report is received.

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

Yours sincerely

Mr Ishaam Abader

Deputy Director-General: Environmental Quality and Protection
Department of Environmental Affairs

Letter signed by: Ms Mmatlala Rabothata

Designation: PEQ: Environmental Impact Evaluation

Date: 24/08/2011