

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT

APPENDIX F



Pre-Consultation with the Competent Authority

- Appendix F.1: Pre-Application Meeting Request Form
- Appendix F.2: Pre-Application Meeting Presentation
- Appendix F.3: Pre-Application Meeting Notes
- Appendix F.4: Correspondence from the DFFE with Approval of the Pre-Application Meeting Notes



CONTENTS



F. 1: Pre-Application Meeting Request Form submitted to the National DFFE	2
F. 2: Pre-Application Meeting Presentation	3
F. 3: Pre-Application Meeting Notes	7
F. 4: Correspondence from the DFFE with Approval of the Pre-Application Meeting Notes	12

F. 1: Pre-Application Meeting Request Form submitted to the National DFFE



PRE-APPLICATION MEETING REQUEST

Pre-application meeting Reference Number:	(For official use only)
Date Received:	

Application for authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended (the Regulations)

PROJECT TITLE

- Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV Overhead Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 1 to the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province;
- Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV Overhead Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 2 to the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province;
- Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV Overhead Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 3 to the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province;
- Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV Overhead Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 2 to the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 1, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province;
- Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV Overhead Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 3 to the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 1, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province;
- Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV Overhead Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 3 to the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 2, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province; and
- Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV Overhead Powerline from the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation to the proposed Beaufort West 132kV-400kV Linking Station, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province.

Note from the CSIR: The National DFFE has granted Environmental Authorisation (EA) for the above-mentioned Kwagga WEF 1 (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2070), Kwagga WEF 2 (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2071) and Kwagga WEF 3 (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2072) projects. Three separate EAs were granted on 7 April 2022 i.e. one for each WEF and its associated infrastructure.

The electrical grid infrastructure (EGI) component of the three proposed Kwagga WEF projects did not form part of the Scoping and EIA Processes that were undertaken for each of the three WEFs, and ABO Wind renewable energies Pty (Ltd) ("ABO Wind") (i.e. the Project Developer proposing the construction of the Kwagga WEFs and its associated EGI projects) has now requested the CSIR to undertake the Applications for EA and Basic Assessment (BA) Processes required for the proposed EGI in support of the proposed Kwagga WEFs 1-3.

Please note that ABO Wind intends to bid the proposed Kwagga WEFs 1-3 and these EGI projects into the upcoming rounds of the REIPPPP and therefore it is imperative that these BA Processes progress speedily in order to obtain EA before end 2022.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5**), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

It is understood that the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation¹ and the proposed Beaufort West 132 kV-400 kV Linking Station (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-2-925-1) will be constructed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd ("Mainstream") in support of their Beaufort West and Trakas WEFs that are to be located on land directly adjacent to the proposed Kwagga WEFs 1-3. ABO Wind has signed a servitude agreement and relevant powers of attorney with the landowner of the relevant Beaufort West and Trakas WEFs affected land portions and obtained with Mainstream to facilitate the connection of the proposed Kwagga WEFs 1-3 via 132 kV overhead powerlines, via the aforementioned Eskom Switching Substation and the Beaufort West 132kV-400kV Linking Station, to the existing Droërivier-Proteus 400 kV overhead powerline that runs parallel to the N12 in a north-south direction.

Important to note is that both the Beaufort West WEF (DFFE Ref: 12-12-20-1784-1-AM2) and the Trakas WEF (DFFE Ref: 12-12-20-1784-2-AM2), and their supporting powerline and substation infrastructure [Beaufort West 132 kV-400 kV Linking Station, 132 kV Powerline and onsite 132 kV Substation (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-2-925-1) and Trakas 132 kV-400 kV Linking Station, 132 kV Powerline and onsite 132 kV Substation (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-2-925-2)], collectively referred to as "*the Beaufort West Cluster*", have all received EA and were successful bidders in Round 5 of the REIPPPP.

This pre-application meeting request form is being submitted to discuss the BA Processes to be undertaken for the proposed Kwagga EGI Projects (as listed above). Note that all seven projects will be discussed in one pre-application meeting in order to maximise on efficiency, however seven separate Application Forms for EA will be submitted to the DFFE following the pre-application meeting, based on the outcome of the meeting.

Kindly note the following:

1. This form must always be used for pre-application meeting requests where this Department is the Competent Authority.
2. This application form is current as of **June 2020**. It is the responsibility of the Applicant / Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to ascertain whether subsequent versions of the form have been published or produced by the Competent Authority. The latest available Departmental templates are available at <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>.
3. The onus on Applicant/EAP to determine all applicable listed activities that would require Environmental Authorisation prior to the commencement of the construction activities. Should any revision of your development comprise any other activities that constitute a listed activity/ies as defined in GN R983, R984 and R98 of 04 December 2014, as amended, it must also form part of the Application for Environmental Authorisation.
4. Be reminded that it is not compulsory in terms of the EIA Regulations that a pre-application meeting must take place prior to an application being lodged with the Department.
5. This form must be lodged with the Department at least **one (1) month** prior to the requested meeting date.
6. Please note that the proposed date and time will be confirmed prior to the meeting.
7. A detailed motivation and agenda must be appended to this meeting request.
8. This form must be marked "**for Attention: Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations**" and submitted to the Department via email.
9. All fields are compulsory.
10. The required information must be typed within the spaces provided in the form. The sizes of the spaces provided are not necessarily indicative of the amount of information to be provided. Spaces are provided in tabular format and will extend automatically when each space is filled with typing. A legible font type and size must be used when completing the form. The font size should not be smaller than 10pt (e.g. Arial 10).
11. **Note that the EAP is required to submit minutes of the meeting to the Department for approval as per the timeframes agreed to in the meeting.**
12. The Department reserves the right to refuse the pre-application meeting based on the information provided in this request.

¹ SLR Consulting is currently undertaking a BA Process (DFFE Reference No. pending) for the proposed construction of the Eskom 132kV Switching Substation and associated 132kV Powerline, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5**), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

Departmental Details

<p>Online Submission: EIAapplications@environment.gov.za</p> <p>Please read the process for uploading files to determine how files are to submitted to this Department.</p> <p>Postal address: Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries Attention: Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations Private Bag X447 Pretoria 0001</p> <p>Physical address: Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries Attention: Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations Environment House 473 Steve Biko Road Arcadia</p> <p>Queries must be directed to the Directorate: Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support at: Email: EIAAdmin@environment.gov.za</p>
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1. APPLICANT CONTACT DETAILS

Name of the Applicant:	ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd		
RSA Identity/ Passport Number:	Not Applicable		
Name of contact person for applicant (if other):	Robert Invernizzi		
RSA Identity/ Passport Number:	7611035145082		
Responsible position, e.g. Director, CEO, etc.:	General Manager		
Company/ Trading name (if any):	Not Applicable		
Company Registration Number:	2018/062901/07		
BBBEE status:	Not Applicable		
Physical address:	Unit B1, Mayfair Square, Century Way, Century City, Cape Town, 7441		
Postal address:	Unit B1, Mayfair Square, Century Way, Century City, Cape Town		
Postal code:	7441	Cell:	073 265 8575
Telephone:	021 276 3620	Fax:	086 595 4668
E-mail:	Rob.Invernizzi@abo-wind.com		

2. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER CONTACT DETAILS

Company of Environmental Assessment Practitioner:	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)		
B-BBEE	Contribution level (indicate 1 to 8 or non-compliant)	1	Percentage Procurement recognition
EAP name:	Lizande Kellerman		

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5**), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

EAP Qualifications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSc Zoology & Entomology ▪ BSc Hons Botany ▪ MSc Botany 		
Professional affiliation/registration:	Registered Professional Natural Scientist (400076/10) with the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP)		
Physical address:	11 Jan Celliers Street, Stellenbosch, 7599		
Postal address:	PO Box 320, Stellenbosch		
Postal code:	7599	Cell:	083 799 0949
Telephone:	021 888 2489/2661	Fax:	021 888 2693
E-mail:	LKellerman@csir.co.za DMoodley1@csir.co.za		

3. COMPETENT AUTHORITY

Identified Competent Authority to consider the application:	National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)
Reason(s) in terms of S24C of NEMA:	The National DFFE, based in Pretoria, will be the Competent Authority (CA). This is based on a directive that was issued by the Department of Minerals and Energy in 2009 indicating that all energy-related Environmental Assessments must be fast-tracked and that the National DEA (now the DFFE) must be the CA.

4. MEETING DETAILS

Purpose of the meeting request	<p>The purpose of the meeting request is to introduce and discuss the following proposed seven Basic Assessment (BA) projects with the DFFE and to obtain confirmation on the proposed scope, approach, and schedule of the BA processes to be undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BA for the proposed construction of a 132 kV Overhead Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 1 to the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province; ▪ BA for the proposed construction of a 132 kV Overhead Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 2 to the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province; ▪ BA for the proposed construction of a 132 kV Overhead Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 3 to the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province; ▪ BA for the proposed construction of a 132 kV Overhead Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 2 to the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 1, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province; ▪ BA for the proposed construction of a 132 kV Overhead Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 3 to the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 1, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province; ▪ BA for the proposed construction of a 132 kV Overhead Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 3 to the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 2, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province; and ▪ BA for the proposed construction of a 132 kV Overhead Powerline from the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation to the proposed Beaufort West 132kV-400kV Linking Station, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province.
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DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5**), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

	<p>In particular, the purpose of the pre-application meeting includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide the DFFE with an overview of the project description for the abovementioned projects; To discuss and confirm the specialist impact assessments and compliance statements to be undertaken; To discuss and confirm the approach towards the specialist reporting and request a combined reporting approach; To discuss and confirm the requirement for a Public Participation Plan (PPP) which is to be submitted to the DFFE for approval in terms of the Directions issued by the DFFE on 5 June 2020 in Government Notice 650; To discuss and confirm the approach towards the BA reporting and request a combined reporting approach; and To discuss and confirm the proposed project schedule and overall process for the BAs, including the applicable Listed Activities and Cumulative Impact Assessment approach (i.e. assess cumulative impacts based on a 50 km buffer and based on Renewable Energy projects with a positive Environmental Authorisation issued at the start of these BAs (i.e. April 2022)). 	
Any advice requested before from the Department on this project i.e. from IQ or via email (attached response received)		No
Applicant Category	Application by Parastatal	
	Organ of State	
	Private Individual/Parties	✓
Application type	Application for EA	✓
	Application for Integrated EA	
	Application for Amendment EA	
<p>Proposed meeting date and time-slot. Provide three alternative dates and time-slots (note that the Department requires at least a month due to logistical arrangements)</p> <p>Note from the CSIR: The CSIR acknowledges that the DFFE has a considerable number of applications to process. We are humbly requesting alternative dates prior to the one-month clause above based on the strategic nature of the project and the approaching Bidding Window 6 of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP).</p>		
Date	Time-slot	
	Start time	End time
1) 26 April 2022	10H00	12H00
2) 3 May 2022	10H00	12H00
3) 4 May 2022	10H00	12H00
4) 5 May 2022	10H00	12H00
Duration of the meeting	2 Hours	
Estimated number of people attending meeting	4-5	

Please attach a proposed agenda as **APPENDIX 1**. If the Applicant or EAP intends to discuss several projects in one meeting, separate agendas must be drafted for each proposed project and the project details for each project. Please note that a detailed agenda is required.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5**), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

Note from the CSIR: This pre-application meeting request form is being submitted to discuss seven Applications for Environmental Authorisation (EA). All applications will be discussed in one pre-application meeting in order to maximise on efficiency, however seven separate Applications for EA will be submitted to the DFFE following the pre-application meeting. The proposed projects have similar project components, and they take place in the same geographical area on adjacent farm properties. Based on this, one single combined, detailed proposed agenda for the pre-application meeting has been compiled and included in **Appendix 1** of this pre-application meeting request form.

5. PROJECT DETAILS

<p>Project description</p>	<p>The Project Applicant, ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd (hereinafter referred to as ABO Wind), is proposing the construction of seven 132 kV Overhead Transmission Powerlines, and its associated electrical grid infrastructure (EGI) in support of the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facilities 1-3, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province.</p> <p>The Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) Processes for the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facilities 1-3 were initiated in October 2020. The Final EIA Reports for the proposed development of the Kwagga WEF 1 (DFFE Ref No: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2070), Kwagga WEF 2 (DFFE Ref No: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2071) and Kwagga WEF 3 (DFFE Ref No: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2072) were submitted to the National DFFE for decision-making on 2 December 2021. As mentioned above the Competent Authority, i.e. the National DFFE granted three separate EAs i.e. one for each WEF and its associated infrastructure, on 7 April 2022.</p> <p>The EGI component of the three Kwagga WEF projects did not form part of the abovementioned S&EIA Processes that were undertaken for each of the three WEFs, and the Project Developer (i.e. ABO Wind) has subsequently appointed the CSIR to undertake the Applications for EA required for the proposed development of the EGI required in support of the three Kwagga WEFs.</p> <p>The corridor for the proposed Kwagga 132 kV Overhead Transmission Powerlines will traverse the following farm portions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remainder of the Farm Dwaalfontein Wes No. 377; ▪ Portion 3 of the Farm Tyger Poort No. 376; ▪ Portion 1 of the Farm Dwaalfontein Wes No. 377; ▪ Remainder of the Farm Dwaalfontein No. 379; ▪ Remainder of the Farm Wolve Kraal No. 17 ▪ Portion 9 of the Farm Wolve Kraal No.17 ▪ Portion 7 of the Farm Muis Kraal No. 373 ▪ Portion 1 of the Farm Witpoortje No. 16 ▪ Remainder of the Farm Trakas Kuilen No. 15 ▪ Portion 1 of the Farm Trakas Kuilen No. 15 <p>In order to identify sensitivities and features that need to be avoided specialists will assess an approximately 300 m wide corridor for the Kwagga EGI route that traverses the proposed Kwagga WEFs 1-3 project sites, and an approximately 500 m wide corridor for the Kwagga EGI route that traverses the neighbouring Mainstream Beaufort West and Trakas Wind Farm project sites.</p> <p>The proposed Kwagga EGI projects will each consist of the components listed below. It is important to note at the outset that the exact specifications of the proposed project components will be confirmed during the detailed engineering phase (post EA, should such an authorisation be granted for the proposed EGI projects), but that the information provided below is seen as the worst-case scenario for the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overhead Transmission Powerlines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Capacity: 132 kV ○ Height: Up to 30 m
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DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5**), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The registered servitude for each of the seven proposed 132 kV Overhead Transmission Powerlines will be up to 50 m wide. Note that the entire servitude will not be cleared of vegetation. Vegetation clearance within the servitude will be undertaken in compliance with relevant standards and specifications. ○ The length of the proposed powerlines will be confirmed based on the route identification and selection process that will be informed by the specialist findings. The preliminary length of each of the proposed powerline corridors are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 132 kV Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 1 to the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation: approximately 9 km ▪ 132 kV Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 2 to the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation; approximately 12 km ▪ 132 kV Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 3 to the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation: approximately 25 km ▪ 132 kV Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 2 to the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 1: approximately 3 km ▪ 132 kV Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 3 to the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 1: approximately 16 km ▪ 132 kV Powerline from the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 3 to the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility 2: approximately 13 km ▪ 132 kV Powerline from the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation to the proposed Beaufort West 132kV-400kV Linking Station: approximately 3 m ○ Associated electrical infrastructure (including but not limited to feeders, busbars, new transformer bay (up to 500 MVA) and extension to the platform at the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation). <p>The seven proposed Kwagga EGI projects are not located within any of the REDZs gazetted in Government Gazette 41445, GN R114 on 16 February 2018; and Gazette 44191, GN R144 on 26 February 2021. The proposed 132 kV Overhead Transmission Powerlines and associated EGI are also not located within any of the Strategic Transmission Corridors gazetted in Government Gazette 41445, GN R113 on 16 February 2018. As a result, the proposed EGI projects will be subjected to a decision-making timeframe of 107 days in terms of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended).</p>
<p>Indicate if any screening has taken place on site</p>	<p>The following farm portions, which six of the seven proposed Kwagga 132 kV overhead powerline corridors traverse to varying extents, was subjected to detailed specialist assessments during 2021 as part of the S&EIA Processes for the proposed Kwagga WEFs 1-3;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remainder of the Farm Dwaalfontein Wes No. 377; ▪ Portion 3 of the Farm Tyger Poort No. 376; ▪ Portion 1 of the Farm Dwaalfontein Wes No. 377; ▪ Remainder of the Farm Dwaalfontein No. 379; ▪ Remainder of the Farm Wolve Kraal No. 17 ▪ Portion 9 of the Farm Wolve Kraal No.17 ▪ Portion 7 of the Farm Muis Kraal No. 373 <p>As noted above, the two of the seven proposed Kwagga 132 kV overhead powerline corridors that will traverse the neighbouring Mainstream Beaufort West and Trakas Wind Farm project sites, cross the following farm portions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Portion 1 of the Farm Witpoortje No. 16 ▪ Remainder of the Farm Trakas Kuilen No. 15 ▪ Portions 1 of the Farm Trakas Kuilen No. 15 <p>These farm portions were also subjected to detailed specialist assessments between 2015 - 2020 as part of the S&EIA Processes for the proposed Beaufort West WEF and Trakas WEF.</p>
<p>Physical Address where the development will take place</p>	<p>The proposed EGI sites can be accessed via gravel roads off the N12 main road, which runs in a north-south direction passing to the west of the sites, as well as from the R308 Rietbron bound public access gravel road situated to the south of the proposed sites. The proposed</p>

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5**), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

	sites are located approximately 60 km south of the town of Beaufort West, in the Western Cape Province.
Farm name(s)/ Erf No	The corridor of the seven proposed Kwagga 132 kV Overhead Transmission Powerlines will traverse the following farm portions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remainder of the Farm Dwaalfontein Wes No. 377; ▪ Portion 3 of the Farm Tyger Poort No. 376; ▪ Portion 1 of the Farm Dwaalfontein Wes No. 377; ▪ Remainder of the Farm Dwaalfontein No. 379; ▪ Remainder of the Farm Wolve Kraal No. 17; ▪ Portion 9 of the Farm Wolve Kraal No. 17 ; ▪ Portion 7 of the Farm Muis Kraal No. 373; ▪ Portion 1 of the Farm Witpoortje No. 16; ▪ Remainder of the Farm Trakas Kuilen No. 15; and ▪ Portion 1 of the Farm Trakas Kuilen No. 15.
Local Municipality	Beaufort West Local Municipality and Prince Albert Local Municipality
District Municipality	Central Karoo District Municipality

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5**), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

Locality map:	<p>A locality map must be attached to the application form, as APPENDIX 2. The scale of the locality map must be at least 1:50 000. For linear activities of more than 25 kilometres, a smaller scale e.g. 1:250 000 can be used. The scale must be indicated on the map. The map must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an accurate indication of the project site position as well as the positions of the alternative sites, if any; • road names or numbers of all the major roads as well as the roads that provide access to the site(s) • a north arrow; • a legend; • the prevailing wind direction; • site sensitivities, including but not limited to vegetation, wetlands, watercourses, heritage sites, critical biodiversity area/s, World Heritage Site, etc. and it must be overlaid by the study area; and • GPS co-ordinates (Indicate the position of the proposed activity with the latitude and longitude at the centre point for each alternative site. • The co-ordinates should be in degrees and decimal minutes. The minutes should be to at least three decimal places. The projection that must be used in all cases is the WGS-84 spheroid in a national or local projection)
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Note from the CSIR: Refer to Appendix 2 of this Pre-Application Meeting Request Form for a copy of the Locality Map and Preliminary Site Sensitivity Map.

6. ACTIVITIES APPLIED FOR

For an application for authorisation that involves more than one listed activity that, together, make up one development proposal, all the listed activities pertaining to this application must be provided below.

Activity No(s):	Provide the relevant Basic Assessment Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.	Describe the portion of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates.
11 (i)	The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity (i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts.	The proposed overhead transmission power lines connecting the respective proposed Kwagga WEFs to the Beaufort West 132kV-400kV Linking Station will be 132 kV.
12 (ii) (a) (c)	The development of: (ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development occurs- a) within a watercourse; b) in front of a development setback; or c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse.	The proposed Kwagga Overhead Transmission Powerline projects will entail the construction of built infrastructure and structures for the 132 kV powerlines and are expected to exceed a footprint of 100 m ² and some may occur within small drainage features and within 32 m of the watercourses.
27	The clearance of an area of 1 hectare (ha) or more, but less than 20 ha of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.	The proposed Kwagga Overhead Transmission Powerline projects will entail the construction of infrastructure (e.g. pylons, feeder bays, etc.) with a combined physical footprint of more than 1 ha that will require clearance of indigenous vegetation.

Be reminded that the onus is on the applicant to ensure that all applicable listed activities are included in the application. Environmental Authorisation must be obtained prior to commencement with each applicable listed activity.

7. ADDITIONAL INFO, IF ANY

Please attach any additional information as **Error! Reference source not found.**

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5**), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

8. LIST OF APPENDICES

		SUBMITTED	
APPENDIX 1	Proposed Agenda	YES	
APPENDIX 2	Locality map	YES	
Error! Reference source not found.	Additional info		NO

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5**), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

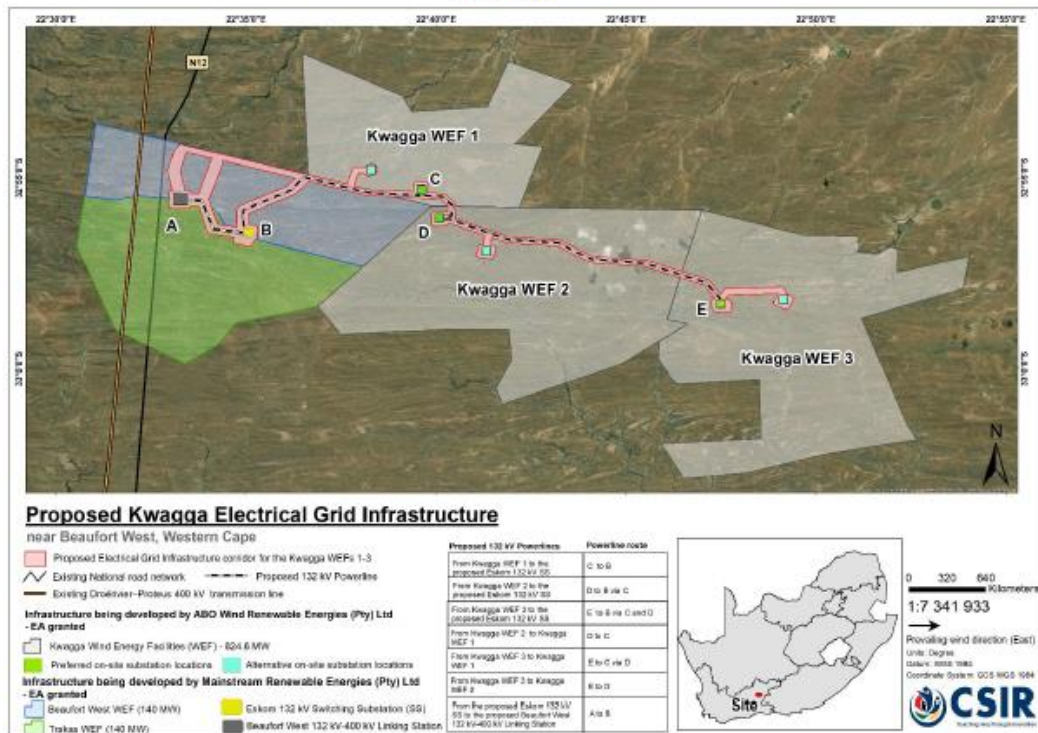
**APPENDIX 1
PRE-APPLICATION MEETING AGENDA**

(Please note that a generic agenda will not be accepted. Please submit a detailed agenda)

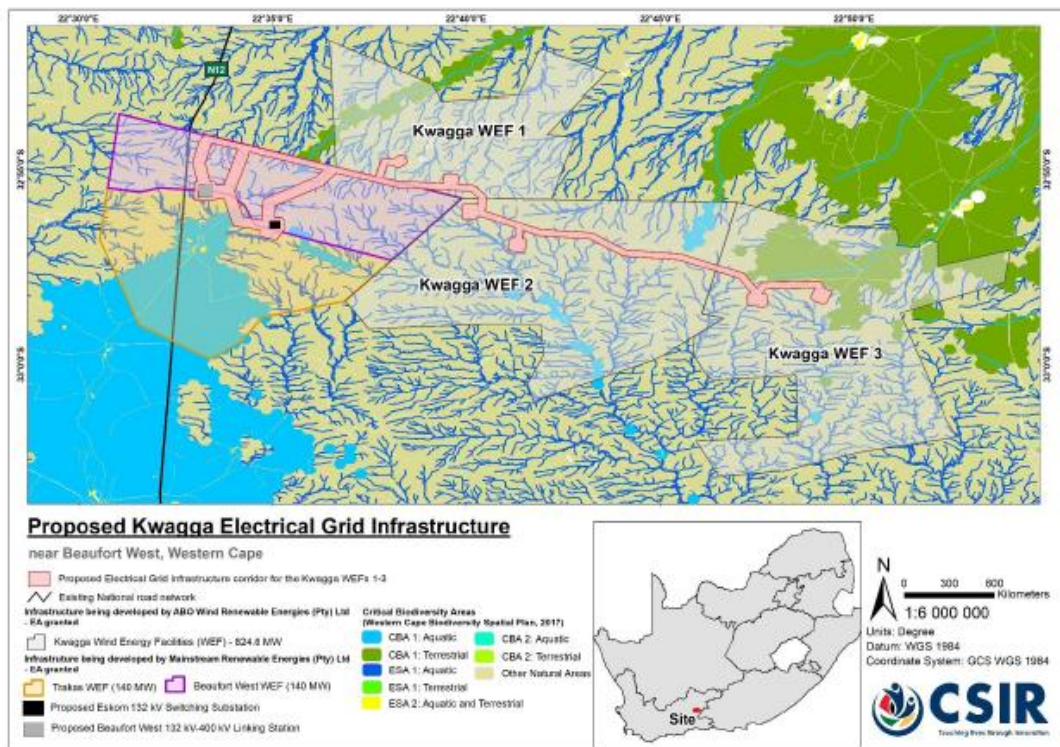
Item	Description	Time	Presenter
1	Welcome, Introduction and Outline of Meeting Proceedings	10H00 – 10H10	DFFE and the CSIR
2	Description of the seven proposed Kwagga 132 kV Overhead Transmission Powerlines and its associated EGI. <i>Note from the CSIR: All seven BA Projects have identical project components and occur in the same geographical area on neighbouring land parcels, hence will be discussed collectively in order to maximize on efficiency.</i>	10H10 – 10H30	CSIR
3	Discussion and confirmation of the specialist impact assessments and compliance statements to be undertaken as part of the seven BA Processes; and a request for combined specialist reporting (i.e. one specialist report per environmental theme covering all 7 EGI projects).	10H30 – 10H45	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
4	Discussion on a request to undertake combined reporting for the seven BA Processes (i.e. one BA Report covering all 7 EGI projects, with 7 x Applications for EA, and 7 x EAs being issued)	10H45 – 11H05	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
5	Discussion and confirmation of the requirement for a Public Participation Plan (PPP) which will be submitted to the DFFE for approval in terms of the Directions issued by the DFFE on 5 June 2020 in Government Notice 650.	11H05 – 11H20	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
6	Discussion of the proposed project schedule and overall process approach to the BA Processes, including applicable Listed Activities and Cumulative Impact Assessment Approach (i.e. assess cumulative impacts based on a 50 km buffer and based on Renewable Energy projects with a positive Environmental Authorisation issued at the start of this BA (i.e. April 2022))	11H20 – 11H40	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
7	Questions	11H40 – 11H50	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
8	Way Forward and Closure	11H50 – 12H00	DFFE

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5**), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

APPENDIX 2
LOCALITY MAP



SENSITIVITY MAP



F. 2: Pre-Application Meeting Presentation

Proposed construction of seven 132 kV Overhead Transmission Powerlines (i.e. Kwagga EGI) and its associated infrastructure, near Beaufort West, Western Cape

Applicant: ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
EAP: CSIR Environmental Management Services

Pre-Application Meeting with DFFE

Reference: 2022-05-0008

18 May 2022
 10H00 to 12H00
 MS Teams



Points of Discussion / Agenda



Item	Description	Time	Presenter
1	Welcome, Introduction and Outline of Meeting Proceedings	10H00 – 10H10	DFFE
2	Description of the seven proposed Kwagga 132 kV Overhead Transmission Powerlines and its associated infrastructure.	10H10 – 10H30	CSIR and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
3	Discussion on the specialist assessments and compliance statements to be undertaken as part of the BA Processes; and to discuss the request for combination of specialist reporting.	10H30 – 10H45	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
4	Discussion on the approach towards the BA reporting, including a request for combination of the projects (i.e. <u>one</u> BA Report covering all 7 x powerlines, with 7 x Applications for EA, and 7 x EAs being issued)	10H45 – 11H05	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
6	Discussion and confirmation of the requirement for a Public Participation Plan (PPP) which will be submitted to the DFFE for approval.	11H05 – 11H20	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
7	Discussion of the proposed project schedule and overall process approach to the BA Processes, including applicable Listed Activities and Cumulative Impact Assessment Approach	11H20 – 11H40	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
8	Questions	11H40 – 11H50	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd
9	Way Forward and Closure	11H50 – 12H00	DFFE



Project Context



- The Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (S&EIA) Processes for the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facilities 1-3 were initiated in October 2020.
- The Final EIA Reports for the proposed development of the Kwagga WEF 1 (DFFE Ref No: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2070), Kwagga WEF 2 (DFFE Ref No: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2071) and Kwagga WEF 3 (DFFE Ref No: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2072) were submitted to the National DFFE for decision-making on 2 December 2021.
- The Competent Authority, i.e. the National DFFE granted three separate EAs i.e. one for each WEF and its associated infrastructure, on 7 April 2022.
- The electrical grid infrastructure (EGI) component of the three proposed Kwagga WEF projects did not form part of the Scoping and EIA Processes that were undertaken for each of the three WEFs, and ABO Wind renewable energies Pty (Ltd) ("ABO Wind") (i.e. the Project Developer proposing the construction of the Kwagga WEFs and its associated EGI projects) has now requested the CSIR to undertake the Applications for EA and Basic Assessment (BA) Processes required for the proposed EGI in support of the proposed Kwagga WEFs 1-3. >>>>

4

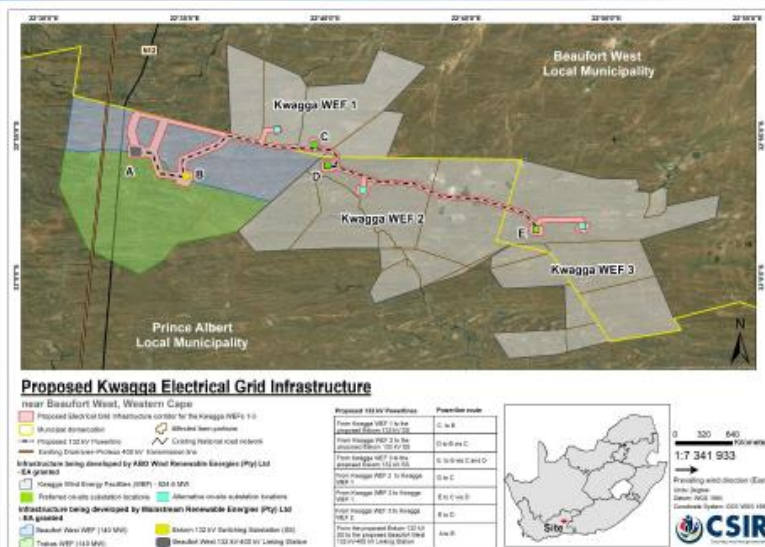
Project Context



- In order to facilitate the connection of the proposed Kwagga WEFs 1-3 to the national grid via the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-1-2464) and the proposed Beaufort West 132 kV-400 kV Linking Station (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-2-925-1); ABO Wind Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd is proposing the construction of seven 132 kV Overhead Transmission Powerlines (OHL), and its associated electrical grid infrastructure (EGI), namely:
 - Section 1: 132 kV OHL from the proposed Beaufort West 132 kV-400 kV Linking Station to the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Station (SS)
 - Section 2: 132 kV OHL from the proposed Eskom 132 kV SS to the Kwagga WEF 1
 - Section 3: 132 kV OHL from the proposed Eskom 132 kV SS to the Kwagga WEF 2
 - Section 4: 132 kV OHL from the proposed Eskom 132 kV SS to the Kwagga WEF 3
 - Section 5: 132 kV OHL from Kwagga WEF 1 to Kwagga WEF 2
 - Section 6: 132 kV OHL from Kwagga WEF 1 to Kwagga WEF 3
 - Section 7: 132 kV OHL from Kwagga WEF 2 to Kwagga WEF 3
- It is understood that the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation and the proposed Beaufort West 132 kV-400 kV Linking Station will be constructed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd ("Mainstream") in support of their Beaufort West and Trakas WEFs that are to be located on land directly adjacent to the proposed Kwagga WEFs 1-3. ABO Wind has signed a servitude agreement and relevant powers of attorney with the landowner of the relevant Beaufort West and Trakas WEFs affected land portions and obtained an agreement with Mainstream to facilitate the connection of the proposed Kwagga WEFs 1-3 via 132 kV overhead powerlines.

5

Project Location



6

Project Introduction



Proposed Overhead Transmission Powerline (EGI) Route		Length of EGI route
Section 1: A to B	From the proposed Beaufort West 132 kV-400 kV Linking Station to the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Station (SS)	3 km
Section 2: B to C	From the proposed Eskom 132 kV SS to the Kwagga WEF 1	9 km
Section 3: B to D via C	From the proposed Eskom 132 kV SS to the Kwagga WEF 2	12 km
Section 4: B to E via C and D	From the proposed Eskom 132 kV SS to the Kwagga WEF 3	25 km
Section 5 : C to D	From Kwagga WEF 1 to Kwagga WEF 2	3 km
Section 6: C to E via D	From Kwagga WEF 1 to Kwagga WEF 3	16 km
Section 7: D to E	From Kwagga WEF 2 to Kwagga WEF 3	13 km

7

Project Description



- **Overhead Transmission Powerlines:**
 - Line capacity: Up to 132 kV
 - Line/pylon height: Up to 30 m
 - Pylon type: Monopole
- Registered servitude for each of the seven proposed 132 kV overhead transmission powerlines: Up to 50 m wide (where multiple adjacent powerlines occur, in line with the Eskom Distribution Guide Part 19: Building Line Restrictions, Servitude Widths, Line Separations and Clearances from Power Lines). **Note that the entire servitude will not be cleared of vegetation.**
 - Specialists will be requested to assess an approximately 300 m wide corridor for the Kwagga EGI route that traverses the proposed Kwagga WEFs 1-3 project sites, and an approximately 500 m wide corridor for the Kwagga EGI route that traverses the neighbouring Mainstream Beaufort West and Trakas Wind Farm project site.
- **Associated electrical infrastructure:** Including but not limited to feeder bays, busbars, new transformer bays (up to 500 MVA) at the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Station and the proposed Beaufort West 132 kV-400 kV Linking Station.
- **Construction Period:**
 - The construction period is expected to span ± 12-18 months.

8



List of Specialist Studies and Specialists



Specialist Study	Specialist Company	Specialist Name	Type of Assessment
Agriculture and Soils	Private	Johann Lanz	Assessment Protocol GN320 (March 2020): Site Sensitivity Verification and Compliance Statement
Terrestrial Biodiversity, including Plant and Animal Species	Ekotruster	Dr Noel van Rooyen	Assessment Protocols GN320 (March 2020) and GN1150 (October 2020): Site Sensitivity Verification; Compliance Statement for Animals (excluding Birds); Full Assessment for Terrestrial Biodiversity and Plants
Aquatic Biodiversity	Private	Toni Belcher	Assessment Protocol GN320 (March 2020): Site Sensitivity Verification and Compliance Statement or Full Assessment
Avifauna Assessment	Chris van Rooyen Consulting	Chris van Rooyen and Albert Froneman	Assessment Protocol GN1150 (October 2020): Site Sensitivity Verification and Compliance Statement or Full Assessment (TBC)

List of Specialist Studies and Specialists



Specialist Study	Specialist Company	Specialist Name	Type of Assessment
Visual Impact Assessment	Bapela Cave Klapwijk	Menno Klapwijk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part A of Assessment Protocol GN320 (March 2020): Site Sensitivity Verification Appendix 6 of 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations
Heritage Impact Assessment	ASHA Consulting	Jayson Orton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part A of Assessment Protocol GN320 (March 2020): Site Sensitivity Verification Appendix 6 of 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations
Palaeontology Assessment	Natura Viva	John Almond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part A of Assessment Protocol GN320 (March 2020): Site Sensitivity Verification Appendix 6 of 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations
Civil Aviation Assessment	CSIR	EAPs	Protocol: Compliance Statement (VH, H, M) or No Requirement (L)
Defence Assessment	CSIR	EAPs	Protocol: Compliance Statement (VH, H, M) or No Requirement (L)

Motivation to exclude Geotechnical Assessment ****DISCUSSION POINT**

11

- Contractors and suppliers will only be selected and appointed after preferred bidder status is obtained (should it be granted).
- To ensure that all aspects are covered in the assessment, suppliers of sub-structures, inverters and transformers and civil sub-contractors are required to provide input into the scope of work of the Geotechnical Assessment.
- Therefore, Geotechnical Assessments can only be undertaken during detailed design, if preferred bidder status is obtained.

List of Specialist Studies and Specialists: EMI & RFI



- The Screening Tool specifies the need for a Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) [and Electro-Magnetic Interference (EMI)] study.
- The proposed EGI corridor is located outside of the Karoo Central Astronomy Advantage Area (KCAAA) and Square Kilometre Array (SKA).
- Therefore, it is motivated to exclude the need for a RFI and EMI assessment. ****DISCUSSION POINT**
- SKA / SARAO will be consulted during the BA Process to motivate that an EMI and RFI Assessment is not required as the study area falls outside of the SKA and KCAAA.
- Further actions will be determined following response from the SKA / SARAO.
- Comments from the SKA / SARAO will be requested during the BA Process.

12

Specialist Combined Reporting



Motivation:

- The seven sections of the EGI corridor are situated in the same locality and form one continuous powerline route.
- Therefore, one Specialist Assessment Report covering all seven sections of the EGI corridor will be produced per Environmental Theme.
- Clear sections will be provided in the Specialist Assessment Reports showing information that is different or specific to certain sections of the entire powerline corridor. All relevant information will be provided.
- Reduce the number of reports to be reviewed by the Competent Authority and Stakeholders.
- Combined reporting has been undertaken previously and is regarded as beneficial and efficient.

13

COMBINED REPORTING AND MULTIPLE EAs



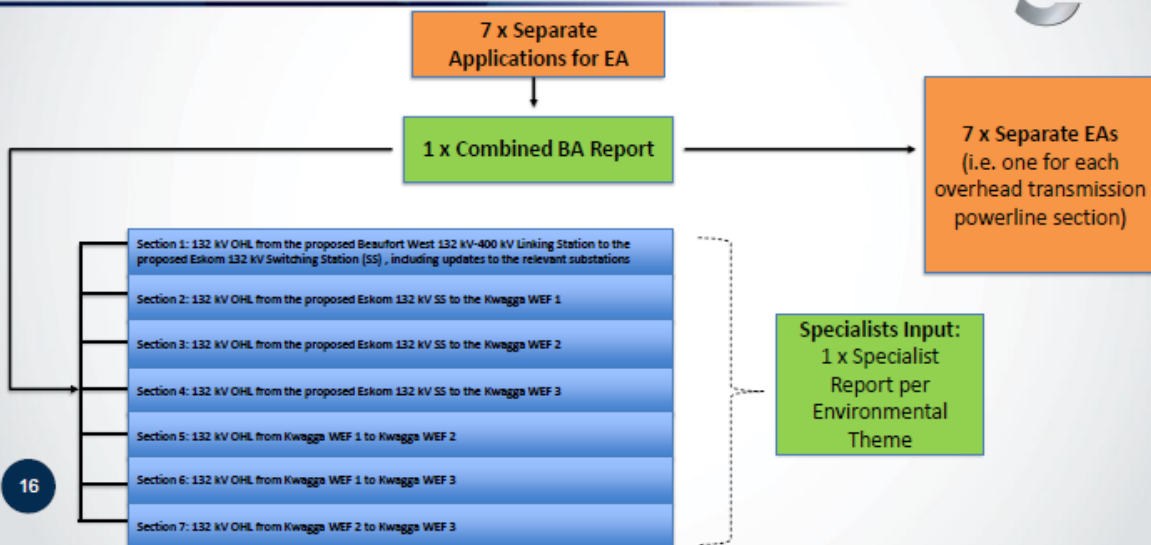
Combined Reporting and Multiple EAs



- EIA Regulation 11:
 - (4) If one or more proponents intend undertaking **interrelated activities at the same or different locations** within the area of jurisdiction of a competent authority, the competent authority may, in writing, agree that the proponent or proponents submit a **single application in respect of all of those activities and to conduct a consolidated assessment process** but the potential environmental impacts of each activity, including its cumulative impacts, must be considered in terms of the location where the activity is to be undertaken.
 - (5) Where a combined application is submitted as contemplated in these Regulations, the proponent must, prior to submission of the application, confirm with the competent authority the fee payable in terms of the applicable regulations for such combined application.
- EIA Regulation 25:
 - (1) If the competent authority decides to grant authorisation, the competent authority must issue an environmental authorisation or environmental authorisations complying with regulation 26 to, and in the name of, the applicant or applicants.
 - (2) If the competent authority decides to grant authorisation in respect of an application, the competent authority may issue a single environmental authorisation or **multiple environmental authorisations** in the name of the same or different applicants covering all aspects for which authorisation is granted.

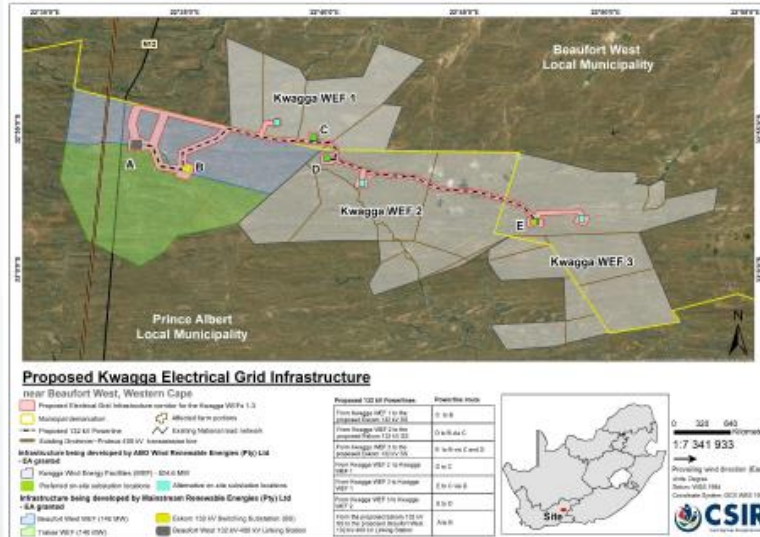
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Combined Reporting and Multiple EAs



16

Combined Reporting and Multiple EAs



17

Combined Reporting and Multiple EAs



Motivation:

- Separate EAs are required for the REIPPPP bidding requirements and to facilitate easier hand over of relevant infrastructure to Eskom later
- Separate EAs would reduce the likelihood and need for splitting of EAs in future, which is costly and time-consuming for all parties involved
- Aim towards a more efficient process for the EAP in terms of drafting reports; for the stakeholders in terms of reviewing reports and providing comments; as well as for the CA in terms of reviewing and decision-making
- Where information is the same for each powerline section, it will be summarised as applicable to all, and where it differs, it will be separated into sections, for example, all proponents' names, project names and portion numbers (as it should be reflected in each EA) can be indicated in the appendices for each project
- All impacts, sensitivities and legal requirements in terms of the EIA Regulations will still be met in the combined reporting and applications.

18

- Such consolidated or combined reporting is allowed for in the EIA Regulations (i.e. Regulation 11 (4))

Combined Reporting and Multiple EAs



Summary of Discussion Points:

- Can the Department provide feedback on the combined reporting and multiple EA approach?
- Process for approval? Letter to be compiled by the EAP and sent to the Department for approval? 30-day timeframe?
- Combined reporting has been undertaken previously and is regarded as beneficial and efficient
- Combined specialist reporting approved i.e. one Specialist Assessment Report covering all seven EGI sections per each environmental theme?

19

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, LISTED ACTIVITIES AND CUMULATIVE IMPACTS



Public Participation



- Integrated Public Participation to be undertaken for all seven powerlines.
- It is understood that a Public Participation Plan is no longer required by DFFE – please confirm?
- BID to be compiled, distributed electronically and placed on the project website and similar online platforms (e.g. Google Drive).
- Compilation of an I&AP database to be updated throughout.
- The following letters will be emailed to all I&APs on the database, where email addresses are available.
 - Letter 1 – Release of the BID (*note that BID to be released prior to approval of combination request*)
 - Letter 2 – Release of the Draft BA Report for public comment
 - Letter 3 – Submission of the Final BA Report to CA for decision-making
 - Letter 4 – Decision on the Final BA Report
 - Letter 5 – Decision on the Environmental Authorisation
- Executive Summary of the Draft BA Report will be emailed to all I&APs, where email addresses are available.

21 The Draft BA Report with all its supporting documentation will be uploaded to the project website for I&APs to access it. The same will be undertaken for the Final BA Report.

Public Participation



- As a supplementary mechanism, the Draft BA Report will also be uploaded to other alternative web-platforms such as Google Drive. The same will be undertaken for Final BA Report.
- If an I&AP cannot access the report via the project website, via the alternative web-platforms such as Google Drive, and if additional information is required (other than what is provided in the Executive Summary), then the I&AP can contact the EAP, who will then make an electronic copy available via courier or post (where possible).
- SMS texts will also be sent to all I&APs on the database, where cell phone numbers are available, to inform them of the proposed project and how to access the Draft BA Report; as well as the notification of the EAs.
- Where possible, communication will be made with the ward councillor or similar community forums to request that they send notifications of the project and report availability and executive summaries via their local networks (such as WhatsApp groups, Neighbourhood Watch groups, other social media mechanisms etc.).
- In order to notify and inform the public of the proposed project, to invite I&APs to register on the project database, as well as to inform I&APs of the release of the Draft BA Report for comment, the processes will be advertised in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa in one local newspaper at the commencement of the 30-day comment period.
- Site notice boards will be placed at the entrance of the key affected farm portions on which the proposed project will be constructed, as well as at well-known retail or government facilities in Beaufort West and Prince Albert (or similar).
- Submit all reports, applications and required information to DFFE via the S-File Novell System.

Listed Activities



Activity No(s):	Provide the key Basic Assessment Activity(ies) as set out in Listing Notice 1 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.	Describe the section of the proposed project to which the applicable listed activity relates.
11 (i)	The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity (i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts.	The proposed overhead transmission powerlines connecting the respective proposed Kwagga WEFs to the Beaufort West 132kV-400kV Linking Station via the proposed Eskom 132kV Switching Station will be 132kV.
12 (ii) (a) (c)	The development of: (ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development occurs- a) within a watercourse; b) in front of a development setback; or c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse.	The proposed Kwagga Grid Connection Corridor will entail the construction of built infrastructure and structures (e.g. pylons) for the 132kV powerlines and are expected to exceed a footprint of 100 m ² and some may occur within small drainage features and within 32 m of the watercourses.
27	The clearance of an area of 1 hectare (ha) or more, but less than 20 ha of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or (ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.	The proposed Kwagga Grid Connection Corridor will entail the construction of infrastructure (e.g. pylons, feeder bays, etc.) with a combined physical footprint of more than 1 ha that will require clearance of indigenous vegetation.

- Any feedback based on pre-application meeting request form?

23

Proposed Schedule



Key Milestones	Proposed Timeframe
Project Initiation and Pre-Application Consultation with the DFFE	April – Mid May 2022
Release BID	Mid May 2022
Specialist Site Visits	April – May 2022
Specialist Assessments	May – June 2022
Submit Application Forms to DFFE for 7 x 132 kV Powerlines (BA Process)	Early July 2022
Release Draft BA Report for 30-day commenting period	Early July – Early August 2022
Submit Final BA Report to DFFE for Decision-Making	Mid August 2022
DFFE Decision-Making on the Final BA Report and issue of Decision (i.e. grant or refuse EA): 107 days	Early January 2023
EAP to Notify I&APs of Decisions (14 days)	Within 14 days of EAs being issued

24

Cumulative Impact Assessment Approach



- Within the Kwagga EGI corridor: Cumulative assessment of each of the seven sections of the 132 kV overhead transmission corridor in context of the other six sections being developed (worst case scenario).
- With external projects: Include all renewable energy projects within a 50 km radius that have received an EA at the time of starting this BA (i.e. by May 2022)
- Information mainly obtained from the SA Renewable Energy EIA Application Database (REEA) and SAHRIS; as well as from specialists.

25

Thank You
Questions?



F. 3: Pre-Application Meeting Notes



MINUTES

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF SEVEN 132 KV OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION POWERLINES AND ITS ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

PRE-APPLICATION MEETING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT (DFFE)

PRE-APPLICATION REFERENCE NUMBER: 2022-05-0008

MEETING NOTES

Version 1 for Review: 26 May 2022

Meeting:	Pre-Application Meeting – Meeting Notes
Date of Meeting:	18 May 2022
Meeting Platform:	Microsoft Teams
Duration:	10H00 – 12H00
Present from the CSIR:	Lizande Kellerman (LK) [Chair] and Dhiveshni Moodley (DM)
Present from ABO Wind Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd:	Rob Invernizzi (RI)
Present from the DFFE:	Dr Danie Smit (DS), Zama Langa (ZL), Juliet Mahlangu (JM) and Nyiko Nkosi (NN)

1. Purpose of Meeting and Agenda

A pre-application meeting was held between the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), ABO Wind renewable energies (Pty) Ltd (ABO Wind), and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) on 18 May 2022 to discuss the Basic Assessments (BAs) for the Proposed Development of seven 132 kV Overhead Transmission Powerlines and various associated infrastructure, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape.

The meeting was chaired by LK and NN. The meeting took place according to the agenda below:

Item	Description	Time	Presenter
1	Welcome, Introduction and Outline of Meeting Proceedings	10H00 – 10H10	DFFE
2	Description of the seven proposed Kwagga 132 kV Overhead Transmission Powerlines and its associated infrastructure.	10H10 – 10H30	CSIR and ABO Wind
3	Discussion on the specialist assessments and compliance statements to be undertaken as part of the BA Processes; and to discuss the request for combination of specialist reporting.	10H30 – 10H45	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind
4	Discussion on the approach towards the BA reporting, including a request for combination of the projects (i.e. one BA Report covering all 7 x powerlines, with 7 x Applications for EA, and 7 x EAs being issued)	10H45 – 11H05	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind
6	Discussion and confirmation of the requirement for a Public Participation Plan (PPP) which will be submitted to the DFFE for approval.	11H05 – 11H20	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind

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DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province**

DFFE Pre-Application Meeting Notes – Basic Assessments for the proposed development of 7 x 132 kV Overhead Transmission Powerlines and its associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape

7	Discussion of the proposed project schedule and overall process approach to the BA Processes, including applicable Listed Activities and Cumulative Impact Assessment Approach	11H20 – 11H40	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind
8	Questions	11H40 – 11H50	CSIR, DFFE and ABO Wind
9	Way Forward and Closure	11H50 – 12H00	DFFE

2. Presentation: Project Context and Project Description; Approach to the Combined Reporting and Request for Multiple Environmental Authorisations; Specialist Studies to be commissioned; Public Participation; Applicable Listed Activities; Cumulative Impact Assessment Approach; and Proposed Schedule.

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION AND ACTION
Welcome, Introductions and Outline of Meeting Proceedings	LK welcomed all and all attendees introduced themselves. LK confirmed the agenda items for discussion.
Description of the seven proposed Kwagga 132 kV Overhead Transmission Powerlines and its associated infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. LK described the background context of the Kwagga Wind Energy Facilities (WEF), the Beaufort West WEF and the Trakas WEF as well as that the Electrical Grid Infrastructure (EGI) component did not form part of the Scoping and EIA Processes for the Kwagga WEFs 1-3. ii. LK described the seven proposed 132 kV overhead transmission powerlines using the map provided on Slide 6. iii. It was emphasized that the entire proposed corridor will not be cleared of vegetation, only a jeep track and areas for pylon placement will be cleared. iv. LK noted that the differences in the width of corridor to be assessed by specialists is to accommodate the best possible and least environmentally negative positioning of the pylons and to consider the final turbine positioning of the Beaufort West WEF and the Trakas WEF.
Discussion on the specialist assessments and compliance statements to be undertaken as part of the BA Processes; and to discuss the request for combination of specialist reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. LK described the specialist studies being undertaken and the relevant assessment protocol. ii. Motivation to exclude the Geotechnical, Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) [and Electro-Magnetic Interference (EMI) assessments were provided by LK. iii. NN noted that the studies not being undertaken are noted and suggested that the motivation not to undertake the above mentioned specialist studies (which were included in the National Web based Screening Tool Report) must be provided in the Basic Assessment (BA) Report. iv. LK confirmed that officials from SARAO will be contacted prior to the submission of the Draft BA Report to confirm that the proposed projects are located outside of the Karoo Central Astronomy Advantage Area (KCAAA) and Square Kilometre Array (SKA). These officials are also included on the stakeholder database.



DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., Kwagga EGI Section 5), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

Basic Assessments for the proposed development of Proposed 7 x 132 kV Overhead transmission powerlines and its associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure, near Beaufort West in the Western cape Province.

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION AND ACTION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DS confirmed that the above approach to the EMI and RFI studies is acceptable and suggested that the responses received from SKA and SARAO be included as part of the motivation not to undertake the EMI and RFI assessments. v. LK provided motivation to follow a combined specialist reporting approach, i.e. 1 x specialist assessment report per environmental theme for which we are undertaking a specialist study with clear section headings for each section of the proposed 132 kV powerline. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ZL confirmed that one assessment can be undertaken however seven separate specialist reports must be submitted with each of the seven BA Reports.
<p>Discussion on the approach towards the BA reporting, including a request for combination of the projects (i.e. <u>one</u> BA Report covering all 7 x powerlines, with 7 x Applications for EA, and 7 x EAs being issued)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. LK noted that the EIA Regulations 11 (4) and (5) and Regulation 25 (1) and (2) supports combined reporting. Further motivation to undertake a combined reporting approach was provided by LK and included the confirmation that the combined BA Report will include clear headings and sub-headings indicating which report are relevant to the proposed 132 kV powerlines [please refer to Slides 15 – 18] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ZL confirmed that combined reporting is not advised despite it being allowed for in the EIA Regulations. ZL explained that the seven applications will be handled by more than one Case Officer, in addition the upload process requires a report to be uploaded with each application and separate folders are created (i.e. seven EA applications require 7 BA Reports). - DS supported ZL's approach for separate reports and emphasized the administrative burden caused by combined reporting. DS noted that combining reports may have implications on timeframes due to high volume of work that is required to be handled by one Case Officer. - NN supported the abovementioned sentiments of ZL and DS. - NN added that should a clustering approach be adopted for the BA Reporting, the specialist reporting must follow the same approach i.e. if EGI Section 1 and EGI Section 2 are clustered into one BA Report, the specialist study must only report on EGI Section 1 and EGI Section 2 in their specialist assessment report. ii. LK enquired about the possibility of clustering some of the proposed EGI Sections into one report (i.e. Section 1 -3 clustered into 1 report) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NN confirmed that the clustering approach is acceptable and separate EAs can still be issued should the clustering approach be followed. NN noted that should the clustering approach be followed, separate EA Applications can be submitted, and the same clustered report be submitted for the relevant EA Application (i.e. Sections 1 and 2 and clustered into one BA report (e.g. BA Report A), separate EA



DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., Kwagga EGI Section 5), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

DFFE Pre-Application Meeting Notes – Basic Assessments for the proposed development of 7 x 132 kV Overhead Transmission Powerlines and its associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION AND ACTION
	<p>applications submitted for EGI Section 1 and EGI Section 2, BA Report A must be uploaded with the EA Application for EGI Section 1 and the EA application of EGI Section 2).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DS and ZL supported the above approach explained by NN regarding clustering and upload process. <p>iii. RI enquired about the approval time to request permission to undertake the clustering approach and noted concerns regarding potential delays in the timeframe provided on Slide 24.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ZL and NN confirmed that a written request must be submitted to undertake a clustering approach to which the DFFE has 30 days to provide a response. - LK noted that the decision to request a clustering approach will be discussed internally and relevant written request will be provided if necessary. <p>iv. NN noted that a potential downside to undertaking combined reporting is that if the process for one project is halted due to comments received from stakeholders, the processes for other projects (which are a part of the same report) will be halted.</p>
<p>Discussion and confirmation of the requirement for a Public Participation Plan (PPP) which will be submitted to the DFFE for approval.</p>	<p>i. LK presented integrated Public Participation approach and enquired if a Public Participation Plan (PPP) is still required by the DFFE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NN confirmed that an integrated Public Participation approach is acceptable and noted that comments received must be separated into the relevant Comments and Responses Trails and the advertisement for the projects must be published simultaneously. - ZL confirmed that a PPP is no longer a requirement from the DFFE and that only the approved Pre-application minutes from this meeting which state the allocated DFFE reference number must be submitted with the EA Applications.
<p>Discussion of the proposed project schedule and overall process approach to the BA Processes, including applicable Listed Activities and Cumulative Impact Assessment Approach</p>	<p>i. LK noted the key Listed Activities identified at this stage of the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No additional Listed Activities were mentioned by the DFFE officials present at the meeting. - NN noted that should a clustered reporting approach be followed then the applicability of Listed Activities to specific projects must be mentioned in the BA Report. <p>ii. LK noted that the proposed schedule reflects the urgency to proceed with the BA processes considering that the REIPPPP Bidding Round 6 is approaching soon.</p> <p>iii. DS and NN confirmed that the Cumulative Impact Assessment approach outlined on Slide 25 is acceptable.</p>



DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province**

Basic Assessments for the proposed development of Proposed 7 x 132 kV Overhead transmission powerlines and its associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province.

3. Way Forward and Closure

- LK: in terms of the next steps:
 - The CSIR will submit the notes of the meeting to all DFFE officials present at the meeting for review and approval.
 - The CSIR and ABO Wind will have an internal discussion regarding the request for combination reporting and take the DFFE’s comments into consideration in order to structure the combination in a way that will facilitate the decision-making process. We will keep the case officers informed of the decision regarding the submission of the request for combination.

The meeting was closed at 12H00, and the DFFE were thanked for their inputs.

4. Approval

DFFE	CSIR	ABO Wind Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd
Signature: 	Signature: 	Signature: 
Name: <u>Nyiko Nkosi</u>	Name: <u>Lizande Kellerman</u>	Name: <u>Rob Invernizzi</u>
Date: <u>30/05/2022</u>	Date: <u>30/05/2022</u>	Date: <u>30/05/2022</u>

5. Post-Meeting Note

- Following an internal discussion between CSIR and ABO Wind held after the Pre-Application Meeting, the decision was taken to not proceed with the submission of a request for combination reporting, due to overall time constraints in the current project schedule. CSIR will therefore proceed to prepare and submit 7 x separately Applications for Environmental Authorisations (EAs), along with 7 x separate BA Reports, in order to obtain 7 x separate EAs.

F. 4: Correspondence from the DFFE with Approval of the Pre-Application Meeting Notes

Lizande Kellerman

From: Julliet Mahlangu <JMMahlangu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, 30 May 2022 10:32
To: Lizande Kellerman
Cc: Nyiko Nkosi; Dhiveshni Moodley; rob.Invernizzi@abo-wind.com
Subject: FW: 2022-05-0008
Attachments: ABO Wind_CSIR_Kwagga EGI_Pre-App Meeting Notes_260522.pdf; CSIR_ABO Wind Kwagga EGI_Pre-App Meeting ppt_FINAL_18052022.pdf

Dear Lizande

The minutes of the meeting held on the 18 May 2022 for proposed development of seven 132 KV overhead transmission powerlines and its associated electrical grid infrastructure, near Beaufort West in the Western Cape province, received by this Department on 27 May 2022, refers.

Department has decided to approve the minutes for the proposed project.

A copy of the minutes and this approval must be submitted as part of the application form when the application is lodged

Julliet Mahlangu
Environmental Officer Specialised Production
Chief Directorate Integrated Environmental Authorisation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment
Cell: 064 880 8742
Tel: (012) 399 9320



From: Lizande Kellerman <LKellerman@csir.co.za>
Sent: Friday, 27 May 2022 10:22

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5**), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

To: Julliet Mahlangu <JMMahlangu@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Dr. Danie Smit <DSMIT@dffe.gov.za>; Dhiveshni Moodley <DMoodley1@csir.co.za>; Rob.Invernizzi@abo-wind.com
Subject: RE: 2022-05-0008

Dear Julliet,

I trust you are well.

Again, thank you very much for the discussion regarding the proposed Kwagga EGI projects during our Pre-Application Meeting held on Wednesday, 18 May 2022. We really appreciate your time and inputs.

Please find attached the meeting notes for your review and approval. Also attached is a copy of our presentation for ease of reference.

We look forward to receiving your feedback.

Many thanks and best regards,
Lizande

From: Dhiveshni Moodley <DMoodley1@csir.co.za>
Sent: Friday, 13 May 2022 13:16
To: Julliet Mahlangu <JMMahlangu@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Dr. Danie Smit <DSMIT@dffe.gov.za>; Lizande Kellerman <LKellerman@csir.co.za>
Subject: RE: 2022-05-0008

Dear Julliet,

I trust you are well.

Thank you for your email and for confirming that that the Department is able to meet with us on 18 May at 10h00 to discuss the Basic Assessment (BA) Processes required for the proposed construction of seven 132 kV overhead transmission powerlines and its associated electrical infrastructure.

I will send out an MS Teams invite shortly.

Kind regards,
Dhiveshni



From: Julliet Mahlangu <JMMahlangu@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Friday, 13 May 2022 11:26
To: Dhiveshni Moodley <DMoodley1@csir.co.za>
Cc: Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>; Zama Langa <ZLANGA@dffe.gov.za>; Dr. Danie Smit <DSMIT@dffe.gov.za>
Subject: FW: 2022-05-0008

You don't often get email from jmmahlangu@dffe.gov.za. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good day

The department acknowledges the receipt of a pre application meeting request. We are available for a meeting on the 18th May at 10h00.

Should you be available for this day please send us an Ms meeting link.

Regards,
Julliet Mahlangu
Environmental Officer Specialised Production
Chief Directorate Integrated Environmental Authorisation
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment
Cell: 064 880 8742
Tel: (012) 399 9320



From: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, 09 May 2022 15:39
To: Julliet Mahlangu <JMMahlangu@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Nyiko Nkosi <NNKOSI@dffe.gov.za>; Dr. Danie Smit <DSMIT@dffe.gov.za>; Dhiveshni Moodley <DMoodley1@csir.co.za>
Subject:

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5**), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

2022-05

-0008

Dear

Julliet.

Please note that you have been allocated an application:

Type of Application: Pre-Application Meeting Request;

Reference Number: 2022-05-0008;

Date Received: 06/05/2022;

Action Required: Decide on meeting request.

Kindly let Ephron know which date the meeting is to be held, if it will be set.

EIA Applications

Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Please note that this email is for the receipt and processing of online applications only, and is not monitored for responses. All queries must be directed to EIAAdmin@dffe.gov.za.

You are advised that this mailbox has a 48 hour response time.

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From: Dhiveshni Moodley <DMoodley1@csir.co.za>

Sent: Friday, 06 May 2022 13:35

To: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>

Cc: Lizande Kellerman <LKellerman@csir.co.za>

Subject: RE: Request for a Pre-Application Meeting for 7 x BA Processes, near Beaufort

West, Western Cape Dear EIA Applications,

Thank you for sharing the updated Pre-Application meeting request form with us. We truly appreciate your assistance and speedy response.

Please find attached the updated request for a pre-application meeting, completed on the pre-application meeting request form provided via email on 5 May 2022.

As mentioned in our previous correspondence, the meeting is requested to discuss the Basic Assessment (BA) Processes required for the proposed construction of seven 132 kV overhead

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5**), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

transmission powerlines and its associated electrical infrastructure in support of the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility (WEF) 1 (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2070), Kwagga WEF 2 (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2071) and Kwagga WEF 3 (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2072), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape.

National DFFE has granted three separate Environmental Authorisations (EA) for these abovementioned three proposed WEFs on 7 April 2022 i.e. one for each WEF and its associated infrastructure. The electrical grid infrastructure (EGI) component of the three proposed Kwagga WEF projects did not form part of the Scoping and EIA Processes that were undertaken for each of the three WEFs, and ABO Wind renewable energies Pty (Ltd) ("ABO Wind") (i.e. the Project Developer proposing the construction of the Kwagga WEFs and its associated EGI projects) has now requested the CSIR to undertake the Applications for EA and Basic Assessment (BA) Processes required for the proposed EGI in support of the proposed Kwagga WEFs 1-3.

Note that all seven these BA projects will be discussed in one pre-application meeting in order to maximise on efficiency, however seven separate Application Forms for EA will be submitted to the DFFE following the pre-application meeting.

Please also find attached the document control form as requested. Also note that this request for the pre-application meeting is being submitted via email, as per the instructions provided. Hence some of the information in the checklist relating to uploading documents on the Novell Filr is not applicable.

Please will you kindly confirm receipt of the attached documents and this email. Many thanks and kind regards,
Dhiveshni

From: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>

Sent: Thursday, 05 May 2022 13:41

To: Lizande Kellerman <LKellerman@csir.co.za>

Cc: Dhiveshni Moodley <DMoodley1@csir.co.za>

Subject: RE: Request for a Pre-Application Meeting for 7 x BA Processes, near Beaufort West, Western Cape

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Dear Lizande

Apologies for the email below, It was an oversight on outside, your Pre- Application form submitted was dated JUNE 2020, attached here is the correct Pre-Application meeting form

Regards

EIA Applications

Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5**), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

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You are advised that this mailbox has a 48 hour response time.

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. No zip files are to be attached in any email.

From: Lizande Kellerman <LKellerman@csir.co.za>
Sent: Thursday, 05 May 2022 13:18
To: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dfpe.gov.za>
Cc: Dhiveshni Moodley <DMoodley1@csir.co.za>
Subject: RE: Request for a Pre-Application Meeting for 7 x BA Processes, near Beaufort

West, Western Cape Good afternoon,

Further to my earlier below, we have checked the attached form that was just sent to us but it seems to be the

Application for Environmental Authorisation Form that is current as of April 2021.

We are however looking to first set up a Pre-Application Meeting with DFFE for these projects, and have downloaded the **Pre-Application Meeting Request Form** (which is still dated June 2020) from the DFFE website in April 2022 i.e. our Pre-Application Meeting Request Form that was submitted to DFFE on 22 April 2022.

Could you kindly please confirm if this is the latest version of the Pre-Application Meeting Request Form that we needed to complete?

If not, would you be so kind to please share with us the latest version of the Pre-Application Meeting Request Form for completion and resubmission?

Thank you so much, we appreciate your kind assistance in this regard! Best regards,
Lizande

From: Lizande Kellerman
Sent: Thursday, 05 May 2022 13:04
To: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dfpe.gov.za>
Cc: Dhiveshni Moodley <DMoodley1@csir.co.za>
Subject: RE: Request for a Pre-Application Meeting for 7 x BA Processes, near Beaufort

West, Western Cape Good afternoon,

Thank you so much for your kind response and for the attached form, I really appreciate it! Our sincerest apologies for using the incorrect form.

We will complete the attached new form and resubmit our request for a Pre-Application Meeting as soon as possible.

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5**), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province

Many thanks and best regards, Lizande

From: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Sent: Thursday, 05 May 2022 13:01
To: Lizande Kellerman <LKellerman@csir.co.za>
Cc: Dhiveshni Moodley <DMoodley1@csir.co.za>
Subject: RE: Request for a Pre-Application Meeting for 7 x BA Processes, near Beaufort West, Western Cape

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Dear Lizande.

Please note that we cannot consider your application for an EA as you have used the incorrect form. The form used is dated June 2020. Please use the correct form (attached) and we will gladly process your request and allocate your application.

Please note that we have removed the files from the system.

EIA Applications

Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

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You are advised that this mailbox has a 48 hour response time.

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit. No zip files are to be attached in any email.

From: Lizande Kellerman <LKellerman@csir.co.za>
Sent: Friday, 22 April 2022 21:56
To: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@dffe.gov.za>
Cc: Dhiveshni Moodley <DMoodley1@csir.co.za>; Lizande Kellerman <LKellerman@csir.co.za>
Subject: Request for a Pre-Application Meeting for 7 x BA Processes, near Beaufort

West, Western Cape Good afternoon,

Please find attached a request for a pre-application meeting, completed on the pre-application meeting request form obtained from the DFFE website.

The meeting is requested to discuss the Basic Assessment (BA) Processes required for the proposed construction of seven 132 kV overhead transmission powerlines and its associated electrical infrastructure in support of the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facility (WEF) 1 (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2070), Kwagga WEF 2 (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2071) and Kwagga WEF 3 (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2072), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape.

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to undertake the Applications for EA and Basic Assessment (BA) Processes required for the proposed EGI in support of the proposed Kwagga WEFs 1-3.

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Please also find attached the document control form as requested. Also note that this request for the pre-application meeting is being submitted via email, as per the instructions provided. Hence some of the information in the checklist relating to uploading documents on the Novell Filr is not applicable.

Please will you kindly confirm receipt of the attached documents and this email.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and kind assistance in this regard. Best regards,

Lizande



Lizande Kellerman

Pr Sci Nat | BSc Zoo | BSc Hons Bot | MSc Bot
Principal Environmental Assessment Practitioner

Tel: +27 21 888 2489

Cell: +27 83 799 0949

Email: lkellerman@csir.co.za

www.csir.co.za

DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 and the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 2 (i.e., **Kwagga EGI Section 5**), near Beaufort West in the Western Cape Province