

Annexure D.3

PPP Round 3 Report (Overview)

This report provides an overview of the Round 3 PPP (draft pre-app scoping report), highlighting key events and processes and outcomes. This is followed with evidence of the notices and engagements and a comments and responses report for all comments, registrations and responses received in the period.

<p>Why</p>	<p>The pre-application scoping reports with complete specialist reports including preliminary impact assessments, mitigations and recommendations for each of the four applications were released for public review and comment on 8 June 2020. The objectives of this phase of PPP were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subject the pre-application scoping reports and appendices to full PPP to collect issues, comments and objections to the project and respond or resolve issues and to do this ahead of the formal scoping phase to enable sufficient time and opportunity to engage with the issues. ▪ Develop an understanding on the level of agreement between the Competent Authority (CA), the EAP and I&APs regarding the plan of Study for EIA and, where needed, refine the approach and adjust Plan of Study for EIA to ensure a reasonable approach to the identification and assessment of impacts. ▪ Continue to raise awareness of the project and register all I&APs. ▪ Continue to source and update the I&AP database with new registrations. ▪ Update the CA on progress made to date and reconfirm the approach and way forward for the project and other key matters pertaining to the applications, particularly the Public Participation Plan in light of COVID-19.
<p>When</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 8 June to 16 July 2020: A Public comment period ran a 30-day period (excluding public holidays) between 8 June and 9 July 2020. Note that a one-week extension was provided as a few stakeholders had requested extra time (i.e. extended to 16 July 2020). This is the 3rd I&AP / public comment period conducted for these projects thus far. ▪ 22 July 2020: A second pre-application meeting with the CA was held via online meeting to discuss the COVID-19 Public Participation Plan (as required under the COVID-19 directions). ▪ August – September 2020: An Occupier Engagement process was undertaken to ensure there is adequate awareness among the farm labourer and farm occupier communities about the project and additional I&APs were registered.
<p>What & How</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Digital copies of the four scoping reports and all annexures were made available on Dropbox and Google Drive and kept there for the duration of the PPP period. ▪ An introductory letter and a link to a YouTube audio/visual presentation in English and Afrikaans were provided in the online folders to give I&APs an overview of the project. Non-technical summaries of each report were also provided in English and Afrikaans in the online folders. ▪ Newspaper advertisements (in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa) were placed in “Die Courier” and “Die Burger” newspapers on 5 June 2020 (See APPENDIX A). ▪ Project signboards (in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa) were placed (See APPENDIX B) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – along the R381 between Beaufort West and Loxton at the entrance to the farm Gert Adriaans Kraal (the remainder of Farm 18) at the Northern extend of the wind farm area, – the Notice board outside the Loxton Public Library; – the entrance at the Beaufort West Library; and – at the entrance to the Eskom Droërivier Substation along the N12. ▪ Mailchimp emails (5 June 2020): A Mailchimp email (See APPENDIX D.4) was distributed registered I&APs with an email address. The Notification email contained links to the online repositories (Drobox and Google Drive). Mailchimp was used as it provides a confirmation of receipt and also indicates if the email and associated content was engaged with by recipients (See APPENDIX D.5). We sent the Mailchimp email to 238 email addresses and recorded 16 bounces (i.e. emails not accepted by destination domain). ▪ Bounced emails (7 June 2020): Direct emails were sent to the 16 email bounced addresses direct from the EAP’s email address, in case there was an issue with Mailchimp emails (see APPENDIX D.6)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Follow-up emails (12 June 2020): Where we noted that the Mailchimp email and associated content had not been engaged with (125 instances), we resent the email (with the same content) direct from the EAP’s email address to these addresses (See APPENDIX D.8) to overcome any potential issues with Mailchimp or other issues. In this email we also added a “direct download” option to the existing online repositories. ■ Posted Letter notifications (5 June 2020) (10): Letter notifications with Non-technical summaries of the Gridline Pre-app scoping report (English and Afrikaans) were posted to 10 properties along the Gridline that were without an email address. The letter and proof of dispatch is provided in APPENDIX D.9. All affected properties and neighbours of the windfarm have provided email addresses. ■ SMS notifications (7 June 2020): Where email contact information for some property openers was not available but a cell number was provided (6 instances), an SMS message (APPENDIX D.10) was sent. ■ Hand delivered letters (8 June 2020). Two properties (Portion 6 and 14 of the Farm 162) along the Gridline had no contact information whatsoever. Despite several attempts to make contact and previous hand delivered notifications (See PPP Report 2) but did not register as I&AP’s. Due to location of these properties within the Gridline Notification letters and Non-technical summaries (English and Afrikaans) were again hand delivered to these properties (APPENDIX D.11). ■ A second pre-application meeting with the CA was held via online meeting service on 22 July 2020. In light of COVID-19, the main focus of the meeting centred on the Public Participation Plan. The CA was given an update on progress to date and a number of key issues were discussed. The approved meeting notes and presentation (APPENDIX C.1) and Approved PP Plan (APPENDIX C.2) have been Appended here as APPENDIX C. ■ The applicant has undertaken measures to reach and register potential I&APs from the farm labourer / farm occupier communities. These measures were discussed with the DEFF in the 2nd pre-application meeting (APPENDIX C.1) and incorporated into the approved Public Participation Plan (APPENDIX C.2). In addition to the steps discussed with DEFF, an occupier engagement drive was undertaken to reach and register occupiers. The Occupier Engagement Report can be viewed here as APPENDIX E. ■ A call for I&AP registrations was advertised in the National Legal Gazette on 13 November 2020 (APPENDIX D.13)
<p>Key outputs, events and overview of issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The I&AP database was updated with new contact information and new I&AP registrations. ■ Substantive comments, inputs or objections were received from the following (detailed responses can be found in the Comments and Response Report - APPENDIX E): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA) – BirdlifeSA – CapeNature – Western Cape Department of Environment Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) – Department of Environmental Affairs and Forestry (DEFF): Biodiversity – Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) – Witkrans (Farm No 60) (Represented by Tommy Brummer Town Planning) – South African National Parks (SANParks) – Shepherding Back Biodiversity (SBB) (via Dr Bool Smuts with 17 alleged endorsements) – Sixteen Farm occupiers (via Dr Bool Smuts) – Occupier engagements process also recorded a number of comments which have been captured and responded to the in Comments and Response report in APPENDIX E. ■ Jeanine Ihlenfeldt and Rick Haw, neighbours of the proposed grid corridor and wind farms, respectively, assisted with reporting on the location of potentially vulnerable bird nests located on Highlands (black eagles) and Prinskloof (Secretary birds) farms. In all instances these were far enough from the project activities but has helped the Avifauna specialist in understanding general distribution patterns in the area. ■ The key changes between the pre-application and draft scoping Phases:

- New VERA modelling and change to the buffer for Verreaux's Eagle's nests has created additional No Go areas for the turbines. This resulted in the need to relocate or remove turbines in the layout plan. A revised layout and changes will be considered by the revised specialist reports in the Draft Scoping.
- The loss of potential turbine positions associated with the VERA and Martial Eagle nest No Go areas in the pre-application phase are such that the Nuweveld North wind farm was left with very few potential turbine positions. As a result, the internal boundaries of the three wind farms have redrawn to rebalance the number of potential turbines positions across the three facilities.
- The substation for Nuweveld North has been moved to avoid no go areas identified in the pre-app phase; this impacts on the Gridline corridor within the Wind Farm properties. The changes and revised layouts will be assessed in the revised specialist assessments in the Draft Scoping phase
- The terrestrial ecology study will be updated with additional expert information relating to the butterflies and herpetology (amphibians and reptiles) provided in response to comments raised.
- The camera trapping and monitoring programme, which lasted for 8 months, has run its course and no Riverine Rabbit were found in the sampling.
- Bat and Bird monitoring programmes (covering all seasons) are now complete and the Draft Scoping reports will be updated with the data.

LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX A Advertisements

- APPENDIX A.1 Die Courier 5 June 2020
- APPENDIX A.2 Die Burger 5 June 2020

APPENDIX B Site Notices and information posters

APPENDIX C Pre-application meeting with DEFF:

- APPENDIX C.1 Approved meeting notes and presentation
- APPENDIX C.2 Approved Public Participation Plan

APPENDIX D Notifications and proof of distribution

- APPENDIX D.1 Submission of preapplication report on USB to DEFF
- APPENDIX D.2 Submission of Preapplication scoping report to DEFF: Biodiversity
- APPENDIX D.3 Submission of Preapplication scoping report to CapeNature
- APPENDIX D.4 Mailchimp email of 5 June 2020 (238)
- APPENDIX D.5 Mailchimp report
- APPENDIX D.6 Mailchimp report: emails addresses that bounced (16)
- APPENDIX D.7 Resend of Email to bounced addresses (from EAPS email) (7 June 2020) (16)
- APPENDIX D.8 Mailchimp emails with zero activity by 14h00 on 12 June 2020 – email resent via EAPs direct email using outlook (125)
- APPENDIX D.9 Letter notification and proof of dispatch through POSTNET on 5 June 2020 (10)
- APPENDIX D.10 SMS notifications (for properties with no email or postal but where a cell phone number had been provided)
- APPENDIX D.11 Hand delivery of letters to two properties with no other contact information (2)
- APPENDIX D.12 Noticeboards and posters erected as part of the Farm Occupier / Worker Engagement process
- APPENDIX D.13 Call for I&AP Registration in the National Legal Gazette (13 Nov -14 Dec 2020)

APPENDIX E Comments Recieved

APPENDIX F OCCUPIER ENGAGEMENT REPORT

APPENDIX G PPP 3 Comments and Responses Report

- APPENDIX G.1 Comments a responses report
- APPENDIX G.2 Werksmans response to Dr Smuts
- APPENDIX G.3 Eskom letter RE: Droërvier MTS as connection option
- APPENDIX G.4 SENTECH Approvals