

Annexure D.6

PPP Round 4: Overview report

NUWEVELD WIND FARMS AND GRIDLINE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS ROUND 4: DRAFT SCOPING

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PPP ROUND 4 PART I: SUMMARY REPORT

This report provides an overview of the Round 4 PPP (draft Scoping Report), highlighting key events, processes and outcomes. This is followed with evidence of the notices and engagements with the public and authorities. All written comments relating to the Draft Scoping Report and the responses thereto are recorded in a comments and responses report which is also appended here. Herewith a summary of PPP Round 4:

What	<p>PPP Round 4 relates to the Draft Scoping phase of the project. a pre-app Draft Scoping phase preceded the current phase. The following information was available to the Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and Authorities for review and comment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The draft Scoping Reports for the Nuweveld North, Nuweveld East, Nuweveld West and Nuweveld Gridline applications were available for review and comment. ■ The four Draft Scoping Reports were available in hardcopy in Beaufort West (Klein Karoo Agri) and Loxton (Public library) (See APPENDIX C.3 for proof of delivery). Consolidated Non-technical summaries in English and Afrikaans were also available. ■ The four Draft Scoping Reports were available as digital copies from EAP’s website (www.zutari.com/Nuweveld) and also via Dropbox and Google Drive. The same site and information was available for datafree access and download when access via mobile phone ISP via the URL: https://nuweveldwindfarms.datafree.co/nuweveld ■ The digital repositories also included <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The I&AP notification letter relating to PPP Round 4 comment period – An audio/visual presentation in English and Afrikaans to provide I&APs an overview of the project at the present phase. – A Consolidated Non-technical summary of the draft scoping reports in English and Afrikaans.
Why	<p>The objectives of this round of PPP were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Present the revised project description and layout, scoping reports, specialist assessments and plan of study for EIA to I&APs which include changes in response to issues raised in the previous comment period for the pre-application draft scoping reports. ■ To collect new and revised issues, comments and objections to the project and respond to these in the final Scoping Report. ■ Further the 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 potential I&APs. Continue to source and update the I&AP database with new registrations.
When	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 15 January and 15 February 2021: A Public comment period ran a 30-day period as prescribed in the by the EIA regulations. ■ The Applications were submitted and received by the DEFF of 14 January 2021 (as acknowledge by DEFF), along with the Draft Scoping Reports, thus the deadline for submission of the Final Scoping reports including this PPP Round 4 report is 1 March 2021.
How	<p>The section details how I&APs and Authorities were notified of the comment period and provides proof of these interactions. The current I&AP Register is included as APPENDIX B. All notices described here provided a description of where the hardcopy reports could be viewed and also where digital copies could be accessed and downloaded.</p>

- **Advertisements (See Annexure)**
 - Newspaper advertisements (in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa) advertising the public comment period and call for registrations were placed in “Die Courier” and “Die Burger” newspapers on 15 January 2020 (See APPENDIX A.1 and APPENDIX A.2).
 - Readers without airtime/data but wanting to register were asked to send a “Please Call Me” to the EAP, should they wish to register as an I&AP.
- **Site Notices**
 - Project signboards (in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa) were placed at three locations on site (See APPENDIX A.3) as follows:
 - 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,
 - On the fence line where the proposed Gridline Corridor crosses the DR02311 or the De Jager’s Pass road.
 - At the entrance to the Eskom Droërivier Substation along the N12.
- **Information and awareness posters**
 - Information and awareness posters were posted at four locations in Loxton and five locations in Beaufort West, conspicuous locations where posters for the process have previously been erected (specific locations are shown in APPENDIX A.4).
- **Email**
 - 14 January 2021 - Mailchimp email: An I&AP notice (See APPENDIX C.4) in regarding the PPP Round 4 was send via the Mailchimp email service on 14 January 2021 to all registered I&APs with an email address on record. 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 C.5 for the Mailchimp performance report). We sent the Mailchimp email to 290 email addresses and recorded 23 bounces (i.e. emails not accepted by destination domain).
 - 14 January 2021 - Email No 1 – The same I&AP notification was sent directly to all email addresses that bounced the Mailchimp email (See APPENDIX C.6) and also all addresses that were not accepted by Mailchimp service (See APPENDIX C.7).
 - 19 January 2021 - Email No 3 – Where Mailchimp reported no activity on the email from the address, we resent the notification direct to the email address. This in case the Mailchimp email was missed or filtered as spam by receipts systems.
- **Post**
 - 13 January 2021 - I&APs without an email address were send an I&AP notification letter via post. The Notification letter and proof of postage is provided in APPENDIX C.9.
- **SMS & WhatsApp**
 - 15 January 2021 – Where IAPs had neither email or postal address notifications were sent via SMS and WhatsApp. An SMS containing relevant information on where the DSR could be viewed in hardcopy and also digitally send in English or Afrikaans (as per their preference) via the BulkSMS service and then repeated directly from the EAPs cell phone. See APPENDIX C.10 for the messages and proofs.
 - The link provided to the Zutari Website was set up as a Datafree website so anyone using a cell phone to access the data were able do this free or charge and without needing data on their phones.
- **Reminder and effort to illicit comment**
 - 10 February 2021: A reminder was sent to all I&AP and authorities (where an email address is on record) to reminder them of the closure of the comment period on the 15th February 2001 in an effort to illicit comment. See APPENDIX C.11 for proof of message.
 - 10 February 2021: A reminder was sent to all I&AP (where a cell number was provided) in English and Afrikaans as a reminder of the closure of the comment period on the 15th February 2001 in an effort to illicit comment. See APPENDIX C.12 for proof of message.

Key outputs, events and overview of issues

- The I&AP database was updated with new contact information and new I&AP registrations. The latest I&AP register is available in APPENDIX B.
- Original comments are provided in the order they were received in APPENDIX D.
- PPP Round 4 Comments and Responses report can be found in APPENDIX E. Eight substantive comments, inputs or objections were received from the following (detailed responses can be found in the Comments and Response Report - Appendix E):
 - CapeNature
 - DEFF: IEA x 4
 - DEA&DP x4
 - Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)
 - Karoo Gate Airport (Dr Bambie Hieberg)
 - Mr Themba G. Mlonyeni
- Parties submitting substantive comments and **objecting** to the projects include the following (refer to the Comments and Responses Report for details of their objections):
 - SheerpropsIII (Pty) Ltd owners of Witkrans (Farm No 60) (Represented by Tommy Brummer Town Planning)
 - Landmark Foundation & Kromelboog Conservation Services (Dr Bool Smuts with 17 alleged endorsements)
- The Competent Authority should also consider the PPP Round 3 Comments and Responses when appraising the Final Scoping Report, with the exception of Dr Bool Smuts comment, who submitted a revised version of his previous comments and thus we provided the full revised response with **dotted underlined text** to indicate new information (for ease of reference).
- Arising from PPP Round 4 and addressed in the Final Scoping Reports or deferred into the EIA phase, are the following issues that have or will be addressed:
 - **Cumulative layout map:** Based on comments by the DEFF (See 17,18,19 & 20 of the Comments and Responses Report) a layout map showing the cumulative project (i.e. all 3 Nuweveld Wind Farms and the Gridline) infrastructure and existing infrastructure (i.e. other WEFs and powerlines, existing roads and rail) be shown on a single cumulative layout map. This map set has been added as Annexure B.8 in the Wind Farm in the FSRs and Annexure B.7 in the Gridline FSR.
 - **Groundwater abstractions:** Based on a comment by CapeNature (See comment 33 of the Comments and Responses Report), who disagree that the potential impact of groundwater abstractions on surrounding boreholes and game/livestock watering features will be negligible and so this will be revisited by the relevant specialist and, if required, assessed in the draft EIA Report.
 - **Karoo Padloper:** Based on comments by CapeNature (See comment 33 of the Comments and Responses Report) the requirement for tortoise roof fencing and/or road underpasses as a mitigation measure to avoid traffic mortalities of the endangered Karoo Padloper will be considered by the terrestrial Ecologist in the Draft EIA Report.
 - **Solid Waste disposal:** based on the comments by the DEA&DP (See comment 29 - 4.2 for Nuweveld North the Comments and Responses Report), written confirmation of the municipality's capacity to receive the project's solid waste will be sought and included in the Draft EIA Report.
 - **Environmental Impact Statement:** Based on a comment by the DEFF (See comments 17, 18, 19 & 20 of the Comments and Responses Report), An Environmental Impact Statement pertaining specifically to cumulative impacts will be included in the Draft EIA Report providing a position on whether the proposed development should be allowed to proceed.
 - **Battery Emissions:** Based on a comment by the DEA&DP (See Item 4.2 in comment No 30 & 31 in the Comment and Responses Report), more information will be provided on the possible gas emissions arising from the Battery Storage Facility (if any).

What's next

- The EIA team (Applicant, EAP and Specialists) have considered and responded to all comments raised in the current comment period, made final adjustments to the Final Scoping Reports and submit these to the Competent Authority for decision making. The Competent Authority has 43 days to review the Final Scoping Reports and accept or reject the reports.
- Should the Competent Authority accept the scoping reports, then the process enters the impact assessment phase. A draft Environment Impact Report (EIR) (including revised specialist assessments and draft Environmental Management Program (EMPr)) would be produced for each application in accordance with the plans of study for EIA.
- The four draft EIRs would be subject to PPP Round 5 and would be available to the public for a 30-day comment around mid-May to mid-June 2021.
- Final comments would be collected and responded to. The EIRs would be revised to include or respond to I&AP and Authority comments, where required, and the final EIRs would be submitted to the Competent Authority for decision making.