



- ### INTRODUCTION
- Overview of the Wind Energy Facility project proposed by Eskom
  - Introduce the EIA Process
  - Site identification → Scoping → EIA
  - Provide the opportunity for you to raise key issues for consideration
  - Opportunity to provide valuable input into/to inform the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process

- ### WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN THE WESTERN CAPE
- Commercial wind energy facility
  - On a site on the West Coast in the Western Cape Province
  - Area within the Matzikama Local Municipality
  - Area identified by Eskom through a regional site identification process
  - Site specific issues to be considered - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

- ### OVERVIEW
- ESKOM Strategic Overview
  - Environmental Impact Assessment Process
  - Technical Overview
  - Discussion

- ### WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN THE WESTERN CAPE
- DEA&DP's Strategic Initiative began in 2003
  - Aim: develop a forward planning tool to avoid issues identified/encountered internationally
  - Aim: provide a positive/innovative approach to planning the location of wind energy facilities
  - At a regional level, and not site specific
  - A Regional Methodology for site selection outlined criteria for consideration - a precursor to an EIA process
    - Combination of criteria-based & landscape-based methodology
    - Includes visibility, landscape value, capacity, & landscape sensitivity
    - Results in the demarcation of preferred zones, negotiable zones & restricted zones

## REGIONAL SITE IDENTIFICATION

- Determine & delineate areas suitable for wind energy development including:
  - Sites/areas of special environmental importance
  - Planning criteria
  - Issues relating to landscape character, value, sensitivity and capacity.
- Balanced with technical constraining factors affecting the siting of a wind farm including:
  - the wind resource (wind potential diminishing with distance from the coastline),
  - land availability,
  - accessibility
  - existing grid infrastructure.

## WHAT IS THE ENVIRONMENT?

- The environment consists of:
  - The natural environment - plants, animals, soil etc.
  - The man-made environment - social, cultural & archaeological resources
- Sustainable development
- Management &/or protection of all components
- Sensitive environments - require additional care, protection or respect



## EIA PROCESS & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT



## LEGAL CONTEXT

- National Environmental Management Act (No 107 of 1998)
  - Overarching environmental legislation in South Africa
  - Identifies and regulates activities which may have a detrimental impact on the environment
  - Specifies the EIA process
- Eskom requires authorisation from DEAT (in consultation with Western Cape DEA&DP)
- Independent environmental studies must be undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations

## WHO TO CONTACT?

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