



# PROPOSED WIND ENERGY FACILITY EIA PROCESS

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RECORD OF SCOPING PHASE STAKEHOLDERS MEETING

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KOEBERG VISITORS CENTRE, CAPE TOWN

Held on Thursday, 23 August 2007, Koeberg Visitors Centre

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Sustainable Futures ZA & Savannah Environmental

Please address any comments to Shawn Johnston at the above address.

### SCOPING PHASE STAKEHOLDERS MEETING: KOEBERG VISITORS CENTRE, CAPE TOWN

Venue: Koeberg Visitors Centre

Date: Thursday, 23 August 2007

**Time:** 13:00

#### WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND APOLOGIES

Shawn Johnston, process facilitator for the proposed Eskom Wind Energy Facility Public Participation Process opened the meeting. He introduced the team of Sustainable Futures ZA and outlined his role as facilitator. He provided an overview of the project and the process that lead up to the current phase of the environmental impact assessment process. Specific reference to the involvement of local communities in the information gathering and information dissemination exercises was made – which included the various municipal offices, business and individuals from local communities in Vredendal, Koekenaap, Lutzville, Doringbaai, Strandfontein and Ebenhaeser. He introduced the core team present from Eskom and Sayannah Environmental.

- » Morore Mashoa Chief Engineer Division Client Office. Acts as the client for Generation.
- » Kubentheran Nair EIA project manager from Eskom Generation
- » Deidre Herbst Eskom Generation Environmental Manager
- » Mervin Theron Project Manager Project Development Department
- » Ian Smit Eskom Wind Energy Technical Expert
- » Thandi Nkonzo Eskom Generation
- » Patience Selepe Eskom Land and Rights
- » Ntombikana Malinga Eskom Stakeholder Management
- » Isaac Blou Eskom Enterprise Engineering
- » Karen Jodas Savannah Environmental, undertaking the EIA for the project
- » Shawn Johnston Sustainable Futures ZA, the public participation consultant for the project
- » David Abrahams Sustainable Futures ZA
- » René Ngwenya Sustainable Futures ZA

#### Apologies were received from:

» Melissa Naiker – Western Cape Government Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning – Spatial Planning

#### **MEETING ATTENDEES**

- » M. Erasmus Western Cape Government Department of Transport and Public Works
- » Raudhiyah Sahabodien Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning –Spatial Planning
- » Mark Pinder ARUP (SA) Pty Ltd

#### **MEETING AGENDA**

- 1. Welcome and Introductions
- 2. Apologies
- 3. Rules of Engagement
- 4. Purpose of the meeting
- 5. Presentations
  - Background & technical aspects of Eskom Project
  - EIA process and feedback of the findings of the Scoping Phase
- 6. Question and answer session
- 7. Way forward and closure

## BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT AND FEEDBACK OF THE SCOPING PHASE

A formal presentation was delivered to the attendees. This presentation covered the following:

- » A technical overview of the proposed Wind Energy Facility (presented by Morore Mashao)
- » A overview of the Environmental Assessment (EIA) Process and feedback of the findings of the Scoping Phase (presented by Karen Jodas).

The presentations covered the following:

- » A technical overview of the proposed Eskom Wind Energy Facility focused on the following themes:
  - How wind turbines work:
  - Inside of a wind turbine;
  - Wind energy facts;
  - Wind resource;
  - Timelines for the project;
  - Technology; and

- Anticipated project costs.
- » An overview of the EIA process and feedback of the findings of the Scoping Phase included the following information:
  - Wind energy development in the Western Cape;
  - Project specific details;
  - The legal context;
  - Alternatives;
  - The Scoping Phase;
  - Construction impacts;
  - Planning and design considerations;
  - Operation impacts;
  - Evaluation of impacts;
  - EIA process and public involvement;
  - The way forward.

Detailed information on the presentations delivered by Morore Mashao and Karen Jodas are attached for reference.

After the completion of the presentations, the facilitator opened the floor for comments and questions of clarification.

#### **DISCUSSION SESSION**

The following questions were raised:

- » Mr. Erasmus (Department of Transport & Public Works) enquired whether the turbines will be installed closer than 95 metres to the Skaapvlei Road. There is a building restriction on the Skaapvlei Road.
  - Morore Mashoa (Eskom) explained that the preliminary layout will take into account where the wind resource could be best harnessed. The proximity to the road, however, will be taken into account. The installation of the substation will also be considered carefully.
- » Mr. Erasmus pointed out that in the case of a divisional road, according to Act 24 of 1994, any structure built should be 95 meters away from the road.
- » Mr. Erasmus (Department of Transport & Public Works) suggested that Eskom consider distances for access points to the site. A minimum distance of 600 metres is required between access points off the divisional road.
  - Mark Pinder (Arup) suggested that the access to the wind energy facility would not be considered as a road, but as a property access. This could be motivated, if necessary.

#### **WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE**

Mr Johnston thanked everybody for their participation and questions. The attendees were informed that the next steps in the EIA process are:

- » Distribution of notes from the meeting;
- » Draft Scoping Report for public review and comment until 14 September 2007;
- » Finalisation of Scoping Report for submission to DEAT.

The meeting was closed at 14h30.