



DRAFT AGENDA

- Welcome, introduction & apologies
- Purpose of the meeting
- Background & Technical Aspects regarding the Project
- EIA process & feedback of the findings of the Scoping Phase
- Question & Answer session
- The Way Forward & Closure

CONDUCT OF THE MEETING

- Work through the facilitator
- Language of choice
- Keep your questions for Question & Answers Session
- Identify yourselves
- Equal participation

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

- To provide I&APs with technical information/overview regarding the proposed Wind Energy Facility project
- To provide I&APs with feedback regarding the findings of the Scoping Study
- Site identification → Scoping → EIA
- Opportunity to provide valuable input into/to inform the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process
- To provide I&APs the opportunity to seek clarity regarding the proposed project
- To record any additional comments, issues & concerns raised to inform the EIA Phase

OVERVIEW

- Background & Technical Aspects regarding the Project
- EIA process & feedback of the findings of the Scoping Phase
- Question & Answer Session

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN THE WESTERN CAPE

- Commercial wind energy facility - up to 100 turbines
- Construction to be phased - first phase 100 MW
- Constructed over an area of ~25km² (site ~37km²)
- Off-set at a distance of 2km from the coastline
- Falls on boundary of Matzikama Local Municipality & DMA of Western Cape Municipal Area 1 (WCMA01)
- Study area includes:
 - Portion 5 of the farm Gravewaterkop 158 (commonly known as Skaapvlei)
 - A portion of Portion 620 of the farm Olifants River Settlement
 - A portion of Portion 617 of the farm Olifants River Settlement



PROJECT-SPECIFIC DETAILS

- 100 turbines
- 80m towers with nacelle
- Three 45m blades
- 15m x 15m foundation
- Access roads (~6m width)
- Underground electrical cabling between turbines & substations
- Substation/s (~80x80m)
- 132kV Distribution line to Koekenaap or Juno Substation
- Access/haul road from the main R363 road (Koekenaap)



PROJECT-SPECIFIC DETAILS: Construction

- Access/haul road establishment
- Site preparation & clearing
- Transport of components & equipment to site
- Laydown areas
- Erection of turbines
- Construction of substations & powerlines
- Commissioning
- Site remediation & erosion control



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

ALTERNATIVES

- Reasonable & feasible alternatives required to be considered in terms of the EIA Regulations
- 'Do nothing' alternative
 - Maintain Status Quo
 - Will not assist Government (or Eskom) in reaching set targets for renewable energy.
 - No additional power direct to the Western Cape power grid
 - Not considered a preferred alternative

ALTERNATIVES

- Siting alternatives: considered through the regional assessment
- Site-specific alternatives: turbine & infrastructure position within the 37 km² area
 - Detailed micro-siting exercise
 - Assess local-level issues
 - For detailed consideration in EIA Phase

ALTERNATIVES

- Alternative technologies: for use in the establishment of the wind facility
- Transportation Route Alternatives: for all project components to the site
 - Transportation options (harbour, rail, air, road), as well as the possible routes associated with these options - assessed through the transportation study
 - Use of road-based transport is a viable option - alternative routes to be considered

ALTERNATIVES

- Alternative servitudes for powerline routing: Network integration studies, planning & design still being finalised
 - 132kV powerline - connect to Koekenaap or Juno Substation
 - Alternative routes/corridors for the 132kV powerline will be assessed in the EIA phase - follow other existing linear infrastructure (including roads and or other powerlines)



SCOPING PHASE



CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS

- Environmental impacts: construction activities within footprint of site & access roads
 - Loss of vegetation & habitat alteration
 - Threats to biodiversity and ecological processes
 - Impacts to fauna & birds (e.g. direct mortality) & loss of habitat
 - Loss of/modification to sensitive areas (e.g. pans)
 - Surface modification & soil erosion - excavations & increase susceptibility of sediments to erosion
 - Physical loss of heritage sites/material
 - Noise & vibration
 - Transport routes
 - Social impacts - visual, tourism, residents, socio-economic

PLANNING & DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- Environmental factors which may impact on construction activities - to consider outside of EIA process:
 - Geotechnical conditions - bedrock, bearing capacities of soils, collapse potential etc
 - Seismic risk to structures
 - Local topographic environment & relief
 - Stormwater drainage design & control
 - Confirmation of transport routes

OPERATION IMPACTS

- Environmental impacts: operation phase activities within footprint of site & powerline - managed through EMP
 - Visual impacts - visual exposure
 - Noise produced by the spinning of rotor blades
 - Avian/bat mortality resulting from collisions with blades and/or powerlines
 - Run-off, sedimentation & groundwater pollution e.g. transformer oils from substation
 - Social impact - local residents, socio-economic
 - Tourism potential - local and regional markets

EVALUATION OF IMPACTS

- Majority of potential impacts identified are anticipated to be localised & restricted to the affected site/area
- Facility will be highly visible - 25km ZVI
- Potentially sensitive areas within the 37km² identified - important for micro-siting
- However, no areas of "high sensitivity" prohibiting development
- Previously disturbed area (cultivated areas) least sensitive & most suitable for development



EVALUATION OF IMPACTS

- Sparse vegetation on clay soils, rocky areas and Sand Fynbos areas - medium to high sensitivity
- Non-perennial pans (& an associated 100m buffer) - medium to high sensitivity
- Site-specific assessment for impact on avifauna
- Powerline corridor to follow existing infrastructure
- Issues for further study recommended - will be assessed in detail within the EIA Phase
- EIA specialist studies - provide assessment, recommendations & mitigation measures to minimise potential impacts (Plan of Study for EIA)

EIA PROCESS & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT



WAY FORWARD

- Draft Scoping Report available for review from 15 August to 14 September 2007
- Public invited to submit comments
- Feedback meetings: Lutzville & Cape Town
- Final Scoping Report to be submitted to DEAT (& DEA&DP) for review & approval prior to undertaking the EIA
- Compile draft EIA & EMP for public review - end November 2007

WHO TO CONTACT?

Shawn Johnston: Sustainable Futures ZA

PO Box 749, Rondebosch,
CAPE TOWN, 7701

Phone: 083 325 9965

Fax: 086 510 2537

E-mail: windfarms@mweb.co.za

Website: www.savannahsa.com

www.eskom.co.za/eia

