



PROPOSED WIND ENERGY FACILITY EIA PROCESS

RECORD OF FOCUS GROUP MEETING

WEST COAST DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, MOORREESBURG

Held on
Wednesday 25 July 2007,
WCDM Offices, Moorreesburg

Savannah Environmental (Pty) Ltd

Address: PO Box 148
Sunninghill, 2157
Tel: 011 234 6621
Fax: 086 684 0547
E-mail: karen@savannahsa.com

Sustainable Futures ZA

Address: PO Box 749
Rondebosch,
Cape Town, 7701
Tel: 083 325 9965
Fax: 086 510 2537
E-mail: swjohnston@mweb.co.za
windfarms@mweb.co.za

Notes for the Record prepared by:

Sustainable Futures ZA & Savannah Environmental

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

**FOCUS GROUP MEETING:
WEST COAST DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, MOORREESBURG**

Venue: West Coast District Municipality, Moorreesburg

Date: Wednesday, 25 July 2007

Time: 14:00

WELCOME, INTRODUCTION AND APOLOGIES

The meeting with the West Coast District Municipality was integrated into the monthly Council Meeting with the full executive mayoral committee and the district municipal managers team. Karen Jodas, the EIA team leader addressed the committee and introduced the core team present.

- » Nico Gewers - Chief Environmental Advisor - Generation Environmental Management
- » Morore Mashoa - Chief Engineer - Division Client Office. Acts as the client for Generation.
- » Kubentheran Nair - EIA project manager from Eskom Generation
- » Bessie Mabondza – Eskom Project Manager
- » Ian Smit – Technical expert
- » Karen Jodas – Savannah Environmental, undertaking the EIA for the project
- » Shawn Johnston - Sustainable Futures ZA, the public participation consultant for the project

MEETING ATTENDEES

Councillors:

- » Cllr FG Schoor – Deputy Mayor
- » Cllr R Skei
- » Cllr HC Kitshoff
- » Cllr MR Smit
- » Cllr JJ Josephus
- » Cllr J Botha – Executive Mayor
- » Cllr C Karools
- » Cllr A de Vries
- » Cllr JA Engelbrecht
- » Cllr G van Wyk
- » Cllr J Kriel
- » Cllr A de Bruyn
- » Cllr I Cloete
- » Cllr LN Gali – Speaker
- » Cllr NJA Rust
- » Cllr BJ Stanley

Officials

- » Mr WP Rabbets – Municipal Manager
- » Mr W Markus – Director Corporate Services
- » Mr IAB vd Westhuizen – Director Technical Services
- » Mr M Mabula – Director Community Services
- » Mr J Koekemoer – Director Finance
- » Mr F Williams – Manager Strategic Services
- » Mrs NJ Miggel – Internal Auditor
- » Ms P Rodgers – Head: Support Services
- » Dr H Brand – Manager: Human Resources

Project Team

- » Nico Gewers – Eskom Generation
- » Kubentheran Nair – Eskom Generation
- » Bessie Mabondza – Eskom Projects
- » Morore Mashao – Eskom Generation
- » Ian Smit – Eskom research
- » Karen Jodas – Savannah Environmental
- » Shawn Johnston – Sustainable Futures ZA

BACKGROUND & TECHNICAL ASPECTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The Savannah Environmental and Eskom teams were accommodated during the presentation period of the council meeting and afforded 45 minutes to present the Wind Energy Facility project to Council (guest are normally only afforded 20 minutes during this session). A formal presentation was delivered to the attendees. This presentation covered the following:

- » A strategic overview of Eskom's current initiatives and future generation plan (presented by Nico Gewers);
- » A overview of the Regional Assessment and Environmental Assessment Processes (presented by Karen Jodas);
- » A technical overview of the proposed Wind Energy Facility (presented by Morore Mashao).

The detailed information and presentations delivered by Nico Gewers, Karen Jodas and Morore Mashao are attached for reference.

DISCUSSION SESSION

After completing all the presentations, the following questions were asked after the presentation by the executive mayoral committee members.

- » *How many Megawatts does Darling generate? (This was a mis-understanding by the councillor that the Eskom Klipheuwel facility is the Darling Facility. This was cleared up in the discussion).*

The Darling wind farm is a private initiative. This facility is not yet constructed, although there is an environmental approval for its construction. It is rated as approximately 4.5 MW. This is similar to the existing Klipheuwel demonstration facility operated by Eskom.

- » *What is the Klipheuwel facility?*

This is a demonstration wind energy facility constructed and operated by Eskom as a research facility. This facility has 3 installed turbines.

- » *What is happening with respect to the Nuclear project that is currently underway? Where is this project located?*

It was indicated by Eskom that the Nuclear Project is a completely separate process, and has no bearing on this project. An EIA is currently underway for the nuclear project.

- » *With an eye on 2010, how is Eskom going to be preventing future power cuts, and how is this facility going to contribute to preventing such power cuts?*

Eskom have already brought additional units on line to assist with power demand during peak periods in the Western Cape (i.e. the OCGT plants). By 2008, there will be an additional 2500MW available in the grid. The Medupi power station is currently being constructed in Limpopo Province. Eskom has dedicated personnel to address the challenges presented by 2010.

- » *Since this project is in the Matzikama area, what social benefits can the community get from this?*

The project will not require large numbers of labourers for construction. However, there is the potential for long-term employment opportunities as a result of the facility. Through this project, the Eskom Development Foundation (a Section 21 company) will be investigating long-term partnerships with the local community.

WAY FORWARD AND CLOSURE

In closure the Speaker thanked the Savannah Environmental and Eskom teams for the Wind Energy Facility presentation and endorsed the idea of having such an Eskom facility within the West Coast District Municipality Area.

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;
- » release of the draft Scoping Report for public review and comment;
- » notification of the public meeting; and
- » hold the public meeting in August 2007.

The meeting was closed at 14h55.