

APPROACH TO UNDERTAKING THE SCOPING PHASE

CHAPTER 5

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process refers to that process (dictated by the EIA Regulations) which involves the identification of and assessment of direct, indirect and cumulative environmental impacts associated with a proposed project. The EIA process comprises two phases: **Scoping Phase** and **EIA Phase**. The EIA process culminates in the submission of an EIA Report (including an environmental management plan (EMP)) to the competent authority for decision-making. The EIA process is illustrated below:



The Scoping Phase for the proposed Wind Energy Facility on the West Coast has been undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations published in Government Notice 28753 of 21 April 2006, in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA; Act No 107 of 1998). This Draft Scoping Report aimed to identify potential issues associated with the proposed project, and define the extent of studies required within the EIA. This was achieved through an evaluation of the proposed project involving specialists with expertise relevant to the nature of the project and the study area, the project proponent, as well as a consultation process with key stakeholders that included both relevant government authorities and interested and affected parties (I&APs). This chapter serves to outline the process which was followed during the Scoping Phase of the EIA process.

5.1. Objectives of the Scoping Phase

This Scoping Phase aimed to:

- » Identify and evaluate potential environmental (biophysical and social) impacts and benefits of all phases of the proposed development (including design, construction and operation) within the broader study area through a desk-top review of existing baseline data and specialist studies.
- » Provide the authorities with sufficient information in order to make a decision regarding the scope of issues to be addressed in the EIA process, as well as

regarding the scope and extent of specialist studies that will be required to be undertaken as part of the EIA Phase of the process.

Within this context, the objectives of this Scoping Phase are to:

- » Clarify the scope and nature of the proposed activities.
- » Clarify the reasonable and feasible project-specific alternatives to be considered through the EIA process, including the “do nothing” option.
- » Identify and evaluate key environmental issues/impacts associated with the proposed project, and through a process of broad-based consultation with stakeholders and desk-top specialist studies identify those issues to be addressed in more detail in the Environmental Impact Assessment Phase of the EIA process.
- » Conduct an open, participatory and transparent public involvement process and facilitate the inclusion of stakeholders’ concerns regarding the proposed project in the decision-making process.

5.2. Regulatory and Legal Context

The South African energy industry is evolving rapidly, with regular changes to legislation and industry role-players. The regulatory hierarchy for an energy generation project of this nature consists of three tiers of authority who exercise control through both statutory and non-statutory instruments – that is National, Provincial and Local levels.

As wind energy development is a multi-sectoral issue (encompassing economic, spatial biophysical, and cultural dimensions) various statutory bodies are likely to be involved in the approval process for wind energy facility project and the related statutory environmental assessment process.

5.2.1. Regulatory Hierarchy

At National Level, the main regulatory agencies are:

- » *Department of Minerals and Energy (DME)*: This department is responsible for policy relating to all energy forms, including renewable energy. Wind energy is considered under the White Paper for Renewable Energy and the Department undertakes research in this regard. It is the controlling authority in terms of the Electricity Act (Act No 41 of 1987).
- » *National Energy Regulator (NER)*: This body is responsible for regulating all aspects of the electricity sector, and will ultimately issue licenses for wind energy developments to generate electricity.
- » *Department of Environment and Tourism (DEAT)*: This Department is responsible for environmental policy and is the controlling authority in terms

of NEMA and the EIA Regulations. DEAT is the competent authority for this project, and charged with granting the relevant environmental authorisation (refer section 5.3.1).

- » *Department of Transport and Public Works*: This department is responsible for roads and the granting of exemption permits for the conveyance of abnormal loads on public roads.
- » *Department of Transport - Civil Aviation Authority*: This department is responsible for aircraft movements and radar, which are aspects that influence wind energy development location and planning.
- » *The South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)*: The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999) and the associated provincial regulations provides legislative protection for listed or proclaimed sites, such as urban conservation areas, nature reserves and proclaimed scenic routes.

At Provincial Level, the main regulatory agency is:

- » Provincial Government of the Western Cape (PGWC) – Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP). This is the principal authority involved in the EIA process and determines many aspects of Provincial Environmental policy. The department is a commenting authority for this project (refer section 5.3.1).

At Local Level the local and municipal authorities are the principal regulatory authorities responsible for planning, land use and the environment. In the Western Cape, both Municipalities and District Municipalities play a role.

- » In terms of the Municipal Systems Act (Act No 32 of 2000) it is compulsory for all municipalities to go through an Integrated Development Planning (IDP) process to prepare a five-year strategic development plan for the area under their control. The IDP process, specifically the spatial component (Spatial Development Framework), in the Western Cape Province is based on a bioregional planning approach to achieve continuity in the landscape and to maintain important natural areas and ecological processes.
- » Bioregional planning involves the identification of priority areas for conservation and their placement within a planning framework of core, buffer and transition areas. These could include reference to visual and scenic resources and the identification of areas of special significance, together with visual guidelines for the area covered by these plans.
- » By-laws and policies have been formulated by local authorities to protect visual and aesthetic resources relating to urban edge lines, scenic drives, special areas, signage, communication masts, etc.

There are also numerous non-statutory bodies such as Wind Energy Associations and environmental lobby groups that play a role in various aspects of planning and the environment that will influence wind energy development.

5.2.2. Legislation and Guidelines that have informed the preparation of this Scoping Report

The following legislation and guidelines have informed the scope and content of this Draft Scoping Report:

- » National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998)
- » EIA Regulations, published under Chapter 5 of the NEMA (GN R385, GN R386 and GN R387 in Government Gazette 28753 of 21 April 2006)
- » Guidelines published in terms of the NEMA EIA Regulations, in particular:
 - * Guideline 3: General Guide to Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2006 (DEAT, June 2006)
 - * Guideline 4: Public Participation in support of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2006 (DEAT, May 2006)
 - * Guideline 5: Assessment of alternatives and impacts in support of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2006 (DEAT, June 2006)
 - * Guideline on Public Participation, 2006 (DEA&DP, July 2006)
 - * Guideline on Alternatives, 2006 (DEA&DP, July 2006)
- » Guideline document developed by DEA&DP entitled *Strategic Initiative to Introduce Commercial Land Based Wind Energy Development to the Western Cape - Towards a Regional Methodology for Wind Energy Site Selection* (Western Cape Provincial Government, May 2006).
- » Specialist study guidelines published by DEA&DP, in particular:
 - * Guidelines for determining the scope of specialist involvement in EIA processes (June 2005)
 - * Guidelines for involving visual and aesthetic specialists in EIA processes (June 2005)
 - * Guidelines for involving hydrogeologists in EIA processes (June 2005)

Several other Acts, standards or guidelines have also informed the project process and the scope of issues evaluated in the scoping report, and to be addressed in the EIA. A listing of relevant legislation is provided in Table 5.1. A more detailed review of legislative requirements applicable to the proposed project will be included in the EIA phase.

Table 5.1: Initial review of relevant policies, legislation, guidelines and standards applicable to the Wind Energy Facility Project EIA

Legislation	Applicable Sections
National Legislation	
Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act No 108 of 1996)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Bill of Rights (S2) » Environmental Rights (S24) – i.e. the right to an environment which is not harmful to health and well-being » Rights to freedom of movement and residence (S22) » Property rights (S25) » Access to information (S32) » Right to just administrative action (S33)
National Environmental Management Act (Act No 107 of 1998)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » National environmental principles (S2), providing strategic environmental management goals and objectives of the government applicable throughout the Republic to the actions of all organs of state that may significantly affect the environment » NEMA EIA Regulations (GN R385, 386 & 387 of 21 April 2006) (published in terms of Chapter 5), with effect from 3 July 2006 » The requirement for potential impact on the environment of listed activities must be considered, investigated, assessed and reported on to the competent authority (S24 – Environmental Authorisations) » Duty of Care (S28) requiring that reasonable measures are taken to prevent pollution or degradation from occurring, continuing or recurring, or, where this is not possible, to minimise & rectify pollution or degradation of the environment » Procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency incident which may impact on the environment (S30)
Environment Conservation Act (No 73 of 1989)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Waste disposal practices (S20) » National Noise Control Regulations (GN R154 dated 10 January 1992)
National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Stipulates assessment criteria and categories of heritage resources according to their significance (S7) » Provides for the protection of all archaeological and palaeontological sites, and meteorites (S35) » Provides for the conservation and care of cemeteries and graves by SAHRA where this is not the responsibility of any other authority

Legislation	Applicable Sections
	<p>(S36)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Lists activities which require developers any person who intends to undertake to notify the responsible heritage resources authority and furnish it with details regarding the location, nature and extent of the proposed development (S38) » Requires the compilation of a Conservation Management Plan as well as a permit from SAHRA for the presentation of archaeological sites as part of tourism attraction (S44)
<p>National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act No 10 of 2004)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Provides for the MEC/Minister to list ecosystems which are threatened and in need of protection (S52) – none have as yet been published » Provides for the MEC/Minister to identify any process or activity in such a listed ecosystem as a threatening process (S53) - none have as yet been published » A list of threatened & protected species has been published in terms of S 56(1) - Government Gazette 29657. » Three government notices have been published, i.e. GN R 150 (Commencement of Threatened and Protected Species Regulations, 2007), GN R 151 (Lists of critically endangered, vulnerable and protected species) and GN R 152 (Threatened or Protected Species Regulations).
<p>Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Act (Act No 45 of 1965)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Part IV: Dust control » Part V: Air pollution by fumes emitted by vehicle emissions
<p>National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (Act No 39 of 2004)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Measures in respect of dust control (S32) – no regulations promulgated as yet » Measures to control noise (S34) - no regulations promulgated as yet
<p>Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act No 43 of 1983)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Prohibition of the spreading of weeds (S5) » Classification of categories of weeds & invader plants (Regulation 15 of GN R1048) & restrictions in terms of where these species may occur » Requirement & methods to implement control measures for alien and invasive plant species (Regulation 15E of GN R1048)
<p>National Water Act (Act No 36 of 1998)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » National Government is the public trustee of the Nation's water resources (S3) » Entitlement to use water (S4) – entitles a person to use water in or from a water resource for purposes such as reasonable domestic use,

Legislation	Applicable Sections
	<p>domestic gardening, animal watering, fire fighting and recreational use, as set out in Schedule 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Duty of Care to prevent and remedy the effects of pollution to water resources (S19) » Procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency incident which may impact on a water resource (S20) » Definition of water use (S21) » Requirements for registration of water use (S26 and S34) » Definition of offences in terms of the Act (S151)
Aviation Act (Act No 74 of 1962)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » 13th amendment of the Civil Aviation Regulations (CARs) 1997 » The Minister of Transport has under section 22(1) of the Aviation Act, 1962 made the regulations in the Schedule hereto. » Obstacle limitations and marking outside aerodrome or heliport - CAR Part 139.01.33
Provincial Legislation	
Western Cape noise control regulations promulgated in Provincial Notice (PN 627/P5309/2299) dated 20 November 1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Industrial noise limits are 61 dBA » Noise from any other source than an industrial source is 65 dBA
Draft regulations relating to noise control have been published in Provincial Gazette No 6412, PN 14 dated the 25th of January 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Noise Control Regulations have undergone major revision to bring them in line with recommendations of the World Health Organisation (WHO) » Noise limits are based on the acceptable rating levels of ambient noise contained in SANS 10103
Western Cape Nature Conservation Laws Amendment (Act No 3 of 2000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Provides for the amendment of various laws on nature conservation in order to transfer the administration of the provisions of those laws to the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board
Western Cape Planning and Development Act 1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Land development management (S7 to 21) » General planning and development principles and policy (S53 and 54) » Public participation (S55 and 56)
Land Use Planning Ordinance 15 of 1985	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Details land rezoning requirements & procedures
Provincial Notice 193/2006 of 2 June 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Regulations made by Heritage Western Cape concerning the provisional protection of archaeological and palaeontological sites, landscape and natural features of cultural significance, structures and unmarked burials

Legislation	Applicable Sections
	situated on or at Baboon Point, Erven 64, 65, 66 and 67 Elands Bay, Piketberg Division
Provincial Notice 298 of 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Regulations made by Heritage Western Cape in terms of section 25(2)(h). » These regulations seek to regulate the permitting process
Western Cape Nature Conservation Board Act (No 15 of 1998)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Hunting seasons, daily bag limits and hunting by the use of prohibited hunting methods (Provincial Notice 411/2005 of 23 December 2005)
Guideline Documents	
South African National Standard (SANS) 10328, Methods for environmental noise impact assessments in terms of NEMA No. 107 of 1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Prediction of impact that noise emanating from a proposed development would have on occupants of surrounding land by determining the rating level. » Noise limits are based on the acceptable rating levels of ambient noise contained in SANS 10103
Strategic Initiative to Introduce Commercial Land Based Wind Energy Development to the Western Cape - Towards a Regional Methodology for Wind Energy Site Selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Regional methodology for the siting of wind energy facilities within the Western Cape (Report 5) » Project level methodology for assessing wind energy facilities within the Western Cape (Report 6)
Draft Guidelines for Granting of Exemption Permits for the Conveyance of Abnormal Loads and for other Events on Public Roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Outlines the rules and conditions which apply to the transport of abnormal loads and vehicles on public roads and the detailed procedures to be followed in applying for exemption permits

5.2.3. Land Use Planning and other legal implications

The EIA Regulations will drive the assessment/authorisation process for the proposed project; however there are other land use planning aspects that may need to be dealt with as part of a wind energy development, i.e.:

- » Rezoning and Subdivision in terms of Land Use Planning Ordinance (LUPO), Ordinance 15 of 1985
- » Subdivision in terms of Act No 70 of 1970 (Subdivision of Agricultural Land Act)
- » Any other requirements triggered based on the particular site.

Given that the wind energy development is proposed on land that is zoned for agricultural use, a rezoning application in terms of Section 17 of LUPO to an alternative appropriate zone will be required. It is anticipated that the wind energy development would require a rezoning to either: Industrial Zone 1 or

Special Zone as defined in the Scheme Regulations in terms of Section 8 of LUPO (Government Gazette, December 1988).

5.3. Overview of the Scoping Phase

The Scoping Phase has been undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations published in Government Notice 28753 of 21 April 2006, in terms of NEMA. Key tasks undertaken within the scoping phase included:

- » Consultation with relevant decision-making and regulating authorities (at National, Provincial and Local levels).
- » Submission of a completed application form for authorisation in terms of Regulation 13 and 27 of Government Notice No R385 of 2006 to the competent authority (DEAT).
- » Undertaking a public involvement process throughout the Scoping process in accordance with Regulation 56 of Government Notice No R385 of 2006 in order to identify issues and concerns associated with the proposed project.
- » Preparation of an Issues and Response Report detailing key issues raised by I&APs as part of the EIA Process (in accordance with Regulation 59 of Government Notice No R385 of 2006).
- » Undertaking of independent specialist studies in accordance with Regulation 33 of Government Notice No R385 of 2006.
- » Preparation of a Draft Scoping Report and Plan of Study for EIA in accordance with the requirements of the Regulation 29 Government Notice No R385 of 2006.

These tasks are discussed in detail below. Quality control sheets to ensure that all the minimum requirements for the key tasks as listed above are met are included in Appendix D.

5.3.1. Authority Consultation and Application for Authorisation in terms of GN No R385 of 2006

As Eskom is a statutory body (i.e. an Organ of State), the National Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) is the competent authority for this application. As the project falls within the Western Cape Province, the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) will act as a commenting authority for the project. Consultation with these authorities has been undertaken throughout the Scoping process. This consultation has included the following:

- » Pre-application consultation with DEAT and DEA&DP regarding the proposed project and the EIA process to be undertaken, including a pre-application consultation meeting with DEA&DP (9 March 2007).

- » Submission of an application for authorisation to DEAT, with a copy submitted to DEA&DP. This application was accepted and the reference number 12/12/20/913 allocated to the project. Authorisation was therefore granted to continue with the Scoping Phase of the project.
- » A consultation meeting with DEAT and DEA&DP (2 April 2007) to present preliminary information regarding the project, and for DEA&DP to provide background regarding the Department's strategic initiative for the location of wind energy facilities.
- » A consultation meeting with DEAT and DEA&DP (4 June 2007) to discuss the outcomes of the regional assessment undertaken in order to determine an acceptable site for the development of a Wind Energy Facility on the West Coast.
- » Submission of a report detailing the outcomes of the regional assessment and technical considerations was submitted to DEAT and DEA&DP in June 2007 for their review and comment. Correspondence was received from DEA&DP (addressed to DEAT) and DEAT providing comment on the regional assessment process and results.

A record of all authority consultation undertaken prior to and within the Scoping Phase is included within Appendix C.

5.3.2. I&AP Identification, Registration and the Creation of an Electronic Database

The first step in the public involvement process was to identify relevant stakeholders and interested and affected parties (I&APs). This process was undertaken by **Sustainable Futures ZA** (specialist public participation consultants) through existing contacts and databases, recording responses to site notices and newspaper advertisements, as well as through the process of networking. Stakeholder groups identified include:

- » Provincial and local government departments (including DEAT, DEA&DP, SAHRA, Heritage Western Cape, DWAF, Department of Transport and Public Works Western Cape and SANRAL, etc)
- » Government Structures (including the Provincial Roads Authority, municipal planning departments, etc)
- » Potentially affected and neighbouring landowners
- » Local authorities
- » Conservation authorities (including SANBI, Cape Action For People and the Environment (CAPE), CapeNature, and the Knersvlakte Biosphere Reserve Steering Committee - this group is made up of 12 different stakeholder groupings representing planning, conservation, local government, tourism and business)

- » Industry, mining and business (including TransHex and Namakwa Sands and the Matzikama Business Chamber)
- » CBOs and other NGOs (including Wildlife and Environmental Society - Western Cape, Earthlife Africa, Friends of the Black Oyster Catcher)

All relevant stakeholder and I&AP information has been recorded within a database of affected parties (refer to Appendix E for a listing of recorded parties). While I&APs have been encouraged to register their interest in the project from the start of the process, the identification and registration of I&APs will be ongoing for the duration of the EIA process. 148 parties have registered their interest in the project to date. The project database will be updated on an ongoing basis throughout the project process, and will act as a record of the parties involved in the public involvement process.

5.3.3. Notification of the EIA Process

In order to notify and inform the public of the proposed project and invite members of the public to register as interested and affected parties (I&APs), the project and EIA process was advertised in the following newspapers:

- » National newspaper - *Sunday Times*: Sunday, 23 July 2007
- » Regional newspaper - *Die Burger*: Friday 10 August 2007
- » Regional/Local newspaper - *Ons Kontrei*: Friday 10 August 2007
- » Regional/Local newspaper - *Olifantsrivier Herald*: Wednesday 8 August 2007

In addition, site advertisements were posted at various locations throughout the study area, i.e.:

- » On site: on the boundary fence of the farm known as Skaapvlei (i.e. Portion 5 Gravewaterkop 158)
- » Koekenaap: Koekenaap Post Office
- » Lutzville: OK Supermarket notice board and Lutzville Post Office
- » Vredendal: Matzikama Municipal Office, Spar Supermarket and Shoprite Supermarket

In addition to the above advertisements and notices, key stakeholders and registered I&APs were notified in writing of the commencement of the EIA process (notifications sent out between 27 July and 30 July 2007). These parties included:

- » Relevant parties from Municipalities potentially affected (directly or indirectly) by the proposed project: West Coast District Municipality, Matzikama Local Municipality, Saldanha Bay Municipality, City of Cape Town.
- » Business organisations and mining companies in the study area

- » Communities and potentially affected landowners
- » Organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity, including:
 - * Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
 - * Department of Minerals and Energy
 - * Department of Water Affairs and Forestry
 - * South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) and Heritage Western Cape
 - * Conservation Authorities
 - * Department of Transport and Public Works and various District Roads Departments
 - * South African National Roads Agency
 - * Department of Land Affairs
 - * Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Western Cape and Land Care Western Cape
 - * Matzikama Municipality
 - * West Coast District Municipality
 - * Saldanha Bay Municipality
 - * Berg River Municipality
 - * Western Cape Tourism Authority
 - * Civil Aviation Authority

Copies of the advertisements placed and notices distributed are contained in Appendix F of this report.

5.3.4. Public Involvement and Consultation

The aim of the public participation process was primarily to ensure that:

- » information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application is made available to potential stakeholders and I&APs
- » participation by potential I&APs is facilitated in such a manner that all potential stakeholders and I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the application
- » Comment received from stakeholders and I&APs is recorded.

In order to provide information regarding the proposed project and the EIA process, a background information document (BID) for the project was compiled at the outset of the process (refer to Appendix G). The BID (including a map and a reply form inviting I&APs to register for the proposed project and submit details of any issues and concerns) was distributed to identified stakeholders and I&APs, and additional copies were made available at public venues within the broader study area. To date over 300 copies of the BID have been distributed.

Through consultation with key stakeholders and I&APs, issues for inclusion within the issues-based scoping study were identified and confirmed. In order to accommodate the varying needs of stakeholders and I&APs within the study area, as well as capture their views, issues and concerns regarding the project, various opportunities were provided for I&APs to have their issues noted prior to the release of the Draft Scoping Report for public review, as follows:

- » **Focus group meetings** (pre-arranged and stakeholders invited to attend)
- » One-on-one **consultation meetings** (for example with directly affected landowners)
- » Telephonic consultation sessions (consultation with various parties from the EIA project team, including the project participation consultant, lead EIA consultant as well as specialist consultants)
- » Written, faxed or e-mail **correspondence**

Table 5.2 below provides details of the formal focus group meetings held during the scoping phase of the public consultation process.

Table 5.2: Details of the focus group meetings held during the scoping phase of the public consultation process

Organisation	Parties Present	Date
Matzikama Local Municipality	Officials & Councillors	25 July 2007
West Coast District Municipality	Officials & Councillors	25 July 2007
Matzikama Business Chamber	Members and secretary	25 July 2007
Transhex Mining	Managers: Operations & Environmental	26 July 2007
Namakwa Sands Mining	Managers: Operations & Environmental	26 July 2007
Lutzville Farmers Association and landowners from the Lutzville area	Members and individuals	26 July 2007
Landowner of affected property	Mr Visser	27 July 2007

Information sessions where stakeholders were requested to share relevant information as part of the Regional Assessment process were held with similar parties in April 2007 (refer Appendix B for notes from these meetings). This was prior to the commencement of the EIA process, and these parties were therefore engaged again in July 2007. Networking with I&APs will continue throughout the duration of the EIA process. Notes from meetings held with stakeholders and reply forms returned by I&APs are included within Appendix H.

As required in terms of Regulation 16(1) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, the required letter of consent has been obtained from the affected landowners (refer to Appendix I).

5.3.5. Identification and Recording of Issues and Concerns

Issues and concerns raised by I&APs during the scoping process have been synthesised into an Issues and Response Report (refer to Appendix J). The Issues and Response Report includes responses from members of the EIA project team and/or the project proponent. In general, the responses indicate how the issues will be addressed in the EIA process, or clarification is provided. Where issues are raised that the EIA team considers beyond the scope and purpose of this EIA process, clear reasoning for this view is provided.

5.3.6. Evaluation of Issues Identified through the Scoping Process

Issues (both direct and indirect environmental impacts) associated with the proposed project identified within the scoping process have been evaluated through desk-top studies. In evaluating potential impacts, Savannah Environmental has been assisted by the following specialist consultants:

Specialist	Area of Expertise	Refer Appendix
Nick Helme of Nick Helme Botanical Surveys	Flora	Appendix K
Prof. Le Fras Mouton of the Department of Botany & Zoology, Stellenbosch University	Terrestrial fauna	Appendix L
Jon Smallie of the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)	Avifauna	Appendix M
Garry Paterson of the Agricultural Research Council (ARC): Institute for Soil, Climate and Water	Agricultural potential	Appendix N
Pete Illgner (Environmental Consultant and Researcher)	Geomorphology and surface processes	Appendix O
Mark Rynhoud of Geological and Environmental Services	Geology & erosion potential	Appendix P
Phil Hobbs of the CSIR - Environmentek	Groundwater resources	Appendix Q
Adrian Jongens of Jongens Keet & Associates	Noise	Appendix R
Mike Fabricius of The Journey	Tourism	Appendix S
Tim Hart of the Archaeology Contracts Office, Department of Archaeology: University of Cape Town	Heritage	Appendix T
Lourens du Plessis of MetroGIS	Visual	Appendix U
Mark Pinder of Arup SA (Pty) Ltd	Transportation & access	Appendix V
Tony Barbour (Environmental Consultant and Researcher)	Social Impact	Appendix W

A peer review of the Scoping and EIA process is being undertaken by Jonathan Crowther of CCA Environmental.

In order to evaluate issues and assign an order of priority, it was necessary to identify the characteristics of each potential issue/impact:

- » *the nature*, which includes a description of what causes the effect, what will be affected and how it will be affected
- » *the extent*, wherein it is indicated whether the impact will be local (limited to the immediate area or site of development) or regional

The evaluation of the issues resulted in a statement regarding the potential significance of the identified issues, as well as recommendations regarding further studies required within an EIA.

Specialist Scoping Reports are contained within Appendices K - W.

5.3.7. Public Review of Draft Scoping Report and Feedback Meeting

This is the **current stage** of the Scoping Phase. The Draft Scoping Report has been made available for public review from **15 August 2007 to 14 September 2007** at the following locations:

- » www.eskom.co.za/eia
- » www.savannahSA.com
- » CapeNature in Van Rhynsdorp
- » Department of Agriculture - Vredendal
- » Vredendal Library
- » Lutzville -Municipal Office
- » Lutzville Farmers Association
- » Koekenaap - Municipal Office
- » Strandfontein - Municipal Office
- » Doringbaai - Municipal Office
- » Matzikama Business Chamber
- » West Coast District Municipality offices - Moorreesburg

In order to facilitate comments on the Draft Scoping Report, a public meeting and a stakeholder workshop will be held during the review period for the Draft Scoping Report as follows:

- » Public feedback meeting: 22 August 2007 at the Lutzville Hotel, Open House at 17:00-19:00 and Public Meeting at 19:30
- » Stakeholder workshop: 23 August 2007 at the Koeberg Visitors Centre at 13:00

The public review process and details of the public meeting were advertised in regional and local newspapers: Die Burger, Ons Kontrei and the Olifantsrivier Herald. In addition, all registered I&APs were notified of the availability of the report and public meeting by letter (refer Appendix F). Identified key stakeholders were personally invited to attend the key stakeholder workshop by letter (refer to Appendix F).

5.3.8. Final Scoping Report

The final stage in the Scoping Phase will entail the capturing of responses from I&APs on the Draft Scoping Report in order to refine this report. It is this final report upon which the decision-making environmental Authorities provide comment, recommendations and acceptance to undertake the EIA Phase of the process.