CSIR SMART PLACES: EMS



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04 August 2023

Dear Stakeholder,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF THE SUBMISSION OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) REPORTS TO THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY (i.e., THE NATIONAL DFFE) FOR DECISION MAKING, FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF THE UP TO 240 MWac INGWE WEF 1 (DFFE REFERENCE NUMBER: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2275) AND THE UP TO 240 MWac INGWE WEF 2 (DFFE REFERENCE NUMBER: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2276), NEAR MOLTENO IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Project Applicants, Ingwe Wind Energy Facility 1 (Pty) Ltd and Ingwe Wind Energy Facility 2 (Pty) Ltd are proposing the construction and operation of two Wind Energy Facilities (WEFs) and its associated infrastructure, located approximately 1.5 km north and northwest of Molteno, in the Eastern Cape Province. The proposed projects are referred to as "Ingwe WEF 1" and "Ingwe WEF 2", respectively. The proposed projects are located within the Enoch Mgijima Local Municipality, which falls within the Chris Hani District Municipality.

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), serving as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP), has been appointed to undertake and manage the Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Processes for the abovementioned proposed projects on behalf of the Project Applicants. Each of the proposed Ingwe WEF projects has undergone <u>separate</u> Scoping and EIA Processes.

Each of the proposed Ingwe WEF 1 and 2 projects will comprise of up to 24 wind turbines, each turbine with a hub height of up to 180 m; rotor diameter of up to 190 m; blade length of up to 95 m; and generation capacity of up to 10 MW output per wind turbine. The proposed associated infrastructure at each WEF include a hardstand area for each wind turbine (which will include a crane platform, storage area, and crane boom area), and temporary construction compound and laydown areas (which may comprise a site office; worker amenities; storage facilities; security office and boom gate; parking area; and concrete batching plant). The proposed projects will each include an on-site IPP substation hub incorporating the facility substation, switchyard, and collector infrastructure. The IPP substation hub will also comprise an Operations and Maintenance building complex and a battery energy storage system (BESS). Solid-state Lithium-Ion BESS is being proposed as the preferred BESS technology for these projects. The proposed Ingwe WEF 1 and Ingwe WEF 2 projects will have internal access road networks of up to 25 km and up to 27 km, respectively. Detailed project descriptions of the proposed WEF projects are provided in Chapter 2 of the respective Final EIA Reports.

The farm portions affected by the proposed Ingwe WEF 1 and Ingwe WEF 2 projects are shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Affected Farm Portions of the Ingwe WEF 1 and Ingwe WEF 2 Projects

Ingwe WEF 1 Affected Farm Properties	SG Code
Remainder of the Farm Zwavel Krantz Number 39	C0490000000003900000
Remainder of Portion 2 of the Farm Zwavel Krantz Number 39	C0490000000003900002
The Farm No. 60	C04900000000006000000
The Farm No. 61	C04900000000006100000
The Farm No. 62	C04900000000006200000
Remainder of Portion 4 of the Farm Onverwagt No. 63	C04900000000006300004
Remainder of Portion 7 (Portion of Portion 4) of the Farm Onverwacht No. 63	C0490000000006300007
Remainder of Portion 30 (Sunnyside) of the Farm Onverwagt No. 63	C0490000000006300030
Portion 32 (Sunnyside North) (Portion of Portion 30) of the Farm Onverwagt No. 63	C04900000000006300032
Portion 33 (Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Onverwagt No. 63	C0490000000006300033
Portion 34 (Portion of Portion 3) of the Farm Onverwagt No. 63	C0490000000006300034

Portion 37 (Sunny Side South) (a Portion of Portion 30) of the Farm Onverwagt No. 63	C0490000000006300037
Portion 23 of the Farm Onverwagt No. 63 ¹	C04900000000006300023
Ingwe WEF 2 Affected Farm Properties	SG Code
Remainder of the Farm Klip Fountain No. 40	C04900000000004000000
Portion 8 of the Farm Klip Fountain No. 40	C04900000000004000008
Remainder of Portion 14 (Welgegund) (a portion of portion 1) of the Farm Klip Fountain No. 40	C04900000000004000014
Portion 15 (Gegund) (a portion of portion 2) of the Farm Klip Fountain No. 40	C04900000000004000015
Portion 18 (Klip Kop) (portion of portion 13) of the Farm Klip Fountain No. 40	C04900000000004000018
Portion 21 (Veg Koppies) of the Farm Klip Fountain No. 40	C04900000000004000021
Portion 22 (Boomplaas) of the Farm Klip Fountain No. 40	C04900000000004000022
Portion 24 of the Farm Klip Fountain No. 40 ¹	C04900000000004000024
Portion 25 of the Farm Klip Fountain No. 40	C04900000000004000025
Portion 26 (a portion of Portion 21 (Vegkoppies)) of the Farm Klip Fountain No. 40 ¹	C04900000000004000026
Remainder of the Farm Bamboo No. 43	C0490000000004300000
Portion 1 of the Farm Bamboo No. 43	C04900000000004300001
Remainder of Portion 6 (a portion of portion 5) of the Farm Oud Klip No. 44	C04900000000004400006
Portion 14 of the Farm Oud Klip No. 44	C04900000000004400014
Remainder of Portion 29 of the Farm Oud Klip No. 44	C04900000000004400029
Portion 8 of the Farm Modderfontein No. 58	C0490000000005800008

In terms of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations, as amended, published in GN R326, R327, R325 and R324, full Scoping and EIA Processes were required for the two proposed WEF projects with a 107-day decision-making timeframe. The need for the Scoping and EIA was triggered by, amongst others, the inclusion of Activity 1 listed in GN R325 (Listing Notice 2):

"The development of a facility or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more, excluding where such development of facility or infrastructure is for photovoltaic installations and occurs (a) within an urban area; or (b) on existing infrastructure".

An integrated public participation process is being undertaken for these two Scoping and EIA Processes. The Draft Scoping Reports for the two proposed Ingwe WEF projects were made available to all potential and registered Interested and/or Affected Parties (I&APs), Organs of State and relevant key stakeholders for a 30-day review period, which extended from 14 January 2023 to 15 February 2023 (excluding public holidays). All comments and issues raised as part of the review period were captured in the Comments and Responses Report, and addressed, where relevant and applicable, in the Final Scoping Reports. The Final Scoping Reports were submitted to the DFFE for consideration on 28 February 2023 in line with Regulation 21(1) and 22 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). The CSIR received the DFFE's written acceptance of the Final Scoping Reports for the proposed Ingwe WEF 1 and Ingwe WEF 2 projects on 14 April 2023.

The Draft EIA Reports were made available to all potential and registered I&APs, Organs of State and key relevant stakeholders for a 30-day review period, which extended from 19 June 2023 to 19 July 2023, excluding public holidays. All comments received during the 30-day review have been incorporated into the detailed Comments and Responses Report, and addressed, as applicable and where relevant, and included separately with the Final EIA Reports. Comments regarding the proposed WEF projects were also sought from the Eastern Cape Heritage Resources Authority in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999). The Scoping and EIA Processes have also confirmed the need for a water use authorisation in accordance with the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998), as amended.

You are hereby kindly informed that the Final EIA Reports for these two proposed WEF projects have been submitted to the National DFFE for decision-making on 01 August 2023 in accordance with Regulation 23(1)(a) and Regulation 24 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). The DFFE has acknowledged receipt of

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 $^{^{\}mathrm{1}}$ These listed farm properties will be dealt with by means of wayleave applications.

the Amended Applications for EA and the Final EIA Reports for these proposed projects via email on 01 August 2023.

For your record and information purposes, the Final EIA Reports, Executive Summaries, Comments and Responses Reports as well as all supporting appendices will be made available on the project website (https://www.csir.co.za/environmental-impact-assessment). As a supplementary mechanism, the report package can also be downloaded from the following link on Google Drive: https://bit.ly/INGWE WEFs1-2.

As a registered I&AP on these projects, you will be duly informed of the outcome of the DFFE's decision on the Final EIA Reports for these proposed projects.

In accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act (Act No. 4 of 2013), CSIR will conduct itself responsibly when collecting, processing, storing and sharing any personal information collected for the purposes of PPP in terms of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). As a registered I&AP and/or having submitted information, and/or comments during these Scoping and EIA Processes, you have consented to the collection, collation, processing, and storing of such information and the use and disclosure of such information for the aforementioned purpose (https://www.csir.co.za/csir-privacy-notice). If you would like to opt out of communications on these projects, please do so by responding to this correspondence via email.

We would like to thank you for your participation in these Scoping and EIA Processes. Should you have any queries relating to the above, or should you struggle to access the documentation at any of the above links, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned using the contact details provided below:

Attention: Paul Lochner / Lizande Kellerman

PO Box 320, Stellenbosch, 7599

Tel: 021 888 2400 Email: ems@csir.co.za

Sincerely,

Paul Lochner (Registered EAP (2019/745)) Project Leader and EAP

focher

CSIR Environmental Management Services

Lizande Kellerman Pr. Sci. Nat.

MeNu

Project Manager and Environmental Scientist **CSIR** Environmental Management Services