

Basic Assessment for the proposed construction of a 132 kV
Overhead Powerline between the proposed Beaufort West
132kV-400kV Linking Station and the proposed Eskom 132 kV
Switching Substation, near Beaufort West
in the Western Cape Province

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES REPORT

October 2022



Prepared for:
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Energies (Pty) Ltd

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Comments and Responses Report

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The tables below include the comments and/or issues raised by stakeholders and Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) following the release of the Draft Basic Assessment (BA) Report for the 30-day comment period, extending from 11 July 2022 to 11 August 2022 (excluding public holidays), together with the responses from the BA project team. The original comments received (emails and letters) are included in Appendix E.10 of the Final BA Report. **Please note that the comments are taken verbatim from the comments provided by stakeholders and I&APs.** The approach followed for this Comments and Responses Reports (CRR) was guided by sections 3(3), 9, 12(1) and (2), 11 as well as 18 of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 14 of 2013) (POPIA). Erring on the side of caution as recommended by the DFFE, the names and affiliations of non-governmental I&APs are represented by an 'XXX' in this CRR.

An integrated Public Participation Process was undertaken for the proposed overhead transmission powerlines (i.e. Kwagga EGI Section 1 to 7). The comments included in this appendix only apply to the proposed 132 kV Overhead Transmission Powerline between the proposed Beaufort West 132kV-400kV Linking Station and the proposed Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation (i.e., Kwagga EGI Section 1). Comments relating to the other Kwagga overhead transmission powerlines (i.e., Kwagga EGI Sections 2-5, 6 and 7) have been included for context or background purposes (where necessary). Comments and responses for the Kwagga EGI Sections 2-5, 6 and 7 projects are included in the respective BA Reports. The comments received have been grouped per organisation, based on the structure recommended by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE).

1. GENERAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROJECT NEED¹

NO	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
1.	11/07/2022, Email, (XXX)	I hereby register as an interested and affected party on behalf of the Wolwekuil trust in my personal capacity. I am part of the Hydra B energy cluster.	CSIR: This request is noted. This I&AP has been included on the I&AP project database. The email address provided will be used for future correspondence. Refer to Appendix E.5 of this BA Report for a copy of the I&AP database.
2.	12/07/2022, Email, Endangered Wildlife Trust, Wildlife and Energy	Pls send all correspondence to EIA@ewt.org.za going forward, thanks	CSIR: This comment is noted. EIA@ewt.org.za was included on the pre-identified project database of I&APs and Organs of State at the outset of the BA Process. Refer to Appendix E.5 of this BA Report for a copy of the I&AP database.

¹ This includes requests to register on and de-register from the project I&AP database.

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	Programme Manager (Lourens Leeuwner)		
3.	13/07/2022, Email AVIC International Flight Training Academy (AIFA) (Pikkie Siebrits)	<p>Thank you for this notice.</p> <p>FYI, I am no longer the I&AP for Beaufort West Airport in person.</p> <p>Will you please add XXXX as the new CEO as I&AP for Beaufort Airport at XXXX.</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted. XXXX has been included on the I&AP database. The email address provided will be used for future correspondence. Refer to Appendix E.5 of this BA Report for a copy of the I&AP database.</p>
4.	13/07/2022, Email Mainstream Renewable Power South Africa: Development Executive (XXXX)	<p>This is a request to be added as an interested and affected party. I am the project developer for the neighbouring wind farm sites Kraaltjies and Heuweltjies wind farms for Mainstream Renewable Power South Africa.</p> <p>May I also please request a .kml of the proposed corridors and relevant EGI sections 1-7.</p> <p>Looking forward to your confirmation and feedback.</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted. The requested KMZ file was sent to XXXX on 21 July 2022 via email. The development footprints of the Kraaltjies and Heuweltjies Wind Energy Facilities (WEFs) mentioned by the stakeholder was requested for purposes of the Kwagga EGI Cumulative Impact Assessment. However, no further correspondence was received regarding the aforementioned WEFs.</p> <p>Note that the National DFFE Renewable Energy EIA Application (REEA) database, 2022 Quarter 1; the SAHRIS, and Eskom's Generation Connection Capacity Assessment (GCCA) (2022) were used to identify renewable energy and EGI projects within 50 km of the proposed powerline corridor that have received an EA at the time of starting this BA (i.e., by May 2022), for purposes of the Cumulative Impact Assessment.</p>
5.	19/07/2022, Email,	<p>Could I please request that XXXX with e-mail address XXXX also be registered as an I&AP for Section 1 to 7 of the proposed Kwagga EGI</p>	<p>CSIR: This request is noted. This I&AP has been included on the I&AP database. The email address provided will be used for</p>

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	G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd, Environmental Intern (XXXX)	<p>Corridor. Could you please send any relevant and available documents.</p> <p>Could you also please reply with confirmation of registration.</p>	future correspondence. Refer to Appendix E.5 of this BA Report for a copy of the I&AP database.
6.	19/07/2022, Email, Western Cape Department of Agriculture: Sustainable Resource and Use Management Programme (Brandon Layman)	<p>Hi The CSIR BA Project Team</p> <p>Please note that this office is bound by the government filing system which is currently in physical file format as approved by the Auditor General.</p> <p>The transition to electronic filing is slow and must be according to government protocols. The provincial department responsible for our electronic storage/filing etc. is in process to develop that.</p> <p>As solution to the cost of printing hard copies and lack of electronic filing system on our side (as discussed above) we decided the best option is to give you as consultants the option for a CD or USB as alternative to hard copy.</p> <p>The main difference between a CD or USB is storage. A hard copy, CD or USB is the “store”. Email or we-transfer needs to be printed to be stored physically as we do not have an approved filing system available in the cloud or other network.</p> <p>CD or USB we can still put on a physical file.</p>	CSIR: This request is noted. A USB flash drive with the Draft BA Reports and supporting appendices was hand delivered to this Department at the provided physical address. Please refer to Appendix E.10 for the proof of hand delivery.
7.	20/07/2022, Email	This email serves to follow up on the email below.	CSIR: This was a follow up to the initial email sent by this stakeholder. Refer to the response provided above for feedback in this regard.

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	Mainstream Renewable Power South Africa: Development Executive (XXXX)	Please confirm response and addition to the database. Please also provide the .kml as requested.	
8.	04/08/2022, Email, Eskom Transmission Division: Land and Rights (John Geeringh)	Please send me a KMZ file of the proposed line routes	CSIR: This comment is noted. The requested composite KMZ file of the seven proposed Kwagga powerlines was sent to this stakeholder on 10 August 2022 via email.
9.	04/08/2022, Email, Karoo Gateway Airport (XXXX)	<p>KINDLY CONFIRM ASAP THAT CAA AS WELL AS AIFA AT THE KAROO GATEWAY AIRPORT, HAS BEEN NOTIFIED IN WRITING?!?</p> <p>AIFA: CEO Mr XXXX XXXX and Mr XXXX XXXX</p> <p>Urgently awaiting your confirmation.</p> <p>Hi, your confirmation really appreciated, thanks a lot.</p>	CSIR: This comment is noted. One of the two mentioned I&APs was included on the pre-identified project database of I&APs and Organs of State at the outset of the BA Process. The remaining I&AP was added to the database of I&APs and Organs of State on 13 July 2022, subsequent to receiving emailed communication from Mr Pikkie Siebrits received on 13 July 2022.
10.	15/08/2022, Email, Breede-Gouritz Catchment Agency (BGCMA) (Zama Mbunquka)	Please kindly note that I will provide the comments on the 17th.	CSIR: Refer to Section 5 of this Comments and Responses Report for the responses to the comments provided by the BGCMA.
11.	11/07/2022, Email, AgriSA	<p>Good day</p> <p>Please send information of this nature to Agri SA's heads of natural resources and economics – XXXX and XXXX</p> <p>Regards</p>	CSIR: This comment is noted. XXXX was included on the pre-identified project database of I&APs and Organs of State at the outset of the BA Process. XXXX has been included on the I&AP database will also be used for future correspondence. Refer to Appendix E.5 of this BA Report for a copy of the I&AP database.

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12.	11/07/2022, Email, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) (Chantal Engelbrecht)	<p>Good day</p> <p>Kindly remove me from your mailing list. Should you require input from the DFFE, kindly send the documents to the correct and relevant officials.</p> <p>Regards</p>	<p>CSIR: This respective I&AP was included on the pre-identified database of I&APs, and has been removed from the project database, as requested. It must be noted that the Draft BA Reports were submitted to various officials and Directorates of the DFFE, including the relevant Directorates that have commented on the reports (i.e. DFFE Integrated Environmental Authorisations and Biodiversity Conservation).</p>
13.	11/07/2022, Email, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE): Priority Infrastructure Projects Directorate (Constance Musemburi)	<p>Dear EMS</p> <p>Could you please remove my name on your notification list.</p> <p>Regards</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted. This respective I&AP was included on the pre-identified database of I&APs, and has been removed from the project database, as requested. It must be noted that the Draft BA Reports were submitted to various officials and Directorates of the DFFE, including the relevant Directorates that have commented on the reports (i.e. DFFE Integrated Environmental Authorisations and Biodiversity Conservation).</p>
14.	02/08/2022 Email South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA): Procedures for Air Navigation Services – Aircraft Operations (PANS-OPS) Section (Evelyn Shogole)	<p>HI Lizell,</p> <p>FYAP.</p>	<p>CSIR: The CSIR was copied on this email sent to Lizell Stroh on 02/08/2022, in response to the reminder for comment notification sent to officials at the SACAA by the EAP. The contents of this email are noted.</p>
15.	11/07/2022 Email Western Cape Government: Transport and Public Works – Roads (Vanessa Stoffels)	<p>Good day</p> <p>Received your application, our reference Job 28641.</p>	<p>CSIR: No further communication was received from this stakeholder. Please refer to Appendix E.9 for proof of correspondence and reminder emails sent to the Western Cape Government: Transport and Public Works – Roads.</p>

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		The matter is receiving attention and further communication will be addressed to you as soon as circumstances permit.	
16.	28/06/2021, Email, Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP), Directorate: Development Facilitation (Thea Jordan)	<p>Dear EAP.</p> <p>Your request for comment dated 11 July 2022 refers.</p> <p>Please find attached this department's comment in the above regard.</p> <p>Yours faithfully</p>	CSIR: Refer to Section 4 of this Comments and Responses Report for the responses to the comments provided by the Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning.
17.	23/08/2022 Email, Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA) (Zama Mbunquka)	<p>Dear Sir/Madam</p> <p>Please find attached BGCMA comments.</p> <p>Kind regards</p>	CSIR: Refer to Section 5 of this Comments and Responses Report for the responses to the comments provided by the BGCMA.

2. DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT (DFFE)

2.1 THE DIRECTORATE: INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

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1.	25/06/2021, Letter (received via email on 30/06/2021), DFFE (Sabelo Malaza, Milicent Solomon)	<p>COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A 132 KV OVERHEAD POWERLINE BETWEEN THE PROPOSED BEAUFORT WEST 132KV-400KV LINKING STATION AND THE PROPOSED ESKOM 132 KV SWITCHING SUBSTATION, NEAR BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE (KWAGGA EGI SECTION 1)</p> <p>The application form and draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) dated July 2022 and received by this Department on 11 July 2022, refers.</p> <p>This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the final BAR:</p> <p>(a) Coordinates</p> <p>i. You are requested to provide coordinates (start, middle and end point) of other associated infrastructures (such as access roads) in degrees, minute, and seconds.</p>	<p>CSIR: Thank you for the comments received on the Draft BA Report for the proposed Kwagga EGI Section 1. Responses are provided below to each comment raised:</p> <p>As noted in Section A.7.3 of the Final BA Report, the proposed Kwagga EGI Corridor can be accessed via the N12 main road, which is situated to the west of the Kwagga Wind Energy Facility (WEF) 1 site, as well as from the R308 Rietbron bound public access gravel road that is located to the south of the Kwagga WEF 1 site. The R308 Rietbron bound public access road is a well-maintained gravel road that will be widened where necessary, for purposes of constructing the WEFs. A new access road will be constructed to facilitate the connection between the Kwagga WEF 1 project site and the existing R308 Rietbron bound public access gravel road located to the south. Note that this proposed new access road as well as the potential widening/upgrade of the existing R308 gravel road were assessed as part of the S&EIA processes undertaken for the Kwagga WEFs, which received EA on 7 April 2022, and therefore does not form part of this BA process. However the start, middle and</p>

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			end point coordinates of the new proposed authorised access road between the Kwagga WEF 1 project site and the existing R308 Rietbron bound public access gravel road as well as the R308 Rietbron bound public access gravel road (via which Kwagga WEF 2 and 3 can be accessed) is provided in Section A.6 for completeness.
2.	25/06/2021, Letter (received via email on 30/06/2021), DFFE (Sabelo Malaza, Millicent Solomon)	<p>(b) Listed Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Description provided for activity 4 of Listing notice 3 cannot be linked to listed activity as applied for. The description provided refers to powerline servitude while the listed activity is for the development of the road. This description must be amended to include the threshold of the proposed road as required by the listed activity. ii. Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description. Only activities applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed. iii. If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final BAR, an amended application form must be submitted. Please note that the Department’s application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following link https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms. iv. It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the basic assessment process as the development property possibly falls within geographically designated areas in terms of numerous GN R. 985 Activities. Written comments must be obtained from the relevant authorities and submitted to this Department. In addition, a graphical representation of the proposed development within the respective geographical areas must be provided. 	<p>CSIR: These comments are noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The description for the applicability of Activity 4 of Listing Notice 3 was amended to include the threshold of the proposed road as required by the listed activity. • All relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity as described in the project description. Refer to Section A.11 of the Final BA Report for detailed descriptions of the applicability of Listed Activities applied for. • The Public Participation Process was conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40 41, 42, 43 and 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. Refer to Section C of the Final BA Report, for background on the Public Participation Process, including feedback on compliance with the regulations relating to Public Participation. All issues raised and comments received during the review of the Draft BA Report from registered I&APs and Organs of State (including the DFFE Biodiversity and Conservation Directorate)

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			<p>which have jurisdiction in terms of the proposed activity, have been adequately addressed in this Comments and Responses Report, and the Final BA Report, where applicable and necessary. In addition, proof of correspondence with various stakeholders such as letters received from various DFFE Directorates, the Western Cape Department of Agriculture, BGCMA, and the Western Cape DEA&DP is included in Appendix E.10 of this Final BA Report. It includes the necessary proof of correspondence, such as emails, text messages, letters, and newspapers. It also shows relevant follow up emails sent in order to remind stakeholders of the comment period closure, in order to seek comments.</p>
3.	<p>05/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 05/08/2022) DFFE: Priority Infrastructure Projects (Sabelo Malaza, Danie Smit, Lydia Kutu),</p>	<p>(c) Public Participation Process</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Comments must be obtained from this Department’s Biodiversity Conservation Directorate at BCAdmin@dfpe.gov.za ii. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40 41, 42, 43 and 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. iii. Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft BAR from registered Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and organs of state, as listed in your I&APs Database, and others that have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed and included in the final BAR. iv. Copies of original comments received from I&APs and organs of state, which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are submitted to the Department with the final BAR. 	<p>CSIR: These comments are noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This comment is noted with thanks. The Biodiversity and Conservation Directorate was included on the pre-identified project database of I&APs and Organs of State at the outset of the BA Process. Comments received from the Biodiversity and Conservation Directorate has been included in Section 2.2 of this CRR. • The Public Participation Process was conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40 41, 42, 43 and 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended. Refer to Section C of the Final BA Report, for background on the Public Participation Process, including feedback on

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		<p>v. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final BAR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. In terms of Regulation 41(2)(b) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, please provide proof of written notice for the availability of the BAR for comment.</p> <p>vi. All issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft BAR from I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final BAR, including comments from this Department, and must be incorporated into a Comments and Response Report (CRR).</p> <p>vii. The CRR report must be a separate document from the main report and the format must be in the table format as indicated in Annexure 1 of this comments letter.</p> <p>viii. Please refrain from summarising comments made by I&APs. All comments from I&APs must be copied verbatim and responded to clearly. Please note that a response such as “noted” is not regarded as an adequate response to an I&AP’s comments.</p> <p>ix. Minutes and attendance registers (where applicable) of any physical/virtual meetings held by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) with Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) and other role players must be included in the final BAR</p>	<p>compliance with the regulations relating to Public Participation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All issues raised and comments received during the review of the Draft BA Report from registered I&APs and Organs of State (including the DFFE Biodiversity and Conservation Directorate) which have jurisdiction in terms of the proposed activity, have been adequately addressed in this Comments and Responses Report, and the Final BA Report, where applicable and necessary. • Copies of all comments received during the 30-day comment period of the Draft BA Report have been captured in Appendix E. 10 of this Final BA Report. • Proof of correspondence with various stakeholders such as letters received from various DFFE Directorate, Western Cape Department of Agriculture, BGCMA, and the Western Cape DEA&DP is included in Appendix E.10 of this Final BA Report. Appendix E.9 includes the necessary proof of correspondence, such as emails, text messages, letters, and newspapers. It also shows relevant follow up emails sent in order to remind stakeholders of the comment period closure, in order to seek comments. • A detailed Comments and Responses Report (CRR) (i.e. this Report) is included as part of this Final BA Report. This Comments and Responses Report

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			<p>includes all comments received during the public participation process on the Draft BA Report, as well as responses provided to all these comments and issues raised. Comments received from the DFFE have been included in this section as well. All comments received have been duly considered and adequately addressed in this Comments and Responses Report and the Final BA Report where relevant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This CRR is a separate document from the main Final BA Report and the format follows the suggested format as indicated in Annexure 1 of the DFFE comments letter received on 5 August 2022. <p>All comments received during the public participation process on the Draft BA Report have been copied into the CRR verbatim. Refer to Appendix E.10 for copies of all comments received during the 30-day comment period of the Draft BA Report.</p>
4.	<p>05/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 05/08/2022) DFFE: Priority Infrastructure Projects (Sabelo Malaza, Danie Smit, Lydia Kutu),</p>	<p>(d) Cumulative Assessment</p> <p>i. Taking into consideration that the proposed project is linked to other 6 powerlines that is proposed by the applicant the BAR must include cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts and must be refined to indicate the following:</p> <p>a Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land.</p>	<p>CSIR: Refer to Section D of the Final BA Report and the sub-sections of each specialist assessment in Appendix D of the Final BA Report, where a cumulative impact assessment is included. The approach for the cumulative impact assessment included all renewable energy and EGI projects within a 50 km radius that received an EA at the time of starting this BA (i.e. by May 2022), as well as the three proposed authorised Kwagga WEF developments and the proposed Kwagga EGI Sections 2-</p>

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		<p>b Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist’s recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.</p> <p>c The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.</p> <p>d A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed</p>	<p>5, 6 and 7. Refer to Appendix F of this Final BA Report for a copy of the notes of the pre-application meeting that took place with the DFFE, wherein this approach was confirmed, as well as the DFFE’s approval thereof.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The specialists have identified cumulative impacts as per the above approach, and such impacts have been clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact was quantified and indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land. Refer specifically to Appendix D of this Final BA Report for additional information in this regard. It is also important to note that in most cases the actual development footprint of the nearby Renewable Energy developments could not be easily quantified or accessed spatially. For example, the National Renewable Energy EIA Application Database contains the land parcels, and not the footprint. Nonetheless, it is believed that the assessment of cumulative impacts has been adequately captured in this Final BA Report. With regards to the levels of transformation, the current state of the affected area must also be taken into consideration. For further details, please refer to the Specialist Impact Assessments in Appendix D.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1518 352 2087 1241">• The assessment of cumulative impacts was based on the specialist and EAP’s knowledge of similar approved Renewable Energy and EGI projects in the 50 km radius, which was also supplemented by the National Renewable Energy EIA Applications (REEA) database and the Eskom’s Generation Connection Capacity Assessment (GCCA) (2022). Each specialist study in Appendix D of the Final BA Report contains feedback on the assessment of potential cumulative impacts. The specialists assessed such impacts based on their expertise and knowledge of similar projects and management actions. Furthermore, the assessment of cumulative impacts is not necessarily solely focused on an assessment of impacts linked to previously authorised similar developments and consideration of their mitigation measures, but also about the sensitivities of the land on which the projects take place. For example, from a heritage point of view, it is also about other heritage resources, the type of locations they could occur in, and any other developments that may have impacted on the heritage resources. <li data-bbox="1518 1294 2087 1353">• The majority of the cumulative impacts identified in this BA Process were rated with a

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			<p>Low significance with mitigation, with Heritage (Archaeology and Cultural Landscape) impacts being rated as Moderate with mitigation. Based on this, the proposed project is justified in terms of needs and desirability. Refer to Section A.14 of the Final BA Report for a copy of the needs and desirability of the proposed projects, where a summary of the cumulative socio-economic ecological and biophysical impacts bearing in mind the size, scale, scope and nature of the project in relation to its location and existing and other planned developments in the area have been provided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The impact assessment tables and concluding statements provided by each specialist in Section D of the Final BA Report include considerations of cumulative impacts. Section E of the Final BA Report also includes an overall cumulative impact statement on the proposed development proceeding.
5.	<p>05/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 05/08/2022) DFFE: Priority Infrastructure Projects</p>	<p>(e) Environmental Management Programme</p> <p>i. It is drawn to your attention that for <u>substation infrastructure and overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure</u>, when such facilities trigger activity 11 or 47 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended, and any other listed and specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, the generic</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted. The Draft BA Report did include the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for the Kwagga EGI Section 1 (Appendix G). The EMPr covers the proposed 132 kV overhead transmission powerline between the proposed authorised Beaufort West 132kV-400kV Linking Station and the proposed</p>

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	(Sabelo Malaza, Danie Smit, Lydia Kutu),	<p>Environmental Management Programme, contemplated in Regulations 19(4) must be used and submitted with the final report over and above the EMPr submitted with the BAR. Please ensure that Part B, Section 2 must also be completed.</p> <p>ii. Please ensure that any specific mitigation measures identified in the BAR and specialist reports for the proposed powerline are incorporated into the generic EMPr</p>	<p>authorised Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation (i.e., Kwagga EGI Section 1) which facilitates connection of the proposed authorised Kwagga WEFs 1-3. This EMPr (Appendix G of this Final BA Report) complies therefore only with the Generic EMPr published for powerline development (Government Gazette 42323, GN 435, dated 22 March 2019). In addition, the Generic EMPr for the powerline does include specific mitigation measures identified in the BA Report and specialist reports relating to the proposed powerline. This is specifically included in Section 4 to 7 of the EMPr.</p> <p>Please note that the proposed authorised Eskom 132 kV Switching Substation (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-1-2465/AM1) and the proposed authorised Beaufort West 132 kV-400 kV Linking Station (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-2-925-1) were assessed as part of separate Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessments commissioned by Mainstream Renewable Power South Africa (Pty) Ltd (“Mainstream”) in support of their proposed authorised Beaufort West WEF and Trakas WEF that are to be located on land directly adjacent to the proposed authorised Kwagga WEFs 1-3. For each of these projects the generic EMPr for substation infrastructure was included with the respective Final EIA reports and submitted to the National DFFE.</p>
6.	05/08/2022	(f) Validity period for auditing frequency	Appendix 1 (3) (1) (q) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended states “where the proposed activity does not

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
	Letter (received via email on 05/08/2022) DFFE: Priority Infrastructure Projects (Sabelo Malaza, Danie Smit, Lydia Kutu)	i. Please ensure that the final BAR includes the period for which the Environmental Authorisation (EA) is required, the date on which the activity will be concluded and the post construction monitoring requirements finalised, as per Appendix 1(3)(1)(q) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended	include operational aspects, the period for which the environmental authorisation is required, the date on which the activity will be concluded, and the post construction monitoring requirements finalised". It must be noted that, while the listed activities applied for refer to "development of" and not "development and related operation of", the electricity grid infrastructure do have operational components. Nonetheless, Section E of the Final BA Report contains the period for which the Environmental Authorisation is required (i.e. a recommended 10-year validity period). It is not possible to estimate or provide the date on which the activity will be concluded and the post construction monitoring requirements to be finalised, because there are various additional permitting requirements that are applicable and need to be factored in the timing. These are outside of the mandate of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended), such as the REIPPPP or similar process, as well as the signing of a Power Purchase Agreement.
7.	05/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 05/08/2022) DFFE: Priority Infrastructure Projects (Sabelo Malaza, Danie Smit, Lydia Kutu),	(g) Specialist Assessments i. Please ensure that specialist studies e conducted provide a detailed description of their methodology, as well as all other associated infrastructures that they have assessed and are recommending for the authorisation. ii. The specialist studies must also provide a detailed description of all limitations to their studies.	CSIR: These comments are noted. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialist Impact Assessments, where relevant, were conducted in adherence to Part A and B of the gazetted Protocol requirements of GN R320. All Specialist Assessments includes a detailed description of their methodologies, project infrastructure descriptions and locations,

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
		<p>iii. Should the appointed specialists specify contradicting recommendations, the EAP must clearly indicate the most reasonable recommendation and substantiate this with defensible reasons; and were necessary, include further expertise advice.</p> <p>iv. It is further brought to your attention that Procedures for the Assessment and Minimum Criteria for Reporting on identified Environmental Themes in terms of Sections 24(5)(a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, when applying for Environmental Authorisation, which were promulgated in Government Notice No. 320 of 20 March 2020 (i.e. “the Protocols”), and in Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020 (i.e. protocols for terrestrial plant and animal species), have come into effect. Please ensure that the specialist assessments conducted comply with these protocols.</p>	<p>limitations applicable to the study, and recommendations for authorisations. Refer to Appendix D of this Final BA Report for the detailed specialist reports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It can be confirmed that none of the specialists have made contradicting recommendations in their assessments. Please refer to Section E of the Final BA Report for the EAPs recommendation and confirmation of the specialists’ findings. • As noted above, all Specialist Assessments were conducted in adherence to the Procedures for the assessment and minimum requirements for reporting on identified environmental themes in terms of Sections 24(5) (a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 as published in Government Notice 320 in March 2020. Note that the Terrestrial Biodiversity Specialist Assessment undertaken as part of this BA Process also complies with the Animal and Plant Species Protocols (Government Notice No. 1150 of 30 October 2020) as confirmed with the Competent Authority during the pre-application consultation process during which no objections to this approach were noted. Please refer to Appendix E for a copy of the pre-application consultation correspondence with DFFE, as well as Appendix D.4 for a copy of the Terrestrial

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
			Biodiversity and Species Impact Assessment conducted for this project.
8.	<p>05/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 05/08/2022) DFFE: Priority Infrastructure Projects (Sabelo Malaza, Danie Smit, Lydia Kutu),</p>	<p>General</p> <p>You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 19(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that: “Where basic assessment must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority – (a) a basic assessment report, inclusive of any specialist reports, an EMPr, a closure plan in the case of a closure activity and where the application is a mining application, the plans, report and calculations contemplated in the Financial Provisioning Regulations, which have been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority”.</p> <p>Should there be significant changes or new information that has been added to the BAR or EMPr which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process, you are required to comply with Regulation 19(1)(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: “the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority – (b) a notification in writing that the documents contemplated in sub regulation 1(a) will be submitted within 140 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the documents which changes or information was not contained in the original documents consulted on during the initial public participation process contemplated in sub regulation (1)(a) and that the revised documents will be subjected to another public</p>	<p>CSIR: These comments are noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The timeframes in Regulation 19 (1)(a) have been adhered to in the submission of this Final BA Report. The Application Form for EA was submitted to the DFFE, together with the Draft BA Report for comment, on 11 July 2022. In line with Regulation 19 (1)(a) of the 2014 EIA Regulations (as amended), the Final BA Report needed to be submitted to the DFFE for decision-making within 90 days of receipt of the application by the Competent Authority. • The Final BA Report complies with all the requirements in terms of the scope of assessment and content of BA Reports in accordance with Appendix 1 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). Refer to the Executive Summary of the Final BA Report for additional information on compliance with Appendix 1. • The reminder regarding failure to meet any timeframes stipulated in Regulation 45 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended) is noted.

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
		<p>participation process of at least 30 days.”</p> <p>Should you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 19 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your application will lapse.</p> <p>You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Project Developer is aware of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended).

2.2 THE DIRECTORATE: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
1.	<p>11/08/2022</p> <p>Letter (received via email on 12/08/2022),</p> <p>DFFE, The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation</p> <p>(Mashudu Mudau, Seoka Lekota)</p>	<p>COMMENTS ON DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF SEVEN 132 KV OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION POWERLINES IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED AUTHORISED KWAGGA WIND ENERGY FACILITIES 1- 3, NEAR BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE</p> <p>The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation has reviewed and evaluated the reports.</p> <p>The final report must comply with the procedures for the assessment and minimum criteria for reporting on identified environmental themes in terms of sections 24(5)(A) and (H) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998. However, please note that the Directorate</p>	<p>CSIR: As noted above, all Specialist Assessments were conducted in adherence to the Procedures for the assessment and minimum requirements for reporting on identified environmental themes in terms of Sections 24(5) (a) and (h) and 44 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 as published in Government Notice 320 in March 2020.</p> <p>The majority of the negative direct impacts identified in this BA Process for Construction, Operational and Decommissioning Phases were rated with a Low to Very</p>

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
		<p>Biodiversity Conservation does not support any development within a very highly sensitive area and that will result with significant negative residual impacts after mitigation.</p> <p>In conclusion, the Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA for review and queries should be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email; BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za for the attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota.</p>	<p>Low significance with mitigation, with only the Visual impacts being rated as Moderate with mitigation during the Operational Phase of the project. Based on this, the proposed project is not located within a highly sensitive area and will not result in any significant negative residual impacts after mitigation. Refer to Section D of the Final BA Report and the sub-sections of each specialist assessment in Appendix D of the Final BA Report, where the detailed impact assessments are included.</p> <p>BCAdmin@dffe.gov.za was included on the pre-identified project database of I&APs and Organs of State at the outset of the BA Process and will receive future communication regarding the proposed powerlines. Refer to Appendix E.5 of this BA Report for a copy of the I&AP database.</p>

2.3 THE DIRECTORATE: PROTECTED AREAS PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
1.	02/08/2022, Email, DFFE, The Directorate: Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness (Rofhiwa Magodi)	<p>Good morning</p> <p>The Directorate: Protected Areas Planning and Management Effectiveness, would like to thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Basic Assessment report and supporting documents for the above-mentioned projects.</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted with thanks. The Biodiversity and Conservation Directorate was included on the pre-identified project database of I&APs and Organs of State at the outset of the BA Process. Comments received from the Biodiversity and Conservation Directorate has been included in Section 2.2 of this CRR.</p>

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
		<p>After conducting the review of the above-mentioned documents, we have noted that the proposed developments will not take place within any kind of protected areas in terms of Section 9 of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (NEMPAA), Act No. 57 of 2003. Subsequently, this directorate provides comments or input on the projects which are affecting the protected areas. Consequently, the Directorate of the Protected Areas, Planning and Management Effectiveness does not have any further comments on the proposed project as it does not affect the protected area.</p> <p>However, kindly notify and get comments (if not yet consulted) from the Biodiversity and Conservation Directorate which can be contacted at BCAdmin@environment.gov.za for the attention of Mr. Seoka Lekota. Further, also notify the provincial departments, municipality, and associated entities for comments.</p>	

3. WESTERN CAPE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

3.1 DIRECTORATE: LAND USE AND SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
1.	26/08/2022, (received via email on 31/08/2022), Brandon Layman and Cor Van der	DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF SEVEN 132 KV OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION POWERLINES IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED AUTHORISED KWAGGA WIND ENERGY FACILITIES 1 -3;	CSIR: This comment is noted with thanks. The reference number as allocated by the Directorate is noted and will be

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
	<p>Walt, National Department of Agriculture, Directorate: Land Use and Sustainable Resource Management</p>	<p>NAMELY, THE 279 MW KWAGGA WEF 1 (DFFE REF: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2070), THE 341 MW KWAGGA WEF 2 (DFFE REF: 14/12/16/3/3/2/20171) AND THE 204.6 MW KWAGGA WEF 3 (DFFE REF: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2072), AND IT'S ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE: BEAUFORT WEST</p> <p>Your application dated 10 July 2022 refers.</p> <p>The applicant proposes to construct seven overhead transition power-lines and associated electrical grid infrastructure (EGI) to connect the Kwagga Wind Energy Facility to the Droërivier—Proteus 400 kV line via the Eskom Switching Substation and the Beaufort West 132 kV-400 kV Linking Station. Environmental authorisation was granted for the proposed Kwagga Wind Energy Facilities and Power-line and EGI did not form part of the S&EIA process.</p> <p>The department has no objection to the proposed seven overhead transition power-lines and associated EGI on condition that the impact management actions as stated in the EMPr be effectively implemented together with the recommendations made by the specialists.</p> <p>Please note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kindly quote the above-mentioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application. • The department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on the information received. 	<p>used in any future correspondence in respect of the application.</p>

4. WESTERN CAPE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING (DEA&DP)

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
1.	<p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: Director: Development Facilitation (Thea Jordan)</p>	<p>COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE KWAGGA ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE (“EGI”) CORRIDOR SECTION 1: PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A 132KV OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION POWERLINE AND ASSOCIATED EGI BETWEEN THE PROPOSED AUTHORISED BEAUFORT WEST 132/400 KV LINKING STATION AND THE PROPOSED AUTHORISED ESKOM 132KV SWITCHING STATION ACROSS PORTION 1 OF THE FARM WITPOORTJE NO. 16 AND THE REMAINDER OF THE FARM TRAKAS KUILEN NO. 15, PRINCE ALBERT MUNICIPALITY</p> <p>The email notification of 11 July 2022 regarding the release of the Draft Basic Assessment Report (“BAR”) for comments refers. Please find consolidated comments from various directorates within the Department on the Draft BAR dated July 2022 that was available for download from various online platforms provided by the environmental assessment practitioner.</p>	<p>CSIR: Comment noted. All comments received from the Western Cape DEA&DP have been captured in this Comments and Responses Report.</p>
2.	<p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: Director: Development Facilitation (Thea Jordan)</p>	<p>The applicant is reminded of its “general duty of care towards the environment” as prescribed in section 28 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) which states that “Every person who causes, has caused or may cause significant pollution or degradation of the environment must take reasonable measures to prevent such pollution or degradation from occurring, continuing or recurring, or, in so far as such harm to the environment is authorised by law or cannot reasonably be avoided or stopped, to minimise and rectify such pollution or degradation of the environment.”</p> <p>The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any or new information received.</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted. The EMPr has also provided adequate management actions to reduce environmental damage. Refer to Appendix G of this Final BA Report for the Final EMPr.</p>

4.1 DIRECTORATE: DEVELOPMENT FACILITATION

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
1.	<p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: Director: Development Facilitation (Thea Jordan)</p> <p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Western Cape DEA&DP, Directorate: Development Facilitation (Adri La Meyer)</p>	<p>It is noted that the proposed authorised Eskom 132kV switching substation and the proposed authorised Beaufort West 132/400 kV linking station will be constructed by South Africa Mainstream Renewable Power Developments (Pty) Ltd (“Mainstream”) in support of their proposed authorised Beaufort West and Trakas wind energy facilities (“WEFs”) that are to be located on land directly adjacent to the proposed authorised Kwagga WEFs 1 – 3. The applicant has an agreement with Mainstream to facilitate the connection of the proposed authorised Kwagga WEFs 1 – 3 via 132kV overhead transmission powerlines, via the proposed Eskom 132kV switching substation and the proposed Beaufort West 132/400 kV linking station, to the existing Droërivier–Proteus 400kV overhead transmission powerline. Two on-site switching substation alternatives were assessed as part of the basic assessment (“BA”) process undertaken for the proposed Eskom 132kV switching substation. Mainstream’s preferred switching substation alternative presented in the Draft and Final BARs was Site Area Alternative 1; however, the competent authority authorised switching substation Site Area Alternative 2 in the environmental authorisation granted on 17 May 2022 (reference 14/12/16/3/3/1/2465). Section 1 of the 132kV Kwagga EGI Corridor will connect at the proposed authorised Eskom 132kV switching substation (i.e., Site Area Alternative 2) and extend approximately 3km in a westerly direction to connect at the proposed authorised Beaufort West 132/400 kV linking station.</p> <p>Please be advised that Mainstream has submitted a Part 2 amendment application to replace the authorised switching substation with the</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted with thanks. The Project Applicant is aware of the Part 2 amendment application currently underway to replace the authorised 132 kV Eskom switching substation location. A detailed description of the Kwagga EGI Section 1 powerline connection at the proposed authorised 132 kV Eskom switching substation is provided in Section A of the Final BA Report.</p>

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
		<p>applicant’s preferred switching substation Site Area Alternative 1. It is acknowledged that the relevant maps/figures depict the location of both switching substation alternatives that were assessed during the BA process. It is further noted that the specialists were required to assess an approximately 500m wide corridor for the proposed powerline route that traverses the neighbouring Beaufort West and Trakas WEF project sites (thus assessing both switching substation site alternatives) to identify and avoid environmental constraints and sensitivities during the siting and final design of the powerline. The applicant is advised to ensure that both switching substation alternatives are presented as preferred connection points for the 132kV overhead transmission powerlines, should the Part 2 amendment application be approved.</p>	
2.	<p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: Director: Development Facilitation (Thea Jordan)</p> <p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Western Cape DEA&DP, Directorate: Development Facilitation (Adri La Meyer)</p>	<p>This Directorate has no further comments on the Draft BAR and is satisfied that the relevant specialists’ recommendations and mitigation measures have been incorporated in the Environmental Management Programme (“EMPr”).</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted with thanks. Refer to Appendix G of this Final BA Report for the Final EMPr.</p>

4.2 DIRECTORATE: WASTE MANAGEMENT

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
1.	<p>Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: Director: Development Facilitation (Thea Jordan)</p> <p>28/06/2021, Letter (received via email on 28/06/2021), Western Cape DEA&DP, Directorate: Waste Management (Etienne Roux)</p>	<p>Page 43 of the Draft BAR states that hazardous waste will be temporary stored on-site for no longer than 90 days. Kindly note that should more than 80m³ of hazardous waste, and/or 100m³ of general waste be stored at the construction camp(s) for longer than 90 days, the applicant will need to register and adhere to the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) National Norms and Standards for the Storage of Waste promulgated in Government Notice No. 926 of 29 November 2013.</p>	<p>CSIR: The Project Developer has been made aware of that should more than 80m³ of hazardous waste, and/or 100m³ of general waste be stored within the construction camp(s) for longer than 90 days, the applicant will need to register and adhere to the NEM:WA National Norms and Standards for the Storage of Waste promulgated in GN No. 926 of 29 November 2013.</p>
2.	<p>Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: Director: Development Facilitation (Thea Jordan)</p> <p>28/06/2021, Letter (received via email on 28/06/2021), Western Cape DEA&DP, Directorate: Waste Management (Etienne Roux)</p>	<p>It is indicated that waste will be taken to the nearest waste disposal facility. Please indicate the waste disposal facility(ies) where both general and hazardous waste will be disposed of.</p>	<p>CSIR: As indicated in the Section A.9.3, the details of the disposal facility will be finalised during the contracting process, prior to the commencement of construction. Solid waste will be managed according to management actions included in the EMPr during the construction and operational phases, which incorporates proper waste management principles (see Appendix G of the BA Report). During the construction phase, general solid waste will be collected and temporarily stockpiled in skips in a designated area on site and thereafter removed and disposed of at a registered waste disposal facility on a regular basis by an approved waste disposal Contractor (i.e. a suitable Contractor) or the local municipality. Any hazardous waste will be temporarily stockpiled (for less than 90 days) in a designated area on site</p>

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
			(i.e. placed in leak-proof storage skips), and thereafter removed off site by a suitable service provider for safe disposal at a registered hazardous waste disposal facility. Waste disposal slips and waybills will be obtained for the collection and disposal of the general and hazardous waste. These disposal slips (i.e. safe disposal certificates) will be kept on file for auditing purposes as proof of disposal. The waste disposal facility selected will be suitable and able to receive the specified waste stream (i.e. hazardous waste will only be disposed of at a registered/licenced waste disposal facility).
3.	<p>Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: Director: Development Facilitation (Thea Jordan)</p> <p>28/06/2021, Letter (received via email on 28/06/2021), Western Cape DEA&DP, Directorate: Waste Management (Etienne Roux)</p>	<p>The recommendation on pages 29 and 31 of the EMPr, as endorsed in the Aquatic Biodiversity and Species Specialist Assessment compiled by Toni Belcher dated June 2022 state that “Proper waste management should be undertaken within the site with facilities provided for the on-site disposal of waste and the removal of stored waste to the nearest registered solid waste disposal facility”. Please note that on-site disposal of waste is not allowed, and no waste is allowed to be buried or burned onsite.</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted with thanks. As described in Section A.9.3, all waste including non-hazardous and hazardous will be temporarily stockpiled (for less than 90 days) in a designated area on site (i.e. placed in leak-proof storage skips) during construction and operations, whereafter it will be removed off site by a suitable service provider for safe disposal at a registered waste disposal facility. This recommendation has been incorporated into the EMPr (Appendix G of this Final BA Report).</p>

4.3 DIRECTORATE: POLLUTION AND CHEMICALS MANAGEMENT

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
1.	<p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: Director: Development Facilitation (Thea Jordan)</p> <p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Western Cape DEA&DP, Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management (Gunther Frantz)</p>	<p>All recommendations and mitigation measures included in the EMPR (Appendix G) are supported</p>	<p>CSIR: This confirmation and comment is noted with thanks.</p>
2.	<p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: Director: Development Facilitation (Thea Jordan)</p> <p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Western Cape DEA&DP, Directorate: Pollution and</p>	<p>The placement of stand poles/pylons within sensitive freshwater features such as wetlands and riparian areas must always be avoided</p>	<p>CSIR: The results from the detailed Aquatic Impact Assessment indicate that the development of an overhead transmission powerline and associated infrastructure within the study area will, by necessity, be undertaken on land that meets a number of criteria including, inter-alia, level or gradual falls, generally suitable founding conditions and avoidance of areas that may be inundated by flooding. As a consequence, the proposed powerline routing will avoid all riverine and wetland environments. The study further concludes that the potential aquatic ecosystem impacts of the proposed powerline are likely to be Very Low in terms of any potential impact on aquatic ecosystem integrity for all phases of the proposed development as the proposed works avoid the delineated aquatic features as well as the recommended buffer areas. Please refer to Section D.2.6 and</p>

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	Chemicals Management (Gunther Frantz)		Appendix D.5 of this Final BA Report for the detailed Aquatic Impact Assessment results.
3.	<p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: Director: Development Facilitation (Thea Jordan)</p> <p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Western Cape DEA&DP, Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management (Gunther Frantz)</p>	<p>The erection of stand poles/pylons and associated construction activities should ideally take place within the dry season to reduce the risk of sediment-laden runoff from the construction activities/site washing into any nearby watercourses</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted with thanks. The recommendation has been incorporated into the EMPr. Refer to Appendix G of this Final BA Report for the Final EMPr.</p>
4.	<p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: Director: Development Facilitation (Thea Jordan)</p> <p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022)</p>	<p>It is recommended that any temporary construction camp/s and concrete batching areas are located outside of the sensitive freshwater features and buffer areas, and that the buffer areas are clearly marked and maintained throughout the pre-construction, construction and operational phase of the project to protect identified aquatic ecosystems. This is particularly important given that a higher likelihood of pollution and risk of contamination exists during the construction phase, with an increased risk of pollution emanating from the construction camp(s) and laydown areas</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment and the risk of contamination during the construction phase and pollution emanating from the construction camp(s) and laydown areas is duly noted. This recommendation has been incorporated into the EMPr (Appendix G of this Final BA Report). The following Impact Management Actions are also included in the EMPr:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For all project-related components within the site, the aquatic features of high sensitivity should be treated as no-go areas during the construction phase.

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	Western Cape DEA&DP, Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management (Gunther Frantz)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any activities that require construction within the delineated aquatic features and the recommended buffers should be described in method statements that are approved by the ECO.
5.	<p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: Director: Development Facilitation (Thea Jordan)</p> <p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Western Cape DEA&DP, Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management (Gunther Frantz)</p>	<p>No discharge of effluents or the wash water from cement batching areas must enter nearby watercourses. Runoff must be strictly managed and controlled from any cement batching area</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted. Please note that the Pre-Approved Generic EMPr Template for Overhead Electricity Transmission and Distribution Infrastructure (Government Gazette 42323, Government Notice 435) which forms part of the Final EMPr (Appendix G of this BA Report) includes Impact Management Actions relating to the batching and disposal of cement. Batching of cement is to be undertaken in accordance with Section 5.19: Batching plants; and Residual cement must be disposed of in accordance with Section 5.8: Solid and hazardous waste management. The recommendation has been incorporated into the Final EMPr as an additional measure. Refer to Appendix G of this Final BA Report for the Final EMPr.</p>
6.	<p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022) Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: Director: Development Facilitation (Thea Jordan)</p> <p>11/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 11/08/2022)</p>	<p>The refuelling or repair of heavy earthmoving vehicles should not be done within any sensitive areas and should be conducted over a dedicated and impervious area within the construction camp.</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted. The following Impact Management Actions which speak to the refuelling of vehicles are included in the Pre-Approved Generic EMPr Template for Overhead Electricity Transmission and Distribution Infrastructure (Government Gazette 42323, Government Notice 435) which forms part of the Final EMPr (Appendix G of this BA Report). Holders of EAs are responsible to ensure the implementation of these outcomes and actions for all projects as a minimum requirement, in order to mitigate the impact of such aspects identified for the</p>

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	Western Cape DEA&DP, Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management (Gunther Frantz)		<p>development or expansion of overhead electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Provision must be made for refueling at the storage area by protecting the soil with an impermeable groundcover. Where dispensing equipment is used, a drip tray must be used to ensure small spills are contained; – Where refueling away from the dedicated refueling station is required, a mobile refueling unit must be used. Appropriate ground protection such as drip trays must be used. <p>Refer to Appendix G of this Final BA Report for the Final EMPr.</p>

5. BREEDE-GOURITZ CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AGENCY

NO	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
1.	22/08/2022, Letter (received via sent on 22/08/2022) Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA) (Zama Mbunquka and Jan Van Staden)	<p>COMMENT ON THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF SEVEN 132kV OVERHEAD POWERLINES IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED AUTHORISED KWAGGA WIND ENERGY FACILITIES 2-3, AND ITS ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE.</p> <p>With reference to the application dated July 2022 and after having had the opportunity to assess the application, herewith the following:</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted. The Project Developer was informed of the requirement to apply for water authorisation in terms of section 21 (a) (c) and (i) water uses of the National Water Act, 1998 (NWA) as stipulated. The Project Applicant will apply for and obtain the required authorisation prior to commencement of construction, should this project be granted Environmental Authorisation.</p>

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		<p>Please note that the proposed development of seven 132Kv overhead powerlines and associated infrastructure onstitutes section 21 (a) (c&i) water uses of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) . It is noted on page 50 of the Draft basic assessment report that the applicant is currently in the process of applying for a water use authorisation in terms of Section 21(a) and (c)ad(i) of the NWA). Please indicate the anticipated volumes that will be abstracted from the borehole. Also note that a risk matrix must be compiled for the proposed section 2(c&i) activitie</p> <p>The applicant must obtain authorization in terms of the aforementioned Act prior to the commencement of the proposed development.</p>	
2.	<p>22/08/2022, Letter (received via sent on 22/08/2022) Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA) (Zama Mbunquka and Jan Van Staden)</p>	<p>It is noted on page 42 of the draft basic assessment report that the proposed powerline project will require sewage services during the construction phase. The generation of small volumes of sewage or liquid effluent are estimated as liquid effluent will be limited to the ablution facilities during the construction phase. Portable sanitation facilities (i.e. chemical toilets) will be used during the construction phase, which will be regularly emptied. This office must be furnished with a signed copy of the contract between the contractor or the municipality which is appointed to empty the ablution facilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The disposal of sewage must at all times comply with the requirements of Sections 22 and 40 of the National Water Act of 1998, (Act 36 of 1998). • Should chemical toilets facilities be used on-site during construction phase of project development to be used by 	<p>CSIR: These comments are noted. The Project Developer has been made aware of the requirements to provide the BGCMA with a signed copy of the contract between the contractor or the municipality which is appointed to empty the ablution facilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project Developer is made aware that the disposal of sewage must at all times comply with the requirements of Sections 22 and 40 of the National Water Act of 1998, (Act 36 of 1998). Such references and requirements have been included in the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) which is included in Appendix G of this Final BA Report. • The EMPr, which is included in Appendix G of this Final BA Report, makes a note that should chemical toilet facilities be used on-site during the construction phase, such toilet facilities must be located outside of the 1: 100 year floodline.

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		<p>construction workers such toilets facilities must be located outside of the 1: 100 year floodline.</p>	
3.	<p>22/08/2022, Letter (received via sent on 22/08/2022) Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA) (Zama Mbunquka and Jan Van Staden)</p>	<p>No pollution of surface water or ground water resources may occur due to any activity on the property.</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted. Any hazardous waste such as chemicals or contaminated soil as a result of spillages, which may be generated during the construction and/or operational phases, will be temporarily stockpiled within a designated area on site and thereafter removed off site by a suitable service provider for safe disposal at a registered hazardous waste disposal facility. Measures to avoid, remedy, mitigate or manage waste and/or pollution of surface or groundwater resources have been incorporated into the EMPr which is included in Appendix G of this Final BA Report.</p>
4.	<p>22/08/2022, Letter (received via sent on 22/08/2022) Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA) (Zama Mbunquka and Jan Van Staden)</p>	<p>The stormwater drainage network system must be kept separate from the sewage effluent system.</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted. The EMPr, which is included in Appendix G of this Final BA Report, notes that the stormwater drainage network system must be kept separate from the sewage effluent system.</p>
5.	<p>22/08/2022, Letter (received via sent on 22/08/2022) Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA) (Zama Mbunquka and Jan Van Staden)</p>	<p>All relevant sections and regulations of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008) regarding the disposal of solid waste must be adhered to. Solid waste may only be disposed off onto an authorized solid waste facility in terms of abovementioned legislation.</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted. As noted in Section A.9.3 of the Final BA Report, any solid waste generated will be collected and temporarily stockpiled within designated areas on site during construction, and thereafter removed and disposed of at a nearby registered waste disposal facility on a regular basis as per an agreement with the Beaufort West and/or the Prince Albert Local Municipalities. Temporary storage on site will be undertaken in compliance with the National Environmental Management: Waste Act (Act 59 of 2008, as amended). Proof of disposal or waybills must</p>

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			<p>be kept on file. Where possible, recycling and re-use of materials will be encouraged. Relevant management actions for the management of waste on site during all phases of the project have been included in the EMPr (refer to Appendix G of this BA Report).</p> <p>The Beaufort West Local Municipality and/or Prince Albert Local Municipality will be consulted to obtain non-binding letters confirming the availability of unallocated service capacity to accept solid waste at the relevant authorized solid waste facility prior to bidding. Specific arrangements will be agreed upon with the relevant local municipality in a Service Level Agreement, which will only be concluded if the project receives preferred bidder status in terms of the REIPPPP.</p>
6.	<p>22/08/2022, Letter (received via sent on 22/08/2022) Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA) (Zama Mbunquka and Jan Van Staden)</p>	<p>The minimizing of waste must be promoted and alternative methods for waste management must be investigated.</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted. Waste will mostly be generated during the construction and decommissioning phases of the project. Measures to avoid, remedy, mitigate or manage waste have been included within the EMPr (refer to Appendix G of this BA Report).</p>
7.	<p>22/08/2022, Letter (received via sent on 22/08/2022) Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA) (Zama Mbunquka and Jan Van Staden)</p>	<p>No permanent structures maybe constructed within the 100-year flood line of any watercourse (seasonal or permanent river, stream, etc.) without authorisation in terms of National Water Act 1998 (Act 36 of 1998).</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted. The impact of the proposed project on the surrounding watercourses has been thoroughly assessed by the Aquatic Specialist. Please refer to Appendix D.5 for the detailed Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment. The relevant listed activities for planned development activities within 32 m from affected watercourses or within the affected watercourses have been considered and included in the Application for EA and was assessed in detail. The Aquatic Specialist Assessment confirms that</p>

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			<p>the location of the proposed works is located sufficiently far from the delineated aquatic features that they do not pose any significant risk to the aquatic features. The Aquatic Specialist has recommended that for any new infrastructure placed within the watercourses, the structure should not impede or concentrate the flow in the watercourse. It is also recommended that low water crossings should be utilised. The project layout avoids watercourses as best as possible, but where it is not possible to avoid watercourses, relevant authorisation for such development in proximity to the affected watercourses has been applied for in terms of NEMA and the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). In addition, water authorisation in terms of section 21 (c) and (i) water uses of the National Water Act, 1998 (NWA) will be applied for prior to commencement of construction, should this project be granted Environmental Authorisation.</p>
8.	<p>22/08/2022, Letter (received via sent on 22/08/2022) Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA) (Zama Mbunquka and Jan Van Staden)</p>	<p>Environmental sensitive areas must be identified as well as possible pollution impacts and mitigation measures of such areas must be employed.</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted. Environmental sensitive areas and possible pollution impacts during the construction, operational and decommissioning phases of the proposed project have been identified, studied and subjected to a detailed impact assessment and recommended measures to avoid, remedy, mitigate or manage waste are included within the EMPr (refer to Appendix G to and Section D of this BA Report).</p>
9.	<p>22/08/2022, Letter (received via sent on 22/08/2022) Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA)</p>	<p>Please note that the comments are applicable to the properties that falls within the Jurisdiction of the Breede Gouritz Catchment Management Agency, Quaternary drainage J23A, Please liase with the Department of Water and sanitation for properties that that are located in L21A Quartenary drainage which is outside the Jurisdiction of this office.</p>	<p>CSIR: Officials from the Department of Water and Sanitation were included on the pre-identified I&AP database and received notification of the release of the Draft BA Report for the 30-day comment period as well as reminder emails. Please refer to Appendix E.9 of this BA Report for proof of such correspondence.</p>

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	(Zama Mbunquka and Jan Van Staden)		
10.	22/08/2022, Letter (received via sent on 22/08/2022) Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency (BGCMA) (Zama Mbunquka and Jan Van Staden)	<p>Notwithstanding the above, the responsibility rests with the applicant to identify any sources of pollution from his undertaking and to take appropriate measures to prevent any pollution of the environment. Failure to comply with the requirements of the National Water Act 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) could lead to legal action being instituted against the applicant.</p> <p>The BGCMA reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any additional information that might be received.</p>	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted. The Project Developer has been made aware of the responsibility to identify any sources of pollution from their undertaking and to take appropriate measures to prevent any pollution of the receiving environment. The failure to comply with the requirements of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998), which could lead to legal action being instituted against the Project Applicant, has also been communicated to the Project Developer.</p>

6. SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
1.	02/08/2022 Email South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA): Procedures for Air Navigation Services – Aircraft Operations (PANS-OPS) Section; Air Navigation Services Department (Lizell Stroh)	<p>There is a SACAA process whereby permission is applied for wrt obstacles which could pose an aviation hazard. More information can be obtained at http://www.caa.co.za. Click on information for industry ‘Obstacles’ on the LHS. Forms, Part 139-27 and submit on the form itself.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kindly provide a .kml (Google Earth) file reflecting the footprint of the proposed overhead electric power line route that will evacuate the generated power to the national grid. 	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted with thanks. A .kml file reflecting the EGI assessment corridor and the proposed Kwagga powerline route was shared with this stakeholder via email on 04/08/2022 with the details of the highest structures (i.e., pylons) of the proposed overhead transmission powerline. The Project Developer was made aware of this required application process.</p> <p>The Civil Aviation Site Sensitivity Verification (SSV) is included in Appendix D.7 of this BA Report. The SSV notes that the ‘low’ sensitivity of the entire extent of the proposed Kwagga EGI assessment corridor,</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Also indicate the highest structure of the project Overhead electric power transmission line. 	<p>as identified by the Screening Tool from a civil aviation perspective, was verified by the EAP during the site visit. Note that no civil aviation installations were found within the actual proposed development footprint, on the ground, for the entire Kwagga EGI project corridor. Therefore, no further action is required in this regard.</p>

7. HERITAGE WESTERN CAPE

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
1.	<p>31/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 31/08/2022), Heritage Western Cape (Stephanie Barnardt and Nuraan Vallie)</p>	<p>HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED KWAGGA WIND ENERGY GRID SECTION 1 TO 7, BEAUFORT WEST SUBMITTED IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(8) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (ACT 25 OF 1999) CASE NUMBER: 20220518SB0519E The matter above has reference. This matter was discussed at the Impact Assessment Committee (IACom) meeting held on 17 August 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that the matter was tabled at Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Committee (APM) meeting held on the 3 August 2022 whereby the committee endorsed the HIA for the Kwagga EGI 1-7 in the HIA by ASIA Consulting (June 2022) pg's 34&35 	<p>CSIR: This comment is noted with thanks. As per the requirements of the HWC, an integrated Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) including archaeology, cultural landscape, palaeontology and visual aesthetics was undertaken and an integrated HIA report compiled. The integrated HIA was submitted to HWC and released to registered conservation bodies and the relevant local municipalities for a 30-day consultation period which extended from 8 July 2022 to 8 August 2022 as per the requirements of the HWC (see Appendix E.8). These relevant specialist assessments are also included in Appendix D of this Final BA Report.</p>

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2	<p>31/08/2022 Letter (received via email on 31/08/2022), Heritage Western Cape (Stephanie Barnardt and Nuraan Vallie)</p>	<p>The Committee endorsed the HIA prepared by ASHA Consulting dated June 2022 as satisfying requirements of the S.38(3) of the NHRA. Notwithstanding, the cumulative impact of the wind farm already approve, the Committee notes that the proposed gridline would have minimal impacts upon the cultural landscape heritage resources. The Committee therefore has no objections to the proposal and recommends that the consenting authoring imposes recommendation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A palaeontologist must conduct a preconstruction survey of the final authorised alignment well in advance of construction to determine whether any areas require avoidance or mitigation; • An archaeologist must conduct a preconstruction survey of the final authorised alignment well in advance of construction to determine whether any areas require avoidance or mitigation; • If any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development, then work in the immediate area should be halted. The find would need to be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist. Such heritage is the property of the state and may require excavation and curation in an approved institution. <p>HWC reserves the right to request additional information as required. Should you have any further queries, please contact the official above and quote the case number.</p>	<p>CSIR: This recommendation is noted. The conditions listed in this comment have been included in Section E of this BA Report as Conditions for EA, as well as in the EMPr (Appendix G of this BA Report).</p>

8. WESTERN CAPE GOVERNMENT TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS - ROADS DEPARTMENT

NO.	DATE OF COMMENT, FORMAT OF COMMENT, NAME OF ORGANISATION/I&AP	COMMENTS	RESPONSE FROM EAP/APPLICANT/SPECIALIST
1.	<p>05/10/2022 Letter (received via email on 05/10/2022), Western Cape Government: Transport and Public Works - Roads (SW Carstens with endorsements from A. Koopman and Mr. E. Burger and F Fakier)</p>	<p>NOTIFICATION OF THE RELEASE OF SEVEN DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR A 30- DAY COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF SEVEN 132 KV OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION POWERLINES IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED AUTHORISED KWAGGA WIND ENERGY FACILITIES 1- 3, NEAR BEAUFORT WEST IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Your letter dated 10 July 2022 refers. 2. This Branch will not object to the issuing of an Environmental Authorisation in favour of any of the seven proposed overhead transmission powerlines, subject to the necessary wayleave applications being submitted to this Branch in the case of the powerlines crossing a proclaimed road, or where it is placed within the 5 m building line of a proclaimed road. 3. Minor Road 7067 for which this Branch is the Road Authority is affected. 4. This Branch, for now, will ultimately require the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1. Access applications (for all the accesses to each respective farm portion), which might include servitude rights of way to be registered to ensure permanent, legal, and unfettered access to all affected farm portions. It will be required to clearly state which access will serve what purpose (transmission powerlines and / or farming). 	<p>CSIR: The comments are noted with thanks. Separate responses are provided below where necessary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Specialist Traffic Impact Assessment conducted during the Scoping and EIA process that was undertaken for the proposed authorised Kwagga WEF 1 (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2070) and Kwagga WEF 2 (DFFE Ref: 14-12-16-3-3-2-2070) has assessed the presence of this listed road and appropriate management actions were included in the approved EMPr. • The Project Developer and/or Project Contractor will ensure that access applications are submitted and obtained prior to the commencement of construction, and these will clearly state the purpose of each access. All relevant permits, such as the wayleaves and abnormal load applications will be applied for by the Project Developer and/or Project Contractor during the detailed design phase prior to construction, after Environmental Authorisation is issued, should such authorisation be granted. • The EMPr notes that a geotechnical and geometric design report must be compiled during the detailed design phase, post Environmental Authorisation, and that relevant approvals are obtained from the relevant authorities prior to commencement of construction.

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		<p>4.2. Construction applications, including wayleaves for third party services, when building restrictions, building lines and road reserves are affected.</p> <p>4.3. Abnormal load applications, which may require prior geometric, and materials designs to be completed and constructed. Due to the possible longevity of this process, it is recommended to commence with these applications as soon as possible.</p> <p>4.4. A geotechnical and geometric design report, including improvement proposals, must be compiled to ensure that all the roads (on the entire road network) that will be affected by this development are adequately improved and maintained before any other construction activity may commence on any of the farm portions. This is to ensure that no more than normal deterioration and additional maintenance costs are experienced by the Road Authority during the construction and operating phases. It will be required that any design affecting any Proclaimed Provincial Road must carry this Branch's Chief Directorate Road Design's approval before implementation thereof may commence.</p> <p>4.5. Confirmation that a similar geotechnical (as per paragraph 4.4) proposal will be compiled, and approval obtained prior to commencing with any major upgrade or decommissioning phase; whenever that may be.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Project Developer will also commission a similar geotechnical report for approval from the relevant authorities prior to commencing with any major upgrade or decommissioning phase.