



GAUTENG PROVINCE

ENVIRONMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Reference: Gaut 002/24-25/E0031
Directorate: Environmental Impact Assessment
Enquiries: Caroline Sithi
Tel: +27 (0)11 240 3394
Caroline.Sithi@gauteng.gov.za

Dr Enos Banda
ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd
Suite 101, 1st Floor, Albion Springs
183 Main Road
Rondebosch
7700

GDARD
Office of the HOD

By Registered Mail

17 JUN 2025

000006

Email: enos.banda@enertrag.com
Telephone Number: 021 207 2185

Dear Dr Enos Banda,

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION GRANTED: THE PROPOSED 132 KV GRID CONNECTION AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE IGOLIDE WIND ENERGY FACILITY, NORTHEAST OF FOCHVILLE, MERA FONG CITY LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

With reference to the above subject, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant environmental authorisation. The Environmental Authorisation (EA) and reasons for the decision are attached herewith.

In terms of Regulation 4(2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, you must notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing, within 14 days of the date of this EA, of the Department's decision in respect of your application as well as the provisions that are contained in the Appeal Regulations regarding the submission of appeals. A copy of this EA must also be appended to the letter of notification to the I&APs.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of the National Appeals Regulations, 2014, which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against this decision or any aspect of this decision, he/she must submit the appeal to the appeal administrator, and a copy of the appeal to the applicant, any registered interested and affected party, and any organ of state with interest on the matter within 20 days from the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the registered interested and affected parties by the applicant; or the date that the notification of the decision was sent to the applicant by the Department, whichever is applicable. The appeal(s) must be submitted in writing by any of the following means:

Postal Address:
The Appeals Administrator
Department of Environment
PO Box 8769
Johannesburg
2000

Physical Address

The Appeals Administrator
Department of Environment
56 Eloff Street, Umnotho House, 23rd Floor
Johannesburg
2000

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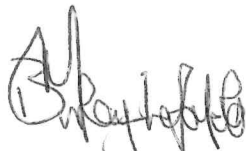
Fax No: 011 240 3158/2700

Email Address: appeals@gauteng.gov.za

For further enquiries on the appeal process and how to obtain the prescribed appeal form, contact the Department at 011 240 3236 or email appeals@gauteng.gov.za.

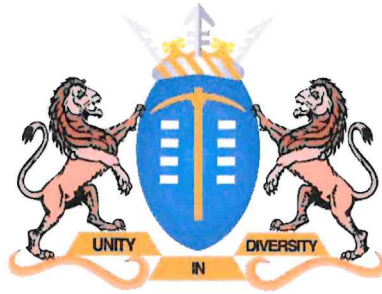
Kindly take note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA), as amended, the lodging of an appeal suspends an environmental authorisation as well as its associated Environmental Management Programme. This means that the activity authorised by this EA must not commence until such time that the appeal is finalised.

Yours sincerely,



MR BLAKE MOSLEY-LEFATOLA
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: ENVIRONMENT
DATE: 7/6/25.

Sasa Sekhatha	GDEnv Compliance Monitoring	Email: Sasa.Sekhatha@gauteng.gov.za
Cllr N Segakweng (Integrated Environmental Management)	Merafong City Local Municipality	Email: nsegakweng@merafong.gov.za
Ashlea Strong	WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd	Email: Ashlea.strong@wsp.com



GAUTENG PROVINCE

ENVIRONMENT

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION

Reference Number:	Gaut 002/24-25/E0031	
Holder of Authorisation:	ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd	
Property Description for the Location of Activity / Activities:	Portions 20, 31, 45, 46, 53, and 68 Kraalkop 147-IQ and Portions 11 and 77 Leeuwpoot 356-IQ, Merafong City Local Municipality	
Coordinates:	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
	26° 26' 30.391"	27° 30' 50.012"
	26° 26' 26.846"	27° 30' 44.744"
	26° 25' 44.351"	27° 30' 28.306"
	26° 25' 27.326"	27° 30' 34.326"
	26° 24' 57.428"	27° 30' 30.471"
	26° 24' 56.729"	27° 30' 14.799"
	26° 24' 57.557"	27° 30' 12.415"
	26° 25' 6.098"	27° 30' 15.599"
21 Digit SG Numbers:	T0IQ00000000014700020 T0IQ00000000014700031 T0IQ00000000014700045 T0IQ00000000014700046 T0IQ00000000014700053 T0IQ00000027° 30' 50.012"00014700068 T0IQ00000000035600011 T0IQ00000000035600077	

EA Granted: The construction of a 132 KV Grid connection and associated infrastructure for the Igolide wind energy facility, northeast of Fochville, Merafong City Local Municipality.

1. Decision

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of the information available to it and subject to compliance with the conditions of this Environmental Authorisation, that the applicant should be authorised to undertake the activities specified below.

2. Activities Authorised

Under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (as amended) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, the Department hereby authorises-

ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd ("hereafter referred to as the Applicant")

with the following contact details-

Suite 101, 1st Floor, Albion Springs
183 Main Road
Rondebosch
Cape Town
7700

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Tel No.: 021 207 2185

Email: enos.banda@enertrag.com

to undertake the activities (hereafter referred to as "The Activities") listed in the table below:

Activity number and description	Development activity description
GNR 327; Listing Notice 1: Activity 11(i) The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity— (i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts; excluding the development of bypass infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity where such bypass infrastructure is — (a) temporarily required to allow for maintenance of existing infrastructure; (b) 2 kilometres or shorter in length; (c) within an existing transmission line servitude; and (d) will be removed within 18 months of the commencement of development	<i>The proposed powerline and substation are located outside urban areas. The project entails the construction of a 132kV overhead powerline (OHPL) and associated grid connection substation (the existing East Drie Five Substation), including termination works to connect the Igolide Wind Energy Facility (WEF) to the 132kV switching station.</i>
GNR 327; Listing Notice 1: Activity 12 (ii)(a)(c)) The development of— (ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development occurs— (a) within a watercourse; or (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse.	<i>The construction of the Electrical Grid Infrastructure will result in construction activities within delineated watercourses within the corridor, or within 32m of the outer extent of the delineated watercourse within the corridor as the powerline traverses watercourses.</i>

<p>GNR 327; Listing Notice 1: Activity 19 The infilling or depositing of any material of more than 10 cubic metres into, or the dredging, excavation, removal or moving of soil, sand, shells, shell grit, pebbles or rock of more than 10 cubic metres from a watercourse.</p>	<p><i>The construction of the Electrical Grid Infrastructure, including associated infrastructure, will result in construction activities which require the excavation, infilling or removal of soil exceeding 10m³ from delineated watercourses along the powerline alignment.</i></p>
<p>GNR 327; Listing Notice 1: Activity 24 (ii) The development of a road— (ii) with a road reserve wider than 13,5 meters, or where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 metres;</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GDARD Office of the HOF 17 JUL 2025 000006</p>	<p><i>An access road will be required along the length of the powerline alignment. The road will be wider than 8 meters. Where required for turning circle/bypass areas, access or internal roads will be up to 20m wide to allow for larger component transport. The length of the access roads will be more than 1km and will be related to the length of the powerline as access roads will be required along the length of the powerline alignment whilst being located outside an urban area.</i></p>
<p>GNR 327; Listing Notice 1: Activity 27 (i) The clearance of an area of 1 hectares or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation.</p>	<p><i>The construction of the 132kV powerline will require the clearance of indigenous vegetation of approximately 0.12ha; the switching station will require the removal of approximately 2.49ha, and the proposed access road will require the removal of approximately 2.30ha. Therefore, the proposed infrastructure will require a total of approximately 4.63 ha of natural habitat to be cleared</i></p>
<p>GNR 327; Listing Notice 1: Activity 28 (ii) Residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional developments where such land was used for agriculture, game farming, equestrian purposes or afforestation on or after 01 April 1998 and where such development: (ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 hectare.</p>	<p><i>The OHPL and switching stations are considered a commercial and/or industrial development and will be located on farm portions outside an urban area, used for agricultural purposes on or after 01 April 1998. The total area to be developed for the powerline and substation will exceed 1 hectare within agricultural use land.</i></p>
<p>GNR 327; Listing Notice 1: Activity 48 (i) (a) (c) The expansion of— (i) infrastructure or structures where the physical footprint is expanded by 100 square metres or more; or where such expansion occurs— (a) within a watercourse; (c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;</p>	<p><i>The construction of access roads along the powerline alignment will require the expansion of existing access roads, culverts or similar drainage crossing infrastructure collectively exceeding 100m² or more within delineated watercourses on site, or within 32m of the outer extent of the delineated watercourses on site.</i></p>

<p>GNR 327; Listing Notice 1: Activity 56 (ii) The widening of a road by more than 6 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre— (ii) where no reserve exists, where the existing road is wider than 8 metres;</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GDARD Office of the HOD</p> <p style="text-align: center;">17 JUN 2025 000006</p>	<p>The construction of access roads along the powerline alignment will require the widening of existing access roads by more than 6 meters. Where required for turning circle/bypass areas, access or internal roads will be up to 20m wide (where no reserve exists) to allow for larger component transport. Further, the length of the access roads will be more than 1km and will be related to the length of the powerline as access roads will be required along the length of the powerline alignment. In addition, the project is located within a rural area.</p>
<p>GNR 324; Listing Notice 3: Activity 4.c.(iv) The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres. c. Gauteng (iv) Sites identified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) in the Gauteng Conservation Plan or in bioregional plans;</p>	<p>The proposed 132kV grid connection transmission line will be constructed on undisturbed areas. An access road up to 20m wide will be required along the powerline alignment and substation sites.</p>
<p>GNR 324; Listing Notice 3: Activity 10.c.(iv) The development and related operation of facilities or infrastructure for the storage, or storage and handling of a dangerous good, where such storage occurs in containers with a combined capacity of 30 but not exceeding 80 Cubic metres. C. Gauteng (iv). Sites identified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) or Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) in the Gauteng Conservation Plan or in bioregional plans;</p>	<p><i>The proposed 132kV grid connection transmission line and associated infrastructure will require storage of fuel (diesel & petrol), oils, paints and other necessary dangerous goods of approximately 79m³ combined.</i></p>
<p>GNR 324; Listing Notice 3: Activity 12.c.(ii) The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan. C. Gauteng (ii) Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans;</p>	<p><i>The construction of the 132 kV Powerline and switching stations will require the clearance of indigenous vegetation of more than 300 square metres.</i></p>
<p>GNR 324; Listing Notice 3: Activity 14. (ii) (a) (c); (b) (iv) The development of— (ii) infrastructure or structures with a Physical footprint of 10 Square metres or more; where such development occurs— (a) within a watercourse; (c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse; b. Gauteng (iv) Sites identified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) in the Gauteng Conservation Plan or in bioregional plans;</p>	<p><i>The construction of the Electrical Grid Infrastructure and associated infrastructure will result in construction activities occurring within delineated watercourses on site, or within 32m of the outer extent of the delineated watercourses on site. The powerline will traverse watercourses.</i></p>

<p>GNR 324; Listing Notice 3: Activity 18. c.(iv) The widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre. c. Gauteng (iv). Sites identified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) or Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) in the Gauteng Conservation Plan or in bioregional plans;</p>	<p><i>The construction of the access road along the powerline alignment will require the widening of the existing access road by not more than 20m (where no reserve exists) and lengthening exceeding 1km in length. The project is located within a rural area.</i></p>
<p>GNR 324; Listing Notice 3: Activity 23 (ii) (a) (c): c.(iv) The expansion of— (ii) infrastructure or structures where the physical footprint is expanded by 10 square metres or more; where such expansion occurs — (a) within a watercourse; (c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse; c. Gauteng (iv) Sites identified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) in the Gauteng Conservation Plan or in bioregional plans;</p>	<p><i>In terms of the report the construction of the access road along the powerline alignment will require the expansion of existing access roads, culverts or similar drainage crossing infrastructure collectively exceeding 10m² or more within delineated watercourses on site, or within 32m of the outer extent of the delineated watercourses on site.</i></p>

for the proposed 132 KV Grid connection and associated infrastructure development for the Igolide wind energy facility, northeast of Fochville, which falls within the jurisdictions of Merafong City Local Municipality.

Conditions of the Environmental Authorisation

3. Scope of Authorisation

- 3.1 Environmental Authorisation is granted for the proposed 132 KV Grid connection and associated infrastructure development for the Igolide wind energy facility, northeast of Fochville, Merafong City Local Municipality.

Wetlands and/or watercourse conditions:

- 3.2 No development other than the authorised activities must take place within the watercourse and its 32m buffer zone measured from the edge of a watercourse/temporary wetland zone.
- 3.3 The construction campsite and/or storage area for construction material and machinery must be kept outside watercourse and its 32m buffer.
- 3.4 Obstruction of natural stream flow pattern must be avoided at all stages of construction activities.

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Indigenous vegetation conditions:

- 3.5 Site clearing must be strictly limited to the construction area, and no damage to sensitive environmental features is permitted outside the construction footprint.
- 3.6 Different provincially protected plant species were recorded in this unit, namely *Scadoxus puniceus*, *Crinum graminicola* and two SCC; *Protea caffra* and *Scadoxus puniceus* are present in this unit. Therefore, preconstruction walk through of the final development footprint must be undertaken for protected species that will be affected and translocation of protected species must be undertaken. Permit must be obtained to relocate and/or disturb listed plant species.

Pollution Buffer Zones conditions:

- 3.7 The storage and handling of hazardous substances such as solvents, lubricants, fuels and oils must be done on an impervious surface that is able to contain 110% of substance should a spillage occur.

- 3.8 If any soil contamination occurs during the construction phases of the proposed activities, the contaminated soil must be removed to a suitable waste disposal facility and the site must be rehabilitated to the satisfaction of this Department. The opportunity for the on-site remediation and re-use of contaminated soil must be investigated prior to disposal.
- 3.9 During construction phase, dust suppression measures that include sprinkling of water must be implemented frequently to reduce dust pollution to adjacent surrounding areas.
- 3.10 On completion of the project, all litter and construction debris must be removed from the site immediately

Other conditions worthy of inclusion:

- 3.11 The construction area must be clearly demarcated before any construction activity take place and signage must be displayed during the construction phase to inform the general public about potential dangerous conditions on site.
- 3.12 Earthen berms or plugs, rock packs or gabions must be used for the plugging of erosion gullies.
- 3.13 Should any heritage resources of any nature be uncovered during the construction development, SAHRA and/ or professional Heritage Specialists must be contacted immediately for investigations.
- 3.14 All fuel delivery pipework must be of a non-corrosive nature and in accordance with the relevant standards (i.e., SANS 1830).
- 3.15 Regular stock reconciliation must be conducted, and records maintained.
- 3.16 A spill response kit must be available onsite.
- 3.17 A leak detection system must be installed on pressure systems. If a leak occurs, the following must be adhered to:
 - i. The Department must be notified within 24 hours;
 - ii. A record of the incidents must be kept in the form of an incident register. The incident register must outline but not be limited to the following:
 - The nature of the leak/incident.
 - The extent of the leak/incident.
 - Impacts associated with the leak/incident.
 - Measures taken to mitigate the leak/incident.
 - The incident register must be kept onsite and made available to the officials of this Department upon request.
- 3.18 Fire prevention equipment must be present onsite and in good working condition.

4. Completion of the development activities

- 4.1 The construction, including post-development rehabilitation must be completed within a period of 10 years from the date of signature of this Environmental Authorisation. If the authorised activities have not been completed within that period, the environmental authorisation lapses.
- 4.2 Continuation of the authorised activity or activities after the lapsing period of this EA and where such continuation will meet the threshold of any listed activity or activities, will constitute an offence.

5. Commencement of the operational activities

- 5.1 The construction and related operation of the proposed activity must commence within a period of 10 years from the date of signature of this environmental authorisation. If commencement of the proposed activity does not occur within the 10 year's period, the environmental authorisation lapses and a new application for environmental authorisation must be lodged for the activity to be undertaken.

6. Management of the development activities

The Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr") submitted as part of the application for environmental authorisation is authorised in terms of this EA and must be implemented. In addition, the following is considered part of the EMPr:

- 6.1 Induction of the contractors, subcontractors, agents and other people working on the site about the contents of the EMPr and its objectives.
- 6.2 Soil control measures during the installation phase to prevent soil erosion and the resulting wash down into any watercourse.
- 6.3 All waste streams to be generated during construction and operational phase must be managed in accordance with the hierarchy of waste management principles and disposal at an authorised landfill or waste disposal site must be the last option. Proof of disposal of waste must be kept on site and made available to the Department upon request.
- 6.4 The Applicant must submit recommendations to amend the EMPr where the findings of the environmental audit reports indicate insufficient mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity, or insufficient levels of compliance with the environmental authorisation or the EMPr and where applicable, the closure plan.
- 6.5 The request to amend the EMPr must contain recommendations or mitigation to rectify the shortcomings identified in the environmental audit report.
- 6.6 The recommendation to amend the EMPr must be submitted to the Department for approval together with the environmental audit report in accordance with the regulations. Such updated EMPr must have been subjected to public participation process, which has been agreed to by the competent authority prior submission.
- 6.7 In assessing whether to grant approval of an amended EMPr because of an audit report, the competent authority may request such amendments to the EMPr as it deems appropriate to ensure that the EMPr or closure plan sufficiently provides for avoidance, management and mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity.

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7. Monitoring and reporting

- 7.1 An Environmental Control Officer (ECO) must be appointed to oversee the development activities and guide compliance with the conditions of environmental authorisation and EMPr.
- 7.2 The ECO must be appointed prior to any commencement of the authorised activity or activities.
- 7.3 Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the Department's Compliance Monitoring Section. Documentation such as monitoring or audit or compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted, must be submitted thereto.
- 7.4 The ECO must keep records of all activities on the site, problems identified, transgressions identified / noted, and a task schedule of the functions undertaken by the ECO.
- 7.5 The environmental audit report must be compiled in accordance with Appendix 7 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 and must indicate the date of the audit, the name of the auditor and the outcome of the audit in terms of compliance with the conditions of the environmental authorisation as well as the requirements of the EMPr.
- 7.6 Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on the site and be made available to any authorised person(s) acting on behalf of the relevant competent authority in respect of the development.

8. Notification of commencement of activities

- 8.1 A written notification of commencement of the activity, including site preparation, must be given to the Department 14 days prior to commencement of the activity on the site. The notice must include the date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence as

well as the EA reference number and be submitted to the Director: Compliance Monitoring, Ms Sasa Sekhotha, at the email address: Sasa.Sekhotha@gauteng.gov.za.

9. General conditions

- 9.1 The conditions of this EA are binding on the applicant ("Holder of EA"), including any person acting on his or her behalf, including but not limited to an agent, sub-contractor, employee or person rendering a service to the applicant.
- 9.2 The activities authorised may only be carried out at the property or site indicated in this EA.
- 9.3 Any changes to, or deviation from, the activity or activities' description set out in this EA must follow the appropriate amendment process described in the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, and be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviation are effected. In assessing whether to approve such changes, the Department may request such information as it deems necessary to evaluate the significance and impacts of such changes or deviations and it may be necessary for the applicant to apply for further authorisations in terms of the Regulations.
- 9.4 Where any of the applicant's contact details changes, including the name of the applicant, the physical or postal address and/or telephonic details, the applicant must follow the relevant amendment process as prescribed in the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, by submitting an amendment application to the Department for consideration and decision making as soon as the new details become known to the applicant.
- 9.5 This EA does not negate the holder's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activities.
- 9.6 This EA and EMPr must be kept at the property or site where the activity or activities will be undertaken. The documents must be produced to any authorised official of the Department who requests to inspect them and must also be made available for inspection by any employee or agent of the holder of the EA who works or undertakes work on site.
- 9.7 Non-compliance with a condition of this EA may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (as amended) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.
- 9.8 If the Department has reason to believe that the EA was obtained through fraud, non-disclosure of material information or misrepresentation of a material fact, the Department may, in writing, suspend or partially suspend, with immediate effect, the EA and direct the holder of such EA forthwith, to cease any activities that have been commenced with or to refrain from commencing any activity, pending a decision to withdraw the EA.

Date of the Environmental Authorisation:

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Office of the HOD
17 JUN 2025 000006

Handwritten signature and date: 7/6/25

ANNEXURE 1: REASONS FOR DECISION

1. Background

The applicant, ENERTRAG South Africa (Pty) Ltd applied for authorisation to undertake the activities listed as Activities 11(i), 12(ii)(a)(c), 19, 24(ii), 27(i), 28(ii), 48(i)(a)(c) & 56(ii) of Listing Notice 1 (GN R. 327) and Activities 4(c)(iv), 10(c)(iv), 12(c)(ii), 14(ii)(a)(c);(b)(iv), 18(c)(iv) & 23(ii)(a)(c);(c)(iv) of Listing Notice 3 (GN R. 324) of Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 promulgated in terms of Sections 24 (2) (a) of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended), for the proposed Development of the 132kV Grid Connection and Associated Infrastructure for the Igolide Wind Energy Facility, northeast of Fochville, within the Merafong City Local Municipality.

The proposed project entails the construction of a 132kV grid connection overhead powerline including associated grid connection infrastructure, in order to connect the authorised Igolide WEF to the nearby existing East Drie Five Substation. The powerline will be approximately 4km in length.

The onsite grid switching station will consist of a high voltage substation yard to allow for multiple 132kV feeder bays and transformers, control building, telecommunication infrastructure, access roads, etc. The area for the onsite switching station will be up to 2.5ha. The assessment area for the 132kV powerline will cover a corridor of up to 250m, including a 500m wide buffer around the entire perimeter of the proposed substation sites, to allow for flexibility in the design of the final OHL and avoidance of sensitive features, where possible.

The applicant appointed WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd to undertake a Basic Assessment process.

2. Information considered in making the decision

In reaching its decision, the Department took, inter alia, the following into consideration:

2.1 The information contained in the Basic Assessment Report and amended application form received by the Department on 11 April 2025 including:

- 2.1.1 Soil, Land Use and Land Capability and Agricultural Potential Assessment
- 2.1.2 Geotechnical Desktop Assessment
- 2.1.3 Freshwater Ecological Assessment
- 2.1.4 Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment
- 2.1.5 Plant Species Assessment
- 2.1.6 Animal Species Assessment
- 2.1.7 Avifaunal Assessment
- 2.1.8 Heritage Impact Assessment
- 2.1.9 Palaeontological Assessment
- 2.1.10 Visual Assessment
- 2.1.11 Social Impact Assessment
- 2.1.12 Environmental Management Programme (EMPr)

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2.2 The relevant information contained in the Departmental information base including:

- 2.2.1 The Geographical Information System (GIS).
- 2.2.2 The Gauteng Conservation Plan Version 4.
- 2.2.3 The Gauteng Provincial Environmental Management Framework (GPEMF), 2021.

2.3 The objectives and requirements of relevant legislation, policies and guidelines, including Section 2 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (as amended).

2.4 National Web Based Environmental Screening Tool report generated on 26 June 2024

2.5 The finding of the site inspection undertaken by Siyabonga Ndzambule, the official of the department on 15 April 2025.

3. Key factors considered in making the decision

All information presented to the Department was taken into account in the Department's consideration of the application. A summary of the issues which, in the Department's view, were of the most significance is set out below.

- 3.1 Watercourses
- 3.2 Needs and desirability.
- 3.3 PPP including the comments received from Interested and Affected Parties as included in the final Basic Assessment Report.

4. Findings

After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings:

- 4.1 The proposed Project powerline traverses a seep wetland of approximately 6.51 ha in size. The seep wetland was considered to be in a Moderately modified (PES C) state, as a result of existing impacts such as access roads cutting through the wetland, impoundment of flow at a dam upstream, and alien invasive plant species colonising the edges of the wetland, particularly along road crossings. Furthermore, the ecosystem services supplied by or demanded from the seep wetlands were considered Low
- 4.2 The proposed OHPL is therefore essential supporting infrastructure to the wind energy facility development, which, once developed, will generate power from renewable energy resources.
- 4.3 The public participation process complied with the requirements of the EIA Regulations, 2014. Comments from interested and affected parties have been considered. The advertisement was placed in the "Carletonville Herald" Newspaper on 22 June 2023, site notices were placed on various conspicuous places on site and written notices were sent to various stakeholders.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in this EA, the activities will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (as amended) and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the proposed activities can be mitigated to an acceptable level. **The Environmental Authorisation is accordingly granted.**

GDARD
Office of the HOD

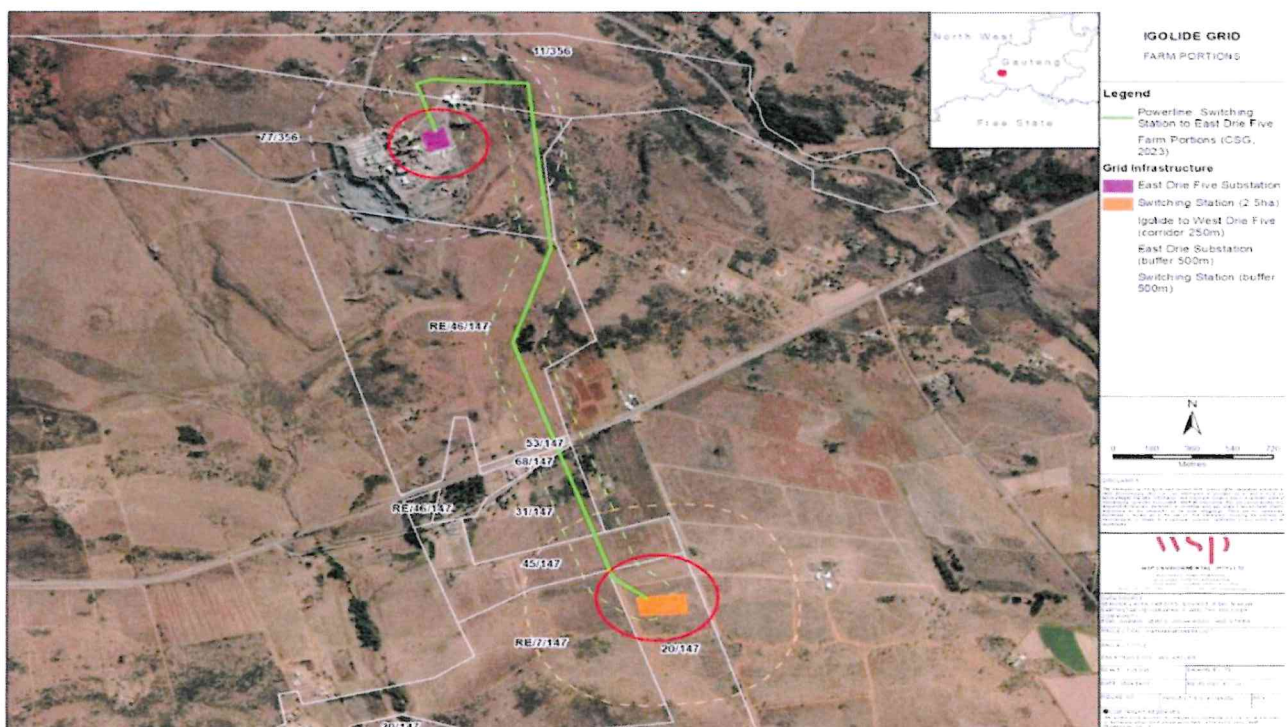
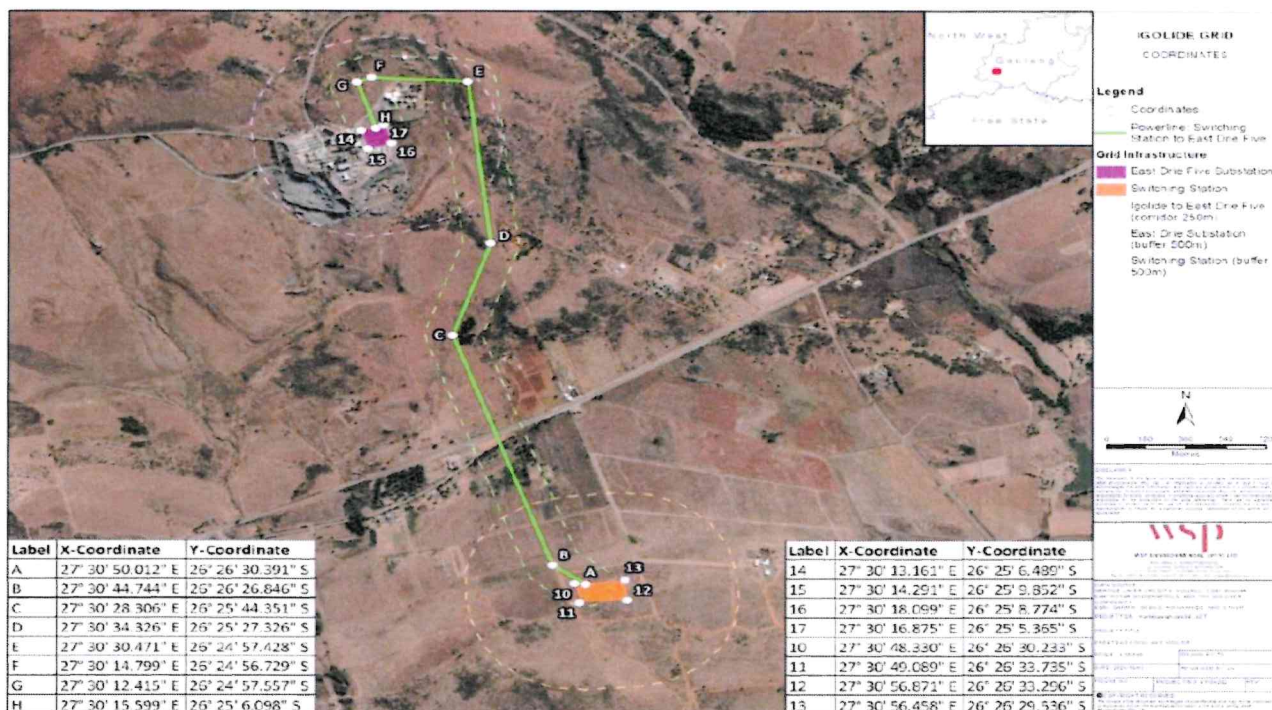
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ANNEXURE 2: LAYOUT PLAN

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EA Granted: The construction of a 132 KV Grid connection and associated infrastructure for the Igolide wind energy facility, northeast of Fochville, Merapong City Local Municipality.