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12 July 2020

## **LETTER FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO PAULPUTS WEF (RF) (PTY) LTD**

### **1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

Arcus Consultancy Services South Africa (Pty) Ltd was appointed by WKN Windcurrent SA (Pty) Ltd to undertake and manage the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process as the lead consultant for the proposed establishment of the 300MW Paulputs Wind Energy Facility (RF) (Pty) Ltd (further referred to as Paulputs WEF), and its associated infrastructure. Leandri Kruger was appointed by Arcus as the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) consultant to conduct and produce the SIA Report for the proposed Paulputs WEF as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.

The proposed Paulputs WEF is located near the town of Pofadder in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa, which is the closest town to the proposed site. It is located approximately 34km NE outside the town of Pofadder and covers a proposed area of approximately 10 000ha (75 WTG (219ha))—covering 6 farms with four (4) proposed 132/133kV grid connections with a distance of approximately 23km from the switching stations to the existing Eskom Paulputs Substation, located NW of the proposed site.

On 11 December 2019, the proposed Paulputs WEF received environmental authorisation (EA) by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) (DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1120).

Following the receipt of the EA the client would like to submit a Three Part II amendment applications for Environmental Authorisation to the DFFE. The following section will include a summary of the proposed amendments and the technical information for each.

## 2. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

The following proposed amendments was communicated to the SIA specialist as received from Arcus:

<b>A – AMENDMENT 1</b>		
<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	The proposed Paulputs North Wind Energy Facility and associated infrastructure EA Amendment, Northern Cape Province.	
<b>PROJECT SPV</b>	Paulputs Wind Energy Facility North (RF) (Pty) Ltd.	
<b>PROJECT INFORMATION</b>	Paulputs North WEF (up to 150MW) consisting of 40 turbines (T1–T40), substation and associated infrastructure on the NW side of the N14 national road.	
<b>COMPONENT</b>	<b>AUTHORISED</b>	<b>PROPOSED</b>
Holder of Authorisation	Paulputs WEF RF (Pty) Ltd	Paulputs Wind Energy Facility North (RF) (Pty) Ltd.
Location of the Site	50 km NE of Pofadder, Northern Cape Province	Unchanged
Total generation capacity	300 MW	Up to 150 MW
Proposed technology	Wind turbines and associated infrastructure	Unchanged
Number of turbines	Up to 75 turbines	Up to 40 turbines
Hub height from ground	Up to 140 m	Up to 180 m
Rotor diameter	Up to 180 m	Up to 220 m
Area occupied by inverter transformer stations / substations	Approximately 4 hectares	Unchanged
Capacity of on-site substation	132 kV	Unchanged
Width of internal access roads	6 - 12 m wide	Unchanged
Length of internal access roads	80 km	~ 40 km
Site access	N14 (including for abnormal loads) and MN759 (no abnormal loads)	Unchanged

<b>B – AMENDMENT 2</b>		
<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	The proposed Paulputs South Wind Energy Facility EA Amendment, Northern Cape Province.	
<b>PROJECT SPV</b>	Paulputs Wind Energy Facility South (RF) Pty Ltd.	
<b>PROJECT INFORMATION</b>	Paulputs SE WEF (up to 150MW) consisting of 35 turbines (T41–T75), and associated infrastructure on the SE side of the N14 national road.	
<b>COMPONENT</b>	<b>AUTHORISED</b>	<b>PROPOSED</b>
Holder of Authorisation	Paulputs WEF RF (Pty) Ltd	Paulputs Wind Energy Facility South RF (Pty) Ltd
Location of the Site	50 km NE of Pofadder, Northern Cape Province	Unchanged
Total generation capacity	300 MW	Up to 150 MW
Proposed technology	Wind turbines and associated infrastructure	Unchanged
Number of turbines	Up to 75 turbines	Up to 35 turbines
Hub height from ground	Up to 140 m	Up to 180 m
Rotor diameter	Up to 180 m	Up to 220 m
Area occupied by inverter transformer stations / substations	Approximately 4 hectares (To allow for a 0.5 hectare office block, 1 hectare permanent laydown and 1 hectare temporary laydown)	Unchanged
Capacity of on-site substation	132 kV	Unchanged
Width of internal access roads	6 - 12 m wide	Unchanged
Length of internal access roads	80 km	~ 40 km
Site access	N14 (including for abnormal loads)	Unchanged

<b>C – AMENDMENT 3</b>		
<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	The proposed Paulputs Grid Connection and electrical infrastructure associated with the authorised Paulputs WEF, Northern Cape Province.	
<b>PROJECT SPV</b>	Paulputs Wind Energy Facility North (RF) Pty Ltd.	
<b>PROJECT INFORMATION</b>	Paulputs WEF grid connection to be split from the current authorisation for ease of transfer of ownership to Eskom.	
<b>COMPONENT</b>	<b>AUTHORISED</b>	<b>PROPOSED</b>
Holder of Authorisation	Paulputs WEF RF (Pty) Ltd	Paulputs Wind Energy Facility North RF (Pty) Ltd
Location of the Site	50 km northeast of Pofadder, Northern Cape Province	Unchanged
Height of pylons	Max 30m	Unchanged
Length of transmission line	Max 12.5km	Unchanged
Types of poles used	Both monopoles and lattice structures are being considered	Unchanged
Transmission capacity	132kV line, evacuating a maximum of 300MW	Unchanged; Only one route will be used, probably using a double line on one set of pylons
Area occupied by both permanent and construction laydown areas	Laydown areas used are the same as for the WEF, i.e. approximately 4 ha (To allow for a 0.5 ha office block, 1 ha	Will include authorisation of a BESS

	permanent laydown and 1 ha temporary laydown)	
Area occupied by buildings	The O&M complex will form part of the on-site 200m x 200m substation compound of the WEF	Unchanged
Width of internal access roads	3 - 6 m wide	Unchanged
Length of internal access roads	26.8 km	Unchanged
Site access	N14 (including for abnormal loads) and MN759 (no abnormal loads)	Unchanged
Height of fencing	Maximum 3m only around the on-site substations and buildings	Unchanged
Type of fencing	Wired mesh/chain link fence not electrified	Unchanged

### 3. ASSESSMENT OF KEY SOCIAL IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

As demonstrated earlier in this letter the proposed Paulputs WEF already received EA (DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/1120) in December 2019. Following the section of the details of the proposed Three Part II amendments above, this section focuses on the potential key social impacts and the assessment thereof that directly relates to the proposed changes or amendments above.

The identification and assessment of the key social impacts related the proposed WEF was assessed in detail and included in Section 4 of the full SIA report that formed part of the EIA that already received EA by the DFFE. A full impact assessment of those approved social impacts will not be included in this letter, hence for more detail in this regard the full SIA report can be consulted. In relation to the proposed Three Part II amendments in this letter, no additional social impacts to those included in the already authorised full SIA report, is identified that requires additional assessment.

Therefore, the social impacts that was identified and assessed in the full SIA report that formed part of the full EIA report that was authorised, as well as the mitigation and enhancement measures included in the full SIA report and any social aspects included in the approved EMP, is still relevant and valid for the proposed amendment reports. The findings of the full SIA report demonstrated that the proposed establishment of the Paulputs WEF is supported, because it creates a positive social benefit for society. This recommendation was made subject

to the implementation of proposed mitigation and enhancement measures included in the full report, as well as the inputs from other specialist reports for the proposed WEF.

#### **4. IMPACT STATEMENT**

Due to the above, it is therefore recommended by the author of this letter as well as the full SIA report, that the proposed Paulputs WEF be supported as it was proposed with its proposed amendments. However, this recommendation is still made subject to the implementation of the suggested enhancement and mitigation measures contained in Section 4 of the full SIA report, as well as inputs from other specialist studies for the proposed Paulputs WEF.

Regards,  
Dr. L. Kruger  
SIA specialist



## environmental affairs

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### DETAILS OF THE SPECIALIST, DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND UNDERTAKING UNDER OATH

	(For official use only)
File Reference Number:	
NEAS Reference Number:	DEA/EIA/
Date Received:	

Application for authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended (the Regulations)

#### PROJECT TITLE

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF THE AUTHORISED PAULPUTS WIND ENERGY FACILITY, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

#### Kindly note the following:

1. This form must always be used for applications that must be subjected to Basic Assessment or Scoping & Environmental Impact Reporting where this Department is the Competent Authority.
2. This form is current as of 01 September 2018. It is the responsibility of the Applicant / Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to ascertain whether subsequent versions of the form have been published or produced by the Competent Authority. The latest available Departmental templates are available at <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>.
3. A copy of this form containing original signatures must be appended to all Draft and Final Reports submitted to the department for consideration.
4. All documentation delivered to the physical address contained in this form must be delivered during the official Departmental Officer Hours which is visible on the Departmental gate.
5. All EIA related documents (includes application forms, reports or any EIA related submissions) that are faxed; emailed; delivered to Security or placed in the Departmental Tender Box will not be accepted, only hardcopy submissions are accepted.

#### Departmental Details

##### Postal address:

Department of Environmental Affairs  
Attention: Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations  
Private Bag X447  
Pretoria  
0001

##### Physical address:

Department of Environmental Affairs  
Attention: Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations  
Environment House  
473 Steve Biko Road  
Arcadia

Queries must be directed to the Directorate: Coordination, Strategic Planning and Support at:  
Email: [EIAAdmin@environment.gov.za](mailto:EIAAdmin@environment.gov.za)

## 1. SPECIALIST INFORMATION

Specialist Company Name:	Leandri Kruger			
B-BBEE	Contribution level (indicate 1 to 8 or non-compliant)	N/A	Percentage Procurement recognition	N/A
Specialist name:	Leandri Kruger			
Specialist Qualifications:	PhD. Geography and Environmental Management			
Professional affiliation/registration:	IAIAsa (Membership no: 5364)			
Physical address:	Hoër Volksskool Potchefstroom, Jack Pauw, Blok D			
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Postal code:	2531	Cell:	0824471455	
Telephone:	N/A	Fax:	N/A	
E-mail:	leandrihildebrandt@gmail.com			

## 2. DECLARATION BY THE SPECIALIST

I, Leandri Kruger, declare that –

- I act as the independent specialist in this application;
- I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant;
- I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work;
- I have expertise in conducting the specialist report relevant to this application, including knowledge of the Act, Regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;
- I will comply with the Act, Regulations and all other applicable legislation;
- I have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity;
- I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the competent authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing - any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the competent authority; and - the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority;
- all the particulars furnished by me in this form are true and correct; and
- I realise that a false declaration is an offence in terms of regulation 48 and is punishable in terms of section 24F of the Act.



Signature of the Specialist

Leandri Kruger

Name of Company:

2021-07-22

Date



3. UNDERTAKING UNDER OATH/ AFFIRMATION

I, Leandri Kruger, swear under oath / ~~affirm~~ that all the information submitted or to be submitted for the purposes of this application is true and correct.

*AKruger*

Signature of the Specialist

Leandri Kruger

Name of Company

2021-07-22

Date

*Ned Geref Kerk (V4410)*

Signature of the Commissioner of Oaths

22 JULY 2021

Date

Ned. Geref. Kerk  
Potchefstroom Mooirivier  
Posbus 73  
Potchefstroom  
2520