



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA ·0001· Environment House ·473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia PRETORIA

DFFE Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/2/2385

Enquiries: Mr Lunga Dlova

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Ms. Mercia Grimbeek
Igolide Wind (Pty) Ltd
Suite 104, Albion Springs
183 Main Road
Rondebosch
CAPE TOWN
7700

Telephone Number: +27 10 003 0717

Email Address: Mercia.Grimbeek@enertraq.com

PER EMAIL / MAIL

Dear Ms Grimbeek

APPLICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT NO. 107 OF 1998, AS AMENDED: FOR THE IGOLIDE WIND ENERGY FACILITY (UP TO 100 MW) NORTHEAST OF FOCHVILLE, WITHIN THE MERA FONG CITY LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WEST RAND DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN THE GAUTENG PROVINCE.

With reference to the above application, please be advised that the Department has decided to grant 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 (the EIA Regulations), you are instructed to notify all registered interested and affected parties, in writing and within fourteen (14) days of the date of the decision as well as the provisions regarding the submission of appeals that are contained in the Regulations.

In terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, Act No. 3 of 2000, you are entitled to the right to fair, lawful and reasonable administrative action; and to written reasons for administrative action that affects you negatively. Further your attention is drawn to the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act, Act No. 4 of 2013 which stipulate that the Department should conduct itself in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing an individual or another entity's personal information by holding the Department accountable should the Department abuse or compromise your personal information in any way.

Your attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998 National Appeal Regulations published under Government Notice R993 in Government Gazette No. 38303 dated 08 December 2014 (National Appeal Regulations, 2014), which prescribes the appeal procedure to be followed. Kindly include a copy of this document (National Appeal Regulations, 2014) with the letter of notification to interested and affected parties in this matter.

MS

Should any person wish to lodge an appeal against 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 in 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.

Appeals must be submitted in writing in the prescribed form to:

The Director: Appeals and Legal Review of this Department at the below mentioned addresses.

By email: appeals@dffe.gov.za,

By hand: Environment House
473 Steve Biko
Arcadia
Pretoria
0083; or

By post: Private Bag X447
Pretoria
0001

Please note that in terms of Section 43(7) of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, the lodging of an appeal will suspend the environmental authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged, you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal is finalised.

To obtain the prescribed appeal form and for guidance on the submission of appeals, please visit the Department's website at https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms#legal_authorisations or request a copy of the documents at appeals@dffe.gov.za.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sabelo Malaza
Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment

Date: 31/01/2024

cc:	Mr. Tlatia Mosia	Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	E-mail: tlatia.mosia@gauteng.gov.za
	Cllr N Sejakweng	Merafong City Local Municipality	E-mail: nsejakweng@merafong.gov.za
	Ashlea Strong	WSP Group Africa (Pty) Ltd	E-mail: Ashlea.strong@wsp.com





forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Environmental Authorisation

In terms of Regulation 25 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended

The 100MW Igolide Wind Energy Facility northeast of Fochville, within the Merafong City Local Municipality in the Gauteng Province

West Rand District Municipality

Authorisation register number:	14/12/16/3/3/2/2385
Last amended:	First issue
Holder of authorisation:	Igolide Wind (Pty) Ltd
Location of activity:	Portion 14 of Farm Kraalkop 147IQ, Portion 20 of Farm Kraalkop 147IQ, Portion RE/22 of Farm Kraalkop 147IQ, Portion 8 of Farm Leeuwpoot 356IQ, Portion 57 of Farm Leeuwpoot 356IQ, Portion 65 of Farm Leeuwpoot 356IQ, Portion 66 of Farm Leeuwpoot 356IQ, in Ward 14 and 21 within the Merafong City Local Municipality, West Rand District Municipality in Gauteng Province.

This authorisation does not negate the holder of the authorisation's responsibility to comply with any other statutory requirements that may be applicable to the undertaking of the activity.

MS

Decision

The Department is satisfied, on the basis of 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.

Non-compliance with a condition of this Environmental Authorisation may result in criminal prosecution or other actions provided for in the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Details regarding the basis on which the Department reached this decision are set out in Annexure 1.

Activities authorised

By virtue of the powers conferred on it by the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended, the Department hereby authorises –

IGOLIDE WIND (PTY) LTD

(hereafter referred to as the **holder of the authorisation**)

with the following contact details –

Ms. Mercia Grimbeek
Igolide Wind (Pty) Ltd
Suite 104, Albion Springs
183 Main Road
CAPE TOWN
7700

Telephone Number: +27 10 003 0717

Email Address: Mercia.Grimbeek@enertraq.com

to undertake the following activities (hereafter referred to as “the activity”) indicated in Listing Notice 1, Listing Notice 2 and Listing Notice 3 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended:

Activity number	Activity description
<p><u>Listing Notice 1: GNR 983 Activity 11(i)</u></p> <p>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity—</p> <p>(i) outside urban areas or industrial complexes with a capacity of more than 33 but less than 275 kilovolts</p> <p>Excluding the development of bypass infrastructure for the transmission and distribution of electricity where such bypass infrastructure is —</p> <p>(a) temporarily required to allow for maintenance of existing infrastructure;</p> <p>(b) 2 kilometres or shorter in length;</p> <p>(c) within an existing transmission line servitude; and</p> <p>(d) will be removed within 18 months of the commencement of development.</p>	<p>Internal distribution electrical infrastructure required to connect the facility to the grid will include a 33/132kV on-site IPP substation and 33kV cabling (buried or overhead). The Facility is located outside urban areas.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 1: GNR 983 Activity 12(ii)(a)(c)</u></p> <p>The development of—</p> <p>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a physical footprint of 100 square metres or more; where such development occurs—</p> <p>(a) within a watercourse; or</p> <p>(c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse.</p> <p>excluding—</p> <p>(aa) the development of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour;</p> <p>(bb) where such development activities are related to the development of a port or harbour, in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies;</p>	<p>The physical footprint of internal access roads and electrical cabling required to connect the various components of the facility will exceed 100 square metres (m²) within delineated watercourses on site, or within 32 metres (m) of the outer extent of the delineated watercourses on site. The footprint of the infrastructure within the watercourse and 32m of the outer extent of the delineated watercourse will be approximately 5 000 m² (0.5 ha).</p>

<p><u>Listing Notice 1: GNR 983 Activity 14</u></p> <p>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 80 but not exceeding 500 cubic metres.</p>	<p>The facility will require the storage and handling of dangerous goods, including fuel, cement, and combustible and flammable liquids such as oils, lubricants and solvents, where such storage will occur inside containers with a combined capacity greater than 80m³ but not exceeding 500m³. The following estimated maximum capacities of dangerous good will be stored on site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete Batching: ~145 m³ • Fuel stores (Petrol and/or Diesel): ~250m³ • Paint, grease, transformer oils, construction chemicals, lubricants: ~100m³
<p><u>Listing Notice 1: GNR 983 Activity 19</u></p> <p>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. but excluding where such infilling, depositing, dredging, excavation, removal or moving—</p> <p>(a) will occur behind a development setback;</p> <p>(b) is for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan [or]</p> <p>(c) falls within the ambit of activity 21 in this Notice, in which case that activity applies;</p> <p>(d) occurs within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour;</p> <p>or</p> <p>(e) where such development is related to the development of a port or harbour, in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies.</p>	<p>Internal access roads and stormwater control infrastructure, as well as electrical cabling required to connect the various components of the facility will collectively require the excavation, infilling or removal of soil exceeding 10m³ from delineated watercourses on site. The footprint of the infrastructure within the watercourse and 32m of the outer extent of the delineated watercourse will be approximately 5 000 m² (0.5 ha).</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 1: GNR 983 Activity 24 (ii)</u></p> <p>The development of a road—</p>	<p>Internal access roads required by the facility will be between 8m and 10m wide. Where required for</p>

<p>(ii) with a reserve wider than 13,5 meters, or where no reserve exists where the road is wider than 8 metres; but excluding a road—</p> <p>(a) which is identified and included in activity 27 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014;</p> <p>(b) where the entire road falls within an urban area; or</p> <p>(c) which is 1 kilometre or shorter.</p>	<p>turning circle/bypass areas, however, access or internal roads may be up to 20m to allow for larger component transport. The access and internal roads will be placed within a corridor of up to 20m width to accommodate cable trenches, stormwater channels and turning circle/bypass areas of up to 20m.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 1: GNR 983 Activity 28 (ii)</u></p> <p>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:</p> <p>(ii) will occur outside an urban area, where the total land to be developed is bigger than 1 ha.</p> <p>Excluding where such land has already been developed for residential, mixed, retail, commercial, industrial or institutional purposes.</p>	<p>The facility is considered a commercial and/or industrial development and is located on several farm portions outside an urban area, used for agricultural and game farming purposes. The total area to be developed for the facility (footprint) is approximately 64ha.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 1: GNR 983 Activity 48 (i)(a)(c)</u></p> <p>The expansion of—</p> <p>(i) infrastructure or structures where the physical footprint is expanded by 100 square metres or more; where such expansion occurs—</p> <p>(a) within a watercourse;</p> <p>(c) if no development setback exists, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse.</p> <p>Excluding—</p> <p>(aa) the expansion of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour;</p> <p>(bb) where such expansion activities are related to the development of a port or harbour, in which case activity 26 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 applies;</p>	<p>Transport of large infrastructure components related to the facility will require the expansion of existing access and/or internal roads, culverts or similar drainage crossing infrastructure collectively exceeding 100m² or more beyond existing roads or road reserves located within delineated watercourses on site, or within 32m of the outer extent of the delineated watercourses on site. The footprint of the infrastructure within the watercourse and 32m of the outer extent of the delineated watercourse will be approximately 5 000 m² (0.5 ha).</p>

<p>(cc) activities listed in activity 14 in Listing Notice 2 of 2014 or activity 14 in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, in which case that activity applies; (dd) where such expansion occurs within an urban area; or</p> <p>(ee) where such expansion occurs within existing roads, road reserves or railway line reserves.</p>	
<p><u>Listing Notice 1: GNR 983 Activity 56 (ii)</u></p> <p>The widening of a road by more than 6 m, or lengthening of a road by more than 1 km –</p> <p>(ii) where no reserve exists, where the existing road is wider than 8 metres.</p> <p>Excluding where widening or lengthening occur inside urban areas.</p>	<p>Transport of large infrastructure components related to the facility will require the widening of existing access and/or internal roads by more than 6m and the lengthening of existing access and/or internal roads by more than 1km, where no reserve exists and where such road is wider than 8 metres. The facility is located within a rural area. Subject to detail design widening up to 20m for turning circle/bypass areas is anticipated.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 2: GNR 984 Activity 1</u></p> <p>The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more, excluding where such development of facilities or infrastructure is for photovoltaic installations and occurs:</p> <p>(a) within an urban area; or</p> <p>(b) on existing infrastructure.</p>	<p>The project comprises a Wind Energy Facility of up to 100MW.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 2: GNR 984 Activity 15</u></p> <p>The clearance of an area of 20 hectares or more of indigenous vegetation, excluding where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for—</p> <p>(i) the undertaking of a linear activity; or</p> <p>(ii) maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan.</p>	<p>The facility will require the clearance of indigenous vegetation of ~ 64ha.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 3: GNR 985 Activity 4(c)(iv)</u></p> <p>The development of a road wider than 4 metres with a reserve less than 13,5 metres—</p>	<p>Internal access roads required for the facility will be between 8m and 10m wide, increasing up to 20m</p>

<p>c) Gauteng:</p> <p>ii. National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus Areas;</p> <p>iv. Sites identified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) in the Gauteng Conservation Plan or in bioregional plans;</p> <p>vii. Sites identified as high potential agricultural land in terms of Gauteng Agricultural Potential Atlas;.</p>	<p>where required for turning circle/bypass areas. The exact values will be confirmed following detailed design. The proposed roads required for the facility will be located within and may require vegetation clearance or disturbance within Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) and Ecological Support Areas (ESA)</p> <p>The site falls within an area that is classified as a Protected Agricultural Area in the Gauteng Province.</p> <p>The study site is part of the NPAES (NPAES 2018). Although none of the turbines are located within the NPAES, linear infrastructure such a roads and underground cables will traverse the NPAES.</p>
<p>Listing Notice 3: GNR 985 Activity 10(c)(iv):</p> <p>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 80cubic metres.</p> <p>c. Gauteng:</p> <p>ii. National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus Areas;</p> <p>iv. Sites identified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) in the Gauteng Conservation Plan or in bioregional plans;</p> <p>vii. Sites identified as high potential agricultural land in terms of Gauteng Agricultural Potential Atlas.</p>	<p>The facility will require the storage and handling of dangerous goods, including fuel, cement, and combustible and flammable liquids such as oils, lubricants and solvents, where such storage will occur inside containers with a combined capacity greater than 80m³ but not exceeding 500m³(c)(iv).</p> <p>The proposed roads required for the facility will be located within and may require vegetation clearance or disturbance within Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) and Ecological Support Areas (ESA)</p> <p>The site falls within an area that is classified as a Protected Agricultural Area in the Gauteng Province. The study site is part of the NPAES (NPAES 2018). Although none of the turbines are located within the NPAES, linear infrastructure such a roads and underground cables will traverse the NPAES.</p>

<p><u>Listing Notice 3: GNR 985 Activity 12 (c)(ii):</u></p> <p>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—</p> <p>c) Gauteng:</p> <p>ii. Within Critical Biodiversity Areas or Ecological Support Areas identified in the Gauteng Conservation Plan or bioregional plans.</p>	<p>The facility will require the clearance of more than 300m² of indigenous vegetation, which will partially include the clearance of Rand Highveld Grassland and Gauteng Shale Mountain Bushveld vegetation types, which are classified as “Vulnerable” and “Least Concern”, respectively (NEMA 2011, Skowno <i>et al.</i>, 2019) in the Gauteng Province. The facility will require the clearance of indigenous vegetation of ~ 64ha some of which will be located within Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) and Ecological Support Areas (ESA).</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 3: GNR 985 Activity 14(ii)(a)(c)(iv)</u></p> <p>The development of—</p> <p>(ii) infrastructure or structures with a Physical footprint of 10 Square metres or more;</p> <p>where such development occurs—</p> <p>(a) within a watercourse;</p> <p>(c) if no development setback has been adopted, within 32 metres of a watercourse, measured from the edge of a watercourse;</p> <p>Excluding the development of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour.</p> <p>c) Gauteng:</p> <p>ii. National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus Areas</p> <p>iv. Sites identified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) or Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) in the Gauteng Conservation Plan or in bioregional plans.</p>	<p>The facility will require the development of internal roads and/or access roads, culverts or similar drainage crossing infrastructure around the site with a physical footprint exceeding 10m² within the delineated watercourses on site or within 32m of the outer extent of the delineated watercourses on site.</p> <p>The footprint of the infrastructure within the watercourse and 32m of the outer extent of the delineated watercourse will be approximately 5 000 m² (0.5 ha). In addition, the roads associated with the facility will be located within Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) and Ecological Support Areas (ESA) within the Gauteng Province.</p> <p>The study site is part of the NPAES (NPAES 2018). Although none of the turbines are located within the NPAES, linear infrastructure such a roads and underground cables will traverse the NPAES.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 3: GNR 985 Activity 18(c)(iv)</u></p> <p>The widening of a road by more than 4 metres, or the lengthening of a road by more than 1 kilometre.</p>	<p>Transport of large infrastructure components related to the facility will require the widening of existing</p>

<p>c) Gauteng:</p> <p>ii. National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus Areas;</p> <p>iv. Sites identified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) or Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) in the Gauteng Conservation Plan or in bioregional plans;</p> <p>vii. Sites identified as high potential agricultural land in terms of Gauteng Agricultural Potential Atlas;</p>	<p>access and/or internal roads by more than 4m, and the lengthening of existing access and/or internal roads by more than 1km. The facility is located within a rural area. The facility will be located within Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) and Ecological Support Areas (ESA)(iv) in the Gauteng Province.</p> <p>The site falls within an area that is classified as a Protected Agricultural Area in the Gauteng Province. The study site is part of the NPAES (NPAES 2018). Although none of the turbines are located within the NPAES, linear infrastructure such a roads and underground cables will traverse the NPAES.</p>
<p><u>Listing Notice 3: GNR 985 Activity 23(ii)(a)(c)(iv)</u></p> <p>The expansion of</p> <p>(ii) infrastructure or structures where the physical footprint is expanded by 10 square metres or more;</p> <p>Where such expansion occurs-</p> <p>(a) within a watercourse</p> <p>Excluding the development of infrastructure or structures within existing ports or harbours that will not increase the development footprint of the port or harbour.</p> <p>c) Gauteng:</p> <p>ii. National Protected Area Expansion Strategy Focus Areas;</p> <p>iv. Sites identified as Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) or Ecological Support Areas (ESAs) in the Gauteng Conservation Plan or in bioregional plans;</p>	<p>Transport of large infrastructure components related to the facility will require the expansion of existing access and/or internal 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. The exact values will be confirmed at detailed design, however, these will be within the thresholds relevant to this Listed Activity and therefore within the threshold values and triggering this activity.</p> <p>In addition, the development activity contemplated will be located within Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBA) and Ecological Support Areas (ESA) in the Gauteng Province.</p> <p>The study site is part of the NPAES (NPAES 2018). Although none of the turbines are located within the NPAES, linear infrastructure such a roads and underground cables will traverse the NPAES.</p>

as described in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAr) dated December 2023 at:

SG 21 Code:

Portion 14 of Farm Kraalkop 147IQ	T0IQ0000000014700014
Portion 20 of Farm Kraalkop 147IQ	T0IQ0000000014700020
Portion RE/22 of Farm Kraalkop 147IQ	T0IQ0000000014700022
Portion 8 of Farm Leeupoort 356IQ	T0IQ0000000035600008
Portion 57 of Farm Leeupoort 356IQ	T0IQ0000000035600057
Portion 65 of Farm Leeupoort 356IQ	T0IQ0000000035600065
Portion 66 of Farm Leeupoort 356IQ	T0IQ0000000035600066

Site		Latitude	Longitude
Central coordinates of the site and activity location		26°27'2.44"S	27°30'58.82"E
Coordinates of the on-site IPP Substation and BESS	10	26° 26' 30.233" S	27° 30' 48.330" E
	11	26° 26' 33.735" S	27° 30' 49.089" E
	12	26° 26' 33.296" S	27° 30' 56.871" E
	13	26° 26' 29.536" S	27° 30' 56.458" E
Coordinates of supporting infrastructure			
Laydown Area	8	26° 26' 19.225" S	27° 31' 25.156" E
Laydown Area	9	26° 26' 13.302" S	27° 31' 26.518" E
Construction Camp	5	26° 26' 18.336" S	27° 31' 17.816" E
Construction Camp & Laydown Area	6	26° 26' 18.684" S	27° 31' 19.597" E
Construction Camp & Laydown Area	7	26° 26' 12.354" S	27° 31' 20.938" E
Batching Plant	4	26° 26' 12.077" S	27° 31' 19.068" E
Batching Plant	1	26° 26' 11.627" S	27° 31' 16.229" E
Batching Plant	2	26° 26' 15.781" S	27° 31' 15.550" E
Batching Plant	3	26° 26' 16.172" S	27° 31' 18.220" E

- for the 100MW Igolide Wind Energy Facility northeast of Fochville, within the Merafong City Local Municipality, West Rand District Municipality in the Gauteng Province., hereafter referred to as "the property".

Attached on this Environmental Authorisation as *Annexure 2* is the Igolide WEF Optimised Layout map (with corner coordinates) and Coordinates of the Internal Access Roads.

Technical details of the proposed Iqolide Wind Energy Facility, will include:

Location of Site	Merafong City Local Municipality in the Gauteng Province of South Africa	
Description of all affected farm portions and 21 digit SG Codes	Farm Name	21-Digit SG Code
	Portion 14 of Farm Kraalkop 1471Q	T0IQ00000000014700014
	Portion 20 of Farm Kraalkop 1471Q	T0IQ00000000014700020
	Portion RE/22 of Farm Kraalkop 1471Q	T0IQ00000000014700022
	Portion 8 of Farm Leeuwpoot 3561Q	T0IQ00000000035600008
	Portion 57 of Farm Leeuwpoot 3561Q	T0IQ00000000035600057
	Portion 65 of Farm Leeuwpoot 3561Q	T0IQ00000000035600065
	Portion 66 of Farm Leeuwpoot 3561Q	T0IQ00000000035600066
Central coordinates of the site and activity location	26°27'2.44"S / 27°30'58.82"E	
Total Site extent	680ha	
Project Footprint (Buildable area)	64ha (including linear infrastructure, i.e., roads)	
Design Specifications		
Capacity	Up to 100MW	
No. of turbines	Up to 10	
Turbine hub height	Up to 200m	
Rotor Diameter	Up to 200m	
Tip Height	Up to 300m	
Foundation	Approximately 25m diameter x 3m deep. Excavation approximately 2 200m ³ , in sandy soils due to access requirements and safe slope stability requirements.	
Turbine Hardstand	Area required will be approximately 1ha per turbine.	
Tower Type	Steel or concrete towers can be utilised at the site. Alternatively, the towers can be of a hybrid nature, comprising concrete towers and top steel sections.	
On-site IPP substation and battery energy storage system (BESS)	<p>The total footprint for the on-site substation, including the BESS, will be up to 2.5ha in extent.</p> <p>The on-site IPP portion substation will consist of a high voltage substation yard to allow for multiple 132kV feeder bays and transformers, control building,</p>	

	<p>telecommunication infrastructure, and other substation components, as required. A 500m buffer around the on-site IPP substation has been assessed to ensure flexibility in routing the powerline.</p> <p>The BESS storage capacity will be up to 400 megawatt-hour (MWh) . It is proposed that Lithium Battery Technologies, such as Lithium Iron Phosphate, Lithium Nickel Manganese Cobalt oxides or Vanadium Redox flow technologies will be considered as the preferred battery technology; however, the specific technology will only be determined following Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (“EPC”) procurement. The main components of the BESS include the batteries, power conversion system and transformer which will all be stored in various rows of containers. The BESS components will arrive on site pre-assembled.</p>
<p>Operations and Maintenance (O&M) building footprint</p>	<p>Operations and Maintenance (“O&M”) building footprint to be located near the on-site substation. Typical areas include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operations building of 200m² • Workshop and stores area of ~300m² • Refuse area for temporary waste storage and conservancy tanks to service ablution facility. The total combined area of the buildings will not exceed 5 000m².
<p>Construction camps</p>	<p>The construction camp will house the contractor offices, ablution facilities, mess area, etc., and will have a footprint of approximately 1ha. The construction camp will be demolished after commercial operations date and the area rehabilitated.</p>
<p>Temporary laydown or staging areas</p>	<p>The laydown area will be used for the storage of equipment or components that will be incorporated into the facility (such as electrical cables) as well as non-facility related equipment and components such as shipping frames, concrete shuttering, etc. The laydown area will also be used for the storage (and filling of vehicles) of diesel fuel. The laydown area will have a footprint of approximately 2ha, however, this could increase to 3ha for concrete towers (should they be required). The laydown area will be demolished after commercial operations date and the area rehabilitated</p>
<p>Cement Batching Plant (temporary)</p>	<p>The cement batching plant will be used to mix and blend cement, water, sand and aggregates to form quality concrete to be used for foundations. The cement batching plant will have a footprint of approximately 1ha.</p>

Access and Internal Roads	<p>Access and internal roads will be approximately 8 - 10m in width, increasing up to 20m for turning circle/bypass areas to allow for larger component transport. The access and internal roads will be placed within a corridor of up to 20m width to accommodate cable trenches, stormwater channels and turning circle/bypass areas of up to 20m.</p> <p>Existing access roads will be used to minimise impact. Where required, the width of the existing roads will be widened to ensure the passage of vehicles.</p>
Supporting Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fencing;• Lighting;• Lightning protection;• Telecommunication infrastructure;• Stormwater channels;• Water pipelines;• Offices;• Operational control centre;• Operations and maintenance area / warehouse / workshop;• Ablution facilities;• Gatehouse;• Security building;• Visitor's centre; and• Substation building.

Conditions of this Environmental Authorisation

Scope of authorisation

1. The 100MW Igolide Wind Energy Facility northeast of Fochville, within the Merafong City Local Municipality, West Rand District Municipality in the Gauteng Province is approved as per the geographic coordinates cited in the table above and tabled as Annexure 2.
2. Authorisation of the activity is subject to the conditions contained in this Environmental Authorisation, which form part of the Environmental Authorisation and are binding on the holder of the authorisation.

3. The holder of the authorisation is responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions contained in this Environmental Authorisation. This includes any person acting on the holder's behalf, including but not limited to, an agent, servant, contractor, sub-contractor, employee, consultant or person rendering a service to the holder of the authorisation.
4. The activities authorised may only be carried out at the property as described above.
5. Any changes to, or deviations from, the project description set out in this Environmental Authorisation must be approved, in writing, by the Department before such changes or deviations may be effected. In assessing whether to grant such approval or not, 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 holder of the authorisation to apply for further Environmental Authorisation in terms of the regulations.
6. The holder of an Environmental Authorisation must apply for an amendment of the Environmental Authorisation with the Competent Authority for any alienation, transfer or change of ownership rights in the property on which the activity is to take place.
7. This activity must commence within a period of ten (10) years from the date of issue of this Environmental Authorisation. If commencement of the activity does not occur within that period, the authorisation lapses and a new application for Environmental Authorisation must be made in order for the activity to be undertaken.
8. Construction must be completed within five (05) years of the commencement of the activity on site.

Notification of authorisation and right to appeal

9. The holder of the authorisation must notify every registered interested and affected party, in writing and within 14 (fourteen) calendar days of the date of this Environmental Authorisation, of the decision to authorise the activity.
10. The notification referred to must –
 - 10.1. specify the date on which the authorisation was issued;
 - 10.2. inform the interested and affected party of the appeal procedure provided for in the National Appeal Regulations, 2014;
 - 10.3. advise the interested and affected party that a copy of the authorisation will be furnished on request;
and
 - 10.4. give the reasons of the Competent Authority for the decision.

Commencement of the activity

11. The authorised activity shall not commence until the period for the submission of appeals has lapsed as per the National Appeal Regulations, 2014, and no appeal has been lodged against the decision. In terms of Section 43(7), an appeal under Section 43 of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended will suspend the Environmental Authorisation or any provision or condition attached thereto. In the instance where an appeal is lodged you may not commence with the activity until such time that the appeal has been finalised.

Management of the activity

12. A copy of the final site layout map must be made available for comments by registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final development layout map must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. All available biodiversity information must be used in the finalisation of the layout map. Existing infrastructure must be used as far as possible e.g. roads. The final layout map must indicate the following:
 - 12.1. The position of the wind turbines;
 - 12.2. All associated infrastructure;
 - 12.3. The finalised access routes;
 - 12.4. All sensitive features; and
 - 12.5. All "no-go" and buffer areas.
13. The Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) submitted as part of the EIAr is not approved and must be amended to include measures as dictated by the final site lay-out map and micro-siting, and the provisions of this environmental authorisation. The EMPr must be made available for comments by registered Interested and Affected Parties and the holder of this environmental authorisation must consider such comments. Once amended, the final EMPr must be submitted to the Department for written approval prior to commencement of the activity. Once approved the EMPr must be implemented and adhered to.
14. The EMPr amendment must include the following:
 - 14.1. The requirements and conditions of this environmental authorisation;
 - 14.2. All recommendations and mitigation measures recorded in the EIAr and the specialist reports as included in the final EIAr dated December 2023;
 - 14.3. The final site layout map (as per Condition 12), inclusive of all associated infrastructure for the Igolide Wind Energy Facility project.

15. The EMPr must be implemented and strictly enforced during all phases of the project. It shall be seen as a dynamic document and shall be included in all contract documentation for all phases of the development when approved.
16. Changes to the approved EMPr must be submitted in accordance to the EIA Regulations applicable at the time.
17. The Department reserves the right to amend the approved EMPr should any impacts that were not anticipated or covered in the EIAr be discovered.

Frequency and process of updating the EMPr

18. The EMPr must be updated where the findings of the environmental audit reports, contemplated in Condition 25 below, indicate insufficient mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity, or insufficient levels of compliance with the environmental authorisation or EMPr.
19. The updated EMPr must contain recommendations to rectify the shortcomings identified in the environmental audit report.
20. The updated EMPr must be submitted to the Department for approval together with the environmental audit report, as per Regulation 34 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended. The updated EMPr must have been subjected to a public participation process, which process has been agreed to by the Department, prior to submission of the updated EMPr to the Department for approval.
21. In assessing whether to grant approval of an EMPr which has been updated as a result of an audit, the Department will consider the processes prescribed in Regulation 35 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended. Prior to approving an amended EMPr, the Department may request such amendments to the EMPr as it deems appropriate to ensure that the EMPr sufficiently provides for avoidance, management and mitigation of environmental impacts associated with the undertaking of the activity.
22. The holder of the authorisation must apply for an amendment of an EMPr, if such amendment is required before an audit is required. The amendment process is prescribed in Regulation 37 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. The holder of the authorisation must request comments on the proposed amendments to the impact management outcomes of the EMPr or amendments to the closure objectives of the closure plan from potentially interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, by using any of the methods provided for in the Act for a period of at least 30 days.

Monitoring

23. The holder of the authorisation must appoint an experienced Environmental Control Officer (ECO) for the construction phase of the development that will have the responsibility to ensure that the mitigation/rehabilitation measures and recommendations referred to in this environmental authorisation are implemented and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the approved EMPr.
- 23.1. The ECO must be appointed before commencement of any authorised activities.
- 23.2. Once appointed, the name and contact details of the ECO must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
- 23.3. The ECO must keep record of all activities on site, problems identified, transgressions noted and a task schedule of tasks undertaken by the ECO.
- 23.4. The ECO must remain employed until all rehabilitation measures, as required for implementation due to construction damage, are completed and the site is ready for operation.

Recording and reporting to the Department

24. All documentation e.g. audit/monitoring/compliance reports and notifications, required to be submitted to the Department in terms of this environmental authorisation, must be submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
25. The holder of the environmental authorisation must, for the period during which the environmental authorisation and EMPr remain valid, ensure that project compliance with the conditions of the environmental authorisation and the EMPr are audited, and that the audit reports are submitted to the *Director: Compliance Monitoring* of the Department.
26. The frequency of auditing and of submission of the environmental audit reports must be as per the frequency indicated in the EMPr, taking into account the processes for such auditing as prescribed in Regulation 34 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.
27. The holder of the authorisation must, in addition, submit environmental audit reports to the Department within 30 days of completion of the construction phase (i.e. within 30 days of site handover) and a final environmental audit report within 30 days of completion of rehabilitation activities.
28. The environmental audit reports must be compiled in accordance with Appendix 7 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended 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 environmental authorisation conditions as well as the requirements of the approved EMPr.
29. Records relating to monitoring and auditing must be kept on site and made available for inspection to any relevant and competent authority in respect of this development.

Notification to authorities

30. A written notification of commencement must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity. The notice must include a date on which it is anticipated that the activity will commence, as well as a reference number.

Operation of the activity

31. A written notification of operation must be given to the Department no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the activity operational phase.

Site closure and decommissioning

32. Should the activity ever cease or become redundant, the holder of the authorisation must undertake the required actions as prescribed by legislation at the time and comply with all relevant legal requirements administered by any relevant and Competent Authority at that time.

Specific conditions

33. No activities must encroach into a water resource without a water use authorisation being in place from the Department of Water and Sanitation.
34. Vegetation clearing must be kept to an absolute minimum. Mitigation measures as specified in the Specialist Studies / EIAr dated December 2023 must be implemented to reduce the risk of erosion and the invasion of alien species.
35. 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. The survey must also cover sensitive habitats and species that are required to be avoided.
36. Permits from the relevant provincial authorities, must be obtained to relocate and/or disturb listed plant species. Copies of the permit/s must be included in the final EMPr to be submitted to this Department for approval before commencement of construction activities.
37. No exotic plants must be used for rehabilitation purposes. Only indigenous plants of the area must be utilised.
38. The Chance Fossil Finds Procedure must be implemented for the duration of the construction activities.
39. The project road past the graveyard at Site 23 must be shifted north to allow a 30 m no-go buffer around the graveyard.
40. The project road passing through the Late Iron Age site at Site 05 must be rerouted towards the south. It is recognised that the project site boundary provides a constraint in terms of buffer width (30 m will be ideal) and the road should thus be placed as far south as possible.

41. Turbines 1, 3 and 5 and their associated roads must be shifted to the north to allow a 30 m no-go buffer between them and the Late Iron Age and historical Sites 01, 02 and 16.
42. The project infrastructure at Turbine 7 must be placed far enough east to allow a 30 m no-go buffer around the Late Iron Age Site 07.
43. The project road passing the north-eastern part of Late Iron Age Site 08 should be shifted towards the northeast to allow a 30 m no-go buffer between it and the site.
44. Any archaeological material or human burials are uncovered during the course of development then work in the immediate area must be halted. The finds must be reported to the heritage authorities and may require inspection by an archaeologist.
45. An integrated waste management approach must be implemented that is based on waste minimisation and must incorporate reduction, recycling, re-use and disposal where appropriate. Any solid waste must be disposed of at a landfill licensed in terms of Section 20 (b) of the National Environment Management Waste Act, 2008 (Act No.59 of 2008).

General

46. A copy of this Environmental Authorisation, the audit and compliance monitoring reports, and the approved EMPr, must be made available for inspection and copying-
 - 46.1. at the site of the authorised activity;
 - 46.2. to anyone on request; and
 - 46.3. where the holder of the Environmental Authorisation has a website, on such publicly accessible website.
47. National government, provincial government, local authorities or committees appointed in terms of the conditions of this authorisation or any other public authority shall not be held responsible for any damages or losses suffered by the holder of the authorisation or his/her successor in title in any instance where construction or operation subsequent to construction be temporarily or permanently stopped for reasons of non-compliance by the holder of the authorisation with the conditions of authorisation as set out in this document or any other subsequent document emanating from these conditions of authorisation.

Date of Environmental Authorisation: 31/01/2024



Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment

Annexure 1: Reasons for Decision

1. Information considered in making the decision

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

- a) The listed activities as applied for in the application form received on 23 June 2023.
- b) The information contained in the EIAr dated December 2023.
- c) The comments received from the Eskom Holdings SOC Limited, Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD), Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment Biodiversity Section, interested and affected parties as included in the EIAr dated December 2023.
- d) Mitigation measures as proposed in the EIAr and the EMPr.
- e) The information contained in the specialist studies contained within the appendices of the EIAr dated December 2023 and as appears below:

Assessment	Name of Specialist	Company	Specialist Report attached on the EIAr as
Terrestrial Biodiversity Compliance Statement	Dr. Noel van Rooyen and Prof. Gretel van Rooyen	Ekotrust cc	Appendix H.1
Agricultural Compliance Statement	Johan Lanz	Independent consultant	Appendix H.2
Avifaunal Impact Assessment	Albert Froneman and Megan Loftie-Eaton	AfriAvian Environmental	Appendix H.4
Aquatic Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Lufuno Nemakhavhani	WSP Group (Pty) Ltd	Appendix H.3
Geotechnical Assessment	Heather Davis	WSP Group (Pty) Ltd	Appendix H.10
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment	Dr Jayson Orton	ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd	Appendix H.6
Palaeontological Impact Assessment	Prof. Marion Bamford	ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd	Appendix H.14
Noise Assessment	M. de Jager	Enviro-Acoustic Research cc	Appendix H.16

Social Impact Assessment	Tony Barbour	Tony Barbour Environmental Consulting	Appendix H.9
Risk Assessment	Debra Mitchell	ISHECON cc	Appendix H.11
Traffic Assessment	A. Johnson	JG Afrika (Pty) Ltd	Appendix H.7
Visual Impact Assessment (including Flicker)	Kerry Schwartz	SLR Consulting (Pty) Ltd	Appendix H.8
Bat Impact Assessment	Werner Marais	Animalia Consultants	Appendix H.5
Plant Species	Alpheus Moalosi	WSP Group (Pty) Ltd	Appendix H.12
Animal Species	Alpheus Moalosi	WSP Group (Pty) Ltd	Appendix H.13

2. 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.

- a) The findings of all the specialist studies conducted and their recommended mitigation measures.
- b) The need for the proposed project stems from the provision of electricity to the national grid.
- c) The EIA dated December 2023 identified all legislation and guidelines that have been considered in the preparation of the EIA.
- d) The location of the proposed wind energy facility.
- e) The methodology used in assessing the potential impacts identified in the EIA dated December 2023 and the specialist studies have been adequately indicated.
- f) A sufficient public participation process was undertaken and the applicant has satisfied the minimum requirements as prescribed in the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended for public involvement.

3. Findings

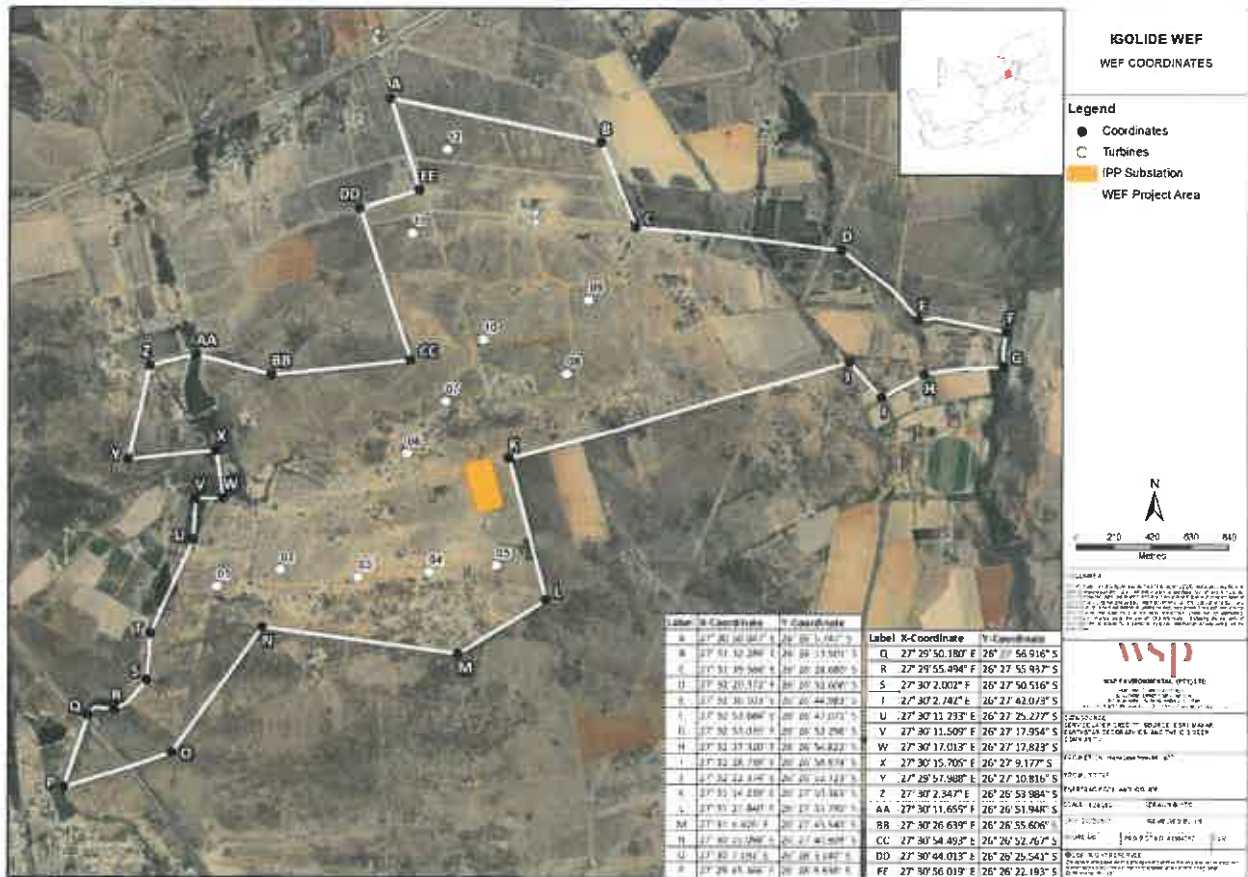
After consideration of the information and factors listed above, the Department made the following findings -

- a) The identification and assessment of impacts are detailed in the EIA dated December 2023 and sufficient assessment of the key identified issues and impacts have been completed.
- b) The procedure followed for impact assessment is adequate for the decision-making process.

- c) The information contained in the EIAr dated December 2023 is deemed to be accurate and credible.
- d) The proposed mitigation of impacts identified and assessed adequately curtails the identified impacts.
- e) EMPr measures for the pre-construction, construction and rehabilitation phases of the development were proposed and included in the EIAr and will be implemented to manage the identified environmental impacts during the construction phase.

In view of the above, the Department is satisfied that, subject to compliance with the conditions contained in the environmental authorisation, the authorised activities will not conflict with the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 and that any potentially detrimental environmental impacts resulting from the authorised activities can be mitigated to acceptable levels. The environmental authorisation is accordingly granted.

Annexure 2: Locality Plan: 100MW Igolide Wind Energy Farm, Gauteng Province



Point	Longitude	Latitude
A	27° 30' 50.047" E	26° 26' 5.747" S
B	27° 31' 32.289" E	26° 26' 13.501" S
C	27° 31' 39.568" E	26° 26' 28.680" S
D	27° 32' 20.572" E	26° 26' 32.606" S
E	27° 32' 36.103" E	26° 26' 44.983" S
F	27° 32' 53.684" E	26° 26' 47.071" S
G	27° 32' 53.035" E	26° 26' 53.296" S
H	27° 32' 37.320" E	26° 26' 54.822" S
I	27° 32' 28.738" E	26° 26' 58.974" S
J	27° 32' 22.374" E	26° 26' 52.723" S
K	27° 31' 14.239" E	26° 27' 10.363" S
L	27° 31' 21.840" E	26° 27' 35.790" S
M	27° 31' 4.426" E	26° 27' 45.540" S
N	27° 30' 25.098" E	26° 27' 40.909" S
O	27° 30' 7.192" E	26° 28' 3.540" S

P	27° 29' 45.366" E	26° 28' 9.938" S
Q	27° 29' 50.180" E	26° 27' 56.916" S
R	27° 29' 55.494" E	26° 27' 55.937" S
S	27° 30' 2.002" E	26° 27' 50.516" S
T	27° 30' 2.742" E	26° 27' 42.073" S
U	27° 30' 11.233" E	26° 27' 25.277" S
V	27° 30' 11.509" E	26° 27' 17.954" S
W	27° 30' 17.013" E	26° 27' 17.823" S
X	27° 30' 15.705" E	26° 27' 9.177" S
Y	27° 29' 57.988" E	26° 27' 10.816" S
Z	27° 30' 2.347" E	26° 26' 53.984" S
AA	27° 30' 11.655" E	26° 26' 51.948" S
BB	27° 30' 26.639" E	26° 26' 55.606" S
CC	27° 30' 54.493" E	26° 26' 52.767" S
DD	27° 30' 44.013" E	26° 26' 25.541" S
EE	27° 30' 56.019" E	26° 26' 22.193" S

Table 2 – Coordinate Points of the Cadastral Land Parcels

Point	Latitude	Longitude
A	26° 26' 53.029" S	27° 32' 19.852" E
B	26° 26' 56.036" S	27° 31' 28.801" E
C	26° 26' 24.357" S	27° 30' 57.198" E
D	26° 26' 58.073" S	27° 31' 31.356" E
E	26° 26' 54.794" S	27° 31' 10.139" E
F	26° 27' 0.715" S	27° 30' 48.494" E
G	26° 26' 58.446" S	27° 31' 25.900" E
H	26° 27' 10.084" S	27° 31' 14.257" E
I	26° 27' 27.161" S	27° 31' 04.620" E
J	26° 27' 20.651" S	27° 31' 07.733" E
K	26° 27' 30.823" S	27° 30' 48.035" E
L	26° 27' 32.582" S	27° 30' 23.967" E
M	26° 27' 32.587" S	27° 30' 35.318" E
N	26° 27' 27.486" S	27° 30' 35.302" E
O	26° 27' 22.383" S	27° 30' 35.284" E
P	26° 26' 41.701" S	27° 31' 25.347" E
Q	26° 26' 41.680" S	27° 31' 31.040" E
R	26° 26' 41.659" S	27° 31' 36.730" E
S	26° 26' 31.764" S	27° 30' 59.885" E
T	26° 26' 14.950" S	27° 31' 06.560" E
U	26° 26' 12.862" S	27° 31' 24.502" E
V	26° 26' 28.794" S	27° 30' 58.858" E
W	26° 26' 39.131" S	27° 30' 50.040" E
X	26° 26' 52.861" S	27° 31' 00.383" E

Table 3 - Coordinates of the Internal Access Roads