

IMPOFU CLUSTER – ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SUMMARY

The proposed Impofu Wind Farm Cluster (comprising of Impofu North, Impofu West and Impofu East Wind Farms) is located approximately 24 km south-west of Humansdorp, and 14 km north-west of Oyster Bay, in the Kouga and Kou-Kamma Local Municipalities, and the Sarah Baartman District Municipality of the Eastern Cape. The Project Cluster site is bordered immediately to the west by the existing Tsitsikamma Community Wind Farm, to the north-east by the Oyster Bay Wind Farm and to the south-west, the Gibson Bay Wind Farm.

Each wind farm comprises, *inter alia*, the following:

- 19 7MW capacity turbines;
- Onsite Substation yard that will house the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) buildings, Substation building and a High Voltage Gantry;
- Switching stations;
- Permanent laydown/ hardstand areas;
- Infrastructure such as cabling (over head lines and underground lines) and internal access roads; and
- Impofu West will have additional infrastructure (e.g. Buffer yard, batching plant and the collector) serving the entire cluster.

The design phase of the Project was informed by an environmental and social impact assessment process required in accordance with the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) as amended) among others. The ESIA process resulted numerous environmental approvals being issued by the respective authorities, including but not limited to environmental authorisations, water use licenses and general authorisations, biodiversity permits, heritage consents, human resettlement action plans etc., as well as approval of the final layouts and Environmental Management Programme reports (EMPr).

The construction and operation of the wind farms are bound by the conditions contained in the above noted approvals, the relevant monitoring and management programmes (covering aspects like ecology, aquatics, avifauna, noise, aesthetic, heritage sites, socio-economy, health and wellbeing, human rights etc.), and mapping and subsequent avoidance of identified environmental and social sensitivities viz. No-Go Areas. To further preserve biodiversity, 'search and rescue' exercises were conducted to safely translocate, avoid and or remove threatened/protected plant and animal species occurring within the development boundaries. Similarly, a human rights assessment and resettlement action plan were developed to ensure international and national protocols/legislation fulfilment.

The respective authorities responsible for management of environmental and social matters are continually updated through submission of monitoring reports, thus allowing for record keeping and updates to national operated data sites e.g. South African Biodiversity Institute (SANBI).