

SCIENTIFIC SERVICES

postal	Private Bag X5014 Stellenbosch 7599
physical	Assegaaibosch Nature Reserve Jonkershoek
website	www.capenature.co.za
enquiries	Alana Duffell-Canham
telephone	+27 21 866 8000 fax +27 21 866 1523
email	aduffell-canham@capenature.co.za
reference	SSD14/2/6/1/7/4/Wind_Caldeon
date	21 August 2012

Mahlatse Shubane
Department of Environmental Affairs
Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

By email: mshubane@environment.gov.za

Dear Mr Shubane

Re: Proposed Caledon Wind Farm – additional information and response to comments.

DEA ref: 12/12/20/1701

The letter from Arcus Gibb dated 20 August 2012 together with the additional maps and turbine coordinates as well as the letter from the Director of Electrawinds dated 30 July 2012 refer (these letters are attached for your ease of reference) and we would like to make the following comments:

1. We are pleased to note that the turbines that were determined to be of high risk to birds (turbines 10, 11, 19, 32, 34, 42, 44, 45, 46, 51, 63, 69, 71, and 72) have been removed from the latest proposed layout. We are also pleased to note that turbines 17 and 20, which were located in Critically Endangered Renosterveld, have been removed from the proposal. The list of turbines and coordinates provided by the applicant has also been attached for your ease of reference.
2. The letter dated 30 July 2012, signed by the director of Electrawinds, commits Caledon Wind Energy Trading Pty Ltd to signing the land covered by Renosterveld into CapeNature's Stewardship Programme on inception of the lease agreement with the landowner. According to the letter from Arcus Gibb, this should amount to approximately 300ha. Formal conservation of the Renosterveld areas through the Stewardship programme must be a condition of authorisation. Note that the costs of entering into the agreement as well as environmental management costs must be borne by the applicant/landowner. Costs could include, but are not limited to, surveying, drawing up of the management plan, advertising and gazetting, drafting and finalising legal contracts as well as annual auditing of the management plan. The agreement should be a perpetuity agreement as otherwise after 20 years, the landscape will have been significantly altered by development but nothing will be gained for conservation if the land is opened up for other development, ploughing etc. Note that the landowner would also be able to benefit from the stewardship area by receiving rates rebates.

In conclusion, providing the above is adhered to we do not object to the latest proposal put forward by the applicant. Changes to the layout do not however, preclude the necessity for ongoing pre- and post-construction monitoring and the applicant must be willing to implement necessary amendments to the layout and/or operation of the wind energy facility that may be determined as a result of the monitoring.

CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any additional information that may be received.

Yours sincerely



Alana Duffell-Canham
For: Manager (Scientific Services)

Cc: Jan Visagie - javisagie@gmail.com
Steve Gildenhuys – sgildenhuys@capenature.co.za