

Environmental Impact Assessment for the Proposed Caledon Wind Farm, Power Lines and Associated Infrastructure

Caledon Public Meeting

Caledon Town Hall, Caledon
12 January 2010 (18h00)

Miss Rebecca Thomas – Senior Environmental Scientist, Arcus GIBB, welcomed all the attendees to the meeting. A record of all attendees is attached as Appendix A

The agenda was presented and accepted by all present.

Miss Rebecca Thomas proceeded with the presentation, a copy of which is included in Appendix B.

Name	Comment	Response
During presentation		
Dr Stuart Shearer	What are the height of the towers and the length of the blades for a 3.6MW wind turbine?	A 3.6MW Turbine, which is the maximum size considered, has a tower height of up to 100m and a blade length of up to 58.5m, dependant on the final technical analysis performed by our (Swiss) expertise. This information has been made available in the Draft Scoping Report currently out for public review.
K. Bobantz	When will the final positions of the turbines be determined? Will this be after the Draft Impact Assessment has been issued? Will I&APs be able to comment on the positioning of the turbines?	Rebecca Thomas (RT) and Hans Boer (HB) replied that information will be made available in the Draft Environmental Assessment report. I&APs will have an opportunity to review the Draft Environmental Assessment report and comment on the positioning of the turbines. It should be noted that the wind farm falls within an area of 3700ha, providing enough flexibility to place the wind turbines in optimal positions, meeting both

		technical and environmental requirements.
Dr Stuart Shearer	Considering that some studies have shown that birds are attracted to a constant red light placed on top of high structures such as wind turbines, could the proponent not make use of blinking lights? If Aviation Authorities have put in place legislation prohibiting developers to place blinking lights on top of such towers, could Caledon Wind not apply for an exemption?	Dion Wilmans (DW) said that according to legislation set out by the relevant national authorities, including the Civil aviation authorities, the masts must be topped with a constant red light, not a flickering one. This also applies to other masts such telecommunication towers. The proponent may not deviate from this legislation and also stated that a flickering light has a disruptive visual effect that is not well received by people living adjacent to wind farms. However, specialists have been appointed to assess the impact of the wind turbines on bird populations in the area and they will recommend mitigation measures which will have to be considered by the authorities.
I&AP	Is it possible to continue with normal farming activities over the underground cables?	DW: Yes, the underground cables will be buried at a minimum of half a metre below the ground within dedicated conduits, after careful consultation with farmers. Preferably, they will be buried one meter below ground.
Mrs. O Roux	When will there be certainty on issues surrounding the placement of turbines, the depth at which cables will be buried, heights of transmission lines, and other technical issues. Will I&APs be able to comment on these issues?	RT/DW: The Final Scoping Report will indicate the proposed placement of turbines, including the electrical layout of transmission lines. Specific guidelines are set by National Governmental Agencies, together with Technical requirements that determine the minimum & maximum heights, and these will be adhered to accordingly. The EIA is currently in the scoping phase. Scientific & specialist studies will be undertaken that will provide an indication of where turbines and other infrastructure should be placed. The proponent is also engaging with various government departments, such as the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA). In the

		process of these deliberations, these departments will set out guidelines that the proponent will have to follow in the design, construction and operational phase, should the EIA be approved. The EIA is an inclusive process that aims to incorporate the concerns/issues raised by I&APs as well those from government departments.
Mrs O Roux	What roads will be considered for access roads and will they be highly visible?	DW: Access roads are not public roads, such as the N2 or the R43, but roads leading to and falling within private land between the turbines. The affected land owners will be consulted as to the optimal road lay-outs.
Dr Stuart Shearer	Asked whether Arcus GIBB will incorporate the comments provided by I&APs on the Draft Scoping Report in the Draft Environmental Assessment Report.	RT: All comments received during the public review period for the draft Scoping Report would be included in the Final Scoping Report to made available to the authorities for decision-making before proceeding to the EIA phase of the project..
Brian McMahon	Stated that correspondence was sent to Arcus GIBB in which issues were raised regarding the commercial aspects of the proposed project. Could these issues form part of the discussion for the Caledon Windfarm EIA?	RT: The purpose of the EIA is to assess the Environmental Impact of the proposed project. Commercial aspects are for investors. Arcus GIBB, as the appointed independent EAP practitioners, does not have access to certain commercial information. There are two government departments which have to ultimately decide whether the project is to be approved. Firstly, the DEA will decide if the project is viable taking into consideration the environmental impacts associated with the development as prescribed in the Environmental Assessment Report. The National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) and the Department of Energy (DoE) will consider the commercial aspects of the proposed project to determine whether it is

		financially and economically viable. Certain information shared with NERSA and DoE is confidential and does not form part of the EIA process.
Brian McMahon	Stated that the topic of sustainability is an important issue and has not been discussed thus far. He further stated that the Caledon Wind Farm project has only been initiated due to the worldwide recession and the fact that Eskom has increased the cost of electricity.	RT asked that the question be answered by Mr Dion Wilmans after the conclusion of the presentation during which a discussion session will be held. This was accepted by all attendees.
During discussion session		
Rebecca Thomas	Opened the discussion session. She stated that she will answer EIA process and related questions, and other questions as far as possible and that technical questions will where required, be directed to Dion Wilmans of CaledonWind.	
Brian McMahon	As above: Stated that the topic of sustainability is an important issue and has not been discussed thus far. He further stated that the Caledon Wind Farm project has only been initiated due to the worldwide recession and the fact that Eskom has increased the cost of electricity.	DW introduced himself as a Member of the Board GenesysWind AG and thanked the I&APs for attending. He explained that it is customary for a company to name an operating entity after the leading town closest to the development, hence the proposed project's name 'Caledon Wind'. Regarding Mr McMahon's question regarding sustainability, South Africa hosted the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 where the issues of climate change and sustainable development was addressed. Subsequently the then Department of Minerals & Energy (DME) issued a white paper requesting private developers to provide an initial 10 000 GWh of electricity per year utilising renewable energy (IRP1). He furthermore explained that Caledon Wind has

		<p>been busy for the last three years doing background research for the project in which the first year was spent assessing different sites in SA utilising various sources, including at least 10 years historical data from reputable sources. Satellite data from a variety of sources were also utilised, including data received from NASA World Wind Atlas. Caledon Wind then identified 3 sites and short listed Caledon as the most suitable option due to a number of technical and infrastructural criteria as discussed in the presentation. Specialist Swiss Wind Engineers conducted a 6 week detailed analysis on the specific site, to assess whether the site was suitable for wind generation. A test mast was then erected in March 2009 to collect additional information. In total, Caledon Wind has used in excess of 100 data sources to determine the viability of the site.</p>
<p>Brian McMahon</p>	<p>Inquired as to whether the report providing the above mentioned data will be made available to the public.</p>	<p>DW replied that subsequent to the EIA process, Caledon Wind has presented the above-mentioned information to the Relevant Governmental Departments as well as local and international financial institutions, who will have to make the final decision as to whether Caledon Wind should be allowed to generate electricity or receive the necessary financial backing. Caledon Wind is under a legal obligation to NOT make commercial information available to the public, as it contains competitive information. However, Mr Wilmans stated that Mr McMahon may view the Company Confidential report as provided he is willing to sign a non-disclosure and confidentiality agreement.</p>

<p>Dr John Wynne-Edwards</p>	<p>Stated that he would like to object to Mr. Wilman's response to Mr. McMahon's question. He stated that the purpose of the meeting was not for I&APs to receive a lecture on various items regarding wind power. Stated that he is a member of WESSA as well as a doctor and an oceanographer. Requested that Mr Wilmans not 'sell his product' at the public meeting as it forms part of the EIA process. Further stated that the national implications of the project were not discussed and that no meteorological data was provided except for a reference to NASA studies. Indicated the he has previously worked with NASA and that Mr Wilmans is mistaken as NASA would not release 9 years of meteorological data for the Caledon area. Further stated that the proposed Caledon Wind Farm development is "all about money". Dr Wynne-Edwards further stated that 15% of the 19 000 wind turbines of the Denmark coast are not producing power and that If the turbines for the Caledon Wind Farm do not run continually and continuously the proponent will find itself bankrupt in future.</p>	<p>A response was unable to be provided as Dr. John Wynne-Edwards, Brian McMahon and Dr. Stuart Shearer left the meeting after this statement.</p> <p>A written response was provided, following the meeting, addressing the correspondence that was sent to Arcus GIBB mentioned by Brian McMahon.</p>
<p>Mr. Gert Koegelenberg</p>	<p>Posed a question to Mr Wilmans: What are your planned social investments for the Overberg area, excluding the benefits landowners will receive? What part of your earnings will be given back to the community and what will that money be spent on?</p>	<p>DW replied that over the past year Caledon Wind has been working with the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) to establish an investment instrument for community participation in the project. The returns of this investment are envisaged to contribute primarily towards critical infrastructure improvement. In addition, Caledon Wind will contribute substantially towards Rates & Taxes on the land that the project will occupy, thereby reducing the impact of future increases on all land owners taxes in the greater TWK municipal region. In addition, further investments will be made available for social investment which will go towards the development of training, tourism and energy efficiency initiatives</p>

		for the region.
Mr. Gert Koegelenberg	Wanted to confirm that the funds made available by Caledon Wind not only be spent on new infrastructure projects but also on social upliftment projects, such as supporting schoolchildren and schools in the area; and that the funds that are made available for these projects be allocated not only to the local government, but to local organisations that are involved in the upliftment of the community.	DW explained that, should the project be completed, Genesys Wind Switzerland, has a corporate policy to reinvest 3% of it's profits into local economic upliftment. These funds will not be given to local government, but directly administered by GenesysWind, to be invested in projects related to, for instance, the upliftment of education. RT added that should the project be approved by government, the proponent may be required to produce a Corporate Social Investment plan that is to be developed in consultation with the local municipality; during which decisions will be made on how the company is to contribute to social upliftment in the area.
Mrs. Onel Roux	Indicated that earlier statements have been made by other developers which promised that funds will be made available for social upliftment. However, according to the I&AP nothing has come of these promises and in some cases the proposed projects had a negative influence on the local community, such as, for instance, the development of a casino in Caledon.	Noted
Jan Visagie	Agrees that there have been empty promises made by developers in the past regarding funds being made available for social upliftment projects in the area. However, Mr Visagie pointed out that there has been a change in policies that now allows municipalities, once a project has been approved, to ensure that social investments within the TWK region will takes place. In terms of the LUPO (Land Use Planning Ordinance, Ordinance 15 of 1985) the Council may as part of the approval procedures lay down conditions that will / can ensure that social development and bulk infrastructure	Noted

	<p>payments takes place. People involved in the EIA and LUPO applications can rest sure that Council will not approve of the application and not ensure that payment and or the social contribution will be enforced as part of their (the developers) contributions to the community.</p> <p>Mr Visagie also explained that the property tax for those landowners whose land will be leased to Caledon Wind will also increase, providing additional income for the municipality. This will be done by way of normal valuation process, to determine the value of the property with the additional land use rights on it and is done by professional private companies.</p>	
Mr. Thys Roux	<p>Why were other areas not identified for wind farm development as the Overberg region is known for its scenic beauty and the wind farm will have a negative visual impact and thus negatively affect tourism in the area. Asked why CaledonWind not rather build wind farms in mountainous areas or in the Karoo where they may not be as visible? Also stated that the West Coast would be more suitable for wind farm developments.</p>	<p>DW responded that mountainous areas are not suitable for wind farm developments as there are many challenges, including logistics and wind turbulence in these areas. He stated that the majority of available land along the West Coast is unavailable, as most of the optimal sites for wind generation have already been selected by other wind farm developers.</p>
Jan Visagie	<p>Mr Visagie stated that there are a number of applications for Wind Farms in the Karoo area. Gave the example of three wind farms being planned adjacent to Beaufort West. Said that such developments depend on the availability of suitable sites for wind farm developments.</p>	
Mr. Thys Roux	<p>Could the visual impact specialist's details be made available to him as he would like to provide direct input for visual impact assessment?</p>	<p>RT replied that she could put the I&AP in contact with specialist or if it is preferred, Arcus GIBB could act as an intermediary.</p>
Mr. Thys Roux	<p>Are there any other wind farms operating in South Africa at the moment?</p>	<p>DW responded that there are two wind farms operating at the moment, both of which are demonstration farms. The first, Darling Wind Farm only has 4 turbines and Eskom's Klipheuwel Windfarm only has 3 turbines. Stated that there are 135 wind farms planned within South Africa of</p>

		which 35 is likely to be approved.
I&AP	Regarding the issue of rates and taxes, the I&AP wanted to confirm that the same situation regarding SAB's property, which is located within the TWK municipality, will not be repeated. Stated that SAB owns a property with a value of approximately R300 million and that SAB is only paying a rate of 3million per year. Stated that rates and taxes must not be negotiated with politicians but be determined by means of the actual value of the land.	Noted
Jan Visagie	Rates and taxes are determined separately from each other. You are being taxed on the value of the property, buildings and land value. These valuations are done independently by private professional valuers appointed by Council. These people determine the value of the property. Rates are a separated issue and are not linked to the value of the property and cannot be seen as tax. A rates bill only shows for instance the water consumption for a month. Council does implemented in July 2009 the new general valuation roll and Council believes that due process was followed in terms of the valuations.	Noted
Martie Koegelenberg	How many wind farms are currently being planned for the Caledon area?	
Jan Visagie	Mr Jan Visagie replied that there are 2 wind farm developers that are now applying for an EIA (including the basic assessment for the erection of windmasts) as well as 2 other wind farms developments that are still in the planning stages.	
Martie Koegelenberg	Stated that the combination of 4 wind farms will have a considerable impact on tourism in the area. Tourism is a sustainable industry and a major employer for the	DW explained that once a wind farm is operational it employs a number of people. Labourers will be needed to maintain the

	<p>Overberg region. The construction phase will only employ approximately 150 people over a 60 month period, many of whom will be skilled workers that will be brought in from other areas and not necessarily sourced from the Caledon area. How many people will be managing the wind farm once it is operational and what processes will Caledon Wind put in place to train local people to eventually manage the wind farm?</p>	<p>transmission lines and other associated infrastructure but they will be employed by the TWK Municipality. Eight to twelve permanent specialised engineers, service technicians and operational staff will be employed to manage the wind farm once it is operational. CaledonWind aims to train and employ South African engineers, technicians and operators.</p> <p>DW further stated that any new planned commercial, industrial and residential developments require electricity to continue. The South African electrical generating capacity is currently 40 000MW and the South African economy is short of up to 9000MW. The lack of power hinders development and creates lost employment opportunities. CaledonWind met with local developers from the Caledon area who were told by Eskom that there is not enough power available to support their developments, which not only affects their businesses but the entire construction industry. Furthermore, there are industrial nodes planned for the Overberg area but these developments cannot continue due to a lack of power. DW stated that Eskom will only be able to supply additional power for this region in 7 years' time. DW explained that this will curb development in the area and will affect all industries, including tourism.</p>
<p>Mr. Gert Koegelenberg</p>	<p>What is the average noise generated by a typical wind turbine and what is the distance at which this noise becomes audible? What will be the noise generated by such a wind turbines on a 'slow day'?</p>	<p>DW responded by stating that it depends on the wind speed. The maximum generating capacity of a wind turbine is at 55km/h creating approximately 50 DB of noise. He further stated that the wind noise itself at 55km/h is approximately 79DB and that on a slow day the</p>

		<p>noise generated by the wind is louder than the noise generated by the turbine over a distance of 1km.</p> <p>RT added that this information, however, can only be confirmed once the noise study has been completed for the EIA.</p>
I&AP	<p>Ten to fifteen years from now, will there not be new technology that could replace wind energy and which may have less of a visual and noise impact?</p>	<p>DW responded Research & Development in the field of energy generation currently enjoys the biggest budgets of all industries, and that it is conceivable that new technologies may supersede all current power generating technologies. Eskom currently operates 15 coal-based power stations with the last one having been built in 1985. These power stations can not operate indefinitely and by 2015 some of the older coal-based powers stations will have to be replaced. At the moment Eskom is building two new coal based power stations and in order to help finance this development they are proposing increasing electricity rates by 35% over the next three years. This will only provide funds for the currently planned 2 new coal power station, the costs are reportedly estimated to be approximately R400 billion. In order to build an additional power station Eskom would need to further increase the cost of electricity. There is not enough money in the South African economy to fund a new power station and that parliament has already stated they are not able to fund such developments. Eskom have thus approached local banks as well as European banks for funding. Eskom recently secured €1.2 billion (R12.71 billion) from Europe. President Jacob Zuma has also written a personal letter to</p>

		the World Bank for assistance in funding.
I&AP	How much electricity do towns such as Hermanus and Caledon consume?	Hermanus currently uses approximately 80MW and Caledon 7.5MW. Cape Town consumes 4900MW, of which according to Eskom 70% is imported from outside the province.
I&AP	Are wind farms viable considering the capital costs involved for these projects?	DW answered yes. Furthermore, he explained that the latest coal-based power station that Eskom is planning has a maximum generating capacity of 4800MW. With a cost of R143 billion, that works out to R30 million rand per MW, which does not include the procurement and transport costs of coal needed to operate the power station. The cost of supplying water for these power stations is also not included. In comparison it costs R20 million per MW to build a wind farm. However, because wind turbines are not always operational it must be ensured that they be positioning in the best possible location, in order to ensure optimum generating capacity. The advantage of coal-based power stations is that they can run continuously. However, it also means they have to be supplied by coal and water on a continuous basis, and the price of coal fluctuates.
K. Visser	Wished to have it noted that if I&APs stand in the way of wind energy, they effectively endorse projects such as the Bantamsklip Nuclear Power Station. The long term dangers associated with nuclear power are far greater than the impacts associated with wind generation. If I&APs rather choose to go with Eskom's development plans then they will have to deal with a nuclear power plant in their region, which will have an even bigger impact on tourism.	Comment noted.
I&AP	Is it possible to combine wind and solar power so they	DW replied that a perfect example already exists

	supplement each other, thereby lowering fluctuations in energy supply?	in Switzerland for the combination of solar and wind, as well as Denmark and Sweden for Hydro and Wind. However, in order for a solar farm to generate the same amount of electricity as a single 2MW wind turbine, it will cover an area of 3.6km ² . The capital cost of solar generation plants are at minimum 2.5 times higher than equivalent wind plants, as evident by the approved Cost / kWh published by NERSA of R 3.14 and R 3.94 for Concentrated / PV solar systems.
I&AP	Could thin-film solar panels, which do not require as much area space, be used to supplement wind power?	DW explained that the costs of thin-film solar are high. When NERSA determined what prices they will pay under the Renewable Energy Feed-In tariff they did a very accurate calculation of what it would cost per kW/hour. Wind was calculated at R1.25 and solar photo voltaic at R3.94. (NERSA announcement 2 Nov 2009)
K. Visser	What will the capacity of the transmission lines to be used for the Caledon Wind Farm be in comparison with the Bantamsklip Power Station which are 400KV and 765Kv?	DW replied that the proposed 300MW wind facility will be less than 5% of the proposed 6000MW proposed Bantamsklip nuclear power station.
K. Bobantz	Stated that a great advantage of the Caledon Wind Farm is the fact that they will be using underground cabling between turbines, and connecting to the existing overhead Overberg transmission lines.	Comment noted.
Martie Koegelenberg	Stated that the issue surrounding our responsibility towards the environment has not been discussed. Stated that at "the end of the day we have to lose a little to gain a lot".	DW agrees, stating the Caledon Wind Farm will prevent almost a million tonnes of CO ₂ annually to be released into the atmosphere.
Mr. Gert Koegelenberg	Stated that this fact (raised by DW above) should be stated in the EIA presentation.	Comment noted.
K. Visser	Asked whether 3% of Bantamsklip's profits will also be	

	<p>made available to the local municipality?</p> <p>Jan Visagie responded explained that the Municipality cannot form part of the process or become directly involved in any private company. A Legal Entity (Municipal Entity) may be formed to undertake a specific commercial activity. Currently the DBSA is funding the forming of such Municipal Entity for another specific project that Council is undertaking. The MFMA (Municipal Finance Management Act) stipulates and regulates the forming of such ME's and gives direction in terms of board members and the auditing of the book. It needs to be audited separate from that of the Municipality. The Municipal Manager will still be the accounting officer of the Municipal Entity, but other than that the rules and board members provide the direction in which the ME may consider doing its business. The guidelines stipulate how the money should be spent, applying specific methods and following agreed principles. The Auditor General will audit their financial statements together with private auditing firms. The municipality benefit from an increase in rates and taxes only. The municipal entity however may be part of such a commercial venture.</p> <p>Secondly, in terms of Genesys Wind's contribution of 3% of their profits, they will have to provide a statement every year indicating on which projects these funds were spent. The Municipality will not get involved in this process other than to provide a Need Assessment undertaken during the IDP process. GenesysWind will hopefully adhere to the requirements identified during this assessment, simply because those needs were identified by the community</p>	
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	<p>themselves. The municipality will be able to assess how much of these funds were spent and on what, for example, the upliftment of schools or on other projects that addresses the needs of the local community. Also, if they don't spend the entire amount allocated for that year, the remaining funds may be placed in a trust fund. The trust fund will be managed by themselves or a body that Genesys Wind may still form but definitely not by the local municipality.</p> <p>Genesys Wind must follow due process, and the Process principles are set by the Western Cape as well as National and local policies.</p> <p>JV said that Bantamsklip is outside of the jurisdiction of TWK, therefore not sure and it will be a state entity so in all probability there will be no social contributions made.</p>	
K. Visser	<p>According to Eskom South Africa will need an additional 20 000MW by 2020. So as to ensure that they do not continue building nuclear and coal-based power stations after 2020, we as citizens have to push for renewable energy.</p>	Comment noted.
Jan Visagie	<p>Jan Visagie responded stating that renewable energy is not the only solution. Solar and wind energy will not provide South Africa with enough energy.</p> <p>Coal will eventually run out, if the only alternative is nuclear what can we do?</p> <p>Eskom has not put in place tariffs and policies that support renewable energy thus far, giving nuclear an advantage over renewable energy supply.</p>	

K. Visser	If we improve our efficiency with 25% and combine that with renewable energy, we could prevent additional nuclear power stations to be built.	Comment noted.
Jan Visagie	<p>Jan Visagie responded stating that even if we improve our efficiency with 50% we will still need additional power. Stated that he also does not wish to support nuclear power but that local communities, if they are against such developments, should then push for alternatives.</p> <p>Further explained that the Western Cape provincial government is currently in the process of developing a provincial assessment looking at all the possible wind farm developments.</p> <p>The availability of wind is not the only criteria. There are 8 other criteria that needs to be considered. Proximity to towns, airports, wetlands, flight past of birds, topography, etc. Zones will thus be put in place.</p> <p>In this way, local government is able to direct future developments and stop unwanted developments from taking place. Furthermore, Eskom will not negotiate with Wind Farm developments if their planned output is lower than 25MW.</p>	
Jan Visagie	Asked that RT make a change as the figure illustrating the EIA process showed the last phase as "DEA Approval".	Comment noted. Will be amended accordingly to say DEA authorisation.
Martie Koegelenberg	Stated that in a previous visit overseas she drove past a wind farm and could not hear any noise coming from the turbines. She stated that the impact of greenhouse gasses	Comment noted.

	released into the atmosphere by Coal-based power-stations are far worse than the impacts associated with Wind Farms. However, she stated that the tourism industry will be negatively affected by these wind farm developments and solutions must be found to address this issue.	
K. Bobantz	Replied stating that the Overberg's biggest asset is its natural resources, which include its wind. Stated that overseas tourists will have a positive view of the Overberg area if it markets itself as a 'green area'	Comment noted.
Martie Koegelenberg	Stated that the Overberg area does not necessarily cater for overseas tourists but rather local tourists who prefer more affordable holiday destinations. She asked whether, for instance, local tourists would be willing to pay a premium for staying in a guest house that makes use of solar geysers.	Comment noted.
K. Bobantz	Stated that South Africans still need to undergo a paradigm shift and that people should start supporting energy efficient housing developments.	Comment noted.
K. Visser	Stated that citizens should put pressure on government to put in place legislation supporting the installation of solar geysers.	DW explained that Eskom has an existing programme that for part of their Demand Side Management strategy.
K. Bobantz	Stated that citizens should put more pressure on government and that public participation processes provides a means for them to do so. Said that 'we must get people talking' and make demands for rates and taxes supporting renewable energy.	Comment noted.
Jan Visagie	Stated that there will always be resistance to any project, including renewable energy projects such as wind farm developments. However, he stated that people should not look at only the physical footprint of such developments. For instance, should one view the actual footprint of the Bantamsklip Power Station against the total map area of	Comment noted.

	<p>the Overberg area – it would appear, for instance, that the impacts on the area will be minimal. However, this does not indicate the areas that will be affected by the storage of nuclear waste.</p> <p>RT questioned if TWK would consider incorporating all the potential planned windfarms and market the area as a 'clean energy region'?</p> <p>This was considered as a potential idea which could be incorporated into the Local Economic Development Plan.</p>	
Rebecca Thomas	<p>RT expressed concern that the local community is not aware of the other 6 wind farm developments in the area.</p> <p>Jan Visagie replied that the EIA processes for the wind farms have not been initiated, stating that only three of these developments are now applying for Basic Assessments in order to erect wind masts.</p>	
Mr. Gert Koegelenberg	<p>Stated that the Overberg area could be marketed as the "Origin of Wind"</p>	DW further suggested that the area could target paragliders and market the Theewaterskloof Dam to kite surfers.
Martie Koegelenberg	<p>Stated that it could be an effective marketing strategy.</p>	
K. Visser	<p>Stated that if people 'apply their minds' we could come up with solutions that would enable us to come up with solutions that are cheaper than coal-based power generation.</p> <p>Further stated that the reason for the slow development of the renewable energy market is due to a lack of commitment from government officials who are all "afraid of losing their positions"</p>	

	Also stated that people should rally others to make them aware of meetings such as these, driving through towns using megaphones.	
Mr. Gert Koegelenberg	Suggested that some of the wind turbines be painted bright colours to further enhance to make them more appealing to tourists	DW replied saying that this could have a disruptive visual effect and that the turbines are all produced in a industry standard white colour.
I&AP	How do developments such as these impact on airports and low flying airplanes?	
Jan Visagie	Replied stating that the TWK Municipality takes into consideration the flight paths of helicopters and crop sprayers in the area, as well as the vicinity of Caledon's airfield.	
K. Bobantz	Asked whether Caledon Wind will provide bursaries to South African citizens so they are able to receive training and eventually manage wind farms developed in South Africa.	DW replied explaining that Caledon Wind will train and employ local engineers as they are more multi-skilled than engineers sourced from overseas, which are usually very focussed on a particular field. Further explained that Genesys is planning to expand their operations in the Africa and would prefer to employ South African engineers to manage these wind farms on the continent. The company will not be training these engineers but they will provide bursaries to have them trained in

		<p>accredited facilities.</p> <p>Furthermore, as part of their contract with the manufactures of their wind turbines, they have to ensure they transfer skills to local engineers.</p>
K Visser	<p>Asked what the difference in costs are between wind farms built in the sea versus wind farms built on land.</p>	<p>DW stated that a wind farm built on land costs approximately R20m per MW whereas a wind farm built in the sea costs approximately R45m per MW, the largest of which, the London Array of 1060MW, currently being constructed off the shores of the UK.</p>
Rebecca Thomas	<p>RT thanked the I&APs for attending. The meeting was concluded at 21:10</p>	

APPENDIX A:
ATTENDANCE REGISTER

**Environmental Impact Assessment for the Proposed Caledon Wind Farm,
Power Lines and Associated Infrastructure**

Caledon Public Meeting

Caledon Town Hall, Caledon
12 January 2010 (18h00)

Record of Attendance:

Name	Surname	Company/Position
Rebecca	Thomas	Arcus GIBB
Jan-Willem	De Jager	Arcus GIBB
Dion	Wilmans	CaledonWind
Hans	Boer	CaledonWind
Roger	Bailey	Flower Valley Conservation Group
Brian	McMahon	Sonderend Friends of WESSA
Stuart	Shearer	Sonderend Friends of WESSA
John	Wynne-Edwards	Sonderend Friends of WESSA
Jan	Visagie	TWK Municipality
J	Dibben	TWK Municipality
Johan	Viljoen	TWK Municipality
K	Koebantz	Tesselaarsdal Action Group
IJ	Visser	Tesselaarsdal Action Group
M	Koegelenberg	Caledon Tourism
W	Loffie-Eaton	Caledon Tourism
Riaan	Els	Sakakamer
Dirk	Moolman	Metalrollforming SA
Van Niekerk	WA	Van Niekerk Boedery
Thys	Rouxwil	I&AP
Jan	Vaalplaas	Vaalplaas
MG	Lotter	Klipfontein
C	Coetzee	SAPS
C	Keeth	SAPS
R	Loffie-Eaton	I&AP
W	Smal	I&AP
M	Wessels	I&AP

APPENDIX B:
PRESENTATION