



## mineral resources & energy

Department:  
Mineral Resources and Energy  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Per email: [ayodele.odusola@undp.org](mailto:ayodele.odusola@undp.org)  
CC: Ms Yoliswa Macoba, [yoliswa.macoba@undp.org](mailto:yoliswa.macoba@undp.org)

Dear Dr Odusola

### **Support for a no-cost extension of the implementation schedule of South African Wind Energy Programme Phase 2**

The Department has received a proposal from project team responsible for South Africa Wind Energy Project, Phase 2 (SAWEP 2) to approve a no-cost extension of SAWEP 2 up to end of June 2021. SAWEP 2 was conceptualised as a four (4) year project starting from December 2015 to December 2019. However, SAWEP 2 effectively started in August 2016, which was much later than originally envisaged, due to delays in finding a suitable candidate for the project manager role. Further, by the time the project started in August 2016, a number of activities in the SAWEP 2 Project Document (ProDoc) were already outdated which necessitated the Project Steering Committee (PSC) to commission studies to review the Project Document in

order to ensure that the project remains relevant. These delays necessitated the amendment of the original SAWEP 2 schedule which UNDP gratefully granted for a period of 12 months to 31 December 2020.

The emergence of Covid-19 earlier this year and the subsequent national lockdown has further delayed the implementation of SAWEP 2 and has necessitated a further revision of the implementation schedule. It is heartening to know that the UNDP has made a provision for an additional extension of 6 months, up to 30 June 2021, subject to receiving a formal request from the DMRE. If granted, the proposed extension will enable the completion of wind resource-mapping (component 2) which is scheduled to conclude at the end of 2020, as well as to allow sufficient time for engineering, procurement and commissioning of small-scale wind energy pilot projects. Additional time may be required to accommodate the mandatory one year defects period, Operation and Maintenance (O&M), Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) for the small scale wind turbines as well as the necessary capacity building. In this regard, an arrangement would have to be made between the DMRE and UNDP/GEF to accommodate the continuation and completion of these activities beyond June 2021 when revised project timeline is expected to come to an end.

Notwithstanding these unforeseen delays, I believe that SAWEP 2 can deliver on its objectives if project extension is granted until the end of June 2021. Therefore, I hereby offer my full support to the proposed amendment of the SAWEP 2 implementation schedule. I appeal to your office to consider and support the proposed extension of SAWEP 2 and facilitate the approval process by GEF.

I wish to thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely



**ADV. THABO MOKOENA**

**DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

Date: 26/11 /2020