

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

NO. 144

26 February 2021

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT, 1998
(ACT NO. 107 OF 1998)****IDENTIFICATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS OF STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE FOR THE
DEVELOPMENT OF LARGE SCALE WIND AND SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY FACILITIES**

I, Barbara Dallas Creecy, Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, hereby identify three geographical areas which are of strategic importance when planning large scale wind and solar photovoltaic energy facilities in terms of section 24(3) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998). These areas are called Renewable Energy Development Zones and are identified in the Schedule to this Notice and located on a map included as Appendix 1. These three Renewable Energy Development Zones are additional to the eight Renewable Energy Development Zones published under Government Notice No. 114 in Government Gazette No. 41445 of 16 February 2018.

The environmental attributes associated with these zones were determined through the specialist assessments prepared as part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment for Wind and Solar Photovoltaic Energy in South Africa, 2019 and their associated sensitivity displayed in the various environmental themes on the national web based environmental screening tool.



**BARBARA DALLAS CREECY
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

SCHEDULE

1. The additional Renewable Energy Development Zones compiled in terms of section 24(3) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), and the renewable energy technology for which each Renewable Energy Development Zone is assessed as suitable, are as follows:

| Renewable Energy Development Zone Number | Name | Applicable Renewable Energy Technology |
|--|---------------|---|
| Renewable Energy Development Zone 9 | Emalaheni | Large scale solar photovoltaic energy facilities |
| Renewable Energy Development Zone 10 | Klerksdorp | Large scale solar photovoltaic energy facilities |
| Renewable Energy Development Zone 11 | Beaufort West | Large scale wind and solar photovoltaic energy facilities |

2. The boundaries of the Renewable Energy Development Zones can be accessed at <http://egis.environment.gov.za> – Geographical Areas and the screening tool can be accessed at: <https://screening.environment.gov.za/screeningtool>.
3. The Strategic Environmental Assessment for Wind and Solar Photovoltaic Energy in South Africa, 2019 can be accessed at: <http://redzs.csir.co.za>; or <https://egis.environment.gov.za/redz>.

APPENDIX 1

MAP OF THE THREE ADDITIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT ZONES 9, 10 AND 11

