

24 February 2020

Dear species specialist,

RE: SPECIES ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT

SANBI and BirdLife South Africa have developed *Species Environmental* Assessment Guidelines that are to be implemented with the Terrestrial Flora (3c) & Terrestrial Fauna (3d) Species Protocols for environmental impact assessments in South Africa currently published for comment.

The purpose of this Species Guideline is to ensure that specialist studies are performed to an acceptable standard and that consistent methodology is applied across South Africa. A team of specialists, led by Luke Verburgt of Enviro-Insight, were appointed to develop the guidelines and the project is being managed by Domitilla Raimondo, SANBI Threatened Species Programme Manager, and Samantha Ralston-Paton, BirdLife South Africa.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that a draft of these guidelines is available for comment at:

<https://bgis.sanbi.org/Projects/Detail/232>. Please submit comments to d.raimondo@sanbi.org.za before March 24th.

For any queries, please contact Samantha at energy@birdlife.org.za or 083 673 3048.

A further, final consultation phase will take place in June once all feedback has been considered and, where applicable, incorporated into the Guidelines.

The guidelines will not replace existing provincial guidelines, or other niche guidelines such as the Birds and Wind Energy Facility Guidelines (available here:

<https://www.birdlife.org.za/conservation/terrestrial-bird-conservation/birds-and-renewable-energy>)

We look forward to engaging with you on this project in the next few weeks.



Kind regards,
Samantha Ralston-Paton and the project team