

# Kouga Wind Farm generates electricity for +- 50 000 houses

The R22m Kouga Wind Farm at Oyster Bay in the Eastern Cape, now fully operational with 32 turbines, adds about 300 GWh per year of renewable energy to the national power grid, MEC for Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism Honorable Sakhumzi Somo (see above) officially opened the Kouga Wind Farm which is generating enough electricity to supply approximately 50 000 average South African households with electricity annually and mitigating over 270 000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions annually. The latest CSIR report outlines that in the first six months of 2015 renewable energy generated a huge net financial benefit to the country contributing a total net benefit of R4 billion to the economy. During the wind farm's two construction period, more than 1 000 temporary jobs were created through its engineering, construction and procurement contracts. The project also made use of the services of 15 SMEs with the focus on the local community. The Kouga Wind Farm provides an attractive investment opportunity for its local and international investor base comprising of STANLIB Asset Management on behalf of STANLIB Infrastructure Private Equity Fund, Evolution One Fund, a specialised clean energy investor managed by Inspired Energy, Red Cap Investments, European Renewables, Ash-Cool Engineers and the local community trust financed by the Industrial Development Corporation. These investors received long-term debt funding of approximately R1.7 billion for the construction and operation of the project. The project's financial leaders include Standard Bank, Nedbank, Liberty, Mergence and the Industrial Development Corporation. A key focus of the Kouga Wind Farm is

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## Official launch of Kouga Wind Farm - 2015

Facilitating community development. The Kouga Wind Farm consists of 32 turbines each capable of generating up to 2.5MW of power. This means that participation in the wind farm and actively investing in the communities themselves, approximately 302 million KWh per year (300 GWh), enough to supply power Kouga Wind Farm focused its investment strategy on skilled employment to erect the wind turbines and further mitigating over 290 000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually. In the process we employed 465 people. Key to the development of the Kouga Wind Farm has been to ensure strong, positive impact on the communities and Women: 44 areas in which the wind farm is involved. During their employment these people

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**Rainbow School for the Disabled ABET Assistance - Humansdorp**

The Rainbow School for the Disabled is a special needs school that caters for learners with severe learning impediments and disabilities. The school expressed the need for the ABET curriculum and training of their teaching staff to be able to facilitate the lessons. Kouga Wind Farm decided to assist with this. This qualification will allow potential employers within the job market to effectively integrate these individuals into the working environment. The learning material was delivered in July 2015 and is now being taken in senior classes.

**Healthy Mom & Baby Clinic**

The Healthy Mom and Baby Clinic is a privately funded and operated medical clinic specializing in the treatment of pre and postnatal care for women, infant care and nutrition as well as education. It is based in the town of Jeffreys Bay and services communities in the surrounding Kouga area.

They require assistance with the following:

- Medical Equipment
- Perinatal, postnatal and teen pregnancy classes
- Building upgrades
- PRO for the rebranding of the Healthy Mom & Baby Clinic

**Sandwater School Support**

The Kouga Wind Farm team met with the school principal and on his guidance has provided English and Afrikaans reading programmes as well as additional aids to help the school learners with exercises and worksheets in all subject subjects from Grade 1-7. With the reading programme, the learner is taught sound construction of words, empower him/her to construct words phonetically, to read them and therefore to pronounce them correctly.

**Two Soup Kitchens For Sea Vista**

In Dec 2013 the Kouga Wind Farm took over the provisioning project for two local soup kitchens in Sea Vista. This involves the weekly provisioning of fresh vegetables and other desperately needed foodstuffs to these two soup kitchens. New large pots were also purchased for these two soup kitchens.

**Umkomati Clinic: Waiting and Consulting Room**

The Kouga Wind Farm has installed a clinic waiting and consulting room facility in Umkomati. This has been provided via two converted containers, one to be used as a waiting room and the other as two consulting rooms. There is also an ablution unit and a ramp for access for disabled patients. There is also a place to wait when the mobile clinic is visiting and provide rooms for consultants to utilize when visiting the residents. The Department of Health is looking at involving additional community health care workers to utilize this space as a resource centre for education and information sharing, as well as being used by the rehab teams that visit the community once a month.