



HOPEFIELD WIND FARM – FACTS and STATS

- Situated 5km southeast of Hopefield in the Western Cape, Hopefield Wind Farm consists of 37 Vestas V100 1.8MW wind turbines at 95m hub height giving total installed capacity of 66.6MW
- Initial development of the project began in 2008. Umoya Energy (RF) (Pty) Ltd was created in that year to develop and own Hopefield Wind Farm. Umoya Energy (a Cape Town-based owner and developer) was awarded a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) in Round One of the Department of Energy's Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) which is promoting the development of renewable energy projects throughout the country.
- Construction of the wind farm began in late 2012 and Commercial Operation Date was achieved on 01 Feb 2014, as scheduled.
- Hopefield Wind Farm will generate enough electricity to power approximately 70,000 low-income homes or 29,000 medium-income homes [1]. To produce the same amount of electricity, an average South African coal-fired power station [2] would emit approximately 195,000 tons of CO₂ every year. Avoiding these CO₂ emissions is equivalent to taking over 40,000 cars off the road [3].
- A significant number of jobs have already been created by the project. During construction phase more than 300 people were employed from the local area alone. In addition, opportunities are being created for local suppliers and service providers, which will continue throughout the project's 20 year life.
- The Hopefield Wind Farm Local Community Company (a non-profit company that owns 5% of the wind farm) will channel Enterprise Development and Socio-Economic Development funding from the project over its 20 year life into the local community and administer various initiatives designed to benefit the community and foster education, particularly in regard to maths and science, the environment and sustainability. The first project to be commenced in 2014 will be to provide insulation improvements and solar geysers to the homes of economically disadvantaged families in Hopefield.
- Vestas Southern Africa is responsible for wind turbine supply and wind farm construction, as well as operation and maintenance for the first 15 years. The company has recruited full-time operations personnel in the Western Cape who have undergone training to operate and maintain this wind farm and others in the region.

Sources:

1 http://www.capetown.gov.za/en/EnvironmentalResourceManagement/publications/Documents/State_of_Energy+_Energy_Futures_Report_2011_revised_2012-01.pdf

2 <http://www.eskom.co.za/content/Air%20quality%20and%20climate%20change.pdf>

3 <http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/calculator.html>