

SHALE GAS DEVELOPMENT: A SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT FOR SOUTH AFRICA

Guideline: How to provide comments on the scientific assessment report chapters

Dear Registered Stakeholder

You are invited to provide written comments on the scientific assessment for Shale Gas Development in South Africa.

The assessment chapters are numbered, and each has been formatted to include page numbers. Each page has line numbers on the left margin of the page. Line numbering is not continuous throughout the document, but restarts at number 1 on each page.

In order for the chapter authors to be able to respond to your comments, the comments need to be as clear and specific as possible. For this reason a comment template form is provided (as an Excel Spreadsheet). Clearly indicate the chapter number and name in the first row of the spreadsheet. Begin your comment by specifying the exact passage of text to which it refers, by giving the page number and line number for the beginning and end of the text. If you have a general comment which applies to the whole chapter, you can mark it with page 1 line 1 to last page last line. If you review more than one chapter, please create a new spreadsheet for each, since they need to be separated out for different author teams.

The authors are not able to respond to generalised comments such as “I don’t like this”. Where you disagree with the information provided by the authors or their interpretation, you need to provide an alternative, or point to a traceable source where evidence can be found. For example, an actionable comment might say “The values suggested for the size of the resource are likely to be underestimated, see Smit 2013 SA Journal of Petroleum Geology 3:12-18”. This allows the authors to follow up on your comment effectively. Every legible and correctly submitted will be responded to by the author teams, which is documented and in the public domain (so don’t make comments which you would be unhappy to see in print, associated with your name or organisation!) (See example in table below). Kindly follow these instructions closely when preparing and submitting your comments.

Example of a filled out assessment chapter review spreadsheet:

Name	Page range	Line/s	Table/ Fig/ Plate	Reviewer Comment
Joe Soap	2	8-10		The values suggested for the size of the resource are likely to be underestimated, see Smit 2013 SA Journal of Petroleum Geology 3:12-18
Joe Soap	28	8	Fig 2.10	The legend to Figure 2.10 is illegible.
Joe Soap	1-26			Throughout the chapter ‘arkeology’ is misspelled

Assessment chapters and comment forms can be downloaded from:
<http://seasgd.csir.co.za/scientific-assessment-chapters/>

The will chapters are available as high and low resolution PDF to also accommodate slower internet connections.

Hard copies of the assessment chapters and comment forms are available at the following locations:

GRAAFF-REINET	VICTORIA WEST	BEAUFORT WEST
Horseshoe Library Personage Street Graaff-Reinet 6280	Victoria West Public Library 78 Church Street Private Bag X329 Victoria West 7070	Beaufort West Public Library 15 Church Street Beaufort West 6970
Masizakhe Library Baartman Square Masizakhe Graaff-Reinet 6280		Regional Library 1 Pieter Jacobs Avenue Beaufort West 6970

Submit your completed comment forms by email, fax or post to the addresses below.

Email: Seashalegas@csir.co.za

Fax: Attention: CSIR Environmental Management Services
021 888 2693

Post: Attention: CSIR Environmental Management Services
P.O. Box 320
Stellenbosch
7599

The deadline for submitting comments is **15 July 2016 (30 days)**

Please note that public briefings will also be held in Graaff-Reinet (18 July), Victoria West (19 July) Beaufort West (20 July) and Cape Town (22 July). This will also serve as an opportunity for stakeholders to provide comment on the assessment chapters, which the project management team will feed back to the authors.

If you have any questions about providing comment on the assessment chapters and/or the review process please call 021 888 2482 or send an email to Seashalegas@csir.co.za

For more information visit <http://seasgd.csir.co.za/>