

Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

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Appendix D.1: Public Participation Plan



Public Participation Plan for Basic Assessment Processes for the Proposed Development of nine 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure (i.e. Witte Wall 1; Witte Wall 2; Witte Wall 3; Grootfontein 1; Grootfontein 2; Grootfontein 3; Hoek Doornen 1; Hoek Doornen 2; Hoek Doornen 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

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Prepared for:

National Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF)

Applicant:

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1. Introduction

Section 24(1) of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended) (NEMA), states that "in order to give effect to the general objectives of integrated environmental management laid down in this Chapter, the potential impact on the environment of listed activities must be considered, investigated, assessed and reported to the competent authority charged by this Act with granting the relevant EA". The reference to "listed activities" relates to the regulations promulgated in Government Notice (GN) R982, R983, R984 and R985 in Government Gazette 38282, dated 4 December 2014, which came into effect on 8 December 2014. These were amended in April 2017, specifically promulgated in GN R326, R327, R325 and R324 in Government Gazette 40772, dated 7 April 2017. GN R327 and GN R324 includes listed activities that trigger the need for a Basic Assessment (BA) Process, whereas GN R325 includes listed activities that trigger the need for a full Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process.

The Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZs) were gazetted in February 2018 in Government Gazette 41445, GN 114, by the Minister of Environmental Affairs. In terms of the NEMA, and the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), wind and solar Photovoltaic (PV) projects located within a REDZ are subject to a BA Process and reduced decision-making period by the authorities.

The Project Applicant is proposing to develop nine 175 MW Solar PV Facilities and associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure (EGI), near Touws River, in the Western Cape. The proposed projects are referred to as Witte Wall 1; Witte Wall 2; Witte Wall 3; Grootfontein 1; Grootfontein 2; Grootfontein 3; Hoek Doornen 1; Hoek Doornen 2; Hoek Doornen 3. The proposed projects will take place entirely within the Komsberg REDZ in the Western Cape Province.

Since the proposed projects fall entirely within the Komsberg REDZ, BA Processes will be undertaken. Table 1 lists the proposed projects that will be undertaken.

Table 1: Details of the Proposed Projects

Project
• Proposed Development of a 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility and associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure (i.e. Witte Wall 1), near Touws River, Western Cape.
• Proposed Development of a 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility and associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure (i.e. Witte Wall 2), near Touws River, Western Cape.
• Proposed Development of a 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility and associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure (i.e. Witte Wall 3), near Touws River, Western Cape.
• Proposed Development of a 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility and associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein 1), near Touws River, Western Cape.
• Proposed Development of a 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility and associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein 2), near Touws River, Western Cape.
• Proposed Development of a 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility and associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein 3), near Touws River, Western Cape.
• Proposed Development of a 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility and associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure (i.e. Hoek Doornen 1), near Touws River, Western Cape.
• Proposed Development of a 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility and associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure (i.e. Hoek Doornen 2), near Touws River, Western Cape.
• Proposed Development of a 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility and associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure (i.e. Hoek Doornen 3), near Touws River, Western Cape.

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The affected farm portions for each project are listed in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Details of the Affected Farm Portions

Projects	Farm Portions – PV Facility and Associated Infrastructure	Farm Portions - EGI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Witte Wall 1 • Witte Wall 2 • Witte Wall 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Witte Wall Farm 171 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Witte Wall Farm 171 • Remainder of Die Brak Farm 241 • Remainder of Platfontein Farm 240
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grootfontein 1 • Grootfontein 2 • Grootfontein 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Grootfontein Farm 149 • Portion 5 of Grootfontein Farm 149 	<p>Alternative 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remainder of Grootfontein Farm 149 • Portion 5 of Grootfontein Farm 149 • Remainder of Witte Wall Farm 171 • Remainder of Die Brak Farm 241 • Remainder of Platfontein Farm 240 <p>Alternative 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Hoek Doornen Farm 172 • Remainder of Die Brak Farm 241 • Remainder of Platfontein Farm 240
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hoek Doornen 1 • Hoek Doornen 2 • Hoek Doornen 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Hoek Doornen Farm 172 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portion 1 of Hoek Doornen Farm 172 • Remainder of Witte Wall Farm 171 • Remainder of Die Brak Farm 241 • Remainder of Platfontein Farm 240

In accordance with Regulation 12 (1) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), the Applicant has appointed the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Environmental Management Services (EMS) group, to undertake the BA Processes in order to determine the biophysical, social and economic impacts associated with undertaking the proposed development. The BA Processes will be undertaken by Paul Lochner (Project Leader and Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)), Rohaida Abed (Project Manager and EAP), and Dhiveshni Moodley (Project Officer).

The BA Processes have been initiated, and a Pre-Application Meeting took place with the Competent Authority, the National Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), on 25 August 2020 (Reference Number: 2020-06-0013). In order to discuss and agree on various aspects with the DEFF prior to release of the BA Reports. The following points were discussed with the DEFF:

- An overview of the project description;
- Confirmation on the approach towards including Lithium Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems in the project description;
- Findings of the National Web-Based Screening Tool Reports;
- Discussion and confirmation on the specialist assessments and compliance statements to be undertaken;
- Discussion and confirmation on the approach towards the specialist reporting, including that of the recently published Assessment Protocols (GN 320, dated 20 March 2020);
- Approach to the Public Participation Process, including the Public Participation Plan required as per the Directions issued by the DEFF on 5 June 2020 in GN 650;
- Discussion and confirmation on the proposed project schedule and overall process for the BAs, including the applicable Listed Activities and Cumulative Impact Assessment approach; and
- Points for clarification.

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2. Need for the Public Participation Plan

On 5 June 2020, the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment issued Directions in terms of regulation 4 (10) of the Regulations issued by the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs in terms of section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act 57 of 2002). These Directions were published in Government Gazette 43412, GN 650 on 5 June 2020, regarding measures to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 relating to national environmental management permits and licences.

Regulation 5.1 of GN 650 states that Authorities responsible for the processing of applications contemplated in the EIA Regulations, will be receiving such applications from 5 June 2020 and will receive and process applications and issue decisions in the manner as set out in Annexure 2 of GN 650. Regulation 5.2 of GN 650 states that Annexure 3 includes additional requirements in respect of the provision, supporting or obtaining of services contemplated in Regulation 5.1.

Annexure 3 of GN 650 states that an EAP must:

- Prepare a written public participation plan, containing proposals on how the identification of and consultation with all potential Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) will be ensured in accordance with Regulation 41(2)(a) to (d) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended) or proposed alternative reasonable methods as provided for in regulation 41(2)(e), for purposes of an application and submit such plan to the competent authority; and
- Request a meeting or pre-application discussion with the competent authority to determine the reasonable measures to be followed to identify potential I&APs and register I&APs for purposes of conducting public participation on the application requiring adherence to Chapter 6 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended) as set out in the public participation plan and obtain agreement from the competent authority on the public participation plan.

GN 650 also states that for new applications, the public participation plan agreed with the competent authority must be annexed to the application form.

This document therefore serves as the Public Participation Plan required in GN 650 to document how the Public Participation Process will be undertaken throughout the BA Processes under the National Lockdown. The Public Participation Plan has been discussed with the DEFF during the Pre-Application Meeting on 25 August 2020 (Reference Number: 2020-06-0013) in order to facilitate the decision-making on the plan itself. The plan will now need to be approved by the DEFF before implementation.

3. Approach to the Public Participation Processes

The BA projects are located in the same geographical area and constitute the same type of activity (i.e. generation and transmission of electricity generated from a solar resource). As such an integrated Public Participation Process will be undertaken for the proposed BA projects. However, separate BA Reports will be compiled for each PV facility or per farm portion (this is being discussed with the DEFF separately).

Chapter 6 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended) contains the requirements for the Public Participation Process of projects requiring an Environmental Authorisation.

Table 3 provides a detailed description of the requirements of Chapter 6 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), as well as the proposed mechanisms that will be adopted to comply with the regulations during the National Lockdown.

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Table 3: Proposed Mechanisms to Comply with Chapter 6 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended)

Regulation	Proposed Mechanism to Comply
<p><u>Activity on land owned by person other than proponent:</u></p> <p>Regulation 39:</p> <p>(1) If the proponent is not the owner or person in control of the land on which the activity is to be undertaken, the proponent must, before applying for an environmental authorisation in respect of such activity, obtain the written consent of the landowner or person in control of the land to undertake such activity on that land.</p> <p>(2) Subregulation (1) does not apply in respect of:</p> <p>(a) linear activities;</p> <p>(b) activities constituting, or activities directly related to prospecting or exploration of a mineral and petroleum resource or extraction and primary processing of a mineral or petroleum resource; and</p> <p>(c) strategic integrated projects as contemplated in the Infrastructure Development Act, 2014.</p>	<p>Consent has been obtained from the owners of the farm portions on which the proposed PV facilities will be constructed. Proof of such consent will be included in the Applications for Environmental Authorisation.</p> <p>Consent is not required from the owners of the properties on which the power lines will be constructed, as this constitutes a linear activity as per Regulation 39 (2) (a).</p>
<p><u>Purpose of Public Participation</u></p> <p>Regulation 40:</p> <p>(1) The public participation process to which the:</p> <p>(a) basic assessment report and EMPr, and where applicable the closure plan, submitted in terms of regulation 19; and</p> <p>(b) scoping report submitted in terms of regulation 21 and the environmental impact assessment report and EMPr submitted in terms of regulation 23; was subjected to must give all potential or registered interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, a period of at least 30 days to submit comments on each of the basic assessment report, EMPr, scoping report and environmental impact assessment report, and where applicable the closure plan, as well as the report contemplated in regulation 32, if such reports or plans are submitted at different times.</p> <p>(2) The public participation process contemplated in this regulation must provide access to all information that reasonably has or may have the potential to influence any decision with regard to an application unless access to that information is protected by law and must include consultation with:</p> <p>(a) the competent authority;</p>	<p>The Draft BA Reports and Environmental Management Programmes (EMPrs) will be compiled in compliance with Appendix 1 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). The reports and EMPrs will be released to all registered I&APs and stakeholders, including the National DEFF, for a 30-day comment period. The reports will also be made available to members of the public (i.e. potential I&APs) on a dedicated project website (https://www.csir.co.za/environmental-impact-assessment/).</p> <p>Various mechanisms will be used to make the report available to the public, potential and registered I&APs, and stakeholders during the 30-day comment period. These mechanisms are discussed below.</p> <p>The BA Processes will be founded on a basis of ethics and will ensure that all registered and potential I&APs will have access to all information that has or may have the potential to influence any decision or comment made, unless such access to information is protected by law.</p>

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Regulation	Proposed Mechanism to Comply
<p>(b) every State department that administers a law relating to a matter affecting the environment relevant to an application for an environmental authorisation;</p> <p>(c) all organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the activity to which the application relates; and</p> <p>(d) all potential or, where relevant, registered interested and affected parties.</p>	<p>Prior to the commencement of the BA Processes (and advertising the Environmental Authorisation Processes in the local print media), an initial database of I&APs (including key stakeholders and Organs of State) will be developed for the BA Processes. This will be undertaken based on research and feedback from authorities, such as the DEFF. The I&AP database will contain, as a minimum, the competent authority (DEFF); relevant state departments (e.g. Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEADP), Department of Human Settlements and Water and Sanitation (DHSWS), Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) etc.); relevant organs of state (e.g. Witzenberg Local Municipality, Cape Winelands District Municipality, Eskom SOC Ltd etc.); as well as potential and registered I&APs (e.g. landowners, neighbours etc.).</p>
<p>(3) Potential or registered interested and affected parties, including the competent authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in subregulation (1) prior to submission of an application but must be provided with an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the competent authority.</p>	<p>The Applications for Environmental Authorisation will be submitted to the DEFF together with the Draft BA Reports and EMPs. The 30-day comment period will commence on the day after the Applications and Draft BA Reports have been sent to the DEFF for comment. Therefore, all registered I&APs and stakeholders, including the National DEFF, will be provided with an opportunity to comment on the reports once the Applications for EA have been submitted to the DEFF. The comment period will extend for a 30-day comment period.</p> <p>The BA Processes will not include any pre-application reporting or comment periods.</p>
<p>Public Participation Process</p> <p>Regulation 41:</p> <p>(1) This regulation only applies in instances where adherence to the provisions of this regulation is specifically required.</p>	<p>Adherence to the provision of Regulation 41 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended) is required as BA Processes are required for the proposed projects.</p>
<p>(2) The person conducting a public participation process must take into account any relevant guidelines applicable to public participation as contemplated in section 24J of the Act and must give notice to all potential interested and affected parties of an application or proposed application which is subjected to public participation by:</p> <p>(a) fixing a notice board at a place conspicuous to and accessible by the public at the boundary, on the fence or along the corridor of:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">i. the site where the activity to which the application or proposed application relates is or is to be undertaken; and</p>	<p>Relevant guidelines for Public Participation will be considered during the BA Processes (e.g. Department of Environmental Affairs (2017), Public Participation guideline in terms of NEMA EIA Regulations, Department of Environmental Affairs, Pretoria, South Africa).</p> <p>Notice will be given to all potential and registered I&APs of the proposed projects, which are subjected to public participation. Various mechanisms will be undertaken to provide such notice, as described below.</p> <p>One specific mechanism includes the placement of site notice boards. Notice boards will be placed at the entrance of the key affected farm portions on which the</p>

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Regulation	Proposed Mechanism to Comply
<p>ii. any alternative site;</p>	<p>proposed projects will be constructed, as well as at well-known retail facilities in Ceres and Touws River.</p> <p>Site notice boards will be placed in English and Afrikaans. Proof of placement of such notice boards will be included in the Draft BA Reports.</p>
<p>(b) giving written notice, in any of the manners provided for in section 47D of the Act, to:</p> <p>i. the occupiers of the site and, if the proponent or applicant is not the owner or person in control of the site on which the activity is to be undertaken, the owner or person in control of the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;</p>	<p>The owners of the land have been informed of the proposed project in writing, and they have given consent to the Project Applicant (i.e. signed resolutions). This consent serves as notification and will be included as an Appendix to the Application Forms for Environmental Authorisation.</p> <p>The occupiers and persons in control of the affected land portions have also been informed of the project and will also be formally informed in writing via email.</p>
<p>ii. owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the activity is or is to be undertaken and to any alternative site where the activity is to be undertaken;</p>	<p>Owners, persons in control of, and occupiers of land adjacent to the site where the proposed projects are to be undertaken will be identified and added to the database of I&APs. They will be sent Letter 1 (Commencement of the BA Processes) via email to inform them of the proposed project and the release of the Draft BA Reports for comment. Letter 1 will include the link to the project website (noted above), which can be accessed to download the Draft BA Reports.</p> <p>The project team will also send bulk "SMS" texts to all I&APs, including neighbouring landowners, on the project database, where cell phone numbers are available. This is more effective than registered mail, for example, because registered mail gets returned to the EAP within a couple of days if the recipient does not collect it. Such SMS texts will include a link to the project website, where the Draft BA Reports can be accessed. As a supplementary measure, the Draft BA Reports will also be made available via alternative web-platforms such as Dropbox or Google Drive, to ensure that the report is widely accessible. Furthermore, Executive Summaries of the Draft BA Reports will be emailed to all registered I&APs, including neighbouring landowners, which will ensure that if I&APs, for whatever reason, cannot access the Draft BA Reports via the project website or other web-platforms, they will still be able to access some level of detail in the Executive Summaries.</p>
<p>iii. the municipal councillor of the ward in which the site and alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area;</p>	<p>The municipal councillors (Ward 12 of the Witzenberg Local Municipality) and relevant ratepayers organisations (Witzenberg Rate Payers Association) will be identified and added to the database of I&APs. They will be sent Letter 1 via email to inform them of the proposed project and the release of the Draft BA Reports for comment. Letter 1 will include the link to the project website and</p>

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Regulation	Proposed Mechanism to Comply
	<p>other web-platforms, which can be accessed to download the Draft BA Reports. Executive Summaries will also be emailed to the municipal councilors and ratepayers organisations, who will also receive SMS texts about the release of the Draft BA Reports</p>
<p>iv. the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area;</p>	<p>The proposed site is located in Witzenberg Local Municipality; Cape Winelands District Municipality in the Western Cape Province. These municipalities have jurisdiction in the area in which the proposed projects are to be undertaken. Amongst others, details of the Municipal Manager and the Manager, Town Planning and Building Control for the Witzenberg Local Municipality has been obtained. Relevant representatives from the municipalities will be added to the database of I&APs. They will be sent Letter 1 via email to inform them of the proposed project and the release of the Draft BA Reports for comment. Letter 1 will include the link to the project website and other web-platforms, which can be accessed to download the Draft BA Reports. Executive Summaries will also be emailed to the municipal officials, who will also receive SMS texts about the release of the Draft BA Reports.</p> <p>During the National Lockdown, the provision of hard copy reports has been reduced in order to curb the spread of COVID-19. Many stakeholders, departments and organs of state, such as the National DEFF, are no longer requiring hard copies of reports. As such, hard copies of the Draft BA Reports will not be provided to the municipalities. It is understood and expected that the municipal officials will have access to the project website or other web-platforms.</p>
<p>v. any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity; and</p>	<p>Relevant Organs of State that have jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the proposed project will be identified and added to the database of I&APs. They will be sent Letter 1 via email to inform them of the proposed project and the release of the Draft BA Reports for comment. Letter 1 will include the link to the project website and other web-platforms, which can be accessed to download the Draft BA Reports. Executive Summaries will also be emailed to the organs of state, who will also receive SMS texts about the release of the Draft BA Reports.</p> <p>It is justifiably understood and expected that the relevant organs of state will have access to the project website or other web-platforms.</p>
<p>vi. any other party as required by the competent authority;</p>	<p>Other parties that are generally required by the DEFF, such as the DEFF Biodiversity and Conservation Directorate and the SKA will be included on the database of I&APs. They will be sent Letter 1 via email to inform them of the proposed project and the release of the Draft</p>

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Regulation	Proposed Mechanism to Comply
	BA Reports for comment. Letter 1 will include the link to the project website and other web-platforms, which can be accessed to download the Draft BA Reports. Executive Summaries will also be emailed and SMS texts will also be sent about the release of the Draft BA Reports.
(c) placing an advertisement in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. one local newspaper; or ii. any official Gazette that is published specifically for the purpose of providing public notice of applications or other submissions made in terms of these Regulations; 	<p>In order to notify and inform the public of the proposed project, to invite I&APs to register on the project database, as well as to inform I&APs of the release of the Draft BA Reports for comment, the BA Processes will be advertised in one local newspaper at the commencement of the 30-day comment period for the Draft BA Reports. Research is being undertaken to determine the best suited local newspaper that covers a large area. Options include the Worcester Standard and Witzenberg Herald. A media advertising company is advising on the best local newspaper to use in order to reach the most people. The newspaper advertisement will be placed in both English and Afrikaans; and will also include the details of the project website, where information available on the project can be downloaded from. Proof of placement of the newspaper advertisements will be included in the Final BA Reports.</p> <p>At this stage, there are no official Gazettes published specifically for the purpose of providing public notice of applications or other submissions made in terms of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended).</p>
(d) placing an advertisement in at least one provincial newspaper or national newspaper, if the activity has or may have an impact that extends beyond the boundaries of the metropolitan or district municipality in which it is or will be undertaken. Provided that this paragraph need not be complied with if an advertisement has been placed in an official referred to in paragraph (c)(ii); and	Note that this is not applicable because the proposed projects do not extend beyond, and do not have potential impacts that extend beyond, the boundaries of the metropolitan or district municipality in which they will be undertaken.
(e) using reasonable alternative methods, as agreed to by the competent authority, in those instances where a person is desirous of but unable to participate in the process due to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. illiteracy; ii. disability; or iii. any other disadvantage. 	If during the BA Processes, persons are identified as desiring but unable to participate due to illiteracy, disability or any other disadvantage, then the EAP can arrange focus-group meetings with the relevant persons via teleconference or online platforms (such as MS Teams or Skype). Holding a teleconference can allow the EAP to verbally explain the project to the relevant person.
(3) A notice, notice board or advertisement referred to in subregulation (2) must: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) give details of the application or proposed application which is subjected to public participation; and (b) state: 	The notice boards to be placed and the newspaper advertisements to be published will fulfill the requirements of this regulation. Proof of placement of notice boards will be included in the Draft BA Reports; and proof of placement of the newspaper advertisements will be included in the Final BA Reports.

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Regulation	Proposed Mechanism to Comply
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. whether basic assessment or S&EIR procedures are being applied to the application; ii. the nature and location of the activity to which the application relates; iii. where further information on the application or proposed application can be obtained; and iv. the manner in which and the person to whom representations in respect of the application or proposed application may be made. 	
<p>(4) A notice board referred to in subregulation (2) must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) be of a size of at least 60cm by 42cm; and (b) display the required information in lettering and in a format as may be determined by the competent authority. 	The notice boards to be placed will fulfil the requirements of this regulation. Proof of placement of notice boards will be included in the Draft BA Reports.
<p>(5) Where public participation is conducted in terms of this regulation for an application or proposed application, subregulation (2)(a), (b), (c) and (d) need not be complied with again during the additional public participation process contemplated in regulations 19(1)(b) or 23(1)(b) or the public participation process contemplated in regulation 21(2)(d), on condition that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) such process has been preceded by a public participation process which included compliance with subregulation (2)(a), (b), (c) and (d), and (b) written notice is given to registered interested and affected parties regarding where the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. revised basic assessment report or, EMPr or closure plan, as contemplated in regulation 19(1)(b); ii. revised environmental impact assessment report or EMPr as contemplated in regulation 23(1)(b); or iii. environmental impact assessment report and EMPr as contemplated in regulation 21(2)(d), may be obtained, the manner in which and the person to whom representations on these reports or plans may be made and the date on which such representations are due. 	Note that this regulation does not apply at this stage because Regulation 19 (1) (b) does not apply. However, if for any reason revised Draft BA Reports need to be released in terms of Regulation (1) (b), this regulation will be complied with using the mechanisms stipulated above, as relevant.
<p>(6) When complying with this regulation, the person conducting the public participation process must ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application or proposed application is made available to potential interested and affected parties; and 	<p>The BA Processes will be founded on a basis of ethics and will ensure that all registered and potential I&APs will have access to all information that has or may have the potential to influence any decision or comment made, unless such access to information is protected by law.</p> <p>The EAP will ensure that information containing all relevant facts regarding the proposed projects is made</p>

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Regulation	Proposed Mechanism to Comply
<p>(b) participation by potential or registered interested and affected parties is facilitated in such a manner that all potential or registered interested and affected parties are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the application or proposed application.</p>	<p>available to I&APs. No information will be purposefully withheld.</p> <p>Participation by I&APs will be facilitated in a manner whereby all potential or registered I&APs are provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the Draft BA Reports.</p>
<p>(7) Where an environmental authorisation is required in terms of these Regulations and an authorisation, permit or licence is required in terms of a specific environmental management Act, the public participation process contemplated in this Chapter may be combined with any public participation processes prescribed in terms of a specific environmental management Act, on condition that all relevant authorities agree to such combination of processes.</p>	<p>Noted, this regulation does not apply at this stage.</p>
<p>Register of Interested and Affected Parties</p> <p>Regulation 42:</p> <p>(1) A proponent or applicant must ensure the opening and maintenance of a register of interested and affected parties and submit such a register to the competent authority, which register must contain the names, contact details and addresses of:</p> <p>(a) all persons who, as a consequence of the public participation process conducted in respect of that application, have submitted written comments or attended meetings with the proponent, applicant or EAP;</p> <p>(b) all persons who have requested the proponent or applicant, in writing, for their names to be placed on the register; and</p> <p>(c) all organs of state which have jurisdiction in respect of the activity to which the application relates.</p>	<p>Prior to the commencement of the BA Processes (and advertising the Environmental Authorisation Processes in the local print media), an initial database of I&APs (including key stakeholders and Organs of State) will be developed based on research and interaction with the DEFF and Project Applicant.</p> <p>A detailed copy of the I&AP database will be included in the Draft BA Reports that will be released for a 30-day comment period to all I&APs, and it will also be included in the Final BA Reports that will be submitted to the DEFF for decision-making. The database that will be included in the Final BA Reports will include the names, contact details and addresses of the I&APs, as well as an indication of the interaction with I&APs, as well as all I&APs that have been added to the project database based on requests, submission of comments or based on research. The database will include the details of the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landowners of the affected farm portions; • Landowners of the neighbouring adjacent farm portions; • The municipal councillor of the ward in which the proposed projects will be undertaken; • The municipality which has jurisdiction in the area (i.e. Witzenberg Local Municipality, Cape Winelands District Municipality); • Relevant Organs of State that have jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity; and • Any other party as required by the competent authority.

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Regulation	Proposed Mechanism to Comply
	While I&APs will be encouraged to register their interest in the project from the start of the process, following the public announcements, the identification and registration of I&APs is ongoing for the duration of the BA.
<p><u>Registered interested and affected parties entitled to comment on reports and plans</u></p> <p>Regulation 43:</p> <p>(1) A registered interested and affected party is entitled to comment, in writing, on all reports or plans submitted to such party during the public participation process contemplated in these Regulations and to bring to the attention of the proponent or applicant any issues which that party believes may be of significance to the consideration of the application, provided that the interested and affected party discloses any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which that party may have in the approval or refusal of the application.</p> <p>(2) In order to give effect to section 24D of the Act, any State department that administers a law relating to a matter affecting the environment must be requested, subject to regulation 7(2), to comment within 30 days.</p>	The Public Participation Process will fulfil the requirements of this regulation, using a combination of the mechanisms listed in this table, and below.
<p><u>Comments of interested and affected parties to be recorded in reports and plans</u></p> <p>Regulation 44:</p> <p>(1) The applicant must ensure that the comments of interested and affected parties are recorded in reports and plans and that such written comments, including responses to such comments and records of meetings, are attached to the reports and plans that are submitted to the competent authority in terms of these Regulations.</p> <p>(2) Where a person desires but is unable to access written comments as contemplated in subregulation (1) due to:</p> <p>(a) a lack of skills to read or write;</p> <p>(b) disability; or</p> <p>(c) any other disadvantage;</p> <p>reasonable alternative methods of recording comments must be provided for.</p>	<p>A key component of the BA Process is documenting and responding to the comments received from I&APs and the authorities during the 30-day comment period. Copies of all comments received during the review of the Draft BA Reports will be included as an appendix to the Final BA Reports. All comments received will be captured and responded to in a Comments and Response Report, which will be included as an appendix to the Final BA Reports, which will be submitted to the DEFF.</p> <p>If during the BA Processes, persons are identified as desiring but unable to access written comments due to illiteracy, disability or any other disadvantage, then the EAP can arrange a teleconference with the relevant persons. Holding a teleconference can allow the EAP to verbally explain the comments to the relevant person. The teleconference can be held via phone or suitable online mechanisms (such as MS Teams or Skype).</p>

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

4. Summary of the Public Participation Process

In light of the National Lockdown and the Directives dated 5 June 2020 (GN 650), the following is a summary of the mechanisms that will be used to ensure that I&APs have access to project information:

- Letter 1 (Commencement of the BA Process) will be emailed to all I&APs on the database, where email addresses are available. Letter 1 will include information on the project and the availability of the Draft BA Reports.
- Executive Summaries of the Draft BA Reports will be emailed to all I&APs.
- The Draft BA Reports will be uploaded to the project website for I&APs to access it.
- As a supplementary mechanism, the Draft BA Reports will also be uploaded to other alternative web-platforms such as Dropbox or Google Drive
- If an I&AP cannot access the report via the project website, via the alternative web-platforms such as Dropbox or Google Drive, and if additional information is required (other than what is provided in the Executive Summaries), then the I&AP can contact the EAP, who will then make an electronic copy available via courier or post (where possible).
- SMS texts will also be sent to all I&APs on the database, where cell phone numbers are available, to inform them of the proposed project and how to access the Draft BA Reports
- Where possible, communication will be made with the ward councillor to request that they send notifications of the project and report availability and executive summaries via their local networks (such as WhatsApp groups, Neighbourhood Watch groups, other social media mechanisms etc.)
- In order to notify and inform the public of the proposed project, to invite I&APs to register on the project database, as well as to inform I&APs of the release of the Draft BA Reports for comment, the BA Processes will be advertised in one local newspaper at the commencement of the 30-day comment period for the Draft BA Reports.
- Site notice boards will be placed at the entrance of the key affected farm portions on which the proposed projects will be constructed, as well as at well-known retail facilities in Ceres and Touws River, where possible.
- Letter 2 (Submission of Final BA Reports to DEFF) will be emailed to all I&APs on the database, where email addresses are available.
- The Final BA Reports will be uploaded to the project website for I&APs to access it.
- As a supplementary mechanism, the Final BA Reports will also be uploaded to other alternative web-platforms such as Dropbox or Google Drive
- Letter 3 (Release of Environmental Authorisation and Notification of Opportunity to Appeal) will be emailed to all I&APs on the database, where email addresses are available. A copy of the Environmental Authorisation will be emailed with Letter 3.
- SMS texts will also be sent to all I&APs on the database, where cell phone numbers are available, to inform them of the Environmental Authorisations (should they be granted).
- All reports, applications and required information will be submitted to the DEFF via the S-Filer Novell System (as communicated by the DEFF).

5. Way Forward

As noted above, the Public Participation Plan was presented to the DEFF during the pre-application meeting on 25 August 2020 (Reference Number: 2020-08-0013), and the DEFF noted that the proposed plan is suitable and that it must be formally submitted to the Assistant Director: Strategic Infrastructure Projects (SIPs) (i.e. Fiona Grimmett) for formal approval. Note that the Draft BA Reports will be released for a 30-day comment in November 2020. Hence, this is when the Public Participation will be undertaken. A copy of the proposed project schedule is provided in Appendix A of this PP Plan.

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

6. Appendix A – Project Schedule

Key Milestones	Proposed Timeframe
• Project Initiation and Pre-Application Consultation with the DEFF	August 2020
• Specialist Assessments	August 2020 – October 2020
• Submit Application Forms to DEFF	Early November 2020
• Release Draft BARs for 30 day commenting period	Early November 2020 – Early December 2020
• Submit Final BARs to DEFF for Decision-Making	Late January 2021
• DEFF Decision-Making on the Final BARs and issue of Decisions (i.e. grant or refuse EA): 57 days	Late March 2021 or April 2021
• EAP to Notify I&APs of Decisions (14 days)	April 2021

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

We will send out a meeting invite with the MS Teams link soon.

Thanks again and kind regards,
Rohaida

>>> Rohaida Abed 24 Aug 2020 13:11 >>>

Dear Bongeka

Thanks so much for your reply, it is appreciated.

We are just confirming the time and date with the Applicant, and will get back to you asap.

Please could you send me your cell number as a precaution?

Thanks and kind regards,
Rohaida

>>> Bongeka Myana <BMyana@environment.gov.za> 24 Aug 2020 12:36 >>>
Good day Rohaida,

Kindly note we are available for the meeting tomorrow 25 August 2020 from 10:00-12:00. You can send out an email invitation please note we are only available on Microsoft teams app for virtual meetings.

Regards
Bongeka

From: Rohaida Abed <RAbed@csir.co.za>
Sent: 21 August 2020 09:08 PM
To: Bongeka Myana
Cc: EIAAdmin; EIA Applications; Fiona Grimmett; Sindiswa Dloomo
Subject: Re: 2020-08-0013
Dear Bongeka

I trust that you are well. I am following up on the pre-application meeting request, reference number 2020-08-0013.

Please can you confirm if the meeting request has been decided on, and if the pre-application meeting will be scheduled, and the details thereof.

Thank you for your assistance with this.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida

>>> EIA Applications <EIAApplications@environment.gov.za> 18 Aug 2020 13:01 >>>

Dear Bongeka:

Please note that you have been allocated an application:

Type of Application: Pre-Application Meeting Request;

Reference Number: 2020-08-0013;

Date Received: 17/08/2020;

Action Required: Decide on meeting request.

Kindly let Ephron know which date the meeting is to be held, if it will be set.

*EAP/Applicant: please use this reference number when submitting the application for EA/amendment application (page 1 of the application form), as well as attach the approved PPPan if the application requires a PP process.

EIA Applications

Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries

Please note that this email is for the receipt and processing of online applications only, and is not monitored for responses. All queries must be directed to EIAAdmin@environment.gov.za.

You are advised that this mailbox has a 48 hour response time.

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb mail limit.

From: Rohaida Abed <RAbed@csir.co.za>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 14:16
To: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@environment.gov.za>
Cc: Dhiveshni Moodley <DMoodley1@csir.co.za>; Paul Lochner <PLochner@csir.co.za>
Subject: Request for a Pre-Application Meeting for 9th EA Processes, near Touws River, Western Cape

Good day

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Please find attached a request for a pre-application meeting, completed on the pre-application meeting request form obtained from the DEFF website.

The meeting is requested to discuss the Basic Assessments for the Proposed Development of nine 115 MW Solar Photovoltaic facilities and associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure (i.e. Witte Wal 1; Witte Wal 2; Witte Wal 3; Grootfontein 1; Grootfontein 2; Grootfontein 3; Hoek Doornen 1; Hoek Doornen 2; and Hoek Doornen 3), near Touws River, Western Cape.

Note that all nine projects will be discussed in one pre-application meeting in order to maximise on efficiency; however nine separate Application Forms for Environmental Authorisation will be submitted to the DEFF following the pre-application meeting.

Please also see attached the document control forms as requested. Please note that this request for the pre-application meeting is being submitted via email, as per the instructions provided. Hence some of the information in the checklist relating to uploading documents on the Novell file is not applicable.

Kindly confirm receipt of the attached and this email.

Thank you for your assistance with this.

Kind Regards,
Rehinda

CSIR - Environmental Management Services
P.O. Box 17001, Congella, Durban, 4033
Tel: 031 242 2310
Fax: 031 261 2509
Email: rabod@esir.co.za

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Appendix D.3: DEFF Approval of the Public Participation Plan

From: Fiona Grimmett <FGrimmett@environment.gov.za>
To: Rohaida Abed <RAbed@csir.co.za>
CC: Dhiveshini Moodley <DMoodley1@csir.co.za>, Paul Lochner <PLochner@csir.co.za>, Bongeka Myama <BMyama@environment.gov.za>, Sindiwe Dfomo <SDfomo@environment.gov.za>
Date: 01 Sep 2020 02:02
Subject: PP plan approval for the Ceres PV Developments
Attachments: PP Plan_Veroniva_Ceres_PV_RNA_010200 (1).pdf; Process for Submitting Files to the CD EA_062020.pdf

Dear Rohaida,

The attached participation plan for the Ceres PV Developments refers.

The Department has reviewed the attached Public Participation (PP) Plan, submitted in terms of the Directions Regarding Measures to Address, Prevent and Combat the Spread of COVID-19 Relating to National Environmental Management Permits and Licences. The proposed plan contains suitable public consultation measures, and is hereby **approved**. You may proceed with the implementation of the PP plan.

Further note that the attached directions apply with regards to the process for submitting draft documents to the Competent Authority for comment.

Regards,

Fiona Grimmett
Department of Environmental Affairs
Chief Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Directorate: National Infrastructure Development, National Infrastructure Projects
Email: fgrimmett@environment.gov.za

From: Rohaida Abed <RAbed@csir.co.za>
Sent: 01 September 2020 18:41
To: Fiona Grimmett
Cc: Dhiveshini Moodley; Paul Lochner; Bongeka Myama; Sindiwe Dfomo
Subject: Re: 2020-08-0013 - Pre-Application Meeting - Ceres PV Developments

Dear Fiona

Thanks again for your guidance and assistance with the proposed Ceres PV Developments.

As discussed at the pre-application meeting on 25 August 2020, please see attached the Public Participation Plan for your review. The plan was discussed at the pre-application meeting, and we have included the potential requirement of online workshops via MS Teams with those IRAPs that may require it, as recommended by the DEFF during the pre-application meeting.

We look forward to your feedback.

As per the earlier email sent, we will send the meeting notes once the last few post-meeting email communications around the combination of applications is concluded.

Thanks and kind regards,
Rohaida
>>> Rohaida Abed 25 Aug 2020 09:40 >>>
Dear Al

Please find attached a copy of the presentation for the meeting today at 10:00.

Thanks and kind regards,
Rohaida
>>> Rohaida Abed 24 Aug 2020 19:35 >>>
Dear Al

As per the correspondence below, the pre-application meeting to discuss the Basic Assessments for the Proposed Development of nine Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure (i.e. Witte Wel 1; Witte Wel 2; Witte Wel 3; Grootfontein 1; Grootfontein 2; Grootfontein 3; Hoek Doornen 1; Hoek Doornen 2, and Hoek Doornen 3), near Touws River, Western Cape, will take place as follows:

Date: 25 August 2020
Time: 10:00 - 12:00
Platform: MS Teams

The link to MS Teams appointment has been sent via MS Teams, however if you did not receive it, please see the link below:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/join/17%3a3eb76abc31436a8016771ebda74e9407e40f6e6d4ee021595285218362/>

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

context-%7b%22d%3e2%3a%22%3d%5d%5-d%3e2-4ed1-8603-80675928d%22%2c%220d%22%3a%22526c159c-2d%3e-865a-867e%3d%3e%3a%22%257d

We appreciate the Department's availability and quick response time.

We will send a copy of the presentation tomorrow prior to the meeting, so that you can view it on your side should the share screen option not function well.

Thanks and kind regards,
Rohaida

Cell: 072 204 6224

>>> Bongeka Myana <BMyana@environment.gov.za> 24 Aug 2020 14:34 >>>
Noted thank you.

Regards
Bongi
072 771 0107

From: Rohaida Abed <RAbed@psir.co.za>
Sent: 24 August 2020 02:33 PM
To: Bongeka Myana
Cc: Dhiveshni Moodley; Paul Lochner; Fiona Grimmett; Sindiswa Dlomo; Claude Veroniva
Subject: Re: 2020-08-0013 - Pre-Application Meeting

Dear Bongeka

Thanks so much for your cell number.

We confirm that we will meet via MS Teams tomorrow, Tuesday 25 August 2020 from 10:00 to 12:00.

We will send out a meeting invite with the MS Teams link soon.

Thanks again and kind regards,
Rohaida

>>> Rohaida Abed 24 Aug 2020 13:11 >>>

Dear Bongeka

Thanks so much for your reply, it is appreciated.

We are just confirming the time and date with the Applicant, and will get back to you asap.

Please could you send me your cell number as a precaution?

Thanks and kind regards,
Rohaida

>>> Bongeka Myana <BMyana@environment.gov.za> 24 Aug 2020 12:36 >>>
Good day Rohaida,

Kindly note we are available for the meeting tomorrow 25 August 2020 from 10:00-12:00. You can send out an email invitation please note we are only available on Microsoft teams app for virtual meetings.

Regards
Bongeka

From: Rohaida Abed <RAbed@psir.co.za>
Sent: 21 August 2020 03:08 PM
To: Bongeka Myana
Cc: BIAAdmin; EIA Applications; Fiona Grimmett; Sindiswa Dlomo
Subject: Re: 2020-08-0013
Dear Bongeka

I trust that you are well. I am following up on the pre-application meeting request, reference number 2020-08-0013.

Please can you confirm if the meeting request has been decided on, and if the pre-application meeting will be scheduled, and the details thereof.

Thank you for your assistance with this.

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Kind Regards,
Rohaida

>>> EIA Applications <EIAApplications@environment.gov.za> 18 Aug 2020 13:01 >>>

Dear Bongeka

Please note that you have been allocated an application:

Type of Application: Pre-Application Meeting Request;

Reference Number: 2020-08-0011;

Date Received: 17/08/2020;

Action Required: Decide on meeting request.

Kindly let Ephron know which date the meeting is to be held, if it will be set.

*EAP/Applicant: please use this reference number when submitting the application for EA/amendment application (page 1 of the application form), as well as attach the approved PP Plan if the application requires a PP process.

EIA Applications

Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries

Please note that this email is for the receipt and processing of online applications only, and is not monitored for responses. All queries must be directed to EAAdmin@environment.gov.za.

You are advised that this mailbox has a 48 hour response time.

Please note that this mailbox has a 5mb max/limit.

From: Rohaida Abed <RAbed@csir.co.za>

Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 14:16

To: EIA Applications <EIAApplications@environment.gov.za>

Cc: Dhivyaishi Moodley <DMoodley1@csir.co.za>; Paal Lochner <P.Lochner@csir.co.za>

Subject: Request for a Pre-Application Meeting for 9th EA Processes, near Touws River, Western Cape.

Good day

Please find attached a request for a pre-application meeting, completed on the pre-application meeting request form obtained from the DEFF website.

The meeting is requested to discuss the Basic Assessments for the Proposed Development of nine 115 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure (i.e. White Wall 1, White Wall 2, White Wall 3, Grootfontein 1, Grootfontein 2, Grootfontein 3, Hoek Doornen 1, Hoek Doornen 2, and Hoek Doornen 3), near Touws River, Western Cape.

Note that all nine projects will be discussed in one pre-application meeting in order to maximise on efficiency, however nine separate Application Forms for Environmental Authorisation will be submitted to the DEFF following the pre-application meeting.

Please also see attached the document control form as requested. Please note that this request for the pre-application meeting is being submitted via email, as per the instructions provided. Hence some of the information in the checklist relating to uploading documents on the Novel Fil is not applicable.

Kindly confirm receipt of the attached and this email.

Thank you for your assistance with this.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida

CSIR - Environmental Management Services

P. O. Box 17001, Congella, Durban, 4013

Tel: 031 242 2518

Fax: 031 251 2509

Email: rabed@csir.co.za

'Please consider the environment before you print this email'

'Please consider the environment before you print this email'

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Appendix D.4: Copies and Proof of Placement of Site Notice Boards

Copy of Site Notice Boards – English and Afrikaans

NOTICE OF INTEGRATED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS FOR THE BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESSES FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF NINE 175 MW (9 x 175 MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE (I.E. WITTE WALL PV 1, WITTE WALL PV 2, GROOTFONTEIN PV 1, GROOTFONTEIN PV 2, GROOTFONTEIN PV 3, HOEK DOORNEN PV 1, HOEK DOORNEN PV 2, HOEK DOORNEN PV 3 AND HOEK DOORNEN PV 4), NEAR TOUWS RIVER, IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Project Applicants are proposing to develop nine 175 MW (9 x 175 MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) power generation facilities and associated infrastructure, north-east of Ceres and north of Touws River, in the Western Cape Province. The associated infrastructure includes various structures, buildings and electrical grid infrastructure (EGI) such as, but not limited to, nine 132 kV power lines, nine on-site substations, and nine Lithium Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). The proposed nine Solar PV facilities will connect to the national grid at the existing Eskom Kappa Substation (see Figure 1). The proposed projects are located within the Witzenberg Local Municipality, which falls within the Cape Winelands District Municipality. The Project Names, Project Applicants, and respective farm portions affected by the proposed PV facilities, EGI and associated infrastructure are shown below:

Project Name	Project Applicant	Affected Farm Portions (PV Facility and Associated Infrastructure)	Affected Farm Portions (Power Lines)
Witte Wall PV 1	Witte Wall PV 1 (PTY) LTD	+ Witte Wall RE/171	• Witte Wall RE/171
Witte Wall PV 2	Witte Wall PV 2 (PTY) LTD		• Die Brak RE/241
Grootfontein PV 1	Grootfontein PV 1 (PTY) LTD	+ Grootfontein RE/149 + Grootfontein 5/140	• Grootfontein RE/140
Grootfontein PV 2	Grootfontein PV 2 (PTY) LTD		• Grootfontein 5/140
Grootfontein PV 3	Grootfontein PV 3 (PTY) LTD		• Hoek Doornen 1/172
Hoek Doornen PV 1	Hoek Doornen PV 1 (PTY) LTD	• Hoek Doornen 1/172	• Witte Wall RE/171
Hoek Doornen PV 2	Hoek Doornen PV 2 (PTY) LTD		• Die Brak RE/241
Hoek Doornen PV 3	Hoek Doornen PV 3 (PTY) LTD		• Platform RE/240
Hoek Doornen PV 4	Hoek Doornen PV 4 (PTY) LTD		• Hoek Doornen 1/172

The proposed projects are located entirely within the Knersbong Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDE 2), one of the eight REDZs formally gazetted in South Africa for the purpose of developing solar and wind energy generation facilities (Government Notice 114; 16 February 2018). In line with the gazetted process for projects located within a REDZ, the proposed projects will be subject to a Basic Assessment (BA) process instead of a full Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and a reduced decision making period of 87 days. In terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended) (NEMA) and the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). Approval has been granted by the Competent Authority, the National Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), to submit combined Applications for Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of Regulation 11 (4) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), and the issuing of multiple EAs (should they be granted) in terms of Regulation 25 (1) and (2) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). Therefore, four separate BA Reports will be compiled, as indicated below, and it is proposed that nine separate EAs will be issued for each PV Facility and associated infrastructure, as well as nine separate EAs for the power lines and associated EGI that are required to support the nine PV Facilities (should they be granted):

Report 1: Witte Wall Farm	Report 2: Grootfontein Farm	Report 3: Hoek Doornen Farm	Report 4: EGI
• Group 1: Witte Wall Farm: 1 BA Report that covers the 2 PV Facilities (i.e. Witte Wall PV 1 and PV 2), 2 on-site substations, 2 Lithium Ion BESS's and all associated infrastructure.	• Group 2: Grootfontein Farm: 1 BA Report that covers the 3 PV Facilities (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, PV 2 and PV 3), 3 on-site substations, 3 Lithium Ion BESS's and all associated infrastructure.	• Group 3: Hoek Doornen Farm: 1 BA Report that covers the 4 PV Facilities (i.e. Hoek Doornen PV 1, PV 2, PV 3 and PV 4), 4 on-site substations, 4 Lithium Ion BESS's and all associated infrastructure.	• Group 4: EGI to support the PV Facilities: 1 BA Report that covers all the power lines and associated EGI that are required to support the 9 PV Facilities (i.e. 9 Power Lines).

Combined Applications for EA will be submitted to the DEFF. The proposed projects may potentially trigger the following listed activities: GN R327 Listing Notice (LN) 1: 11 (i), 12 (k)(a)(c), 18, 28 (ii); and 47; GN R325 LN 2: 1 & 15; and GN R324 LN 3: Activity 4 (i) (ii) (iii); Activity 12 (i) (ii); and Activity 14 (ii) (a) and (c); (i), (j) and (ff). The listed activities will be confirmed during the BA Processes. Comment will also be sought from the Heritage Western Cape in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999). The BA Process will also confirm if a Water Use Licence (WUL) is required in accordance with the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998, as amended). An Integrated Public Participation Process will therefore be undertaken for the proposed projects that include nine PV facilities, nine power lines and associated infrastructure covered in the four BA Reports and all applications necessary in respect of other applicable legislation.

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake and manage the BA processes for the proposed projects on behalf of the Project Applicants. Should you be interested in registering as an interested and/or Affected Party (I&AP) and to provide comments on these proposed projects, you are kindly requested to e-mail your name, contact details, with an indication of any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which you may have in the application, to the EAP at the CSIR: Rohaida Abedi; E-mail www@csir.co.za; Postal address: P.O. Box 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075; Tel: 031 242 2900; or Fax: 031 281 8172.

View the project website for more updates and information: <https://www.csir.co.za/environmental-impact-assessment>

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

KENNISGEWING VAN GEINTEGREERDE OPENBARE PUBLIEKE DEELNAME PROSES VIR DIE BASIESE EVALUERINGS PROSESSE VIR DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN NEGE 175 MW (9 * 175 MW) SON FOTOVOLTAÏESE (PV) FASILITEITE EN MEEGAANDE ELEKTRIESE INFRASTRUKTUUR (NL. WITTE WALL PV 1, WITTE WALL PV 2, GROOTFONTEIN PV 1, GROOTFONTEIN PV 2, GROOTFONTEIN PV 3, HOEK DOORNEN PV 1, HOEK DOORNEN PV 2, HOEK DOORNEN PV 3 EN HOEK DOORNEN PV 4), GELEË NABY TOUWSRIVIER IN DIE WES-KAAP PROVINSIE

Die Projek Aansoekers is van voorneme om nege 175 MW (9 * 175 MW) Son Fotovoltaïese (PV) Energie Opwekkings Fasiliteite en meegaande infrastruktuur op te rig, noord-oos van Ceres en noord van Touwsrivier, in die Wes-Kaap Provinsie. Die meegaande infrastruktuur sluit in verskeie strukture, geboue en elektriese netwerk infrastruktuur ("EGI"), insluitende, maar nie beperk tot, nege 132 kV kraglyne, nege substasies op die projek terrein en nege Litium loon Battery Energie Bergingsisteme. Die voorgestelde nege PV Fasiliteite sal aansluit by die nasionale elektriese netwerk by die bestaande Eskom Kappa Substasie (sien Figuur 1). Die voorgestelde projekte is geleë in die Witzenberg Plaaslike Munisipaliteit wat val binne die Kaapse Wynlande Distriksmunisipaliteit. Die name van die projekte, projek aansoekers en afsonderlike plaas gedeeltes wat geaffekteer word deur die voorgestelde PV Fasiliteite, EGI en meegaande infrastruktuur word hieronder aangedui:

Naam van projek	Aansoeker	Geaffekteerde plaas gedeeltes (PV Fasiliteit en meegaande infrastruktuur)	Geaffekteerde plaas gedeeltes (Kraglyne)
Witte Wall PV 1	Witte Wall PV 1 Edms. Bpk.	• Witte Wall RES/171	• Witte Wall RES/171 • Die Brak RES/241 • Platfontein RES/240
Witte Wall PV 2	Witte Wall PV 2 Edms. Bpk.		
Grootfontein PV 1	Grootfontein PV 1 Edms. Bpk.	• Grootfontein RES/149 • Grootfontein 5/149	• Grootfontein RES/149 • Grootfontein 5/149 • Hoek Doornen 1/172 • Witte Wall RES/171 • Die Brak RES/241 • Platfontein RES/240
Grootfontein PV 2	Grootfontein PV 2 Edms. Bpk.		
Grootfontein PV 3	Grootfontein PV 3 Edms. Bpk.		
Hoek Doornen PV 1	Hoek Doornen PV 1 Edms. Bpk.	• Hoek Doornen 1/172	• Hoek Doornen 1/172 • Witte Wall RES/171 • Die Brak RES/241 • Platfontein RES/240
Hoek Doornen PV 2	Hoek Doornen PV 2 Edms. Bpk.		
Hoek Doornen PV 3	Hoek Doornen PV 3 Edms. Bpk.		
Hoek Doornen PV 4	Hoek Doornen PV 4 Edms. Bpk.		

Die voorgestelde projekte is ten volle geleë in die Komsberg Hernubare Energie Ontwikkelings Sone (REDZ 2), een van agt REDZs wat amptelik in Suid-Afrika gepromulgeer is met die doel om son- en wind energie opwekkingsaanlegte te ontwikkel (Staatskennisgewing 114; 18 Februarie 2018). In ooreenstemming met die gepromulgeerde proses vir projekte wat in REDZs geleë is, is die voorgestelde projekte onderhewig aan 'n **Basiese Evaluerings (BA) proses**, in plaas van 'n volle Bestekopname en Omgewingsimpak studie ("Scoping and EIA") proses, en 'n verkorte besluitnemingsperiode van 57 dae, ingevolge die Nasionale Omgewingsbestuurswet, 1998 (Wet 107 van 1998, soos gewysig) (NEMA) en die 2014 Omgewingsimpakstudie Regulasies (soos gewysig). Die nasionale Departement van Omgewing, Bosbou en Visserye ("DEFF") het toestemming verleen dat geïntegreerde aansoek ingedien kan word vir Omgewingsgoedkeuring ingevolge Regulasie 11 (4) van die 2014 Omgewingsimpakstudie Regulasies (soos gewysig). Toestemming is ook verleen om meertalige Omgewingsgoedkeurings uit te reik (indien goedgekeur) in gevolg Regulasie 25 (1) en (2) van die 2014 Omgewingsimpakstudie Regulasies (soos gewysig). Daarom sal vier afsonderlike BA verslae voltooi en ingedien word, soos hieronder aangedui. Daar word ook voorgestel dat nege afsonderlike Omgewingsgoedkeurings uitgereik sal word, een vir elke PV Fasiliteit en meegaande infrastruktuur, sowel as nege afsonderlike Omgewingsgoedkeurings vir die kraglyne en meegaande EGI wat vereis word om die nege PV Fasiliteite te ondersteun (indien dit goedgekeur sou word).

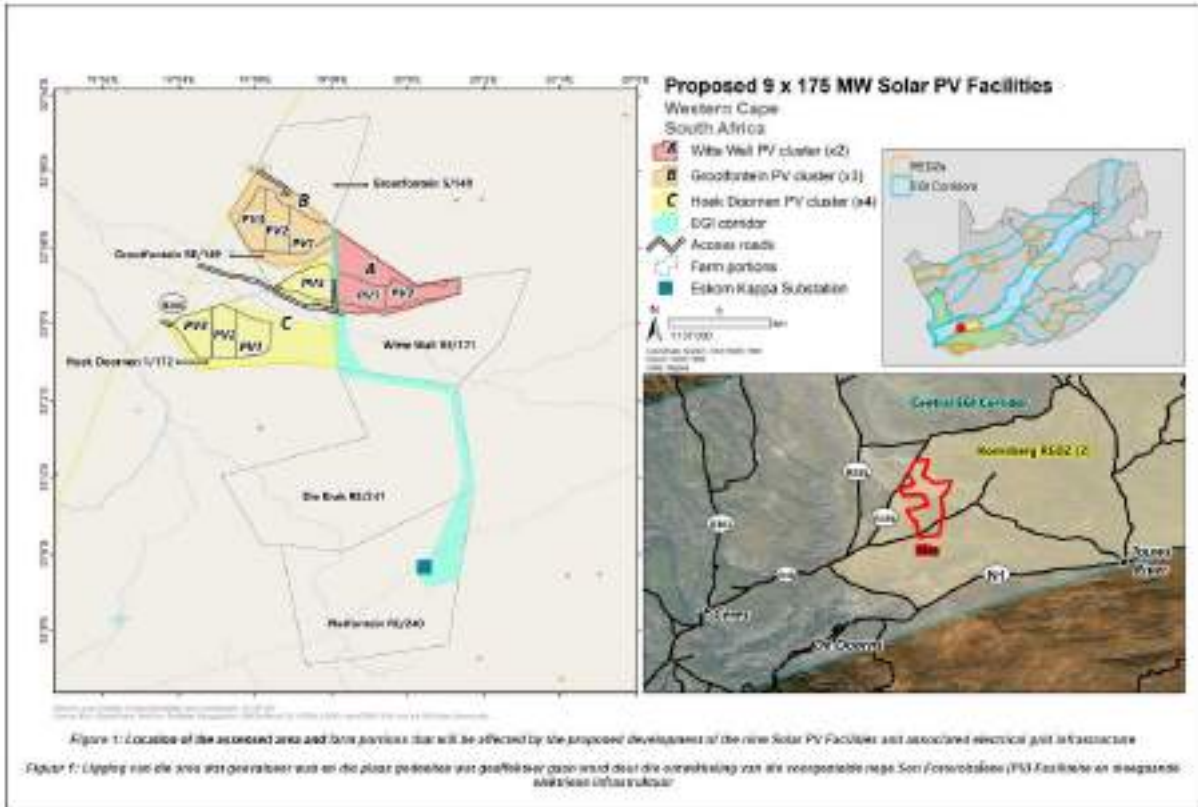
	Verslag 1 – Witte Wall Plaas	Verslag 2: Grootfontein Plaas	Verslag 3: Hoek Doornen Plaas	Verslag 4: EGI
BA Verslae	• Groep 1 – Witte Wall Plaas: 1 BA Verslag wat die volgende sal dek: 2 PV Fasiliteite (d.w.s. Witte Wall PV 1 en PV 2), 2 substasies op die terrein, 2 Litium loon Battery Energie Bergingsisteme en alle meegaande infrastruktuur.	• Groep 2: Grootfontein Plaas: 1 BA Verslag wat die volgende sal dek: 3 PV Fasiliteite (d.w.s. Grootfontein PV 1, PV 2 en PV 3), 3 substasies op die terrein, 3 Litium loon Battery Energie Bergingsisteme en alle meegaande infrastruktuur.	• Groep 3: Hoek Doornen Plaas: 1 BA Verslag wat die volgende sal dek: 4 PV Fasiliteite (d.w.s. Hoek Doornen PV 1, PV 2, PV 3 en PV 4), 4 substasies, 4 Litium loon Battery Energie Bergingsisteme en alle meegaande infrastruktuur.	• Groep 4: EGI om die PV Fasiliteite te ondersteun: 1 BA Verslag wat die kraglyne en die meegaande EGI sal dek wat benodig word om die 9 PV Fasiliteite te ondersteun (d.w.s. 9 kraglyne).

Gekombineerde aansoek sal ingedien word by die DEFF. Die volgende gelyste aktiwiteite mag dalk van toepassing wees op die voorgestelde projekte: GN R327 Listing Notice (LN) 1: 11 (i), 12 (ii)(a)(c), 19, 28 (ii), en 47; GN R325 LN 2: 1 & 15; en GN R324 LN 3: Aktiwiteit 4 (i) (ii) (aa); Aktiwiteit 12 (i) (ii); en Aktiwiteit 14 (ii) (a) en (c); (i), (i) en (ff). Die gelyste aktiwiteite sal bevestig word gedurende die BA proses. Kommentaar sal ook verkry word vanaf Erfenis Wes-Kaap ("Heritage Western Cape") ingevolge die Wet op Nasionale Erfenis Bronne (Wet 25 van 1999). Die BA proses sal ook bevestig indien 'n Waterverbruikslisensie vereis word ingevolge die Nasionale Water Wet (Wet 36 van 1998), soos gewysig. 'n Geïntegreerde Publieke Deelname Proses sal daarom onderneem word vir die voorgestelde projekte, insluitend nege PV Fasiliteite, nege kraglyne en meegaande infrastruktuur, wat gedek sal word in vier afsonderlike BA verslae en alle aansoekers soos vereis ingevolge ander relevante wetgewing.

Die Wetenskaplike Nywerheids- en Navorsingsraad (WNNR) is aangestel as die onafhanklike Omgewingskonsultant ("EAP") om die BA proses vir die voorgestelde projekte te behartig en te bestuur namens die aansoekers. Sou u belangstel om te registreer as 'n Geïnteresseerde en/of Belanghebbende Party (G&BP), en om kommentaar te lewer op die voorgestelde projekte, word u vriendelik versoek om u naam en kontakbesonderhede te epos asook 'n aanduiding van enige direkte, besigheids, finansiële, persoonlike of ander redes vir u moontlike belangstelling in die aansoek, aan die EAP by die WNNR: Rohaida Abed; E-pos: ems@csir.co.za; Posadres: Posbus 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075; Tel: 031 242 2300; of Faks: 031 261 8172. Vir verdere inligting en verwickelinge op die projekte besoek gerus die projek webwerf: <https://www.csir.co.za/environmental-impact-assessment>

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape



APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Site Notice board placed at the entrance gate to Witte Wall farm on R356
(Co-ordinates: S32°58'26.6" and E19°54'28.6")



APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Site Notice board placed at the entrance gate to Grootfontein farm on R356
(Co-ordinates S32°55'58.6" and E19°56'02.8")



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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Site Notice board placed at the entrance gate to the Eskom Kappa Substation (Co-ordinates S33°06'19.9" and E20°00'15.7")



APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

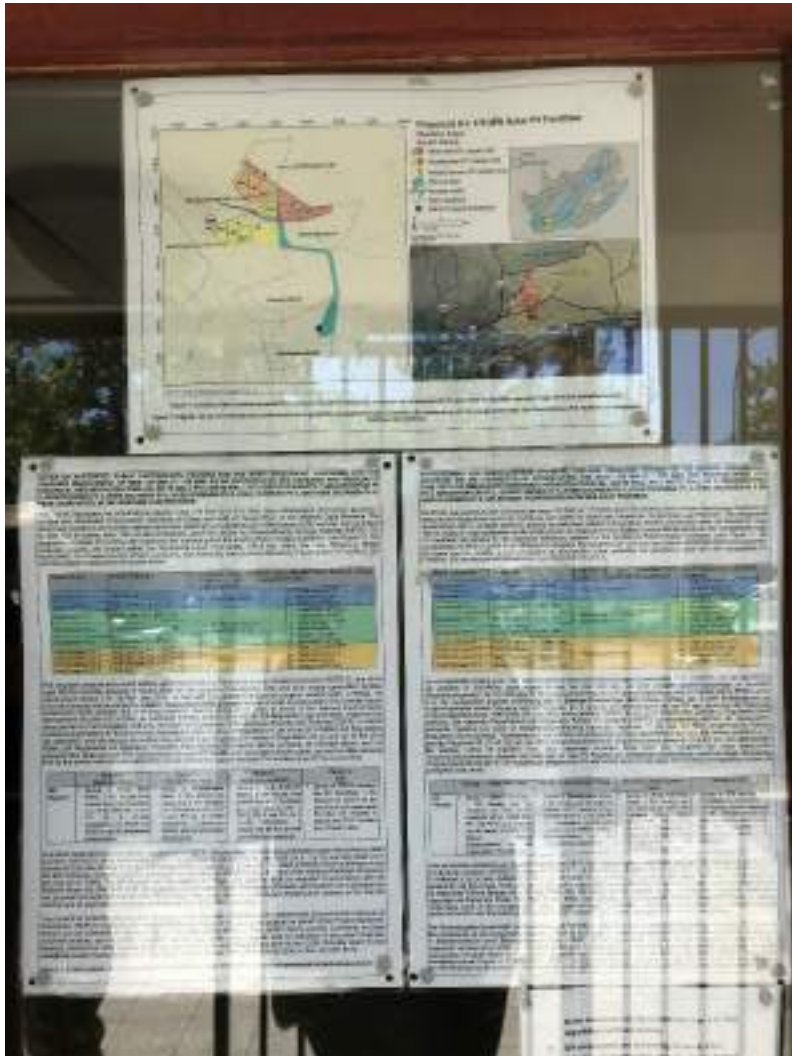
Site Notice board placed at the Super Spar in Ceres
(Co-ordinates: S33°22'20.08" and E19°18'21.05")



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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

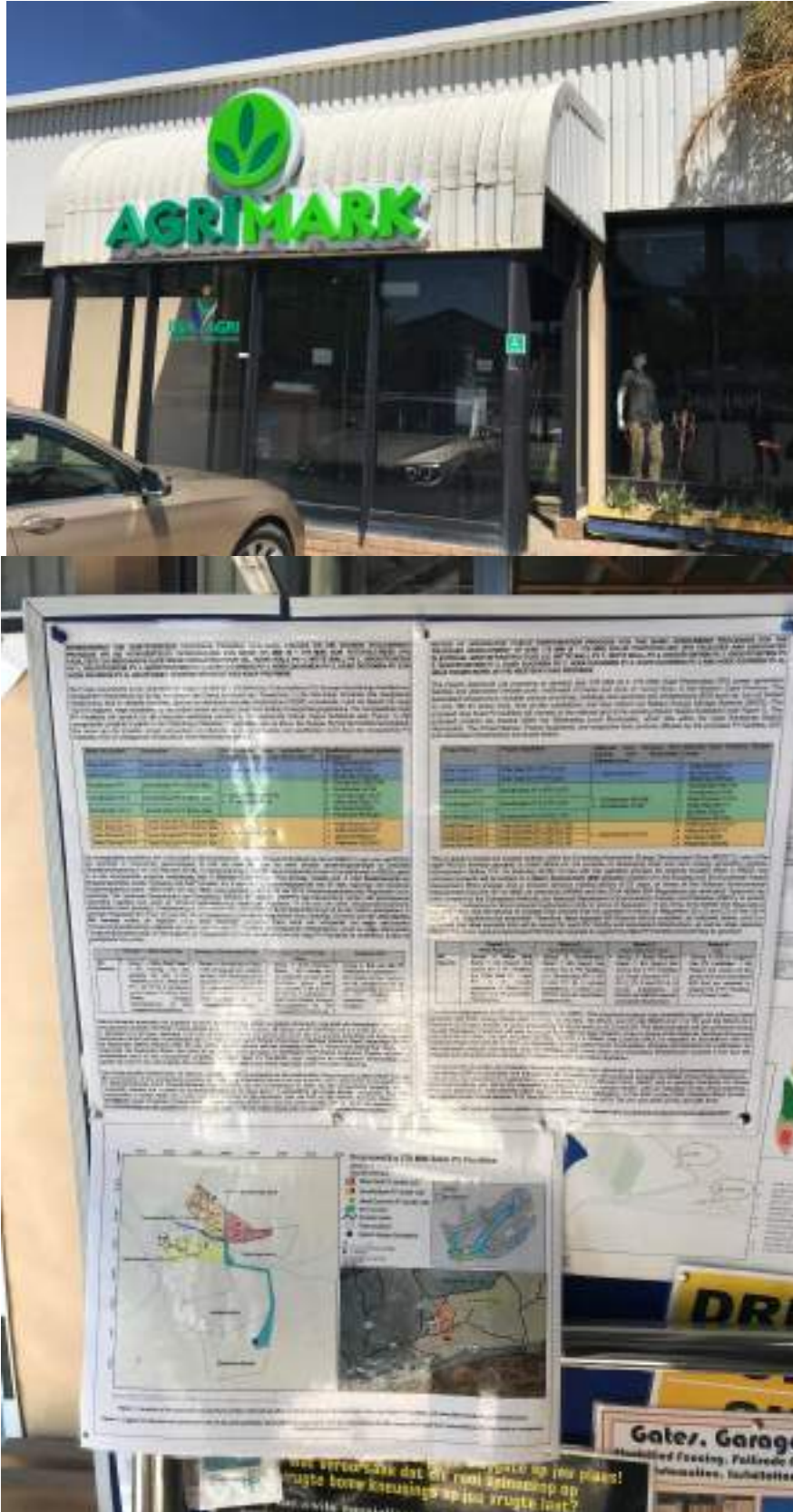
Site Notice board placed at the Witzenberg Local Municipality in Ceres **(Co-ordinates: S33°22'15.91" and E19°18'26.86")**



APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

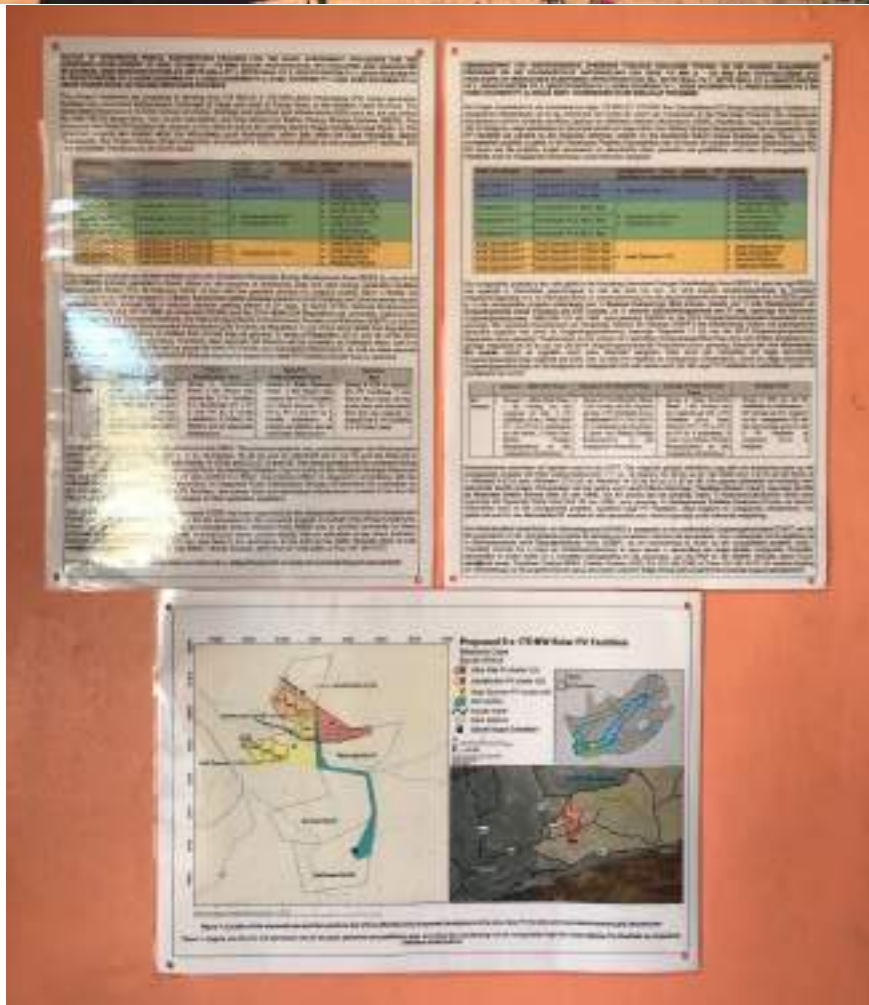
Site Notice board placed at the AgriMark Cooperation in Ceres (Co-ordinates: S33°21'36.06" and E19°18'49.74")



APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Site Notice board placed at the Medical Clinic in Touws River **(Co-ordinates: S33°20'26.39" and E20°01'43.51")**



APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

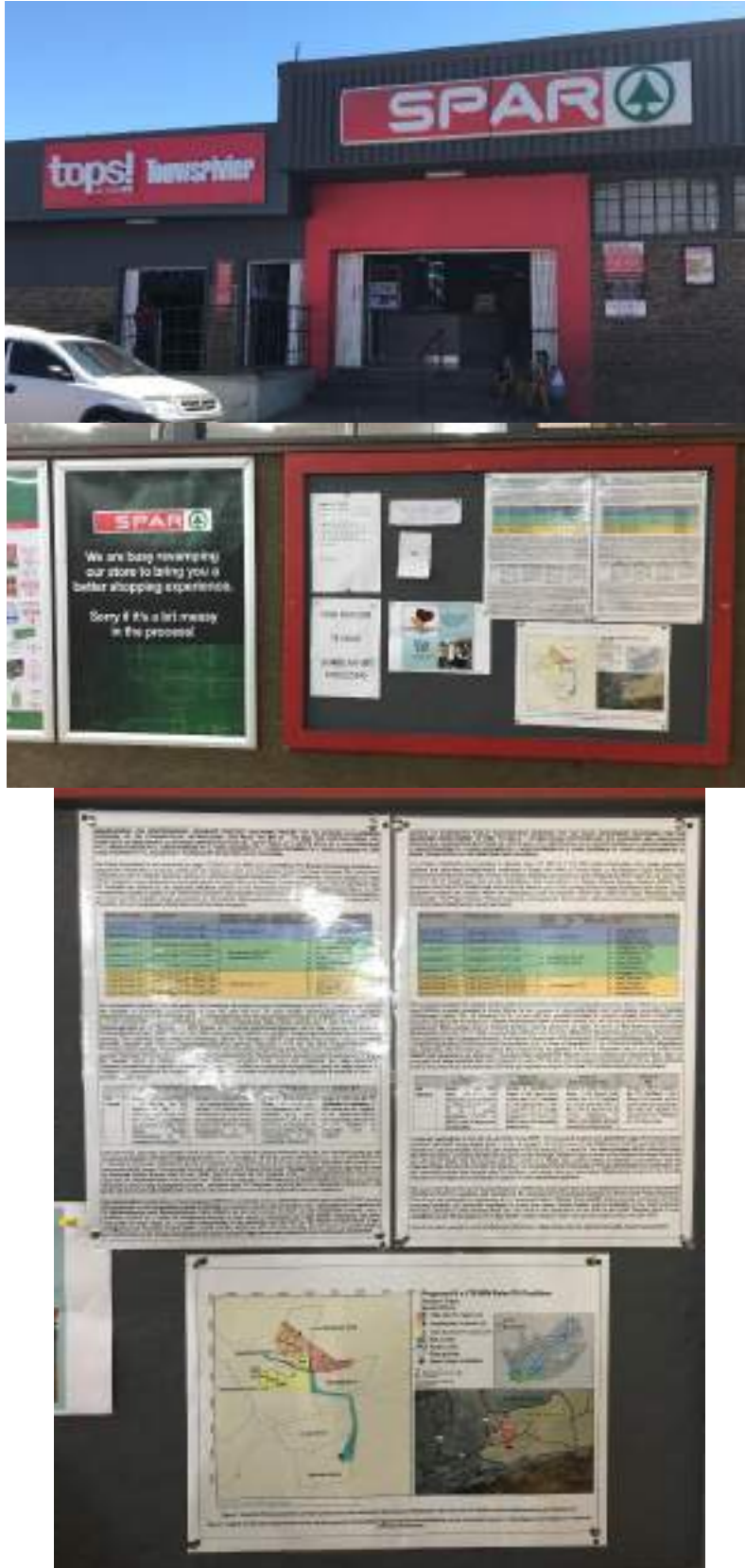
Site Notice board placed at the Breede Valley Local Municipality in Touws River
(Co-ordinates: S33°20'25.69" and E20°01'51.83")



APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

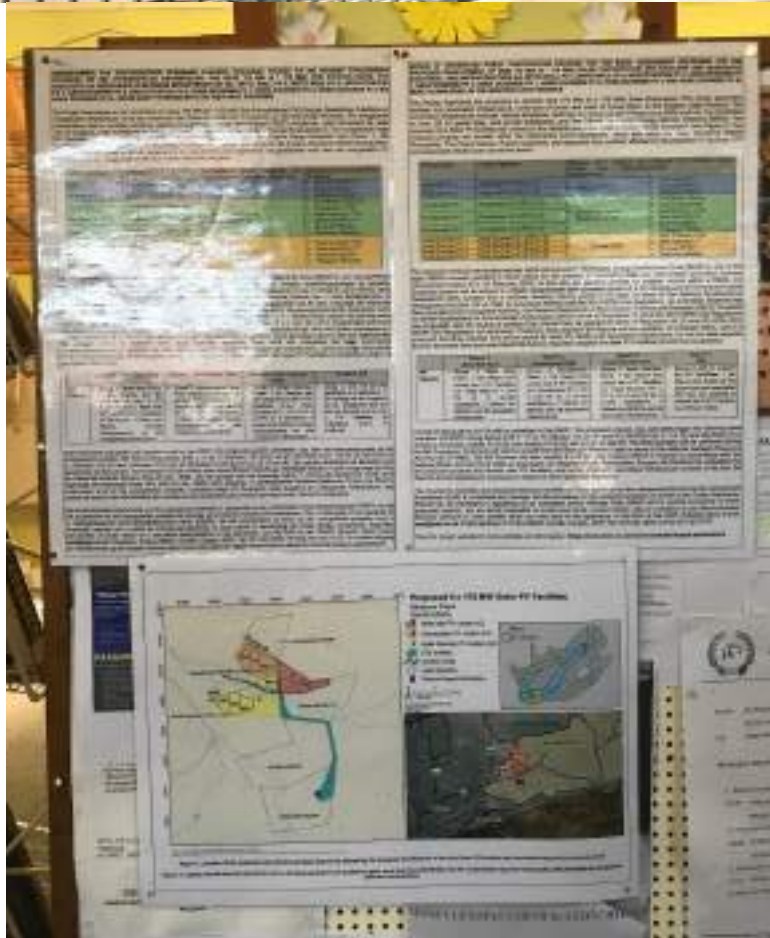
Site Notice board placed at the Super Spar in Touws River (Co-ordinates: S33°20'24.69" and E20°01'52.77")



APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Site Notice board placed at the Public Library in Touws River
(Co-ordinates: S33°20'24.62" and E20°01'53.89")



APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Appendix D.5: Copies the content and Proof of Placement of the Newspaper Advertisements

ENGLISH NEWSPAPER ADVERT

NOTICE OF BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESSES FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF NINE 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER, IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Notice is hereby given that the Project Developer, Veroniva (Pty) Ltd, is proposing to develop nine 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) power generation facilities and associated infrastructure, north-east of Ceres and north of Touws River, in the Western Cape Province. The associated infrastructure includes various structures, buildings and electrical grid infrastructure (EGI) such as, but not limited to, nine 132 kV power lines, and nine on-site substations. The proposed nine Solar PV facilities will connect to the national grid at the existing Eskom Kappa Substation. The proposed projects are located within the Witzenberg Local Municipality, which falls within the Cape Winelands District Municipality. The proposed projects are referred to as Witte Wall PV 1, Witte Wall PV 2, Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, Grootfontein PV 3, Hoek Doornen PV 1, Hoek Doornen PV 2, Hoek Doornen PV 3 and Hoek Doornen PV 4. The Project Applicants include Witte Wall PV 1 (Pty) Ltd; Witte Wall PV 2 (Pty) Ltd; Grootfontein PV 1 (Pty) Ltd; Grootfontein PV 2 (Pty) Ltd; Grootfontein PV 3 (Pty) Ltd; Hoek Doornen PV 1 (Pty) Ltd; Hoek Doornen PV 2 (Pty) Ltd; Hoek Doornen PV 3 (Pty) Ltd; and Hoek Doornen PV 4 (Pty) Ltd. The proposed PV facilities and associated infrastructure will be constructed on the following farm portions: Grootfontein RE/149; Grootfontein 5/149; Witte Wall RE/171; and Hoek Doornen 1/172. The power lines will traverse these aforementioned farm portions, as well as the Die Brak 241 and Platfontein 240.

The proposed projects are located entirely within the Komsberg Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ 2) (as gazetted in Government Notice 114; 16 February 2018). Therefore, the proposed projects will be subject to a **Basic Assessment (BA) process** and a reduced decision making period of 57 days, in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended) (NEMA) and the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). Notice of the BA Processes is thus given in terms of Regulation 41 (2) (c) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended).

Approval has been granted by the Competent Authority, the National Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), to submit combined Applications for Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of Regulation 11 (4) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), and the issuing of multiple EAs (should they be granted) in terms of Regulation 25 (1) and (2) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended).

Combined Applications for EA will be submitted to the DEFF with the Draft BA Reports. The proposed projects trigger various listed activities in the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended); with GN R325 LN 2: 1 serving as the main activity. Comment will also be sought from the Heritage Western Cape in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999). The BA Process will also confirm if a Water Use Licence (WUL) is required in accordance with the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998, as amended). An integrated Public Participation Process will be undertaken for the proposed projects.

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake and manage the BA processes for the proposed projects on behalf of the Project Applicants. Interested and/or Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby notified of the release of the Draft BA Reports for the proposed projects for a 30-day review period, which will extend from **3 December 2020 to 25 January 2021**. This comment period excludes the DEFF shutdown period. The Draft BA Reports can be downloaded from the following website: <https://www.csir.co.za/environmental-impact-assessment>

Should you be interested in registering as an I&AP and to provide comments on the Draft BA Reports, you are kindly requested to e-mail your name, contact details, with an indication of any direct business, financial, personal or other interest which you may have in the application, as well as the comments, to the EAP at the CSIR: Rohaida Abed; E-mail: ems@csir.co.za; Postal Address: P.O. Box 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075; Tel: 031 242 2300; or Fax: 031 261 8172.

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

AFRIKAANS NEWSPAPER ADVERT

KENNISGEWING VAN BASIESE EVALUERINGS PROSESSE VIR DIE VOORGESTELDE ONTWIKKELING VAN NEGE 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) SON FOTOVOLTAÏESE (PV) FASILITEITE EN MEEGAANDE ELEKTRIESE INFRASTRUKTUUR GELEË NABY TOUWSRIVIER IN DIE WES-KAAP PROVINSIE

Kennis word hiermee gegee dat die Projek Aansoeker, Veroniva Edms Bpk, van voorneme is om nege 175 MW (9 x 175 MW) Son Fotovoltaïese (PV) Energie Opwekkings Fasiliteite en meegaande infrastruktuur op te rig, noord-oos van Ceres en noord van Touwsrivier, in die Wes-Kaap Provinsie. Die meegaande infrastruktuur sluit in verskeie strukture, geboue en elektriese netwerk infrastruktuur ("EGI"), insluitende, maar nie beperk tot, nege 132 kV kraglyne en nege substasies op die projek terrein. Die voorgestelde nege PV Fasiliteite sal aansluit by die nasionale elektriese netwerk by die bestaande Eskom Kappa Substasie. Die voorgestelde projekte is geleë in die Witzenberg Plaaslike Munisipaliteit wat val binne die Kaapse Wynlande Distriksmunisipaliteit. Die voorgestelde projekte staan bekend as the Witte Wall PV 1, Witte Wall PV 2, Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, Grootfontein PV 3, Hoek Doornen PV 1, Hoek Doornen PV 2, Hoek Doornen PV 3 en Hoek Doornen PV 4. Die Projek Aansoekers sluit in Witte Wall PV 1 Edms Bpk; Witte Wall PV 2 Edms Bpk; Grootfontein PV 1 Edms Bpk; Grootfontein PV 2 Edms Bpk; Grootfontein PV 3 Edms Bpk; Hoek Doornen PV 1 Edms Bpk; Hoek Doornen PV 2 Edms Bpk; Hoek Doornen PV 3 Edms Bpk; en Hoek Doornen PV 4 Edms Bpk. Die voorgestelde PV fasiliteite en meegaande infrastruktuur sal ontwikkel word op die volgende plaas gedeeltes: Grootfontein RES/149; Grootfontein 5/149; Witte Wall RES/171; en Hoek Doornen 1/172. The kraglyne sal strek oor bogenoemde plase, sowel as oor Die Brak 241 en Platfontein 240.

Die voorgestelde projekte is ten volle geleë in die Komsberg Hernubare Energie Ontwikkelings Sone (REDZ 2), (soos gepromulgeer in Staatskennisgewing 114; 16 Februarie 2018). Dus is die voorgestelde projekte onderhewig aan 'n **Basiese Evalueerings (BA) proses**, en 'n verkorte besluitnemingsperiode van 57 dae, ingevolge die Nasionale Omgewingsbestuurswet, 1998 (Wet 107 van 1998, soos gewysig) (NEMA) en die 2014 Omgewingsimpakstudie Regulasies (soos gewysig). Kennis van die BA proses word dus hiermee gegee ingevolge Regulasie 41 (2)(c) van die 2014 Omgewingsimpakstudie Regulasies (soos gewysig).

Die nasionale Departement van Omgewing, Bosbou en Visserye ("DEFF") het toestemming verleen dat geïntegreerde aansoeke ingedien kan word vir Omgewingsgoedkeuring ingevolge Regulasie 11 (4) van die 2014 Omgewingsimpakstudie Regulasies (soos gewysig), en die uitreik van meervoudige Omgewingsgoedkeurings (indien goedgekeur) ingevolge Regulasie 25 (1) en (2) van die 2014 Omgewingsimpakstudie Regulasies, (soos gewysig).

Gekombineerde aansoeke vir Omgewingsgoedkeuring sal ingedien word by die DEFF tesame met die Konsep BA Verslae. Die voorgestelde projekte sal verskeie gelye aktiwiteite aktiveer in terme van die 2014 NEMA EIA Regulasies (soos gewysig), GN R325 LN 2: 1 wat die hoof aktiwiteit sal behels. Kommentaar sal ook verkry word vanaf Erfenis Wes-Kaap ("Heritage Western Cape") ingevolge die Wet op Nasionale Erfenis Bronne (Wet 25 van 1999). Die BA proses sal ook bevestig indien 'n Waterverbruikslisensie vereis word ingevolge die Nasionale Water Wet (Wet 36 van 1998), soos gewysig. 'n Geïntegreerde Publieke Deelname Proses sal onderneem word vir die voorgestelde projekte.

Die Wetenskaplike Nywerheids- en Navorsingsraad (WNNR) is aangestel as die onafhanklike Omgewingskonsultant ("EAP") om die BA proses vir die voorgestelde projekte te behartig en te bestuur namens die aansoekers. Geïnteresseerde en/of Belanghebbende Partye (G&BPs) word hiermee in kennis gestel van die vrystelling van die Konsep BA Verslae vir die voorgestelde projekte vir 'n 30-dae kommentaar periode, wat sal strek vanaf **3 Desember 2020 tot 25 Januarie 2021**. Hierdie periode sluit die afsluit periode van DEFF uit. Die Konsep BA Verslae kan afgelaai word vanaf die volgende webtuiste: <https://www.csir.co.za/environmental-impact-assessment>

Sou u belangstel om te registreer as 'n G&BP, en om kommentaar te lewer op die Konsep BA Verslae, word u vriendelik versoek om u naam en kontakbesonderhede te epos asook 'n aanduiding van enige direkte, besigheids, finansiële, persoonlike of ander redes vir u moontlike belangstelling in die aansoeke, sowel as enige kommentaar, aan die EAP by die WNNR: Rohaida Abed; E-pos: ems@csir.co.za; Posadres: Posbus 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075; Tel: 031 242 2300; of Faks: 031 261 8172.

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Appendix D.6: I&AP Database

Name	Affiliation	Email address	Phone number Cell	Postal address	Letter 1	SMS 1	SMS 2 (Reminder)	Request to register	Request to deregister
Landowners									
Mr Louis Greeff	Haruspex Trading Pty (Ltd) - Farm RE 171	louis@estafrica.co.za	0825615352	11 Sangryk Road, Sunwardpark, Boksburg, 1459	Yes		Yes		
Mr Philip van Heerden		louis@estafrica.co.za	0725285095	11 Sangryk Road, Sunwardpark, Boksburg, 1459	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Jan Minnaar	Bertan Family Trust - Farm RE/149	leonie@weltevredeplaas.co.za	0825649198	PO Box 287, Ceres 6835	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Jan Minnaar	Bertan Family Trust - Farm 5/149	leonie@weltevredeplaas.co.za jan@wadrif.com	0825649198	PO Box 287, Ceres 6835	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Erhard Buhr	Farm 1/172	ejebuhr@gmail.com	0824434881	PO Box 42932, Ottery	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Brian Stander	National Department of Public Works - Farm 240	brian.stander@dpw.gov.za	0652003233 0214022259	Room 639, 6th Floor; Custom House Building; Cape Town; 8000	Yes		Yes		
Mr Andre Vermeulen	Farm 241 (Die Brak) (Also owner of Sadawa Game Lodge)	andre.sadawa@gmail.com	0784226226		Yes	Yes	Yes		
		sadawa@breede.co.za							
Adjacent Landowners									
Mr Andre Vermeulen	Farm 477 (Also owner of Sadawa Game Lodge)	andre.sadawa@gmail.com	0784226226		Yes	Yes	Yes		
		sadawa@breede.co.za							
Basie Esterhuyse	Farm 1/170	basie.ria@gmail.com	083 236 3163		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Ria Esterhuyse	Farm 1/170	basie.ria@gmail.com	083 582 1918		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Aletta (Alta) Susanna Coetzee	Farm 173	admin@calvinia.co.za	0833411606		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Kosie Möller	Farm RE/244 (Tooverberg Boerdery Pty Ltd)	kmoller@kparys.co.za	0833030408	PO Box 1362, Suider Paarl, 7624	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Izak Visagie	Farm 173	izakvisagie1@gmail.com	0828060815		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Charl Du Toit	Farm 400	charl@dekeur.co.za	0836306217		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr PA Le Roux	Farm 148								
Mr Cornelis Du Toit Lambrechts	Farm RE/236	andre.sadawa@gmail.com	0784226226		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Wouter Meiring	Farm RE/175	wrmeiring@gmail.com	0829407050		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mrs Elma Nieuwoudt	Farm 6/149	elma4363@gmail.com	0832752361		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Calla Du Toit	Farm 3/149	calla@cfg.co.za	0823274621		Yes	Yes	Yes		

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Name	Affiliation	Email address	Phone number Cell	Postal address	Letter 1	SMS 1	SMS 2 (Reminder)	Request to register	Request to deregister
Mr Calla du Toit	Farm 150	calla@cfg.co.za	0823274621		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr T.P. (Paulie) van Zyl Mrs Ria van zyl (wife)	Farm RE/172	toorberg@gmail.com	0827715641	Swellengrebel 12 Die Boord, Stellenbosch 7600	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Chris Conradie	Farm RE/170	afri1@mweb.co.za	0824430835		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Chris Conradie	Farm 1/170	afri1@mweb.co.za	0824430835		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Leon Theunissen	Farm 174	leon@lusasa.co.za	0832256386		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Louis Greef	Farm 1/169	louis@estafrika.co.za	082 561 5352 083 225 6386	Pobus 508 Swellendam 6740	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Johan Geldenhuys	Farm RE/243	kingspring@breede.co.za	0824487106		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Ralph Damonse	Farm 1/243	damo@iafrica.com	0823445911		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Deon Malherbe	Farm 239	deon@eselfontein.co.za	0823894202		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Deon Malherbe	Farm 258	deon@eselfontein.co.za	0823894202		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Mark Catling (manager)	Farm RE/252	farmcat@breede.co.za	0822481234		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Mr Gerhard Visagie	Farm RE/146	gerhard@med-automation.co.za	0828900262 0230040051		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Competent Authority									
Mr Muhammad Essop	DEFF IEA	messop@environment.gov.za	012 399 9406	473 Steve Biko Rd, Environmental House, Pretoria	Yes				
Ms Milicent Solomons	DEFF IEA	msolomons@environment.gov.za		473 Steve Biko Rd, Environmental House, Pretoria	Yes				
Ms Fiona Grimett	DEFF IEA	FGrimett@environment.gov.za	012 399 2323	473 Steve Biko Rd, Environmental House, Pretoria	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Chantal Engelbrecht	DEFF IQ	CEngelbrecht@environment.gov.za		473 Steve Biko Rd, Environmental House, Pretoria	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Thulisile Nyalunga	DEFF IEA - CASE OFFICER	TNyalunga@environment.gov.za		473 Steve Biko Rd, Environmental House, Pretoria	Yes				
Sindiswa Dlomo	DEFF IEA	SDlomo@environment.gov.za		473 Steve Biko Rd, Environmental House, Pretoria	Yes				
Mathodi Mogorosi	DEFF IEA - CASE OFFICER	MMogorosi@environment.gov.za		473 Steve Biko Rd, Environmental House, Pretoria	Yes				
Commenting Authorities and Stakeholders									
Karl Naude	Director PA Policy and Management Effectiveness	Knaude@environment.gov.za			Yes				
Pamela Kershaw	DEFF- Biodiversity and	pkershaw@environment.gov.z			Yes				

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Name	Affiliation	Email address	Phone number Cell	Postal address	Letter 1	SMS 1	SMS 2 (Reminder)	Request to register	Request to deregister
	Conservation Directorate	a							
Mukondi Masithi	DEFF- Biodiversity and Conservation Directorate	mmasithi@environment.gov.za			Yes				
Mr Stanley Tshitwamulomoni	DEFF- Biodiversity and Conservation Directorate	StanleyT@environment.gov.za			Yes				
Ms Wilma Lutsch	DEFF- Biodiversity and Conservation Directorate	wlutsch@ozone.pwv.gov.za			Yes				
Ms M Rabothata	DEFF- Biodiversity and Conservation Directorate	MRabothata@environment.gov.za	(012) 399 9174						
Ms. T. Sekonko	DEFF- Biodiversity and Conservation Directorate	TSekonko@environment.gov.za							
Ms. Portia Makitla	DEFF- Biodiversity and Conservation Directorate	PMakitla@environment.gov.za			Yes				
Mr Seoka Lekota	DEFF- Biodiversity and Conservation Directorate	BCAdmin@environment.gov.za							
Mr Zaahir Toefy	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP)	Zaahir.Toefy@westerncape.gov.za	021 483 2700	1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001	Yes				
Ms Adri La Meyer	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP)	adri.lameyer@westerncape.gov.za	021 483 2887	1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001	Yes				
Ms Tania De Waal	DEA&DP (Spatial Planning)	Raudhiyah.Dien@westerncape.gov.za			Yes				
Mr Raudhiyah Dien	DEA&DP (Spatial Planning)	Laurel.Robertson@westerncape.gov.za			Yes				
Marbe Coetzee	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP)	Marbe.Coetzee@westerncape.gov.za							
D'mitri C Matthews	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP) - (Environmental Officer: Specialised Production) Development Management: Region 1	Dmitri.Matthews@westerncape.gov.za	(021) 483 8350	1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001	Yes				

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Name	Affiliation	Email address	Phone number Cell	Postal address	Letter 1	SMS 1	SMS 2 (Reminder)	Request to register	Request to deregister
Andrea Thomas	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP)	Andrea.Thomas@westerncape.gov.za		1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001	Yes				
Deano Wevers	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP)	Deano.Wevers@westerncape.gov.za		1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001					
Keshni Rughoobee	Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (DEA&DP)	Keshni.Rughoobee@westerncape.gov.za		1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001	Yes				
Ms Gale Letimela	DENC	gletimela@ncpg.gov.za	021 483 2606	Sasko Building, 90 Long Street, Kimberley, 8301	Yes				
Mr Tsholo Madaudi-Leburu	DENC	tmakaudi@ncpg.gov.za	053 807 7462	Sasko Building, 90 Long Street, Kimberley, 8301	Yes				
Mr Onwabile Ndzumo	DENC	onyndzumo@gmail.com	053 807 7431	Sasko Building, 90 Long Street, Kimberley, 8301	Yes				
Ms Elsabe Swart	DENC	elsabe.dtec@gmail.com		Sasko Building, 90 Long Street, Kimberley, 8301	Yes				
Ms Nanine van Olmen	DENC	nvanolmen@ncpg.gov.za		Sasko Building, 90 Long Street, Kimberley, 8301	Yes				
Mr Bryan Fisher	DENC	bfisher@ncpg.gov.za	053 807 4431	Sasko Building, 90 Long Street, Kimberley, 8301	Yes				
Ms Chantel Schwartz	National Department of Water and Sanitation	SchwartzC@dws.gov.za	053 830 8800		Yes				
Ms Mashudu Kgaphola	National Department of Water and Sanitation	kgapholam@dws.gov.za	053 830 8800 082 875 9021		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Rashid Khan	Department of Water and Sanitation (Western Cape)	KhanR@dws.gov.za	021 941 6000 082 809 2218		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Ms Melissa Lintnaar-Strauss	Department of Water and Sanitation (Western Cape)	Lintnaar-StraussM@dws.gov.za			Yes				
Torch Thembisa	Department of Water and Sanitation (Western Cape)	TorchT@dws.gov.za			Yes				
Jezile Vuyokazi	Department of Water and Sanitation (Western Cape)	JezileV@dws.gov.za			Yes				
Mr Elkerine Rossouw	Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency	erossouw@bgcma.co.za	023 346 8000 023 347 2012	Private Bag X3055, Worcester, 6849	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Makhosi Mthimkhulu	Breede-Gouritz Catchment	MMthimkhulu@bgcma.co.za			Yes				

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Name	Affiliation	Email address	Phone number Cell	Postal address	Letter 1	SMS 1	SMS 2 (Reminder)	Request to register	Request to deregister
	Management Agency								
Andiswa Sam	Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency	ASam@bgcma.co.za			Yes				
Mr Fabion Smith	Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency	fsmith@bgcma.co.za	082 445 5059	Private Bag X16, SANLAMHOF, 7532	Yes		Yes		
	Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency	info@bgcma.co.za			Yes				
Ms Mary Jean Gabriel	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)	maryjeang@daff.gov.za	+2712 846 8567	Private Bag X 515, Silverton 0127	Yes				
Ms Anneliza Collet	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)	annelizac@nda.agric.za			Yes				
Mr Andile Hawes	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)	CPO@daff.gov.za			Yes				
Ms Mashudu Marubin	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)	MashuduMa@daff.gov.za	012 3197619/34		Yes				
Ms Jacoline Mans	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)	JacolineMa@daff.gov.za	060 973 1660 082 808 2737	26 Olien Street, Louisvale, Upington 8801	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Thandeka Gwala	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) - Assistant Director: Forestry Regulations and Support Directorate: Forestry Management Other Regions (Western Cape)	ThandekaG@daff.gov.za	044 302 6902 066 374 7795	Physical Address: Demar Centre, Knysna, Main Road, 6570 Postal Address: Private Bag X12, Knysna, 6570	Yes		Yes		
		NFAWesternCape@daff.gov.za							
Masithandaze Falitenjwa	Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development	MasithandazeF@Dalrrd.gov.za			Yes				
Thando Ndudula	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)	ThandoNd@Dalrrd.gov.za			Yes				
Ms Thoko Buthelezi	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF): AgriLand Liaison office	ThokoB@daff.gov.za	012 3197634		Yes				
Mr Cor van der Walt	Western Cape Department of Agriculture	corvdw@elsenburg.com		Private Bag X1, ELSENBURG, 7607	Yes				
Mr Paul Herselman	Western Cape Department of Agriculture	paulh@elsenburg.com			Yes				
Ms Phyllis Pienaar	Western Cape Department of	phyllisp@elsenburg.com	023 4153134	Private Bag X1, ELSENBURG, 7607	Yes				

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Name	Affiliation	Email address	Phone number Cell	Postal address	Letter 1	SMS 1	SMS 2 (Reminder)	Request to register	Request to deregister
	Agriculture								
Ndzilili Mandla	Ministry of Environment and Nature Conservation	mndzilili@ncpg.gov.za	053 807 7300 / 053 807 7415 / 083 417 3671	Private Bag X6120; Kimberley; 8301	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mpho Mabaso	Department of Energy (DoE): Director: Renewable Energies	Mpho.mabaso@energy.gov.za	012 4067712	34 The Terraces Building C/o , Riebeeck & Bree Street , Cape Town CBD, 8001/ Department of Energy, Private Bag X 31, Roggebaai, 8012	Yes				
Mr Solly Fourie	Western Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism: Head of Department	solly.fourie@westerncape.gov.za	021 4833840	11th Floor, NBS Waldorf Building, 80 St George's Mall, Cape Town, 8001/ PO Box 979, Cape Town, 8000	Yes				
The Director General	National Department of Economic Development	odgcorrespondence@economic.gov.za			Yes				
Lerato Mokgwatheng	Eskom Holdings Limited - Senior Environmental Advisor Grid Planning & Development: Land and Rights Department Transmission Division	MokgwaLL@eskom.co.za	+27 (0)11 800 6812 +27 (0)84 580 6147	Megawatt Park D1X37 Maxwell Drive Sunninghill Sandton	Yes		Yes		
Phindile Dlamini	Eskom Holdings Limited	DlaminPI@eskom.co.za			Yes				
Danie Bloem	Eskom Holdings Limited	BloemDJ@eskom.co.za			Yes				
Pierre Snyman	Eskom Holdings Limited	SnymanPD@eskom.co.za			Yes				
Rodger Peense	Eskom Holdings Limited	PeenseRN@eskom.co.za			Yes				
Tiny Salaze	Eskom Holdings Limited	SalazeT@eskom.co.za			Yes				
Adrian Francis	Eskom Holdings Limited	FranciA@eskom.co.za			Yes				
Mamokete L. Mafumo	Eskom Transmission Land Development, Senior Environmental Advisor	MafumoML@eskom.co.za	+27 11 800 2621 +27 82 902 7166		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Luchen Reddy	Eskom Holdings Limited (Liaison to Department of Science and Technology)	reddylu@eskom.co.za	011 8003413	DST Building (Building No. 53) (CSIR South Gate Entrance) Meiring Naudé Road, Brummeria Private Bag X894 Pretoria, 0001	Yes				
Mr John Geeringh	Senior Consultant Environmental Management: Eskom GC: Land Development & EIA Review	GeerinJH@eskom.co.za	+27 11 516 7233 +27 83 632 7663		Yes		Yes		
Mr Owen Peters	Eskom: Land and Development	PetersOw@eskom.co.za	021 980 3242		Yes				
Mr Elroy Saaynan	Eskom Holdings Limited	elroy.saaynan@eskom.co.za	(0)44 801 2621 081 243 8188		Yes	Yes	Yes		

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Name	Affiliation	Email address	Phone number Cell	Postal address	Letter 1	SMS 1	SMS 2 (Reminder)	Request to register	Request to deregister
Ms Andrea Van Gensen	Eskom Holdings Limited	vGenseAL@eskom.co.za			Yes				
Ms Justine Wyngaardt	Eskom Holdings Limited (Distribution - Western Operating Unit)	WyngaaJO@eskom.co.za			Yes				
Ms Ambrose Hector	Eskom (in charge of Kappa / Brandkop)	HectorA@eskom.co.za	021 980 3064		Yes				
Mr Andre Crous	Eskom Holdings Limited (Telecommunications)	andre.crous@eskom.co.za	0448012621 0834481915		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Fanie Berg	Eskom Holdings Limited (Senior Engineer)	BerghS@eskom.co.za	(0)21 9803626 081 243 8188		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Christo Badenhorst	Eskom (Line Engineering)	BadenhC@eskom.co.za							
Kgauta Mokoena	Director: Mine Environmental Research and Sustainable Development	Kgauta.Mokoena@dmr.gov.za	(012) 444 3831 / 3821	Private Bag x 59; ARCADIA; 0007	Yes				
Duduzile Kunene	Department of Mineral Resources (Western Cape): Regional Manager	Duduzile.Kunene@dmr.gov.za	021 4271000/ 021 4271057	Private Bag X 9, ROGGEBAAI, 8012	Yes				
Mr Jacob Dikgang	Department of Transport	DikgangJ@dot.gov.za	012 3093973		Yes				
Mr Ben Welman	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works	bigben@mweb.co.za			Yes				
Ms Jacqui Gooch	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works (Strategy, Planning and Co-ordination)	Jacqui.gooch@westerncape.gov.za			Yes				
		HOD.TransportPublicWorks@westerncape.gov.za			Yes				
Mr Malcolm Watters	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works	Malcolm.watters@westerncape.gov.za			Yes				
Wendy Kiva	Department of Transport and Public Works - WC	Wendy.Kiva@westerncape.gov.za	021-483-2826		Yes				
Schalk Carstens	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works	Schalk.Carstens@westerncape.gov.za			Yes				
Grace Swanepoel	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works	Grace.Swanepoel@westerncape.gov.za			Yes				
Lyle Martin	Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Works	Lyle.Martin@westerncape.gov.za			Yes				
Mr Colin Fordham	CapeNature	cfordham@capenature.co.za	079 521 1911		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Ms Alana Duffel-	CapeNature	aduffel-			Yes				

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Name	Affiliation	Email address	Phone number Cell	Postal address	Letter 1	SMS 1	SMS 2 (Reminder)	Request to register	Request to deregister
Canham		canham@capenature.co.za							
Mr Andrew September	Heritage Western Cape	Andrew.September@westerncape.gov.za	+27 21 866 8000 +27 082 727 2691		Yes		Yes		
Ms Colette Scheermeyer	Heritage Western Cape	Colette.Scheermeyer@westerncape.gov.za		3rd Floor, Protea Assurance Building, Greenmarket Square, Cape Town, 8000	Yes				
Mr Zwelibanzi Shiceka	Heritage Western Cape (Assistant Director)	zwelibanzi.shiceka@westerncape.gov.za	+27214839692	3rd Floor, Protea Assurance Building, Greenmarket Square, Cape Town, 8000	Yes				
Ceo Heritage Western Cape	Heritage Western Cape	Ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za		3rd Floor, Protea Assurance Building, Green Market Square Cape Town, 8001	Yes				
Stephanie-Anne Barnardt	Heritage Western Cape - Heritage Officer (Archaeologist) - Heritage Resource Management Services	stephanie.barnardt@westerncape.gov.za	021 483 5959	4th Floor, Protea Assurance Building, Green Market Square Cape Town, 8001	Yes				
Waseefa Dhansay	Heritage Western Cape - Assistant Director: Professional Services, Heritage Resource Management Services	waseefa.dhansay@westerncape.gov.za	021 483 9680	3rd Floor, Protea Assurance Building, Green Market Square Cape Town, 8001	Yes				
General SAHRA	South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA)	info@sahra.org			Yes				
Ms Nokukhanya Khumalo	South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA)	nkhumalo@sahra.org.za			Yes				
Ragna Redelstorff	South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA)	rredelstorff@sahra.org.za			Yes				
Ms Natasha Higgitt	South African Heritage Resource Agency (SAHRA)	nhiggitt@sahra.org.za	021 4624502 082 507 0378	111 Harrington Street, Cape Town, 8000	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Lucius Moolman	South African National Parks (SANParks)- Manager: Karoo NP & SKA core protected area	lucius.moolman@sanparks.org			Yes				
Dr. Howard Hendricks	South African National Parks (SANParks) - Snr GM: Policy & Governance Conservation Services Division	howard.hendricks@sanparks.org	012 426-5165 083 640 5296	PO Box 787, Pretoria, 0001	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Dr. Joh R Henschel	SAEON Arid Lands Node	joh.henschel@saeon.ac.za	053-831 3751	P.O.Box 110040 Hadison Park, Kimberley 8306, South Africa	Yes				
Helga van der Merwe	SAEON Arid Lands Node	helga@saeon.ac.za							

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Name	Affiliation	Email address	Phone number Cell	Postal address	Letter 1	SMS 1	SMS 2 (Reminder)	Request to register	Request to deregister
Mr Lucky Legodi	Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	lucky.legodi@drdlr.gov.za			Yes				
Mr Gerhard De Bruin	Department of Rural Development and Land Reform	gjdebruin@ruraldevelopment.gov.za	012 312 8911		Yes				
Mr Chantal Harigobin	South African Local Government Association (SALGA) (Western Cape)	sharigobin@salga.org.za			Yes				
Herman Coetzee	Transnet: Radio Communication Department	herman.coetzee2@transnet.net	(0)21 9402854 (0)83 290 5711		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Devon Govender	Department (Cape Town)	devon.govender@transnet.net	(0)11 978 2160 (0)83 279 9294		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Nicole Abrahams	SANRAL (Environmental coordinator)	AbrahamsN@nra.co.za	0219574602		Yes			Yes	
Colene Runkel	SANRAL (Northern Cape-Western region)	Runkelc@nra.co.za	0219574602		Yes				
René de Kock (WR)	SANRAL	Dekockr@nra.co.za	021 957 4607	1 Havenga Street, Oakdale, Bellville, Western Cape, 7530, South Africa	Yes				Yes
Mr Gawie Bestbier	Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)	BestbierG@caa.co.za			Yes				
Ms Lizell Stroh	CAA	strohl@caa.co.za			Yes				
Ms Chinga Mazhetese	CAA	MazheteseC@caa.co.za			Yes				
Simphiwe Masilela	CAA, Inspector: Obstacles Procedure Design & Cartography	Masilelas@caa.co.za	066 435 7642		Yes				
Municipality									
Riaan Fick	Witzenberg Municipality, Acting manager of Socio-economic Development	riaan@witzenberg.gov.za	0233161854		Yes				
Megan	Witzenberg Local Municipality (PA to Municipal Manager)	meagan@witzenberg.gov.za			Yes				
Hennie Taljaard	Witzenberg LM– Manager: Town Planning & Building Control	htaljaard@witzenberg.gov.za	023 316 8554	c/o Lyell Street and Voortrekker Street, Ceres, 6835 P O Box 44, Ceres, 6835	Yes				
Heloise Truter	Witzenberg Manager; Environment & Amenities	heloise@witzenberg.gov.za	023 316 1854		Yes				
Mr David Nasson	Witzenberg Local Municipality	david@witzenberg.gov.za	(0)23 316 1854	50 Voortrekker street, Ceres, 6835	Yes				

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Name	Affiliation	Email address	Phone number Cell	Postal address	Letter 1	SMS 1	SMS 2 (Reminder)	Request to register	Request to deregister
	(Municipal Manager)								
Ms Mavis Mdala	Witzenberg Local Municipality (Ward 12 Councillor)	mmdala@witzenberg.gov.za	(0)23 316 1854		Yes				
Reginald Badela	Ward 12 Councillor (Witzenberg)	rbadela@witzenberg.gov.za bakhebadela@gmail.com	+27836895358	18 Chris Hani Avenue, Ceres, 6835	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Neville Fourie	Breede Valley Local Municipality in Touws River	nfourie@bvm.gov.za	0233482899 0824237117	BVM Municipal Building, Logan Street, Touwsriver	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Kobus Du Plessis	Cape Winelands District Municipality (LED and Land Use Planning)	kobusdp@capewinelands.gov.za			Yes				
Municipal Manager	Cape Winelands District Municipality	mm@capewinelands.gov.za			Yes				
Quinton Balie	Cape Winelands District Municipality	quinton@capewinelands.gov.za	(021) 888 5194	29 Du Toit Street; P.O. Box 100; Stellenbosch	Yes				
General Stakeholders									
Adwin Zinkfontein	Operational Manager, Touws River Clinic, Brede Valley Subdistrict, Dept. of Health		0233581189 082 4237117			Yes	Yes		
Veronique Fyfe	G7 Energies	eia@g7energies.com	+27 76 423 8710		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Jan Louw	G7 Energies	eia@g7energies.com			Yes				
David Dean		david.dean@mainstreamrp.com	+27 (0) 21 657 4041 +27 (0) 78 006 2187		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Neville Fourie	Breede Valley Municipality Area Manager (Touws Rivier)	nfourie@bvm.gov.za	+27 (0) 23 348 2899 079 2133 834	30 Baring Street, Western Cape, Private Bag X3046, Worcester, 6849	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Inverdoorn Nature Reserve	Inverdoorn Nature Reserve	info@inverdoorn.com	+27 (0)23 004 1195	R356, Sutherland Road, Breede River DC, 6835 Head Office: 1st Floor, Mount Curtis, 307 Main Road, Seapoint, Cape Town	Yes				
Elvian Williams		-	068 169 3160 061 113 5877			Yes	Yes		
Charlton David Leenderts		-	(0)74 260 3746 063 545 6138			Yes	Yes		
Donovan Graham Kok		-	073 348 0274			Yes	Yes		
Christo Booyesen		-	063 549 0993 063 5323275			Yes	Yes		

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Name	Affiliation	Email address	Phone number Cell	Postal address	Letter 1	SMS 1	SMS 2 (Reminder)	Request to register	Request to deregister
Chandré Kok	Environmental Officer of the Perdekraal East Wind Farm	chandre17@live.com	063 697 4413		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Phillip De Lange	ATNS: Manager of Western and Northern Cape	phillipd@atns.co.za	+27 219371132	Private Bag X15, Kempton Park, 1620, Gauteng, South Africa	Yes				
Praneel Ruplal	Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA)	pruplal@icasa.org.za			Yes				
Ashleigh Sibanda	Knowledge Pele, Programme Manager	A.Sibanda@knowledgepele.com	078 004 8995		Yes				
Johan Koegelenberg	Sentech Broadcast Coverage Planner: RF Networks. Manager: Measurements and GIS	koegelenbergJ@sentech.co.za	27 11 471 4634 079 267 8920		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Frank Creese	Sentech Inc. (Senior TCC Manager: Operations and Maintenance - Western Region)	frank.creese@sentech.co.za	(0)21 5513413 084 557 2844		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr. Serame Motlhake	Network Planning Manager	MotlhakeS@sentech.co.za	(0)11 4714561		Yes				
Alisha Pretorius	Sentech	pretoriusa@sentech.co.za	011 471 4540 011 471 4400	Private Bag X06, Honeydew, 2040	Yes				
Nina King	Business owner, BP Komkyk Motors/Accommodation/Farm stall & Restaurant		0233581049		Yes				
Anne Flynn	Falcon Oil and Gas Ltd	aflynn@falconoilandgas.com	+3514171900	Styne House, Upper Hatch Street, Dublin 2, Ireland	Yes				
Coert Smit	BreedeNet: Network Operations Director	coert@breedenet.co.za	023 004 0040	PO Box 819, 6849, Worcester	Yes				
		isak@breedenet.co.za			Yes				
Ferdi Smit	System Specialist Radar Technical Services Cape Town International Airport	ferdis@atns.co.za	021 937 1151 082 553 3923		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Danie Erasmus Police Radio Communications	SA Police	radiotech@saps.org.za	(0)21 506 2165		Yes				
Mr Abel Hanekom	Supervisor Police Radio Communications	radiotech@saps.org.za	021 506 2171		Yes				
Lt Colonel A. De Reuck	South African Police Service (SAPS) (Police Radio Communications)	radiotech@saps.org.za			Yes				

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Name	Affiliation	Email address	Phone number Cell	Postal address	Letter 1	SMS 1	SMS 2 (Reminder)	Request to register	Request to deregister
	Department of Defence/ SA Army	kebasenosi@yahoo.com			Yes				
	Department of Defence/ SA Army	zukile.mali@yahoo.com			Yes				
Colonel Loy de Jager	Department of Defence/ SA Army	loydejager@hotmail.com	012 529 0200/0201 082 923 0303		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Phillip De Lange	Manager: Technical Support Technical Services Cape Town International Airport	phillipd@atns.co.za	021 937 1132 082 569 9816		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Ms Stephanie Kot	African Clean Energy Developments (ACED)	stephnie.kot@aced.co.za			Yes				
Mr Carl Opperman	Agri Western Cape	carl@awk.co.za			Yes				
		info@awk.co.za			Yes				
Mr Japie Grobler	AgriSA	agrisa@agrisa.co.za			Yes				
Mr Nic Opperman	AgriSA	nic@agrisa.co.za			Yes				
Mr Ferdi Smit	Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS) (System Specialist Radar / Technical Services Cape Town International Airport)	ferdis@atns.co.za			Yes				
Mr Johan Schoeman	Altech Fleetcall	johan@fleetcall.co.za			Yes				
Mr Frans Swart	Altech Netstar	franss@netstar.co.za			Yes				
Mr Michael Barnes	Biotherm Energy	mbarnes@biothermenergy.co m			Yes				
Libby Hirshon	Biotherm Energy	LHirshon@biothermenergy.co m							
Ms Tania Anderson	BirdLife South Africa	spothil@gmail.com			Yes				
Mr Simon Gear	Birdlife South Africa	simon.gear@birdlife.org.za			Yes				
		info@birdlife.org.za			Yes				
		advocacy@birdlife.org.za			Yes				
Ms Samantha Ralston	Birdlife South Africa (Western Region)	energy@birdlife.org.za	0836733948	Private Bag X5000, Parklands 2121, Johannesburg, South Africa	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Coert Smit	Breedenet: Network Operations	isak@breedenet.co.za			Yes				
		coert@breedenet.co.za			Yes				
Ms Vivien Kiewitz	Cell C Tele Communications	VKiewitz@cellc.co.za	0847770246		Yes	Yes	Yes		

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Name	Affiliation	Email address	Phone number Cell	Postal address	Letter 1	SMS 1	SMS 2 (Reminder)	Request to register	Request to deregister
Mr Brian Joubert	Cell C Tele Communications	bjoubert@cellc.co.za			Yes				
Head Office	Cell C Head Office		0841748000						
D. Ngwenya	Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA)	info@icasa.org.za			Yes				
Ms Mona Lakhani	Earthlife Africa	muna@iafrica.com			Yes				
		mona@iafrica.com							
		seccp@earthlife.org.za							
Mabule Mokhine	Earthlife Africa	mabule@ghouse.org.za			Yes				
Mr Constant Hoogstad	Endangered Wildlife Trust	constanth@ewt.org.za			Yes				
EIA EWT	Endangered Wildlife Trust	eia@ewt.org.za							
Christy B.	EWT: Renewable Energy Project Manager	christyb@ewt.org.za	082 3325447	The Endangered Wildlife Trust, Private Bag X11, Modderfontein, 1609, Johannesburg/ 86 Capricorn Drive, Capricorn Business Park, Muizenberg	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Lourens Leeuwner	Endangered Wildlife Trust	lourensl@ewt.org.za			Yes				
Dr Harriet Davies-Mostert	Endangered Wildlife Trust (Wildlife and Energy Programme)	bonnies@ewt.org.za			Yes				
		wep@ewt.org.za			Yes				
Mr Charles Van Reenen	MTN – Innovation Centre Engineering	vanree_c@mtn.co.za	(0)11 912 3000		Yes				
Mr Renier Nel	MTN South Africa Tele Communications	renier.nel@mtn.co.za			Yes				
Mr Pieter Buys	National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)	peter.buys@nersa.org.za			Yes				
		pieter.buys@nersa.org.za							
Ms Sweetness Maletse	National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA)	mmoni.suza@nersa.org.za			Yes				
Mr Brian Dryer	Neotell Tele Communications	brian.dreyer@neotel.co.za			Yes				
		brian.dryer@neotel.co.za			Yes				
Dr Warren Joubert	South African Weather Services	warren.joubert@weathersa.co.za			Yes				
Mlungisi Ngwenya	South African Weather Services	Mlungisi.Ngwenya@weathersa.co.za			Yes				
Ms Lynne Hannay	Shell South Africa Exploration (Pty) Ltd	lynne.hannay@shell.com			Yes				
Administration	SALT (The Southern African Large Telescope)	salt@salt.ac.za	021 447 0025	PO Box 9, Observatory, 7935	Yes				

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Name	Affiliation	Email address	Phone number Cell	Postal address	Letter 1	SMS 1	SMS 2 (Reminder)	Request to register	Request to deregister
Mr Chris Coetzee	Southern African Large Telescope (SALT)	chris@salt.ac.za			Yes				
Mr Ferdi Smit	Southern African Large Telescope (SALT)	ferdie@salt.co.za			Yes				
Dr Adrian Tiplady	Square Kilometre Array South Africa (SKA)	atiplady@ska.ac.za	021 506 7375		Yes				
Thato Nape	Square Kilometre Array South Africa (SKA)	tnape@ska.ac.za			Yes				
Musa Baloye	Square Kilometre Array South Africa (SKA)	mbaloye@ska.ac.za			Yes				
Busang Sethole	Square Kilometre Array South Africa (SKA)	bsethole@ska.ac.za			Yes				
Selaelo Matlhane	Square Kilometre Array South Africa (SKA)	smatlhane@ska.ac.za			Yes				
Mr Tshegofatso Monama	Square Kilometre Array South Africa (SKA)	temonama@ska.ac.za	011 4422434 011 2683405		Yes				
Ms Adriana Chickesh	Sustainable Energy Society of Southern Africa (SESSA)	office@sessa.org.za			Yes				
Mr Henning Holm	Sustainable Energy Society of Southern Africa (SESSA)	info@holmandfriends.co.za							
Mr Keverne Thurling	Telkom Tele Communications	Thurling@telkom.co.za	021-551 9597 082 3712411		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Leonard Shaw	Telkom Tele Communications	leonardS@openseve.co.za	012 311 2012 0814286729		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Johan Smit	Telkom Tele Communications (Executive/Senior Specialist Regulatory Affairs)	smitjj1@telkom.co.za	012 3112012 081 428 6729		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Mr Craig Barnes	Vodacom South Africa Tele Communications	barnesc@vodacom.co.za	021 440 8211		Yes				
Mr Nico Fourie	Vodacom South Africa Tele Communications	nico.fourie@vodacom.co.za			Yes				
Mr Danie Oosthuizen	Vodacom South Africa Tele Communications	danie.oosthuizen@vodacom.co.za			Yes				
Mr Morgan Griffiths	Wildlife and Environmental Society of South Africa (WESSA) (Environmental Governance Programme Manager)	morgan@wessaep.co.za							
		morgan.griffiths@wessa.co.za			Yes				
Dr Morne Du Plessis	World Wide Fund South Africa	mduplessis@wwf.org.za			Yes				
Michael Boonzaaier	Ceres Superspar	ceres1@retail.spar.co.za	023 316 2226		Yes				

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Name	Affiliation	Email address	Phone number Cell	Postal address	Letter 1	SMS 1	SMS 2 (Reminder)	Request to register	Request to deregister
Andre Dumas	AgriMark Ceres - Senior Manager	adumas@kaapagri.co.za	023 312 1094 0834128667		Yes		Yes		
Cynthia Bruintjies / C. Manuel	Touws River Library	cmanuel@bvm.gov.za	023 358 1191 0635456138		Yes	Yes	Yes		
Nick Botha	Touws River Spar	nickbotha.nb@gmail.com	023 358 1038 0728064626		Yes		Yes		
Christiaan du Plessis	Touws River Heritage and Conservation Society	christiaan@netandmail.com	023 358 2955 079 029 6946		Yes		Yes		
Graham Abrahams	Chairman: Hex River Valley Heritage & Conservation Society	gnabrahams1@gmail.com	061-583-4269		Yes		Yes		
Melanie Esterhuyse	Hex Valley Tourism Association	info@hexrivervalley.co.za	073 238 2026	P. O. Box 286, De Doorns, 6875	Yes		Yes		
Anelle Lotter	JAWS	anelle@jaws.co.za			Yes				
Martin	MDT Environmental Consultants	martin@mdte.co.za	082 575 3690		Yes		Yes		
Sharon Jones	SRK	SJones@srk.co.za			Yes				
Dr De Ville Wickens	Owner of Farm Bizansgat Geo-Routes Petroleum, Consulting Geologist	georoutes@telkomsa.net			Yes			Yes	
Carl Grobbelaar		carlgrobb@gmail.com						Yes	
Sonet Moller		sonet@devlakte.co.za						Yes	
Rupert Hare		Rupert.hare@outlook.com						Yes	
John Hare		vincent.john.hare@gmail.com						Yes	
		hurst@intekom.co.za						Yes	
Clifford Matthews	Metrorex Trading cc	joshclinton692@gmail.com	0785560121	Jubileestr 245, Steenvliet, Touwsrivier, 6880	Yes		Yes		
Annel van der Merwe		annelvdm@breede.co.za							
Bertus Minnaar		bertusmin@gmail.com							
Claude Bosman	Veroniva Pty (Ltd)	claudio@veroniva.co.za	082 331 4098		Yes	Yes	Yes		

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Appendix D.7: Pre-Application Stakeholder Correspondence

From: Chandre Kok <chandre17@live.com>
To: "ems@csir.co.za" <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 26 Oct 2020 11:40
Subject: Registering as an I&AP for Projects near Touwsriver in the Western Cape

Dear Rohaida,

Hope this email finds you well.

I would like to register as an I&AP for these projects. I am currently an EO for the Perdekraal East Wind Farm project which is nearing its end. Its quite close to the proposed projects as stated on the notice.

My details:
Chandre Kok
chandre17@live.com
0636974413

Kind regards,
Chandre Kok

From: N Fourie <nfourie@bvm.gov.za>
To: "ems@csir.co.za" <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 26 Oct 2020 16:13
Subject: proposed development of nine 175 MW solar PV facilities

For attention: Rohaida Abed

Good Day Ms Abed,

I hereby would like to provide my details to be registered as an interested party for the above mentioned project. As a Municipal employee, Managing the area of Touwsriver, I regard it crucial to be aware of development in and around Touwsriver, thus to be able to provide informative answers to the public.

Please include me in all relevant correspondence and participation processes going forward.

Regards

Neville Fourie
Area Manager, Touwsriver
Directorate: Community Services



BREED VALLEY
MUNICIPALITY - MUNISIPALITEIT - OORDELA

30 Baring Street, Worcester, Western Cape,
South Africa, 6846, Private Bag X3046

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From: David Dean <David.Dean@mainstreamrp.com>
To: "ems@csir.co.za" <ems@csir.co.za>, "ems@csir.co.za" <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 29 Oct 2020 09:31
Subject: Development of nine 175MW PV facilities (Witte Wall PV2, Grootfontein PV2.....near Touws River)

Hi Rohaida

I would like to register as and I & AP on the Development of nine 175MW PV facilities (Witte Wall PV2, Grootfontein PV2.....near Touws River). Please use my details listed below.

Kind Regards



David Dean
GIS Specialist

Mainstream Renewable Power South Africa
4th Floor, Metendani House, Newlands on Main
Corner Main Road and Campground, Claremont
PO Box 45063, Claremont, 7735
Cape Town

Tel: +27 (0) 21 957 4041
Mob: +27 (0) 76 006 2187
david.dean@mainstreamrp.com
www.mainstreamrp.com

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From: Jan Louw <Jan@g7energies.com>
To: <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 03 Nov 2020 11:03
Subject: Re: Registration as IB&P

Good day

I would just like to follow up regarding the above email, would it be possible to register G7 Renewable Energies as an IB&P on:

1. White Wall PV 1
2. White Wall PV 2
3. Grootfontein PV 1
4. Grootfontein PV 2
5. Grootfontein PV 3
6. Hoek Doornen PV 1
7. Hoek Doornen PV 2
8. Hoek Doornen PV 3
9. Hoek Doornen PV 4

Please could you register Veronique Fyfe as the main contact using the email address via@g7energies.com.

On Thu, 29 Oct 2020 at 15:55, Jan Louw <Jan@g7energies.com> wrote:

Good afternoon,

To whom it may concern,

Please could you register G7 Renewable Energies as an IB&P on:

1. White Wall PV 1
2. White Wall PV 2
3. Grootfontein PV 1
4. Grootfontein PV 2
5. Grootfontein PV 3
6. Hoek Doornen PV 1
7. Hoek Doornen PV 2
8. Hoek Doornen PV 3
9. Hoek Doornen PV 4

Please could you register Veronique Fyfe as the main contact using the email address via@g7energies.com.

Feel free to contact my self on the following number if anything is unclear, 076 423 8710.

Kind Regards,

Jan Louw | Land Rights Manager

G7 Renewable Energies (Pty) Ltd
100 Wale St, 100 Wale Street

Cape Town 8001, South Africa

+27 21 281 4600 (Head)

+27 21 281 4601 (Fax)

+27 86 423 8710 (Cell)

www.g7energies.com

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Appendix D.8: Proof of Submission of the Notification of Intent to Develop (NID) to Heritage Western Cape (HWC)

From: Jayson <jayson@asha-consulting.co.za>
To: Ceeherhage <Ceeherhage@westerncape.gov.za>
CC: "Rehala Abed" <RAbed@csk.co.za>, "Claude Bosman" <claude@vercoiw.co.za>
Date: 21 Aug 2020 22:49
Subject: NID submission: Witte Wafel
Attachments: 1. Payment Notification.pdf; 2a. NID Witte Wafel DOC; 2b. Signed NID Witte Wafel.pdf; 3a. PoA Resolution Witte Wafel 18 Aug 2020.pdf; 3b. Witte Wafel 171 Title Deed.pdf; 4. NID supporting document Witte Wafel.pdf

Hi

Please find attached a NID submission for three proposed PV facilities and 3 proposed powerlines on Farms 171, 241 & 240, Ceres District.

There are ~~six~~ documents numbered **1, 2a, 2b, 3a, 3b & 4**.

Please note that this is a S38(B) application and the power line component is a linear activity that does not require land owner consent for the assessment phase under NEMA.

thanks
Jayson



Dr Jayson Orton
ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd
40 Brodie Street, Lakeside, 7945
jayson@asha-consulting.co.za
T: 021 788 1025 | C: 083 272 3225
www.asha-consulting.co.za

From: Jayson <jayson@asha-consulting.co.za>
To: Ceeherhage <Ceeherhage@westerncape.gov.za>
CC: "Rehala Abed" <RAbed@csk.co.za>, "Claude Bosman" <claude@vercoiw.co.za>
Date: 21 Aug 2020 22:39
Subject: NID submission: Hoek Doornen
Attachments: 1. Payment Notification.pdf; 2a. NID Hoek Doornen DOC; 2b. Signed NID Hoek Doornen.pdf; 3a. Hoek Doornen Park 18 Aug 2020.pdf; 3b. Hoek Doornen 172-1 Title deed.pdf

Hi

Please find attached a NID submission for three proposed PV facilities and 3 proposed powerlines on Farms 172/1, 171, 241 & 240, Ceres District.

I have included five documents here and the rest will follow in the next email. The ten documents are numbered **1, 2a, 2b, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e, 3f & 4**.

Please note that this is a S38(B) application although the power line component is a linear activity that does not require land owner consent for the assessment phase under NEMA, we have included PoAs for two of the four farms crossed.

thanks
Jayson



Dr Jayson Orton
ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd
40 Brodie Street, Lakeside, 7945
jayson@asha-consulting.co.za
T: 021 788 1025 | C: 083 272 3225
www.asha-consulting.co.za

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: Jayson <jayson@asha-consulting.co.za>
To: Ceeheritage <Ceeheritage@westerncape.gov.za>
CC: "Rohaida Abed" <RAbed@csir.co.za>; "Claude Bosman" <claude@veroniya.co.za>
Date: 21 Aug 2020 22:34
Subject: Re: NID submission: PVs and powerlines, Grootfontein
Attachments: 3. Hook Bosman Landowner PoA.pdf; 3d Hook Bosman 171 Title deed.pdf; 3e. Witte Wat Landowner PoA.pdf; 3f. Witte Wat 171 Title Deed.pdf; 4. NID supporting documents Grootfontein.pdf

Hi

Apologies, there are ~~ten~~ documents, there is no number five. Here are **3c, 3d, 3e, 3f & 4**.

thanks
Jayson



Dr Jayson Orton
ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd
40 Brasie Street, Lakeside, 7945
jayson@asha-consulting.co.za
T: 021 788 1025 | C: 083 272 3225
www.asha-consulting.co.za

----- Original Message -----

From: "Jayson" <jayson@asha-consulting.co.za>
To: "Ceeheritage" <Ceeheritage@westerncape.gov.za>
Cc: "Rohaida Abed" <RAbed@csir.co.za>; "Claude Bosman" <claude@veroniya.co.za>
Sent: 2020/08/21 22:26:03
Subject: NID submission: PVs and powerlines, Grootfontein

Hi

Please find attached a NID submission for three proposed PV facilities and 3 proposed powerlines on Farms 149/rem, 149/5, 171, 241 & 240, Ceres District.

I have included five documents here and the rest will follow in the next email. The eleven documents are numbered **1, 2a, 2b, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e, 3f, 4 & 5**.

Please note that this is a 538(B) application although the power line component is a linear activity that does not require land owner consent for the assessment phase under NEMA, we have included PoAs for two of the four farms crossed.

thanks
Jayson



Dr Jayson Orton
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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Appendix D.9: Acknowledgement of Receipt of the Notification of Intent to Develop (NID) from Heritage Western Cape (HWC)

Our Ref: HAA/CAPE WILDELANDS / WITZENBERG / FARM PLATFONTEIN 240
Case No.: 20081910580625E
Enquirer: Stephanie-Anne Barnardt
E-mail: stephanie.barnardt@westerncape.gov.za
Tel: 021 483 5959
Cell: 076 481 8392 (during the lock-down period)
Date: 14 September 2020



Claud Bosman
Icon Building 1409
Long Street
Cape Town
claude@westerncape.gov.za / icon@wasta.com.za

RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP: HIA REQUIRED
In terms of Section 38(1) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the Western Cape Provincial Gazette 6661, Notice 298 of 2020

NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP: PROPOSED THREE 115 MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) POWER GENERATION FACILITIES TO BE CONSTRUCTED ON WITTE WALL 171, FARM DIE BRAK 241, FARM PLATFONTEIN 240, WITZENBERG, SUBMITTED IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(1) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (ACT 25 OF 1999)

CASE NUMBER: 20081910580625E

The matter above has reference:

Heritage Western Cape is in receipt of your application for the above matter received. This matter was discussed at the Heritage Officers meeting held on 7 September 2020.

You are hereby notified that, since there is reason to believe that the proposed three 115 MW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) power generation facilities to be constructed on Witte Wall 171, Farm Die Brak 241, Farm Platfontein 240, Witzenberg will impact on heritage resources, HWC requires that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) that satisfies the provisions of section 38(3) of the NHRA be submitted. This HIA must have specific reference to the following:

- A Visual Impact Assessment;
- An Archaeological Impact Assessment; and
- A Palaeontological Impact Assessment.

The required HIA must have an integrated set of recommendations. Please note, should you require the HIA to be submitted as a Phased HIA, a written request must be submitted to HWC prior to submission. HWC reserves the right to determine whether a phased HIA is acceptable on a case by case basis.

The comments of relevant registered Conservation Bodies; all interested and affected parties; and the relevant Municipality must be requested and included in the HIA where provided. Proof of these requests must be supplied.

HWC reserves the right to request additional information as required.

Applicants are strongly advised to review and adhere to the time limits contained within the Standard Operational Procedure (SOP) between DEADP and HWC. The SOP can be found using the following link: <http://www.hwc.org.za/nodes/295>

Should you have any further queries, please contact the official above and quote the case number.

Yours faithfully


Dr. Nicolai Dlamuka
Chief Executive Officer

www.westerncape.gov.za/hwc



APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

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Our Ref: HM/CAPE WINELANDS / WITZENBERG /
PTN 149 OF REM GROOTFONTEIN 149/5, WITTE WALL 171,
FARM DIE BRAK 241, FARM PLATFONTEIN 240

Case No.: 20081908580821E

Enquiries: Stephanie-Anne Barnardt

E-mail: stephanie.barnardt@westerncape.gov.za

Tel: 021 483 3959

Cell: 076 481 8392 (during the lock-down period)

Date: 14 September 2020



Claud Bosman
Ican Building 1409
Long Street
Cape Town
claude@veroniva.co.za ; jayson@asha-consulting.co.za

RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP; HIA REQUIRED
In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the Western Cape
Provincial Gazette 6061, Notice 298 of 2003

NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP: PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THREE 115 MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) POWER GENERATION FACILITIES ON PTN 149/REM, GROOTFONTEIN 149/5, WITTE WALL 171, FARM DIE BRAK 241, FARM PLATFONTEIN 240, GROOTFONTEIN, WITTE WALL, DIE BRAK, WITZENBERG, SUBMITTED IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(1) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (ACT 25 OF 1999)

CASE NUMBER: 20081908580821E

The matter above has reference:

Heritage Western Cape is in receipt of your application for the above matter received. This matter was discussed at the Heritage Officers meeting held on 7 September 2020.

You are hereby notified that, since there is reason to believe that the proposed construction of three 115-MW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) power generation facilities on Ptn 149/rem, Grootfontein 149/5, Witte Wall 171, Farm Die Brak 241, Farm Platfontein 240, Grootfontein, Witte Wall, Die Brak, Witzenberg will impact on heritage resources, HWC requires that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) that satisfies the provisions of section 38(3) of the NHRA be submitted. This HIA must have specific reference to the following:

- A Visual Impact Assessment;
- An Archaeological Impact Assessment; and
- A Palaeontological Impact Assessment.

The required HIA must have an integrated set of recommendations. Please note, should you require the HIA to be submitted as a Phased HIA, a written request must be submitted to HWC prior to submission. HWC reserves the right to determine whether a phased HIA is acceptable on a case by case basis.

The comments of relevant registered conservation bodies; all interested and Affected parties; and the relevant Municipality must be requested and included in the HIA where provided. Proof of these requests must be supplied.

HWC reserves the right to request additional information as required.

www.westerncape.gov.za/hwc

Street Address: Protea Assurance Building, Green Parade Square, Cape Town, 8000 • **Postal Address:** P.O. Box 9895, Cape Town, 8000
• **Tel:** +27 (0)21 483 5859 • **E-mail:** caheritage@westerncape.gov.za

Streetadres: Protea Assurance Gebou, Groenparadesplein, Kaapstad, 8000 • **Posadres:** Postbus 9895, Kaapstad, 8000
• **Tel:** +27 (0)21 483 5859 • **E-pos:** caheritage@westerncape.gov.za

Idilesi yendawo: Ntshona Kaleni, I-Veroniva, Green Parade Square, Kaapstad, 8000 • **Idilesi yeposi:** I-Postbosi yendawo yeposi, 9895, iKaapstad, 8000 • **Ixesha lesi-ntshona:** +27 (0)21 483 5859 • **Iidilesi ye-imeyile:** caheritage@westerncape.gov.za

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Page 2 of 2



Applicants are strongly advised to review and adhere to the time limits contained within the Standard Operational Procedure (SOP) between DEADP and HWC. The SOP can be found using the following link: <http://www.hwc.org.za/node/293>

Should you have any further queries, please contact the official above and quote the case number.

Yours faithfully

Dr. Mxolisi Dlamuka
Chief Executive Officer

www.westerncape.gov.za/cas

	Street Address: Protea Assurance Building, Green Market Square, Cape Town, 8000 • Postal Address: P.O. Box 985, Cape Town, 8000 • Tel: +27 (0)21 483 5850 • E-mail: cas@heritage.gov.za
	Streetadres: Protea Assuransgebou, Groenmarkerplein, Kaapstad, 8000 • Posadres: Postbus 985, Kaapstad, 8000 • Tel: +27 (0)21 483 5850 • E-pos: cas@erfenisweskape.gov.za
	Idilesi yendawo: kungqungqo e Groenmarkerplein, Assurance, Greenmarket Square, Kaapstad, 8000 • Idilesi yeposi: iboxo eMantla yeposi yeposi, 985, iKaapstad, 8000 • Inombolo yomnyaka: +27 (0)21 483 5850 • Iidilesi ye-imeyile: cas@erfenisweskape.gov.za

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Our Ref: HM/ CAPE WINELANDS / WITZENBERG / FARM DIE BRAK 241,
FARM PLATFONTEIN 240
Case No.: 20081909580825E
Enquiries: Stephanie-Anne Barnardt
E-mail: stephanie.barnardt@westerncape.gov.za
Tel: 021 483 8959
Cell: 076 481 8392 (during the lock-down period)
Date: 14 September 2020



Claud Bosman
Icon Building 1409,
Long Street
Cape Town
claud@veroniva.co.za - jayson@astra-consulting.co.za

RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP; HIA REQUIRED
In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the Western Cape
Provincial Gazette 6061, Notice 298 of 2003

NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP: PROPOSED THREE 115 MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) POWER GENERATION FACILITIES TO BE CONSTRUCTED ON HOEK DOORNEN 172/1, WITTE WALL 171, FARM DIE BRAK 241, FARM PLATFONTEIN 240, WITZENBERG. SUBMITTED IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(1) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (ACT 25 OF 1999)
CASE NUMBER: 20081909580825E

The matter above has reference.

Heritage Western Cape is in receipt of your application for the above matter received. This matter was discussed at the Heritage Officers meeting held on 7 September 2020.

You are hereby notified that, since there is reason to believe that the proposed three 115 MW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) power generation facilities to be constructed on Hoek Doornen 172/1, Witte Wall 171, Farm Die Brak 241, Farm Platfontein 240, Witzenberg will impact on heritage resources, HWC requires that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) that satisfies the provisions of section 38(3) of the NHRA be submitted. This HIA must have specific reference to the following:

- A Visual Impact Assessment;
- An Archaeological Impact Assessment; and
- A Palaeontological Impact Assessment.

The required HIA must have an integrated set of recommendations.

Please note, should you require the HIA to be submitted as a Phased HIA, a written request must be submitted to HWC prior to submission. HWC reserves the right to determine whether a phased HIA is acceptable on a case by case basis.

The comments of relevant registered conservation bodies; all interested and Affected parties; and the relevant Municipality must be requested and included in the HIA where provided. Proof of these requests must be supplied.

HWC reserves the right to request additional information as required.

Applicants are strongly advised to review and adhere to the time limits contained the Standard Operational Procedure (SOP) between DEADP and HWC. The SOP can be found using the following link <http://www.hwc.org.za/node/293>

Should you have any further queries, please contact the official above and quote the case number.

Yours faithfully


Dr. Mxolisi Dlamuka
Chief Executive Officer

www.westerncape.gov.za/cei

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APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Appendix D.10: Proof of Consultation with the Witzenberg Local Municipality and Heritage Conservation Bodies for the Heritage Impact Assessment

From: Jayson <jayson@asha-consulting.co.za>
To: <david@witzenberg.gov.za>, <info@hexvalley.co.za>, <chrissara@resed.co.za>
CC: "Rahela Abed" <Rahel@resed.co.za>
Date: 16 Oct 2020 11:30
Subject: Grootfontein Heritage consultation

Dear all

I have compiled three heritage impact assessments for solar projects in the Tankwa Karoo region. It is required by Heritage Western Cape that I consult with the municipality and any registered heritage conservation bodies with an interest in the area. In this instance there are no conservation bodies with an interest in the area but I have included the Touws River Heritage and Conservation Society and the Hex Valley Tourism Association as the next closest organisations. Even though it is outside your respective areas, please feel free to comment should you wish to.











The link below provides access to the reports. Should the link be inactive by the time you get to it then please email me and I will reload them. However, please note that I will not be able to do this between 31 October and 15 November.

<https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/5f6suXX8IYr>

Each project has the following files:

- 1a. HIA
- 1b. Palaeontology report (the same report applies to projects 2 and 3 as well)
- 1c. VIA report
- 1d. VIA maps

Project 1 is Witte Wall, Project 2 is Grootfontein and Project 3 is Hoek Doornen.

-  1a. HIA - Witte Wall
-  1b. 2b, 3b. Palaeo - WW, GF & HD
-  1c. VIA - Witte Wall
-  1d. VIA Maps - Witte Wall
-  2a. HIA - Grootfontein
-  2c. VIA - Grootfontein
-  2d. VIA Maps - Grootfontein
-  3a. HIA - Hoek Doornen
-  3c. VIA - Hoek Doornen
-  3d. VIA Maps - Hoekdoornen

I would appreciate receiving any heritage-related comments back by return email by close of business on Monday the 16th November 2020.

I have sent the files via Hightail but the link above will work in case of non-receipt of the Hightail notification email.

With all best wishes
Jayson



Dr Jayson Orlin
ASHA Consulting (Pty) Ltd
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jayson@asha-consulting.co.za
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APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Appendix D.11: Submission of the Heritage Impact Assessment to Heritage Western Cape (HWC) for Decision-Making and Acknowledgement of Receipt

From: jayson <jayson@asha-consulting.co.za>
To: Ceoheritage <Ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za>
CC: "Rahsida Abed" <RAbed@coir.co.za>, "Claude Bosman" <claud@veonwa.co.za>
Date: 17 Nov 2020 16:47
Subject: Three HIA submissions for IACom

Hi

I have sent via Hightail three HIA submissions for consideration at the December IACom. But links pasted here too. Each HIA submission has 6 files (a-f). The HIAs are as follows:

1. HIA for two proposed Witte Wall PV facilities, Case No.: 20081910SB0825E
<https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/ArvQ06S50x>
2. HIA for three proposed Grootfontein PV facilities, Case No.: 20081908SB0821E
<https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/jo4Y458UkU>
3. HIA for four proposed Hoek Doornen PV facilities, Case No.: 20081909SB0825E
<https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/q6pETxDB2G>

Please let me know if you have any problem downloading the files.

Thanks
Jayson



Dr Jayson Orton
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From: "Ceoheritage" <Ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za>
To: "jayson" <jayson@asha-consulting.co.za>; "Ceoheritage" <Ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za>
Sent: 2020/11/18 14:09:13
Subject: RE: HIA - Witte Wall

Dear Jayson

I acknowledge receipt of your HIA application submitted in respect of the Proposed Development of two 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities (Witte Wall PV 1 and Witte Wall PV 2), and associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure near Touws River, Western Cape received on 18 November 2020

The assigned case officer will be in contact going forward.

Kind Regards

Ameerah Peters

Personal Assistant to CEO of
Heritage Western Cape
3rd Floor, Protea Assurance Building
Green Market Square
Cape Town
8001
t) 021 483 9598

header hwc

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Appendix D.12: Approval of the Heritage Impact Assessment by Heritage Western Cape (HWC)

Adopted Resolutions and Decisions of the Meeting of the Impact Assessment Committee (IACOM) of Heritage Western Cape (HWC) held via Microsoft Teams, at 09H00 on Wednesday, 9 December 2020



MATTERS DISCUSSED

- 15.4 Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facilities (Grootfontein PV 1 - PV 3): NM
HM/ BREEDE VALLEY / TOUWSRIVIER / GROOTFONTEIN PV 1 - PV 3

Case No: 20081908SB0821E

FINAL COMMENTS:

The Committee resolved to endorse the heritage impact assessment and recommendation as meeting with requirements of S38(3) of the NHRA.

SB

- 15.5 Proposed Development of Four 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facilities (Hoek Doornen PV 1 - PV 4) and associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure, near Touws River: NM
HM/ BREEDE VALLEY / TOUWSRIVIER / HOEK DOORNEN PV 1 - PV 4

Case No: 20081909SB0825E

FINAL COMMENTS:

The Committee resolved to endorse the heritage impact assessment and recommendation as meeting with requirements of S38(3) of the NHRA.

SB

- 15.6 Proposed Development of two 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Facilities (Witte Wall PV 1 & PV 2) and associated Electrical Grid Infrastructure, near Touws River: NM
HM /BREEDE VALLEY/ TOUWSRIVIER / (WITTE WALL PV 1 & PV 2)

Case No: 20081910SB0825E

FINAL COMMENTS:

The Committee resolved to endorse the heritage impact assessment and recommendation as meeting with requirements of S38(3) of the NHRA.

SB

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Appendix D.13: Copies and Proof of Correspondence Sent to Stakeholders for the Release of the Draft BA Report for Comment

Letter 1 sent via email I&APs, Stakeholders and Organs of State: Notification of the BA Processes and Release of the Draft BA Report for a 30-day Comment Period



CSIR EMS

PO Box 59081 Umbilo 4075 South Africa
Tel: +27 31 242 2300
Fax: +27 31 261 8172
Email: ems@csir.co.za

3 December 2020

Dear Interested and Affected Party,

RE: NOTIFICATION OF THE RELEASE OF FOUR DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR A 30-DAY COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NINE 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE (DEFF REFERENCE NUMBER: To be assigned)

Notice is hereby given that the Project Developer, Veroniva (Pty) Ltd, is proposing to develop nine 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) power generation facilities and associated infrastructure, north-east of Ceres and north of Touws River, in the Western Cape Province. The associated infrastructure includes various structures, buildings and electrical grid infrastructure (EGI) such as, but not limited to, nine 132 kV power lines, nine on-site substations and nine Lithium Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS's). The proposed nine Solar PV facilities will connect to the national grid at the existing Eskom Kappa Substation. The proposed projects are located within the Witzenberg Local Municipality, which falls within the Cape Winelands District Municipality.

The proposed projects are referred to as:

- Witte Wall PV 1, Witte Wall PV 2, Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, Grootfontein PV 3, Hoek Doornen PV 1, Hoek Doornen PV 2, Hoek Doornen PV 3 and Hoek Doornen PV 4.

The Project Applicants include:

- Witte Wall PV 1 (Pty) Ltd; Witte Wall PV 2 (Pty) Ltd; Grootfontein PV 1 (Pty) Ltd; Grootfontein PV 2 (Pty) Ltd; Grootfontein PV 3 (Pty) Ltd; Hoek Doornen PV 1 (Pty) Ltd; Hoek Doornen PV 2 (Pty) Ltd; Hoek Doornen PV 3 (Pty) Ltd; and Hoek Doornen PV 4 (Pty) Ltd.

The proposed Solar PV facilities and associated infrastructure will be constructed on the following farm portions: Grootfontein RE/149; Grootfontein 5/149; Witte Wall RE/171; and Hoek Doornen 1/172. The power lines will traverse these aforementioned farm portions, as well as the Die Brak 241 and Platfontein 240.

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended) (NEMA) and the 2014 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations promulgated on 8 December 2014 and as amended on 7 April 2017 in Government Notice (GN) R326, R327, R325 and R324, the proposed projects require an Environmental Assessment process. The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has been appointed as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the required Environmental Assessment.

The proposed solar PV projects and associated infrastructure are located entirely within the Komsberg Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ 2) (as gazetted in GN 114; 16 February 2018). Therefore, the proposed projects are subject to a Basic Assessment (BA) process and a reduced decision making period of 57 days, in terms of the NEMA and the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended).

Combined Applications for Environmental Authorisation (EA) have been submitted to the National Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), as the Competent Authority, with the Draft BA Reports for comment. Approval has been granted by the DEFF to submit combined Applications for EA in terms of Regulation 11 (4) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), and the issuing of multiple EAs (should they be granted) in terms of Regulation 25 (1) and (2) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). Therefore, four separate BA Reports have been compiled and are hereby released for comment, as indicated below. It is proposed that nine separate EAs will be issued for each solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure, as well as nine separate EAs for the power lines and associated EGI that are required to support the nine solar PV Facilities (should they be granted).

Board members: Prof. T. Majzozi (Chairperson), Ms P. Baleni, Dr A. Childs, Dr R. Masango, Mr S. Masie, Ms T. Mokhabuki, Dr V. Mthethwa, Mr J. Nelshitenzhe, Dr C. Render, Mr C. Shariff, Dr T. Dlamini (CEO)

www.csir.co.za

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Report 1: Witte Wall Farm	Report 2: Grootfontein Farm	Report 3: Hoek Doornen Farm	Report 4: EGI
Group 1 – Witte Wall Farm: 1 BA Report that covers the 2 PV Facilities (i.e. Witte Wall PV 1 and PV 2), 2 on-site substations, 2 Lithium Ion BESS's and all associated infrastructure.	Group 2: Grootfontein Farm: 1 BA Report that covers the 3 PV Facilities (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, PV 2 and PV 3), 3 on-site substations, 3 Lithium Ion BESS's and all associated infrastructure.	Group 3: Hoek Doornen Farm: 1 BA Report that covers the 4 PV Facilities (i.e. Hoek Doornen PV 1, PV 2, PV 3 and PV 4), 4 on-site substations, 4 Lithium Ion BESS's and all associated infrastructure.	Group 4: EGI to support the PV Facilities: 1 BA Report that covers all the power lines and associated EGI that are required to support the 9 PV Facilities (i.e. 9 Power Lines).

An integrated Public Participation Process (PPP) is being undertaken for the BA Processes (i.e. Witte Wall PV 1; Witte Wall PV 2; Grootfontein PV 1; Grootfontein PV 2; Grootfontein PV 3; Hoek Doornen PV 1; Hoek Doornen PV 2; Hoek Doornen PV 3; and Hoek Doornen PV 4). This approach is being undertaken due to the close proximity of the sites (i.e. the proposed projects will take place within the same geographical area) and that the proposed projects entail the same type of activity. In addition, a Public Participation Plan required in terms of GN 650 was completed and approved by the DEFF on 3 September 2020. Please refer to Appendix D.1 of the Draft BA Reports for a copy of the Public Participation Plan.

In line with the above, as a registered stakeholder and Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) on the pre-determined project database, you are hereby notified of the release of the Draft BA Reports for the proposed projects for a 30-day comment period, which extends from 3 December 2020 to 25 January 2021 (excluding the period of 15 December 2020 to 5 January 2021 from the reckoning of days).

The Draft BA Reports can be accessed on the project website (<https://www.csir.co.za/environmental-impact-assessment>). As a supplementary mechanism, the Draft BA Reports can also be downloaded from the following link on Google Drive: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1V3Ehq6JJUfKzCjq5wH7IF_vbifbQi7Wo?usp=sharing

Should you wish to register as an I&AP and/or to provide comments on these proposed projects, you are kindly requested to e-mail, fax or mail your name, contact details and project-related comments to the EAP at the contact details provided below by 25 January 2021:

- Attention: Rohaida Abed
- P.O. Box 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075
- Tel: 031 242 2300
- Fax: 031 261 8172
- Email: ems@csir.co.za

Copies of all comments received from I&APs and stakeholders during the review of the Draft BA Reports will be included as an appendix to the Final BA Reports and in the Comments and Response Reports. The Final BA Reports will then be submitted to the DEFF for decision-making in line with Regulation 19 (1) (a) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended).

We thank you in advance for your participation in these BA processes. Should you have any queries or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned using the contact details provided above.



Paul Lochner
Project Leader and EAP
CSIR Environmental Management Services

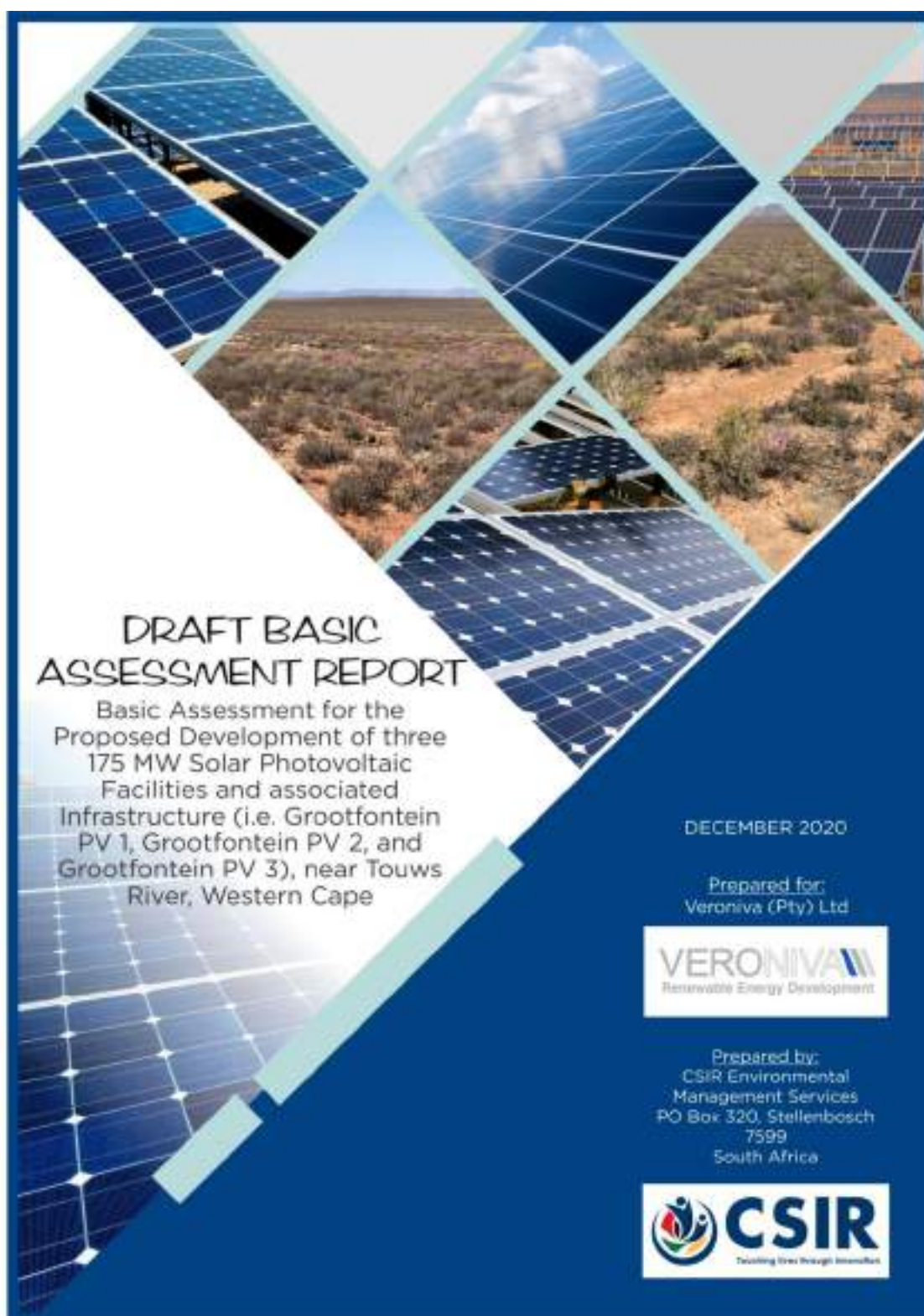


Rohaida Abed
Project Manager and EAP
CSIR Environmental Management Services

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Executive Summaries Sent with Letter 1 via email



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DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The Project Developer, Veroniva (PTY) Ltd, is proposing to develop nine 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) power generation facilities and associated infrastructure, north-east of Ceres and north of Touws River, in the Western Cape Province. The associated infrastructure includes various structures, buildings and electrical grid infrastructure (EGI) such as, but not limited to, nine 132 kV power lines, nine on-site substations, and nine Lithium Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). The proposed nine Solar PV facilities will connect to the national grid at the existing Eskom Kappa Substation. The proposed projects are located within the Witzenberg Local Municipality, which falls within the Cape Winelands District Municipality, and are situated approximately 90 km from Ceres and 70 km from Touws River. The locality map is provided in Figure A. Each proposed project will be developed by a separate Project Applicant. The Project Names, Project Applicants, and respective farm portions affected by the proposed PV facilities, EGI and associated infrastructure are shown in Table A below. **It must be noted that this report only covers the proposed Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 projects, as detailed below. Separate reports are provided for the remaining PV projects.**

Table A: Project Names, Applicants and Affected Farm Portions

Project Name	Project Applicant	Affected Farm Portions (PV Facility and Associated Infrastructure)	Affected Farm Portions (Power Lines)
Witte Wal PV 1	Witte Wal PV 1 (PTY) LTD	• Witte Wal RE/171	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Witte Wal RE/171 • Die Brak RE/241 • Platfontein RE/240
Witte Wal PV 2	Witte Wal PV 2 (PTY) LTD		
Grootfontein PV 1 ¹	Grootfontein PV 1 (PTY) LTD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grootfontein RE/149 • Grootfontein PV 2 (PTY) LTD • Grootfontein PV 3 (PTY) LTD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grootfontein RE/149 • Hoek Doornen 1/172 • Witte Wal RE/171 • Die Brak RE/241 • Platfontein RE/240
Grootfontein PV 2 ¹	Grootfontein PV 2 (PTY) LTD		
Grootfontein PV 3 ¹	Grootfontein PV 3 (PTY) LTD		
Hoek Doornen PV 1	Hoek Doornen PV 1 (PTY) LTD	• Hoek Doornen 1/172	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hoek Doornen 1/172 • Witte Wal RE/171 • Die Brak RE/241 • Platfontein RE/240
Hoek Doornen PV 2	Hoek Doornen PV 2 (PTY) LTD		
Hoek Doornen PV 3	Hoek Doornen PV 3 (PTY) LTD		
Hoek Doornen PV 4	Hoek Doornen PV 4 (PTY) LTD		

The proposed projects are located entirely within the Komsberg Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ 2), one of the eight REDZs formally gazetted in South Africa for the purpose of developing solar and wind energy generation facilities (Government Notice (GN) 114, 16 February 2016). In line with the gazetted process for projects located within a REDZ, the proposed projects will be subject to a Basic Assessment (BA) process instead of a full Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and a reduced decision making period of 57 days, in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 101 of 1996, as amended) (NEMA) and the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended) promulgated in Government Gazette 40772: in GN R326, R327, R325 and R324 on 7 April 2017. A BA Process in terms of Appendix 1 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended) has therefore been undertaken for the proposed projects. The Competent Authority for the proposed projects is the National Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF).

¹ This BA Report only addresses this project. Separate reports are compiled for the remaining PV projects.

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Approval has been granted by the DEFF to submit combined Applications for Environmental Authorisation (EA) in terms of Regulation 11 (4) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), and the issuing of multiple EAs (should they be granted) in terms of Regulation 25 (1) and (2) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). Therefore, four separate BA Reports have been compiled, as indicated in Table B below, and it is proposed that nine separate EAs will be issued for each PV Facility and associated infrastructure, as well as nine separate EAs for the power lines and associated EGI that are required to support the nine PV Facilities (should they be granted):

Table B: BA Reporting Structure and Components

	Report 1: Witte Wall Farm	Report 2: Grootfontein Farm	Report 3: Hoek Doornen Farm	Report 4: EGI
BA Reports	Group 1: Witte Wall Farm: 1 BA Report that covers the 2 PV Facilities (i.e. Witte Wall PV 1 and PV 2), 2 on-site substations, 2 Lithium Ion BESS's and all associated infrastructure.	Group 2: Grootfontein Farm: 1 BA Report that covers the 3 PV Facilities (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, PV 2 and PV 3), 3 on-site substations, 3 Lithium Ion BESS's and all associated infrastructure.	Group 3: Hoek Doornen Farm: 1 BA Report that covers the 4 PV Facilities (i.e. Hoek Doornen PV 1, PV 2, PV 3 and PV 4), 4 on-site substations, 4 Lithium Ion BESS's and all associated infrastructure.	Group 4: EGI to support the PV Facilities: 1 BA Report that covers all the power lines and associated EGI that are required to support the 9 PV Facilities (i.e. 9 Power Lines)

Combined Applications for EA have been submitted to the DEFF together with the Draft BA Reports.

As explained above, the Draft BA Report only deals with the proposed Grootfontein Farm i.e. the 3 PV Facilities (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3), 3 on-site substations, 3 Lithium Ion BESS's and all associated infrastructure.

An Integrated Public Participation Process is being undertaken for the proposed projects.

This Draft BA Report is currently being released to all interested and Affected Parties (SAPs), Organs of State and stakeholders for a 30-day review period. All comments submitted during the 30-day review will be incorporated and addressed, as applicable and where relevant, into the Final BA Report. The Final BA Report will then be submitted to the DEFF, in accordance with Regulation 19 (1) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), for decision-making in terms of Regulation 20, however with a reduced 57-day timeframe (as the proposed projects fall within the REDZ 2, as explained above).

PROJECT LOCATION



Figure A: Locality Map of the Proposed Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 Projects

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The locality of the proposed Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 projects, including the associated infrastructure, is shown below in Figure A. The co-ordinates of the proposed project sites are detailed in Section A of the Draft BA Report.

PROJECT BASIC ASSESSMENT TEAM

In accordance with Regulation 12 (1) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), the Project Developer has appointed the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) to undertake the required BA Processes in order to determine the biophysical, social and economic impacts associated with undertaking the proposed development. The project team, including the relevant specialists, is indicated in Table C below.

Table C: Project Team for the Grootfontein BA Process

Name	Organisation	Role/Specialist Study
CSIR Project Team		
Paul Lochner (Registered EAP (2019/745))	CSIR	EAP and Project Leader
Rohaida Abed (Pr.Sci.Nat.)	CSIR	Project Manager
Dhiveshni Moodley (Cond.Sci.Nat.)	CSIR	Project Officer
Luanita Snyman-van der Walt (Pr.Sci.Nat.)	CSIR	Project Mapping
Lizande Kellerman (Pr.Sci.Nat.)	CSIR	Project Specialist
Specialists		
Johann Laro (Pr.Sci.Nat.)	Private	Agricultural Compliance Statement
Quinton Lawson	Quinton Lawson Architect (QARC)	Visual Impact Assessment
Bernard Oberholzer	Bernard Oberholzer Landscape Architect (BOLA)	
Dr. Jayson Orton	ASHA Consulting	Heritage Impact Assessment (Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Paleontology)
Dr. John Almond	Natura Viva cc	
Simon Bundy (Pr.Sci.Nat.), Luke Meingard and Alex Whitehead (Pr.Sci.Nat.)	Sustainable Development Projects cc	Terrrestrial Biodiversity and Species Impact Assessment
Simon Todd (Pr.Sci.Nat.)	3Foss Biodiversity Solutions	Riverine Rabbit
Simon Bundy (Pr.Sci.Nat.), Luke Meingard and Alex Whitehead (Pr.Sci.Nat.)	Sustainable Development Projects cc	Aquatic Biodiversity and Species Impact Assessment
Chris van Rooijen and Albert Froneman (Pr.Sci.Nat.)	Chris van Rooijen Consulting	Avifauna Impact Assessment
Sandra Hill	Private	Socio-Economic Impact Assessment
Charl Mulker	GEOS South Africa (PTY) Ltd	Geohydrology Assessment
Lizande Kellerman (Pr.Sci.Nat.), Rohaida Abed (Pr.Sci.Nat.), Luanita Snyman-van der Walt (Pr.Sci.Nat.)	CSIR	Civil Aviation Site Sensitivity Verification
Lizande Kellerman (Pr.Sci.Nat.), Rohaida Abed (Pr.Sci.Nat.), Luanita Snyman-van der Walt (Pr.Sci.Nat.)	CSIR	Defense Site Sensitivity Verification
Technical Input		
Anneliet Krige Pr.Eng	Sturgeon Consulting	Traffic Impact Statement

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

It is important to point out at the outset that the exact specifications of the proposed project components will be determined during the detailed engineering phase (subsequent to the issuing of EAs, should they be granted for the proposed projects).

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The proposed three 175 MW Solar PV facilities (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3) will each cover an approximate area of 250 hectares (ha). This includes access roads leading to the site. The specialists assessed larger areas on the affected farm portions in order to avoid environmental constraints and sensitivities (highlighted by the specialists), during the siting and final design of the facilities and associated infrastructure.

The proposed projects will make use of PV technology to generate electricity from solar energy. Once a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) is awarded, the proposed facility will generate electricity for a minimum period of 20 years. The construction phase for each proposed project is expected to extend 12 to 14 months. The proposed solar facilities will each consist of the following components (i.e. the project components are the same for Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3, except where specified):

- Solar Field, comprising Solar Arrays with a maximum height of 10 m and maximum footprint of 250 hectares, including the following:
 - PV Modules;
 - Single Axis Tracking structures (aligned north-south), Fixed Axis Tracking (aligned east-west), Dual Axis Tracking (aligned east-west and north-south), Fixed Tilt Mounting Structure or Bifacial Solar Modules;
 - Solar module mounting structures comprised of galvanised steel and aluminium; and
 - Foundations which will likely be drilled and concreted into the ground.
- Building Infrastructure
 - Offices (maximum height 7 m and footprint of 1000 m²);
 - Operational and maintenance control centre (maximum height 7 m and footprint 500 m²);
 - Washhouse/workshop (maximum height 7 m and footprint 500 m²);
 - Abution facilities (maximum height 7 m and footprint 50 m²);
 - Converter/inverter stations (height from 2.5 m to 7 m (maximum) and footprint 2500 m²);
 - On-site substation and/or a switching substation (footprint 20 000 m²); and
 - Guard Houses (height 3 m, footprint 40 m²).
- Associated Infrastructure:
 - On-site substation and/or a switching substation (the relevant section that will be maintained by the Independent Power Producer);
 - Internal 33 kV power lines/underground cables (either underground to a maximum depth of 1.6 m or above ground with a height of 9 m);
 - Lithium Ion BESS that will have a height of up to 5 – 10 m, and will cover an area of up to 8 hectares (within the laydown area of the PV Facility);
 - Underground low voltage cables or cable trays (underground to maximum depth of 1.4 m);
 - Access roads, ranging between 4 - 8 m wide;
 - Internal gravel roads (width of 4 - 5 m);
 - Fencing (between 2 – 3 m high) around the PV Facilities;
 - Panel maintenance and clearing area;
 - Storm water channels; and
 - Construction work area (i.e. laydown area of maximum 15 ha).

The separate BA Process for the EGI (i.e. **Report 4: EGI to support the PV Facilities**) addresses the following infrastructure to support each of the PV Facilities:

- Nine 132 kV overhead power lines to connect to the existing Eskom Kappa Substation located within a corridor of approximately 300 m wide;
- Service road of approximately 4 m wide below the power lines;
- Game fences along the power line routes to fence off the servitudes across the farms Witte Wall and Die Birk;
- Nine on-site substations and/or a switching substations (the relevant section that will be transferred from the Independent Power Producer); and

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- Associated electrical infrastructure at the Eskom Kappa Substation (including but not limited to feeders, Busbars, new transformer bay (up to 500 MVA) and extension to the platform at the Eskom Kappa Substation).

NEED FOR THE BA

As noted above, in terms of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations published in GN R326, R327, R325 and R324, as well as GN 114 for procedures within a REDZs, a full BA Process is required for the proposed projects. The need for the BA is triggered by, amongst others, the inclusion of Activity 1 listed in GN R325 (Listing Notice 2):

- "The development of facilities or infrastructure for the generation of electricity from a renewable resource where the electricity output is 20 megawatts or more, excluding where such development of facilities or infrastructure is for photovoltaic installations and occurs (a) within an urban area, or (b) on existing infrastructure".

Section A of this Draft BA Report contains the detailed list of activities contained in GN R327, R325 and R324 which are triggered by the various project components and thus form part of this BA Process.

The purpose of the BA is to identify, assess and report on any potential impacts the proposed project, if implemented, may have on the receiving environment. The BA therefore needs to show the Competent Authority, the DEFF, and the project proponent, Veroniva (PTY) Ltd, what the consequences of their choices will be in terms of impacts on the biophysical and socio-economic environment and how such impacts can be, as far as possible, enhanced or mitigated and managed as the case may be.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

As indicated in Table C above, a total of eight specialist studies were undertaken as part of the BA Process. Two site sensitivity verification assessments were undertaken for Civil Aviation and Defence, and a technical input report on traffic was also conducted.

The full specialist studies are provided in Appendix C of this Draft BA Report. Section B of this report provides a summary of the affected environment associated with these studies, and Section D provides a summary of the impact assessments conducted by the specialists.

A summary of the specialist studies is outlined below:

Agriculture

The Agriculture Compliance Statement was undertaken by Johann Lenz to inform the outcome of this BA from an agricultural and soils perspective. The complete Agriculture Compliance Statement is included in Appendix C.1 of the BA report.

Two potential negative agricultural impacts have been identified. These impacts are described below and apply to the Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 PV Facilities, and other associated infrastructure:

- Loss of agricultural land use - Agricultural land directly occupied by the development infrastructure will become unavailable for agricultural use. This impact is relevant only in the construction phase. No further loss of agricultural land use occurs in subsequent phases.
- Soil degradation - Soil can be degraded by impacts in three different ways: erosion; topsoil loss; and contamination. Erosion can occur as a result of the alteration of the land surface run-off characteristics, which can be caused by construction related land surface disturbance, vegetation removal, and the establishment of hard surface areas including roads. Loss of topsoil can result from poor topsoil management during construction related excavations. Hydrocarbon spillages from construction activities can contaminate soil. Soil degradation will reduce the ability of the soil to support vegetation growth. This impact is relevant only during the construction and decommissioning phases.

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In quantifying the cumulative impact, the area of land taken out of grazing as a result of the nine proposed Veroniva developments plus the other eleven renewable energy developments (total generation capacity of 4,000 MW) will amount to a total of approximately 5,097 hectares. This is calculated using the industry standards of 2.5 and 0.3 hectares per megawatt for solar and wind energy generation respectively, as per the Phase 1 Wind and Solar SEA (DEA, 2015). As a proportion of the total area within a 30 km radius (approximately 282,700 ha), this amounts to 1.80% of the surface area. That is within an acceptable limit in terms of loss of low potential agricultural land, of which there is no scarcity in the country.

The conclusion of this assessment is that the proposed development (3 x 175 MW Solar PV plus associated infrastructure) will not have an unacceptable negative impact on the agricultural production capability of the site. The proposed development is therefore acceptable. This is substantiated by the following points:

- The amount of agricultural land loss is within the allowable development limits prescribed by the agricultural protocol. These limits reflect the national need to conserve valuable agricultural land and therefore to steer, particularly renewable energy developments, onto land with low agricultural production potential.
- The proposed development poses a low risk in terms of causing soil degradation, which can be adequately and fairly easily managed by mitigation management actions. In addition, the degradation risk is only to land of low agricultural value, and the significance of the impact is therefore low.

Therefore, from an agricultural impact point of view, it is recommended that the proposed development be approved.

Visual Impact Assessment

The Visual Impact Assessment was undertaken by Quinton Lawson and Bernard Oberholzer to inform the outcome of this BA from a visual perspective. The complete Visual Impact Assessment is included in Appendix C.2 of the BA Report.

The potential visual impacts resulting from the proposed Grootfontein PV projects on landscape features and receptors are listed below for each of the project phases, including cumulative impacts. The potential visual impacts would be identical for each of the proposed PV facilities. The impacts identified are direct and cumulative impacts. No indirect impacts have been identified.

Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)
DIRECT IMPACTS - CONSTRUCTION PHASE		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact 1: Potential effect of dust and noise from trucks and construction machinery during the construction period, and the effect of this on residents and visitors to the area, particularly users of the main arterial route (R306), to the site. • Impact 2: Potential visual effect of haul roads, access roads, stockpiles and construction camps in the exposed landscape. 	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
DIRECT IMPACTS - OPERATIONAL PHASE		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact 1: Potential visual intrusion of solar arrays and related infrastructure and the impact on receptors, including residents and visitors, as well as game farms in the area. • Impact 2: Potential visual impact of an industrial type activity on the rural or wilderness character of the area. 	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
DIRECT IMPACTS - DECOMMISSIONING PHASE		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact 1: Potential visual effect of any remaining structures, platforms and disused roads on the landscape. 	Low risk (Level 4)	Very low risk (Level 5)
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS - CONSTRUCTION PHASE		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact 1: Potential combined visual effect of the three solar PV facilities and associated infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV development) with the similarly proposed Witte Wal and Hoek Doornen solar facilities in the study area, as well as with other nearby existing and proposed renewable energy 	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)

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Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)
farms in the area.		
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS - OPERATIONAL PHASE		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact 1: Potential combined visual effect of the three solar PV facilities and associated infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV development) with the similarly proposed Witte Wal and Hoek Doornen solar facilities in the study area, as well as with other nearby existing and proposed renewable energy farms in the area. 	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Moderate risk (Level 3)
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS - DECOMMISSIONING PHASE		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact 1: Potential combined visual effect of the three solar PV facilities and associated infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV development) with the similarly proposed Witte Wal and Hoek Doornen solar facilities in the study area, as well as with other nearby existing and proposed renewable energy farms in the area. 	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Very low risk (Level 5)

Overall, the Visual Impact Assessment concluded that there are no fatal flaws from a visual perspective arising from the proposed projects, and given the marginal nature of agriculture in the area, the solar energy project is probably an inherently suitable land use that should receive authorisation, provided the mitigation measures are implemented as a condition of approval.

Heritage Impact Assessment (Archaeology and Cultural Landscape)

The Heritage Impact Assessment was undertaken by Dr. Jayson Orton of ASHA Consulting to inform the outcome of this BA from an archaeology and cultural landscape perspective. An integrated Heritage Impact Assessment containing Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Palaeontology has been undertaken for the project in line with the requirements of Heritage Western Cape (HWC). However, for ease of reference, this section only deals with the Archaeology and Cultural Landscape. The complete Heritage Impact Assessment is included in Appendix C.3 of the BA Report.

The potential impacts identified in the Heritage Impact Assessment are the same for the Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 projects, and include direct and cumulative impacts during the construction, operational and decommissioning phases. No indirect impacts are anticipated. The impacts identified are listed below.

Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)
DIRECT IMPACTS - CONSTRUCTION PHASE		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential impacts to archaeological resources and graves 	Low risk (Level 4)	Very low risk (Level 5)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential impacts to the cultural landscape 	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)
DIRECT IMPACTS - OPERATIONAL PHASE		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential impacts to the cultural landscape 	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
DIRECT IMPACTS - DECOMMISSIONING PHASE		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential impacts to the cultural landscape 	Moderate (Level 3)	Low (Level 4)
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS – CONSTRUCTION, OPERATIONAL AND DECOMMISSIONING PHASES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cumulative impacts to all heritage resources 	Moderate (Level 3)	Moderate (Level 3)

The Heritage Impact Assessment concluded that there are no significant impacts to culturally significant heritage resources anticipated and impacts of low significance can be easily managed or mitigated. It was recommended that the three proposed Grootfontein PV developments should be authorised in full.

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Heritage Impact Assessment (Palaeontology)

The Palaeontology Impact Assessment was undertaken by Dr. John Almond of Natura Viva to inform the outcome of this BA from a palaeontological perspective. The Palaeontology Impact Assessment is included as an appendix to the Heritage Impact Assessment, which is included in Appendix C.3 of the BA Report.

The potential impacts identified during the Palaeontology Impact Assessment are the same for the Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 projects. The key impacts on local palaeontological heritage resources identified are direct and relate to the potential disturbance, damage, destruction or sealing-in of scientifically-important and legally-protected fossils preserved at or beneath the surface of the ground due to construction phase excavations, and ground clearance. The impacts identified only apply to the construction phase of the proposed developments since further significant impacts on fossil heritage during the planning, operational and decommissioning phases of the facilities are not anticipated. Cumulative impacts are also identified, as indicated below.

Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)
DIRECT IMPACTS - CONSTRUCTION PHASE		
• Disturbance, damage or destruction of fossils within the development footprint due to excavations and surface clearance	Very low risk (Level 5)	Very low risk (Level 5)
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS - CONSTRUCTION PHASE		
• Disturbance, damage or destruction of fossils within the development footprint due to excavations and surface clearance	Low risk (Level 4)	Very low risk (Level 5)

As a consequence of (1) the paucity of irreplaceable, unique or rare fossil remains within the development footprint, as well as (2) the extensive superficial sediment cover overlying most potentially-fossiliferous bedrocks within the solar PV facility project areas, the overall impact significance of the construction phase of the proposed solar PV facilities regarding legally-protected palaeontological heritage resources is assessed as **very low** (negative status), with and without mitigation.

In terms of cumulative impacts, it is concluded that as far as fossil heritage resources are concerned, the proposed solar facility projects, whether considered individually or together, will not result in an unacceptable loss or unacceptable additional impacts, considering all the renewable energy projects proposed in the area. This analysis only applies provided that all the proposed monitoring and mitigation recommendations made for all these various projects are consistently and fully implemented.

There are no identified fatal flaws and no objections on palaeontological heritage grounds to authorisation of the proposed solar PV facilities.

Terrestrial Biodiversity and Species Impact Assessment

The Terrestrial Biodiversity and Species Assessment was undertaken by Simon Bundy, Luka Maingard, and Alex Whitehead of Sustainable Development Projects cc to inform the outcome of this BA from a terrestrial biodiversity and species perspective. The complete Terrestrial Biodiversity and Species Assessment is included in Appendix C.4 of the BA Report.

The potential impacts identified as part of the Terrestrial Biodiversity and Species Assessment are the same for the Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 projects. A number of direct, indirect and cumulative impacts on the localised and broader ecology of the region can be identified as a consequence of the implementation of the proposed project. These impacts are noted below.

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Construction Phase – Direct Impacts

Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)	
• Impact 1: Alteration of habitat structure and composition	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)	
• Impact 2: Ousting (and recruitment) of various fauna	High risk (Level 2)	Moderate risk (Level 3)	
• Impact 3: Changes in the geomorphological state of drainage patterns	High risk (Level 2)	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 4: Increased ELP	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)	
• Impact 5: Exclusion or entrapment of (in particular) large fauna	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)	
• Impact 6: Changes in ecotopes (soils) due to excavation and import of soils, leading to the alteration of plant communities and faunal species in and around these points	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)	
• Impact 7: Changes in subsurface water resources arising from alteration of percolation and recharge at points	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)	
• Impact 8: Changes in water resources and surface water in terms of water quality	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)	
• Impact 9: Exotic weed invasion	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)	
• Impact 10: Clearance of vegetation to establish roadways and other infrastructure	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)	
• Impact 11: Dust – according to movement of traffic and other construction related factors will affect factors such as palatability of vegetation	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)	
• Impact 12: Incidental pollution events, including the loss of solid waste, spillage of liquids such as hydrocarbons and other fuels as well as possible sewerage and other waste is likely to affect select points within the subject site, possibly affecting habitat form and other factors.	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)	
• Impact 13: General disturbance on account of pedestrian movement and activities on site	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)	

Operational Phase – Direct Impacts

Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)
• Impact 14: Continued alteration of habitat structure and composition on account of continuing low level anthropogenic impacts, such as "shading of vegetation" from arrays	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 15: Ousting (and recruitment) of various fauna on account of long-term changes in the surrounding habitat/environment	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 16: Changes in the geomorphological state of the subject site on account of long-term climatic changes and the concomitant change in the nature of the catchment arising from the land use change	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 17: Changes in water resources and water quality (i.e. impact on water chemistry) as a result of operational activities	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 18: Exotic weed invasion as a consequence of regular and continued disturbance of site	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)

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Decommissioning Phase – Direct Impacts

Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)
• Impact 19: A reversion to an early seral stage	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 20: A reversion to present faunal population status within the study area, with some variation to these populations being possible	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 21: Changes in the geomorphological state of drainage lines as hydraulic changes arise within the catchment	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 22: Exotic weed invasion as a consequence of abandonment of site and cessation of weed control measures	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)

Operational Phase - Indirect Impacts

Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)
• Impact 23: Changes in the broader landscape ecology through alteration of eco-morphological drivers	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 24: Changes in faunal ethos due to the establishment of the PV facilities	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)

Construction and Operational Phases – Cumulative Impacts

Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)
• Impact 25: Alteration of habitat structure and composition, albeit primarily sporadic in nature, over an extensive and wide area	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 26: Changes in fauna, faunal ethos and related factors	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 27: Increased change in the geomorphological state of drainage lines and watercourses on account of long term and extensive change in the nature of the catchment	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 28: Changes in water resources and surface-water in terms of water quality (i.e. impact on water chemistry) on account of extensive changes in the catchment	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 29: Exotic weed invasion as a consequence of regular and continued disturbance across an extensive area of site	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)

The overall impact significance (with the implementation of mitigation measures) associated with the PV facilities is rated as moderate during the construction phase, and low during the operational and decommissioning phases for direct impacts. The same trend applies to the cumulative and indirect impacts.

Given the information presented above it is recommended that the proposed Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 projects are permitted to proceed, and that it has a limited impact on the broader ecological processes and those areas deemed to be of ecological significance (namely the lower riparian environments and sand wash environments). Therefore, the proposed projects show a low level ecological impact within the sites identified and, subject to the implementation of the prescribed management recommendations and conditions, should not be precluded from development on ecological grounds.

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Aquatic Biodiversity and Species Impact Assessment

The Aquatic Biodiversity and Species Assessment was undertaken by Simon Bundy, Luke Maingard, and Alex Whitehead of Sustainable Development Projects cc to inform the outcome of this BA from an aquatic biodiversity and species perspective. The complete Aquatic Biodiversity and Species Assessment is included in Appendix C.5 of the BA Report.

The potential impacts identified as part of the Aquatic Biodiversity and Species Assessment are the same for the Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 projects. A number of direct, indirect and cumulative impacts on the localised and broader ecology of the region can be identified as a consequence of the implementation of the proposed project. These impacts are noted below.

Construction Phase – Direct Impacts

Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)
• Impact 1: Changes in the geomorphological state of drainage patterns	High risk (Level 2)	Moderate risk (Level 3)
• Impact 2: Increased ELP	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 3: Changes in water resources and surface water in terms of water quality	Moderate risk (Level 2)	Low risk (Level 4)

Operational Phase – Direct Impacts

Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)
• Impact 4: Changes in the geomorphological state of the subject site on account of long-term climatic changes and the concomitant change in the nature of the catchment arising from the land use change	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 5: Changes in water resources and water quality (i.e. impact on water chemistry) as a result of operational activities	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)

Decommissioning Phase – Direct Impacts

Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)
• Impact 6: A reversion to present faunal population states within the study area, with some variation to these populations being possible	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 7: Changes in the geomorphological state of drainage lines as hydraulic changes arise within the catchment	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)

Construction and Operational Phases - Indirect Impacts

Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)
• Impact 8: Changes in the broader landscape ecology through alteration of eco-morphological drivers	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 9: Changes in faunal ethos due to the establishment of the PV Facilities	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)

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Construction and Operational Phases – Cumulative Impacts

Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)
• Impact 10: Increased change in the geomorphological state of drainage lines and watercourses, on account of long term and extensive change in the nature of the catchment	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 11: Changes in water resources and surface water in terms of water quality on account of extensive changes in the catchment	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)

The overall impact significance (with the implementation of mitigation measures) associated with the PV facilities is rated as low during the construction phase, operational and decommissioning phases for direct impacts. The same trend applies to the cumulative and indirect impacts.

Given the information presented above it is recommended that the proposed Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 projects are permitted to proceed, and that it has a limited impact on the broader ecological processes and those areas deemed to be of ecological significance (namely the lower riparian environments and sand wash environments). Therefore, the proposed projects show a low level aquatic ecological impact on adjacent riparian environments and, subject to the implementation of the prescribed management recommendations and conditions, should not be precluded from development on ecological grounds.

Riverine Rabbit Assessment

The Riverine Rabbit Assessment was undertaken by Simon Todd of 3Foxes Biodiversity Solutions to inform the outcome of this BA from a faunal perspective, with particular reference to Riverine Rabbit. The complete Riverine Rabbit Assessment is included in Appendix F of the Terrestrial Biodiversity and Species Assessment, which is included as Appendix C.4 of the BA Report.

The potential impacts identified as part of the Riverine Rabbit Assessment are the same for the Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 projects. The following impacts were identified for the construction and operational phases.

Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)
DIRECT AND INDIRECT IMPACTS - CONSTRUCTION PHASE		
• Impact on Riverine Rabbits due to construction phase activities (i.e. Habitat loss and disturbance)	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)
DIRECT IMPACTS - OPERATIONAL PHASE		
• Impact on Riverine Rabbits due to operational phase activities (i.e. Disturbance and vehicle collisions)	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS - OPERATIONAL PHASE		
• Cumulative Impacts on Broad-Scale Ecological Processes as related to the Riverine Rabbit (Disturbance and vehicle collisions)	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)

A 5-week camera trapping exercise was undertaken that did not capture any images of Riverine Rabbits, suggesting at the very least that this species is not common in the area. Based on the field assessment and assessed layout of the proposed PV facilities, the development would not generate significant impact on the Riverine Rabbit and with the provided buffers around the important habitat features, the loss of habitat and impacts on landscape connectivity for Rabbits would be low.

Under the layout of the PV facilities as assessed, there are no impacts on Riverine Rabbits that are moderate or high after mitigation and as a result, the development of the proposed PV facilities is considered acceptable. Overall, there are no fatal flaws associated with any of the proposed PV facilities and it can be supported in terms of generating acceptably low Riverine Rabbit impacts.

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Avifauna Assessment

The Avifauna Impact Assessment was undertaken by Chris van Rooyen and Albert Froneman of Chris van Rooyen Consulting to inform the outcome of this BA from an avifaunal perspective. The complete Avifauna Impact Assessment is included in Appendix C.6 of the BA Report.

The potential impacts identified during the Avifauna Impact Assessment are the same for the Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 projects. The following direct and cumulative impacts for the construction, operational and decommissioning phases were identified.

Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)
DIRECT IMPACTS - CONSTRUCTION PHASE		
• Impact 1: Displacement due to disturbance associated with the construction of the solar PV plants and associated infrastructure	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)
DIRECT IMPACTS - OPERATIONAL PHASE		
• Impact 1: Total or partial displacement of avifauna due to habitat transformation associated with the presence of the solar PV plants and associated infrastructure	High risk (Level 2)	Moderate risk (Level 3)
• Impact 2: Mortality through collisions with the solar panels	Very low risk (Level 5)	Very low risk (Level 5)
• Impact 3: Entanglement of medium and large terrestrial birds between the perimeter fences, leading to mortality	Low risk (Level 4)	Very low risk (Level 5)
• Impact 4: Electrocuting of priority species on the internal 33kV power lines	High risk (Level 2)	Very low risk (Level 5)
DIRECT IMPACTS - DECOMMISSIONING PHASE		
• Impact 1: The noise and movement associated with the activities at the study area will be a source of disturbance which would lead to the displacement of avifauna from the area	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS - CONSTRUCTION PHASE		
• Impact 1: Displacement due to disturbance associated with the construction of the solar PV plant and associated infrastructure	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS - OPERATIONAL PHASE		
• Impact 2: Habitat transformation, collisions with the solar panels, entanglement in fences, and electrocution on internal reticulation lines	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS - DECOMMISSIONING PHASE		
• Impact 3: The noise and movement associated with the activities at the study area will be a source of disturbance which would lead to the displacement of avifauna from the area	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)

It was concluded that the expected avifaunal impacts of the proposed Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 solar PV facilities and associated infrastructure were overall rated to be of Moderate significance and negative status pre-mitigation. However, with appropriate mitigation, the post-mitigation significance of all the identified impacts should be reduced to Low negative. It is therefore recommended that the activity is authorised from an avifaunal perspective, on condition that the proposed mitigation measures as detailed above and in the EMP (Appendix G of this BA Report) are strictly implemented.

Socio-Economic Assessment

The Socio-Economic Assessment was undertaken by Sandra Hill to inform the outcome of this BA from a socio-economic perspective. The complete Socio-Economic Assessment is included in Appendix C.7 of the BA Report.

The potential impacts identified during the Socio-Economic Impact Assessment are the same for the Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 projects. The following direct and cumulative impacts for the construction, operational and decommissioning phases were identified.

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Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation and Pre-Enhancement)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation and Post-Enhancement)
DIRECT IMPACTS - CONSTRUCTION PHASE		
• Impact 1: Disruption of local social structures	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 2: Increased social ills and risky behaviours	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 3: Increased burden on existing social and bulk services	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 4: Increased road use and road traffic related accidents and/or damage	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 5: Unrealistic expectations regarding local job creation	Low risk (Level 4)	Very low risk (Level 5)
• Impact 6: Creation of temporary employment	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Moderate risk (Level 3)
• Impact 7: Increased household income attainment and standard of living	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Moderate risk (Level 3)
• Impact 8: Potential increase in crime	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 9: Potential decrease in local tourism	Low risk (Level 4)	Very low risk (Level 5)
• Impact 10: Potential marginalisation of local residents	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 11: Development and/or growth of locally-owned industries	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
DIRECT IMPACTS - OPERATIONAL PHASE		
• Impact 1: Creation of long-term employment	Very low risk (Level 5)	Very low risk (Level 5)
• Impact 2: Development and/or growth of locally-owned industries	Very low risk (Level 5)	Very low risk (Level 5)
• Impact 3: Human development via the EDP	Moderate (Level 3)	High (Level 2)
DIRECT IMPACTS - DECOMMISSIONING PHASE		
• Impact 1: Job losses	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 2: Local economy stimulation	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS - CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONAL PHASE		
• Impact 1: Exacerbated in-migration of job seekers	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Impact 2: Combined human development caused by multiple EDPs being implemented	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Moderate risk (Level 3)

Given the overall very low to low significance of potential negative impacts associated with the project, as compared to the overall very low to high significance of potential positive impact of the project, it can be concluded that the prospective socio-economic benefits of the proposed project outweigh the socio-economic losses/impacts.

Geohydrology Assessment

The Geohydrology Assessment was undertaken by Charl Muller of GEOS South Africa (PTY) Ltd to inform the outcome of this BA from a geohydrological perspective. The complete Geohydrology Assessment is included in Appendix C.8 of the BA Report.

The potential impacts identified during the Geohydrology Assessment are the same for the Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 projects. The following direct impacts for the construction and operational phases were identified.

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Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)
DIRECT IMPACTS - CONSTRUCTION PHASE		
• Lowering of groundwater levels as a result of over-abstraction	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Potential impact on groundwater quality as a result of accidental spillages or fuel leakages	Very low risk (Level 5)	Very low risk (Level 5)
DIRECT IMPACTS - OPERATIONAL PHASE		
• Lowering of groundwater levels as a result of over-abstraction	Moderate risk (Level 3)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Potential impact on groundwater quality as a result of using cleaning agents	Very low risk (Level 5)	Very low risk (Level 5)

The study concluded that no impacts of significance could be identified and therefore does not pose any risk to the geohydrological conditions on site. The Geohydrology specialist has recommended that the proposed project be allowed to proceed.

Traffic Impact Statement

A technical Traffic Impact Statement was undertaken and included in Appendix I of the BA Report. The potential impacts identified in the Traffic Impact Statement are the same for the Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 projects. The impacts include the following for the construction and decommissioning phases.

Impact	Significance / Ranking (Pre-Mitigation)	Significance / Ranking (Post-Mitigation)
DIRECT IMPACTS – CONSTRUCTION AND DECOMMISSIONING PHASES		
• Potential congestion and delays on the surrounding road network	Very low risk (Level 5)	Very low risk (Level 5)
• Potential impact on traffic safety and increase in accidents with other vehicles or animals	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Potential change in the quality of the surface condition of the roads	Very low risk (Level 5)	Very low risk (Level 5)
• Potential dust pollution as a result of the construction and decommissioning phase vehicles	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Potential noise pollution as a result of the construction and decommissioning phase vehicles	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS – CONSTRUCTION AND DECOMMISSIONING PHASES		
• Potential congestion and delays on the surrounding road network	Low risk (Level 4)	Very low risk (Level 5)
• Potential impact on traffic safety and increase in accidents with other vehicles or animals	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Potential change in the quality of the surface condition of the roads	Low risk (Level 4)	Very low risk (Level 5)
• Potential dust pollution as a result of the construction and decommissioning phase vehicles	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)
• Potential noise pollution as a result of the construction and decommissioning phase vehicles	Low risk (Level 4)	Low risk (Level 4)

The Traffic Impact Statement confirmed that provided that the above mitigation measures are adhered to, the proposed development of the Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 facilities are supported from a traffic engineering perspective. No other remedial or mitigation measures will be required to accommodate the additional traffic generated by the proposed projects.

EAP'S RECOMMENDATION

No negative impacts have been identified within this BA that, in the opinion of the EAPs who have conducted this BA Process, should be considered "fatal flaws" from an environmental perspective, and thereby necessitate substantial re-design or termination of the project. This echoes the findings of the specialists as summarised above.

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Section 24 of the Constitutional Act states that "everyone has the right to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being and to have the environment protected, for the benefit of present and future generations, through reasonable legislative and other measures, that prevents pollution and ecological degradation; promotes conservation; and secures ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and social development." Based on this, this BA was undertaken to ensure that these principles are met through the inclusion of appropriate management and mitigation measures, and monitoring requirements. These measures will be undertaken to promote conservation by avoiding the sensitive environmental features present on site and through appropriate monitoring and management plans (refer to the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) included in Appendix G of this BA Report).

It is understood that the information contained in this BA Report and appendices is sufficient to make a decision in respect of the activity applied for.

Summary of Key Impact Assessment Findings

Based on the findings of the specialist studies, the proposed project is considered to have an overall low negative environmental impact and an overall low to moderate positive socio-economic impact (with the implementation of respective mitigation and enhancement measures). Table D below provides a summary of the impact assessment for each phase of the proposed projects **post mitigation for direct impacts**. Table E provides the same information for the **cumulative impacts**.

As indicated in Table D, it is clear that the majority of the **direct negative impacts** were rated with a **low to very low post mitigation impact significance** for the **construction phase**, with only the Terrestrial Biodiversity and Species and Avifauna impacts being rated as **moderate**. In terms of the operational and decommissioning phases, the majority of the **direct negative impacts** were rated with a **low post mitigation impact significance**, with only the Avifauna impacts being rated as **moderate**. In terms of **positive impacts**, the Socio-Economic impacts are rated as **low to moderate significance** for the construction phase; **very low to high** for the operational phase; and **low** for the decommissioning phase.

Based on Table E, the majority of the **cumulative negative impacts** were rated with a **low post mitigation impact significance** for the **construction phase**, with only the Heritage (Archaeology and Cultural Landscape) impacts being rated as **moderate**. The same trend is applicable to the **operational phase**, with visual impacts being rated as **moderate**. During the decommissioning phase, cumulative impacts were not identified and/or were considered insignificant, however for those that were rated, it resulted in an **overall low to very low post mitigation impact significance**, with only the Heritage (Archaeology and Cultural Landscape) impacts being rated as **moderate**. In terms of **positive impacts**, the Socio-Economic impacts are rated as **moderate significance** for the construction and operational phases.

Table D. Overall Impact Significance with the implementation of Mitigation Measures for Direct Negative and Positive Impacts for the Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 Projects

Specialist Assessment	Construction Phase	Operational Phase	Decommissioning Phase
DIRECT NEGATIVE IMPACTS			
Visual	Low	Low	Very Low
Heritage (Archaeology and Cultural Landscape)	Low	Low	Low
Paleontology	Very Low	Insignificant and/or not identified and/or not applicable	Insignificant and/or not identified and/or not applicable
Terrestrial Biodiversity and Species	Moderate	Low	Low
Aquatic Biodiversity and Species	Low	Low	Low
Riverine Rabbit	Low	Low	Insignificant and/or not identified and/or not

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Specialist Assessment	Construction Phase		Operational Phase		Decommissioning Phase
					applicable
Airfauna	Moderate		Moderate		Moderate
Socio-Economic	Very Low	Low	Insignificant and/or not identified and/or not applicable		Low
Geohydrology	Low	Very Low	Low	Very Low	Insignificant and/or not identified and/or not applicable
Traffic	Low	Very Low	Insignificant and/or not identified and/or not applicable		Low
					Very Low
DIRECT POSITIVE IMPACTS					
Socio-Economic	Low	Moderate	Very Low	High	Low

Table E. Overall Impact Significance with the Implementation of Mitigation Measures for Cumulative Negative and Positive Impacts for the Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 Projects

Specialist Assessment	Construction Phase		Operational Phase		Decommissioning Phase
CUMULATIVE NEGATIVE IMPACTS					
Visual	Low		Moderate		Very Low
Heritage (Archaeology and Cultural Landscape)	Moderate		Moderate		Moderate
Palaontology	Very Low		Insignificant and/or not identified and/or not applicable		Insignificant and/or not identified and/or not applicable
Terrestrial Biodiversity and Species	Low		Low		Neutral
Aquatic Biodiversity and Species	Low		Low		Insignificant and/or not identified and/or not applicable
Riverine Rabbit	Low		Low		Insignificant and/or not identified and/or not applicable
Airfauna	Low		Low		Low
Socio-Economic	Low		Low		Insignificant and/or not identified and/or not applicable
Geohydrology	Insignificant		Insignificant		Insignificant and/or not identified and/or not applicable
Traffic	Low	Very Low	Insignificant and/or not identified and/or not applicable		Low
					Very Low
CUMULATIVE POSITIVE IMPACTS					
Socio-Economic	Moderate		Moderate		Insignificant and/or not identified and/or not applicable

All of the specialists have recommended that the proposed projects receive EAs if the recommended mitigation measures are implemented.

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Overall Environmental Impact Statement

Taking into consideration the findings of the BA Process, as well as the fact that the proposed **Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 projects** will be located within Komsberg REDZ (REDZ 2), it is the opinion of the EAP, that the project benefits outweigh the costs and that the project will make a positive contribution to sustainable infrastructure development in the Taniwa Karoo, Ceres and Touws River regions. Provided that the specified mitigation measures are applied effectively, it is recommended that the proposed projects receive EA in terms of the EIA Regulations promulgated under the NEMA. As noted above, the request for the issuing multiple EAs in terms of Regulation 25 (1) and (2) has been approved by the DFFE, hence it is anticipated that, should they be granted, one EA will each be issued for Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3 (i.e. three EAs in total).

Cumulative Environmental Impact Statement

The cumulative impacts have been assessed by all the specialists on the project team. The cumulative assessment included approved renewable energy projects within a 30 km radius of the project sites, as well as existing and planned transmission lines, as well as all nine proposed Veroniva PV projects and nine proposed Veroniva power line projects. No cumulative impacts have been identified that were considered to be fatal flaws. The specialists recommended that the projects receive EA in terms of the EIA Regulations promulgated under the NEMA, including consideration of cumulative impacts. It is also important to note that the proposed project site is located within REDZ 2 (Komsberg REDZ), which supports the development of large scale wind and solar energy developments. The proposed project is therefore in line with the national planning vision for wind and solar development in South Africa.

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Summary of where requirements of Appendix 1 of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended, GN R326) are provided in this BA Report

Appendix 1	YES / NO	SECTION IN BA REPORT
<p>Objective of the basic assessment process</p> <p>2) The objective of the basic assessment process is to, through a consultative process-</p> <p>a) determine the policy and legislative context within which the proposed activity is located and how the activity complies with and responds to the policy and legislative context;</p> <p>b) identify the alternatives considered, including the activity, location, and technology alternatives;</p> <p>c) describe the need and desirability of the proposed alternatives;</p> <p>d) through the undertaking of an impact and risk assessment process, includes of cumulative impacts which focused on determining the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, heritage, and cultural sensitivity of the sites and locations within sites and the risk of impact of the proposed activity and technology alternatives on these aspects to determine-</p> <p>(i) the nature, significance, consequence, extent, duration, and probability of the impacts occurring to; and</p> <p>(ii) the degree to which these impacts-</p> <p>(aa) can be reversed;</p> <p>(bb) may cause irreplaceable loss of resources; and</p> <p>(cc) can be avoided, managed or mitigated; and</p> <p>e) through a ranking of the site sensitivities and possible impacts the activity and technology alternatives will impose on the sites and location identified through the life of the activity to-</p> <p>(i) identify and motivate a preferred site, activity and technology alternative;</p> <p>(ii) identify suitable measures to avoid, manage or mitigate identified impacts; and</p> <p>(iii) identify residual risks that need to be managed and monitored.</p>	Yes	<p>Section A of the report includes the Introduction, legislative review, alternatives assessment and needs and desirability</p> <p>Section D includes a summary of the specialist studies and associated impact assessments undertaken</p>
<p>Scope of assessment and content of basic assessment reports</p> <p>3) (1) A basic assessment report must contain the information that is necessary for the competent authority to consider and come to a decision on the application, and must include:</p> <p>(a) details of-</p> <p>(i) the EAP who prepared the report; and</p> <p>(ii) the expertise of the EAP, including a curriculum vitae;</p>	Yes	Section A.2
<p>(b) the location of the activity, including-</p> <p>(i) the 21-digit Surveyor General code of each cadastral land parcel;</p> <p>(ii) where available, the physical address and farm name;</p> <p>(iii) where the required information in items (i) and (ii) is not available, the coordinates of the boundary of the property or properties;</p>	Yes	Section A.4
<p>(c) a plan which locates the proposed activity or activities applied for as well as associated structures and infrastructure at an appropriate scale; or, if it is-</p> <p>(i) a linear activity, a description and coordinates of the corridor in which the proposed activity or activities is to be undertaken; or</p> <p>(ii) on land where the property has not been defined, the coordinates within which the activity is to be undertaken;</p>	Yes	Section A.3 and Section A.4
<p>(d) a description of the scope of the proposed activity, including all listed and specified activities triggered and being applied for; and a description of the activities to be undertaken including associated structures and infrastructure;</p>	Yes	Section A.8 and Section A.11
<p>(e) a description of the policy and legislative context within which the development is proposed including-</p>	Yes	Section A.10

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Appendix I	YES / NO	SECTION IN BA REPORT
(f) an identification of all legislation, policies, plans, guidelines, spatial tools, municipal development planning frameworks, and instruments that are applicable to this activity and have been considered in the preparation of the report; and (g) how the proposed activity complies with and responds to the legislative and policy context, plans, guidelines, tools frameworks, and instruments;		
(f) a motivation for the need and desirability for the proposed development including the need and desirability of the activity in the context of the preferred location;	Yes	Section A.14
(g) a motivation for the preferred site, activity and technology alternative;	Yes	Section A.13
(h) A full description of the process followed to reach the proposed preferred alternative within the site, including - (i) details of all the alternatives considered;	Yes	Section A.13
(j) details of the public participation process undertaken in terms of regulation 41 of the Regulations, including copies of the supporting documents and inputs;	Yes	Section C
(k) a summary of the issues raised by interested and affected parties, and an indication of the manner in which the issues were incorporated, or the reasons for not including them;	Yes	Section C
(l) the environmental attributes associated with the alternatives focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, heritage and cultural aspects;	Yes	Section A.13 and Section B
(m) the impacts and risks identified for each alternative, including the nature, significance, consequence, extent, duration and probability of the impacts, including the degree to which these impacts (aa) can be reversed, (bb) may cause irreplaceable loss of resources, and (cc) can be avoided, managed or mitigated;	Yes	Section A.13
(n) the methodology used in determining and ranking the nature, significance, consequences, extent, duration and probability of potential environmental impacts and risks associated with the alternatives;	Yes	
(o) positive and negative impacts that the proposed activity and alternatives will have on the environment and on the community that may be affected focusing on the geographical, physical, biological, social, economic, heritage and cultural aspects;	Yes	
(p) the possible mitigation measures that could be applied and level of residual risk;	Yes	
(q) the outcome of the site selection matrix;	Yes	
(r) if no alternatives, including alternative locations for the activity were investigated, the motivation for not considering such; and (s) a concluding statement indicating the preferred alternatives, including preferred location of the activity;	Yes	Section A.13
(t) a full description of the process undertaken to identify, assess and rank the impacts the activity will impose on the preferred location through the life of the activity, including: (i) a description of all environmental issues and risks that were identified during the environmental impact assessment process; and (ii) an assessment of the significance of each issue and risk and an indication of the extent to which the issue and risk could be avoided or addressed by the adoption of mitigation measures;	Yes	Section A.13
(u) an assessment of each identified potentially significant impact and risk, including - (i) cumulative impacts; (ii) the nature, significance and consequences of the impact and risk; (iii) the extent and duration of the impact and risk; (iv) the probability of the impact and risk occurring;	Yes	Section D and Appendix C

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Appendix I	YES / NO	SECTION IN BA REPORT
(k) the degree to which the impact and risk can be reversed; (l) the degree to which the impact and risk may cause irreplaceable loss of resources; and (m) the degree to which the impact and risk can be avoided, managed or mitigated;		
(n) where applicable, a summary of the findings and impact management measures identified in any specialist report complying with Appendix G to these Regulations and an indication as to how these findings and recommendations have been included in the final report;	Yes	Section D and Section E
(o) an environmental impact statement which contains- (i) a summary of the key findings of the environmental impact assessment; (ii) a map at an appropriate scale which superimposes the proposed activity and its associated structures and infrastructure on the environmental sensitivities of the preferred site indicating any areas that should be avoided, including buffers; and (iii) a summary of the positive and negative impacts and risks of the proposed activity and identified alternatives;	Yes	Section E
(p) based on the assessment, and where applicable, impact management measures from specialist reports, the recording of the proposed impact management outcomes for the development for inclusion in the EMP;	Yes	Section D
(r) any aspects which were conditional to the findings of the assessment either by the EAP or specialist which are to be included as conditions of authorisation;	Yes	Section E
(s) a description of any assumptions, uncertainties, and gaps in knowledge which relate to the assessment and mitigation measures proposed;	Yes	Please refer to each specialist study included in Appendix G
(t) a reasoned opinion as to whether the proposed activity should or should not be authorised, and if the opinion is that it should be authorised, any conditions that should be made in respect of that authorisation;	Yes	Section E
(q) where the proposed activity does not include operational aspects, the period for which the environmental authorisation is required, the date on which the activity will be concluded, and the post construction monitoring requirements finalised;	X	Not Applicable
(v) an undertaking under oath or affirmation by the EAP in relation to - (i) the correctness of the information provided in the reports; (ii) the inclusion of comments and inputs from stakeholders and I&APs; (iii) the inclusion of inputs and recommendations from the specialist reports where relevant; and (iv) any information provided by the EAP to interested and affected parties and any responses by the EAP to comments or inputs made by interested and affected parties; and	Yes	Appendix E
(u) where applicable, details of any financial provisions for the rehabilitation, closure, and ongoing post-decommissioning management of negative environmental impacts;	X	N/A
(z) any specific information that may be required by the competent authority; and	Yes	Appendix H
(w) any other matters required in terms of section 24(4)(a) and (b) of the Act	X	N/A
2) Where a government notice gazetted by the Minister provides for the basic assessment process to be followed, the requirements as indicated in such a notice will apply.	Yes	Refer to Section A.10 for a breakdown of the relevant gazettes

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Email 1 sent to all I&APs, Stakeholders and Organs of State on 4 December 2020

From: ems
To: ems
Date: 04 Dec 2020 11:07
Subject: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: Letter_I&APs_Ceres Solar PV Development_001220.pdf; Executive Summary_GP PV 1-3_00122020.pdf; Executive Summary_WW PV 1-2_00122020.pdf

Good day Stakeholders and I&APs

RE: RELEASE OF FOUR DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR A 30-DAY COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NINE 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Notice is hereby given that the Project Developer, Veroniva (Pty) Ltd, is proposing to develop nine 175 MW (9 x 175 MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) power generation facilities and associated infrastructure, north-east of Ceres and north of Touws River, in the Western Cape Province. The associated infrastructure includes various structures, buildings and electrical grid infrastructure (EGI) such as, but not limited to, nine 132 kV power lines, nine on-site substations and nine Lithium Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). The proposed nine Solar PV facilities will connect to the national grid at the existing Eskom Kappa Substation. The proposed projects are located within the Witzenberg Local Municipality, which falls within the Cape Winelands District Municipality.

The proposed Solar PV facilities and associated infrastructure will be constructed on the following farm portions: Grootfontein RE/149; Grootfontein S/1A9; Witte Wal RE/171; and Hoek Doornes 1/172. The power lines will traverse these aforementioned farm portions, as well as the Die Brak 2A1 and Platfontein 240.

The proposed solar PV projects are located entirely within the Komsberg Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ 2) (as gazetted in Government Notice 114; 16 February 2018). Therefore, the proposed projects are subject to a Basic Assessment (BA) process and a reduced decision making period of 57 days, in terms of the NEMA and the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended).

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has been appointed as the Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake and manage the BA processes for the proposed projects on behalf of the Project Applicants.

Based on approval from the National Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), as the Competent Authority (in terms of Regulation 11 (4) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations), combined Applications for Environmental Authorisation (EA) have been lodged with the DEFF.

Four separate BA Reports have been compiled and are hereby released for comment, as indicated below, and an Integrated Public Participation Process is being undertaken for the BA Processes.

The Draft BA Reports for the proposed projects are hereby released for a 30-day public comment period, which extends from 3 December 2020 to 25 January 2021.

The period of 15 December 2020 to 5 January 2021 has been excluded from the redacting of days.

The Draft BA Reports can be accessed on the project website and Google Drive; details are indicated below:

- <https://www.csir.co.za/environmental-impact-assessment>
- https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/TV3Fhg6UJIKzCin3wHNE_vh1hDQTVo7usp?sharing

You are kindly requested to register your interest and submit any comments you may have on these Draft BA Reports to the EAP at the CSIR by **25 January 2021**. Details are provided below and in the attached.

Kindly find attached a cover letter that provides additional detail on the proposed projects. For ease of reference, we have also attached two of the Executive Summaries of the BA Reports to this email. The remaining two summaries will be sent in a following email (due to file sizes).

Copies of all comments received from I&APs and stakeholders during the review of the Draft BA Reports will be included as an appendix to the Final BA Reports and in the Comments and Response Report. The Final BA Reports will then be submitted to the DEFF for decision-making in line with Regulation 19 (1) (a) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any queries relating to the above.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida Abed

CSIR Environmental Management Services
E-mail: ems@csir.co.za
Postal Address: P.O. Box 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075
Tel: 031 242 2300
Fax: 031 261 8172













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Proof of Delivery of Email 1 sent to all I&APs, Stakeholders and Organs of State on 4 December 2020













Message Id: 5FC9FC53.C89 : 110 : 28125
Subject: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape
Created By: ems@csir.co.za
Scheduled Date:
Creation Date: 04 Dec 2020 11:07
From: ems

Recipients:

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BC: Mpho.mabaso@energy.gov.za(Mpho.mabaso@energy.gov.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:08	2.0.0 message relayed
 environment.gov.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: CEngelbrecht@environment.gov.za(CEngelbrecht@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: FGrimett@environment.gov.za(FGrimett@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Knaude@environment.gov.za(Knaude@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: messop@environment.gov.za(messop@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: mmasithi@environment.gov.za(mmasithi@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: msolomons@environment.gov.za(msolomons@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: pkershaw@environment.gov.za(pkershaw@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: SDiomo@environment.gov.za(SDiomo@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: StanleyT@environment.gov.za(StanleyT@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: TNyalunga@environment.gov.za(TNyalunga@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Wiutsch@environment.gov.za(Wiutsch@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
 eselfontein.co.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: deon@eselfontein.co.za(deon@eselfontein.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:08	2.0.0 message relayed
 eskom.co.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: andre.crous@eskom.co.za(andre.crous@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:14	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: BerghS@eskom.co.za(BerghS@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:14	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: BloemDJ@eskom.co.za(BloemDJ@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:14	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: DlaminiPI@eskom.co.za(DlaminiPI@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:14	2.0.0 message relayed














APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

BC: elroy.saaynan@eskom.co.za(elroy.saaynan@eskom.co.za)	Undeliverable	04 Dec 2020 11:09	
BC: FranciA@eskom.co.za(FranciA@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:14	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: GeerInJH@eskom.co.za(GeerInJH@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:14	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: HectorA@eskom.co.za(HectorA@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:14	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: MafumoML@eskom.co.za(MafumoML@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:14	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: MokgwaLL@eskom.co.za(MokgwaLL@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:14	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: PeenseRN@eskom.co.za(PeenseRN@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:14	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: PetersOw@eskom.co.za(PetersOw@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:14	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: reddyliu@eskom.co.za(reddyliu@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:14	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: SalazeT@eskom.co.za(SalazeT@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:14	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: SnymanPD@eskom.co.za(SnymanPD@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:14	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: vGenseAL@eskom.co.za(vGenseAL@eskom.co.za)			
BC: WyngaaJO@eskom.co.za(WyngaaJO@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:14	2.0.0 message relayed
 estafrica.co.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: louls@estafrica.co.za(louls@estafrica.co.za)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:09	
 ewt.org.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: bonnies@ewt.org.za(bonnies@ewt.org.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: christyb@ewt.org.za(christyb@ewt.org.za)	Undeliverable	04 Dec 2020 11:13	
BC: constanth@ewt.org.za(constanth@ewt.org.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: lourensi@ewt.org.za(lourensi@ewt.org.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: wep@ewt.org.za(wep@ewt.org.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
 falconollandgas.com	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: afynn@falconollandgas.com(afynn@falconollandgas.com)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
 fleetcall.co.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
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 g7energiles.com	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: ela@g7energiles.com(ela@g7energiles.com)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
 ghouse.org.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: mabule@ghouse.org.za(mabule@ghouse.org.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
 gmail.com	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: andre.sadawa@gmail.com(andre.sadawa@gmail.com)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: basle.ria@gmail.com(basle.ria@gmail.com)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: ejebuhr@gmail.com(ejebuhr@gmail.com)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: elma4363@gmail.com(elma4363@gmail.com)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: elsabe.dtec@gmail.com(elsabe.dtec@gmail.com)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: izakvisagle1@gmail.com(izakvisagle1@gmail.com)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
















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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

 gmail.com	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: onyndzumo@gmail.com(onyndzumo@gmail.com)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: spothli@gmail.com(spothli@gmail.com)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: toorberg@gmail.com(toorberg@gmail.com)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: wrmeiring@gmail.com(wrmeiring@gmail.com)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
 hotmail.com	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
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 lafrika.com	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: damo@lafrika.com(damo@lafrika.com)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: muna@lafrika.com(muna@lafrika.com)	Undeliverable	04 Dec 2020 11:09	
 icasa.org.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
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BC: pruplai@icasa.org.za(pruplai@icasa.org.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
 knowledgepele.com	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: A.Sibanda@knowledgepele.com(A.Sibanda@knowledgepele.com)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:09	
 kparys.co.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: kmoller@kparys.co.za(kmoller@kparys.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
 live.com	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: chandre17@live.com(chandre17@live.com)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
 lusas.co.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: leon@lusas.co.za(leon@lusas.co.za)	Undeliverable	04 Dec 2020 11:08	
 mainstreamrp.com	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: david.dean@mainstreamrp.com(david.dean@mainstreamrp.com)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:09	
 med-automation.co.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: gerhard@med-automation.co.za(gerhard@med-automation.co.za)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:09	
 mtn.co.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: renier.nei@mtn.co.za(renier.nei@mtn.co.za)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
BC: vanree_o@mtn.co.za(vanree_o@mtn.co.za)			
 mweb.co.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: afr1@mweb.co.za(afr1@mweb.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: bigben@mweb.co.za(bigben@mweb.co.za)	Undeliverable	04 Dec 2020 11:09	
 ncpg.gov.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: bfisher@ncpg.gov.za(bfisher@ncpg.gov.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: gletimela@ncpg.gov.za(gletimela@ncpg.gov.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: mndzllli@ncpg.gov.za(mndzllli@ncpg.gov.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: nvanoimen@ncpg.gov.za(nvanoimen@ncpg.gov.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed











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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

BC: tmakaudi@ncpg.gov.za(tmakaudi@ncpg.gov.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
 nda.agric.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
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 neotel.co.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: brian.dreyer@neotel.co.za(brian.dreyer@neotel.co.za)	Undeliverable	04 Dec 2020 11:13	
 nersa.org.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: mmonl.suza@nersa.org.za(mmonl.suza@nersa.org.za)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
BC: peter.buys@nersa.org.za(peter.buys@nersa.org.za)	Undeliverable	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
 netstar.co.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: franse@netstar.co.za(franse@netstar.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
 nra.co.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: AbrahamsN@nra.co.za(AbrahamsN@nra.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Dekockr@nra.co.za(Dekockr@nra.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Runkelo@nra.co.za(Runkelo@nra.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
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BC: leonardS@openseve.co.za(leonardS@openseve.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
 ruraldevelopment.gov.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: gjdebruin@ruraldevelopment.gov.za(gjdebruin@ruraldevelopment.gov.za)	Undeliverable	09 Dec 2020 11:11	
 saeon.ac.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: joh.henschel@saeon.ac.za(joh.henschel@saeon.ac.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
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BC: info@sahra.org(info@sahra.org)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:10	2.0.0 message relayed
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BC: nkhumalo@sahra.org.za(nkhumalo@sahra.org.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: rredeistoff@sahra.org.za(rredeistoff@sahra.org.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
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BC: shargobin@saiga.org.za(shargobin@saiga.org.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
 salt.ac.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: chris@salt.ac.za(chris@salt.ac.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.6.0 message relayed
BC: salt@salt.ac.za(salt@salt.ac.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.6.0 message relayed
 salt.co.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: ferdie@salt.co.za(ferdie@salt.co.za)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
 sanparks.org	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: howard.hendricks@sanparks.org(howard.hendricks@sanparks.org)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed




APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

BC: luclus.moolman@sanparks.org(luclus.moolman@sanparks.org)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
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 sentech.co.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: creesef@sentech.co.za(creesef@sentech.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: koegelenbergJ@sentech.co.za(koegelenbergJ@sentech.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: MotihakeS@sentech.co.za(MotihakeS@sentech.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: pretoriusa@sentech.co.za(pretoriusa@sentech.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:13	2.0.0 message relayed
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 shell.com	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: lynne.hannay@shell.com(lynne.hannay@shell.com)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
 ska.ac.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: atiplady@ska.ac.za(atiplady@ska.ac.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:10	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: temonama@ska.ac.za(temonama@ska.ac.za)	Undeliverable	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
 telkom.co.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
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BC: Thurling@telkom.co.za(Thurling@telkom.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
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BC: danie.oosthuizen@vodacom.co.za(danie.oosthuizen@vodacom.co.za)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:09	2.0.0 message relayed
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 westerncape.gov.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: adri.lameyer@westerncape.gov.za(adri.lameyer@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020	

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

			11:10
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BC: Jacqui.gooch@westerncape.gov.za(Jacqui.gooch@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
BC: Laurel.Robertson@westerncape.gov.za(Laurel.Robertson@westerncape.gov.za)	Undeliverable	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
BC: Malcolm.watters@westerncape.gov.za(Malcolm.watters@westerncape.gov.za)	Undeliverable	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
BC: Raudhlyah.Dien@westerncape.gov.za(Raudhlyah.Dien@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
BC: solly.fourie@westerncape.gov.za(solly.fourie@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
BC: Zaahir.Toefy@westerncape.gov.za(Zaahir.Toefy@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
BC: zwelbanzi.shloeka@westerncape.gov.za(zwelbanzi.shloeka@westerncape.gov.za)	Undeliverable	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
 witzenberg.gov.za	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: david@witzenberg.gov.za(david@witzenberg.gov.za)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
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BC: htaljaard@witzenberg.gov.za(htaljaard@witzenberg.gov.za)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
BC: meagan@witzenberg.gov.za(meagan@witzenberg.gov.za)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
BC: mmdala@witzenberg.gov.za(mmdala@witzenberg.gov.za)	Delivered	04 Dec 2020 11:10	
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BC: mduplessis@wwf.org(mduplessis@wwf.org)	Undeliverable	04 Dec 2020 11:09	
 yahoo.com	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:07	
BC: kebasenosi@yahoo.com(kebasenosi@yahoo.com)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:10	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: wessanc.conservaion@yahoo.com(wessanc.conservaion@yahoo.com)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:10	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: zukile.mali@yahoo.com(zukile.mali@yahoo.com)	Transferred	04 Dec 2020 11:10	2.0.0 message relayed

Proof of Submission of the Draft BA Reports to the DEFF

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: Rohaida Abed
To: EIAApplications@environment.gov.za
CC: Fiona Grinnett; Yvonne; Claude; Lochner, Paul; Kefemas, Lizalde; Sindiswa, Dikane; TMyalunga@environment.gov.za
Date: 03 Dec 2020 23:27
Subject: Submission of Witte Wall PV Development Draft BAF and Application Form
Attachments: Document Control Form, Witte Wall PV BA.doc, Proof of Submission, Witte Wall D&AR_081220.JPG

Good day

Reference: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of two 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Witte Wall PV 1 and Witte Wall PV 2), near Touws River, Western Cape

Kindly note that the Application Form and Draft BA Report for the above proposed project has been uploaded to the Novell Filr system.

Please note that this project forms part of a combined application process approved by the DEFF on 6 October 2020 (Reference Number: 14/12/16/3/1/1/160). In line with this, three additional BA Reports are currently being uploaded.

This submission is in line with the "Process for submitting files to the CD/EA_062020" document. To this end, please find attached to this email:

1. Proof of upload of the Application Form, Draft BA Report and Appendices (i.e. Screenshot of the upload); and
2. Document Control Form

Kindly note that the cover letter has been included as part of the zipped folder uploaded.

We trust that you find this submission in order, and we look forward to your feedback.

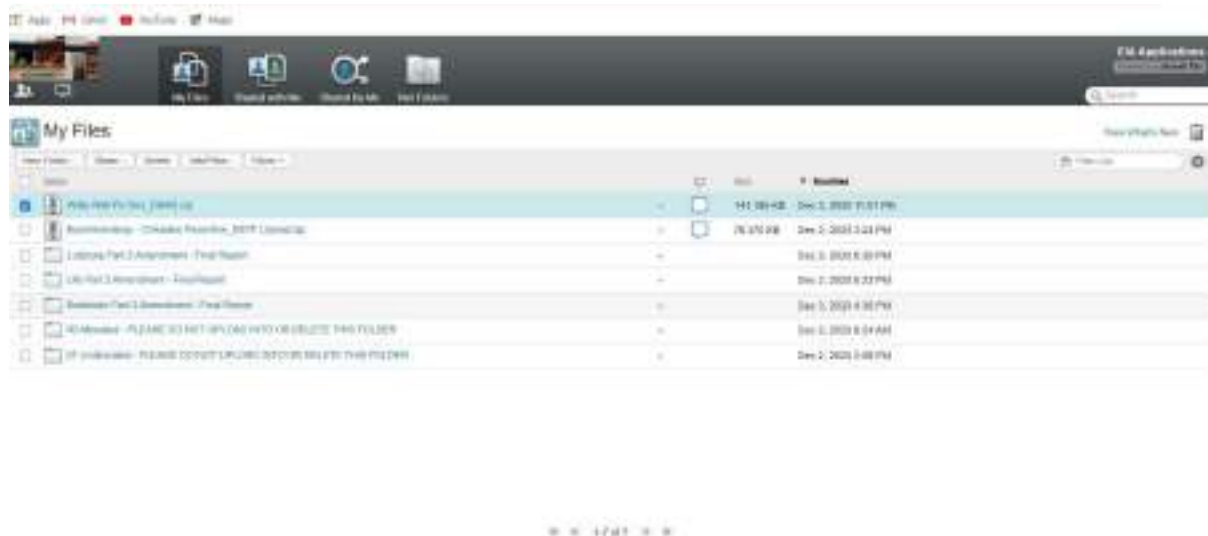
Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any queries relating to the above.

Thank you and kind regards,
Rohaida Abed

CSR - Environmental Management Services
P.O. Box 59001
Umbilo
Durban
4075

Tel: 031 242 2318
Cell: 072 204 6224
Email: R.Abed@csr.co.za

Proof of Upload of Draft BA Reports to the DEFF Novell Filr System



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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Proof of Upload of Draft BA Reports to the Project Website and Google Drive



Proof of Text Message to I&APs sent on 4 December 2020

Copy of text sent:

Dear Stakeholder. Draft BA Reports for the proposed 9 x 175MW Veroniva Solar PV and EGI developments near Touws River are available for comment. Go to <https://bit.ly/EMSEIA> or <https://bit.ly/VeronivBA> to download the reports. Email queries and comments to ems@csir.co.za. Regards, CSIR EMS Team.

created_time	msisdn	status	status_text	origin_address	delivered_time	batch_id
2020-12-04 14:30:48.0	27722046224	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888001	2020-12-04 14:30:00.0	1113627449
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APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

created_time	msisdn	status	status_text	origin_address	delivered_time	batch_id
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created_time	msisdn	status	status_text	origin_address	delivered_time	batch_id
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created_time	msisdn	status	status_text	origin_address	delivered_time	batch_id
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Personalized Letter 1 sent via email to Witzenberg Local Municipality: Notification of the BA Processes and Release of the Draft BA Report for a 30-day Comment Period



CSIR EMS

PO Box 59081 Umbilo 4075 South Africa
Tel: +27 31 242 2300
Fax: +27 31 261 8172
Email: ems@csir.co.za

3 December 2020

Witzenberg Local Municipality
PO Box 44
Ceres
6835

Email: david@witzenberg.gov.za; riaan@witzenberg.gov.za; meagan@witzenberg.gov.za; htaljaard@witzenberg.gov.za; heloise@witzenberg.gov.za; mmdala@witzenberg.gov.za; rbadela@witzenberg.gov.za; and bakhebadela@gmail.com

Attention: Officials of the Witzenberg Local Municipality

RE: NOTIFICATION OF THE RELEASE OF FOUR DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR A 30-DAY COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NINE 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE (DEFF REFERENCE NUMBER: To be assigned)

Notice is hereby given that the Project Developer, Veroniva (Pty) Ltd, is proposing to develop nine 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) power generation facilities and associated infrastructure, north-east of Ceres and north of Touws River, in the Western Cape Province. The associated infrastructure includes various structures, buildings and electrical grid infrastructure (EGI) such as, but not limited to, nine 132 kV power lines, nine on-site substations and nine Lithium Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS's). The proposed nine Solar PV facilities will connect to the national grid at the existing Eskom Kappa Substation. The proposed projects are located within the Witzenberg Local Municipality, which falls within the Cape Winelands District Municipality.

The proposed projects are referred to as:

- Witte Wall PV 1, Witte Wall PV 2, Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, Grootfontein PV 3, Hoek Doornen PV 1, Hoek Doornen PV 2, Hoek Doornen PV 3 and Hoek Doornen PV 4.

The Project Applicants include:

- Witte Wall PV 1 (Pty) Ltd; Witte Wall PV 2 (Pty) Ltd; Grootfontein PV 1 (Pty) Ltd; Grootfontein PV 2 (Pty) Ltd; Grootfontein PV 3 (Pty) Ltd; Hoek Doornen PV 1 (Pty) Ltd; Hoek Doornen PV 2 (Pty) Ltd; Hoek Doornen PV 3 (Pty) Ltd; and Hoek Doornen PV 4 (Pty) Ltd.

The proposed Solar PV facilities and associated infrastructure will be constructed on the following farm portions: Grootfontein RE/149; Grootfontein 5/149; Witte Wall RE/171; and Hoek Doornen 1/172. The power lines will traverse these aforementioned farm portions, as well as the Die Brak 241 and Platfontein 240.

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended) (NEMA) and the 2014 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations promulgated on 8 December 2014 and as amended on 7 April 2017 in Government Notice (GN) R326, R327, R325 and R324, the proposed projects require an Environmental Assessment process. The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has been appointed as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the required Environmental Assessment.

The proposed solar PV projects and associated infrastructure are located entirely within the Komsberg Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ 2) (as gazetted in GN 114; 16 February 2018). Therefore, the proposed projects are subject to a Basic Assessment (BA) process and a reduced decision making period of 57 days, in terms of the NEMA and the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended).

Board members: Prof. T. Majozl (Chairperson), Ms P. Baleni, Dr A. Childs, Dr R. Masango, Mr S. Masle, Ms T. Mokhabuki, Dr V. Mthethwa, Mr J. Nelshitenzhe, Dr C. Render, Mr C. Shariff, Dr T. Dlamini (CEO)

www.csir.co.za

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Combined Applications for Environmental Authorisation (EA) have been submitted to the National Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), as the Competent Authority, with the Draft BA Reports for comment. Approval has been granted by the DEFF to submit combined Applications for EA in terms of Regulation 11 (4) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), and the issuing of multiple EAs (should they be granted) in terms of Regulation 25 (1) and (2) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). Therefore, four separate BA Reports have been compiled and are hereby released for comment, as indicated below. It is proposed that nine separate EAs will be issued for each solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure, as well as nine separate EAs for the power lines and associated EGI that are required to support the nine solar PV Facilities (should they be granted).

Report 1: Witte Wall Farm	Report 2: Grootfontein Farm	Report 3: Hoek Doornen Farm	Report 4: EGI
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An integrated Public Participation Process (PPP) is being undertaken for the BA Processes (i.e. Witte Wall PV 1; Witte Wall PV 2; Grootfontein PV 1; Grootfontein PV 2; Grootfontein PV 3; Hoek Doornen PV 1; Hoek Doornen PV 2; Hoek Doornen PV 3; and Hoek Doornen PV 4). This approach is being undertaken due to the close proximity of the sites (i.e. the proposed projects will take place within the same geographical area) and that the proposed projects entail the same type of activity. In addition, a Public Participation Plan required in terms of GN 650 was completed and approved by the DEFF on 3 September 2020. Please refer to Appendix D.1 of the Draft BA Reports for a copy of the Public Participation Plan.

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Should you wish to register as an I&AP and/or to provide comments on these proposed projects, you are kindly requested to e-mail, fax or mail your name, contact details and project-related comments to the EAP at the contact details provided below by **25 January 2021**:

- Attention: Rohaida Abed
- P.O. Box 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075
- Tel: 031 242 2300
- Fax: 031 261 8172
- Email: ems@csir.co.za

Copies of all comments received from I&APs and stakeholders during the review of the Draft BA Reports will be included as an appendix to the Final BA Reports and in the Comments and Response Reports. The Final BA Reports will then be submitted to the DEFF for decision-making in line with Regulation 19 (1) (a) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended).

We thank you in advance for your participation in these BA processes. Should you have any queries or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned using the contact details provided above.



Paul Lochner
Project Leader and EAP
CSIR Environmental Management Services



Rohaida Abed
Project Manager and EAP
CSIR Environmental Management Services

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Proof of Personalized Letter 1 sent via email to Witzenberg Local Municipality

From: ems
To: rlsan@witzenberg.gov.za; meagan@witzenberg.gov.za; htalhard@witzenberg.gov.za; hkelise@witzenberg.gov.za; mmdsla@witzenberg.gov.za; rbadela@witzenberg.gov.za; bakhebadela@gmail.com; david@witzenberg.gov.za
Date: 07 Dec 2020 11:52
Subject: Fwd: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: Letter_Witzenberg LM_Cases Solar PV Development_081220.pdf

Good day Officials of the Witzenberg Local Municipality

I hope that you are well.

As indicated in the email below, please find attached a personalised letter regarding the release of the four BA Reports for the 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River.

The Draft BA Reports can be accessed on the project website and Google Drive: details are indicated below.

- <https://www.coir.co.za/environmental-impact-assessment>
- https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1V3FhJ6181fkzCin5wH7E_vitf0CtWn7us0s-sharing

Please confirm if you can access it.

Please kindly confirm receipt.

We look forward to the Witzenberg Local Municipality's feedback. Comments close on **25 Jan 2021**.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida Abed

CSIR Environmental Management Services
E-mail: ems@coir.co.za
Postal Address: P.O. Box 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075
Tel: 031 242 2300
Fax: 031 261 8172
>>> ems 04 Dec 2020 11:16 >>>

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Personalized Letter 1 sent via email to Cape Winelands District Municipality: Notification of the BA Processes and Release of the Draft BA Report for a 30-day Comment Period



CSIR EMS

PO Box 59081 Umbilo 4075 South Africa
Tel: +27 31 242 2300
Fax: +27 31 261 8172
Email: ems@csir.co.za

3 December 2020

Cape Winelands District Municipality
27 Munnik Street
P.O. Box 62
CERES
6835

Tel: 086 126 5263 / 023 316 8400

Email: mm@capewinelands.gov.za; kobusdp@capewinelands.gov.za; and quinton@capewinelands.gov.za

Attention: Officials of the Cape Winelands District Municipality

RE: NOTIFICATION OF THE RELEASE OF FOUR DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR A 30-DAY COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NINE 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE (DEFF REFERENCE NUMBER: To be assigned)

Notice is hereby given that the Project Developer, Veroniva (Pty) Ltd, is proposing to develop nine 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) power generation facilities and associated infrastructure, north-east of Ceres and north of Touws River, in the Western Cape Province. The associated infrastructure includes various structures, buildings and electrical grid infrastructure (EGI) such as, but not limited to, nine 132 kV power lines, nine on-site substations and nine Lithium Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS's). The proposed nine Solar PV facilities will connect to the national grid at the existing Eskom Kappa Substation. The proposed projects are located within the Witzenberg Local Municipality, which falls within the Cape Winelands District Municipality.

The proposed projects are referred to as:

- Witte Wall PV 1, Witte Wall PV 2, Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, Grootfontein PV 3, Hoek Doornen PV 1, Hoek Doornen PV 2, Hoek Doornen PV 3 and Hoek Doornen PV 4.

The Project Applicants include:

- Witte Wall PV 1 (Pty) Ltd; Witte Wall PV 2 (Pty) Ltd; Grootfontein PV 1 (Pty) Ltd; Grootfontein PV 2 (Pty) Ltd; Grootfontein PV 3 (Pty) Ltd; Hoek Doornen PV 1 (Pty) Ltd; Hoek Doornen PV 2 (Pty) Ltd; Hoek Doornen PV 3 (Pty) Ltd; and Hoek Doornen PV 4 (Pty) Ltd.

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In terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended) (NEMA) and the 2014 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations promulgated on 8 December 2014 and as amended on 7 April 2017 in Government Notice (GN) R326, R327, R325 and R324, the proposed projects require an Environmental Assessment process. The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has been appointed as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the required Environmental Assessment.

The proposed solar PV projects and associated infrastructure are located entirely within the Komsberg Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ 2) (as gazetted in GN 114; 16 February 2018). Therefore, the proposed projects are subject to a Basic Assessment (BA) process and a reduced decision making period of 57 days, in terms of the NEMA and the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended).

Board members: Prof. T. Majozl (Chairperson), Ms P. Baleni, Dr A. Childs, Dr R. Masango, Mr S. Masie, Ms T. Mokhabuki, Dr V. Mthethwa, Mr J. Nelshitenzhe, Dr C. Render, Mr C. Shariff, Dr T. Dlamini (CEO)

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APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

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Paul Lochner
Project Leader and EAP
CSIR Environmental Management Services



Rohaida Abed
Project Manager and EAP
CSIR Environmental Management Services

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Proof of Personalized Letter 1 sent via email to Cape Winelands District Municipality

From: ems
To: quinton@capewinelands.gov.za; kobusdp@capewinelands.gov.za; nrm@capewinelands.gov.za
CC: ems
Date: 07 Dec 2020 13:50
Subject: Fwd: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: Letter_Cape Winelands DM_Ceres Solar PV Development_091220.pdf

Good day Officials of the Cape Winelands District Municipality

I hope that you are well.

As indicated in the email below, please find attached a personalised letter regarding the release of the four BA Reports for the 9 PV Developments and EGI near Touws River.

The Draft BA Reports can be accessed on the project website and Google Drive; details are indicated below.

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Please kindly confirm receipt.

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Kind Regards,
Rohaida Abed

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E-mail: ems@csr.co.za
Postal Address: P.O. Box 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075
Tel: 031 242 2300
Fax: 031 261 8172
>>> ems 04 Dec 2020 11:16 >>>
Good day Stakeholders and IBAPs

As indicated in the email below, please find attached the remaining two Executive Summaries of the Draft BA Reports.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida Abed

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Personalized Letter 1 sent via email to the Western Cape DEADP: Notification of the BA Processes and Release of the Draft BA Report for a 30-day Comment Period



CSIR EMS

PO Box 59081 Umbilo 4075 South Africa
Tel: +27 31 242 2300
Fax: +27 31 261 8172
Email: ems@csir.co.za

3 December 2020

Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
Private Bag X9086
Cape Town
8000

Tel: 021 483 2700
Fax: 021 483 3016
Email: zaahir.toefy@westerncape.gov.za

Attention: Mr Zaahir Toefy

Dear Mr Toefy

RE: NOTIFICATION OF THE RELEASE OF FOUR DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR A 30-DAY COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NINE 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE (DEFF REFERENCE NUMBER: To be assigned)

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APPENDICES

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- Attention: Rohaida Abed
- P.O. Box 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075
- Tel: 031 242 2300
- Fax: 031 261 8172
- Email: ems@csir.co.za

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Paul Lochner
Project Leader and EAP
CSIR Environmental Management Services



Rohaida Abed
Project Manager and EAP
CSIR Environmental Management Services

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Proof of Personalized Letter 1 sent via email to the Western Cape DEADP

From: ems
To: Zaahir.Toefy@westerncape.gov.za
CC: ems
Date: 07 Dec 2020 13:45
Subject: Fwd: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: Letter_DEADP_Ceres Solar PV Development_031220.pdf

Good day Mr Toefy

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Kind Regards,
Rohaida Abed

CSR Environmental Management Services
E-mail: ems@csr.co.za
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Personalized Letter 1 sent via email to EWT: Notification of the BA Processes and Release of the Draft BA Report for a 30-day Comment Period



CSIR EMS

PO Box 59081 Umbilo 4075 South Africa
Tel: +27 31 242 2300
Fax: +27 31 261 8172
Email: ems@csir.co.za

3 December 2020

Endangered Wildlife Trust
Kirstenbosch National
Botanical Garden
Rhodes Drive
Newlands
Cape Town

Email: bonnies@ewt.org.za

Attention: Bonnie Schumann (Nama Karoo Coordinator)

Dear Ms Schumann

RE: NOTIFICATION OF THE RELEASE OF FOUR DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR A 30-DAY COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NINE 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE (DEFF REFERENCE NUMBER: To be assigned)

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The proposed Solar PV facilities and associated infrastructure will be constructed on the following farm portions: Grootfontein RE/149; Grootfontein 5/149; Witte Wall RE/171; and Hoek Doornen 1/172. The power lines will traverse these aforementioned farm portions, as well as the Die Brak 241 and Platfontein 240.

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended) (NEMA) and the 2014 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations promulgated on 8 December 2014 and as amended on 7 April 2017 in Government Notice (GN) R326, R327, R325 and R324, the proposed projects require an Environmental Assessment process. The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has been appointed as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the required Environmental Assessment.

The proposed solar PV projects and associated infrastructure are located entirely within the Komsberg Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ 2) (as gazetted in GN 114; 18 February 2018). Therefore, the proposed projects are subject to a Basic Assessment (BA) process and a reduced decision making period of 57 days, in terms of the NEMA and the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended).

Combined Applications for Environmental Authorisation (EA) have been submitted to the National Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), as the Competent Authority, with the Draft BA Reports for comment. Approval has been granted by the DEFF to submit combined Applications for EA in terms of Regulation 11 (4) of

Board members: Prof. T. Majozl (Chairperson), Ms P. Baleni, Dr A. Childs, Dr R. Masango, Mr S. Masle,
Ms T. Mokhabuki, Dr V. Mthethwa, Mr J. Nelshitenzhe, Dr C. Render, Mr C. Shariff, Dr T. Dlamini (CEO)

www.csir.co.za

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), and the issuing of multiple EAs (should they be granted) in terms of Regulation 25 (1) and (2) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). Therefore, **four** separate BA Reports have been compiled and are hereby released for comment, as indicated below. It is proposed that **nine** separate EAs will be issued for each solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure, as well as **nine** separate EAs for the power lines and associated EGI that are required to support the **nine** solar PV Facilities (should they be granted).

Report 1: Witte Wall Farm	Report 2: Grootfontein Farm	Report 3: Hoek Doornen Farm	Report 4: EGI
Group 1 – Witte Wall Farm: 1 BA Report that covers the 2 PV Facilities (i.e. Witte Wall PV 1 and PV 2), 2 on-site substations, 2 Lithium Ion BESS's and all associated infrastructure.	Group 2: Grootfontein Farm: 1 BA Report that covers the 3 PV Facilities (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, PV 2 and PV 3), 3 on-site substations, 3 Lithium Ion BESS's and all associated infrastructure.	Group 3: Hoek Doornen Farm: 1 BA Report that covers the 4 PV Facilities (i.e. Hoek Doornen PV 1, PV 2, PV 3 and PV 4), 4 on-site substations, 4 Lithium Ion BESS's and all associated infrastructure.	Group 4: EGI to support the PV Facilities: 1 BA Report that covers all the power lines and associated EGI that are required to support the 9 PV Facilities (i.e. 9 Power Lines).

An integrated Public Participation Process (PPP) is being undertaken for the BA Processes (i.e. Witte Wall PV 1; Witte Wall PV 2; Grootfontein PV 1; Grootfontein PV 2; Grootfontein PV 3; Hoek Doornen PV 1; Hoek Doornen PV 2; Hoek Doornen PV 3; and Hoek Doornen PV 4). This approach is being undertaken due to the close proximity of the sites (i.e. the proposed projects will take place within the same geographical area) and that the proposed projects entail the same type of activity. In addition, a Public Participation Plan required in terms of GN 850 was completed and approved by the DEFF on 3 September 2020. Please refer to Appendix D.1 of the Draft BA Reports for a copy of the Public Participation Plan.

In line with the above, as a key stakeholder on the pre-determined project database, you are hereby notified of the release of the Draft BA Reports for the proposed projects for a 30-day comment period, which extends from **3 December 2020 to 25 January 2021** (excluding the period of 15 December 2020 to 5 January 2021 from the reckoning of days).

The Draft BA Reports can be accessed on the project website (<https://www.csir.co.za/environmental-impact-assessment>). As a supplementary mechanism, the Draft BA Reports can also be downloaded from the following link on Google Drive: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1V3Ehq6JJUfKzCjq5wH7IF_vbifbQi7Wo?usp=sharing

Of particular relevance, please find the Riverine Rabbit Assessments captured in Appendix C.4 (Terrestrial Biodiversity and Species) of the four BA Reports.

Should you wish to register as an I&AP and/or to provide comments on these proposed projects, you are kindly requested to e-mail, fax or mail your name, contact details and project-related comments to the EAP at the contact details provided below by **25 January 2021**:

- Attention: Rohaida Abed
- P.O. Box 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075
- Tel: 031 242 2300
- Fax: 031 261 8172
- Email: ems@csir.co.za

Copies of all comments received from I&APs and stakeholders during the review of the Draft BA Reports will be included as an appendix to the Final BA Reports and in the Comments and Response Reports. The Final BA Reports will then be submitted to the DEFF for decision-making in line with Regulation 19 (1) (a) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended).

We thank you in advance for your participation in these BA processes. Should you have any queries or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned using the contact details provided above.



Paul Lochner
Project Leader and EAP
CSIR Environmental Management Services



Rohaida Abed
Project Manager and EAP
CSIR Environmental Management Services

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Proof of Personalized Letter 1 sent via email to EWT

From: ems
To: borrie@ewt.org.za
CC: ems
Date: 07 Dec 2020 13:42
Subject: Fwd: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: Letter_EWT_Cases Solar PV Development_E31220.pdf

Good day Borrie

I hope that you are well.

As indicated in the email below, please find attached a personalised letter regarding the release of the four BA Reports for the 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River.

The Draft BA Reports can be accessed on the project website and Google Drive, details are indicated below:

- <https://www.csir.co.za/environmental-impact-assessment>
- https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1V3Ehg6JlUfKzQc5wH7IF_ybIfbQITWo?usp=sharing

Please confirm if you can access it.

Please note that the Riverine Rabbit Camera Trapping Exercise Report is included in Appendix C.4 of the BA Reports.

Please kindly confirm receipt.

We look forward to your feedback. Comments close on **25 Jan 2021**.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida Abed

CSIR Environmental Management Services
E-mail: ems@csir.co.za
Postal Address: P.O. Box 59081, Umhilo, Durban, 4075
Tel: 031 242 2300
Fax: 031 261 8172

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Personalized Letter 1 sent via email to BGCMA: Notification of the BA Processes and Release of the Draft BA Report for a 30-day Comment Period



CSIR EMS

PO Box 59081 Umbilo 4075 South Africa
Tel: +27 31 242 2300
Fax: +27 31 261 8172
Email: ems@csir.co.za

3 December 2020

Breede Gouritz Catchment Management Agency
Cnr of Mountain Mill and East Lake Roads, Worcester 6850
101 York Street, Dormehis Drift, George 6530

Telephone: +27 23 346-8000 / +27 23 346-8031
Facsimile: +27 23 347-2012 / +27 44 873-2199

Email: info@bgcma.co.za; fsmith@bgcma.co.za; MMthimkhulu@bgcma.co.za; ASam@bgcma.co.za;
ERossouw@bgcma.co.za

Attention: Officials of the BGCMA

RE: NOTIFICATION OF THE RELEASE OF FOUR DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR A 30-DAY COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NINE 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE (DEFF REFERENCE NUMBER: To be assigned)

Notice is hereby given that the Project Developer, Veroniva (Pty) Ltd, is proposing to develop nine 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) power generation facilities and associated infrastructure, north-east of Ceres and north of Touws River, in the Western Cape Province. The associated infrastructure includes various structures, buildings and electrical grid infrastructure (EGI) such as, but not limited to, nine 132 kV power lines, nine on-site substations and nine Lithium Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS's). The proposed nine Solar PV facilities will connect to the national grid at the existing Eskom Kappa Substation. The proposed projects are located within the Witzenberg Local Municipality, which falls within the Cape Winelands District Municipality.

The proposed projects are referred to as:

- **Witte Wall PV 1, Witte Wall PV 2, Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, Grootfontein PV 3, Hoek Doornen PV 1, Hoek Doornen PV 2, Hoek Doornen PV 3 and Hoek Doornen PV 4.**

The Project Applicants include:

- **Witte Wall PV 1 (Pty) Ltd; Witte Wall PV 2 (Pty) Ltd; Grootfontein PV 1 (Pty) Ltd; Grootfontein PV 2 (Pty) Ltd; Grootfontein PV 3 (Pty) Ltd; Hoek Doornen PV 1 (Pty) Ltd; Hoek Doornen PV 2 (Pty) Ltd; Hoek Doornen PV 3 (Pty) Ltd; and Hoek Doornen PV 4 (Pty) Ltd.**

The proposed Solar PV facilities and associated infrastructure will be constructed on the following farm portions: Grootfontein RE/149; Grootfontein 5/149; Witte Wall RE/171; and Hoek Doornen 1/172. The power lines will traverse these aforementioned farm portions, as well as the Die Brak 241 and Platfontein 240.

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998, as amended) (NEMA) and the 2014 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations promulgated on 8 December 2014 and as amended on 7 April 2017 in Government Notice (GN) R326, R327, R325 and R324, the proposed projects require an Environmental Assessment process. The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has been appointed as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the required

Board members: Prof. T. Majozl (Chairperson), Ms P. Baleni, Dr A. Childs, Dr R. Masango, Mr S. Masle, Ms T. Mokhabuki, Dr V. Mthethwa, Mr J. Nelshlitzhe, Dr C. Render, Mr C. Shariff, Dr T. Dlamini (CEO)

www.csir.co.za

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Environmental Assessment.

The proposed solar PV projects and associated infrastructure are located entirely within the Komsberg Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ 2) (as gazetted in GN 114; 16 February 2018). Therefore, the proposed projects are subject to a Basic Assessment (BA) process and a reduced decision making period of 57 days, in terms of the NEMA and the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended).

Combined Applications for Environmental Authorisation (EA) have been submitted to the National Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), as the Competent Authority, with the Draft BA Reports for comment. Approval has been granted by the DEFF to submit combined Applications for EA in terms of Regulation 11 (4) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended), and the issuing of multiple EAs (should they be granted) in terms of Regulation 25 (1) and (2) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended). Therefore, **four** separate BA Reports have been compiled and are hereby released for comment, as indicated below. It is proposed that **nine** separate EAs will be issued for each solar PV Facility and associated infrastructure, as well as **nine** separate EAs for the power lines and associated EGI that are required to support the **nine** solar PV Facilities (should they be granted).

Report 1: Witte Wall Farm	Report 2: Grootfontein Farm	Report 3: Hoek Doornen Farm	Report 4: EGI
Group 1 – Witte Wall Farm: 1 BA Report that covers the 2 PV Facilities (i.e. Witte Wall PV 1 and PV 2), 2 on-site substations, 2 Lithium Ion BESS's and all associated infrastructure.	Group 2: Grootfontein Farm: 1 BA Report that covers the 3 PV Facilities (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, PV 2 and PV 3), 3 on-site substations, 3 Lithium Ion BESS's and all associated infrastructure.	Group 3: Hoek Doornen Farm: 1 BA Report that covers the 4 PV Facilities (i.e. Hoek Doornen PV 1, PV 2, PV 3 and PV 4), 4 on-site substations, 4 Lithium Ion BESS's and all associated infrastructure.	Group 4: EGI to support the PV Facilities: 1 BA Report that covers all the power lines and associated EGI that are required to support the 9 PV Facilities (i.e. 9 Power Lines).

An integrated Public Participation Process (PPP) is being undertaken for the BA Processes (i.e. Witte Wall PV 1; Witte Wall PV 2; Grootfontein PV 1; Grootfontein PV 2; Grootfontein PV 3; Hoek Doornen PV 1; Hoek Doornen PV 2; Hoek Doornen PV 3; and Hoek Doornen PV 4). This approach is being undertaken due to the close proximity of the sites (i.e. the proposed projects will take place within the same geographical area) and that the proposed projects entail the same type of activity. In addition, a Public Participation Plan required in terms of GN 650 was completed and approved by the DEFF on 3 September 2020. Please refer to Appendix D.1 of the Draft BA Reports for a copy of the Public Participation Plan.

In line with the above, as a key stakeholder on the pre-determined project database, you are hereby notified of the release of the Draft BA Reports for the proposed projects for a 30-day comment period, which extends from **3 December 2020 to 25 January 2021** (excluding the period of 15 December 2020 to 5 January 2021 from the reckoning of days).

The Draft BA Reports can be accessed on the project website (<https://www.csir.co.za/environmental-impact-assessment>). As a supplementary mechanism, the Draft BA Reports can also be downloaded from the following link on Google Drive:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1V3Ehq6JJUfKzCjq5wH7IF_vbifbQi7Wo?usp=sharing

Of particular relevance, please find the Aquatic Biodiversity and Species Assessments captured in Appendix C.5 of the four BA Reports. In summary, the Aquatic Biodiversity and Species Assessments notes that the following projects likely require a Water Use License or similarly a General Authorisation, however should be confirmed with the relevant authorities:

- Witte Wall PV 1 – for the access road upgrade and power line specifically;
- Witte Wall PV 2 - for the access road upgrade and power line specifically;
- Grootfontein PV 1 – for the access road upgrade using Road Access 1 and power line specifically;

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

- Grootfontein PV 2 – for the access road upgrade using Road Access 1 and power line specifically;
- Grootfontein PV 3 – for the access road upgrade using Road Access 1 and power line specifically; and
- Hoek Doornen PV 4 – for the access road upgrade and power line specifically.

However, if the proposed power line towers are needed to be placed within 100 m of the bank of the Groot River, for the Hoek Doornen PV 1, PV 2 and PV 3 facilities, then a Water Use License or similarly a General Authorisation may be required.

Please kindly confirm if a General Authorisation or Water Use Licence would be required.

Should you wish to register as an I&AP and/or to provide comments on these proposed projects, you are kindly requested to e-mail, fax or mail your name, contact details and project-related comments to the EAP at the contact details provided below by **25 January 2021**:

- Attention: Rohaida Abed
- P.O. Box 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075
- Tel: 031 242 2300
- Fax: 031 281 8172
- Email: ems@csir.co.za

Copies of all comments received from I&APs and stakeholders during the review of the Draft BA Reports will be included as an appendix to the Final BA Reports and in the Comments and Response Reports. The Final BA Reports will then be submitted to the DEFF for decision-making in line with Regulation 19 (1) (a) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended).

We thank you in advance for your participation in these BA processes. Should you have any queries or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned using the contact details provided above.



Paul Lochner
Project Leader and EAP
CSIR Environmental Management Services



Rohaida Abed
Project Manager and EAP
CSIR Environmental Management Services

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Proof of Personalized Letter 1 sent via email to BGCMA

From: ems
To: info@bgcma.co.za; bsmith@bgcma.co.za; MMthimikhulu@bgcma.co.za; ASam@bgcma.co.za; ERossouw@bgcma.co.za
CC: ems
Date: 07 Dec 2020 14:01
Subject: Fwd: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: Letter_BGCMA_Careo Solar PV Development_051220.pdf

Good day Officials of the BGCMA

I hope that you are well.

As indicated in the email below, please find attached a personalised letter regarding the release of the four BA Reports for the 9 PV Developments and EGI near Touws River.

The Draft BA Reports can be accessed on the project website and Google Drive; details are indicated below:

- <https://www.csir.co.za/environmental-impact-assessment>
- <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Y3Ehg6JvfkzCq5wtI7Fv6fRQ7Ww?usp=sharing>

Please confirm if you can access it.

Please kindly confirm receipt.

We look forward to the BGCMA's feedback. Comments close on **25 Jan 2021**.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida Abed

CSIR Environmental Management Services
E-mail: ems@csir.co.za
Postal Address: P.O. Box 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075
Tel: 031 242 2300
Fax: 031 261 8172

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Email to Landowners

From: ems
To: ems
CC: Veroniva, Claude
Date: 09 Dec 2020 18:09
Subject: Fed: Ra: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape

Good day

We trust that you are well.

As landowners on which the proposed project projects will take place, please kindly confirm if you have received the emails below as well as the links to the Draft BA Reports.

If you have any comments or queries, please email them through. The comment period ends on 25 January 2021.

Thank you and kind regards,
Rohaida Abed

CSIR Environmental Management Services
E-mail: ems@csir.co.za
Postal Address: P.O. Box 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075
Tel: 031 242 2300
Fax: 031 261 8172
>>> ems 04 Dec 2020 11:16 >>>
Good day Stakeholders and I&APs

As indicated in the email below, please find attached the remaining two Executive Summaries of the Draft BA Reports.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida Abed

CSIR Environmental Management Services
E-mail: ems@csir.co.za
Postal Address: P.O. Box 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075
Tel: 031 242 2300
Fax: 031 261 8172
>>> ems 04 Dec 2020 11:07 >>>
Good day Stakeholders and I&APs

RE: RELEASE OF FOUR DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR A 30-DAY COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NINE 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Notice is hereby given that the Project Developer, Veroniva (Pty) Ltd, is proposing to develop nine 175 MW (9 x 175 MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) power generation facilities and associated infrastructure, north-east of Ceres and north of Touws River, in the Western Cape Province. The associated infrastructure includes various structures, buildings and electrical grid infrastructure (EGI) such as, but not limited to, nine 132 kV power lines, nine on-site substations and nine Lithium Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). The proposed nine Solar PV facilities will connect to the national grid at the existing Eskom Kappa Substation. The proposed projects are located within the Witzenberg Local Municipality, which falls within the Cape Winelands District Municipality.

The proposed Solar PV facilities and associated infrastructure will be constructed on the following farm portions: Grootfontein RE/149; Grootfontein 5/149; Witte Wall RE/171; and Hoek Doornen 1/172. The power lines will traverse these aforementioned farm portions, as well as the Die Brak 241 and Platonbein 240.

The proposed solar PV projects are located entirely within the Komsberg Renewable Energy Development Zone (REDZ 2) (as gazetted in Government Notice 114, 16 February 2018). Therefore, the proposed projects are subject to a Basic Assessment (BA) process and a reduced decision making period of 57 days, in terms of the NEMA and the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended).

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake and manage the BA processes for the proposed projects on behalf of the Project Applicants.

Based on approval from the National Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), as the Competent Authority (in terms of Regulation 11 (4) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations), combined Applications for Environmental Authorisation (EA) have been lodged with the DEFF.

Four separate BA Reports have been compiled and are hereby released for comment, as indicated below, and an integrated Public Participation Process is being undertaken for the BA Processes.

The Draft BA Reports for the proposed projects are hereby released for a 30-day public comment period, which extends from 3 December 2020 to 25 January 2021.

The period of 15 December 2020 to 5 January 2021 has been excluded from the reckoning of days.

The Draft BA Reports can be accessed on the project website and Google Drive; details are indicated below:

- <https://www.csir.co.za/environmental-impact-assessment>
+ https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/TV3Ehg6JUJKzCiq5wH7F_vbfbQ7Wo7usp=sharing

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

You are kindly requested to register your interest and submit any comments you may have on these Draft BA Reports to the EAP at the CSIR by **25 January 2021**. Details are provided below and in the attached.

Kindly find attached a cover letter that provides additional detail on the proposed projects. For ease of reference, we have also attached two of the Executive Summaries of the BA Reports to this email. The remaining two summaries will be sent in a following email (due to file sizes).

Copies of all comments received from IDAPs and stakeholders during the review of the Draft BA Reports will be included as an appendix to the final BA Reports and in the Comments and Response Report. The Final BA Reports will then be submitted to the DEFF for decision-making in line with Regulation 19 (1) (a) of the 2014 NEMA EIA Regulations (as amended).

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any queries relating to the above.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida Abed

CSIR Environmental Management Services
E-mail: ems@csir.co.za
Postal Address: P.O. Box 59061, Umbilo, Durban, 4075
Tel: 031 242 2300
Fax: 031 261 8172

Message Id: 5FD0F6C0.A33 : 110 : 28125
Subject: Fwd: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL, near Touws River, Western Cape
Created By: ems@csir.co.za
Scheduled Date:
Creation Date: 09 Dec 2020 18:09
From: ems

Recipients:

Recipient	Action	Date & Time	Comment
dpw.gov.za	Transferred	09 Dec 2020 18:09	
BC: brian.stander@dpw.gov.za (brian.stander@dpw.gov.za)	Transferred	09 Dec 2020 18:09	2.0.0 message relayed
estafrica.co.za	Transferred	09 Dec 2020 18:09	
BC: louis@estafrica.co.za (louis@estafrica.co.za)	Delivered	09 Dec 2020 18:10	
gmail.com	Transferred	09 Dec 2020 18:09	
BC: andre.sadawa@gmail.com (andre.sadawa@gmail.com)	Transferred	09 Dec 2020 18:09	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: ejebuhr@gmail.com (ejebuhr@gmail.com)	Transferred	09 Dec 2020 18:09	2.0.0 message relayed
POBOX1.STELLBOS	Delivered	09 Dec 2020 18:09	
To: ems@csir.co.za	Read	22 Dec 2020 09:35	
veroniva.co.za	Transferred	09 Dec 2020 18:09	
CC: Claude Veroniva(claudio@veroniva.co.za)	Transferred	09 Dec 2020 18:09	2.0.0 message relayed
weltevredelaas.co.za	Transferred	09 Dec 2020 18:09	
BC: leonie@weltevredelaas.co.za (leonie@weltevredelaas.co.za)	Transferred	09 Dec 2020 18:09	2.0.0 message relayed

Post Offices

Post Office	Delivered	Route
dpw.gov.za		dpw.gov.za
estafrica.co.za		estafrica.co.za
gmail.com		gmail.com
POBOX1.STELLBOS	09 Dec 2020 18:09	csir.co.za
veroniva.co.za		veroniva.co.za
weltevredelaas.co.za		weltevredelaas.co.za

Files

File	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	6 KB (6955 Bytes)	09 Dec 2020 18:09
TEXT.htm	6 KB (6633 Bytes)	09 Dec 2020 18:09

Options

Auto Delete: No
Concealed Subject: No
Expiration Date: None
Notify Recipients: Yes
Priority: Standard
Reply Requested By: None
Security: Standard
To Be Delivered: Immediate

Record Id

Record Id: 5FD112E0.STELLBOS.POBOX1.100.1746469.1.7FE.1
Common Record Id: 5FD0F6C0.STELLBOS.POBOX1.200.200006E.1.894B7.1

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Email 2 sent to all I&APs, Stakeholders and Organs of State on 11 January 2021 (Follow Up and Reminder of Comment)

From: ems
To: ems
Date: 11 Jan 2021 10:44
Subject: Reminder - Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape

Dear Stakeholders and I&APs:

RE: REMINDER OF THE RELEASE OF FOUR DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR A 30-DAY COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NINE 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWSRIVER IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Further to the email notification below, this serves as a reminder that the 30-day public comment period on the Draft BA Reports for the proposed nine 175 MW (9 x 175 MW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) facilities and associated Electrical Grid infrastructure projects near Touws River, as detailed below, **closes on 25 January 2021**.

As indicated below, the Draft BA Reports can be accessed on the project website and Google Drive at the following links:

- <https://www.csir.co.za/environmental-impact-assessment>
- https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1V3Eh96J3vBkxCjg5wI7E_vb1fkQ7Ww?usp=sharing

You are kindly requested to register your interest and submit any comments you may have on these Draft BA Reports to the EAP at the CSIR, details are provided below.

Thank you to those of you that have already provided comment.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any queries relating to the above.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida Abed

CSIR Environmental Management Services
E-mail: ems@csir.co.za
Postal Address: P.O. Box 59081, Umbilo, Durban, 4075
Tel: 031 242 2300
Fax: 031 261 8172











APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Proof of Delivery of Email 2 sent to all I&APs, Stakeholders and Organs of State on 11 January 2021





Message Id: 5FFC0DFED.794 : 110 : 28125
Subject: Reminder - Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape
Created By: ems@csir.co.za
Scheduled Date:
Creation Date: 11 Jan 2021 10:44
From: ems

Recipients:

Recipient	Action	Date & Time	Comment
 aced.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Ms Stephanie Kot(stephnie.kot@aced.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
 agrisa.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Japie Grobler(japisa@agrisa.co.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Nic Opperman(nic@agrisa.co.za)	Undeliverable	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
 atns.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Ferdi Smit(ferdis@atns.co.za)			
BC: Phillip De Lange(phillipd@atns.co.za)			
 awk.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Carl Opperman(info@awk.co.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
 bgcma.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Andiswa Sam(ASam@bgcma.co.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: info@ogoma.co.za(info@bgcma.co.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Makhosi Mthimkhulu(MMthimkhulu@bgcma.co.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:45	
BC: Mr Elkerine Rossouw(erossouw@bgcma.co.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Fablon Smith(fsmith@bgcma.co.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
 blotherenergy.com	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Libby Hirshon(LHirshon@blotherenergy.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 birdlife.org.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: advocacy@birdlife.org.za(advocacy@birdlife.org.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: info@birdlife.org.za(info@birdlife.org.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Simon Gear(simon.gear@birdlife.org.za)	Undeliverable	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Ms Samantha Raiston(energy@birdlife.org.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
 breede.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Andre Vermeulen(sadawa@breede.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Johan Geldenhuis(kingspring@breede.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Mark Cating (manager)(farmcat@breede.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 breedenet.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Coert Smit(coert@breedenet.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Coert Smit(Isak@breedenet.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
 ovm.gov.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Cynthia Bruintjes / C. Manuel(cmanuel@ovm.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:44	










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BC: Neville Fourie(nfourie@gvm.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:46	
 caa.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Gawie Bestbler(BestblerG@caa.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Ms Chinga Mazhetese(MazheteseC@caa.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Ms Lizell Stroh(stroh@caa.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
 calvinia.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Aletta (Alta) Susanna Coetzee(admin@calvinia.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:45	2.0.0 message relayed
 capenature.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Colin Fordham(cfordham@capenature.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Ms Alana Duffel-Canham(aduffel-canham@capenature.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 capewineands.gov.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Kobus Du Plessis(kobusdp@capewineands.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Municipal Manager(mm@capewineands.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Quinton Baile(quinton@capewineands.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 celic.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Brian Joubert(bjoubert@celic.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Ms Vivien Kiewitz(VKiewitz@celic.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
 cfg.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Calla Du Toit(calla@cfg.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
 daff.gov.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Andie Hawes(CPO@daff.gov.za)			
BC: Ms Jacqueline Mans(JacolineMa@daff.gov.za)			
BC: Ms Mary Jean Gabriel(maryjeang@daff.gov.za)			
BC: Ms Mashudu Marubini(MashuduMa@daff.gov.za)			
BC: Ms Thoko Buthelezi(ThokoB@daff.gov.za)			
BC: NFAWesternCape@daff.gov.za(NFAWesternCape@daff.gov.za)			
BC: Thandeka Gwala(ThandekaG@daff.gov.za)			
 Dalmd.gov.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Masithandaze Falten(wa/MasithandazeF@Dalmd.gov.za)			
BC: Thando Ndudula(ThandoNd@Dalmd.gov.za)			
 dekeur.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Chari Du Toit(chari@dekeur.co.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
 dmr.gov.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Duduzile Kunene(Duduzile.Kunene@dmr.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Kgauta Mokoena(Kgauta.Mokoena@dmr.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 POBOX1.DURBAN	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Rohaida Abed(RAbed@csr.co.za)	Replied Read	11 Jan 2021 10:44 12 Jan 2021 12:14	
 POBOX1.STELLBOS	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
To: ems(ems@csr.co.za)		12 Jan 2021	








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BC: Luanita Snyman-Van der Walt(LvdWalt1@csir.co.za)	Third-Party Downloaded Read	11 Jan 2021 10:44 11 Jan 2021 10:49	
 dot.gov.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Jacob Dikgang(DikgangJ@dot.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 dpw.gov.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Brian Stander(brian.stander@dpw.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 drdlr.gov.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Lucky Legodi(lucky.legodi@drdlr.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 dws.gov.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Rashid Khan(KhanR@dws.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Ms Chantel Schwartz(SchwartzC@dws.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Ms Mashudu Kgaphola(kgapholam@dws.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Ms Melissa Linnaar-Strauss(Linnaar-StraussM@dws.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 earthlife.org.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: seccp@earthlife.org.za(seccp@earthlife.org.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 economic.gov.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: The Director General(odgcorrespondence@economic.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:45	
 eisenburg.com	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Cor van der Walt (corvdw@eisenburg.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Paul Herselman(paulh@eisenburg.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Ms Phyllis Pienaar(phyllisp@eisenburg.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
 energy.gov.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mpho Mabaso(Mpho.mabaso@energy.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 environment.gov.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Chantal Engelbrecht(CEngelbrecht@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Karl Naude(Knaude@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mathodi Mogorosi(MMogorosi@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Muhammad Essop(messop@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Stanley Tshikwamulomoni(StanleyT@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Ms Fiona Grimetti(FGrimetti@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Ms Milcent Solomons(msolomons@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mukondi Masithi(mmasithi@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Pamela Kershaw(pkershaw@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Sindiwa Dlomo(SDlomo@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Thulisie Nyalunga(TNyalunga@environment.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed











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 eselfontein.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Deon Malherbe(deon@eselfontein.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 eskom.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Adrian Francis (FranciA@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:51	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Christo Badenhorst(BadenhC@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:51	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Danie Bloem(BloemDJ@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:51	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Lerato Mokgwatheng(MokgwaLL@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:51	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mamokete L. Mafumo(MafumoML@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:51	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Andre Crous(andre.crous@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:51	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Eroy Saaynan(eiroy.saaynan@eskom.co.za)	Undeliverable	11 Jan 2021 10:46	
BC: Mr Fanle Berg(BerghS@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:51	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr John Geeringh(GeeringhJH@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:51	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Luchen Reddy(reddyLU@eskom.co.za)			
BC: Mr Owen Peters(PetersOW@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:51	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Ms Ambrose Hector(HectorA@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:51	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Ms Andrea Van Gensen(vGenseAL@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:51	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Ms Justine Wyngaardt(WyngaajO@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:51	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Phindie Dlamini(DlaminPi@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:51	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Pierre Bnyman(BnymanPD@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:51	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Rodger Peense(PeenseRN@eskom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:51	2.0.0 message relayed
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BC: Mr Louis Greeff(louis@estafrica.co.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:45	
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BC: Christy B.(christyb@ewt.org.za)	Undeliverable	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
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BC: EIA EWT(eia@ewt.org.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Constant Hoogstad(constanth@ewt.org.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Lourens Leeuwen(lourensl@ewt.org.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: wep@ewt.org.za(wep@ewt.org.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 falconoilandgas.com	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Anne Flynn(aflynn@falconoilandgas.com)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
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 g7energies.com	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Veronique Fyfe(ela@g7energies.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed

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 ghouse.org.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mabule Mokhline(mabule@ghouse.org.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:45	2.0.0 message relayed
 gmail.com	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: bakhebadela@gmail.com(bakhebadela@gmail.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Basie Esterhuysen(basie.ria@gmail.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Clifford Matthews(joshclinton592@gmail.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Graham Abrahams(gnabrahams1@gmail.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Andre Vermeulen(andre.sadawa@gmail.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Erhard Buhn(ejebuhn@gmail.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Izak Visagie(izakvisagie1@gmail.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Onwabile Ndzumo(onyndzumo@gmail.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr T.P. (Paulie) van Zyl Mrs Ria van zyl (wife)(toorberg@gmail.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Wouter Meiring(wrmeiring@gmail.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mrs Elma Nieuwoudt(elma4363@gmail.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Ms Elsabe Swart(elsabe.dtec@gmail.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Ms Tanla Anderson(spoth@gmail.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Nick Botha(nickbotha.nb@gmail.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 hexrivervalley.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
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BC: Ashleigh Sibanda(A.Sibanda@knowledgepele.com)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	















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	BC: Chandré Kok(chandre17@live.com)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:45	
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	BC: Mr Leon Theunissen(leon@lusasa.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
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	BC: David Dean(david.dean@mainstreammp.com)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:45	
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	BC: Martin(martin@mdte.co.za)			
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	BC: Mr Gerhard Visagie(gerhard@med-automation.co.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:45	
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	BC: Mr Charles Van Reenen(vanree_c@mtn.co.za)			
	BC: Mr Renier Nel(renier.nel@mtn.co.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:45	
	mweb.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
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	BC: Mr Bryan Fisher(bfisher@ncpg.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
	BC: Mr Tsholo Madaudi-Leburu(tmakaudi@ncpg.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
	BC: Ms Gale Letimela(gletimela@ncpg.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
	BC: Ms Nanine van Oimen(nvanoimen@ncpg.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
	BC: Ndzillli Mandla(mndzillli@ncpg.gov.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
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	BC: Mr Pieter Buys(peter.buys@nersa.org.za)	Undeliverable	11 Jan 2021 10:45	
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	netandmail.com	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
	BC: Christiaan du Plessis(christiaan@netandmail.com)			
	netstar.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
	BC: Mr Frans Swart(franss@netstar.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021	2.0.0 message














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BC: Ms Natasha Higgit(nhiggit@sahra.org.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message	relayed
BC: Ms Nokukhanya Khumalo(nkhumalo@sahra.org.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message	relayed
BC: Ragna Redelstorf(redelstorf@sahra.org.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message	relayed
 salga.org.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44		
BC: Mr Chantal Harigobin(sharegobin@salga.org.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message	relayed
 salt.ac.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44		
BC: Administration(salt@salt.ac.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:45	2.6.0 message	relayed
BC: Mr Chris Coetzee(chris@salt.ac.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:45	2.6.0 message	relayed
 salt.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44		
BC: Mr Ferdi Smit(ferdie@salt.co.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:45		
 sanparks.org	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44		
BC: Dr. Howard Hendricks(howard.hendricks@sanparks.org)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message	relayed
BC: Mr Ludus Moolman(lucius.moolman@sanparks.org)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message	relayed
 saps.org.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44		
BC: Danie Erasmus Police Radio Communications(radiotech@saps.org.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message	relayed
 sentech.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44		
BC: Alisha Pretorius(pretoriusa@sentech.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:49	2.0.0 message	relayed
BC: Johan Koegelenberg(koegelenbergJ@sentech.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message	relayed





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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

BC: Mr Frank Creese(frank.creese@sentech.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr. Gerame Mthakei(MothakeG@sentech.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
 sessa.org.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Ms Adriana Chickesh(office@sessa.org.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 shell.com	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Ms Lynne Hannay(lynne.hannay@shell.com)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:45	
 ska.ac.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Dr Adrian Tiplady(atiplady@ska.ac.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Tshegofatso Monama(temonama@ska.ac.za)	Undeliverable	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
 srk.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Sharon Jones(SJones@srk.co.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:45	
 telkom.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Johan Smit(smitj1@telkom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Keveme Thuring(Thuring@telkom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 telkomsa.net	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Wickens De Ville(georoutes@telkomsa.net)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 transnet.net	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Devon Govender(devon.govender@transnet.net)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Herman Coetzee(herman.coetzee2@transnet.net)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:48	2.0.0 message relayed
 veroniva.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Claude Bosman(claudie@veroniva.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 vodacom.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Craig Barnes(barnesc@vodacom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Danie Oosthuizen(danie.oosthuizen@vodacom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
BC: Mr Nico Fourie(nico.fourie@vodacom.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 weathersa.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Dr Warren Joubert(warren.joubert@weathersa.co.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:45	
BC: Mlungisi Ngwenya(Mlungisi.Ngwenya@weathersa.co.za)	Undeliverable	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
 weltevredelaas.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Jan Minnaar(leonie@weltevredelaas.co.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	2.0.0 message relayed
 wessa.co.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Mr Morgan Griffiths(morgan.griffiths@wessa.co.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:45	
 westerncape.gov.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021 10:44	
BC: Andrea Thomas(Andrea.Thomas@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:45	
BC: Ceo Heritage Western Cape(Ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021 10:45	
BC: Deano Wevers(Deano.Wevers@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	

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			10:45
BC: D'mitri C Mathews(Dmitri.Mathews@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	10:45
BC: Mr Andrew September(Andrew.September@westerncape.gov.za)	Undeliverable	11 Jan 2021	10:44
BC: Ms Adri La Meyer(adri.lameyer@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	10:45
BC: Ms Colette Scheemeyer(Colette.Scheemeyer@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	10:45
 westerncape.gov.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021	10:44
BC: HOD.TransportPublicWorks@westerncape.gov.za(HOD.TransportPublicWorks@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	10:45
BC: Marbe Coetzee(Marbe.Coetzee@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	10:45
BC: Mr Malcolm Watters(Malcolm.watters@westerncape.gov.za)	Undeliverable	11 Jan 2021	10:44
BC: Mr Raudhlyah Dien(Laurel.Robertson@westerncape.gov.za)	Undeliverable	11 Jan 2021	10:44
BC: Mr Solly Fourie(solly.fourie@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	10:45
BC: Mr Zaahir Toefy(Zaahir.Toefy@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	10:45
BC: Mr Zweibanzi Shiceka(zweibanzi.shiceka@westerncape.gov.za)	Undeliverable	11 Jan 2021	10:44
BC: Ms Jacqui Gooch(Jacqui.gooch@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	10:45
BC: Ms Tania De Waal(Raudhlyah.Dien@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	10:45
BC: Stephanie-Anne Bamard(stephanie.bamard@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	10:45
BC: Wendy Kiva(Wendy.Kiva@westerncape.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	10:45
 witzenberg.gov.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021	10:44
BC: Heloise Truter(heloise@witzenberg.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	10:45
BC: Hennie Ta(aard)(hta(aard@witzenberg.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	10:45
BC: Megan(meagan@witzenberg.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	10:45
BC: Mr David Nasson(david@witzenberg.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	10:45
BC: Ms Mavis Mdala(mmdala@witzenberg.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	10:45
BC: Reginald Badela(rbadela@witzenberg.gov.za)	Undeliverable	11 Jan 2021	10:45
BC: Riaan Fick(riaan@witzenberg.gov.za)	Delivered	11 Jan 2021	10:45
 wwf.org.za	Transferred	11 Jan 2021	10:44
BC: Dr Mome Du Plessis(mduplessis@wwf.org.za)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021	10:45
			2.0.0 message relayed
 yahoo.com	Transferred	11 Jan 2021	10:44
BC: kebasenosi@yahoo.com(kebasenosi@yahoo.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021	10:44
			2.0.0 message relayed
BC: zukile.mal@yahoo.com(zukile.mal@yahoo.com)	Transferred	11 Jan 2021	10:44
			2.0.0 message relayed

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Proof of Text Message to I&APs sent on 11 January 2021 (Follow Up and Reminder of Comment)

Copy of text sent:

Reminder: Dear Stakeholder, Draft BA Reports for the proposed 9x175 MW Veroniva Solar PV and EGI developments near Touws River are available for comment. Comment period closes 25 Jan '21. Reports available at <https://bit.ly/EMSEIA> or <https://bit.ly/VeronivaBA>. Email queries & comments to ems@csir.co.za. Regards, CSIR EMS Team.

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27825699816	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288016	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27827715641	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288038	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27827715641	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288038	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27828060815	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888019	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27828060815	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888019	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27828082737	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288042	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27828082737	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288042	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27828092218	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288037	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27828092218	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288037	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27828092218	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288037	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27828759021	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288054	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

created_time	msisdn	status	status_text	origin_address	delivered_time
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27828900262	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288033	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27828900262	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288033	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27828900262	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288033	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27829230303	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288020	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27829230303	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288020	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27829230303	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288020	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27829407050	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288044	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27829407050	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288044	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27832256386	10	Delivered upstream	2783930060888035	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27832256386	10	Delivered upstream	2783930060888035	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27832752361	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888024	2021-01-11 11:06:00.0
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27833030408	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888036	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27833030408	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888036	2021-01-11 11:07:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27833411606	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888039	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27833411606	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888039	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27833411606	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888039	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27834173671	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288000	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0

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created_time	msisdn	status	status_text	origin_address	delivered_time
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27834481915	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888002	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27834481915	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888002	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27836306217	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288040	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27836306217	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288040	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27836733948	10	Delivered upstream	2782007229288023	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27836733948	10	Delivered upstream	2782007229288023	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27836733948	10	Delivered upstream	2782007229288023	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27845572844	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888058	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27845572844	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888058	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27847770246	10	Delivered upstream	2784000120188003	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27847770246	10	Delivered upstream	2784000120188003	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27836895358	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888017	2021-01-11 11:07:00.0
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27835821918	10	Delivered upstream	2783930060888053	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27835821918	10	Delivered upstream	2783930060888053	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27832799294	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288000	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

created_time	msisdn	status	status_text	origin_address	delivered_time
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27764238710	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288038	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27764238710	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288038	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27764238710	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288038	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27829027166	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288047	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27829027166	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288047	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27829027166	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288047	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27795211911	10	Delivered upstream	2782007229288034	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27795211911	10	Delivered upstream	2782007229288034	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27832363163	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888021	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27844423646	11	Delivered to phone	2784000120188037	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27844423646	11	Delivered to phone	2784000120188037	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27844423646	11	Delivered to phone	2784000120188037	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27823314098	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288027	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

created_time	msisdn	status	status_text	origin_address	delivered_time
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27823314098	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288027	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27263743306	10	Delivered upstream	27811600200	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27263743306	10	Delivered upstream	27811600200	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27284226226	10	Delivered upstream	27811600200	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27284226226	10	Delivered upstream	27811600200	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27284226226	10	Delivered upstream	27811600200	
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27615834269	11	Delivered to phone	2784000120188012	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27615834269	11	Delivered to phone	2784000120188012	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27636843620	10	Delivered upstream	2782007229288028	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27636843620	10	Delivered upstream	2782007229288028	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27636843620	10	Delivered upstream	2782007229288028	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27652003233	11	Delivered to phone	2784000120188035	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27652003233	10	Delivered upstream	2784000120188035	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27652003233	11	Delivered to phone	2784000120188035	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27663747795	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288044	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27663747795	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288044	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27663747795	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288044	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27728064626	10	Delivered upstream	2782007229288032	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27728064626	10	Delivered upstream	2782007229288032	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27728064626	10	Delivered upstream	2782007229288032	
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27732382026	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888029	2021-01-11 11:07:00.0

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created_time	msisdn	status	status_text	origin_address	delivered_time
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27785560121	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888023	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27785560121	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888023	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27785560121	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888023	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
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2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27824455059	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288012	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27825753690	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288020	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27825753690	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288020	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27825753690	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288020	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27827272691	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288035	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27827272691	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288035	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27827272691	11	Delivered to phone	2782007229288035	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27834128667	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888031	2021-01-11 11:06:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27834128667	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888031	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27834128667	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888031	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27836327663	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888012	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27836327663	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888012	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27836327663	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888012	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27845806147	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888047	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0

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created_time	msisdn	status	status_text	origin_address	delivered_time
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27845806147	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888047	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0
2021-01-11 11:05:15.0	27845806147	11	Delivered to phone	2783930060888047	2021-01-11 11:05:00.0

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Appendix D.14: Comments received from Stakeholders during the 30-day review of the Draft BA Report

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From: Juliet Makhanya <JMakhanya@environment.gov.za>
To: Ephraim Abood <EAbod@coir.co.za>, "Paul Lochner@coir.co.za" <P.Lochner@coir.co.za>
CC: Ebrahim c.f.Wadeh@environment.gov.za>, Ephraim Mawale <EMawale@environment.gov.za>, Salome Mambane <SMambane@environment.gov.za>, Mathoed Mngomez <MMngomez@environment.gov.za>, "Claude@versoviva.co.za" <claude@versoviva.co.za>
Date: 04 Dec 2020 11:19
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2275

Dear Paul Lochner
14/12/16/3/3/1/2275

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 175 MW GROOTFONTEIN PV 1 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER, WESTERN CAPE.

The Department confirms having received the Application and draft Basic Assessment Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 03 December 2020. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Kindly note that your application for Environmental Authorisation falls within the ambit of an application applied for in terms of Part 2 of Chapter 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. You are therefore referred to Regulation 19 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

Please take note of Regulation 40(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that potential Interested & Affected Parties, including the Competent Authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in Regulation 40(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, prior to the submission of an application but must be provided an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the Competent Authority.

Note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the time-frames prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted by the Department in terms of Regulation 3(7) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.

Yours in admin
EIA Applications
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries



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From: Juliet Mkhlongo <JMkhlongo@environment.gov.za>
To: "P.Lochner@co.za" <P.Lochner@co.za>; Rehana Aled <RAled@co.za>
CC: Sione Mambane <SMambane@environment.gov.za>; Eshon Maralwa <EMaralwa@environment.gov.za>; Mthobeli Mogoosi <MMogoosi@environment.gov.za>; ElAdmin <ElAdmin@environment.gov.za>; Claude <Claude@westerncape.gov.za>; Claude@westerncape.gov.za
Date: 04 Dec 2020 13:26
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2776

Dear Paul Lochner

14/12/16/3/3/1/2776

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 175 MW GROOTFONTEIN PV 2 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER, WESTERN CAPE.

The Department confirms having received the Application and draft Basic Assessment Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 05 December 2020. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Kindly note that your application for Environmental Authorisation falls within the ambit of an application applied for in terms of Part 2 of Chapter 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. You are therefore referred to Regulation 19 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

Please take note of Regulation 40(3) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that potential Interested & Affected Parties, including the Competent Authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in Regulation 40(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, prior to the submission of an application but must be provided an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the Competent Authority.

Note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the time-frames prescribed in terms of those Regulations, unless an extension has been granted by the Department in terms of Regulation 3(7) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.

Yours in admin
EIA Applications
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries



Disclaimer

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APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: Juliet Mahlangu <JMMahlangu@environment.gov.za>
To: "Paul Lochner" <P.Lochner@csir.co.za>; "Rikied" <Rikied@csir.co.za>; "Rikied" <Rikied@csir.co.za>
CC: Solome Mambane <SMambane@environment.gov.za>; BkAdmin <BkAdmin@environment.gov.za>; Epiron Madahe <EMadahe@environment.gov.za>; Mathond Magonzi <MMagonzi@environment.gov.za>; "Claude@vervolwa.co.za" <claude@vervolwa.co.za>
Date: 04 Dec 2020 11:50
Subject: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2277

Dear Paul Lochner
14/12/16/3/3/1/2277

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE NEW APPLICATION AND DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOLLOWING A BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE 175 MW GROOTFONTEIN PV 3 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER, WESTERN CAPE.

The Department confirms having received the Application and draft Basic Assessment Report for Environmental Authorisation for the abovementioned project on 03 December 2020. You have submitted these documents to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended.

Kindly note that your application for Environmental Authorisation falls within the ambit of an application applied for in terms of Part 2 of Chapter 4 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended. You are therefore referred to Regulation 19 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended.

Please take note of Regulation 40(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that potential interested & Affected Parties, including the Competent Authority, may be provided with an opportunity to comment on reports and plans contemplated in Regulation 40(1) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, prior to the submission of an application but must be provided an opportunity to comment on such reports once an application has been submitted to the Competent Authority.

Note that in terms of Regulation 45 of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, this application will lapse if the applicant fails to meet any of the time-frames prescribed in terms of these Regulations, unless an extension has been granted by the Department in terms of Regulation 3(7) of the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.

You are hereby reminded of Section 29F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Kindly quote the abovementioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.

Yours in admin
EIA Applications
Integrated Environmental Authorisations
Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries



**environment, forestry
& fisheries**
Department:
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape



environment, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X 447· PRETORIA · 0001· Environment House ·473 Steve Biko Road, Arcadia, · PRETORIA

DEFF Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2275, 14/12/16/3/3/1/2276 & 14/12/16/3/3/1/2277

Enquiries: Makhodi Mogorosi

Telephone: (012) 399 9388 E-mail: MMogorosi@environment.gov.za

Mr Paul Lochner
Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
PO Box 320
STELLEBOSCH
7599

Telephone Number: (021) 888 2486
Email Address: PLochner@csir.co.za / RAbed@csir.co.za

PER MAIL / E-MAIL

Dear Mr Lochner

COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THREE 175MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITIES (i.e. GROOTFONTEIN PV 1, GROOTFONTEIN PV 2 AND GROOTFONTEIN PV 3) AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE NEAR TOUWS RIVER, WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

The Draft Basic Assessment Report (BAR) dated December 2020 and received by this Department on 03 December 2020, refer.

This letter serves to inform you that the following information must be included to the final BAR:

(a) Listed Activities

- i. Please ensure that all relevant listed activities are applied for, are specific and can be linked to the development activity or infrastructure as described in the project description. Only activities applicable to the development must be applied for and assessed. In this regard, please also ensure that the details of the dangerous goods facilities, proposed water pipelines and reservoirs are provided, depicted on a map and assessed (i.e. how many pipelines; what are their approximate lengths from the boreholes; where are they located; are they contained within the development site; were the relevant landowners consulted?).
- ii. If the activities applied for in the application form differ from those mentioned in the final BAR, an amended application form must be submitted. Please note that the Department's application form template has been amended and can be downloaded from the following link <https://www.environment.gov.za/documents/forms>.
- iii. It is imperative that the relevant authorities are continuously involved throughout the basic assessment process as the development property possibly falls within geographically designated areas in terms of numerous GN R. 985 Activities. Written comments must be obtained from the relevant authorities and submitted to this Department. In addition, a graphical representation of the proposed development within the respective geographical areas must be provided.

(b) Layout & Sensitivity Maps

- i. Please provide a layout map which indicates the following:
 - The proposed Grootfontein PV1, Grootfontein PV2, and Grootfontein PV 3 facilities, with associated infrastructure for each development;

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APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Chief Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

- All supporting onsite infrastructure e.g. roads (existing and proposed);
 - The location of sensitive environmental features on site e.g. CBAs, heritage sites, wetlands, drainage lines etc. that will be affected;
 - Buffer areas; and, all "no-go" areas.
 - The above map must be overlain with a sensitivity map and a cumulative map which shows neighbouring renewable energy developments.
- Google maps will not be accepted.

(c) Cumulative Assessment

- i. Should there be any other similar projects within a 30km radius of the proposed development site, the cumulative impact assessment for all identified and assessed impacts must be refined to indicate the following:
 - a) Identified cumulative impacts must be clearly defined, and where possible the size of the identified impact must be quantified and indicated, i.e. hectares of cumulatively transformed land.
 - b) Detailed process flow and proof must be provided, to indicate how the specialist's recommendations, mitigation measures and conclusions from the various similar developments in the area were taken into consideration in the assessment of cumulative impacts and when the conclusion and mitigation measures were drafted for this project.
 - c) The cumulative impacts significance rating must also inform the need and desirability of the proposed development.
 - d) A cumulative impact environmental statement on whether the proposed development must proceed.

(d) Public Participation Process

- i. The following information must be submitted with the final BAR:
 - a) A list of registered interested and affected parties as per Regulation 42 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended;
 - b) Copies of all comments received during the draft BAR comment period; and
 - c) A comment and response report which contains all comments received and responses provided to all comments and issues raised during the public participation process for the draft BAR. Please note that comments received from this Department must also form part of the comment and response report.
- ii. Please ensure that all issues raised and comments received during the circulation of the draft BAR from registered I&APs and organs of state which have jurisdiction (including this Department's Biodiversity Section) in respect of the proposed activity are adequately addressed in the final BAR.
- iii. Proof of correspondence with the various stakeholders must be included in the final BAR. Should you be unable to obtain comments, proof should be submitted to the Department of the attempts that were made to obtain comments. The Public Participation Process must be conducted in terms of Regulation 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 & 44 of the EIA Regulations 2014, as amended.

(e) Environmental Management Programme

- i. It is drawn to your attention that for substation infrastructure, when such facilities trigger activity 11 or 47 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations Listing Notice 1 of 2014, as amended, and any other listed and specified activities necessary for the realisation of such facilities, the generic Environmental Management Programme (EMPr), contemplated in Regulations 19(4) must be used and submitted with the final report over and above the EMPr for the PV facility. Please ensure that any specific mitigation measures identified in the BAR and specialist reports for the on-site substations are incorporated into the generic EMPr.
- ii. Please ensure that the mitigation measures specified in the BAR and specialist reports for the PV facilities are also incorporated into the EMPr for the PV facilities. In addition, ensure that the EMPr complies with the content of the EMPr in terms of Appendix 4 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014, as amended.

DEFF Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2275, 14/12/16/3/3/1/2276 & 14/12/16/3/3/1/2277

Comments on the draft Basic Assessment Report for the proposed development of three 175MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 & Grootfontein PV 3) and associated infrastructure near Touws River, Western Cape Province

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FG

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Chief Directorate: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

(f) Validity period and auditing frequency

- i. Please ensure that the final BAR includes the period for which the Environmental Authorisation (EA) is required, the date on which the activity will be concluded and the post construction monitoring requirements finalised, as per Appendix 1(3)(1)(c) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended.
- ii. Please also recommend a frequency for auditing of compliance with the conditions of the EA and EMPr (for the construction and rehabilitation phases of the PV facilities, as well as for the operational phase of the dangerous goods facility), and for the submission of such compliance reports to the competent authority, for inclusion in the EA if granted and/or in the EMPr.

General

You are further reminded to comply with Regulation 19(1)(a) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states that: "Where basic assessment must be applied to an application, the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority - (a) a basic assessment report, inclusive of specialist reports, an EMPr, and where applicable a closure plan, which have been subjected to a public participation process of at least 30 days and which reflects the incorporation of comments received, including any comments of the competent authority."

Should there be significant changes or new information that has been added to the BAR or EMPr which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process, you are required to comply with Regulation 19(b) of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, which states: "the applicant must, within 90 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, submit to the competent authority - (b) a notification in writing that the basic assessment report, inclusive of specialist reports an EMPr, and where applicable, a closure plan, will be submitted within 140 days of receipt of the application by the competent authority, as significant changes have been made or significant new information has been added to the basic assessment report or EMPr or, where applicable, a closure plan, which changes or information was not contained in the reports or plans consulted on during the initial public participation process contemplated in subregulation (1)(a) and that the revised reports or, EMPr or, where applicable, a closure plan will be subjected to another public participation process of at least 30 days".

Should you fail to meet any of the timeframes stipulated in Regulation 19 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended, your application will lapse.

You are hereby reminded of Section 24F of the National Environmental Management Act, Act No. 107 of 1998, as amended, that no activity may commence prior to an Environmental Authorisation being granted by the Department.

Yours sincerely



Mr Sabelo Malaza

Chief Director: Integrated Environmental Authorisations

Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries

Signed by: Ms Fiona Grimett

Designation: Deputy Director (Acting): National Infrastructure Projects

Date: 25/01/2021

cc:	Claude Bosman	Grootfontein PV 1 PTY Ltd Grootfontein PV 2 PTY Ltd Grootfontein PV 3 PTY Ltd	E-mail: claude@veroniva.co.za
	Zaahir Toefy	WC: DEA&DP	E-mail: zaahir.toefy@westerncape.gov.za
	David Nasson	Witzenberg Local Municipality	E-mail: david@witzenberg.gov.za meagan@witzenberg.gov.za

DEFF Reference: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2275, 14/12/16/3/3/1/2276 & 14/12/16/3/3/1/2277

Comments on the draft Basic Assessment Report for the proposed development of three 175MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 & Grootfontein PV 3) and associated Infrastructure near Touws River, Western Cape Province

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: Constant Hoogstad <ConstantH@ewt.org.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 04 Dec 2020 11:21
Subject: RE: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape

To whom it may concern, in future please use cja@ewt.org.za

Regards

From: Jacoline Maris <JacolineMa@daff.gov.za>
To: Thandeka Gwala <ThandekaG@daff.gov.za>, Maitlandaze Falletjerwa <MaitlandazeF@dafrd.gov.za>
CC: "ems@csir.co.za" <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 04 Dec 2020 14:58
Subject: FW: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: Letter_I&APs_Ceres Solar PV Development_031220.pdf; Executive Summary_GF PV 1-3_03122020.pdf; Executive Summary_WW PV 1-2_03122020.pdf

Dear Thandeka & Mase

I am not sure who is the relevant person in the Western Cape commenting on EIA's. The attached was sent to me, but it falls in the Western Cape Province. May you please attend to this and/or forward to the relevant person.

Kind Regards,

Jacoline Maris
Chief Forester: NFA Regulation
Cell 060 973 1660 or 082 808 2737
Directorate: Forestry Management (Other Regions)
Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries



environment, forestry
& fisheries
Department: Environment, Forestry
and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

From: Natasha Higgitt <nhiggitt@sahra.org.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 07 Dec 2020 09:54
Subject: RE: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape

[The e-mail server of the sender failed SPF checks and maybe malicious (SPF Record)]

Good morning,

Please note that SAHRA does not have the jurisdiction to provide comments on these applications as they are located in the Western Cape Province. Please contact Heritage Western Cape for comments in this regard.

Please note that I will be on leave from the 17th December 2020 and will return to work on the 11th January 2021. I wish you a restful Festive Season.

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: Elkerine Rossouw <erossouw@bgcma.co.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>, Andiswa Sam <asesm@bgcma.co.za>, Fablon Smith <fsmith@bgcma.co.za>, Information <info@bgcma.co.za>, Makhosi Mthimkhulu <mthimkhulu@bgcma.co.za>
Date: 07 Dec 2020 14:42
Subject: RE: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape

Hi there,
From my side, I have send this application for comment to the Department of Water and Sanitation as the sites fall within the Olifants catchment (outside of the border of the BGCMA)

Kind Regards,

Elkerine Rossouw

Water Use Specialist
Email: erossouw@bgcma.co.za
Tel: 023 3468000



BREED-GOURITZ
CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AGENCY



From: Lerato Mokgwathong <MokgwLL@eskom.co.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
CC: Christo Badenhorst <BadenHC@eskom.co.za>, "Martin" <martin@mdt.co.za> <martin@mdt.co.za>, Sharon Jones <SJones@uk.co.za>, "Anelle Lotter" <anelle@jwes.co.za> <anelle@jwes.co.za>
Date: 07 Dec 2020 15:40
Subject: RE: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape

Dear Refaids,

Thanks for information sent. Please be informed that Eskom is busy with two EIA Screening studies for the following power line projects:

- 2nd 765kV Gamma Kappa powerline, extensions and upgrades of existing substations
- 2nd 765kV Kappa Sterreikus powerline, extensions and upgrades of existing substations

I have copied the Eskom's Line Engineering representatives and EAPs who are appointed by Eskom for the above-mentioned projects. Could you kindly send us shapefiles / kmz files regarding your proposed developments / projects (all 4 of them). We would like to overlay them to our proposed projects to understand how we affect each other and be able to advise and comment on both projects going forward.

Regards

Lerato Mokgwathong (Pr. Sci. Nat.)
Senior Environmental Advisor
Grid Planning & Development: Land and Rights Department
Transmission Division
Megawatt Park, D1X37 Maxwell Drive, Sunninghill, Sandton
Tel: +27 (0)11 800 8812
Cell: +27 (0)84 580 6147
Fax: +27 (0)86 660 5838
Email: mokgwat@eskom.co.za

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: Andrea Thomas <Andrea.Thomas@westerncape.gov.za>
To: "ems@csir.co.za" <ems@csir.co.za>, Dmitri C. Matthews <Dmitri.Matthews@westerncape.gov.za>
CC: Deano Wevers <Deano.Wevers@westerncape.gov.za>, Marba Coetzee <Marba.Coetzee@westerncape.gov.za>, Zashir Toefy <Zashir.Toefy@westerncape.gov.za>, Adri La Meyer <Adri.LaMeyer@westerncape.gov.za>
Date: 07 Dec 2020 15:53
Subject: Fw: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: Letter_DEADP_Ceres Solar PV Development_031220.pdf

Good afternoon Rohaida

This serves as an acknowledgement of receipt of your submission.

The draft BARs will be assigned to D'mitri Matthews.

Please be advised that any requests for comment from this Department in terms of S240 of the NEMA must also be addressed to Adri La Meyer (copied into this e-mail) to ensure dissemination of the reports to the various relevant Directorates within the Department that are required to provide comment.

D'mitri: Please confirm whether you are able to access the reports.

Kind Regards,
Andrea Thomas

From: Thandeka Gwala <ThandekaG@daff.gov.za>
To: Jacoline Mans <JacolineMa@daff.gov.za>, Masithandaze Falitenjwa <MasithandazeF@Dalrdd.gov.za>
CC: "ems@csir.co.za" <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 08 Dec 2020 08:50
Subject: RE: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL, near Touws River, Western Cape

Dear Ms Mans

Thank you for the email, I will forward the reports for comment to Ms Ndudula copied on the email.

Kind regards

Thandeka F Gwala

Assistant Director: Forestry Regulations and Support
Directorate: Forestry Management Other Regions (Western Cape)
Email: ThandekaG@daff.gov.za
NFAWesternCape@daff.gov.za

Web: www.daff.gov.za

Physical Address: Demar Centre, Knysna, main road, 6570

Postal Address: Private Bag X12, Knysna, 6570

Tel: 044 302 6902

Cell: 066 374 7795 

Fax: 044 382 5461 / 0864431458

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APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: Thandeka Gwala <ThandekaG@daff.gov.za>
To: Jacqueline Mann <JacolineMa@daff.gov.za>, Thando Ndudula <ThandoNd@dalim.gov.za>
CC: "ems@csir.co.za" <ems@csir.co.za>, NFAWesternCape <NFAWesternCape@daff.gov.za>
Date: 08 Dec 2020 08:55
Subject: FW: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: Letter_IBAPs_Ceres Solar PV Development_031220.pdf; Executive Summary_GF PV 1-3_03122020.pdf; Executive Summary_WW PV 1-2_03122020.pdf; FW: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape

Dear Ms Mann

Thank you for the documents.

Ms Ndudula

Kindly find attached documents for your attention.

Kind regards

Thandeka F Gwala

Assistant Director: Forestry Regulations and Support

Directorate: Forestry Management Other Regions (Western Cape)

Email: ThandekaG@daff.gov.za

NFAWesternCape@daff.gov.za

Web: www.daff.gov.za

Physical Address: Demar Centre, Kingska, main road, 6570

Postal Address: Private Bag X12, Kingska, 6570

Tel: 044 302 8902

Cell: 086 376 7705 

Fax: 044 302 5401 / 0864031408

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From: Anne Flynn <aflynn@falcondlandgas.com>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 07 Dec 2020 22:57
Subject: RE: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape

Good evening,

Can you provide me with the contact details of the appropriate person to discuss this facility with. We will need to engage and execute a co-existence agreement with Veroniva given we both have rights over the same land.

I am also unsure if this actually within our acreage so would need to get shape files to confirm we are indeed an IB&P.

Thanking you in advance.

Kind regards,
Anne,

From: Anne Flynn <aflynn@falcondlandgas.com>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
CC: Claude Veroniva <claude@veroniva.co.za>
Date: 08 Dec 2020 14:29
Subject: RE: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape

Dear Rohaida,

Our geologist has just confirmed our projects do overlap.

If you could send me details that would be great.

Thank you.

Kind regards,
Anne,

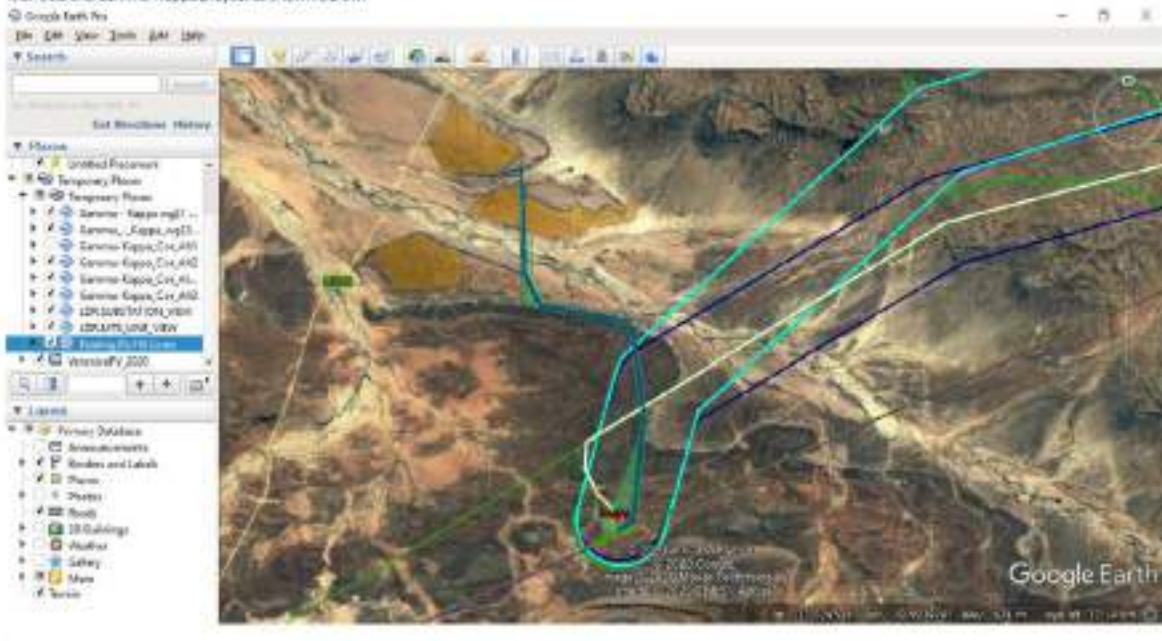
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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: C: [redacted] <[redacted]@[redacted].co.za>
To: Lerato Mokgweetsi <[redacted]@[redacted].co.za>, ems <[redacted]@[redacted].co.za>
CC: "jason@asha-consulting.co.za" <[redacted]@[redacted].co.za>, Sharon Jones <[redacted]@[redacted].co.za>, "Anelle Lottay" <[redacted]@[redacted].co.za> <[redacted]@[redacted].co.za>
Date: 08 Dec 2020 14:30
Subject: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape

Hi Lerato,

It affects the Gamma-Kappa project as shown below.



From: "Hex Valley Tourism" <[redacted]@hexrivervalley.co.za>
To: "ems" <[redacted]@[redacted].co.za>, <[redacted]@[redacted].com>, <[redacted]@[redacted].com>
CC: <[redacted]@[redacted].co.za>, <[redacted]@[redacted].co.za>
Date: 08 Dec 2020 15:45
Subject: Re: Fwd: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape

Noted, thank you!

Kind regards,
Melanie



Melanie Esterhuyse, CEO

HEX VALLEY TOURISM ASSOCIATION
Reg. #: 2017/213658/08 | VAT #: 9946379162
P.O.Box 286, De Doorns, 6875, SOUTH AFRICA
+27 73 238 2026 | info@hexrivervalley.co.za
www.hexrivervalley.co.za

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: Dmitri C. Matthews <Dmitri.Matthews@westerncape.gov.za>
To: ems <ems@ecsr.co.za>
Date: 08 Dec 2020 16:44
Subject: Re: Re: Release of BA Reports for 3 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape

Hi Rohaida

Please note that this email serves as an acknowledgement that the reports have been received and downloaded.

Regards
D'mitri Matthews (Environmental Officer, Specialised Production)
Development Management, Region 1
Development Planning
Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
Western Cape Government
1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001

Tel: (021) 483 8350
Fax: (021) 483 3633

E-mail: Dmitri.Matthews@westerncape.gov.za
Website: www.westerncape.gov.za



Western Cape
Government

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From: Graham Abrahams <gabr@ams1@gmail.com>
To: ems <ems@ecsr.co.za>
CC: Hex Valley Tourism <info@hexvalley.co.za>, "dfridaan@netandmail.com" <dfridaan@netandmail.com>, "jaysz@waha-consulting.co.za" <jaysz@waha-consulting.co.za>
Date: 08 Dec 2020 17:48
Subject: Re: Re: Release of BA Reports for 3 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape

Good day

Confirmed receipt, thank you.

Kind regards,

Graham

Graham Abrahams: Chairman: Hex River Valley Heritage & Conservation Society



email: gabr@ams1@gmail.com
Cell: 061-583-4269

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: Anne Flynn <aflynn@falconoilandgas.com>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
CC: Claude Veroniva <claud@veroniva.co.za>
Date: 08 Dec 2020 19:33
Subject: RE: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape

Thank you Rohaida.

From: Morgan Griffiths <morgan.griffiths@wessa.co.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 11 Dec 2020 15:31
Subject: RE: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape

Received thank you
Morgan Griffiths

From: Nico Botha <nickbotha.nb@gmail.com>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 11 Dec 2020 16:35
Subject: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape

Good day

Thank you for your email when might this project start ?

Regards

NICO BOTHA
072 806 6426
023 358 1038
nickbotha.nb@gmail.com
TOUWSRIVIER SPAR



APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

----- Original message -----
From: joshclinton692 <joshclinton692@gmail.com>
Date: 12/12/2020 15:44 (GMT+02:00)
To: ems@csir.co.za
Subject: Sub-contractor (ICE)

Hi Rohanda

We have a bbec registered company with all necessary credentials. We are based on Touwsrivier. The reason for this email is to ask more info about this advert and how our companies in Touwsrivier take part of this project . Please let me know asap I will really appreciate it .

Looking forward to hearing from you .

From: CliffordMatthews
Metrorex Trading cc
Jubileest 245 , steenvliet
Touwsrivier , 6880
Cell0785560121
Emailjoshclinton692@gmail.com

From: Alana Duffell-Canham <aduffell-canham@capenature.co.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 14 Dec 2020 11:00
Subject: RE: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF NINE 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE – DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS.
Attachments: Solar_9PV_Facilities & EGI_TouwsRiver_20201214.pdf

Dear Ms Abed

Please find comment from CapeNature attached.

Kind regards,
Alana

Alana Duffell-Canham
Conservation Intelligence Manager – Landscape Central



CapeNature
tel +27 21 866 8000 | fax +27 21 866 1523 | cell +27 082 727 2691
email alana@capenature.co.za | fax2email +27 86 529 3475
postal Private Bag #0014 Stellenbosch 7088
physical Assagatbosch Nature Reserve Jonkershoek Road Stellenbosch
www.capenature.co.za

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CONSERVATION INTELLIGENCE:

LANDSCAPE CENTRAL

postal Private Bag X5014 Stellenbosch 7599
physical Assegaalbosch Nature Reserve Jonkershoek
website www.capenature.co.za
enquiries Alana Duffell-Canham
telephone +27 21 866 8000 fax +27 21 866 1523
email aduffell-canham@capenature.co.za
reference SSD14/2/6/1/9/6_Solar_3PVFacilities & EG_TouwsRiver
date 14 December 2020

Rohaida Abed
CSIR Environmental Management Services
P.O. Box 59081
Umbilo
Durban
4075

E-mail: ems@csir.co.za

Dear Ms Abed

RE: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF NINE 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE – DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS.

Project 1 DEFF Refs: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2273 & 14/12/16/3/3/1/2274
Project 2 DEFF Refs: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2275; 14/12/16/3/3/1/2276 & 14/12/16/3/3/1/2277
Project 3 DEFF Refs: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2278; 14/12/16/3/3/1/2279; 14/12/16/3/3/1/2280 & 14/12/16/3/3/1/2281
Project 4 DEFF Refs: 14/12/16/3/3/1/2282; 14/12/16/3/3/1/227614/12/16/3/3/1/2283;
14/12/16/3/3/1/227614/12/16/3/3/1/2284; 14/12/16/3/3/1/228514/12/16/3/3/1/2285;
14/12/16/3/3/1/228614/12/16/3/3/1/2286; 14/12/16/3/3/1/228714/12/16/3/3/1/2287; 14/12/16/3/3/1/2288;
14/12/16/3/3/1/2289 & 14/12/16/3/3/1/2290

CapeNature would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed development of nine solar PV facilities and Electrical Grid Infrastructure as applied for in four Basic Assessment Reports. We have combined comments as some of the comments are applicable for all of the PV facilities and EGI.

General comments for all project applications:

1. According to the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (2017) the rivers and area along the rivers and ephemeral drainage channels have been determined as being of high conservation importance and hence the rivers and floodplain areas have been mapped as Critical Biodiversity Areas. The smaller ephemeral drainage lines play a supporting role and thus have been determined as Ecological Support Areas. Multi-seasonal imagery was one of the key informants used in compiling the 2017 Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (WCBSBP) and determining Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Ecological Support

The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board trading as CapeNature

Board Members: Associate Prof Denver Hendricks (Chairperson), Prof Gavin Maneveldt (Vice Chairperson), Ms Marguerite Loubser, Mr Mervyn Burton, Dr Colin Johnson, Prof Aubrey Reddinghuis, Mr Paul Slack

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- Areas (ESAs). GeoTerra Image (GTI) was also used to assist in identifying watercourses¹ based on digital elevation models in combination with flood/water accumulation models and the study area supports a large number of aquatic ESA watercourses. The intended use of this information is for medium scale interpretation and planning. Therefore, development planners should take a risk averse approach within the landscape and avoid areas where water may accumulate. These areas may not appear as aquatic features on the ground but they are ecological infrastructure (and potential risk areas) that should be taken cognisance of.
2. Each application covers a relatively large area. It is therefore somewhat concerning that all nine PV sites and the EGI route were groundtruthed in the same relatively short period (14 – 18 September) by the appointed ecologists. Whilst the vegetation types on site (Tanqua Wash Riviere and Tanqua Karoo) are currently not listed as being threatened, the information as above needs to be considered. The current layouts are mapped at a broad scale and the footprint appears to cover the smaller watercourses. The EMP_r states that the ecologist must look at the final footprint and avoid “dendritic drainage lines” – it is not clear from the maps provided if this has been done on all the sites.
 3. It is also not clear from the maps whether ecological corridors have been allowed for between each of the nine PV facilities on each of the 4 sites. Small gaps in the fencing are not sufficient on their own considering the large areas that will be fenced off.
 4. Currently, the application depends heavily on post-authorisation walk-throughs (as indicated in the Environmental Management Programme) such as for the powerline, access restrictions and site camps. No-go areas within each PV footprint for all permanent and temporary infrastructure should be determined as part of this application process and not post-authorisation. This will require additional ground-truthing, especially for certain of the sites which will be discussed further in the site-specific comments below.
 5. The ecological report has a biased focus towards fauna. Whilst we acknowledge the importance of fauna in the area (especially the Riverine Rabbit), more focus should be given to the plant communities on each site. The generic diagram used in all of the ecological reports (Figure 26 in the Witte Wall report) is not applicable to all of the sites. The use of the same photos in all of the ecological reports is also indicative of the lack of groundtruthing at all sites. The verification process used the screening tool as part of the Terms of Reference, this is fine except for statements such as “given the moderate botanical sensitivity, consideration was given to faunal populations” – what about the plant communities? Other than the Riverine Rabbit survey, the findings and recommendations are almost entirely desktop based.
 6. We note that the findings are based on the assumption that existing plant cover will be maintained throughout the solar facility (except for buildings, mounting structures and roads). To what extent will the vegetation be shaded by the solar panels? An expert opinion regarding the impacts of shading on the vegetation should be provided. Retention of vegetation is mainly important to assist with controlling erosion, which is of high concern on the site (especially as a result of flash flooding).
 7. Although the traffic engineer has said the main access roads appear adequate, it must be confirmed whether any new link roads or road upgrades and associated borrow pits will be required. The location of these must be provided for comment to CapeNature prior to construction commencing. We have unfortunately seen unnecessary loss of Species of Conservation Concern in the past due to borrow pits and roads that were not assessed in the original application. It must also be confirmed if new bridges or culverts will be required.
 8. An operational bird and bat monitoring programme must be drawn up and implemented from when construction commences.

¹ Note that although a natural drainage channel does not appear to be on site, parts of the site can be considered as a watercourse (using the definition of “a channel or depression in which water flows regularly or intermittently”).

The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board trading as CapeNature

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Project 1: Two PV facilities proposed on Farm Witte Wall No. 171:

9. The main mitigation for this site has been the avoidance of the river and riparian corridor which we support. The layout has also avoided the steeper areas and higher ridges on the site and the plateau at the top. The vegetation on this site is fairly uniform. Providing that the comments as provided in the general comments above are adequately addressed, we consider this site to be one of the more suitable sites for development of 2 PV facilities.

Project 2: Three PV facilities proposed on Farm Grootfontein No. 149:

10. This site falls within an area which is mapped as having high erodibility. This seems to be particularly evident on the slopes below the plateau in the south-western part of the site where the vegetation structure also differs noticeable from the plateau area. This portion of the site should be more thoroughly groundtruthed to determine impacts on vegetation, erosion potential and general suitability.

Project 3: Four PV facilities on Farm Hoek Doornen 172:

11. From the information provided, it appears that the portion of the site on the southern side of the river is located below the ridge and has an adequate buffer from the river. It also avoids the dune area. The part of the site north of the river however, shows evidence of erosion and ephemeral drainage channels. This site should be groundtruthed in more detail.

Project 4: Electrical Grid Infrastructure:

12. The powerlines will need to cross watercourses. The powerline must span across these and pylons must not be located instream or in riparian areas.
13. Access to all parts of the route during construction should be carefully demarcated with only a single access route being driven. Where turning circles are required, these should be in previously disturbed areas only.
14. The avifaunal specialist has provided clear and specific recommendations with regard to installation of bird flappers. These are especially important over and near to watercourses.
15. In addition, we recommend that post-construction monitoring of the powerlines occurs for one year to check for collision fatalities.

CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any additional information that may be received.

Yours sincerely



Alana Duffell-Canham

The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board trading as CapeNature

Board Members: Associate Prof Denver Hendricks (Chairperson), Prof Gavin Maneveldt (Vice Chairperson), Ms Marguerite Loubser, Mr Mervyn Burton, Dr Colin Johnson, Prof Aubrey Redlinghuis, Mr Paul Black

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From: John Geeringh <GeerinJH@eskom.co.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 17 Dec 2020 10:47
Subject: RE: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: Eskom requirements for work in or near Eskom servitudes.doc; Renewable Energy Generation Plant Setbacks to Eskom Infrastructure Rev2 - signed.pdf

Please send me KMZ files of the affected properties, layouts and grid connections. Please find attached Eskom requirements for works at or near Eskom infrastructure and servitudes. Please also find attached an updated setbacks guideline for RE infrastructure for consideration by the applicant.

Kind regards

John Geeringh (Pr Sci Nat)(EAPASA)
Senior Consultant Environmental Management
Land and Rights
Eskom Transmission Division
Megawatt Park, D1Y42, Maxwell Drive, Sunninghill, Sandton.
P O Box 1091, Johannesburg, 2000.
Tel: 011 516 7233
Cell: 083 632 7663
Fax: 086 661 4064
E-mail: john.geeringh@eskom.co.za

From: John Geeringh <GeerinJH@eskom.co.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 18 Dec 2020 08:29
Subject: RE: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape

Thank you, Rohaida. Have a good Festive season.

John

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: Stephanie Barnardt <Stephanie.Barnardt@westerncape.gov.za>
To: "ems@csir.co.za" <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 18 Dec 2020 11:16
Subject: RE: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: Section 38(8)rod APM and IACOM Dec 2020 Grootfontein PV.pdf; Section 38(8)rod APM and IACOM Dec 2020 Hoek Doornen PV.pdf; Section 38(8)rod APM and IACOM Dec 2020 WITTE WALL PV.pdf

Good day

Please see attached,

[HWC December 2020 and January 2021 Operations](#)

Kind regards,

Stephanie-Anne Barnardt
Heritage Officer (Archaeologist)
Heritage Resource Management Services
Heritage Western Cape

3rd Floor, Protea Assurance Building
Green Market Square
Cape Town
8001

Email: stephanie.barnardt@westerncape.gov.za

Website: <https://www.hwc.org.za>



ILifa leMveli leNtshona, Xolani
Erlenis Was-Koap
Heritage Western Cape

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coronavirus.westerncape.gov.za

National hotline: 0800 029 999
Provincial hotline: 021 928 4102
WhatsApp "HI" to 060 012 3456
Operating 24 hours a day

From: Waseefa Dhansay <Waseefa.Dhansay@westerncape.gov.za>
Sent: Monday, 07 December 2020 16:52
To: Stephanie Barnardt <Stephanie.Barnardt@westerncape.gov.za>
Subject: FW: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape

FM

From: Ceoheritage <Ceoheritage@westerncape.gov.za>
Sent: Friday, December 4, 2020 6:13 PM
To: Waseefa Dhansay <Waseefa.Dhansay@westerncape.gov.za>
Subject: FW: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape

FM

Kind regards
Ameerah

From: ems [<mailto:ems@csir.co.za>]
Sent: 04 December 2020 11:08 AM
To: ems@csir.co.za
Subject: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape

Good day Stakeholders and I&APs

RE: RELEASE OF FOUR DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR A 30-DAY COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NINE 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

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Our Ref: HM/CAPE WINELANDS/ BREEDE VALLEY / TOUWSRIVIER / GROOTFONTEIN PV 1 - PV 3
Case No.: 20081908SB0821E
Enquiries: Stephanie-Anne Barnardt
E-mail: stephanie.barnardt@westerncape.gov.za
Tel: 021 483 5959
Date: 17 December 2020



Jayson Orton
40 Brassie Street, Lakeside, 7945
jayson@asha-consulting.co.za, rabad@csir.co.za

FINAL COMMENT
In terms of Section 38(8) of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the Western Cape Provincial Gazette 6061, Notice 298 of 2003

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THREE 175 MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES (GROOTFONTEIN PV 1 - PV 3) AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER, SUBMITTED IN TERMS OF SECTION 38(1) OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT (ACT 25 OF 1999)

CASE NUMBER: 20081908SB0821E

The matter above has reference.

This matter was discussed at the Impact Assessment Committee (IACom) meeting held on 9 December 2020.

It was noted that the matter was tabled at Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Committee (APM) meeting held on the 2 December 2020 whereby the APM Committee endorses the recommendations in the PIA report by Almond (November 2020: Page 57) and the HIA report by ASHA Consultants (November 2020: Page):

- **Palaeontology:** No specialist palaeontological monitoring or mitigation is recommended for this development
- The Fossil Finds Protocol must be included in the EMPr
- **Archaeology:** A pre-construction archaeological survey must be carried out to determine (1) whether any further sites are present and (2) the best area for sampling of background scatter artefacts;
- No activity is to happen to the north of the existing farm fence alongside waypoint 177.

FINAL COMMENTS:

The Committee resolved to endorse the heritage impact assessment and recommendation as meeting with requirements of S38(3) of the NHRA.

HWC reserves the right to request additional information as required.

Should you have any further queries, please contact the official above and quote the case number.

.....
Colette M Scheemeyer
Acting Chief Executive Officer



APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: "sadawa" <sadawa@breede.co.za>
To: <ems@csir.co.za>, <claud@veroniva.co.za>
CC: <leon@kusasa.co.za>, "De Ville Wickens" <georoutas@telkomsa.net>
Date: 20 Dec 2020 11:37
Subject: Attention: Rohaida Abed Commentary on draft BA Grootfontein developments

Good day Rohaida,

Herewith I would like to register to gain access to the public participation process for the Grootfontein Solar Energy Facility developments as the representative of the Ceres Tankwa-Karoo Agricultural Association consisting of nearly 100 members who are appalled by the findings of the draft BA sent to us on 3 December.

I personally had discussions with some of the specialists you employed to do the EIA's and I was horrified to find that none of the information and input provided was considered or included into this BA. And here I want to make special reference to the Socio-economic, Agricultural and Traffic EIA's.

On the agricultural side, we were shocked to see that the studies only focussed on impact directly related to the area of development. Neighbouring farms and their activities were not included at all. If this statement is false, then I would like to know the list of farmers that were actually approached to give input, since I (a direct neighbour to this development) was not one of these which leads me to believe none of the other neighbouring farmers were included either. When considering farming activities, it is vital that one realizes the Karoo is a very diverse farming sector. The nature of the habitat here, makes it impossible to only do one type of farming. Game farming, eco-tourism, sheep/goat farming, wheat farming, irrigation farming including figs, pomegranates, lusern are but a few I could mention. So which of these were considered when you decided that the agricultural impact is very low? Or was consideration, again, only afforded to the farm on which the development is to take place? Construction of such a facility has far-reaching implications that do not only relate the farm on which the development is to take place. Many of these EIA's are actually intricately linked to one another. You cannot consider agricultural impacts without considering the roads, socio-economics and biodiversity. This is but one problem that I can offer with the report and we will expand on these in a formal meeting.

Considering your BA-report as a whole and not only focussing on individual aspects of it, we outright disagree with most of the findings. Bear in mind that this is not only my opinion as I am acting as the official representative of our Agricultural Association and therefore represent 100 participants who have major grievances here.

Therefore, we formally request a meeting with the Ceres Tankwa-Karoo Agricultural Association as representative of over 100 stakeholders and interested and affected parties (I&AP's) in this project. We have a whole list of grievances that need to be addressed in a manner fitting to the environmental circumstances of our sector. Internet communications and online discussions will not suffice and are not suitable for the audience of this proposed project.

This meeting between CSIR Environmental Management Services and our association should therefore be scheduled before the end of our commentary time period and I place this responsibility wholly in your court. I will be sure to avail myself and my conference facility at Sadawa for such a meeting at any time that befits you. But it must happen soon and I hope that the time period provided by your organization will not interfere with this as you chose to enlist a commentary period over a very difficult time of the year.

Our Agricultural Association is also in the process of compiling a Renewable-energy Mandate for our sector which we will enforce with all current and future development companies as our grievances remain standard. This will be supplied and discussed on the date of our meeting.

I look forward to hearing back from you asap so that we can ensure that this commentary process and public participation is indeed fair and equal to all I&AP's.

Regards,

ANDRÉ VERMEULEN



Set: 078 422 6226
Werk: 023 004 0552
andre.sadawa@gmail.com
sadawa@breede.co.za

Note: As agreed with this I&AP on 25 Jan 2021, these emails are only included for background purposes, as the official comments were submitted by this I&AP on 22 January 2021.

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From: "sadawa" <sadawa@breede.co.za>
To: ""ems"" <ems@csir.co.za>
CC: ""De Ville Wickens"" <georoutes@telkomsa.net>, <leon@lusasa.co.za>
Date: 28 Dec 2020 16:38
Subject: RE: Attention: Rohaida Abed Commentary on draft BA Grootfontein developments

Good day Rohiada,

Thank you for your reply. Unfortunately an online meeting will not suffice. As I have already mentioned this area does not have adequate internet and cell phone service reception and therefore such a meeting will not be sensitive to the community and environment that this project is intended for. I can assure you that all COVID regulations will be adhered to and there is more than enough space to ensure social distancing. It is the Karoo after all and it will only be the three Agricultural Association's representatives and your company representatives that will attend this meeting, therefore we will be far below the COVID restrictions for gatherings.

The dates proposed are too late in January. They are too close to your deadline to ensure that you will not only take our comments into consideration, but also potentially revise your findings. Unfortunately the whole set-up that CSIR has produced regarding this public participation process (PPP) and the time frame attached to it (which happens to include your annual leave of office), has not created much trust in your company's goodwill towards this project and our community. If CSIR planned leave over December then surely they cannot also allow a PPP to run over that same time, since this feels like an intentional measure to exclude the "public" from participating.

I propose the dates of 6, 7 or 8th of January at Sadawa, in person, in the Ceres Tankwa Karoo. Honouring these dates will go a long way in repairing a relationship that seems to now have suffered a lot of unnecessary damage. If you cannot honour these dates then, the next most respectable thing to do would be to extend the dates of the PPP to exclude the annual CSIR dates of leave. This is what all the other companies have done that have run similar PPP's in our area over the December holidays. Then only can we make a date for later in January.

This is a time-sensitive issue which has a great impact on our area and the community.

Regarding our areas of concern and questioning it actually includes the entire report. But I am also in the process of gathering specific questions from our association members. I will send them along in due time.

I hope to hear back from you soon.

Karoo regards,

ANDRÉ VERMEULEN



Sel: 078 422 6226
Werk: 023 004 0552
andre.sadawa@gmail.com
sadawa@breede.co.za

Note: As agreed with this I&AP on 25 Jan 2021, these emails are only included for background purposes, as the official comments were submitted by this I&AP on 22 January 2021.

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From: Paul Lochner
To: Rohaida Abed
Date: 20 Jan 2021 16:41
Subject: Fwd: RE: Ceres Veroniva solar PV project / comments on draft BA Reports - offer to meet 14 January 2021

>>> "sadawa" <sadawa@breede.co.za> 08 Jan 2021 17:24 >>>
Good day Paul

What is you cell phone number, I want to talk to you.

ANDRÉ VERMEULEN



Sel: 078 422 6226
Werk: 023 004 0552
andre.sadawa@gmail.com
sadawa@breede.co.za

Note: As agreed with this I&AP on 25 Jan 2021, these emails are only included for background purposes, as the official comments were submitted by this I&AP on 22 January 2021.

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From: "sadawa" <sadawa@breede.co.za>
To: "Paul Lochner" <PLochner@csir.co.za>, "ems" <ems@csir.co.za>
CC: "De Ville Wickens" <georoutes@telkomsa.net>, <leon@lusasa.co.za>
Date: 11 Jan 2021 17:57
Subject: RE: Ceres Veroniva solar PV project / comments on draft BA Reports - offer to meet 14 January 2021

Good day Paul,

As requested here are a couple of outline questions that we would like to discuss. Obviously we will go into broader detail once we have initiated the discussion:

First of all, we are not happy with the public participation process. We feel that it was not fairly conducted in the given time frame and that CSIR were not accessible enough. Consideration wasn't given to community members who do not have the means for electronic communications and not enough sensitivity was afforded to the circumstances of the environment you intend to service.

We initially indicated that we have a problem with the whole BA draft, because we felt that some of the findings of the specialists were not adequately reflected in the BA's final draft document. For example, in some cases the specialists indicated that there are negative impacts of some kind, but in the draft it is given as "low impact". This could be because we do not agree with the criteria and methodology for what constitutes a "low impact" factor. This disagreement applies throughout the different fields of study. In our telephonic conversation this morning you mentioned that my grievances must be based on fact. The fact is that you cannot take criteria and circumstances from other areas and then apply them to this area and state it as fact.

For the Agricultural division the study was only focused on the area of construction. Neighbouring farms and the agricultural community was not taken into consideration. Seeing as the agricultural community make use of the roads this needed to be included in the agricultural impact. No consideration was given to specialized crops for neighbouring farmers. The dust and the impacts on the roads can be devastating on fruit production and transport. What is the heat-dome effect / heat-island going to be in the area? Did your agricultural specialists speak with any neighbouring farmers, and if so, can a list be provided? Other factors concerned here are game farming/hunting.

For the Visual Impact division we feel not enough consideration was given to eco-tourism as a whole. Some of the distances between the development and neighbouring game farms in the report were incorrect. Some of the farms weren't even included and these farms border on the development zone indicated on your map. Not enough emphasis was put on the dust factor created by the development. This has a visual impact on eco-tourism. Under section 6.1.1 the impact is indicated as "low" and we simply do not agree with this.

In the Socio-economic division too few direct consultations were held with I&AP's and immediate business owners in the area. One of our major concerns are job losses in the eco-tourism sector. Overall not enough emphasis was put on the eco-tourism industry (and this applies to all the fields of investigation). Also the impacts on the roads was again listed as a low impact prior to and after mitigation and we simply do not agree with this.

We also want to discuss the implementation of mitigating factors. We feel that the community is not represented in your findings and there needs to be a community representative or organization brought in as a consultant.

We want an outline maintenance plan of the roads and we want a clear distinction made between main roads and main access roads. The Ceres Karoo Agricultural Association requests that the focus should not only be on the maintenance of the roads, but rather of the upgrading of the roads. Simply grading a gravel road every week does no good and in fact does a lot more damage to the road surface. We request that an upgrade plan be part of the maintenance plan. This does not mean tarring the road, but simply putting money aside to ensure that the road is left in the same, if not better condition, that it was received.

Listed are another couple of factors we would like to briefly discuss during the meeting:

- Rural Safety
- Allocation of funds in the local community (post-construction)
- Use of local businesses and labour
- Removal of vegetation

We await details regarding the meeting confirmation.

Karoo regards,

Note: As agreed with this I&AP on 25 Jan 2021, these emails are only included for background purposes, as the official comments were submitted by this I&AP on 22 January 2021.

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: Stephanie Barnardt <Stephanie.Barnardt@westerncape.gov.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 11 Jan 2021 12:52
Subject: RE: Reminder - Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL, near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: Section 38(8)rod APM and IACOM Dec 2020 Grootfontein PV.pdf; Section 38(8)rod APM and IACOM Dec 2020 Hoek Doornen PV.pdf; Section 38(8)rod APM and IACOM Dec 2020 WITTE WALL PV.pdf

Good day

Please see attached comment from NWC.

NWC December 2020 and January 2021 Operations

Kind regards,

Stephanie-Anne Barnardt
Heritage Officer (Archaeologist)
Heritage Resource Management Services
Heritage Western Cape

3rd Floor, Protea Assurance Building
Green Market Square
Cape Town
8001

Email: stephanie.barnardt@westerncape.gov.za
Website: <http://www.hwc.org.za>



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coronavirus.westerncape.gov.za

National hotline: 0800 029 999
Provincial hotline: 021 928 4102
WhatsApp "Hi" to 060 012 3456
Operating 24 hours a day

From: René de Kock (WR) <Dekockr@nra.co.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 11 Jan 2021 11:17
Subject: RE: Reminder - Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL, near Touws River, Western Cape

Good day

Please forward all EIA correspondence to Nicole Abrahams at abrahamsn@nra.co.za for comment.

Please remove my name from your database.

regards

René de Kock
Statutory Control
Western Region
1 Hvinga Street, Coldale, Bellville, Western Cape, 7530, South Africa
T: +27 21 957 4607 | M:
Dekockr@nra.co.za | www.nra.co.za
Fraud Hotline Number - 0800 204 058

SANRAL



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From: "De Ville Wickens" <georoutes@telkomsa.net>
To: "ems" <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 11 Jan 2021 13:09
Subject: RE: Reminder - Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape

[The e-mail server of the sender failed SPF checks and maybe malicious (SPF Record)]

Dear Rohaida

Can you please register me as a stakeholder/interested party. I do not know if it is really necessary because I am currently on your email list. I am the owner of the farm **Bizansgat**, about 12 km north of the proposed Grootfontein PV development.

Thanks and best regards

De Ville Wickens

GEO-ROUTES PETROLEUM



DE VILLE WICKENS
M.Sc. Ph.D.

37 Zevendal Road
Zevendal
Kulls River 7580
SOUTH AFRICA

Consulting Geologist
Tel/Fax: +27 21 906 2354 (H/W)
Mobile: 082 779 3200
E-mail: georoutes@telkomsa.net

From: Simphiwe Masilela <Masilelas@caa.co.za>
To: "ems@csir.co.za" <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 11 Jan 2021 13:21
Subject: RE: Reminder - Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: Other Power Plant footprint corners - Copy.xls; Pylon Geographic co ordinates.xls; New Part 139 01 30 Regulations.pdf; Obstacles - Development around Aerodromes.pdf; Modified copy of Other Power Plant footprint corners - Copy.xls

Good day,

Find attached information for Developments around aerodromes and prescribed in SACAA Regulations, processes and procedures to follow towards Development where applicable for your comments.

Kindly follow the SACAA procedure and processes as per the website towards your proposed Power Plant.

<http://www.caa.co.za/Files/Obstacles%20Form%20notices.aspx> please read the notices for extra information that is required, as well as fees applicable to the said application

<http://www.caa.co.za/Obstacles%20Form/CA139-77.pdf> application form; apply one centre point co-ordinate, to the said proposed site

Kindly note that when the time for formal application comes, the client is required to provide the following together with the application

- A kmz/kml (Google Earth) file reflecting the footprint to the proposed development site.
- Provide coordinates, Height and Elevation as per excel spreadsheet attached herein
- Also indicate the highest structure of the project

Should you require more information please contact the inspectorate at obstacles@caa.co.za.

Regards 

Simphiwe Masilela
Inspector: Obstacles
Procedure Design & Cartography
Cell: 066 435 7642 | Fax: | Email: masilela@caa.co.za | www.caa.co.za

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From: Nokukhanya Khumalo <nkhumalo@sahra.org.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
CC: Waseefa Dhansay <Waseefa.Dhansay@westerncape.gov.za>
Date: 12 Jan 2021 08:06
Subject: RE: Reminder - Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape

[The e-mail server of the sender failed SPF checks and maybe malicious (SPF Record)]

Good Morning

Please make an application for comments directly to the Heritage Western Cape (HWC) heritage authority as they are the commenting authority for development cases in the Western Cape. I have cc'ed a heritage officer from HWC who may better assist you in receiving comments on your project.

Kind Regards,
Nokukhanya Khumalo

From: Waseefa Dhansay <Waseefa.Dhansay@westerncape.gov.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>, Stephanie Barnardt <Stephanie.Barnardt@westerncape.gov.za>
Date: 13 Jan 2021 09:10
Subject: RE: Reminder - Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape

Dear Stephanie

Please see below.

[HWC December 2020 and January 2021 Operations](#)

Kind regards,

Waseefa Dhansay
Assistant Director: Professional Services
Heritage Resource Management Services
Heritage Western Cape

Email: waseefa.dhansay@westerncape.gov.za
Website: <https://www.hwc.org.za>



From: Nokukhanya Khumalo <nkhumalo@sahra.org.za>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 8:07 AM
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
Cc: Waseefa Dhansay <Waseefa.Dhansay@westerncape.gov.za>
Subject: RE: Reminder - Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL, near Touws River, Western Cape

Good Morning

Please make an application for comments directly to the Heritage Western Cape (HWC) heritage authority as they are the commenting authority for development cases in the Western Cape. I have cc'ed a heritage officer from HWC who may better assist you in receiving comments on your project.

Kind Regards,
Nokukhanya Khumalo

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From: "sadawa" <sadawa@broede.co.za>
To: "Paul Lochner" <P.Lochner@cdi.co.za>
CC: "Divinehri Moodley" <DMoodley1@cdi.co.za>, "Luzande Kelleman" <LKelleman@cdi.co.za>, "Rohaida Abed" <RAbed@cdi.co.za>, "Joëlle Jan" <johann@johannjan.co.za>, "Leah" <leah@fusus.co.za>, "DeVile Wickens" <georoutes@rekomisa.net>, "Claude Bosman" <claudel@veronika.co.za>
Date: 13 Jan 2021 10:50
Subject: RE: Carno Veronika solar PV project / comments on draft BA Reports - offer to meet 14 January 2021
Attachments: heritage & visual impact queries CSF.jpg

Hi Paul,

Thank you for the information. We can confirm that we will be two people meeting you in person tomorrow. All COVID regulations will be adhered to as requested.

Attached find the map as discussed telephonically regarding the additional visual and heritage queries.

Looking forward to seeing you tomorrow.

Karoo regards,

ANDRÉ VERMEULEN



Sel: 078 422 6226
Werk: 023 004 0552
andre.sadawa@gmail.com
sadawa@broede.co.za

Note: As agreed with this I&AP on 25 Jan 2021, these emails are only included for background purposes, as the official comments were submitted by this I&AP on 22 January 2021.

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

>>> "Jan" <jan@wadrif.com> 13 Jan 2021 21:57 >>>
Insake die CERES SOLAR PV:

As 'n Ceres Karoo liefhebber, besoek en gemiddeld een keer per maand die karoo, en geniet ek dit daar ontsettend baie. Ook ervaar ek die agteruitgang die afgelope 30 jaar van die karoo, lentedblomme raak drasies minder, wildlewe is besig om te verdwyn.

Gedurende 1991 moes ons 'n 4x4 bakkie koop, het net te veel keer met die gewone bakkie vasgeval op plaas as gevolg van lekker reën, nat paale en modderplate op die plaas.

Met die jare al hoe minder reën, nou is dit semmie woestyn. Laaste 5 jaar so min gereën dat plaas nie bewel kon word, of verhuur kon word. Dus geen inkomste, net uitgawes.

Wilde diere en plantegroei vrek van die droogte. Selfs doringbome vrek in die rivierlope. Boesmansgras word sandduine.

Verkoop, nie. Die waarde van die grond het geval van R 1.500.00 na R 500.00 per ha. Geen vooruitsigte vir beter reën nie, ons vatkol raak net al hoe groter.

Claud Booiman het ons gekontak, en daar was lig in die tonnel. Solar stelbel en behou die geliefde plaas. Weer kan daar geld wees vir die res van die plaas.

Weer ontwikkeling, boogate boor en ontwikkel, die karoo kan steeds werk skep, waarde en geniet word. Onmiddellik is aftrede in die karoo nie meer net 'n fantasie nie.

ESKOM kan nie genoeg krag aan die land lewer nie, so saam met aardverwarming, waarvan die plaas en die omgewing 'n duidelike bewys is, is dit 'n gegewe en 'n uitkoms vir die omgewing en die hele land.

Nie soos windplase, waarvan die torings en ligte in die nag tot 30 km ver gesien kan word nie, is 'n sonplaas baie meer omgewingsvriendelik en stegs sigbaar van naby.

Oral in die land skakel boere oor vanaf windpompe na sonpompe, baie meer ekonomies en baie minder instandhouding, ook is jy seker van 'n stabiele watervoorsiening. Kragopwekkers op afgeleë plekke is roesig, baie duur op brandstof en onvolhoubaar, en word oral vervang deur sonstelsels vir huishoudelike gebruik. Indien daar besware is teen so 'n projek, dink so daaraan. As hulle in die karoo oornag wil hulle water en elektrisiteit hê, of sit hulle in die stede en kla oor die duur elektriese krag en beurtkrag terwyl hulle in lugversorgde kantore werk.

Hoekom dan ook nie die son gebruik vir grootskaalse kragopwekking nie? Of gaan ons maar voort met ESKOM en beurtkrag, verwykte ekonomie en werkloosheid. Werkloosheid veroorsaak honger mense, diefstal, geweld, opeitende, selfs moord en 'n algehele wetteloosheid. Soos ons land maar alte goed kan getuig.

Biljoene rande kan in die land belê word deur sulke stelsels. Ons land het dit so brood nodig vir die herstel van ons sterwende ekonomie. Die son is daar, gratis, elke dag en betroubaar. Die hele wereld is besig om oor te skakel na son en windkrag, of gaan ons maar agterbly.

So, ja, asseblief. Gaan voort en voorspoed met die ontwikkeling.

ONS OMGEWING EN LAND HET DIT BAIE NODIG

Groetnis
Jan



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www.avast.com

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From: Lyle Martin <Lyle.Martin@westerncape.gov.za>
To: "ems@ecsr.co.za" <ems@ecsr.co.za>
Date: 19 Jan 2021 08:04
Subject: Job 28280 - Portion 5 Farm Grootfontein 149 , Witteval 171 , Portion 1 Farm Hoek Doornen 172

Good Day

1. Receipt is herewith acknowledged of your letter/email dated 13 January 2020.
2. Kindly note that the matter is receiving attention and that a further communication will be addressed to you as soon as circumstances permit.

Lyle Martin
Administrative Clerk: Road Planning
Road Management
Transport and Public Works
Western Cape Government

Address: 9 Dorp Street, Cape Town 8001; PO Box 2403, Cape Town 8000
Tel: +27 21 483 2419
E-mail: Lyle.Martin@westerncape.gov.za
Website: www.westerncape.gov.za

From: Dmitri C Matthews <Dmitri.Matthews@westerncape.gov.za>
To: ems <ems@ecsr.co.za>
Date: 21 Jan 2021 11:39
Subject: Re: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape

Hi Rohaida

I'll be sending my comments my to Adri la Meyer and she'll be compiling a consolidated comment from our Department to you.

Regards:
D'mitri Matthews (Environmental Officer: Specialised Production)
Development Management: Region 1
Development Planning
Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
Western Cape Government
1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001

Tel: (021) 483 8350
Fax: (021) 483 3633

E-mail: Dmitri.Matthews@westerncape.gov.za
Website: www.westerncape.gov.za



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From: Torch Thembisa <TorchT@dws.gov.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
CC: Jazile Vuyokazi <JazileV@dws.gov.za>; "Limnær-Strauss-Melissa (BNL)" <Limnær-StraussM@dws.gov.za>
Date: 21 Jan 2021 13:23
Subject: RE: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape

Good Day

Please note your email is confirmed and if there are any other issues the departmental official will be in-contact with you

Kind regards

Thembisa Torch
Berg-Cliffans Water Management Area
Department of Water and Sanitation
TorchT@dws.gov.za, 0219416236, 0832339337
52 Vootrekker road, Bellville, 7530

From: Carl Grobbelaar <carlgrobb@gmail.com>
To: <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 21 Jan 2021 20:55
Subject: COMMENTS ON WITTE WALL, GROOTFONTEIN AND HOEK DOORNIEN SOLAR-PV PROPOSALS
Attachments: Community Commentary on CSIR BA-report1 121.pdf; personal comments on Witte Wal Grootfontein and Hoek Doornien solar pv proposals 2021 01 21.docx

<http://>
CSIR EMS
PO Box 59081
UMBILO
4075

Attention: Rohaida Abed

Good day

I hereby request to be registered as an Interested & Affected Party for the proposed solar-PV developments of Veroniva and offer my comments to be included in the final report.

Firstly, please find attached our baseline community report which I fully support.

Secondly, please also find attached my own personal comments having perused the reports provided.

Yours faithfully

Carl Grobbelaar
PO Box 560, Ceres, 6835
Mobile 078 202 5882

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

Traffic Comments

The databases used for the collection of data for this report, states that the road in the Ceres Karoo area close to the development, is supposed to be in a fair to good condition. This is not the case. Municipal grading and maintenance is almost never done. In the past 10 years the road has not been upgraded at all, only skim-graded which has served to degrade the surface of the road onto its base. During the Perdekraal developments with Mainstream, the civil engineering company took it upon themselves to upgrade the road section from the Touwsriver crossing on the tar road to the Calvinia crossing and up to the Patatrivier crossing towards their development site. Thus, any physical inspection of this section of road in the last year, would have made one believe that the road is always kept in a good condition. Again this is not the case. Since the end of the Perdekraal developments the road has again been neglected by the local municipality. They seem to never have any funds or working equipment when we enquire. They recently appointed a private contractor to skim-grade the road every once in a while, which only serves to move the rocks around and they are not willing to pay him more to upgrade and correctly grade the roads.

We request that a reassessment be made of the actual upkeep and maintenance of the dirt roads in our sector, especially the condition of the R356 from the Patatrivier crossing on towards Sutherland. This section was outside the Perdekraal development and therefore not part of their maintenance plan. If an update of the road records can also be made to incorporate the lack of correct municipal servicing that would also be much appreciated. Much of this knowledge can be gained by not only accessing databases (which are subject to municipal upkeep in theory), but also directly speaking to residents in the area. There may well be a municipal maintenance plan on such a database, but this plan could very well be theoretical and actual implementation rarely happens (in our experience).

Listed in the traffic report statement were the total number of daily trips expected for one development. We question whether a "daily trip" constitutes one directional travel towards site or includes a return trip as well? If this only refers to a one directional trip then the numbers reflected in the report must be doubled and would then far exceed the norm travelling numbers for this road as given in the report. This would alter the significance pre-mitigation.

<p>Construction Phase – 46 Daily Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 daily double-axle trips• 15 daily light load trips• 8 daily bus trips• 20 daily bakkie trips• 1 daily water truck trips. <p>Operational Phase – 9 Daily Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 daily light load truck trips• 1 daily single axle truck trips (conservative assumption as 1-2 small single-axle trucks will visit the site on a weekly basis)• 2 daily water truck trips <p>Decommissioning Phase – 46 Daily Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 daily double-axle trips• 15 daily light load trips• 8 daily bus trips• 20 daily bakkie trips• 1 daily water truck trips.

In the final BA-report and EMP clear distinction (with the use of road names) must be made in reference to the maintenance plan so as to remove confusion. What roads will be maintained as "main access roads" or "main roads."

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Recommendations from our side with regards to what worked for previous developments include:

- A stop-and-go system to stagger travelling distances between vehicles and limit the dust impact
- Acknowledgement of a greater impact on the roads than what is currently stated in the BA-report
- The provision of a detailed long-term road maintenance plan to the community in conjunction with the Provincial Administration.
- Conduct a survey with local tourism businesses in the area to estimate which time(s) of the year roads will be used more frequently by tourists coming into the area. This can be used to plan trips for heavy loads so that they don't clash with normal (public) commuters. This could include events such as the Africa Burn, Easter Weekend, Holidays, sport cycle events, etc.
- We also want to mention that the Perdekraal development had great difficulty in getting permission from the Provincial Administration to implement the upgrading and upkeep of the roads. This was delayed for several months in which time they weren't even allowed to grade the road surface. As with most government departments, progress is slow, so please plan accordingly when seeking permission and approval to maintain the roads.

Questions on traffic:

We acknowledge the commitment to appoint a local consultant for the roads. We question the criteria that will be used to appoint this consultant?

We question whether a "daily trip" constitutes one directional travel towards site or includes a return trip as well?

Agricultural Comments

Comments were made as to the effect of poor road maintenance on the production(s) and transport of goods produced in the area. Road conditions will also affect these activities and they were not mentioned in the report.

Game farming was not investigated or mentioned as a farming practice in the area. Impacts from this sector could include damage to PV infrastructure during the hunting season due to unwanted movement of wild animals into the development area. The game fencing proposed around the site therefore needs to adhere to Cape Nature enclosure requirements.

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Visual Comments

Eco-tourism was discussed under the visual impact section, but not satisfactorily. Game farms in this area can be as large as 10 000 hectares or more. Visitors do not come to the Karoo to stay in their chalets or accommodation. Eco-tourism involves guests moving around the farms, going for game drives, taking photographs in the veld, visiting heritage sites and looking for elevated aspects to take in the scenery. Filming companies often visit this area for its uninterrupted planes and scenery. Therefore visual impacts of a solar development for this sector are by far the largest of all the impacts. We strongly feel that this was downplayed or not fully understood in the investigation, significantly for the Hoekdoorn development which is much more elevated and borders directly on private farms and reserves.

The distances given to determine significance for farms and such was measured from the main gate to the farm. This implies that guests / people will not roam freely on a reserve/farms and only view the veld from the main gate. Visual impact must be assessed from the boundaries of a farm as the entire area should be seen as an attraction.

Table 5: Visual Sensitivity Mapping Categories for the Proposed Solar Facilities

Scenic Resources	Very high sensitivity (No-go)	High visual sensitivity	Medium visual sensitivity	Low visual sensitivity
Topographic features	Feature	Within 150-250m	-	-
Steep slopes	Slopes > 1:4	Slopes > 1:10	-	-
Drainage courses	Feature	Within 50m	-	-
Cultural landscapes/ cropland	within 250m	within 500m	-	-
Protected Landscapes / Sensitive Receptors				
Private reserves / game farms	within 500m	within 1 km	within 2 km	-
Farmsteads outside site	within 500m	within 1 km	within 2 km	-
Farmsteads inside site	within 250m	within 500m	-	-
Arterial routes	within 250m	within 500m	within 1km	-

For example, when considering private reserves or game farms within 500m from the development are considered High Sensitivity and constitutes a “no-go”. As mentioned we raise concern over the specialists only taking into consideration the location and distance of the main gate of a farm /farmstead and not the perimeter/boundary fencing (as can be seen in Table 8).

This shows that they did not fully understand their own criteria in Table 5 and did not apply it correctly, nor do they fully grasp what eco-tourism / private visual impacts in this environment mean.

Table 8: Witte Waa PV and Electrical Grid Infrastructure Viewing Distances and Visibility from Receptors

Viewpoint	Latitude	Longitude	Distance to PV arrays	Distance to powerline	Potential Visibility
S1 Elders Gate	32.927234°S	19.629614°E	5.89 km	-	not visible - in view shadow
S2 R345 Grootfontein Gate	32.632353°S	19.634536°E	5.67 km	-	not visible - in view shadow
S3 Kareekolk Gate	32.973741°S	19.607120°E	5.80 km	-	beyond effective visibility range
S4 Sadawa Gate	32.030036°S	19.676671°E	5.00 km	-	not visible - in view shadow
S5 Kaligat	32.040363°S	20.049133°E	4.51 km	-	No Access - not visible - in view shadow
P1 District Road	33.001035°S	20.025678°E	-	105 m	highly visible
P2 Witwal Gate	33.025370°S	20.015431°E	-	118 m	highly visible
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Lastly the visual impact study, specifically at Hoekdoorn, also left out complete farmsteads in their assessment. Doornrivier across the road from the proposed development has a farmstead which is less than 2km away from the development site and located on a hill top, yet it was not even present on any map in the visual study. Below the Google Maps image shows this.



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However this landmark and heritage pathway is clearly visible with the use of Google Maps and has been indicated below as being less than 300m from the zone of development’s boundary. This is most certainly the actual “forgotten highway” and has been identified by various historians and specialists that have visited the area.

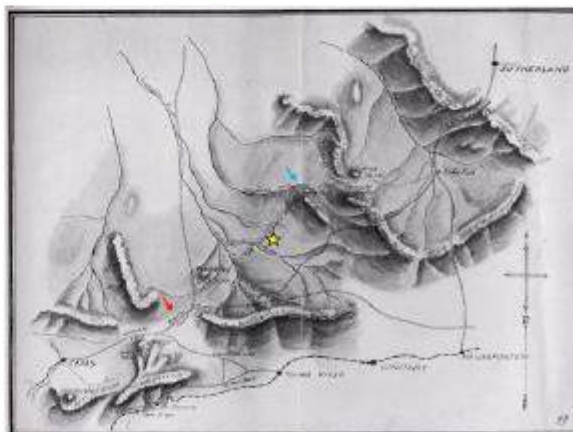


Figure 34: Map of the Ceres Karoo showing the “Forgotten Highway” leading past the study area (yellow star). The important landmarks of Karoo Poort (red arrow) and Hanglip (blue arrow) are indicated.

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We therefore question as to the distance of the “buffer zone” that would be afforded to such a heritage pathway in relation to an industrial development? And if the “forgotten highway” falls within that “buffer zone” what will be done to protect it? Should the footprint of the development encroach upon the “buffer zones” for such heritage sites, would it not be expected of the development to alter its location?

Also please indicate whether any NEW access roads will be built in this area that might damage this heritage site.

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Overall there were view concerns here and our comments as participants were included in the report.

Some problems we identified was the lack of direct communication with local residents. A total of 10 interviews were conducted, 5 of which were farmers, 2 of which stand to benefit from the development. We feel that more unbiased opinions needed to be included and especially the input from farm workers and indigenous people that will be most hard hit in this development should there be job losses or changes to the environment's dynamics. Their voices were completely absent from this report. No local business owners were interviewed, which is very sad since the Tankwa Farmstall could have given much needed insight into the everyday lives of the residents here. It seems as if the specialist relied too heavily on electronic or printed databases for statistical information instead of real-time, grass-roots investigation.

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General Comments

First of all, it should be mentioned that the naming of the area in the report was incorrectly stated as the "Tankwa Karoo". Our area must be correctly identified as the Ceres-Karoo.

Although we understand that specialists make use of standardized methodology and measuring instruments when conducting these investigations, we feel that greater sensitivity to site specific projects need to be applied. Statistics from Western Cape, Touwsriver and Ceres cannot be used to make arguments for an area so vastly different to any formal settlement such as the Karoo. Measuring instruments used to determine significance for a seafront development next to Langebaan can surely not ethically and justifiable be used as is to determine significance in the Karoo? Moreover, if sensitivity was applied to the specific needs and circumstances of this unique area, but a standardized measuring scale was used to determine significance of the impacts, then this would defeat the entire purpose of applying sensitivity at all. This is also the feeling one gets when reading the BA-report and specialist findings. When considering a factor, the specialist will find a whole list of potential pitfalls, which feels (to the affected party) like a "big deal". But then when the conclusion is made as to the significance it is listed as "low". This just makes it clear that the current methodology and measuring instruments for significance are clearly doing the minimum standardization of investigations and this should be unconscionable.

It must also be mentioned that when determining significance of an impact such as job losses, you again cannot look at statistics from the Western Cape or other areas. Stating that 10 job losses are not significant might be true when looking at a population of 10 000 people. Considering that the Ceres Karoo population is extremely small (many farm workers having their whole family working on various farms in the surrounds), 10 job losses becomes much more significant. It feels as though local population dynamics were not appropriately investigated and speaks to the lack of local community interaction in many of these studies.

A big pit fall of many of these investigations is that they blanket the Ceres Karoo under the same statistics as Ceres (our nearest town) which is exactly where the problems lie. Money that should be allocated to this area gets funnelled into Ceres. When employing "local" labour, companies bus in people from Nduli, Ceres and Touwsrivier instead of using the many jobless in our own community. The Ceres Karoo is in dire need for recognition as a separate entity from our surrounding towns with its own unique blend of people, needs, problems and circumstances.

Another very apt example of the lack of sensitivity to the local context in this study report can be given when looking at the handling of the public participation process. The avenues provided by CSIR for public comment assumes that all I & AP's have access to local newspapers, wifi, internet connections or a cell phone with enough data to download the content required. Considering that the majority of our community consists of farm workers and indigenous people that rely on periodic lifts into town, this again speaks to the lack of understanding of the

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local context. The only way to adequately access locals in this area are through face-to-face meetings. COVID-19 has been used very much as an excuse in this regard. Since the very beginning of the level 4 requirements in June, indoor gatherings were allowed under strict adherence to social distancing and limited to 50 people. If CSIR was really concerned with the COVID regulations, they could have held more than 1 public meeting with limited space and still adhered to all regulations as well as making the community feel heard. We cannot emphasize enough how disrespectful this action feels and how disappointed we are at the way it has been handled over the December period.

Overall we accept that the EMP is a binding legal document and that mitigating factors added to this are compulsory and must be implemented by the developer. We hope that these comments will serve to review existing and add more mitigating factors that will benefit the community by making sure that it accurately and fairly represents the real conditions of the Ceres Karoo.

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PO BOX 560, CERES 6835 carlgrobb@gmail.com Mobile 078 202 5882

21 January 2021

CSIR EMS

PO Box 59081

UMBILO

4075

Attention: Rohaida Abed

PERSONAL COMMENTS ON FOUR DRAFT REPORTS ON PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED GRID INFRASTRUCTURE KNOWN AS WITTE WALL, GROOTFONTEIN AND HOEK DOORNEN

In reviewing the Appendix C in respect of Terrestrial Biodiversity and plant species I am concerned that the reports on Witte Wal, Grootfontein and Hoek Doornen reflect the same generalized plant species lists based on existing broad databases and that these reports do not appear to be specific to the land portions concerned.

For instance a succulent plant specialist would have identified the "Lithops sp." to species level. Lithops and many other succulent plants are in decline in the Ceres- and Tankwa Karoo due to large scale illegal poaching and smuggling. Many colonies have disappeared completely. Should there be a Lithops sp. present at a development site suitable mitigating steps should be taken to protect such colonies. Lithops shrink into the surface soil during summer and emerge after onset of winter rains. They are very cryptic at the best of times and are not easily detected by the untrained eye. Lithops plants relocated from the veld seldom survive.

Haemanthus tristis is mentioned as a rare bulb. If it is definitely found to be present at a proposed development site suitable steps should also be taken to protect these. They usually occur in small colonies in a niche environment and are only visible when they flower in March and while the plant bears leaves from about April to September.

No specific data as to localities of endangered and rare plants should ever be divulged as this plays into the hands of poachers and smugglers who often operate as syndicates with international ties. The specific locality for Haemanthus tristis mentioned in the Hoek Doornen should therefore be removed before the final document is published.

Plant specialists from SANBI should be able to assist.

Carl Grobbelaar

PO Box 560, Ceres, 6835

Mobile 078 202 5882

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From: Bonnie Schumann <bonnie@ewt.org.za>
To: ams <ams@ecur.co.za>
Date: 22 Jun 2021 07:54
Subject: RE: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 #PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape

Hi Rohaida

Many thanks for the correspondence and following up. We will take a look today and revert back to you if we have comments.

Kind Regards

Bonnie Schumann
Name Karim Co-ordinator

Endangered Wildlife Trust

Dryland Conservation Programme

W +27 (0)53 381 3168 | C +27 (0)72 122 4252 | HQ +27 11 372 3600

Email: bonnie@ewt.org.za | Web: www.ewt.org.za

Postal Address: <http://P.O.Box> 172, Linton, 6985, South Africa



Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment – BBBEE Level 4 Certificate & 95% Civil Society Organisation

PBO number: 930 001 777

NPO number: 015-502 NPO

IT number: IT 6247

Physical Address: 27 and 28 Austin Road, Glen Austin AH, Midrand, 1685, Gauteng, South Africa

Postal Address: Private Bag X 11, Modderfontein, 1645, Gauteng, South Africa



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From: "safewa" <safewa@foreole.co.za>
To: "Paul Lochner" <P.Lochner@csir.co.za>, "Rohaida Abed" <RAbed@csir.co.za>, "ems" <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 22 Jan 2021 10:51
Subject: Feedback on community commentary for Veronika developments
Attachments: Community Commentary on CSIR BA-report1.pdf

Good day CSIR, Rohaida & Paul Lochner,

Thank you for the meeting we had with you on 14 January. We greatly appreciated the time and effort put into this and we left knowing more about the problems we had and overall felt positive about the process. As Paul mentioned, you are in a very difficult position having to always listen to and mediate both sides of such developments to try and find the middle ground for all parties. And this is no easy task as we can imagine.

Since our meeting we compiled a list of the comments that were made during the meeting. The issues discussed around the traffic, visual impacts, etc. as per your instruction. Please find the document attached wherein we summarized the most salient points of our meeting. This document only serves to make sure that what we discussed in the meeting is presented from the Association's side as well and I know Paul and Rohaida also made many notes on our comments.

We then sent this to each of our association members requesting that they not only forward their own personal comments on the draft BA report, but attach the report to show their solidarity and membership with the Agricultural Association as well. So you will be receiving many copies of this report and please regard it as commentary from the Association's side along with personal comments from our members if they added any.

As public participation processes go the majority of feedback you expect will most probably be negative. Questions, grievances and issues that Interested and Affected Parties have with the draft BA-report and this is to be expected as that is the purpose of such processes. The issues listed in the report are general comments, although you will be able to discern that not all of them are applicable to all three developments (Grootte fontein, Wittevalle and Hoekdoorn). Comments such as those on traffic, social and security were more general as they pertain to the entire community. Comments such as those on the visual and heritage reports were more focussed on developments close to roads, heritage sites and elevated aspects (as discussed in our meeting). So please apply the necessary discretion when reading the comments to the specific developments that they may relate to in your interpretation of the report.

However, we do want to assure you that our community also sees the positive value of such developments for our area:

- We see the immense value of financial inputs generated through this for social development.
- We acknowledge the benefit of such energy developments for the future of our country becoming more sustainable and eco-conscious with regards to electricity supply.
- We appreciate the use of our local businesses to help support our economy during the development process.
- We appreciate the effort made by specialists to give an accurate and intensive study of the different areas of concern.

As a community we welcome these developments in our area, we only want to ensure that they are implemented in an ethical, just and fair manner so that our beautiful Karoo environment is not deteriorated as a result of it and we are sure that CSIR feels the same way. The only way to do this, is to ensure that the EMP records as many potential mitigating factors possible and that they are implemented. We look forward to working in collaboration with the developer in this matter.

Please find attached the community commentary of the draft BA-report. This is the e-mail that serves as its official entry into the process. We look forward to feedback on some of the questions we ask and we appreciate your time and effort. We trust that we will end this process in the same spirit we left our meeting with you, which is optimistic and positive about the future.

We wish you good luck in the bidding-process that is to follow.

Karoo regards,

ANDRÉ VERMEULEN

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Traffic Comments

The databases used for the collection of data for this report, states that the road in the Ceres Karoo area close to the development, is supposed to be in a fair to good condition. This is not the case. Municipal grading and maintenance is almost never done. In the past 10 years the road has not been upgraded at all, only skim-graded which has served to degrade the surface of the road onto its base. During the Perdekraal developments with Mainstream, the civil engineering company took it upon themselves to upgrade the road section from the Touwsriver crossing on the tar road to the Calvinia crossing and up to the Patatrivier crossing towards their development site. Thus, any physical inspection of this section of road in the last year, would have made one believe that the road is always kept in a good condition. Again this is not the case. Since the end of the Perdekraal developments the road has again been neglected by the local municipality. They seem to never have any funds or working equipment when we enquire. They recently appointed a private contractor to skim-grade the road every once in a while, which only serves to move the rocks around and they are not willing to pay him more to upgrade and correctly grade the roads.

We request that a reassessment be made of the actual upkeep and maintenance of the dirt roads in our sector, especially the condition of the R356 from the Patatrivier crossing on towards Sutherland. This section was outside the Perdekraal development and therefore not part of their maintenance plan. If an update of the road records can also be made to incorporate the lack of correct municipal servicing that would also be much appreciated. Much of this knowledge can be gained by not only accessing databases (which are subject to municipal upkeep in theory), but also directly speaking to residents in the area. There may well be a municipal maintenance plan on such a database, but this plan could very well be theoretical and actual implementation rarely happens (in our experience).

Listed in the traffic report statement were the total number of daily trips expected for one development. We question whether a "daily trip" constitutes one directional travel towards site or includes a return trip as well? If this only refers to a one directional trip then the numbers reflected in the report must be doubled and would then far exceed the norm travelling numbers for this road as given in the report. This would alter the significance pre-mitigation.

<p>Construction Phase – 46 Daily Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 daily double-axle trips• 15 daily light load trips• 8 daily bus trips• 20 daily bakkie trips• 1 daily water truck trips. <p>Operational Phase – 9 Daily Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 daily light load truck trips• 1 daily single axle truck trips (conservative assumption as 1-2 small single-axle trucks will visit the site on a weekly basis)• 2 daily water truck trips <p>Decommissioning Phase – 46 Daily Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 daily double-axle trips• 15 daily light load trips• 8 daily bus trips• 20 daily bakkie trips• 1 daily water truck trips.

In the final BA-report and EMP clear distinction (with the use of road names) must be made in reference to the maintenance plan so as to remove confusion. What roads will be maintained as "main access roads" or "main roads."

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Recommendations from our side with regards to what worked for previous developments include:

- A stop-and-go system to stagger travelling distances between vehicles and limit the dust impact
- Acknowledgement of a greater impact on the roads than what is currently stated in the BA-report
- The provision of a detailed long-term road maintenance plan to the community in conjunction with the Provincial Administration.
- Conduct a survey with local tourism businesses in the area to estimate which time(s) of the year roads will be used more frequently by tourists coming into the area. This can be used to plan trips for heavy loads so that they don't clash with normal (public) commuters. This could include events such as the Africa Burn, Easter Weekend, Holidays, sport cycle events, etc.
- We also want to mention that the Perdekraal development had great difficulty in getting permission from the Provincial Administration to implement the upgrading and upkeep of the roads. This was delayed for several months in which time they weren't even allowed to grade the road surface. As with most government departments, progress is slow, so please plan accordingly when seeking permission and approval to maintain the roads.

Questions on traffic:

We acknowledge the commitment to appoint a local consultant for the roads. We question the criteria that will be used to appoint this consultant?

We question whether a "daily trip" constitutes one directional travel towards site or includes a return trip as well?

Agricultural Comments

Comments were made as to the effect of poor road maintenance on the production(s) and transport of goods produced in the area. Road conditions will also affect these activities and they were not mentioned in the report.

Game farming was not investigated or mentioned as a farming practice in the area. Impacts from this sector could include damage to PV infrastructure during the hunting season due to unwanted movement of wild animals into the development area. The game fencing proposed around the site therefore needs to adhere to Cape Nature enclosure requirements.

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Visual Comments

Eco-tourism was discussed under the visual impact section, but not satisfactorily. Game farms in this area can be as large as 10 000 hectares or more. Visitors do not come to the Karoo to stay in their chalets or accommodation. Eco-tourism involves guests moving around the farms, going for game drives, taking photographs in the veld, visiting heritage sites and looking for elevated aspects to take in the scenery. Filming companies often visit this area for its uninterrupted planes and scenery. Therefore visual impacts of a solar development for this sector are by far the largest of all the impacts. We strongly feel that this was downplayed or not fully understood in the investigation, significantly for the Hoekdoorn development which is much more elevated and borders directly on private farms and reserves.

The distances given to determine significance for farms and such was measured from the main gate to the farm. This implies that guests / people will not roam freely on a reserve/farms and only view the veld from the main gate. Visual impact must be assessed from the boundaries of a farm as the entire area should be seen as an attraction.

Table 5: Visual Sensitivity Mapping Categories for the Proposed Solar Facilities

Scenic Resources	Very high sensitivity (No-go)	High visual sensitivity	Medium visual sensitivity	Low visual sensitivity
Topographic features	Feature	Within 150-250m	-	-
Steep slopes	Slopes > 1:4	Slopes > 1:10	-	-
Drainage courses	Feature	Within 50m	-	-
Cultural landscapes/ cropland	within 250m	within 500m	-	-
Protected Landscapes / Sensitive Receptors				
Private reserves / game farms	within 500m	within 1 km	within 2 km	-
Farmsteads outside site	within 500m	within 1 km	within 2 km	-
Farmsteads inside site	within 250m	within 500m	-	-
Arterial routes	within 250m	within 500m	within 1km	-

For example, when considering private reserves or game farms within 500m from the development are considered High Sensitivity and constitutes a “no-go”. As mentioned we raise concern over the specialists only taking into consideration the location and distance of the main gate of a farm /farmstead and not the perimeter/boundary fencing (as can be seen in Table 8).

This shows that they did not fully understand their own criteria in Table 5 and did not apply it correctly, nor do they fully grasp what eco-tourism / private visual impacts in this environment mean.

Table 8: Witte Wall PV and Electrical Grid Infrastructure Viewing Distances and Visibility from Receptors

Viewpoint	Latitude	Longitude	Distance to PV arrays	Distance to powerline	Potential Visibility
S1 Elders Gate	32.927234°S	19.629614°E	5.89 km	-	not visible - in view shadow
S2 R345 Grootfontein Gate	32.632353°S	19.634536°E	5.67 km	-	not visible - in view shadow
S3 Kareekolk Gate	32.973741°S	19.607120°E	5.80 km	-	beyond effective visibility range
S4 Sadawa Gate	32.030036°S	19.676671°E	5.00 km	-	not visible - in view shadow
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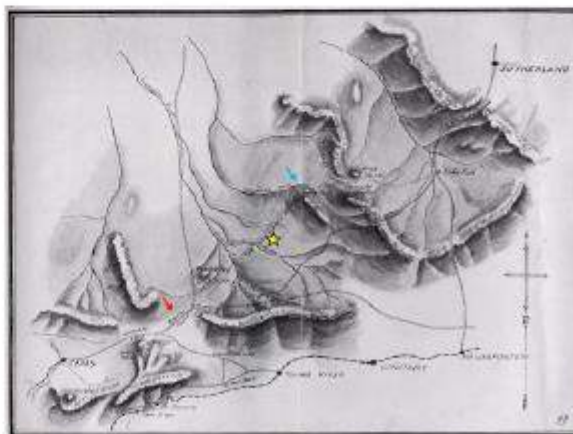


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Also please indicate whether any NEW access roads will be built in this area that might damage this heritage site.

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First of all, it should be mentioned that the naming of the area in the report was incorrectly stated as the "Tankwa Karoo". Our area must be correctly identified as the Ceres-Karoo.

Although we understand that specialists make use of standardized methodology and measuring instruments when conducting these investigations, we feel that greater sensitivity to site specific projects need to be applied. Statistics from Western Cape, Touwsriver and Ceres cannot be used to make arguments for an area so vastly different to any formal settlement such as the Karoo. Measuring instruments used to determine significance for a seafront development next to Langebaan can surely not ethically and justifiable be used as is to determine significance in the Karoo? Moreover, if sensitivity was applied to the specific needs and circumstances of this unique area, but a standardized measuring scale was used to determine significance of the impacts, then this would defeat the entire purpose of applying sensitivity at all. This is also the feeling one gets when reading the BA-report and specialist findings. When considering a factor, the specialist will find a whole list of potential pitfalls, which feels (to the affected party) like a "big deal". But then when the conclusion is made as to the significance it is listed as "low". This just makes it clear that the current methodology and measuring instruments for significance are clearly doing the minimum standardization of investigations and this should be unconscionable.

It must also be mentioned that when determining significance of an impact such as job losses, you again cannot look at statistics from the Western Cape or other areas. Stating that 10 job losses are not significant might be true when looking at a population of 10 000 people. Considering that the Ceres Karoo population is extremely small (many farm workers having their whole family working on various farms in the surrounds), 10 job losses becomes much more significant. It feels as though local population dynamics were not appropriately investigated and speaks to the lack of local community interaction in many of these studies.

A big pit fall of many of these investigations is that they blanket the Ceres Karoo under the same statistics as Ceres (our nearest town) which is exactly where the problems lie. Money that should be allocated to this area gets funnelled into Ceres. When employing "local" labour, companies bus in people from Nduli, Ceres and Touwsrivier instead of using the many jobless in our own community. The Ceres Karoo is in dire need for recognition as a separate entity from our surrounding towns with its own unique blend of people, needs, problems and circumstances.

Another very apt example of the lack of sensitivity to the local context in this study report can be given when looking at the handling of the public participation process. The avenues provided by CSIR for public comment assumes that all I & AP's have access to local newspapers, wifi, internet connections or a cell phone with enough data to download the content required. Considering that the majority of our community consists of farm workers and indigenous people that rely on periodic lifts into town, this again speaks to the lack of understanding of the

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

local context. The only way to adequately access locals in this area are through face-to-face meetings. COVID-19 has been used very much as an excuse in this regard. Since the very beginning of the level 4 requirements in June, indoor gatherings were allowed under strict adherence to social distancing and limited to 50 people. If CSIR was really concerned with the COVID regulations, they could have held more than 1 public meeting with limited space and still adhered to all regulations as well as making the community feel heard. We cannot emphasize enough how disrespectful this action feels and how disappointed we are at the way it has been handled over the December period.

Overall we accept that the EMP is a binding legal document and that mitigating factors added to this are compulsory and must be implemented by the developer. We hope that these comments will serve to review existing and add more mitigating factors that will benefit the community by making sure that it accurately and fairly represents the real conditions of the Ceres Karoo.

From: Louis Greeff <Louis@estafrika.co.za>
To: sadawa <sadawa@fnwede.co.za>, 'Paul Lochner' <P.Lochner@coit.co.za>, 'Tshada Abed' <TAbed@csir.co.za>, 'ema' <ema@coit.co.za>
Date: 22 Jun 2021 11:15
Subject: RE: Feedback on community commentary for Veroniva developments

Thank you very much Andre.

As one of the affected parties, it is much appreciated.

As you know, the process is called "a 30 Comment Period" for both positive and negative comments. Thank you for putting the document into the right overall perspective.

Your reply is 100% suitable, and please make sure that this page is also circulated to the same group of farmers as per the distribution list for the "Feedback on Community Commentary....." so that there can also harmony and understanding within the community.

Again, thank you very much.

Kind Regards



LOUIS GREEFF
Managing Director

Tel: +27 (0)11 363 1900 | Cell: +27 (0)82 961 5352 | Email: Louis@estafrika.co.za

18 Wilton Road, Kippoorje, 1401

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The POWER of INDEPENDENCE

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To: "ems" <ems@cit.co.za>
CC: "Paul Lochner" <Plochner@cit.co.za>
Date: 22 Jan 2021 12:21
Subject: Comments on BA-Report

[The e-mail server of the sender failed SPF checks and maybe malicious (SPF Record)]

Dear Robinda

Thanks for registering me as an I&AP.

Congratulations with a BA-report that certainly covers all the necessary aspects -- from identifying the potential negative impacts on people and environment to a full management program to mitigate the negative impact and enhance the positive side of the PV development in the Ceres Karoo. I think this PV development is only the beginning of a much larger plan to establish solar farms for renewable energy in this area. The development certainly benefits the community in many ways but at the same time takes away the remote feeling of the open countryside beyond Karooport.

There are only a few things in the assessment that I would like to bring under your attention:

- 1) **Visual Impact.** It is said in the report that no consultation has been undertaken and also that only one day was used for assessing the visual impact? However, although the visual impact is regarded as low, the cumulative impact of these developments on the landscape remains negative, something we cannot avoid. We can only ask that the proposals for mitigating the impact, as suggested by the specialists and EMPr, be strictly adhered to and managed properly.
- 2) **Agriculture.** The influence of the PV development on road conditions (mainly during the construction phase) should be taken seriously because the road is shared with agricultural activities, e.g. active trucking of live stock into and out of the area during winter time, primarily from the Koue Bokkeveld region. The potential increase in crime (stock theft, house breaking and stealing of agricultural equipment) and its affect on the agricultural community asks for proper safety measurements to be put in place, right from the start.
- 3) **Socio-economic.** The survey done in the area seems to have some shortages. The specialist does not indicate what survey/consultation was done in the Ceres Karoo. Statistics on population, housing, general income, economic activities, employment, etc. for the larger areas (BVLW)(WLM) are given which, to my opinion, has no relevance to the Ceres Karoo community. Perhaps additional statistics are needed in order to make realistic recommendations to the project. For example -- do we know how many people and with what skills are available for employment in the Ceres Karoo?
- 4) **General.** In many places in the report the area involved is referred to as "Tankwa Karoo" instead of Ceres Karoo. ("Tankwa Karoo Plains", Tankwa Karoo Dunes"). There is a big difference; please change in the BA report where necessary.

All for now

Best regards

Dr De Ville Wickens

GEO-ROUTES PETROLEUM



DE VILLE WICKENS

M.Sc. Ph.D.

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Zevendal
Kouils River 7580
SOUTH AFRICA

Consulting Geologist
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From: Torch Thembisa <TorchT@dws.gov.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
CC: Jezile Vuyolozan <JezileV@dws.gov.za>
Date: 24 Jan 2021 12:14
Subject: RE: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape

Good Day

Due to the fact that this report was received late kindly allow time for the official to read through in order to provide informative comments

Miss Jezile will be able to submit upon her finalisation and she will advise when she will finalise the comments

Kind regards

Thembisa Torch
Berg-Orifants Water Management Area
Department of Water and Sanitation
torch@dws.gov.za 0219416236, 0833339337
52 Voortrekker road, Bellville, 7530

From: "sadawa" <sadawa@breede.co.za>
To: "ems" <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 24 Jan 2021 20:18
Subject: Request for registration as I&AP and commentary on proposed Veroniva developments in Ceres Tankwa Karoo
Attachments: Sadawa Commentary on CSIR BA-report.pdf

Good day,

I hereby request to be registered as an interested & Affected Party for the proposed solar-PV developments of Veroniva and offer my comments to be included in the final report. Attached please find our personal comments and concerns to be considered.

Kind regards,

ANDRÉ VERMEULEN



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Sadawa-specific commentary

We have a particular concern for the financial impacts of this development for our business. Sadawa borders directly on the Hoekdoorn and Wittewal developments. We are specifically concerned with the Hoekdoorn development which will be much closer to our borders and on an elevated aspect. Visual impacts here will be greatest and are very worrisome to us. It also borders on one of the most famous heritage sites (the forgotten highway) and a very frequently used incline on our farm where guests do sundowners and view the landscape.

The fact that we are an active hunting farm, which was not considered at all in the reports, creates a safety issue, seeing as this is an industrial development coming into an agricultural area.

We request that the buffer-zone for the Hoekdoorn development be reconsidered as it borders very closely to our eco-tourism business. We also request that the developer make a personal meeting with us to discuss and resolve the potential impacts of these factors below on our business.

We also have a concern for the added traffic on the roads used to access Sadawa. In our experience with previous developments the high volumes of vehicles has a negative effect on eco-tourism and has actually hindered guests from booking a stay.

We haven't seen any indication or studies done regarding land values amid a PV-solar development. The whole attraction of the Karoo is its uninterrupted vistas and a break from industrial developments and city life. Now these elements are introduced into this area. We have great concern for the decrease in our land value and difficulty when having to sell land especially when it is adjacent to such a developments (neighbouring farm) with no financial input from the development itself to be alluring to a potential buyer.

Traffic Comments

The databases used for the collection of data for this report, states that the road in the Ceres Karoo area close to the development is supposed to be in a fair to good condition. This is not the case. Municipal grading and maintenance is almost never done. In the past 10 years the road has not been upgraded at all, only skim-graded which has served to degrade the surface of the road onto its base. During the Perdekraal developments with Mainstream, the civil engineering company took it upon themselves to upgrade the road section from the Touwsriver crossing on the tar road to the Calvinia crossing and up to the Patatrivier crossing towards their development site. Thus, any physical inspection of this section of road in the last year, would have made one believe that the road is always kept in a good condition. Again this is not the case. Since the end of the Perdekraal developments the road has again been neglected by the local municipality. They seem to never have any funds or working equipment when we enquire. They recently appointed a private contractor to skim-grade the road every once in a while, which only serves to move the rocks around and they are not willing to pay him more to upgrade and correctly grade the roads.

We request that a reassessment be made of the actual upkeep and maintenance of the dirt roads in our sector, especially the condition of the R356 from the Patatrivier crossing on towards Sutherland. This section was outside the Perdekraal development and therefore not part of their maintenance plan. If an update of the road records can also be made to incorporate the lack of correct municipal

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Sadawa-specific commentary

servicing that would also be much appreciated. Much of this knowledge can be gained by not only accessing databases (which are subject to municipal upkeep in theory), but also directly speaking to residents in the area. There may well be a municipal maintenance plan on such a databases, but this plan could very well be theoretical and actual implementation rarely happens (in our experience).

Listed in the traffic report statement were the total number of daily trips expected for one development. We question whether a "daily trip" constitutes one directional travel towards site or includes a return trip as well? If this only refers to a one directional trip then the numbers reflected in the report must be doubled and would then far exceed the norm travelling numbers for this road as given in the report. This would alter the significance pre-mitigation.

<p>Construction Phase – 46 Daily Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 daily double-axle trips• 15 daily light load trips• 8 daily bus trips• 20 daily bakkie trips• 1 daily water truck trips. <p>Operational Phase – 9 Daily Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 daily light load truck trips• 1 daily single axle truck trips (conservative assumption as 1-2 small single-axle trucks will visit the site on a weekly basis)• 2 daily water truck trips <p>Decommissioning Phase – 46 Daily Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 daily double-axle trips• 15 daily light load trips• 8 daily bus trips• 20 daily bakkie trips• 1 daily water truck trips.

In the final BA-report clear distinction (with the use of road names) must be made in reference to the maintenance plan so as to remove confusion. What roads will be maintained as "main access roads" or "main roads."

We acknowledge the commitment to appointment a local consultant for the roads. We question the criteria that will be used to appoint this consultant?

Recommendations from our side with regards to what worked for previous developments include:

- A stop-and-go system to stagger travelling distances between vehicles and limit the dust impact
- Acknowledgement of a greater impact on the roads than what is currently stated in the BA-report
- The provision of a detailed maintenance plan to the community
- Conduct a survey with local tourism businesses in the area to estimate which times of the year roads will be more readily frequented by tourists into the area. This can be used to plan trips for heavy loads so that they don't clash with normal commuters. This could include events such as the Africa Burn, Easter Weekend, Holidays, etc.
- We also want to mention that the Perdekraal development had great difficulty in getting permission from the Provincial Administration to implement the upgrading and upkeep of the roads. This was delayed for several month in which time they weren't even allowed to grade the road surface. As with most government departments progress is slow, so please plan accordingly when seeking permission and approval to maintain the roads.

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Sadawa-specific commentary

Agricultural Comments

Comments were made as to the effect of poor road maintenance on the productions and transport of goods produced in the area. Road conditions will also affect these activities and they were not mentioned in the report.

Game farming was not investigated or mentioned as a farming practice in the area. Impacts from this sector could include damage during hunting seasons and movement of wild game into the development area. Fencing around the site therefore needs to adhere to Cape Nature enclosure requirements.

Seeing as this is a commercial development coming into a predominantly agricultural sector, this development can have a negative effect on the following activities:

- Hunting in general on all neighbouring farms
- Management of problem animals (Jackal hunting)
- Movement of migrating, indigenous animals

In some studies concerning PV-solar developments it has been indicated that there can be an increase in temperature for the surrounding areas. I did not see any mention of this in the report, and I would like to know whether this will be a factor that could potentially affect crop production in the area?

Visual Comments

Eco-tourism was discussed under the visual impact section, but not satisfactorily. Game farms in this area can be as large as 10 000 hectares or more. Visitors do not come to the Karoo to stay in their chalets or accommodation. Eco-tourism involves guests moving around the farms, going for game drives, taking photographs in the veld, visiting heritage sites and looking for elevated aspects to take in the scenery. Filming companies often visit this area for its uninterrupted planes and scenery. Therefore visual impacts of a solar development for this sector are by far and wide the largest of all the impacts. We strongly feel that this was downplayed or not fully understood in the investigation.

Sadawa's border fencing runs not 400m from the Hoekdoorn development footprint and yet when investigating visual impact, the distances given to determine significance was measured from the main gate of the farm. This implies that guests will not roam freely on the farm and only view the veld from the main gate. Visual impact must be assessed from the boundaries of a nature or game reserve as the entire area should be seen as a tourist attraction. Furthermore, Sadawa borders on the development on one of our most famous inclines. Many of our guests visit this hill top area to get a view of the Karoo as sunset, so the solar development will have a clearly negative impact on this. The Hoekdoorn development is also less than 300m away from the "forgotten highway" – one of the main tourist attractions running alongside (and in some places) over our farm.

When considering Table 5 in the visual impact study private

Table 5: Visual Sensitivity Mapping Categories for the Proposed Solar Facilities

Scenic Resources	Very high sensitivity (No-go)	High visual sensitivity	Medium visual sensitivity	Low visual sensitivity
Topographic features	Feature	Within 150-250m	-	-
Steep slopes	Slopes > 1:4	Slopes > 1:10	-	-
Drainage courses	Feature	Within 50m	-	-
Cultural landscapes/ cropland	within 250m	within 500m	-	-
Protected Landscapes / Sensitive Receptors				
Private reserves / game farms	within 500m	within 1 km	within 2 km	-
Unimproved ocean side	within 500m	within 1 km	within 2 km	-
Farmsteads inside site	within 250m	within 500m	-	-
Arterial routes	within 250m	within 500m	within 1km	-

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Sadawa-specific commentary

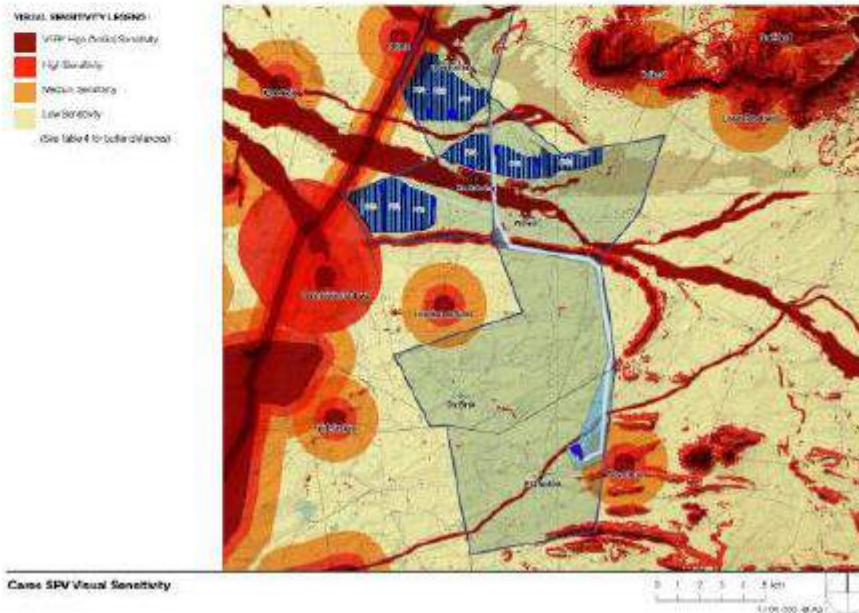
reserves or game farms within 500m from the development are considered High Sensitivity and constitutes a "no-go". As mentioned Sadawa is adjacent to the development of Witteval and Hoekdoorn and our entire game farm should be seen as vital to our eco-tourism business.

Yet when we look at Table 8 of the visual impact study, the specialists measured the sensitivity from the gates of such farms. This shows that they did not fully understand their own criteria in Table 5 and did not apply it correctly, nor do they fully grasp what eco-tourism impacts in this environment mean.

Table 8: Witte Wal PV and Electrical Grid Infrastructure Viewing Distances and Visibility from Receptors

Viewpoint	Latitude	Longitude	Distance to PV arrays	Distance to powerline	Potential Visibility
S1 Elders Gate	32.037834°S	19.020614°E	6.88 km	-	not visible - in view shadow
S2 R356 Grootfontein Gate	32.032059°S	19.034630°E	6.97 km	-	not visible - in view shadow
S3 Kamekole Gate	32.073741°S	19.007129°E	8.80 km	-	beyond effective visibility range
S4 Sadawa Gate	32.030630°S	19.070671°E	9.00 km	-	not visible - in view shadow
S5 Kalkgat	32.046282°S	20.040132°E	4.51 km	-	No Access - not visible - in view shadow
P1 District Road	33.001030°S	20.025678°E	-	0.00 km	highly visible
P2 Witval Gate	33.025979°S	20.015401°E	-	0.00 km	highly visible
P3 Tooverberg	33.110072°S	20.032879°E	-	1.18 km	No Access - marginally visible
P4 Platfontein	33.115838°S	19.992370°E	-	1.00 km	visibility obscured by foreground of the Kappa substation
P5 Looekop de Sand	33.045424°S	19.943701°E	-	4.10 km	No Access - marginally visible in distance

Considering Figure 5 of the visual impact study (see below) certain farms were not even included in their consideration. Die Brak for example is still a part of the Sadawa area, but the entire section is ignored.



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Sadawa-specific commentary

Lastly the visual impact study also left out complete farmsteads in their assessment. Doornrivier across the road from Sadawa and the proposed development has many farmsteads, one of which is less than 2km away from the development site and located on a hill top. Below the Google Maps image shows this. Please feel free to consult the programme yourselves for a clearer image.



Overall there were many questionable inferences drawn with the visual impact study and a lack of understanding of eco-tourism in the Karoo. Major adjustments need to be made to the levels of sensitivity given to these factors as well as the ultimate significance of their impact. Mitigating factors should therefore be implemented seeing as this will have a direct financial impact on eco-tourism in the area, not to mention potential decrease in property/land value.

We feel that a bigger buffer-zone should be considered regarding neighbouring farms that operate primarily in the tourist and hunting industries, particularly for the Hoekdoorn development.

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Sadawa-specific commentary

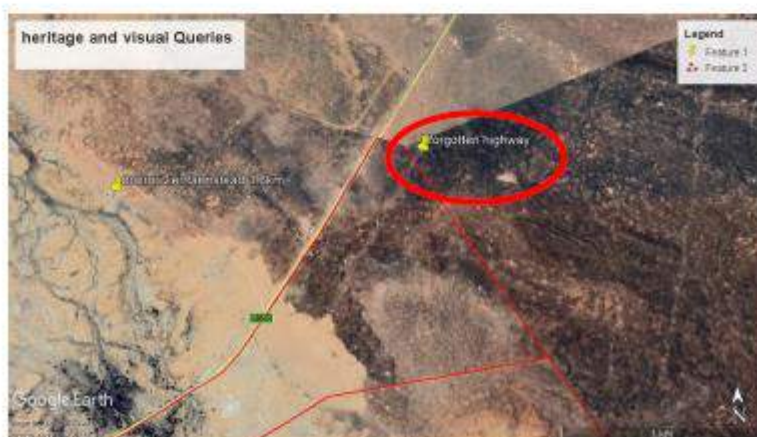
Heritage Comments

The key issue of concern here was the identification of the “forgotten highway” in the specialists study. In Figure 34 of their report they make use of a map that is highly inaccurate given the technology available today. This does not show nearly enough detail to have correctly identified the position of the highway.



Figure 34: Map of the Ceres Karoo showing the 'forgotten highway' leading past the study area (yellow star). The important landmarks of Karoo Point (red arrow) and Monglip (blue arrow) are indicated.

However this landmark and heritage pathway is clearly visible with the use of Google Maps and has been indicated below as being less than 300m from the zone of development's boundary. This is most certainly the actual “forgotten highway” and has been identified by various historians and specialists that have visited the area and that I have personally spoken to and accompanied on field trips, walking the path.



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Sadawa-specific commentary

The specialists correctly identified it as running parallel to most of the R356, yet neglected to identify its exact location to the site. We therefore question as to the distance of the "buffer zone" that would be afforded to such a heritage pathway in relation to an industrial development? And if the "forgotten highway" falls within that "buffer zone" what will be done to protect it? Should the footprint of the development encroach upon the "buffer zones" for such heritage sites, would it not be expected of the development to alter its location?

Also please indicate whether any NEW access roads will be built in this area that might damage this heritage site.

Socio-economic Comments

Overall there were view concerns here and our comments as participants were included in the report.

Some problems we identified was the lack of direct communication with local residents. A total of 10 interviews were conducted, 5 of which were farmers, 2 of which stand to benefit from the development. It was very clear that their contributions and comments were pro the development, when other farmers' comments were more concerned with the negative impacts. We feel that more unbiased opinions needed to be included and especially the input from farm workers and indigenous people that will be most hard hit in this development should there be job losses or changes to the environment's dynamics. Their voices were completely absent from this report. No local business owners were interviewed, which is very sad since the Tankwa Farmstall could have given much needed insight into the everyday lives of the residents here. It seems as if the specialist relied too heavily on electronic or printed databases for statistical information instead of real-time, grass-roots investigation.

Once the PV plant is operational a portion of the funds allocated for public development must be spent DIRECTLY in the Ceres Karoo area and should not be funnelled in its entirety to the surrounding towns. Seeing as the Karoo residents bear the brunt of the negative impacts of these developments.

Safety and Security Comments

In our previous experience with industrial developments in this area safety and security has been an issue. We strongly agree with and support the mitigating factors identified by die socio-economic report (Appendix C) in section 6.1.1.9 regarding potential crime increase. Security should be provided for more than just project infrastructure and should include mechanisms that benefit the surrounding community such as visual policing, cameras along access roads, a repeater necessary for a radio system, and/or participation in the farm watch Initiative, connecting to the existing radio frequencies by many of the residents in the area.

General Comments

First off it must be mentioned that the naming of the area in the report was incorrectly stated as the Tankwa Karoo. Our area can be correctly identified as the Ceres-Karoo.

Although we understand that specialists make use of standardized methodology and measuring instruments when conducting these investigations, we feel that greater sensitivity to site specific projects need to be applied. Statistics from Western Cape, Touwsriver and Ceres cannot be used to make arguments for an area so vastly different to any formal settlement such as the Karoo. Measuring instruments used to determine significance for a seafront development next to Langebaan can surely not ethically and justifiable be used as is to determine significance in the Karoo? Moreover, if sensitivity was applied to the specific needs and circumstances of this

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Sadawa-specific commentary

unique area, but a standardized measuring scale was used to determine significance of the impacts, then this would defeat the entire purpose of applying sensitivity at all. This is also the feeling one gets when reading the BA-report and specialist findings. When considering a factor, the specialist will find a whole list of potential pitfalls, which feels (to the affected party) like a "big deal". But then when the conclusion is made as to the significance it is listed as "low". This just makes it clear that the current methodology and measuring instruments for significance are clearly doing the minimum standardization of investigations and this should be (to any environmental agency) unconscionable.

It must also be mentioned that when determining significance of an impact such as job losses, you again cannot look at statistics from the Western Cape or other areas. Stating that 10 job losses are not significant might be true when looking at a population of 10 000 people. Considering that the Ceres Karoo population is extremely small (many farm workers having their whole family working on various farms in the surrounds), 10 job losses becomes much more significant. It feels as though local population dynamics were not appropriately investigated and speaks to the lack of local community interaction in many of these studies.

A big pit fall of many of these investigations is that they blanket the Ceres Karoo under the same statistics as Ceres (our nearest town) which is exactly where the problems lie. Money that should be allocated to this area gets funnelled into Ceres. When employing "local" labour, companies bus in people from Nduli, Ceres and Touwsrivier instead of using the many jobless in our own community. The Ceres Karoo is in dire need for recognition as a separate entity from our surrounding towns with its own unique blend of people, needs, problems and circumstances.

Another very apt example of the lack of sensitivity to the local context in this study report can be given when looking at the handling of the public participation process. The avenues provided by CSIR for public comment assumes that all I & AP's have access to local newspapers, wifi, internet connections or a cell phone with enough data to download the content required. Considering that the majority of our community consists of farm workers and indigenous people that rely on periodic lifts into town, this again speaks to the lack of understanding of the local context. The only way to adequately access locals in this area are through face-to-face meetings. COVID-19 has been used very much as an excuse in this regard. Since the very beginning of the level 4 requirements in June, indoor gatherings were allowed under strict adherence to social distancing and limited to 50 people. If CSIR was really concerned with the COVID regulations, they could have held more than 1 public meeting with limited space and still adhered to all regulations as well as making the community feel heard. We cannot emphasize enough how disrespectful this action feels and how disappointed we are at the way it has been handled over the December period.

We acknowledge and are grateful for the one-on-one meeting afforded to two of our community members at the beginning of January.

Overall we accept that the EMP is a binding legal agreement and that mitigating factors added to this are compulsory and must be implemented by the developer. We hope that these comments will serve to review existing and add more mitigating factors that will benefit the community by making sure that it accurately and fairly represents the real conditions of the Ceres Karoo.

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From: Anna Flynn <aflynn@falconoilandgas.com>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 25 Jan 2021 11:26
Subject: RE: Reminder - Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape

Good morning,

Below are Falcon's comments as an I&AP relating to solar facility.

Falcon as an I&AP requests that a co-existence agreement is entered into between the parties. We believe this is important as both parties would potential co-exist on the same acreage in the future and to have agreed terms on which they would cooperate is good practise. We have sent our request to management along with a template which we have used with numerous renewable projects across the Karoo.

Kind regards,
Anne.

Anne Flynn
Chief Financial Officer | FALCON OIL & GAS LTD.
68 Merrion Square South, Dublin 2, Ireland
Office: +353 1 676 8702 | Direct: +353 1 676 9162
Email: aflynn@falconoilandgas.com | website: www.falconoilandgas.com

From: "Sadawa" <sadawa@breede.co.za>
To: "ems" <ems@csir.co.za>
CC: "Rehaida Abed" <RAbed@csir.co.za>, "Paul Lochner" <PLochner@csir.co.za>
Date: 25 Jan 2021 12:07
Subject: RE: Feedback on community commentary for Veronika developments

Good day

You have to include all previous emails as commentary because some of the people added their own comments and questions. Also note that every submission of the community commentary counts as a member/A&IP. So the number of submissions of the community commentary must be reflected by this.

ANDRÉ VERMEULEN



Set: 078 422 6226
Werk: 023 004 0552
andrew.sadawa@gmail.com
sadawa@breede.co.za

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: "Sadawa" <sadawa@breede.co.za>
To: "ems" <ems@csk.co.za>
Date: 25 Jan 2021 12:33
Subject: RE: Feedback on community commentary for Veroniva developments

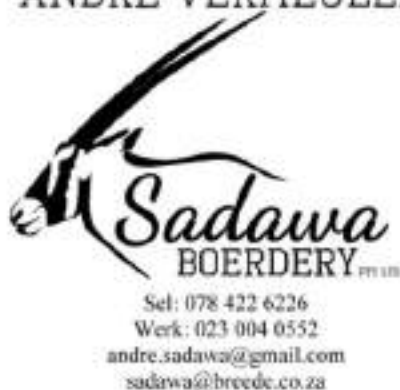
Hi

You can use those emails as a reference if you want to, some of the issues that were named in previous emails were debated in the meeting. Some issues were of a private nature between Sadawa and the developer and some were community based issues.

I did send my own grievances in a separate document to you.

Thanks,

ANDRÉ VERMEULEN



>>> Annaline Van Eck <annalinevaneck@gmail.com> 25 Jan 2021 14:18 >>>
Goeie Middag Lizande

Ek wil graag van die geleentheid gebruik maak om my kommentaar tov die sonpanele in die Ceres Karoo met u te deel.

Ek voel daar moet aan die toekoms gedink word en nie wat die effek op die huidige oomblik is nie en nie of jy as persoon daarvan hou of nie want dit gaan die toekoms wees vir ons nasate.

Ek voel as daar nie nou al pro aktief optree word en voorsiening gemaak word vir krag nie gaan daar een more groot probleme ontstaan so ek is n voorstanner van die projekte. Net n ander punt ook steenkool besoedel die lug so dit is ook ongesond. Paaie kan weer herstel word maar as die krag klaar is dan is dit verby

Groete Annaline van Eck

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ROADS

Email: Lyle.Martin@westerncape.gov.za
Tel: +27 21 483 2419
Rm 335, 9 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001
PO Box 2603, Cape Town, 8000

REFERENCE : TPW (Job 28280)

ENQUIRIES : Mr L Martin

DATE : 25 January 2021

CSIR Environmental Management Services
PO Box 59081
UMBILO
4075

Attention: Ms R Abed

Dear Madam

FOUR DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NINE 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

1. The following refer:
 - 1.1 Your e-mail to Stakeholders and I&APs.
 - 1.2 Sturgeon Consulting's four traffic impact statements all referenced STUR0304 (FINAL) and dated November 2020.
2. This Branch will not object to the issuing of an Environmental Authorisation, provided that this Branch is offered the opportunity to comment on the land use application, at which stage this Branch will issue its approvals in terms of Act 21 of 1940 (Building Restrictions) and Roads Ordinance 19 of 1976 (Accesses and construction activities with the road reserves and Building Lines).
3. The following Provincial Roads, all for which this Branch is the Road Authority, are in the immediate vicinity of the affected farms:
 - 3.1 Main Road 319 (MR00319; R356) bordering onto both Portion 5 of Farm 149 and Remainder Farm 149. A direct access off this this road to Remainder Farm 149 appears possible but requires a detailed investigation.

www.westerncape.gov.za

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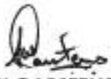
- 3.2 Minor Road 8013 (OP08013) traversing across Portion 5 of Farm 149.
- 3.3 Minor Road 5903 (OP05903) ending at the western boundary of Farm 241.
- 3.4 Divisional Road 1475 (DR01475) traversing across Farm 240.
- 3.5 Minor Road 5908 (OP05906) traversing across Farm 240.
- 3.6 Minor Road 6122 (OP06122) traversing across Farm 240.
- 3.7 Minor Road 6123 (OP06123) traversing across Farm 240 and ends at the southern boundary of Farm 241.
4. Based upon the abovementioned roads and the farms being served; except for the access investigation in favour of Remainder Farm 149 (Paragraph 3.1) does it appear as if both Portion 1 of Farm 172 and Farm 171 are possibly land locked. This Branch is not aware of any registered servitude rights of way being in place to ensure permanent, legal and unfettered access to those two farms. Sturgeon Consulting mentions "access will need to be taken via a registered servitude across Portion 1 of Farm 174" and "existing access road to Farm 171 Witte Wall is a private gravel road".
5. Regardless of all the Provincial Roads in that vicinity is only MR00319 being described as the main access road. An impression is created that the other (gravelled) Provincial Roads in that vicinity will not be utilised for the purposes of constructing, operating or decommissioning any of either the solar clusters or the associated electrical grid; and will those roads thus not experience any deterioration due this proposed solar energy project being approved.
6. This Branch, for now, will ultimately require the following:
 - 6.1 Access applications (for all the accesses to each respective farm portion), which might include servitude rights of way to be registered to ensure permanent, legal and unfettered access to all affected farm portions. It will be required to clearly state which access will serve what purpose (solar energy and / or farming).
 - 6.2 Construction applications, including wayleaves for third party services, when Building Restrictions, Building Lines and Road Reserves are affected.
 - 6.3 Abnormal load applications, which may require prior geometric and materials designs to be completed and constructed. Due to the possible longevity of this process is it recommended to commence with these applications as soon as possible.
 - 6.4 A geotechnical and geometric design report, including improvement proposals, must be compiled to ensure that all the roads (on the entire road network) that will be affected by this development are adequately improved and maintained before any other construction activity may commence on any of the farm portions. This is to ensure that no more than normal deterioration and additional maintenance costs are experienced by the Road Authorities during the construction and operating phases. It will be required that any design affecting any Proclaimed Provincial Road must carry this Branch's Chief Directorate: Design's approval before implementation thereof may commence.

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- 6.5 Confirmation that a similar geotechnical (as per paragraph 6.4) proposal will be compiled and approval obtained prior to commencing with any major upgrade or decommissioning phase; whenever that may be.

Yours faithfully



SW CARSTENS

For **DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: ROADS**

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ENDORSEMENTS

1. CSIR Environmental Services
Attention: Ms R Abed (e-mail: ams@csir.co.za)
2. Sturgeon Consulting
Attention: Mr B du Preez (e-mail: barend@sturgeonsa.co.za)
3. Cape Winelands District Municipality
Attention: Mr ACA Stevens (email)
4. District Roads Engineer
Paarl
5. Mr Elroy Smith (e-mail)
6. Mr J Coetzee (e-mail)
7. Mr SW Carstens (e-mail)
8. Mr E Burger (e-mail)

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From: Bonnie Schumann <bonnies@ewt.org.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 25 Jan 2021 15:36
Subject: RE: EWT Comments: BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: EWT Comments Veroniva Dev final_25Jan2021.pdf

Dear Rohaida

- Attached as requested comments from the Endangered Wildlife Trust for the Veroniva Developments near Touws River, Western Cape.
- Please can you remove Christy Bragg from your EWT contact list and add Cobus Theron. Christy was the Programme Manager for the Drylands Conservation Programme and was replaced by Cobus Theron (cobust@ewt.org.za) in 2016.
- Please also add gareht@ewt.org.za
Dr Gareth Tate is the Programme Manager for the Birds of Prey Programme (comments included in the attachment).

Many thanks.

Kind Regards

Bonnie Schumann
Nama Karoo Co-ordinator

Endangered Wildlife Trust
Drylands Conservation Programme
W+27 (0)53 3813068 | C+27 (0)72 122 4232 | HQ+27 11 372 3600
Email: bonnies@ewt.org.za | Web: www.ewt.org.za
Postal Address: info@ewt.org.za | P.O. Box 172, Loxton, 6985, South Africa



Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment - BBBEE Level 4 Certificate & 95% Civil Society Organisation
PBO number: 930 001 777
NPO number: 015-502 NPO
IT number: IT 6247

Physical Address: 27 and 28 Austin Road, Glen Austin AH, Midrand, 1685, Gauteng, South Africa
Postal Address: Private Bag X 11, Meddlerfontein 1645, Gauteng, South Africa



This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. This E-mail message and its attachments are subject to the disclaimer published at <http://www.ewt.org.za>

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**ENDANGERED
WILDLIFE TRUST**
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25 Jan 2021

Dear Sir / Madam,

Comment re Veroniva PV Farm Development

- Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2 and Grootfontein PV 3;
- Witte Wall PV 1 and Witte Wall PV 2;
- Hoek Doornen PV 1, Hoek Doornen PV 2, Hoek Doornen PV 3 and Hoek Doornen PV 4

Near Touws River, Western Cape

The Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) as would like to submit the following comments in respect of the abovementioned development.

1. The EWT supports the development of renewable energy supply as an alternative to generation of electricity through burning of fossil fuels.
2. Renewable energy developments however, like any other development, may have serious impacts on species, habitat and society and as such need to be properly evaluated.
3. There is a strong need for developers in this sector to adhere to and initiate environmental best practices in the development and operation of large scale renewable energy projects in South Africa's arid interior.
4. In evaluation of the above application we wish to highlight the following impacts and resultant recommendations:

4.1 General Terrestrial Impacts

Physical Address: 28& 29 Glen Acres, Glen Austin, Midrand
Gauteng, South Africa

Postal Address: Private Bag X 11, Modderfontein 1645, Gauteng, South Africa

Tel: +27(0)870 210 EWT (+27(0)870 210 EWT398) **Fax:** +27(0)11 608 4682 **Email:** ewt@ewt.org.za **Web:** www.ewt.org.za

The Endangered Wildlife Trust is a non-profit, public benefit organisation dedicated to conserving species and ecosystems in southern Africa to the benefit of all people.

NPO Number: 015-502, **PBO number:** 930 001 777, **Member of IUCN** - The International Union for Conservation of Nature
The Endangered Wildlife Trust is US 501(c)(3) compliant under **US IRS Registration number:** EMP98-0586801.

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- a) We endorse the recommendations made in the terrestrial specialist reports, in particular the Riverine Rabbit Assessment (3Foxes Biodiversity Solutions) and we would like to have these recommendations implemented should the project be approved.
- b) Significant adverse impacts can be expected during the construction phase including vehicular collisions with wildlife, collection and cutting of shrubs for firewood, potential snaring, pollution etc. and as such strict controls and protocols are required during this phase.
- c) Riparian areas represent important ecological infrastructure in the arid regions. These areas should be avoided as far as is possible from a construction point of view and access road drainage need to be well planned and fitted with dispersal mechanisms.
- d) Should Riverine Rabbits be found on any of the sites a detailed monitoring programme must be implemented along with all mitigation steps as described in the terrestrial specialist report. While we agree that the species are unlikely to be present on the sites their presence in low densities cannot be ruled out.

4.2 Avifaunal Impacts

- a) For Verreaux's Eagles and Martial Eagles, space use is dependent on not only the distance from an individual eagle's nest site, but also the local density or distribution of conspecific nest sites, the topographic slope and the elevation. As such we know that raptor space use around a nest site is not even or circular. We strongly recommend a dynamic 5 km buffer area around Martial eagle nests and a 3 km buffer around Verreaux's eagle nest sites in order to reduce fatalities.

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Recommendations:

- a) It is critical that no human disturbance occurs within these buffers near active breeding eagle nests in the peak breeding period between May and September, i.e. construction vehicles, labourers on foot, etc.
- b) Although the power line design will minimise bird electrocution incidents due to satisfactory phase clearances, collisions with shield wires or conductors are still likely to occur. With regards to the transmission lines fitting Bird Flight Diverters (BFD's) may mitigate collisions involving large raptors but it will not mitigate (at all) collisions by Ludwig's Bustard. Lines should be constructed according to the Eskom specifications and fitted with approved BDF's at the Eskom recommended intervals (whether or not lines are later handed over to Eskom). The Wildlife and Energy Programme is more than happy to share these specifications with the developer during the planning stages.
- c) Lines need to be placed as far as possible in areas where linear infrastructure already exists.
- d) Should new more effective BFDs come available the developer needs to be ready to procure and fit these. The EWT are in the process of expanding our current long term line marking experiment near De Aar where a further 4 BFD designs will be tested, specifically to reduce Ludwig's Bustard collisions. If this development proceeds, we urge the developer to contact the EWT Wildlife and Energy programme directly and participate in this research. If an effective BFD is identified in the near future, this

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should immediately be applied to these lines.

- e) Lines need to be seasonally monitored for fatalities and these should be reported to the Eskom/EWT Strategic partnership.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require further information or inputs.

Yours sincerely,

Cobus Theron
Drylands Conservation Programme

on behalf of the Wildlife and Energy Programme and the Birds of Prey Programme.

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Gauteng, South Africa

Postal Address: Private Bag X 11, Modderfontein 1645, Gauteng, South Africa

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From: Mark Catling <farm-cat@bneede.co.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 25 Jan 2021 16:02
Subject: Request for registration as I&AP - Veronica developments - Tankwa Karoo
Attachments: Community Commentary on CSIR BA-report1.pdf

I wish to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party for the proposed solar-PV development by Veronica in the Tankwa Karoo.

sincerely, Mark Catling
Sand River Conservancy, Sandrivier
084 248 1234

Traffic Comments

The databases used for the collection of data for this report, states that the road in the Ceres Karoo area close to the development, is supposed to be in a fair to good condition. This is not the case. Municipal grading and maintenance is almost never done. In the past 10 years the road has not been upgraded at all, only skim-graded which has served to degrade the surface of the road onto its base. During the Perdekraal developments with Mainstream, the civil engineering company took it upon themselves to upgrade the road section from the Touwsriver crossing on the tar road to the Calvinia crossing and up to the Patatrivier crossing towards their development site. Thus, any physical inspection of this section of road in the last year, would have made one believe that the road is always kept in a good condition. Again this is not the case. Since the end of the Perdekraal developments the road has again been neglected by the local municipality. They seem to never have any funds or working equipment when we enquire. They recently appointed a private contractor to skim-grade the road every once in a while, which only serves to move the rocks around and they are not willing to pay him more to upgrade and correctly grade the roads.

We request that a reassessment be made of the actual upkeep and maintenance of the dirt roads in our sector, especially the condition of the R356 from the Patatrivier crossing on towards Sutherland. This section was outside the Perdekraal development and therefore not part of their maintenance plan. If an update of the road records can also be made to incorporate the lack of correct municipal servicing that would also be much appreciated. Much of this knowledge can be gained by not only accessing databases (which are subject to municipal upkeep in theory), but also directly speaking to residents in the area. There may well be a municipal maintenance plan on such a database, but this plan could very well be theoretical and actual implementation rarely happens (in our experience).

Listed in the traffic report statement were the total number of daily trips expected for one development. We question whether a "daily trip" constitutes one directional travel towards site or includes a return trip as well? If this only refers to a one directional trip then the numbers reflected in the report must be doubled and would then far exceed the norm travelling numbers for this road as given in the report. This would alter the significance pre-mitigation.

<p>Construction Phase – 46 Daily Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 daily double-axle trips• 15 daily light load trips• 8 daily bus trips• 20 daily bakkie trips• 1 daily water truck trips. <p>Operational Phase – 9 Daily Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 daily light load truck trips• 1 daily single axle truck trips (conservative assumption as 1-2 small single-axle trucks will visit the site on a weekly basis)• 2 daily water truck trips <p>Decommissioning Phase – 46 Daily Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 daily double-axle trips• 15 daily light load trips• 8 daily bus trips• 20 daily bakkie trips• 1 daily water truck trips.

In the final BA-report and EMP clear distinction (with the use of road names) must be made in reference to the maintenance plan so as to remove confusion. What roads will be maintained as "main access roads" or "main roads."

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Recommendations from our side with regards to what worked for previous developments include:

- A stop-and-go system to stagger travelling distances between vehicles and limit the dust impact
- Acknowledgement of a greater impact on the roads than what is currently stated in the BA-report
- The provision of a detailed long-term road maintenance plan to the community in conjunction with the Provincial Administration.
- Conduct a survey with local tourism businesses in the area to estimate which time(s) of the year roads will be used more frequently by tourists coming into the area. This can be used to plan trips for heavy loads so that they don't clash with normal (public) commuters. This could include events such as the Africa Burn, Easter Weekend, Holidays, sport cycle events, etc.
- We also want to mention that the Perdekraal development had great difficulty in getting permission from the Provincial Administration to implement the upgrading and upkeep of the roads. This was delayed for several months in which time they weren't even allowed to grade the road surface. As with most government departments, progress is slow, so please plan accordingly when seeking permission and approval to maintain the roads.

Questions on traffic:

We acknowledge the commitment to appoint a local consultant for the roads. We question the criteria that will be used to appoint this consultant?

We question whether a "daily trip" constitutes one directional travel towards site or includes a return trip as well?

Agricultural Comments

Comments were made as to the effect of poor road maintenance on the production(s) and transport of goods produced in the area. Road conditions will also affect these activities and they were not mentioned in the report.

Game farming was not investigated or mentioned as a farming practice in the area. Impacts from this sector could include damage to PV infrastructure during the hunting season due to unwanted movement of wild animals into the development area. The game fencing proposed around the site therefore needs to adhere to Cape Nature enclosure requirements.

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Visual Comments

Eco-tourism was discussed under the visual impact section, but not satisfactorily. Game farms in this area can be as large as 10 000 hectares or more. Visitors do not come to the Karoo to stay in their chalets or accommodation. Eco-tourism involves guests moving around the farms, going for game drives, taking photographs in the veld, visiting heritage sites and looking for elevated aspects to take in the scenery. Filming companies often visit this area for its uninterrupted planes and scenery. Therefore visual impacts of a solar development for this sector are by far the largest of all the impacts. We strongly feel that this was downplayed or not fully understood in the investigation, significantly for the Hoekdoorn development which is much more elevated and borders directly on private farms and reserves.

The distances given to determine significance for farms and such was measured from the main gate to the farm. This implies that guests / people will not roam freely on a reserve/farms and only view the veld from the main gate. Visual impact must be assessed from the boundaries of a farm as the entire area should be seen as an attraction.

Table 5: Visual Sensitivity Mapping Categories for the Proposed Solar Facilities

Scenic Resources	Very high sensitivity (No-go)	High visual sensitivity	Medium visual sensitivity	Low visual sensitivity
Topographic features	Feature	Within 150-250m	-	-
Steep slopes	Slopes > 1:4	Slopes > 1:10	-	-
Drainage courses	Feature	Within 50m	-	-
Cultural landscapes/ cropland	within 250m	within 500m	-	-
Protected Landscapes / Sensitive Receptors				
Private reserves / game farms	within 500m	within 1 km	within 2 km	-
Farmsteads outside site	within 500m	within 1 km	within 2 km	-
Farmsteads inside site	within 250m	within 500m	-	-
Arterial routes	within 250m	within 500m	within 1km	-

For example, when considering Table 5 in the visual impact study private reserves or game farms within 500m from the development are considered High Sensitivity and constitutes a "no-go". As mentioned we raise concern over the specialists only taking into consideration the location and distance of the main gate of a farm /farmstead and not the perimeter/boundary fencing (as can be seen in Table 8).

This shows that they did not fully understand their own criteria in Table 5 and did not apply it correctly, nor do they fully grasp what eco-tourism / private visual impacts in this environment mean.

Table 8: Witte Wall PV and Electrical Grid Infrastructure Viewing Distances and Visibility from Receptors

Viewpoint	Latitude	Longitude	Distance to PV arrays	Distance to powerline	Potential Visibility
S1 Elders Gate	32.927234°S	19.629614°E	5.89 km	-	not visible - in view shadow
S2 R345 Grootfontein Gate	32.632353°S	19.634536°E	5.97 km	-	not visible - in view shadow
S3 Kareekolk Gate	32.973741°S	19.907120°E	5.80 km	-	beyond effective visibility range
S4 Sadawa Gate	32.030036°S	19.879671°E	5.00 km	-	not visible - in view shadow
S5 Kaligat	32.040363°S	20.049133°E	4.51 km	-	No Access - not visible - in view shadow
P1 District Road	33.001035°S	20.025678°E	-	105 m	highly visible
P2 Witwal Gate	33.025370°S	20.015431°E	-	118 m	highly visible
P3 Trooverberg	33.110072°S	20.032675°E	-	1.18 km	No Access - marginally visible
P4 Platfontein	33.115830°S	19.902970°E	-	1.00 km	visibility obscured by foreground of the Kappa substation
P5 Leeskop de Sand	33.015424°S	19.643701°E	-	4.10 km	No Access - marginally visible in distance

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Lastly the visual impact study, specifically at Hoekdoorn, also left out complete farmsteads in their assessment. Doornrivier across the road from the proposed development has a farmstead which is less than 2km away from the development site and located on a hill top, yet it was not even present on any map in the visual study. Below the Google Maps image shows this.



Overall there were many questionable inferences drawn with the visual impact study and a lack of understanding of eco-tourism in the Karoo. Major adjustments need to be made to the levels of sensitivity given to these factors as well as the ultimate significance of their impact. Mitigating factors should therefore be implemented seeing as this will have a direct financial impact on eco-tourism in the area and, potentially, decrease property values.

Heritage Comments

The key issue of concern here was the identification of the “forgotten highway” in the specialists study. In Figure 34 of their report they make use of a map that is highly inaccurate given the technology available today. This does not show nearly enough detail to have correctly identified the position of the highway.

However this landmark and heritage pathway is clearly visible with the use of Google Maps and has been indicated below as being less than 300m from the zone of development’s boundary. This is most certainly the actual “forgotten highway” and has been identified by various historians and specialists that have visited the area.

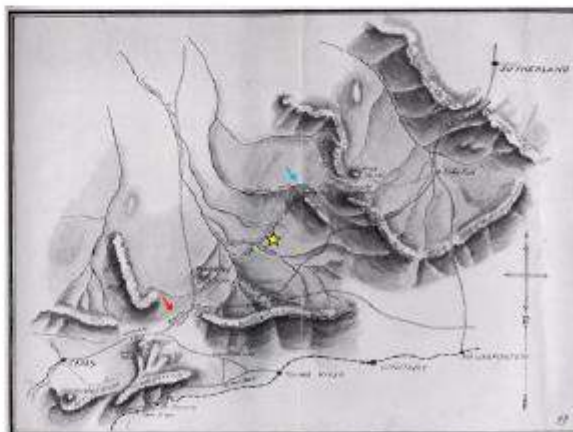


Figure 34: Map of the Ceres Karoo showing the “Forgotten Highway” leading past the study area (yellow star). The important landmarks of Karoo Poort (red arrow) and Hanglip (blue arrow) are indicated.

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The specialists correctly identified it as running parallel to most of the R356, yet neglected to identify its exact location to the site.

Questions on heritage:

We therefore question as to the distance of the “buffer zone” that would be afforded to such a heritage pathway in relation to an industrial development? And if the “forgotten highway” falls within that “buffer zone” what will be done to protect it? Should the footprint of the development encroach upon the “buffer zones” for such heritage sites, would it not be expected of the development to alter its location?

Also please indicate whether any NEW access roads will be built in this area that might damage this heritage site.

Socio-economic Comments

Overall there were view concerns here and our comments as participants were included in the report.

Some problems we identified was the lack of direct communication with local residents. A total of 10 interviews were conducted, 5 of which were farmers, 2 of which stand to benefit from the development. We feel that more unbiased opinions needed to be included and especially the input from farm workers and indigenous people that will be most hard hit in this development should there be job losses or changes to the environment's dynamics. Their voices were completely absent from this report. No local business owners were interviewed, which is very sad since the Tankwa Farmstall could have given much needed insight into the everyday lives of the residents here. It seems as if the specialist relied too heavily on electronic or printed databases for statistical information instead of real-time, grass-roots investigation.

Once the PV plant is operational a portion of the funds allocated for public development must be spent DIRECTLY in the Ceres Karoo area and should not be funnelled in its entirety to the surrounding towns. Seeing as the Karoo residents bear the brunt of the negative impacts of these developments.

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General Comments

First of all, it should be mentioned that the naming of the area in the report was incorrectly stated as the "Tankwa Karoo". Our area must be correctly identified as the Ceres-Karoo.

Although we understand that specialists make use of standardized methodology and measuring instruments when conducting these investigations, we feel that greater sensitivity to site specific projects need to be applied. Statistics from Western Cape, Touwsriver and Ceres cannot be used to make arguments for an area so vastly different to any formal settlement such as the Karoo. Measuring instruments used to determine significance for a seafront development next to Langebaan can surely not ethically and justifiable be used as is to determine significance in the Karoo? Moreover, if sensitivity was applied to the specific needs and circumstances of this unique area, but a standardized measuring scale was used to determine significance of the impacts, then this would defeat the entire purpose of applying sensitivity at all. This is also the feeling one gets when reading the BA-report and specialist findings. When considering a factor, the specialist will find a whole list of potential pitfalls, which feels (to the affected party) like a "big deal". But then when the conclusion is made as to the significance it is listed as "low". This just makes it clear that the current methodology and measuring instruments for significance are clearly doing the minimum standardization of investigations and this should be unconscionable.

It must also be mentioned that when determining significance of an impact such as job losses, you again cannot look at statistics from the Western Cape or other areas. Stating that 10 job losses are not significant might be true when looking at a population of 10 000 people. Considering that the Ceres Karoo population is extremely small (many farm workers having their whole family working on various farms in the surrounds), 10 job losses becomes much more significant. It feels as though local population dynamics were not appropriately investigated and speaks to the lack of local community interaction in many of these studies.

A big pit fall of many of these investigations is that they blanket the Ceres Karoo under the same statistics as Ceres (our nearest town) which is exactly where the problems lie. Money that should be allocated to this area gets funnelled into Ceres. When employing "local" labour, companies bus in people from Nduli, Ceres and Touwsrivier instead of using the many jobless in our own community. The Ceres Karoo is in dire need for recognition as a separate entity from our surrounding towns with its own unique blend of people, needs, problems and circumstances.

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Overall we accept that the EMP is a binding legal document and that mitigating factors added to this are compulsory and must be implemented by the developer. We hope that these comments will serve to review existing and add more mitigating factors that will benefit the community by making sure that it accurately and fairly represents the real conditions of the Ceres Karoo.

From: Bertus Minnaar <bertusmin@gmail.com>
To: <ems@csir.co.za>, <lkellerman@csir.co.za>
Date: 25 Jan 2021 16:44
Subject: Ceres Solar PV

To everyone involved in this project

In the world we live in today, we know that humans produce 100x more carbon into the atmosphere as we did 200 years ago. Most of this is so we can sit in our electrified homes, with the AC running or the heaters on while all the lights are burning so we can see in rooms we aren't in. We sit down with a hot meal cooked on electric stoves and watch a nature documentaries about how the climate is changing and how most of Africa, inhabitants and its wildlife, is experiencing famine. We look at the ice caps melting and of images of yet another hurricane that has now become an annual occurrence, destroying the livelihoods of millions of people. We sit back and blame the world leaders for not doing more to stop climate change, yet we don't look at ourselves.

I think everyone that is involved in this project, it doesn't just help the people employed to do the labour, in a current economic climate where there is not enough work. It doesn't just help offset the current shortage of electricity we have causing load shedding and large scale economic disruption due to an inefficient electricity provider like Eskom, but it also helps South Africa in taking a step in the right direction to help solve a global catastrophe that is global warming.

Good on you

--

Kind Regards

Bertus Minnaar

From: "Sonet Moller" <sonet@devlaidt.co.za>
To: <ems@csir.co.za>
Date: 25 Jan 2021 16:45
Subject: Request for registration as I&AP and commentary on proposed Veroniva developments in Ceres Tankwa Karoo
Attachments: Letter_I&APs_Ceres Solar PV Development_031220.pdf; Community Commentary on CSIR BA-report1.pdf

Good day,

I hereby request to be registered as an Interested & Affected Party for the proposed solar-PV developments of Veroniva and offer my comments to be included in the final report. Attached please find our baseline commentary as a community which I fully support.

Thank you.

PJ Moller

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Traffic Comments

The databases used for the collection of data for this report, states that the road in the Ceres Karoo area close to the development, is supposed to be in a fair to good condition. This is not the case. Municipal grading and maintenance is almost never done. In the past 10 years the road has not been upgraded at all, only skim-graded which has served to degrade the surface of the road onto its base. During the Perdekraal developments with Mainstream, the civil engineering company took it upon themselves to upgrade the road section from the Touwsriver crossing on the tar road to the Calvinia crossing and up to the Patatrivier crossing towards their development site. Thus, any physical inspection of this section of road in the last year, would have made one believe that the road is always kept in a good condition. Again this is not the case. Since the end of the Perdekraal developments the road has again been neglected by the local municipality. They seem to never have any funds or working equipment when we enquire. They recently appointed a private contractor to skim-grade the road every once in a while, which only serves to move the rocks around and they are not willing to pay him more to upgrade and correctly grade the roads.

We request that a reassessment be made of the actual upkeep and maintenance of the dirt roads in our sector, especially the condition of the R356 from the Patatrivier crossing on towards Sutherland. This section was outside the Perdekraal development and therefore not part of their maintenance plan. If an update of the road records can also be made to incorporate the lack of correct municipal servicing that would also be much appreciated. Much of this knowledge can be gained by not only accessing databases (which are subject to municipal upkeep in theory), but also directly speaking to residents in the area. There may well be a municipal maintenance plan on such a database, but this plan could very well be theoretical and actual implementation rarely happens (in our experience).

Listed in the traffic report statement were the total number of daily trips expected for one development. We question whether a "daily trip" constitutes one directional travel towards site or includes a return trip as well? If this only refers to a one directional trip then the numbers reflected in the report must be doubled and would then far exceed the norm travelling numbers for this road as given in the report. This would alter the significance pre-mitigation.

<p>Construction Phase – 46 Daily Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 daily double-axle trips• 15 daily light load trips• 8 daily bus trips• 20 daily bakkie trips• 1 daily water truck trips. <p>Operational Phase – 9 Daily Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 daily light load truck trips• 1 daily single axle truck trips (conservative assumption as 1-2 small single-axle trucks will visit the site on a weekly basis)• 2 daily water truck trips <p>Decommissioning Phase – 46 Daily Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 daily double-axle trips• 15 daily light load trips• 8 daily bus trips• 20 daily bakkie trips• 1 daily water truck trips.

In the final BA-report and EMP clear distinction (with the use of road names) must be made in reference to the maintenance plan so as to remove confusion. What roads will be maintained as "main access roads" or "main roads."

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Recommendations from our side with regards to what worked for previous developments include:

- A stop-and-go system to stagger travelling distances between vehicles and limit the dust impact
- Acknowledgement of a greater impact on the roads than what is currently stated in the BA-report
- The provision of a detailed long-term road maintenance plan to the community in conjunction with the Provincial Administration.
- Conduct a survey with local tourism businesses in the area to estimate which time(s) of the year roads will be used more frequently by tourists coming into the area. This can be used to plan trips for heavy loads so that they don't clash with normal (public) commuters. This could include events such as the Africa Burn, Easter Weekend, Holidays, sport cycle events, etc.
- We also want to mention that the Perdekraal development had great difficulty in getting permission from the Provincial Administration to implement the upgrading and upkeep of the roads. This was delayed for several months in which time they weren't even allowed to grade the road surface. As with most government departments, progress is slow, so please plan accordingly when seeking permission and approval to maintain the roads.

Questions on traffic:

We acknowledge the commitment to appoint a local consultant for the roads. We question the criteria that will be used to appoint this consultant?

We question whether a "daily trip" constitutes one directional travel towards site or includes a return trip as well?

Agricultural Comments

Comments were made as to the effect of poor road maintenance on the production(s) and transport of goods produced in the area. Road conditions will also affect these activities and they were not mentioned in the report.

Game farming was not investigated or mentioned as a farming practice in the area. Impacts from this sector could include damage to PV infrastructure during the hunting season due to unwanted movement of wild animals into the development area. The game fencing proposed around the site therefore needs to adhere to Cape Nature enclosure requirements.

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Visual Comments

Eco-tourism was discussed under the visual impact section, but not satisfactorily. Game farms in this area can be as large as 10 000 hectares or more. Visitors do not come to the Karoo to stay in their chalets or accommodation. Eco-tourism involves guests moving around the farms, going for game drives, taking photographs in the veld, visiting heritage sites and looking for elevated aspects to take in the scenery. Filming companies often visit this area for its uninterrupted planes and scenery. Therefore visual impacts of a solar development for this sector are by far the largest of all the impacts. We strongly feel that this was downplayed or not fully understood in the investigation, significantly for the Hoekdoorn development which is much more elevated and borders directly on private farms and reserves.

The distances given to determine significance for farms and such was measured from the main gate to the farm. This implies that guests / people will not roam freely on a reserve/farms and only view the veld from the main gate. Visual impact must be assessed from the boundaries of a farm as the entire area should be seen as an attraction.

Table 5: Visual Sensitivity Mapping Categories for the Proposed Solar Facilities

Scenic Resources	Very high sensitivity (No-go)	High visual sensitivity	Medium visual sensitivity	Low visual sensitivity
Topographic features	Feature	Within 150-250m	-	-
Steep slopes	Slopes > 1:4	Slopes > 1:10	-	-
Drainage courses	Feature	Within 50m	-	-
Cultural landscapes/ cropland	within 250m	within 500m	-	-
Protected Landscapes / Sensitive Receptors				
Private reserves / game farms	within 500m	within 1 km	within 2 km	-
Farmsteads outside site	within 500m	within 1 km	within 2 km	-
Farmsteads inside site	within 250m	within 500m	-	-
Arterial routes	within 250m	within 500m	within 1km	-

For example, when considering private reserves or game farms within 500m from the development are considered High Sensitivity and constitutes a “no-go”. As mentioned we raise concern over the specialists only taking into consideration the location and distance of the main gate of a farm /farmstead and not the perimeter/boundary fencing (as can be seen in Table 8).

This shows that they did not fully understand their own criteria in Table 5 and did not apply it correctly, nor do they fully grasp what eco-tourism / private visual impacts in this environment mean.

Table 8: Witte Waa PV and Electrical Grid Infrastructure Viewing Distances and Visibility from Receptors

Viewpoint	Latitude	Longitude	Distance to PV arrays	Distance to powerline	Potential Visibility
S1 Elders Gate	32.927234°S	19.629614°E	5.89 km	-	not visible - in view shadow
S2 R345 Grootfontein Gate	32.632353°S	19.634536°E	5.67 km	-	not visible - in view shadow
S3 Kareekolk Gate	32.973741°S	19.607120°E	5.80 km	-	beyond effective visibility range
S4 Sadawa Gate	32.030036°S	19.676671°E	5.00 km	-	not visible - in view shadow
S5 Kaligat	32.040363°S	20.049133°E	4.51 km	-	No Access - not visible - in view shadow
P1 District Road	33.001035°S	20.025678°E	-	105 m	highly visible
P2 Witwal Gate	33.025370°S	20.015431°E	-	118 m	highly visible
P3 Trooverberg	33.110072°S	20.032675°E	-	1.18 km	No Access - marginally visible
P4 Platfontein	33.115830°S	19.902970°E	-	1.00 km	visibility obscured by foreground of the Kappa substation
P5 Leekoop de Sand	33.015424°S	19.643701°E	-	4.10 km	No Access - marginally visible in distance

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Lastly the visual impact study, specifically at Hoekdoorn, also left out complete farmsteads in their assessment. Doornrivier across the road from the proposed development has a farmstead which is less than 2km away from the development site and located on a hill top, yet it was not even present on any map in the visual study. Below the Google Maps image shows this.



Overall there were many questionable inferences drawn with the visual impact study and a lack of understanding of eco-tourism in the Karoo. Major adjustments need to be made to the levels of sensitivity given to these factors as well as the ultimate significance of their impact. Mitigating factors should therefore be implemented seeing as this will have a direct financial impact on eco-tourism in the area and, potentially, decrease property values.

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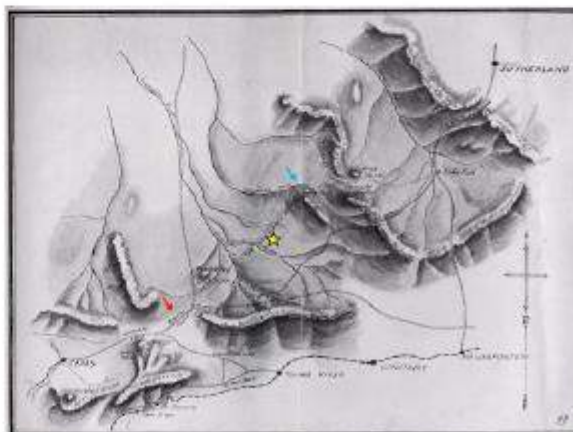


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We therefore question as to the distance of the “buffer zone” that would be afforded to such a heritage pathway in relation to an industrial development? And if the “forgotten highway” falls within that “buffer zone” what will be done to protect it? Should the footprint of the development encroach upon the “buffer zones” for such heritage sites, would it not be expected of the development to alter its location?

Also please indicate whether any NEW access roads will be built in this area that might damage this heritage site.

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From: Portia Makitla <PMakitla@environment.gov.za>
To: "ems@csir.co.za" <ems@csir.co.za>
CC: Tsholofelo Shalot Sekonko <tsakonko@environment.gov.za>
Date: 25 Jan 2021 19:46
Subject: DBAR comments for Nine 175 MW Solar PV Facilities
Attachments: comments 9 solar facilities and infrastructure.pdf

Good day

Please find the attached Biodiversity Conservation comments for the aforementioned project.

Kind Regards
Portia Makitla

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Portia Makitla <portiam988@gmail.com>
Date: 25 Jan 2021 19:41
Subject: DBAR comments for Nine 175 MW Solar PV Facilities
To: Portia Makitla <PMakitla@environment.gov.za>
Cc:

Good day

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Kind Regards
Portia Makitla



Disclaimer

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environment, forestry & fisheries

Department: Environment, Forestry
and Fisheries
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Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, Environment House, 473 Steve Biko Road, Pretoria, 0002 Tel: +27 12 399 9000, Fax: + 27 86 625 1042

Reference: Nine 175 MW Solar PV Facilities

Enquiries: Ms M Rakothata/ Ms. T. Sekonko

Tel: (012) 399 9174 E-mail: MRakothata@environment.gov.za / TSeKonko@environment.gov.za

Mr Paul Lochner
CSIR Environmental Management Services
PO Box 59081
Umbilo
4075

Telephone Number: (+ 27) 31 242 2300
Email Address: ems@csir.co.za

PER E-MAIL

Dear Mr. Lochner

COMMENTS ON DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONAL OF TOTAL NINE SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) POWER GENERATION FACILITIES, ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AND NINE LITHIUM ION BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS (BESS) NEAR TOUWS RIVER, IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE.

The Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation reviewed and evaluated the aforementioned draft report. Based on the information provided in the report, the actual foot print of the Witte Wall and Hoek Doornen PV facilities are located in close proximity to Terrestrial CBA1 and CBA2 as well as Aquatic ESA1 mostly associated with drainage line watercourses and ESA2. However, only the power lines of those PV facilities traverses those areas but in a minor and extremely small portions.

Notwithstanding the above, the following recommendations must be considered in the final report:

- Appropriate buffer must be established around medium sensitive (i.e. Groot River).
- Sensitive habitats in close proximity to the development footprint must be avoided or demarcated as No-Go area (i.e. Drainage lines and Groot River).
- Search and rescue plan must be developed for confirmation of those species of conservation concern that have a high probability of occurrence which and will be impacted by the proposed electrical grid infrastructure.



Batho pele- putting people first

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- Suitable bird repelling structures and bird diverters must be considered to avoid collision of birds with the power lines;
- Areas with large trees must be avoided as they serve as potential roosting and breeding habitat for a variety of birds, including raptors;
- Any disturbed areas should be rehabilitated to ensure that these areas do not become subject to erosion or invasive alien plant growth.

The final report must comply with all the requirements as outlined in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) guideline for renewable energy projects and the Best Practice Guideline for Birds & Solar Energy for assessing and monitoring the impact of solar energy facilities on birds in Southern Africa.

NB: Please note that all Public Participation Process documents related to Biodiversity EIA review and any other Biodiversity EIA queries must be submitted to the Directorate: Biodiversity Conservation at Email: BCAdmin@environment.gov.za for attention of Mr Seoka Lekota.

Yours faithfully



Mr. Seoka Lekota
Deputy Director: Biodiversity Conservation
Department of Environment, Forestry & Fisheries
Letter signed by: Ms. Portia Makitla
Designation: Control Biodiversity Officer Grade A
Date: 25 January 2021

Comments for the Draft Basic Assessment Report for the proposed design, construction and operational of total nine Solar Photovoltaic (PV) power generation facilities, associated infrastructure and nine Lithium Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) near Touws River, in the Western Cape Province.

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: Keshni Rughoobeer <Keshni.Rughoobeer@westerncape.gov.za>
To: "ems@csir.co.za" <ems@csir.co.za>
CC: Adri La Meyer <Adri.LaMeyer@westerncape.gov.za>
Date: 25 Jan 2021 19:39
Subject: DEA&DP comments: Draft BAR for 3 x 175 MW Solar PV facilities and Associated Infrastructure (Grootfontein PV 1, 2 and 3), Witzenberg Municipality
Attachments: DEA&DP comment - Draft BAR_Grootfontein Solar PV 1 2 and 3_Witzenberg Municipality - 25 Jan 2021.pdf

Dear Rohaida

Your e-mail below has reference. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Please find attached this Department's comments on the Draft BAR for the proposed 3 x 175 MW solar PV facilities and associated infrastructure (Grootfontein PV 1, 2 and 3), Witzenberg Municipality.

Kindly confirm receipt of these comments.

Thanking you,

Regards

Keshni Rughoobeer
Directorate: Development Facilitation
Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
Western Cape Government

Address: 11th Floor, 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town

Tel: 021 483 2606

Fax: 021 483 8311

E-mail: Keshni.Rughoobeer@westerncape.gov.za

Website: www.westerncape.gov.za/eacdp

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Western Cape
Government

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APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape



Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
Adri La Meyer
Directorate: Development Facilitation
Adri.LaMeyer@westerncape.gov.za | Tel: 021 483 2887

DEPARTMENTAL REFERENCES:

16/3/3/6/4/1/1/B2/29/1327/20 (Development Management)
19/2/5/3/B5/2/WL0136/20 Grootfontein PV 1 – 3 (Waste Management)
19/3/2/4/B1/7/DDF075/20 (Pollution and Chemicals Management)

DATE: 25 January 2021

The Board of Directors
CSIR Environmental Management Services
P.O. Box 59081
Umbilo
DURBAN
4075

For attention: Ms Rohaida Abed

Tel: (031) 242 2300
E-mail: ems@csir.co.za

PER E-MAIL

Dear Madam

COMMENT ON THE DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THREE 175MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC ("PV") FACILITIES ("GROOTFONTEIN PV 1, 2 AND 3") AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE ON THE REMAINDER OF THE FARM GROOTFONTEIN NO. 149 AND PORTION 5 OF THE FARM GROOTFONTEIN NO. 149, WITZENBERG MUNICIPALITY

The e-mail notification of 04 December 2020 informing interested and affected parties of the availability of the Draft Basic Assessment Report ("BAR") refers.

Please find consolidated comment from various directorates within the Department on the Draft BAR dated December 2020 that was downloaded from the website of the environmental assessment practitioner ("EAP").



www.westerncape.gov.za
Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
11th Floor, 1 Dorp Street, Cape Town, 8001
Private Bag X9086, Cape Town, 8000
fax: +27 21 483 4185

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

1. Directorate: Development Management (Region 1) – Mr D'mitri Matthews (Dmitri.Matthews@westerncape.gov.za; Tel: (021) 483 8350):
 - 1.1. The proposed solar PV facilities are proposed within the Tanqua Karoo vegetation type, which has an ecosystem status of Least Threatened in terms of section 52 of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act No. 10 of 2004) *National List of Ecosystems that are Threatened and in Need of Protection* dated 09 December 2011. Activity 12.i.ii of Listing Notice 3 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) ("NEMA") Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") Regulations, 2014 (as amended) has been included as part of the listed activities triggered since "minor areas of Critical Biodiversity Area (CBA) and Ecological Support Area (ESA) in terms of the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (2017)" will be impacted upon by the proposed development. Please be advised that no bioregional plan has been adopted by the competent authority for the Western Cape geographical area. Therefore, unless indigenous vegetation of 300m² or more within a critically endangered or an endangered ecosystem is removed, Activity 12 of Listing Notice 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) will not be applicable to the proposed development.
 - 1.2. Similarly, it is noted that Activity 14 of Listing Notice 3 of the NEMA EIA Regulations, 2014 (as amended) has been included as part of the applicable listed activities. Although the proposed development site is located outside an urban area, none of the specific triggers for the Western Cape listed in Activity 14.i (aa) to (hh) are applicable, and the mentioned activity should therefore not be included as part of the development proposal.
 - 1.3. According to available geographical information, only the Remainder of the Farm Grootfontein No. 149 is affected by the proposed development. The correct property description must be reflected in the Final BAR submitted for decision-making.
 - 1.4. The Draft BAR indicates that water required for the construction, operational and decommissioning phases "will either be sourced from the Witzenberg Local Municipality via trucks or from existing boreholes on site." According to the Basic Groundwater Assessment dated 30 October 2020 compiled by GEOSS South Africa (Pty) Ltd, groundwater requirements for the project can be met by using the existing boreholes that should be tested prior to use to ensure that the yield and quality meet the necessary requirements. The Basic Groundwater Assessment further indicated that agreements will have to be put in place with the current landowners for the use of groundwater, and if no such agreements can be established, then "additional boreholes will need to be drilled on the relevant farm portions/developments, followed by yield and water quality testing, and then authorization from the DHSWS to use the groundwater will be required". Confirmation must be provided that the current landowners will allow the utilisation of the existing boreholes for any or all phases of the proposed development. Should the landowners agree to the use of existing boreholes, it is advised that the required studies be undertaken to determine if the boreholes have the yield and fulfil the quality requirements.
 - 1.4.1. If the yield and quality requirements are met, then the inclusion of the two scenarios regarding water use sources as indicated above, should be included in the section dealing with alternatives.

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

- 1.4.2. Please be advised that the Final BAR must include confirmation of water supply (e.g. boreholes or municipal service) for each of the solar PV facilities, as indicated in section A9 of the Draft BAR.
- 1.5. The undated Draft Environmental Management Programme ("EMPr") does not report on the maintenance required for infrastructure or structures that would cross watercourses. The operational phase of the EMPr must include a description of maintenance activities required for the watercourse crossings, as well as the frequency of maintenance activities. In addition, method statements must be provided, describing how maintenance will be undertaken for the structures and infrastructure impacting on watercourses.
2. Directorate: Waste Management – Mr Thorsten Aab (Thorsten.Aab@westerncape.gov.za; Tel: (021) 483 3009):
- 2.1. This Directorate is generally supportive of the proposed power generating alternative as the Draft BAR with supporting specialist studies have indicated that the utilisation of solar energy to generate the much needed electricity (photovoltaic electricity) would result in an overall low negative environmental impact, compared to the significant negative environmental impacts normally associated with utilising coal, diesel or other polluting fossil fuel derived energy plants. The risks during failure or malfunctioning of the proposed solar PV facilities and associated infrastructure are also far less and not as long-lasting as those potential risks of nuclear power plants and the nuclear waste they generate. This also comes at a time when Eskom is struggling to provide enough reliable electricity for an ever-increasing energy demand, coupled with aging and outdated power plants.
- 2.2. Please note that according to CapeFarmMapper (version 2.3.4) that was used to verify the property descriptions, the name of the farm is indicated as "Grootfontein" and not "Grootfontein" as indicated in the Draft BAR. The EAP must confirm the correct property description.
- 2.3. The Grootfontein solar PV 1, PV 2 and PV 3 facilities will consist of rows of photovoltaic cells or panels that will be interconnected by 33kV powerlines/ underground cables which feed into a lithium ion battery energy storage system ("BESS") housed within a building. As the exact dimensions and mechanisms for the associated infrastructure have not yet been decided on, the maximum parameters were used to determine the possible visual impact of this infrastructure. Although remote, the most sensitive visual receptors were identified to be adjacent game or guest farms. However, due to the natural barriers such as hills and ridges and far distances, the solar PV 1 and PV 2 facilities would remain unobtrusive from these vantage points. The only slight visual impact is expected from the R356, which is not considered a major tourist route and only carries very small and transient traffic volumes.
- 2.4. The Draft BAR advises to avoid the lower riparian and sand wash environments, which is supported by this Directorate. It is further recommended that in order to reduce collisions of vehicles with fauna, the construction of the proposed solar PV facilities and associated infrastructure be limited to daylight hours, as far as practically possible.



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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

- 2.5. It is not clear from the Draft BAR whether the construction phase would include temporary housing for the construction workers, or whether these workers would need to be transported every day from either Ceres (Witzenberg Municipality) approximately 90km away, or Touws River (Breede Valley Municipality) approximately 70km away. The operating staff and security personnel are expected to be few and would not greatly impact on the social environment, even if on-site housing was provided for this staff.
- 2.6. The potential waste management impacts were adequately identified and did not trigger any waste management activities listed in Government Notice No. 921 of 29 November 2013 (as amended), promulgated in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008). Waste management impacts would be mitigated by the proposals in the EMPr, both during the construction as well as the operating phase of the proposed project. Normal responsible waste management practices must be maintained during all phases of the proposed development to prevent environmental degradation and possible impacts to the health and well-being of people. This include, *inter alia*, proper storage facilities for hazardous waste, the bunding of fuel tanks, and undertaking plant/vehicle maintenance on proper hardened surfaces.
- 2.7. Any waste that cannot be recovered or recycled, must be regularly removed and treated or disposed of at a suitable and authorised waste management facility. Waste may not be burned and should not be buried on site.
3. Directorate: Pollution and Chemicals Management – Ms Shehaam Brinkhuis / Ms Arabel McClelland (Shehaam.Brinkhuis@westerncape.gov.za / Arabel.McClelland@westerncape.gov.za; Tel: (021) 483 8309 / 2660):
- 3.1. This Directorate anticipates that pollution risks will be higher during the construction phase of the proposed development than the operational phase.
- 3.2. As per EMPr, the compilation of a storm water management plan is supported. All storm water runoff must be controlled to ensure that on-site activities do not culminate in possible off-site pollution. This includes wash-water from cleaning of the solar panels.
- 3.3. Further to the above, adequate consideration must be given to high magnitude events and management thereof during the operational phase of the development, given the area of hard surfaces proposed, and the proximity of drainage lines and watercourses (whether non-perennial or ephemeral).
- 3.4. All water-related infrastructure (e.g. pipes, pumps, reservoirs, toilets, taps, etc.) should be regularly checked (twice weekly) for leaks and immediately repaired.
- 3.5. The EMPr must indicate the frequency of servicing of the portable chemical toilet/s (ablution facilities) at the construction camp, for the duration of the construction phase, to ensure that no spillages occur, and to provide safe working conditions for workers.



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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

- 3.6. The utilisation of dust suppression and cleaning chemicals used on solar panels poses a risk of contamination of pollution of water resources. Care should be taken to implement mitigation measures to reduce this. It is recommended that all cleaning products used on the site must be environmentally friendly and biodegradable.
- 3.7. The use of potable water for dust suppression purposes is not supported and should be avoided. Where water is to be used, this should be of a suitable quality so as not to cause any severe/repeated pollution to soil or surface water resources.
- 3.8. Care should be taken with the installation of the conservancy tanks, as any crack may lead to leakages over time. Proper and regular servicing must be scheduled to prevent possible groundwater contamination.
- 3.9. All road crossing construction work in watercourse should be done during the dry period to limit possible surface water contamination.
- 3.10. All surface infrastructure such as solar PV arrays, substations, the BESS and construction camps should be located outside of the designated buffer areas, most notably sensitive watercourse buffers.
- 3.11. Watercourses where no construction activities are proposed must be considered as no-go areas and no construction vehicles, personnel or any other vehicles may indiscriminately traverse through these watercourses.
- 3.12. It is noted that herbicides will be used to control plant growth. Please note that soil persistence, or herbicide accumulation in the soil, can be mobilized during rain events, leading to stormwater contamination and negative impacts elsewhere.
- 3.13. The following recommendations are provided to prevent and manage potential contamination of water resources, including groundwater, emanating from the site during the construction, operational and decommissioning phases:
 - 3.13.1. Compilation and adherence to a procedure for the safe handling of battery cells;
 - 3.13.2. Lithium ion batteries must have battery management systems (containment, automatic alarms and shut-off systems) to monitor and protect cells from overcharging or damaging conditions;
 - 3.13.3. Compilation of an emergency response plan for implementation in the event of a spill or leak;
 - 3.13.4. Provision of spill kits on site for clean-up of spills and leaks;
 - 3.13.5. Immediate clean-up of spills and disposal of contaminated absorbents and materials or soil at a licensed hazardous waste disposal facility;
 - 3.13.6. Recording and reporting of all significant fuel, oil, hydraulic fluid or electrolyte spills or leaks so that appropriate clean-up measures can be implemented. A copy of these records must be made available to authorities on request throughout the project lifecycle;
 - 3.13.7. All liquid chemicals and fuel must be stored in a bunded area with a capacity of at least 110% of the maximum allowable volume;



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- 3.13.8. Frequent and appropriate disposal of both general and hazardous waste to prevent pollution of soil and groundwater;
 - 3.13.9. Installation of leak detection monitoring systems;
 - 3.13.10. On-site battery maintenance should only be undertaken on impermeable surfaces with secondary containment measures. Any resulting hazardous substances must be disposed of appropriately;
 - 3.13.11. Provision of suitable emergency and safety signage on site, and demarcation of any areas which may pose a safety risk (including hazardous substances). Emergency numbers for the local police, fire department, Eskom and the local Municipality must be placed in a prominent clearly visible area on site;
 - 3.13.12. Both the National Department of Environmental Affairs, Forestry and Fisheries and this Directorate are to be immediately duly notified of any incident in terms of section 30 of the NEMA, 1998 (page 11 of the EMP); and
 - 3.13.13. Please amend the EMP to specifically include reference to section 30 of the NEMA pertaining to the control of incidents, in accordance with the above.
4. The applicant is reminded of its general duty of care and the remediation of environmental damage in terms of section 28(1) of the NEMA which specifically states that "Every person who causes, has caused or may cause significant pollution or degradation of the environment must take reasonable measures to prevent such pollution or degradation from occurring, continuing or recurring, or, in so far as such harm to the environment is authorised by law or cannot reasonably be avoided or stopped, to minimise and rectify such pollution or degradation of the environment."
 5. Please direct any enquiries to the official/s indicated in this correspondence should you require any clarity on any of the comments provided.
 6. The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any information received.

Yours faithfully

Keshni
Rughoobee
pp HEAD OF DEPARTMENT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Digitally signed by Keshni
Rughoobee
Date: 2021.01.25 19:27:27
+02'00'



APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: John Hare <john.hare@uct.ac.za>
To: "ems@csr.co.za" <ems@csr.co.za>
CC: Vincent Hare <vincent.john.hare@gmail.com>, Rupert Hare <Rupert.hare@outlook.com>, Ian Hurst <ihurst@intekom.co.za>
Date: 25 Jan 2021 22:22
Subject: Kareekloof Conservancy/The Uitkyk Trust (for Uitkyk Farm)/Soundgrops CC (for Commando Farm)

Good day,

Request for registration as I&APs on proposed Veronica developments in Ceres-Tankwa Karoo.

On behalf of the above entities I hereby request that all three be registered as Interested & Affected Parties for the proposed solar-PV developments of Veronica.

All three - Kareekloof Conservancy, The Uitkyk Trust and Soundgrops - appoint this email as their formal notification address.

Yours faithfully

John Hare, Professor Emerita of Law

>>> "Annel van der Merwe" <annelvdm@breede.co.za> 26 Jan 2021 08:21 >>>

Lizande

Goede môre.

Hiermee wil ek graag positiewe kommentaar lewer in verband met die beplande sonpaneel stelsel wat in die Ceres karoo aangelê word.

Wat 'n goeie idee. Ons gaan karoo toe vir die laaste 30 jaar. In die laaste 10 jaar kan ek sien hoe die veld en die boerdery bedryf jaarliks afneem. Daar is nie meer genoegsame water en welvelde nie. Dit maak dit 'n onbewoonbare area wat so verwoes word. 'n Sonpaneel sisteem is nie so onooglik soos die windlaaiers nie. Dit is die perfekte manier om die area te gebruik. Ons vertrou die regte inpakstudies is gedoen om te verseker dat die omliggende veld en area beskerm sal word. Dan sien ek geen probleem om hierdie wonderlike bron van sonlig ten volle te gebruik nie.

In ons land se huidige finansiële krisis, is Eskom een van die grootste probleme. Nie net korrupsie nie, maar ook die aanhoudende kragonderbrekings. Die bestuur van die bronne en daaglikse onderhoud van die stasies kan netrie op dreef bly nie. So ook die verspreiding van daardie broodnodige elektrisiteit word ook nie reg bestuur nie. Dit is tyd om in te gryp. Dit is tyd om te dink aan die toekoms. Hier het ons 'n bron. Die son. Dit is onuitputbaar. Dit is verniet. Gebruik dit. Help hierdie land om een van sy krisisse te verlig.

Mag hierdie projek suksesvol gefoets en bestuur word.

Sterkte

Annel van der Merwe

Cell: 079 822 1788

e-mail: annelvdm@breede.co.za

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: Thando Ndudula <ThandoNd@dalmd.gov.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
CC: NFAWesternCape <NFAWesternCape@daff.gov.za>
Date: 26 Jan 2021 14:10
Subject: RE: Reminder - Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: SKM_C55821012614300.pdf

[The e-mail server of the sender could not be verified (SPF Record)]

Good Day,

Please find the attached DEFF comment re the subject matter. Sincere apologies the letter has no Departmental stamp, still awaiting on an order.

Regards,

Thando Ndudula

Forestry-Western Cape
Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries

Tel: 021 944 1416
Cell: 066 374 8170
Fax: 021 944 1420

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape



environment, forestry
& fisheries

Department: Environment, Forestry
and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

FORESTRY: WESTERN CAPE
Private Bag X2, Sanlamhof, 7532
19 Strand Street, Bellville, 7532
Tel: (021) 944 1416, Fax: (021) 944 1420
Enquiries: Thando Nduduis, Email: ThandoNd@daff.gov.za
WCE0072/12/20-21

CSIR EMS
PO Box 59081
Umbilo
4075

Attention: Rohaida Abed
Tel: 031 242 2300
Fax: 031 261 8172
Email: ems@csir.co.za

Dear Sir /Madam

RE: NOTIFICATION OF THE RELEASE OF FOUR DRAFT BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR A 30-DAY COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NINE 175 MW (9 X 175 MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE (DEFF REFERENCE NUMBER: To be assigned)

The Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) is responsible for all regulatory functions according to the National Forests Act (Act No. 84 of 1998) (NFA) as amended on State Land as well as Non State Land. The NFA provides the strongest and most comprehensive legislation and mandate for the protection of all protected trees and natural forests in South Africa.

According to the information contained in the provided documents, there is no indication whether the proposed development will impact on indigenous forests and/ or protected trees.

DEFF therefore has no objection to the proposal. However, the Department reserves the right to review initial comment should any additional information affects the NFA mandate.

Yours faithfully

pp AREA MANAGER FORESTRY: WESTERN CAPE

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: Jezile Vuyokazi <JezileV@dws.gov.za>
To: ems <ems@csr.co.za>, Torch Thembisa <TorchT@dws.gov.za>
Date: 29 Jan 2021 10:44
Subject: RE: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL, near Touws River, Western Cape

You will receive the rest today. I'm still busy with them.

From: ems [ems@csr.co.za]
Sent: Friday, 29 January 2021 08:21
To: Jezile Vuyokazi; Torch Thembisa
Cc: ems@csr.co.za
Subject: RE: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL, near Touws River, Western Cape

Dear Ms Torch and Ms Jezile

Thank you very much for the comments, it is appreciated.

We notice that the comments are for the Witte Wall PV Developments. Please kindly confirm if the DWS has any comments on the other 3 DBARs:

- 3 PV Facilities on the Grootfontein Farm
- 4 PV Facilities on the Hoek Doornen Farm
- EGL to support the 9 PV Developments

We look forward to your reply.

Thanks and kind regards,
Rohaida

From: Jezile Vuyokazi <JezileV@dws.gov.za>
To: ems <ems@csr.co.za>
CC: Torch Thembisa <TorchT@dws.gov.za>
Date: 29 Jan 2021 14:30
Subject: RE: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL, near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: CSR DBAR EGL to support the 9 PV Developments.pdf; CSR DBAR Grootfontein Farm.pdf; CSR DBAR Hoek Doornen Farm.pdf

Good day Rohaida

Kindly find the attached comments for your attention.

Kind Regards
Vuyo

From: ems [ems@csr.co.za]
Sent: Friday, 29 January 2021 08:21
To: Jezile Vuyokazi; Torch Thembisa
Cc: ems@csr.co.za
Subject: RE: Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL, near Touws River, Western Cape

Dear Ms Torch and Ms Jezile

Thank you very much for the comments, it is appreciated.

We notice that the comments are for the Witte Wall PV Developments. Please kindly confirm if the DWS has any comments on the other 3 DBARs:

- 3 PV Facilities on the Grootfontein Farm
- 4 PV Facilities on the Hoek Doornen Farm
- EGL to support the 9 PV Developments

We look forward to your reply.

Thanks and kind regards,
Rohaida

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Private Bag X 16, Sanlamhof, 7532 / 52 Voortrekker Road, Bellville 7530
Tel #: (021) 941 8000 Fax #: (021) 941 8077

Enquiries : Ms V. Jezile
Tel # : (021) 941 8175
Email : jezilev@dws.gov.za
Reference : 16/27/J12C/A/8

CSIR
P. O. Box 320
STELLENBOSCH
7599

Attention: Rohaida Abed

Dear Sir / Madam

DRAFT BASIC ASSESMENT REPOR FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THREE 175MW SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE (GROOTFONTEIN FARM), NEAR TOUWS RIVER, WESTERN CAPE

1. The Department acknowledges receipt of your application dated December 2020, with reference no. CSIR/SPLA/SECO/ER/2020/0030/B, for the above mentioned activity. This office would like to comment on the document based on the evaluation of the impact of the proposed activity on water resources.
2. Any development within the 1:100 year flood line or within 500m from any boundary of a wetland or water resource constitute a water use activity and must be registered and authorised in terms of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998). The Farm Grootfontein incorporates portions of two river systems, the Klein Droelaagte, in the south and the Droelaagte in the north. The road widening and upgrading will exceed a footprint of 100m² and will occur within 32m of the Droelaagte. This activity triggers a water use authorisation in terms of Section 21 (c) & (i) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998). The water use authorisation should be applied for before the commencement of the activity.
3. No abstraction of surface or groundwater may be done without prior authorisation from this Department, unless it is a Schedule 1 Use or an Existing Lawful Use in terms of Section 21 (a) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998). It is noted that water may be sourced from an existing borehole. A consent letter from the land owner must be submitted with the application.



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water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

4. The area where the fuel tanks will be placed should be banded to avoid contamination of groundwater.
5. No pollution of surface water or groundwater resources may occur due to any activity on the proposed site. Should there be any pollution on the water resources, this Department must be notified immediately.
6. The storm water management plan and erosion mitigation measures stated in the report must be adhered to.
7. All the requirements of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) regarding water use and pollution management must be adhered to at all times.
8. These comments do not exempt you from complying with other relevant legislations and requirements of other governmental Departments.
9. Please note that this Department reserves the right to amend and/or add to the comments made above in the light of subsequent information received.
10. For any further queries/ correspondence in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact the above official.

Your co-operation aimed at the protection of water resources will be highly appreciated.

Regards,

CHIEF DIRECTOR: WESTERN CAPE

DATE: 29/01/2021

Letter signed by: Ms Thembisa Torch

Designation: Deputy Director (Acting): Berg-Olifants Water Management Area



NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
Our Future - make it work

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: Lizell Stroh <LStroh@caa.co.za>
To: ems <ems@cair.co.za>
CC: Dawie Bester <BesterD@caa.co.za>, Obstacles <Obstacles@caa.co.za>, Claude Veronika <claude@veronika.co.za>, Simphiwe Masilela <Masilela@caa.co.za>
Date: 02 Feb 2021 17:15
Subject: RE: Reminder - Re: Release of SA Reports for 3 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: FW: Approval Status - (Veronika Pty Ltd) - (Ceres PV Projects)

Good day,

All the sites was loaded and would be processed shortly

CAA_2020_11_375,
CAA_2020_11_380,
CAA_2020_11_372
CAA_2020_11_375,
CAA_2020_11_374
CAA_2020_11_375
CAA_2020_11_376
CAA_2020_11_377
CAA_2020_11_378

Find the procedure as per caa website..

<http://www.caa.co.za/Pages/Obstacles/Urgent-notices.aspx>

Obstacle Notice 2/2018: Reduction in Obstacle Application Processing & Approval Time

Kindly note that the Obstacle Inspectorate will endeavour to process obstacle applications within 30 working days of receipt of payment. Approvals can only be released once payment was received & verified. Applicants are encouraged to make payment on submission of application (See Obstacle Notice 1/2018 & 2/2018 in this regard). The "FACT" Customer ID can be obtained from the Obstacle Inspectorate (See Contact Details).

Applicants who require proforma invoices before payment can be made are to take note that proforma invoices are only valid for 30 days from date of issue. To prevent administrative delays applicants are requested to pay proforma invoices as soon as it is received & to make full payment (not part payment for selected applications on the invoice). Please follow the guidelines as outlined in Obstacle Notice 2/2018 with regards to the submission of proof of payment.

The COVID-19 situation has caused our timelines to be somewhat extended due to limited staff availability in office, please be patient.

This office would assist as soon as possible.

Kind regards



Lizell Stroh
Obstacle Inspector
PANS-OPS Section
Air Navigation Services Department
Tel: +27 11 545 1232 | Mobile: +27 083 461 6660
Email: LStroh@caa.co.za | www.caa.co.za
Follow us on    

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape

From: Adrian Tiplady <atiplady@ska.ac.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
CC: <bsethole@ska.ac.za>, <mbaloye@ska.ac.za>, <smathane@ska.ac.za>, <tnape@ska.ac.za>
Date: 02 Feb 2021 08:44
Subject: Re: Fwd: Reminder - Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape

Dear Rohaida,

I have copied my colleagues, who will be able to respond.

Kind Regards,

Adrian

On 2021/02/01 16:35, ems wrote:

Good day Dr Tiplady and Mr Morann

The email trail below has reference.

The four BA Reports for the Veroniva PV and EGI Developments near Touws River in the Western Cape were released in December 2020 for comment. The comment period closed on 25 January 2021.

We have not received any comment from the SKA. Would it be possible to kindly send us a letter of no objection or email confirmation of no objection for the proposed Solar PV Facilities and associated infrastructure.

The proposed projects fall outside of the KCAAA.

We are planning to submit the Final BA Reports to the DEFF as soon as possible. We look forward to your feedback.

Kind Regards,
Rohaida Abed

From: Thato Nape <tnape@ska.ac.za>
To: ems <ems@csir.co.za>
CC: Busang Sethole <bsethole@ska.ac.za>, Musa Baloye <mbaloye@ska.ac.za>, Selale Mathane <smathane@ska.ac.za>, Adrian Tiplady <atiplady@ska.ac.za>
Date: 05 Feb 2021 11:27
Subject: Re: Fwd: Reminder - Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGI, near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: Veroniva (Pty) Ltd - Response Letter.pdf

Dear Rohaida

Please see the attached response letter from SARAO.

Regards,

On Tue, Feb 2, 2021 at 8:43 AM Adrian Tiplady <atiplady@ska.ac.za> wrote:

Dear Rohaida,

I have copied my colleagues, who will be able to respond.

Kind Regards,

Adrian

APPENDICES

FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape



CSIR Environmental Management Services

P.O. Box 59081

Umbilo

Durban, 4075

email: ems@csir.co.za

Date: 02 February 2021

Dear Rohaida Abed

RE: DRAFT AMENDMENT REPORT FOR THE VERONIVA PROPOSED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) POWER GENERATION FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE.

This letter is in response to the published draft amendment report for the above mentioned solar energy facility and its possible impact on the Square Kilometre Array radio telescopes.

Based on the information provided on the project proposal document, the inclusion of the nine solar PV power generating facilities and its associated infrastructure will not significantly increase the radiated electromagnetic emissions from the already authorised development. The facility is located outside the Karoo Central Astronomy Advantage Areas and does not exceed the protection level of -226.61 dBm/Hz at the various SKA telescopes. Therefore, SARAO considers the project to be of low risk and does not anticipate that there will be a detrimental impact on the SKA. However, we do recommend that you should take all precautionary measures to limit the electromagnetic emissions (EMI) in all your electrical cable installations and equipment.

Thank you for your correspondence and we would appreciate if you can keep us informed in the development of the project.

www.ska.ac.za

The South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)

The South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO) spearheads South Africa's activities in the Square Kilometre Array Radio Telescope, commonly known as the SKA. In engineering, science and construction, SARAO is a National Facility managed by the National Research Foundation and incorporates radio astronomy instruments and programmes such as the MeerKAT and KAT-7 telescopes in the Karoo, the Hartbeeshtee Radio Astronomy Observatory (HarPAO) in Gauteng, the African Very Long Baseline Interferometry (AVN) programme in nine African countries as well as the associated human capital development and commercialisation endeavours.

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape



Regards,

Mr Selaelo Mathhane

Spectrum & Telecommunication Manager

South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)

Tel: 011 442 2434

Email: smathhane@ska.ac.za

www.ska.ac.za

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From: Thabo Nape <tnape@ska.ac.za>
To: ems <ems@esit.co.za>
CC: Tjolaady Adrian <tjolaady@ska.ac.za>, Sethole Buseng <bsethole@ska.ac.za>, Balogo Musa <mbalogo@ska.ac.za>, Matlhane Selaale <smatlhane@ska.ac.za>
Date: 08 Feb 2021 10:30
Subject: Re: Fwd: Reminder - Re: Release of BA Reports for 9 PV Developments and EGL near Touws River, Western Cape
Attachments: Veroniva (Pty) Ltd - Response Letter.pdf

Dear Rohaida

Please see the attached updated letter.

Regards,

On Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 1:24 PM ems <ems@esit.co.za> wrote:

Dear Thabo Nape

Thank you so much for your feedback, it is appreciated.

The letter states the following:

RE DRAFT AMENDMENT REPORT FOR THE VERONIVA PROPOSED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) POWER GENERATION FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE.

This letter is in response to the published draft amendment report for the above mentioned solar energy facility and its possible impact on the Square Kilometre Array radio telescopes.

Based on the information provided on the project proposal document, the inclusion of the nine solar PV power generating facilities and its associated infrastructure will not significantly increase the radiated electromagnetic emissions from the already authorised development.

Please can you kindly confirm if the term Amendment Report is referring to the Basic Assessment Report? Please also clarify "already authorised development". Please note that is not an amendment to an Environmental Authorisation process.

Thanks and kind regards,

Rohaida

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FINAL BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORT: Basic Assessment for the Proposed Development of three 175 MW Solar Photovoltaic Facilities and associated Infrastructure (i.e. Grootfontein PV 1, Grootfontein PV 2, and Grootfontein PV 3), near Touws River, Western Cape



CSIR Environmental Management Services

P.O. Box 59081

Umbilo

Durban, 4075

email: ems@csir.co.za

Date: 02 February 2021

Dear Rohaida Abed

RE: BASIC ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR THE VERONIVA PROPOSED SOLAR PHOTO-VOLTAIC (PV) POWER GENERATION FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE.

This letter is in response to the basic assessment reports for the above mentioned solar energy facilities and their possible impact on the Square Kilometre Array radio telescopes.

Based on the information provided on the project's basic assessment reports, the inclusion of the nine solar PV power generating facilities and the associated infrastructure will not negatively impact the SKA through the anticipated radiation of electromagnetic emissions. The facility is located outside the Karoo Central Astronomy Advantage Areas and does not exceed the protection level of -226.61 dBm/Hz at the various SKA telescopes. Therefore, SARAO considers the project to be of low risk and does not anticipate that there will be a detrimental impact on the SKA. However, we do recommend that you should take all precautionary measures to limit the electromagnetic emissions (EMI) in all your electrical cable installations and equipment.

Thank you for your correspondence and we would appreciate if you can keep us informed in the development of the project.

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Regards,

Mr Selaelo Matlhane

Spectrum & Telecommunication Manager

South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)

Tel: 011 442 2434

Email: smatlhane@ska.ac.za

www.ska.ac.za

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Veroniva (Pty) Ltd - Response Letter

Final Audit Report

2021-02-05

Created:	2021-02-06
By:	Thato Nape (tnape@ska.ac.za)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAWJWREdrsYSi6Pv1t1T18E6bTkcLJZM-

"Veroniva (Pty) Ltd - Response Letter" History

-  Document created by Thato Nape (tnape@ska.ac.za)
2021-02-06 - 6:11:23 PM GMT - IP address: 41.144.81.23
-  Document emailed to Selaelo Matlhane (smatlhane@ska.ac.za) for signature
2021-02-06 - 6:14:03 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Selaelo Matlhane (smatlhane@ska.ac.za)
2021-02-06 - 7:47:36 PM GMT - IP address: 66.249.93.210
-  Document e-signed by Selaelo Matlhane (smatlhane@ska.ac.za)
Signature Date: 2021-02-06 - 7:49:14 PM GMT - Time Source: server - IP address: 106.213.21.60
-  Agreement completed.
2021-02-06 - 7:49:14 PM GMT

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Meeting between the CSIR and the Ceres-Tankwa Karoo Farmers Association on 14 January 2021

Note: At the meeting it was agreed that Mr Vermeulen would provide subsequent formal input as part of the comments period, and such comments were received on 22 January 2021.



CSIR EMS
PO Box 93871 Umbilo 4013 South Africa
Tel: +27 21 242 2800
Fax: +27 21 201 0119
Email: ems@csir.co.za

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Meeting with the Ceres Tankwa-Karoo Agricultural Association

Project Title: THE DEVELOPMENT OF NINE 175 MW (3 X 175 MW) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL GRID INFRASTRUCTURE, NEAR TOUWS RIVER IN THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

Date: 14 January 2021
Time: 13H00 to 13H00
Venue: Riverside Lodge in Ceres (7 Fisant Street) and MS Teams

Organisation	Name	Email	Telephone	Confirmation of Attendance (signature)
CSIR	Paul Lochner	P.Lochner@csir.co.za	081 442 3645	In attendance <i>[Signature]</i>
CSIR	Ronalds Rebel	R.Rebel@csir.co.za	072 204 6224	(online)
Ceres Tankwa-Karoo Agricultural Association	Andri Vermeulen	andri.sadlows@gmail.com asadlows@broeds.co.za	023-004-0052 078-4226-226	In attendance <i>[Signature]</i>
Ceres Tankwa-Karoo Agricultural Association	Winkelhorst Vermeulen	andri.sadlows@gmail.com asadlows@broeds.co.za	023-004-0052 078-4226-226	In attendance <i>[Signature]</i>
Additional online inputs may be provided to the meeting by members of the wider CSIR team (e.g. agricultural specialist) as well as the developer (Vermeulen)				
<i>Johann Lonz (agricultural specialist) joined on-line for part of meeting.</i>				

By signing this attendance register, the participants in attendance at this meeting in Ceres also confirm that they have no symptoms of Covid-19 currently, and have not had any symptoms in the past two weeks, and to the best of their knowledge have not been in contact with people with Covid-19 symptoms during the past two weeks.

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Appendix D.15: Comments and Responses Trail

Separate document.